Respectfully Submitted Bridge of Flowers Committee 2016

Pat Leuchtman – Chair
Peggy March – Treasurer • Judy Harlow – Secretary
Carol Angus, Kay Berenson, Lynda Leitner, Mariana Luz,
Marjorie Moser, Joanne Soroka, Annette Szpila, Marion Taylor

Carol DeLorenzo - Head Gardener • Elliston Bingham - Assistant Gardener

Bridge of Flowers P.O. Box 335 Shelburne Falls, MA 01370











2016 ANNUAL REPORT Bridge of Flowers

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



When something is as lovely and loved as the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls, it is hard to believe that it can get even better. But so it did in 2016.

In 2015, a new wooden Garden House to hold tools and supplies for gardeners replaced the deteriorated and inadequate former shed. The structure was designed to complement the setting and built with donations from our Friends, including past memorial contributions.

This year, a local artist suggested adding a flower themed stained glass window on the wall of the Garden House facing visitors. The window, designed, constructed and donated by Nancy Katz and Mark Liebowitz of Wilmark Studios in Shelburne Falls, was set into place this summer. In mid July a festive dedication garden party on the Shelburne Falls side of the Bridge celebrated both the new Garden House and its new window. The party had music by the Shelburne Falls Military Band, delicious refreshments and invitations to all those who helped in so many vital ways with the construction effort. Memorably, the party also had a sudden thunderstorm that drenched attendees. Gardeners happily noted, though, that the storm brought much needed rain in a drought season.

Getting drenched at a Bridge of Flowers event was something of a surprise in dry 2016. Dozens of volunteers worked (mostly uncomplainingly!) through a cold drenching rain on a Friday evening in May to move thousands of potted plants from their temporary nursery at the home of plant sale chairman and nursery plant caretaker extraordinaire Lynda Leitner and set them up for the annual Plant Sale on the following day. It was an impressive parade of trucks, vans, SUVs, garden carts and wheelbarrows and rain-gear clad volunteers. As always, the plants were gorgeous. They loved the rain! Happily the weather was more pleasant for humans on the day of the sale itself, leading to crowds of eager plant buyers and revenue for the Bridge operating fund. Thanks to volunteer bakers, buyers also enjoyed coffee break treats while shopping. And we cannot forget the kind professional nurseries and other vendors who assist us each year by letting us profit from sales of their plants and merchandise.

The rain in May at the start of the season did not hold through the summer. But, thanks to gardeners Carol DeLorenzo, Elliston Bingham, the Blossom Brigade volunteers, and our new improved irrigation system the Bridge bloomed beautifully. Drought did not deter visitors. Thousands came from all over the world and left comments about the loveliness of the blooming Bridge. They also left welcome contributions in the donation box.

We are fortunate too that our Friends continued to be generous, keeping the Bridge's financial footing secure and allowing the committee to think about future needs such as resurfacing the footpath to benefit the thousands of feet that trod it – and the health of the flower beds.



Gifts in Memoriam

Agnes Atkinson Eleanor Baker Catharine A. Burnham Barbara Ann Cardillo Adeline Fortier Robert Bruce Hadden Mildred B. Knapp Henry S. (Rusty) Miller, Jr. Lisa Patricia "Tish" Murphy Emily & Paul Rizner Virginia Washer Mr. & Mrs. Clifford H. Wheeler Donald M. Wheeler Catherine Elizabeth Woodard

Gifts In Honor Of

Paul and Gerry Mead Dr. Robert Miller and Anna Foster Kathleen M. O'Neill Nancy F. Strader Lisa Talayco

New England Aster (gifts of \$500+)

Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association John & Barbara Hurley Nancy Katz/Wilmark Studio Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club West End Pub

Gardener's Circle (gifts of \$250-499)

Blue Rock Restaurant & Bar

Janice Boudreau Photography

Bridge of Flowers Business Center Carl's Four Season Yardscape, LLC Christopher Reilly Design Clark's Corvair Parts, Inc. Country Aire Camparound Thomas Dame & Denise Duval, ESQ Davenport's Service Station Kate Downes, Esq. Eddie's Wheels. Inc. Constance Emmett & Suzy Groden Florence Fowlkes Foxtown Diner Greenfield Cooperative Bank Greenfield Savings Bank Michael C. Herr J.W. Wagner Trucking LaPierre's Advertising Lorraine & Hale Johnson Judith & Robert Lawler Mirick Insurance Agency Richard & Judy Nicholas David Nims Peter & Eva Otten John W. Richardson, Attorney Shelburne Falls Military Band Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum Shelburne Falls VFW, Post 8503 Gordon & Marion Taylor True North Transit Group Anne Vogel Ward Plumbing & Heating Brent Young, Mill River Farm Anonymous



