

DRAFT 8/3/2023

The Garden Club of Manchester, Vermont
presents

**“The Language of Flowers”
A Book-Themed Flower Show**

An NGC Small-Standard Flower Show
Saturday, September 9, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Manchester Community Library
138 Cemetery Avenue, Manchester Center, Vermont 05255 (802) 362-2607

“With Freedom, books, flowers and the moon, who could not be happy?” Oscar Wilde

Donations will benefit The Garden Club of Manchester Scholarship Fund

Free and Open to the Public

**Member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc.; New England Garden Clubs, Inc.
and Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont**

www.gardenclubofmanchester.com



The Garden Club of Manchester, Vermont Flower Show Schedule

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Committee Chairpersons

Honorary Chairperson: Carol Munson

Club Co-Presidents: Nancy Rhodes and Pat Cherry

General Chairpersons:

Lisa Welp (203) 994-4776 (c) lisawelp@sbcglobal.net	Becky Burke (914) 204-9644 (c) becky.burke37@gmail.com
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Entries Chairpersons:

Design: Beth Alden
Botanical Arts: Nancy Rhodes
Horticulture: Kathy Moreau
Education: Melissa Bell
Youth: Lisa Welp

Classification Chairpersons:

Design: Beth Alden
Botanical Arts: Nancy Rhodes
Horticulture: Carol Berry
Education: Martha Pfeiffer
Youth: Lisa Welp

Placement Chairpersons:

Design: Carol Munson
Botanical Arts: Becky Burke
Horticulture: Kathy Moreau, Sarah McClintock
Education: Melissa Bell
Youth: Lisa Welp

Judges Chairperson: Sue Hinkel

Clerks Chairperson: Sally Ayrey

Photography Chairperson: Polly Jones

Consultants:

Design: Becky Burke, Sue Hinkel, Carol Munson
Botanical Arts: Becky Burke
Photography: Carolyn Brogan
Horticulture: Carol Berry, Kathy Moreau
Education: Martha Pfeiffer
Youth: Lisa Welp

Awards Chairpersons: Sally Ayrey, Pat Cherry

Clerks: Marilyn Brockway, Cathy Cahn, Martha Heilemann, Claudia Kinder, Christina Nichols, Deb Wilkin

Hospitality: Christina Nichols

Photography: Donna Davis

Publicity: Patti Haubner, Lisa Welp

Schedule: Becky Burke, Lily Van Haverbeke, Lisa Welp

Show Treasurer: Carolyn Smith

Staging: Lisa Welp, Becky Burke, Melissa Bell

Raffle: Carol Munson

General Rules

1. This Flower Show (Show) conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The HANDBOOK FOR FLOWER SHOWS 2017 Edition (HB), with any revisions printed the THE NATIONAL GARDENER MAGAZINE, which is the authority for all issues not covered by the schedule which is THE LAW OF THE SHOW.
2. A class is a group of exhibits conforming to the same specifications (Class or Classes). All Classes are open to current or former members of the Garden Club of Manchester (GMC). Horticulture Classes are open to any amateur gardener. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division.
3. Entry cards are available from the General Chairperson prior to September 8, 2023. Exhibitors are required to bring a list of all entries with the required entry tag information by September 8, 2023.
4. Horticulture specimens will be accepted on Thursday, September 7th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on September 8th. Design, Education, Youth, and Botanical Arts are accepted from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on September 8th. All exhibitors must leave the Show floor by 1:00 p.m. Judging will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, September 8, 2023. Botanical Arts Photography must be e-mailed to Lisa Welp, gardenclubofmanchester@gmail.com by July 7, 2023.
5. All exhibits must be removed between 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the day of the Show, Saturday, September 9, 2023.
6. Only the General Chairpersons, the Classification Chairpersons, Judges and Clerks will be allowed on the show floor during the time of judging. The General Chairpersons and the Classification Chairpersons must be available during all judging for possible consultations.
7. The decisions of the judges are final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
8. Judges are required to make comments (positive and constructive) for all Division II: Education, Division III: Design, and Division V: Botanical Arts Artistic Craft Exhibits.
9. The Classification Chairpersons for each division check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
10. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any division. Dry plant material may be treated or painted.
11. No plant material on the Vermont Conservation List or Invasive Species List is permitted in any exhibit in any division. See vtinvasives.org or invasivespecies.gov.
12. The GMC will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement, but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
13. Judging will be by the NGC Standard System of Awarding, HB, p. 5. Scale of Points is found on pp. 129-131.

