

We hope you are among the many to enjoy the bloom times in 2016 when the force awakens with its abundance of lush colors to welcome you, our community of Friends, who are the keystone that keeps the Bridge strong!

Respectfully Submitted
Bridge of Flowers Committee 2015

Nan Fischlein and Elaine Parmett – Co-chairs

Peggy March – Treasurer Judy Harlow – Secretary

Carol Angus, Kay Berenson, Lynda Leitner, Pat Leuchtman,
Mariana Luz, Maureen Moore, Marjie Moser, Joanne Soroka, Marion Taylor

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



2015 ANNUAL REPORT Bridge of Flowers Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



2015 was a year rich with reflection and gratitude for what makes the Bridge of Flowers greater than the sum of all that we do here, now. Thousands of visitors from all over the world signed in at the Kiosks and left their notes of pleasure in visiting *this* flower Bridge in the midst of a bustling and friendly little town. And, thanks to your enthusiastic response to our Friends request for help with building a much needed new Garden House, our Friends donations were impressive!

The Bridge of Flowers committee used those funds, coupled with assistance from our Memorial fund, and generous in-kind donations, to complete the building of a new Garden House! Hats off to committee member Maureen ‘Mo’ Moore for coordinating this project from beginning to end! Designed by architect Kim Erslev and built by Mark Landy Design/Build Services, the new Garden House reflects loads of local talent and gets kudos from admiring visitors! Local carpenters and Fitzgerald Fencing created a new work area at the Garden House, using the existing gate and fencing materials. And a beautiful new sign created and installed by Chris Reilley Design enhances the Buckland entrance to the Bridge.

Acts of kindness made it possible to carry on the building and maintenance on the Bridge. At the opening of our season, we were without electricity and water. To keep plants growing and carpenters building, our neighbors—VFW Post 8503, the Hurleys, the Cornishes, the Lawlers, and the Mosers—all gave us these vital utilities.

This was also the year we were greatly saddened by the loss of our assistant gardener, Lisa ‘Tish’ Murphy, who passed away suddenly in March. A Master Gardener, she was instrumental as coordinator for the Western Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association, and later as assistant gardener on the Bridge of Flowers, a job she loved—and we loved her! She formed the collaboration between the Bridge and Master Gardeners to volunteer as docents. Truly our ambassador, Tish took the time to smile and talk with visitors. This year, you will see a small tree at the stone fountain on the Bridge, an Eastern Red Bud with heart-shaped leaves, honoring Tish.

We are grateful to our Head Gardener, Carol DeLorenzo, who celebrates 15 years on the Bridge, coordinating all the design, the plantings, repairs and replenishment of our gardens, all while training a new assistant, Elliston Bingham.



Our volunteer 'Blossom Brigade' came out in force throughout the season adding their poetic touches in raking, weeding, and deadheading to keep the gardens beautiful.

Our Plant Sale in May was a resounding success! The enthusiasm of many helping hands from community and school groups who potted up perennials and helped with set-up and sales, created a synergy that made for a huge success! We thank Peter & Marjie Moser for the use of their property for dividing and potting the plants for the plant sale while the Garden House was under construction.

Our outreach welcomed representatives from Lake Lure Flowering Bridge, N.C., and Amsterdam, N.Y.'s Overlook Pedestrian Bridge. It seems our Bridge has inspired others to create public garden bridges. And several interviews and articles about the Bridge appeared in the media. Please visit our newly revamped website, www.bridgeofflowersmass.org to see more.

This year we proudly added a new category of giving in our Friends program, the New England Aster, for donations of \$500 or greater. Friends like you have generously demonstrated your sentiments and trust in our stewardship of the Bridge. Thank You! Our goal over the next several seasons is to improve the path on the Bridge.



Tish

Gifts in Memoriam

Candae Bath
 Candy Bess
 Ida Mae Blaisdell
 Jane Burnett
 John And Marjorie Burnham
 Eunice A. Chadwick
 Gweny Culbertson
 Adeline Fortier
 Erna C. Herzig
 Frank & Lee Kobrick & Putney
 Lisa "Tish" Murphy
 Helen Bosworth Parsons
 Susan Robbins
 Rita and Arnold Schwedock
 Irene Smith
 Valerie M. Smith
 Karen A. Soles
 Ann Elizabeth Stanforth
 Catherine Elizabeth Woodard

Gifts In Honor Of

Anthony Lawn
 Rory Matthews
 Siggie Renner

New England Aster (gifts of \$500+)

Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association
 Greenfield Cooperative Bank
 Greenfield Savings Bank
 John & Barbara Hurley
 Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club
 West End Pub
 Anonymous

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

Blue Rock Restaurant & Bar
 Cynthia Brown
 Carl's Four Season Yardscape, LLC
 Clark's Corvair Parts, Inc.
 Charlie & Lisa Cornish
 Christopher Reilly Design
 Pat Cadam & Cynthia Brown
 Country Aire Campground
 Davenport's Service Station
 Kate Downes, Esq.
 Cheryl Dukes & Valene Brooks
 Thomas Dame & Denise Duval, ESQ
 Eddie's Wheels, Inc.
 Kim Erslev
 Jonathan F. George Sr., CPA, CFP
 Nancy Heinemann
 Michael C. Herr
 Hillside Nursery
 Janice Boudreau Photography
 Lorraine & Hale Johnson
 Judith & Robert Lawler
 Lanoue Tree & Landscape Service, Inc.
 LaPierre's Advertising
 Mirick Insurance Agency
 Richard & Judy Nicholas
 Peter & Eva Otten
 Reall, Lucentini, & Lucentini, LLP
 John W. Richardson, Attorney
 Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum
 Shelburne Falls VFW, Post 8503
 Stillwater Porcelain
 Gordon & Marion Taylor
 True North Transit Group
 Ward Plumbing & Heating
 Cliff & Carol Washer
 Brent Young, Mill River Farm
 Anonymous

