



View from the Garden

News from the Wolfeboro Garden Club

**Annual Luncheon
Tuesday, June 9
11:30
Brewster Boat House**



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear members,

It's the beginning of the summer season, but the end of the Garden Club year. As my first year as your President ends I would like to thank each one of you for everything you do for our Garden Club. Each of us brings our own talents and interests to the Club, and we offer many ways to be an active and involved member. I hope that each of you has found a way to support our mission, from

helping with the Wreath Sale to working in one of our ten gardens, signing up for hospitality or serving on the Board.

I always appreciate hearing from each of you at meetings, or by phone or email. Even though we are not meeting for a few months please know I'm always available, just reach out!

I hope to see you as we dine, drink and celebrate together this Tuesday, and then my wish for you is to have a wonderful summer filled with family and fun, flowers and sun!

Until autumn,

Thanks so much!

Kim

Garden Club 2026 - 2027 dues are payable at this time.

<https://wolfeborogardenclub.org/membership-application>

OUR FEATURED LUNCHEON SPEAKER!

Gardening Is Painless... and Other Lies We Tell Ourselves

Neal Sanders

Why do we need celebrities to tell us the difference between a spade and a shovel? Why should you never give a gardener a flower show ticket? Why is your perfect squirrel deterrent an animal's dream-come-true amusement park ride? Why do rock walls keep growing long after they're supposedly finished? These are the questions that keep Neal Sanders awake at night while downing Costco-size quantities of ibuprofen. Back in 2019, Neal Sanders came to the Wolfeboro Garden Club and told us why 'Gardening Is Murder'. 'Gardening Is Painless' updates us on what had been going on in his garden (and mind). As the spouse of an avid gardener with no 'real' responsibilities other than to dig holes and move rocks, Neal has lots of time to observe gardeners and their foibles.

Neal is the author of 17 mysteries, eight of which involve horticulture and several of which use garden club settings. He writes the popular 'The Principal Undergardener' blog, which addresses gardening as a non-gardener who loves gardens. His talk is adapted from those essays. He and his wife, Betty, live in Medfield, MA, where, for the past eleven years, they have created a new garden from scratch. Many of the examples he will discuss during his talk are taken directly from his association with that garden.

GARDEN TOURS

Hi to Wolfeboro Garden Club members,

Dependent on weather conditions and the "Bloom Time" of their Peonies, **Joyce Lake** and **Martie Lincoln** will open their Gardens sometime Between June 10th and the 19h. Also **Linda Siracusa** and **Sandy Lowe** may open their gardens the same day. All of these gardens are quite unique and are filled with different material. Small and packed with interesting plants and new and just beginning to compliment the entire property. Any members who would like to open their gardens to the Club membership let us know. Enjoy yourselves and get to know new friends and new garden plants.

Paul and Sarah Maitlock from Tuftonboro may also Open their beautiful gardens when their "Roses" are in bloom. The date will be sometime in June. We will send out information as soon as we firm up the timelines. These are exceptional gardens so don't miss an opportunity to see these gardens if we can arrange a date...weather permitting. **Martie Lincoln 603-569-2652**

Member Spotlight from Julie Fergus

As the Wolfeboro Garden Club wraps up another busy and rewarding season, we are pleased to feature current president **Kim Espinosa** in this month's Member Spotlight. After completing her first year as president and preparing for the year ahead, Kim reflects on the friendships, gardening experiences, volunteer work, and community connections that have shaped both her life and her leadership within the Garden Club.

This ongoing Member Spotlight series is coordinated and written by **Publicity Chair Julie Fergus**, with the goal of helping members get to know one another beyond meetings and committee work through the stories, experiences, and personalities that make the Garden Club community so special.



Kim Espinosa – Member Spotlight

Kim Espinosa's life revolves around three things: family, gardening, and community service. Spend even a short amount of time talking with her and those themes naturally weave through nearly every story she tells. Like many friendships and opportunities in life, Kim's connection to the Wolfeboro Garden Club began through people. In 2005, while raising her family as a homeschooling mom and looking to connect with others who shared similar interests, she became involved in the community through the Hospital Street Fair garden tent. It was there that she met Garden Club member Bobbie Stave, who encouraged Kim to attend a meeting. She did, and quickly found herself welcomed by members including Trish, Inger, and Carol.