Awards The NGC Standard System of Awarding

The NGC Standard System of Awarding (HB, p. 5) is used in all Divisions.

Only one (1) first-place (blue) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 90 points or more.

Only one (1) second-place (red) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 85 points or more.

Only one (1) third-place (yellow) ribbon per class or subclass; must score 80 points or more.

One (1) or more honorable-mention (white) ribbon/ribbons as merited; must score 75 points or more.

All non-blue ribbon exhibits scoring 90+ points must be signed and dated by an NGC Accredited Judge on the judging panel.

NGC Top Exhibitor Awards Being Offered

Design Award

Recognition Award: Best In Show

Eligible exhibits must be the highest scoring first-place blue ribbon winners, scoring 90+ points or above, entered by a single exhibitor. (HB, p. 45) rosette of blue ribbons. Design Classes 1, 2, 3 are eligible.

Horticulture Top Exhibitor Awards

Eligible exhibits must be the highest scoring first-place blue ribbon winners, scoring 95 points or above, must be correctly named according to binomial or currently accepted scientific designation, and must have been entered by a single exhibitor.

Division Award: Award of Horticultural Excellence (HB, p. 40) Rosette of green, orange and blue ribbons offered in Division I, Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G, Classes 1-31 are eligible

Section Award: Arboreal Award (HB, pp. 40-41) Rosette of green ribbons, one (1) award is offered in Division I, Section F, Classes 24-27 are eligible.

Section Award: Award of Merit (HB, p. 41) Rosette of orange ribbons, five (5) awards are offered in Division I, Sections Classes 1-23 are eligible.

Section Award: Grower's Choice Award (HB, p. 41) Rosette of dark green ribbons, one (1) award is offered in Division I, Section G, Classes 28-31 are eligible.

Educational Top Exhibitor Award (HB, pp.43-44) Rosette of brown and white ribbons, one award is offered in Division II, Exhibits 1-3 are eligible.

Youth Top Exhibitor Awards (HB p. 44) Rosette of red/white/blue ribbons, one award per age group for Design and Botanical Arts).

Botanical Arts Award

Photography Award (HB, p. 45) Rosette of black and white ribbons, one (1) offered in Division V, Section B, Classes 1-4.

NGC Recognition Awards

Sweepstakes Award: (HB, p.46) Rosette of green and white ribbons, one (1) offered to the exhibitor in **ALL** Sections in Division I, III, V with the most ribbon points. The Show Committee will tabulate points awarded as follows: Top Exhibitor Award=6 pts, blue ribbon=5 pts, 90+Award=4 pts, red ribbon=3 pts, yellow ribbon=2 pts, white ribbon=1pt.

Special Awards: (HB, p.46) Rosette of yellow ribbons, number of awards is determined by the Show Committee. It is presented in recognition of individual effort or contribution to the success of the Show.

AWARDS (continued)

GCM Awards

The Jane Childs “First Timer” Award: The Executive Board of the GMC are delighted to establish a garden show award in recognition of Jane Childs and her long-standing service to the Club. Jane has been a GMC member since 1982 and is known for her creativity, balance of form and color, plant placement, and scale of the floral arrangements she designs. Jane has consistently served as a mentor to members who are new to exhibiting at flower shows. Her sharing of her knowledge, her guidance, and encouragement to numerous members who may be hesitant to enter a Show arrangement has converted many members to becoming regular exhibitors at GCM Shows and helped to bring a new sense of creativity and splendor to our Shows.

In honor of Jane’s long service to the GMC, the Club is proud to establish this special award called the Jane Childs “First Timer” Award to be given by the Show committee to Club members who submit an entry as a first-time exhibitor. Entries in Division III: Design, Section A, Classes 1-3 or Division V: Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts, Section A, Class 1 are eligible.