Silver Trowel (gifts of \$100-249)

Madeline & Howell Adams, Jr.
 Shannon Allen & Brian O'Neil
 Carol Angus
 Arlington Garden Club
 Lee Armstrong & Mike Lumpkin
 Amy & Craig Barry
 Pamela Boaze
 Bridge of Flowers Business Center
 Myra & Earl Carlow
 Michael Chovonec
 David Close & Gail Chapman Close
 Cohn Financial Services
 Sally L. Cornish
 Kate & Tom DaFonte
 Deborah Daniels
 Ronald & Karen Dobosz
 Constance Emmett & Suzy Groden
 Emily Farnese
 Andrea & Steven Frank
 Lois Gifford
 Joan Greenfield
 J.W. Wagner Trucking
 Keystone Market
 Kathleen & Kenneth Kippenberger
 Kate Lawn
 Pat & Henry Leuchtman
 Peter & Marion London
 Tom and Gail Lucia
 Mariana Luz
 Joan MacIver
 Mildred March
 McCusker's Market &
 Franklin Community Co-Op
 Karen O. Moore
 Dick & Dianne Muller
 Jessica Murrow
 Nancy L. Dole Books & Ephemera
 Elaine & Richard Parmett
 Barb & Mike Parry
 John & Margaret Payne
 Patricia R. Pratt
 Regina Purinton
 Patricia Ryan
 Shelburne Falls Booksellers
 Randi Stein
 Stump Sprouts
 Steven Thomashow
 Cynthia Tomasini
 Irene Tomasini
 Anne Vogel
 Judee & David Wayne
 Josh & Johanna Weinstein
 Janet & Robert Weissman
 Donald & Marcia Wheeler
 Karen Winkler
 Deborah Woodsome
 Anonymous

Green Thumb Club (gifts of \$25-99)

David Adie & Deb Hoyle
 Callie, Don & Liza Ahern
 Bill Austin
 Veronica Avery
 Ballet Renverse'
 Harriet Barlow
 The Bellwood Family
 Blackmer Insurance Agency Inc.
 Marlene Borer
 Boswell's Books
 Buckland Pizza House
 Mac McCoy & Polly Byers
 Constance Clarke
 Nancy Conaway-Raczka
 Davenport's Service Station
 Anush Dawidjan
 David A. DeSimone
 Karen Fairbrother
 Fred & Lois Feldman
 Robert & Nancy Fischlein
 Larry & Susan Flaccus
 Flanders Law Office
 Dick & Shirley Floyd
 Judy Fogg
 Franklin Land Trust
 Polly French
 Michael Garfield-Wright
 Lucia Gates
 Gail Gaustad
 Sharon Glazer
 Jacqui Goodman & Norman Beebe
 Dr. & Mrs. Gregory Grillone
 Judy Ann Harlow
 George & Carole Hartling
 Nancy Hazen
 Phyllis Herrera
 Basil & Barbara Hoffman
 Carol Hooker
 Nancy Parland & Steve Howland
 Doris Hughes
 Jennifer, Brian & Braedon Hydefrost
 J. H. Sherburne Fine Art
 Rita Jaros & Wes Talley
 Sally Judd
 Richard & Sharon Khachadorian
 Kim Klein
 Antoinette Kuzminski
 Winston & Marie LaBelle
 Lake Lure Flowering Bridge
 Bill & Lynda Leitner
 Brian & Pat Lowell
 Carly Lumsden & Eric Thidemann
 Peggy March
 Tim & Carol March
 Nathalie McCormick & Mark Pichette
 Geraldine Mead

Memorial Hall Association
 Elizabeth D. Merrill
 Lisa & Ted Merrill
 Bill & Amy Mish
 Wanda Mooney
 Sarah E. Neelon
 David Nims
 Sylvia Orcutt
 Jon & Marilyn Osgood
 Susan Pelis
 The Perry Family
 Julie Petty & David Reading
 Deborah Phillips
 Jim Picardi, Cabinet Maker
 Malcolm & Catherine Porter
 Pothole Pictures
 Elisabeth Radysh
 Bonnie Randall
 Jean and Larry Rankin
 Aidan Tremblay
 Pam Roberts
 Mary Robertson & Stefan Kostka
 Barbara and Bob Ruchames
 Patricia Ryan
 Sue Samoriski
 Tony & Sarah Schoedel
 Ann & Edward Shanahan
 Susan Shearer
 Rev. Marguerite Sheehan & Dorothy Merriam
 Shelburne Fall Arts Co-Op
 Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC
 Steven Shulda
 Sylvia Smith
 Russ & Cheri Snow
 Gene & Patricia St. Pierre
 Dennis & Susan Stetson
 Shauna Stokes & Joel Chew
 Strawberryfield
 Bill Sweeney
 Carolyn Taylor
 Don & Kathleen Upton
 Wandering Moon
 Ann Wetherbee
 Nancy & Joe Woods
 Anonymous

