



Club Flower
Plymouth Gentian

Plymouth Garden Club

October 2015

Judy Ingram, President

Volume 47 Issue 11

Membership

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| Active: | 79 |
| Life: | 1 |
| Associate: | 10 |
| Honorary: | 2 |

Horticulture

Fall Awakening

Vintage gardening texts often make reference to fall with its milder daytime temperatures, regular irrigation and cooler nights as the “second spring.” Fall is the time for dividing perennials, planting spring flowering bulbs and refreshing lawns.

Using digging forks, sharp shovels and lawn edgers, divide clumps of Siberian iris, daylilies, bearded iris. Transplant the new plants to fill any gaps. (Don’t forget to label transplants for our spring sale.) Keep transplants moist, but hold off on fertilizer until spring.

Some conservationists consider the Asian butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*) a “garden thug” on a par with Chinese wisteria and winged euonymous. Butterfly bush can grow 6 to 8 ft. tall and wide, and the blossoms set seeds. It may die to the ground in winter, but the site is ringed by volunteers.

New varieties are more compact, topping off at 3 to 4 ft.
over...

“God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done.”
Author Unknow

IT’S AUCTION TIME!!!

Remember the club auction on Wednesday, October 14. Here’s your chance to find new homes for those special items that are too nice to throw away, but no longer fit your lifestyle. And don’t forget the home-baked goodies! Jean Ravinski and Kevinette Considine will once again team up to provide an afternoon of hearty laughs.

Art in Bloom—Congratulations to the fifteen club members whose creative interpretations brought a special spark to this year’s Art in Bloom program during the Plymouth Guild’s Annual Juried Art Show. Other members served as hostesses. Judy Brown and Nancy Markley co-chaired the event, held over the Columbus Day weekend.

Garden Therapy—Our first session is Tuesday, October 20, at Golden Living. Plan to arrive about 10 AM; the program will begin at 10:30. Bring your clippers and a smile. Call Natalie Caramello for details.

Civic Beautification—Calling all members!! It’s time to prepare our community gardens for winter.

Library Beds: Saturday, October 17, at 9 AM. Bring clippers, rakes and trash bags. Norene Casey is your captain.

Brewster Gardens: Thursday, October 22, at 11 AM. Bring your tools. The Town will send a crew to help. Jean Dobachesky is your team leader.

Holiday Greens Sale—December will be here before we know it and so will our Holiday Greens Sale. This year, the Library has invited us to hold this annual fund raising event in the Fehlow Room. The greens workshop will be Friday, December 4; the sale will be Saturday, December 5. Please mark your calendars and schedule time on both days to help with decorating and sales.

This year we will create fresh wreaths with two themes: the seashore and natural local materials. Natalie Caramello and Stacy Connor are asking us to

...horticulture continued

Native substitutions are becoming more readily available. *Clethra ainifolia* (summer sweet) produce white panicles on a 6-ft. plant. “Hummingbird” clethra produce white or pink blooms on a 4-ft. bush. Also consider as replacements: aronia, beach plum and viburnum.

Most lawns are sporting the “summer tan” of dormancy and look dead. Our sandy soil and protracted heat and sunlight have dried out everything but the crabgrass! Usually, lawns recover with the cooler weather, but this year’s conditions have been unusually severe. Any areas that did not respond to the return of rain should be refreshed.

Most lawns will benefit from a top dressing of compost. Then loosen the soil and any weeds using a sturdy rake or tiller. Rake in seed appropriate to the site (sun, shade, heavy traffic, etc.). Fall usually provides ideal germination conditions. By late spring, your new grass will be blending in with the rest of the lawn.

Joy Sand

bring in shells, pitchpine cones and other plant materials. Meghan Rinker will coordinate production of fresh holiday arrangements by members in their homes. Sign-up sheets will be available at both the October and November meetings.

Conservation Notes—Joan Bartlett thanks all club members who practice random acts of conservation. Keep spreading the *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle* message. The fall town-wide clean-up is October 24. Contact Patrick at Town Hall (508-747-1620, ext. 204) for details, or just scout your neighborhood or a favorite beautiful place and spend some time collecting litter.

Thank You Notes—The Club received two very nice thank you notes. The Council on Aging was very pleased with the tea pot arrangement members crested for their high tea event. The Antiquarian Society thanked us for running a successful plant table at their fair. You’re welcome, we’re happy to be of help.

SE District Flower Show—District Director Fluffy Winner reports a decision will be made soon on the new location for the annual flower show, now that the Barnstable Fairgrounds location is no longer available. Probably in mid-July. Stay tuned.

Mentorship--We still need someone to coordinate the Mentorship Program. This program pairs new members with those who already know the ropes. It’s a nice way to get to know each other better. Anyone interested?

Got Yearbook?—If you don’t have your yearbook yet, you can pick it up at the October meeting. Mailing them is costly, but they’re very important to a successful club. So remember to grab yours.