Purse Strings Award: An Award to the “pocketbook” exhibit receiving the most ballots by the **Flower Show Visitors**. Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts, Division V, Section A, Class 1 is eligible. ***The public will receive a ballot upon entering the Show.***

Division I: Horticulture
“Nonfiction”
Horticulture Division Rules

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 6, p. 55.
2. In order to receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award, the exhibitor must identify her/his entry by its binomial name or currently acceptable scientific designation.
3. All entry cards should be filled out in advance, if possible, and if handwritten, should be in pencil or waterproof pen to avoid water damage. All specimens should be correctly labeled with scientific (botanical) names or the currently accepted scientific identification for their educational value. Common name may also be added.
4. If a plant is considered a flowering plant, it should be exhibited as a flowering specimen. Foliage plants may flower, but should be exhibited as foliage plants if they are grown for their leaves.
5. The Horticulture Classification Committee Chairperson and/or General Show Chairpersons are free to subdivide Classes by color, form, size, cultivar, variety or other distinguishing characteristics.
6. All plant material must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor.
7. Exhibits must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for no fewer than 90 days. Exception: plants grown from seed, seedling, or immature transplants, bulbs, tubers, corms or rhizomes. Combination plantings must have been grown together no fewer than 6 weeks.
8. Plant material may not be altered by the application (treatment) of oil, commercial “shine” products, etc., that artificially change the natural color and texture.
9. An exhibitor may make more than one entry per class if each entry is a different species, variety, cultivar, or type of color.
10. Cut specimens must be displayed in **clear bottles of suitable size and stability which will be provided by the Committee.** Cut specimens should not have foliage below the water line, except for gladiolus.
11. Wedging (a small, inconspicuous “plug” in the neck of a container to improve the pose of the specimen) is permitted. Wedging may be visible, but must not detract from the cut specimen. **Plastic wedging will be provided by the Committee.**
12. Double potting is permitted, but the inner pot must not be visible.
13. The Scale of Points for judging horticulture is listed in the HB, p. 129.

Division I: Horticulture
"Nonfiction"

Sections and Classes

Staged in Hunter Room

All entries eligible for Award of Horticultural Excellence

Consultants: Carol Berry, Kathy Moreau

Section A. "Best Sellers" – Perennials – one cut specimen in bloom Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 1. *Asteraceae* (Chrysanthemum)

Class 2. *Echinacea* (Coneflower)

Class 3. *Hydrangea*

Class 4. *Rosa* (Roses)

Class 5. *Sedum*

Class 6. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Section B. "Short Stories" – Culinary Herbs – one cut specimen Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 7. *Ocimum* (Basil)

Class 8. *Rosmarinus* (Rosemary)

Class 9. *Salvia* (Sage)

Class 10. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Section C. "Novellas" – Annuals – one cut specimen in bloom Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 11. *Cosmos*

Class 12. *Helianthus* (Sunflower)

Class 13. *Tagetes* (Marigold)

Class 14. *Zinnia*

Class 15. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Section D. "Royalties" – Bulbs, Corms, Tubers, Rhizomes
one cut specimen in bloom Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 16. *Begonias*

Class 17. *Dahlia*

Class 18. *Gladiolus*

Class 19. *Lilium*

Class 20. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Section E. "Galley's" - *Hostas* – one cut stem Eligible for Award of Merit

Class 21. *Hosta* - one small leaf up to 3" across

Class 22. *Hosta* - one medium leaf 3" to 6" across

Class 23. *Hosta* - one large leaf 6" to over 8" across

Section F. "FootNotes" - Evergreen Branches Eligible for Arboreal Award

One cut specimen maximum length 30"

Class 24. *Picea* (Spruce)

Class 25. *Pinus* (Pine)

Class 26. *Tsuga* (Hemlock)

Class 27. Any other needled evergreen branch

Section G. "Bookworm" - Container Grown Plants Eligible for Grower's Choice
pot not to exceed 12" in diameter, Award
pot should be terra cotta.

Class 28. *Streptocarpus* (African Violet)

Class 29. *Succulents*

Class 30. *Tracheophyta* (Ferns)

Class 31. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Division II: Education
“Textbooks”
Education Division Rules

Purpose: To aid in the protection of conservation of natural resources.