Silver Trowel (gifts of \$100-249)

Shannon Allen & Brian O'Neil Colleen Armstrona Amy & Craig Barry Mary M. Bartlett Sam & Marie Bartlett Kay & Bill Berenson Robert Bessette Cynthia & Jeff Boettner Cynthia Brown & Patrick Cadam **Buckland Pizza House** Mvra & Earl Carlow Michael Chovonec Cohn Financial Services Chia Collins and Michael Cohen Nancy Conaway-Raczka Sally L. Cornish **Deborah Daniels** Eileen & Dene Dobensky Ronald & Karen Dobosz **Emily Farnese** Andrew Ferguson Andrea & Steven Frank Lois Gifford Paul & Melinda Godfrey Joan Greenfield Nancy Heinemann The House on the Hill B&B Suzanne Jackson Keystone Market Kathleen & Kenneth Kippenberger Lucinda & David Lagasse Kate Lawn Pat & Henry Leuchtman Peter & Marion London Tom and Gail Lucia Marianna Luz Joan MacIver Mildred March Mayhew Steel Karen O. Moore Dr. and Mrs. Clark Moseley Dick & Dianne Muller Nancy L. Dole Books & Ephemera Ken Nimblett Pamela Parker John & Margaret Payne Regina Purinton Shelburne Falls Booksellers Stillwater Porcelain Dr. George & Mrs. Carol Strouse Stump Sprouts Cvnthia Tomasini Irene Tomasini Don & Kathleen Upton Judee & David Wayne Josh & Johanna Weinstein Janet & Robert Weissman Nikki & Bob Welsh Donald & Marcia Wheeler Karen Winkler

Deborah Woodsome

Anonymous

Green Thumb (gifts of \$25-99)

David Adie & Deb Hoyle Nathalie McCormick & Mark Pichette Callie. Don & Liza Ahern Sarah and Mark McKusick Carol Angus Geraldine Mead Austin Design Marilyn Mele Harriet Barlow Lisa & Ted Merrill Bear Path Compost Millefleurs - Betty Gaechter The Bellwood Family Steven & Mary Ellen Miller Blackmer Insurance Agency Inc. Tom Miner & Whitty Sanford Marlene Borer Wanda Mooney Peter and Marjorie Moser Boswell's Books **Evelvn Motte** John & Nan Bover Tom & Vanda Mullins Suzanne Buckley Helen Burdick Sarah E. Neelon Mac McCoy & Polly Byers David Neill Liz Canali Sylvia Orcutt Constance Clarke Jon & Marilyn Osgood David Close & Gail Chapman Close Nancy Parland & Steve Howland Elaine & Richard Parmett James Collins, DDS Christin Couture & William Hosie The Perry Family Chris Coveny Julie Petty & David Reading Karen Croot Deborah Phillips Kate & Tom DaFonte Jim Picardi, Cabinet Maker Anush Dawidian Pothole Pictures John & Katrina Deal Jean and Larry Rankin William & Helen Delaney Pam Roberts Karen Fairbrother Mary Robertson & Stefan Kostka Cheryl Faufaw Gene & Patricia St. Pierre Mr. and Mrs David Farrington Paul Schroeder Fred & Lois Feldman Gloria & Sidney Seltzer Robert & Nancy Fischlein Ann & Edward Shanahan Kenburn Orchards Ann Shea Flanders Law Office Susan Shearer Dick & Shirley Floyd Rev. Marguerite Sheehan & Dorothy Merriam Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC Judy Fogg Franklin Land Trust Steven Shulda Donald & Margaret Freeman Wes Slate & Georgia Bills Polly French Svlvia Smith Michael Garfield-Wright Suzanne S. Smith Gail Gaustad Russ & Cheri Snow Ann Girard Dennis & Susan Stetson Sharon Glazer Shauna Stokes & Joel Chew Dr. & Mrs. Gregory Grillone Strawberryfield Richard & Roxanne Hamilton Bill Sweeney Shevawn Hardesty Carolyn Taylor Judy Ann Harlow Pat Thomas George & Carole Hartling Tregelly Fiber Farm Barbara Hoffman Aidan Tremblay Rita Jaros & Wes Talley Bill & Jane Trombi Joan S. Rockwell & Associates Delores Turcotte Sally Judd Mari Weinberg Ellen & Marc Kaufmann Gina & Larry Wells Richard & Sharon Khachadoorian Jeremy Wells Winston & Marie LaBelle Ann Wetherbee Kate Lapping Nancy & Joe Woods Bill & Lynda Leitner Anonymous Doreen & Rick Leskowitz Maureen Lieurance

Robert Lizotte & Hannah Jarrell

Mark & Amelia Madenski

Debb Makara

Peggy March