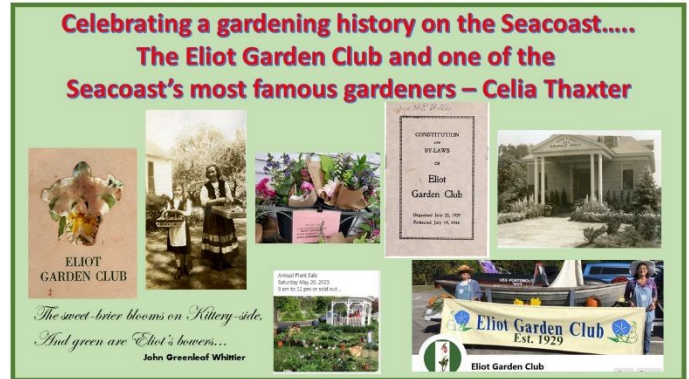


MONTHLY MEETING: April 8th 7:00PM - McPherson Hall, First Congregational Church, 1361 State Road

Zoom link:

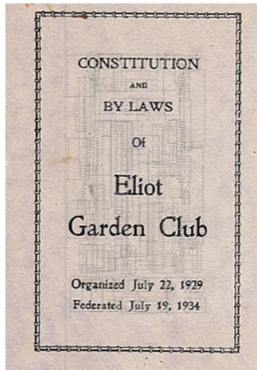
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89970965186?pwd=b0JaVFgyOFRnNW11WjRLZlZlSRDNLdz09>



President's Prattle

by Tracey Graffam-Dickson

Greetings and welcome to an April spring here in Maine. Thankfully the daffodils are resilient, holding strong surrounded by snow and the birds seem unbothered, as they swoop through the treetops and dart beneath the brush in search of food in the cleared patches of the thawed ground. For most of us New Englanders, this late snowstorm won't slow us down; we know warm weather is not far behind; and soon with the blooms of the Forsythia, it will be time to transplant the starter seeds safely in our garden beds. This annual tradition has been long in our history here in New England. Although our tools have changed and techniques have improved, gardening here in Maine has brought pleasure for decades and continues to do so. This month, we are excited to support the Eliot Garden Club in celebrating 95th years of community gardening. The Eliot Gardening Club was established in 1929 and has been an active organization ever since. At our April meeting, joined by the president of the Eliot Garden Club, Carolann Gagne, we will have a look back through a wonderful collection of pictures and articles of the club's activities, thoughtfully selected by Rosanne Adams. Following this review, we will present a video on one of New England's most famous gardeners, Celia Thaxter. We hope you will join us as we celebrate an important milestone for one of our communities' most enduring organizations, while we also share with one another our own gardening traditions and stories.