1. The schedule lists each exhibit individually. The exhibit titles and a brief description are included for each exhibit.
2. All staging provided by the committee.
3. Division and section titles should relate to the overall show theme.
4. The Scale of Points for Education Exhibits is listed in the HB, Chapter 14, pp. 129 - 130.
5. Each exhibit will be staged on a banquet table measuring 72”L x 30”W x 38”H. Some plant material is not mandatory, but encouraged.
6. Exhibits 1 and 2 are competitive

Division II: Education
“Textbooks”
Exhibits

Staged in Hunter Room

Exhibits eligible for Educational Top Exhibitor Award

Consultant: Martha Pfeiffer

Exhibit 1. **Turning our lawns into meadows** – In the U.S. more than 40 million acres of land are covered in some form of lawn requiring a lot of maintenance. Lessening the need for maintenance (power tools) will cut down on emissions.

Converting lawns into meadows will benefit pollinators and enhance carbon sequestration. Encouraging “no mowing in May” when pollinators need the early blooms to re-energize after a long winter, will also assist in these efforts. Planting more trees and shrubs in our yards will store vastly more carbon than a lawn; creating edible gardens, and the use of electric garden tools in our gardens will lessen the carbon footprint.

Exhibit 2. **Invasives - Identify, Remove, Replace.** Identify common invasive plants in your garden, ways to remove them and native options to replace them.

Division III: Design

"Books in Bloom"

Design Division Rules

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 7, pp. 79 - 81. Exhibiting in the Design Division, NGC Policies and Guidelines.
2. Advanced entry is required for all Classes and must be made with the Consultant for the appropriate Class. The exhibitors must provide a substitute and notify the Consultant if unable to enter.
3. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the design type if named in the Class.
4. An exhibitor may enter one exhibit per Design Class.
5. Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor.
6. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card provided by the Committee. No artificial material or artificial embellishment of plant material is allowed.
7. Exhibits may be completed at home or in the Show area.
8. National flags may not be incorporated into any competitive design nor used as underlays, swags or the like. Landscapes or scenes are not allowed.
9. The Scale of Points for Design is listed in the HB, Chapter 7, p. 130.
10. Plant material and non-plant material permitted and not permitted in the Design Division are printed in the HB, Chapter 7, pp. 80-81.
11. Rules for Design Types, Advanced Design Types, Table Designs and Table Appointment are printed in the HB, Chapter 7.
12. Designer is on his/her honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or judged in a NGC Standard Flower Show.

Division III: Design

"Books In Bloom"

Section and Classes

All entries Eligible for Best In Show Award

Section A: "Fiction"

Plant Material in Classes may be dried, treated dried and/or fresh.

Class 1. "Literary Classics" Staged in the Reading Room

4 Entries

Consultant: Sue Hinkel

A Creative Design based on a well-known book or poem with expression of life, truth and beauty using designers choice of materials. The design is not bound by traditional patterns or styles. Plant material must be used as part of overall design. Use of drape, underlay or runners and accessories permitted. Book title included on entry card.

Exhibit 1-3. Staged on a wooden round pedestal table with a 36" diameter top x 30" H

Exhibit 4. Staged on a wooden coffee table 50" L x 21" W x 19" H

Class 2. "Thumbelina" Staged on the Young Adult Room computer bar.

4 Entries

Consultant: Becky Burke

A Petite Design with the theme of the beloved fairy tale, sweet, dainty, whimsical, with a pinch of magic. Thumbelina may consist of **dried and fresh plant material** and other components, **not to exceed 10" in height, width, or depth**. You may use a base or stand, but the dimensions will be included in the 10" measurement. Design will be displayed in front of a black tri-fold display board measuring 11" W x 14" H with side panels measuring 5½" W x 14" H. All designs will be displayed on a computer bar measuring 24"D x 43" H.

Class 3. "Beach Reads" Staged in the Young Adult Room

4 Entries

Consultant: Carol Munson

An American Traditional Mass Design or Line-mass design inspired by the beauty of the beach or the shore during the summer. The design should have large quantities of plant material and a closed silhouette. Plant material is integrated and not grouped. Design should reflect theme and may or may not display books.

