

1. Elizabeth McCaffrey Arbor Day Award goes to **Rehoboth Garden Club** for the planting of a Swap Oak tree at Francis Farm in honor of six community members and their significant contributions to the town.

3. Jo Macintosh Award for Conservation Education - is presented to **Sogkonate Garden Club** for developing a public interest in identifying, maintaining and restoring stone walls in the community.

5. Portsmouth Garden Club Memorial Award for Litter Control This award for litter control is awarded to **Sogkonate Garden Club** for their dedication to the town of Little Compton with monthly roadside litter collection, recycling styrofoam, town earth day cleanup and coastal cleanup.

6. Kathryn M. Sheehan Award is awarded to **Western Cranston Garden Club** for their consistent labor in refurbishing and maintaining their Adopt-A-Spot for 33 years.

11. Mary Ellen Blount Award for Garden Therapy has been awarded to **Cindy Wood Garden Club** for their garden therapy with seniors at assisted living facilities. These programs prompted comprehensive garden therapy that benefited seniors' cognitive and mental health.

12. Frances M. Poitier Membership Award **Wantaknowhow Garden Club** wins for the largest increase in dues-paying members.

13. Horticulture Program Award the recipient of this award is **Cindy Wood Garden Club**, for a unique horticulture program enabling the club to apply many of the principles they learned from this living classroom at Sakonnet Gardens in Little Compton.

14. Comprehensive Horticulture Award is presented to **Sogkonate Garden Club** for their ambitious and worthwhile projects that heighten the awareness of all aspects of horticulture in Little Compton.

19. Edith Fricker Programs of the Year Award

Four clubs are the recipients of the Edith Fricker Programs award for their well-rounded programs throughout the year. In their respective categories, the winners are:

Class 2 Hameho Garden Club
Class 3 Cindy Wood Garden Club
Class 4 Plum Beach Garden Club
Class 6 Barrington Garden Club

20. Yearbook Awards for their outstanding yearbooks, we honor the following garden clubs. In their respective categories, the winners are:

Class 1 Wantaknowhow Garden Club
Class 2 Hameho Garden Club
Class 3 Gentian Garden Club
Class 4 Western Cranston Garden Club
Class 5 Sogkonate Garden Club
Class 6 Barrington Garden Club

21. Carolyn B. Haffenreffer Award **Hameho Garden Club** receives this prestigious award for their wide variety of programs, activities, demonstrations, and many community projects.

22. The Sylvia Street Award is awarded to **Pat Morgan** of Plum Beach Garden Club for her Bridal themed centerpiece for the June 2025 RIFGC board meeting.

23. The Joan F. Pesola Award is presented to **Kathy LaRiviere** of the Barrington Garden Club for her exhibition centerpiece for Barrington's February club meeting refreshment table.

24. RI Federation Project of Merit Award is awarded to **Hameho Garden Club** for their involvement in renovating the Clara Marshall Garden including overseeing the hardscape walkways within the garden.

** Certificate of Recognition goes to **Western Cranston Garden Club** for their restoration of raised beds at Hope Alzheimer Center.*

26. National Garden Week is awarded to **Western Cranston Garden Club** who worked with the Cranston Central Library children's librarian to have children aged 5-11 plant annuals in the refurbished flower beds.

27. Newsletter Award Newsletters are a wonderful way for clubs to keep members updated on National, Regional, RIFGC and club activities. The winners are:

Class 2 Hameho Garden Club
Class 3 Bristol Garden Club
Class 4 Western Cranston Garden Club
Class 6 Barrington Garden Club

28. Pollinator Award is presented to **Cindy Wood Garden Club** for installation of a pollinator pathway at the Swift Community Center.

29. Website Award- This is awarded to **Bristol Garden Club** for its ease of use and informative website.

30. Decorating a Historic Building is awarded to **Western Cranston Garden Club** for beautifully decorating the Sprague Mansion for the holiday season with the theme "A Winter Wonderland of Silver and Blue"

32. Art in Bloom Congratulations to **Plum Beach Garden Club** for being the first recipient of this award and for a show of floral and artistic delights.

Member Award of Honor RIFGC is proud to Honor **Marcia Pearce** as its Member of Honor for 2026. Marcia was nominated by Cindy Wood Garden Club. Through her leadership, Cindy Wood has achieved an impact on many historic landmarks in East Greenwich, provided services to vulnerable residents and created new landscape design features throughout the town of East Greenwich.

Club Anniversaries 2026

50 years Cindy Wood Garden Club

55 years Western Cranston Garden Club

Commendations

Judy Gray – 2026 Flower Show Chair

RIFGC thanks Judy Gray for all her time and effort she volunteered for the 2026 Rhode Island Design Specialty Flower Show, ‘Dearly Beloved...’. Judy’s enthusiasm, incredible hard work, and commitment before, during and after this event is what makes this show a huge success. Judy has an invaluable wealth of knowledge which she is always willing to share.

Blakely Szosz, Flower Show Consultant RIFGC
Design Specialty Flower Show”Dearly Beloved...”

Thank You!

Judy Gray chair of the Design Specialty Flower Show and Kathleen Damiani president of RIFGC, would like to extend a **Heartfelt Thank You** to all the people who volunteered at the Federation Flower Show “Dearly Beloved...” We had volunteers setting up, taking down, manning the computers, passers, clerks, hostesses, waterers and all the help with the youth designs. Without all this help the show would not have been as successful. Every one of you played an important role in the show’s success.

96th Anniversary Awards Ceremony

April 23, 2026



The Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

President – Kathleen Damiani

Award Committee

**Kathleen Damiani, Cheryl Celeste,
Blakely Szosz, Vera Bowen,
Judy Gray, Vicki Iannuccillo,
Sue Redden**

*These still active clubs were among
the founding members of the RIFGC:*

**Bristol Garden Club
Jamestown Garden Club
South County Garden Club**