Back then, meetings featured guest speakers followed by sit-down luncheons and conversation. While some things have changed over the years, Kim feels the heart of the Garden Club remains the same: friendships, camaraderie, and people who genuinely enjoy being together. Gardening has deep roots in Kim's life. Her love of plants began with her paternal grandfather, whom she remembers fondly as "the best person ever." An only child and their only grandchild, Kim treasured visits to her grandparents' home in Massachusetts, where she spent time beside her grandfather in his perennial rock garden, often sharing ice cream sandwiches together after working outdoors. Growing up on a dirt road in Milton, New Hampshire, without even a telephone, Kim remembers a childhood centered around the outdoors and simple living. Her family kept pigs, goats, and chickens, and her parents gardened extensively, growing vegetables that were canned and frozen for the family. Kim affectionately refers to her late mother as "Mother Earth." As life became busier with family, grandchildren, travel, and running a business, Kim stepped away from the

Garden Club for a period of time. She and her husband Tom owned and operated the Irving gas station and repair shop in Wolfeboro for many years, with Kim handling the bookkeeping while Tom managed the garage operations. Even during those busy years, Kim continued deepening her knowledge of gardening, eventually becoming a New Hampshire Master Gardener before later returning to the Garden Club, where she was greeted by many familiar faces and quickly became involved again. She first helped with Programs before eventually stepping into the role of president. Along the way, she also served as chair of the Beautification Committee and redesigned the Clark Park Historical Garden into the space visitors enjoy today.

Outside the Garden Club, volunteering and community involvement have long been important parts of Kim's life. Over the years she has served in Cub Scouts as a Den Leader, Cub Master, and Unit Commissioner, volunteered as a driver for Caregivers, and remained active in local recreational organizations. She and Tom have long been involved with the Wolfeboro Snowmobile Club, where Kim once served as vice president, and the Land Share Riders ATV Club, she is the secretary / treasurer. These clubs have become an important part of their family life. While Kim and Tom spent many years living and working in Wolfeboro, they now enjoy life just over the New Hampshire border in Parsonfield, Maine, where they live in an old New Englander on a few quiet acres. Kim appreciates the peace, seclusion, and slower pace of being off the beaten path, though her connections to Wolfeboro and the Garden Club community remain deep. Today, Kim especially enjoys growing ornamental perennials, leaning toward native plants, along with rhubarb, asparagus, tomatoes, and peas. She enjoys collecting and growing plants from seed and is excited to assemble a greenhouse kit so she can continue experimenting and growing even more plants. In addition to her own gardening projects, Kim also works a couple of days each week at Sias Farm Garden Center. She enjoys talking with customers, helping them solve gardening problems, and learning from their experiences as well. Her gardening interests often overlap with other hobbies, including cooking, preserving, and making homemade wines from apples, elderberries, and strawberries.

Rarely still for long, Kim keeps herself busy with the many projects, hobbies, organizations, and family activities that fill her life. Someone who naturally likes things neat, orderly, and organized, she admits life can sometimes feel a little chaotic with so much constantly going on. Gardening, she says, has taught her to let go a little and accept that not everything can be controlled. The garden has become the place where she feels most calm. During the winter months, that energy shifts indoors. Kim enjoys reading paper books, especially science fiction and horror, and is always ready to tackle another puzzle, particularly if the grandchildren are willing to join in. To Kim, the most meaningful part of the Wolfeboro Garden Club is not simply the gardens themselves, but the friendships that grow alongside them. She describes those relationships as a continuum, something that deepens and evolves over time, much like a garden itself. Serving as president during the 2025–26 season has been especially rewarding for Kim as she oversaw committees, projects, board meetings,

and many of the meeting programs she helped put in motion before becoming president. Looking ahead to the 2026–27 season, Kim hopes to continue fostering friendships within the Garden Club, welcoming new members, and encouraging greater involvement throughout the organization. She would also like to strengthen the Garden Club's financial stability so it can continue expanding what it offers both members and the broader community. Just as importantly, she hopes to encourage engaged and dependable future leaders who will continue carrying out the club's longstanding mission: "To encourage an active interest in conservation, and to further the knowledge of beautifying town and home, as well as to increase, through gardening, the Joy of Life." Having recently celebrated 42 years of marriage, Kim has built a life centered around family, community, and the outdoors. Between children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, gardening, clubs, projects, and three energetic Shelties, life remains full, busy, and deeply connected to the people and places she loves. Through every season of life, Kim continues to bring that same energy, warmth, and sense of connection to the Wolfeboro Garden Club community. One of Kim's favorite moments in the garden comes after a long New England winter, when the plants return strong and full of promise for what lies ahead. In many ways, that same sense of optimism and renewal is what Kim hopes members will continue to find in both their own gardens and the Garden Club community in the year ahead.

The member list has been updated on our website and can be downloaded.
Please note the following for additions/corrections to the 2025-2026 Yearbook at this time. At the meetings they'll be wearing a green dot on their name badge.

New Members

Ball, Amy 4/26

316 Governor Wentworth Hwy
Mirror Lake, NH 03853
603-455-6507
amyjeanne2@gmail.com

Butler, Barbara

PO Box 455
Mirror Lake, NH 03850-0455
410-353-7659
BMButler88@gmail.com

Rich, Kristin

36 Waumbeck Rd.
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
415-407-1487

kingeneri@msn.com



Copyright (C) 2026 Wolfeboro Garden Club. All rights reserved.