Exhibits 1 - 4. Staged on black-draped tables 30" L x 24" W x 29" H

**Division IV: Youth
“Speed Readers”
Youth Division Rules**

1. The NGC Exhibit Policies are printed in the HB, Chapter 9, pp. 87-89, Exhibiting in the Youth/Sponsored Group Division.
2. All NGC policies apply.
3. Youth exhibits are judged by the NGC Standard System of Awarding. The exhibits are evaluated using the Adult Scale of Points in both Design and Artistic Crafts.
4. A minimum score of ninety (90) is required to place an NGC Youth Top Exhibitor Award.
5. Youth Exhibitors in this Show are in one category: Intermediate: Grades 3 - 5.
6. All Design entries must be created solely by the exhibitor.
7. Plant materials need not be grown by the exhibitor.
8. Each youth entry must include name, grade, and school.
9. No minimum number of exhibits is required.
10. All staging is provided by the committee.
11. Exhibit must contain some fresh and/or dried plant material.
12. No artificial, endangered, or locally invasive material may be used. A card listing and showing plant materials in their natural state must be included with all entries.
13. A card listing and showing plant materials in their natural state must be included with all entries.
14. All entries will be displayed on white tablecloths on rectangular tables.
15. All exhibits must contain some plant material, only dry material may be treated.

**Division IV: Youth
“Speed Readers”
Sections and Classes
Staged in Stem Room**

All Youth Classes are Competitive. Each Class is eligible for one Youth Top Exhibitor Award.

Section A: Design “Chapter Books” Design Classics

Consultant: Becky Burke

Class 1: “Fantasy”

A design, using abundant blooms and garden foliage. Vases will be provided by the Show committee. Staged on a wooden counter measuring 120”L x 24”D x 43”H, each individual will have a space measuring 1 foot.

Section B: Botanical Arts, Artistic Crafts “Graphic Novels”

Consultant: Lisa Welp

Class 2: “Science Fiction”

Science notebook measuring 7” H x 9” W, covers decorated with plant materials.

Intermediates: Grades 3-5

Class 3. “Bookmarks”

Bookmarks displayed with plant material. Cardstock measuring 3” x 8” provided.

Intermediates: Grades 3-5

Class 4. “Hapa Zoom”

Provided napkins measuring 10” x 14” using plant material pounded by hammers between two (2) pieces of fabric. Intermediates: Grades 3-5

Division V: Botanical Arts
“Memoir”
Botanical Arts-Artistic Crafts Division Rules

1. The NGC Botanical Arts Policies/rules are printed in the HB, Chapter 10, with Botanical Arts Artistic Craft.
2. Artistic Crafts are objects with function.
3. Advanced entry is required and must be made with the Consultant for the Class. The Exhibitors must provide a substitute and notify the Consultant if unable to enter.
4. All exhibits must contain some plant material. No artificial, endangered or locally invasive plant material is permitted in any exhibit.
5. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card provided by the Committee.
6. Exhibitor must provide a list, with an untreated sample of dried plant materials used in exhibit identified with common names.
7. The exhibit must be the work of one (1) individual.
8. Non-plant material may be used for construction, but must not show.
9. The Scale of Points for Artistic Crafts exhibits is listed in the HB, Chapter 14, p. 131.

Division V: Botanical Arts – Artistic Crafts
“Memoir”
Sections and Classes
Staged in Parlor Cafe

Section A: “Chick Lit”

Class 1: “Pocket Books”

Consultant: Becky Burke

A pocketbook using dried and/or fresh plant materials, woody branches and/or any natural material. Non-plant material may be used for construction, but must not show. The pocketbook should be flat-bottomed so it stands on its own and may drape over front edge. Each exhibit will be staged on a natural, raw edge, wood bar measuring approximately 18” W x 24” D x 41” H.

