



Dahlia 'Myrtle's Brandy' on Stacy Boulevard - Photo courtesy of John Abisamra

Generous Gardeners had a very busy spring and summer! The plant sale in May was well attended with locally grown plants and dahlia tubers selling out! Our garden tour in July was very successful and over 800 participants enjoyed the downtown walk that brought them from the high school to Winchester Court. In September, Generous Gardeners held our first dahlia competition with dahlia flowers and photos of dahlias. Thank you to flower judge Bart Kellerman, a frequent dahlia competition winner at Topsfield Fair, and photo judges Jason Grow and Shawn Henry. A special shout out to Bass Rocks Golf Club for providing such a wonderful venue for the competition. Our most colorful event of the year is the cut dahlia sale in October. We sold several hundred bouquets of dahlias cut from the Boulevard.

*"A garden is a delight to the eye and a solace for the soul."* - Saadi



One addition to Generous Gardeners this year has been the donation of our new shed, thanks to the generosity of Sean Coakley, owner of Atlantic Power Cleaning. The much-needed shed has already been put to good use. Photo: Supporters Sean Coakley and Mike Nocella sporting our signature aprons!



Fall is spring bulb planting time, and Generous Gardeners planted thousands of tulips and daffodils in October at the Elizabeth Gordon Smith Garden and the Merchant Marine Memorial beds. These will be our only beds on Stacy Boulevard with spring flowering bulbs. The winter storms over the last few years have washed out the rectangular beds with salt water so tulip bulbs did not thrive. We did not have a showy tulip display in the spring of 2023. Almost all of the rectangular beds will be covered over with tarps to protect the soil from winter salt water. Bulbs will not survive under tarps. We have ordered thousands of pansies so the Boulevard will be full of color in April!

### **Save the Dates!**

**Sculptural Planter Dedication:**  
**December 9, 2023 3:00 PM**

Spearheaded by Generous Gardeners, four sculptural planters created by nationally renowned local sculptor, Chris Williams, will grace the Fishermen's Memorial on Stacy Boulevard.

**Plant Sale: May 18, 2024**

We will have hundreds of great locally-grown plants donated from volunteers' gardens. The sale will include dahlia tubers from Stacy Boulevard.

**Garden Tour: July 6, 2024**

Next year's Gloucester Garden Tour will be in the Wheeler's Point neighborhood of Gloucester. Tickets will be \$35 and available on our website in spring.

**Classic Chrome and Dazzling Dahlias Gala:**  
**September 26, 2024**

This special event will now take place every other year and is our fancy gala in Frank McCracken's East Gloucester fire barn full of amazing antique cars. Tickets will be limited.



## Spotlight on Our Volunteers



From left: Brian Hardy, Jack O'Neil, Steve Howard, Arthur Sterling, Vito LaMura, Jim Turner; Larry Maver kneeling

*"Working with Generous Gardeners has been great. In the gardens with my green apron on, I'm a magnet for the tourists that visit Gloucester who always complement the work we do. But most important to me are the many new Generous Gardening friends I have now."* - Steve Howard

*"Volunteering gives me such a feeling of accomplishment and well being, and is also a good workout. Generous Gardeners is a well-run organization and being a part of it is a pleasure."*  
- Jack O'Neil

## 2023 Stars of the Boulevard



### Sunflowers

Generous Gardeners planted sunflowers from seed that were a fun change this year.



### 'Profusion Red' Zinnia

These annuals are a vibrant addition to the beds.



### Dahlia 'Crème de Casis'

This striking dahlia was a crowd pleaser with bountiful flowers all summer.

### Our Gardened Spaces

Although the Stacy Boulevard Gardens are our flagship, we care for over 45 spaces in Gloucester. Please see our website for more information and a map of locations at [GenerousGardeners.org](http://GenerousGardeners.org)



Stacy Boulevard in bloom. Photo by David Cox

### JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS

*We currently have over 80 volunteers associated with our organization and welcome new volunteers who are interested in our mission. Susan Kelly maintains an email list of all volunteers to keep them updated all year.*

*Caring for our gardens takes the majority of our volunteer time. We plant, weed, rake, water, and deadhead. Some garden volunteers like to be assigned to work as part of a team at a designated space for an ongoing commitment, and others work on a more intermittent basis when a specific task needs a group effort (such as tulip planting, spring clean-up, etc.).*

*Volunteering at one of our fundraising events is another way to participate. We also have a volunteer board of directors that keeps the organization focused on its mission and works with sponsors, grants, garden designers, website review, and finances.*

*If you are interested in volunteering with us, please email Susan Kelly at [susan@generousgardeners.org](mailto:susan@generousgardeners.org) and let her know of your interests!*

#### Generous Gardeners

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