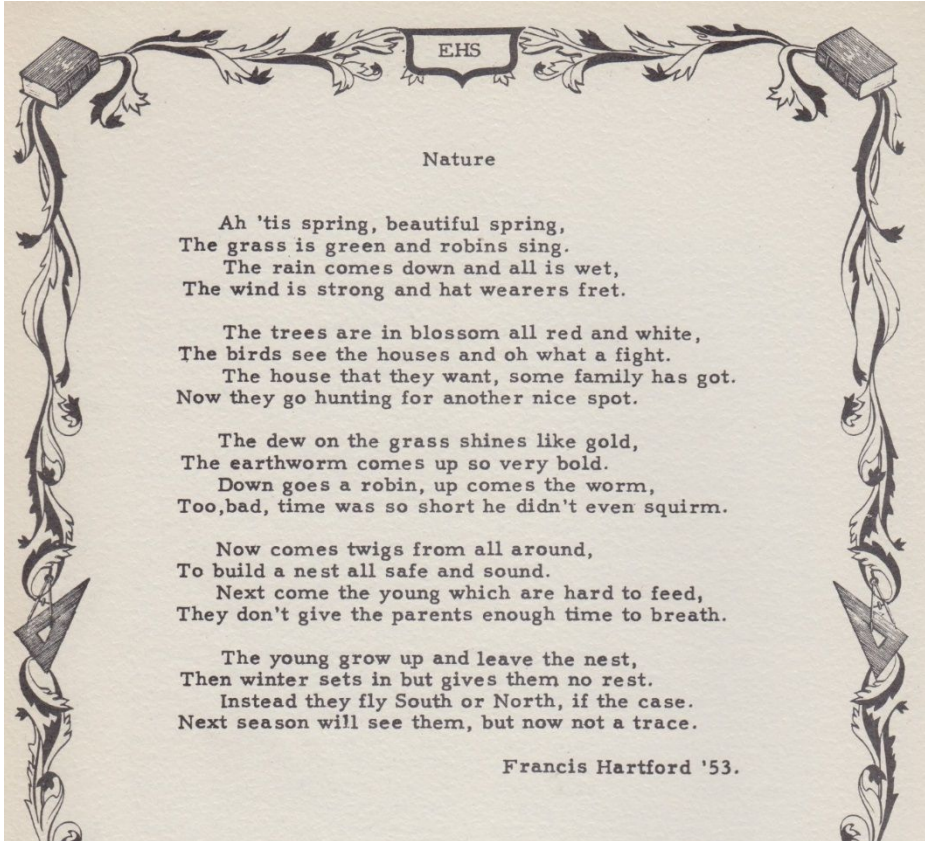


Celia Thaxter in her Garden on Appledore Island. ME. Painting by Childe Hassam

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From our late member and teacher Francis Hartford. Written for his Eliot High School yearbook, in 1953.

Our display at **Eliot Elementary School** recognizes the SAD #35 Pre-School Program which celebrates its 50th year!

In 1973/1974, Jan Cerabona was instrumental in developing a Preschool Program for SAD #35. The program in Eliot was located in the Congregational Church and that in South



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Berwick at the Federated Church. The Preschool changed its name to Pre-K and moved into Central School (SB) and Eliot Elementary School when the addition was added to Marshwood Junior High School (South Berwick), and the 6th grade students became part of Marshwood Junior High School in 1988.



Jan Cerabona's smock. Signed by the children.

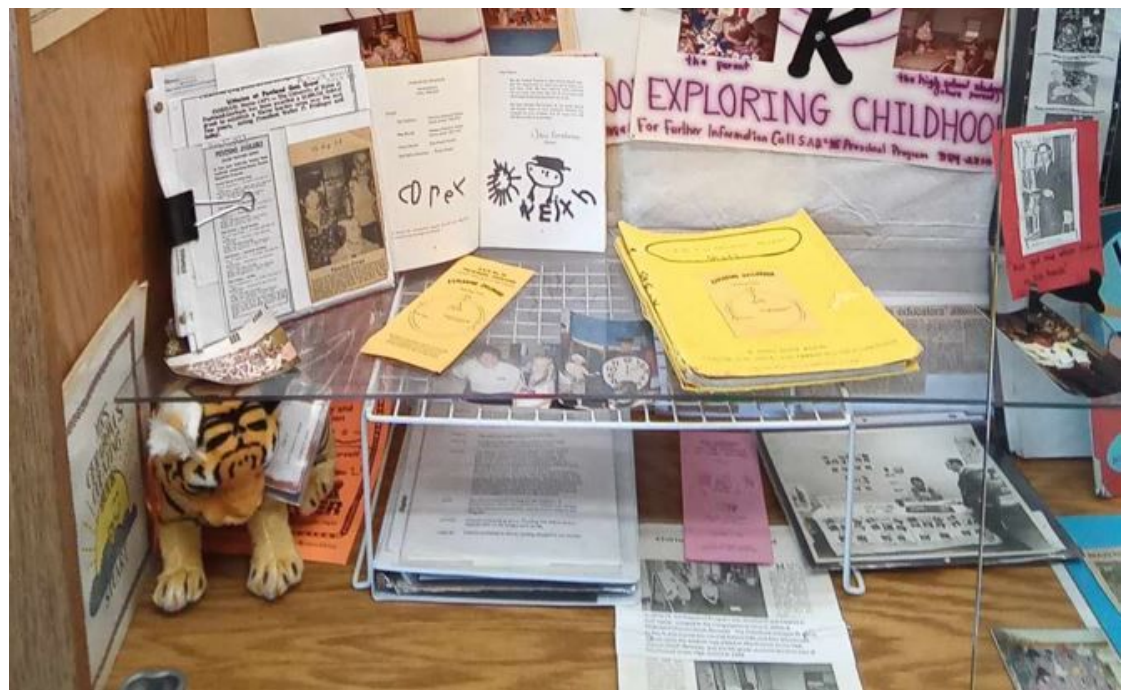


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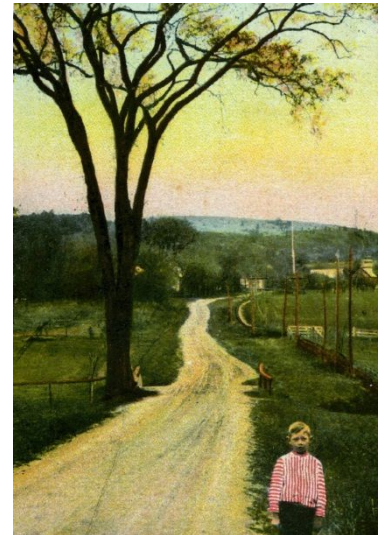
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Marshwood Middle School - In our continuing efforts to bring Eliot's history to our district's schools, **Jan** reached out to the principal Christine Goulet to see if they would



like a large framed postcard reproduction showing Depot Road, on loan, to hang up at the school. The framed picture was donated to EHS by Keith Searles, several years ago, and had been hanging downstairs at the Grange Hall. They were very pleased to have it and it has now been placed in the main lobby.