Division V: Botanical Arts
"Memoir"
Photography Rules

1. Photography competition is open to the Garden Club members first and to the public if space is available. No entry fee. Exhibitors may enter two classes.
2. Entries will be pre-judged. Send entries electronically by July 7 to: Lisa Welp, gardenclubofmanchester@gmail.com. All accepted entries will also need to be printed and matted for display at the Show and will be accepted on Thursday, September 7th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
3. Entries in this Show must have been photographed by the exhibitor and be the work of a single photographer.
4. Photos must include exhibitor's name and phone number on backside of photo. No other identifying marks are allowed on the photo.
5. All photos must be on a white mat which is for display only and not for judging. Outer mat size should be 8" x 10" or 11" x 14" only. Photos may be no smaller than 5" x 7" and no larger than 8" x 10." Orientation may be landscape or portrait. Square formats are permitted but must use a 14" x 14" mat. Square photos can be no larger than 10" x 10" and no smaller than 7" x 7." The mat must be white. Entries that aren't matted will not be exhibited. No glass or frames permitted.
6. Photographs can only be entered in one class - no duplicate photographs are allowed in the Show. Duplicates of the same photo will result in disqualification.
7. First, Second, Third and Fourth place awards or no award may be given in each Class. Multiple ribbons may be awarded. Special awards are set forth on page 5 of this schedule.
8. Photos must be left in place until the close of the Show. All entries must be picked up between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the day of the Show. Any entries remaining after 5:00 p.m. will be discarded. Photos will be staged on bi-fold panels in the lobby.
9. Eligible for Botanical Arts Photography Award.
10. Consultant: Carolyn Brogan

Division V: Botanical Arts – Artistic Crafts
"Memoir"

Photography Sections and Classes

Staged in Parlor Cafe

Eligible for the Botanical Arts Photography Award

Consultant: Carolyn Brogan

Section B: "Picture Books" – Photography

"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still." - Dorothea Lange

Class 1. Love Stories: Color - A close-up photograph of a flower, plant or pollinator in which the subject fills most of the frame.

"She is beautiful without knowing it and possesses charms that she's not even aware of." - Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand

Class 2. Fairytales: Color - a photograph depicting plant material or a landscape using creative techniques: The manipulation or alteration of any stage of the photographic process to achieve an effect significantly different from the original photograph. All images must be the work of the photographer but use of purchased textures are allowed.

"All the world is made of faith, and trust, and pixie dust." - J. M. Barrie, Peter Pan

Class 3. Mysteries: Black and White – a photograph of plant material or landscape that capitalizes on natural or human-made shrouding. (Fog, rain, snow, branches, fabric, etc.)

"Without mysteries, life would be very dull indeed. What would be left to strive for if everything were known?" - Charles de Lint

Class 4. Essays on Reflection: Color – A photograph capturing a reflection in nature.

"The mind is like water. When it's turbulent, it's difficult to see. When it's calm, everything becomes clear." - Prasad Mahes

IN THANKS

The Executive Board and members of the Garden Club of Manchester wish to express our thanks and deep appreciation to the Board and staff of the Manchester Community Library for their assistance, generosity and support of the 2023 GCM Flower Show.

While touring the Flower Show, don't miss the library's current art exhibit by GMC member, Patti Campbell.



The Garden Club of Manchester was founded in 1920 by a group of ten women meeting for the first time in the Burr & Burton Gymnasium. The first Flower Show was held on August 19 and the new Club grew to 87 regular members, plus ten men as associates, by October of 1920.

Civic Beautification was a primary effort of the Club from its early years. In 1924 members worked to “beautify” Adams Park at Manchester Depot. Dusty highways and pig pens along the road were additional pressing concerns. Today GCM’s Civic Beautification Program includes litter pick-up along the Club’s designated area on River Road in Manchester, maintaining the Manchester Town Green and Dorset Town Green, and providing floral arrangements at the Southern Vermont Arts Center and the Manchester Community Library. Decorated wreaths are donated to town offices, libraries and area churches at Christmas.

Flower Shows have also been a joint effort of the Club. The first show in August of 1920 included 40 exhibits and was attended by 500 persons. Local artist Luigi Lucioni did the backdrop for the 1935 Flower Show at Burr & Burton using a water wheel as a theme. Membership had increased to 172. The 1937 Flower Show at Equinox House marked the founding of the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont.

The Garden Club of Manchester continues to thrive in fulfilling its mission to promote love for, interest in, and knowledge of horticulture.