#8 SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM

67 Greenwood Street
Eliot Maine

OPEN

JUNE through SEPTEMBER

Wednesday & Saturday

10-2

and

by appointment

JUNE through OCTOBER

Donations Appreciated

Contact:

Jan Cerabona 207-450-6874

jcerab2805@aol.com

Jan has been contacting area museums and we will be putting flyers about our school museum for their patrons to take with them. Posters highlighting our meetings, schoolhouse hours and cemetery program are being distributed around town. Always looking for help to spread the news, so if you have a place you'd like to put a poster, please let us know!

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRESERVING THE PAST - AIDING THE FUTURE

Contact: jcerab2805@aol.com

Monthly Meetings held 2nd Monday of each month except July and August

Location - First Congregational Church, McPherson Hall, 1361 State Rd. @ 7 PM.

Programs feature Eliot and area history, are FREE and carried live on ZOOM Refreshments are served

Annual picnic is held August 12 @ 6PM Eliot Boat Basin Bring your dinner, items for the grill, and come join us!

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ADOPT A CEMETERY PROGRAM

Taking Care of Eliot's Cemeteries

We serve as an information resource for the care of cemeteries and a facilitator for the community, helping pair individuals, families and groups interested in helping care for some of Eliot's old family cemeteries.

Call Rosanne at 207-752-0174



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SPEAKING OF CEMETERIES

Recognizing that the purpose of our “Adopt a Cemetery” program has always been to encourage and facilitate the pairing of people with the care of the old private family cemeteries, we will not be planning any cleaning dates this year. We will continue to disseminate information, advise, and offer hands-on help where we can so that people have the tools to properly care for cemeteries. To that end, our EHS posters and publicity feature that message.

We received two inquiries of concern for a private cemetery in eastern Eliot needing attention. Reaching out to members and residents who had expressed interest in helping (on an Eliot Facebook page) we connected them and have left it to the initial inquirer to organize a clean-up, this spring.

Especially heartening was hearing (on social media and from family member Noreen Morang) the work that the Holmes family has been doing to provide continuing care for the Knight and Remick cemeteries on the family’s property.

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS



April 16 - 6PM - Elizabeth DeWolfe will be presenting her talk "**Mourning Maine's Dead: Victorian Hair Jewelry and Crafts**".
Berwick Public Library



April 25 – 7PM “**Maine After Gettysburg**”. When the Civil War began, Maine responded immediately to the call for soldiers, raising fourteen regiments of infantry and one of cavalry in 1861. Organized in the Maine Volunteer Militia in August 1862, the 20th Maine Infantry mustered into Federal service several weeks later. Historian **Brad Fletcher** explores the human cost and impact of the Civil War’s greatest battle on the State of Maine. The lecture is free and open to the public, no registration required.

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Donations gratefully accepted on their website. ZOOM Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81300353667...>

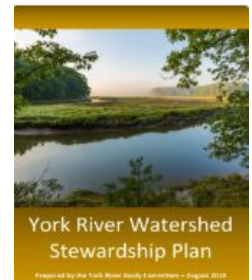
*NOTE: OBHS programming is now on ZOOM. If you haven't signed up for their newsletter, and announcements with the zoom link, please do. You won't want to miss their programs. They also post past program videos on their webpage
Upcoming list

Want to thank Cari Quarter at OBHS for mentioning our #8 Schoolhouse Museum at their March program "Maine's Gone Mad: The Rise and Fall of the KKK"

York River ~ Partnership Wild and Scenic River

Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, and York, Maine

ANNOUNCEMENTS: YORK RIVER WATERSHED GRANTS PROGRAM - **Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2024** for the [York River Watershed Grants Program](#). Information about the program and the application form can be found on their website <http://www.yorkrivermaine.org/>



NEW SOLICITATION ANNOUNCED: The Stewardship Committee is seeking specialized communications assistance for branding and communications set-up. Details on program needs and how to apply are included in the [Request for Qualifications](#). Applications for this one-time solicitation are **due by noon on April 23, 2024**. http://www.yorkrivermaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/RFQ-Communications-and-Creative-Services-3_29_24.pdf - *Jennifer Hunter, Watershed Program Coordinator, York River Stewardship Committee*

DID YOU KNOW that Maine was the 19th state to ratify the 19th Amendment on Nov 5, 1919? Well, maybe

you will remember back on Election Day in November 2019 when we recognized the 100th Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote, by planting daffodils. We planted 266 bulbs between 6 locations in Eliot, in multiples of 19. Check out these pictures from Jan from the William Fogg Library, Eliot Elementary School, and our #8 Schoolhouse Museum!



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