



Club Flower
Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Plymouth Garden Club

May 2020

Linda O'Neill, President

Volume 49 Issue 15

Although all the Plymouth Garden Club meetings and activities through June have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus crisis, the Board met by zoom to continue trying to make plans. Susan Denehy has arranged to have our **June luncheon rescheduled for Wednesday, August 26th**. Hopefully we will be able to meet for lunch by then. More details will be sent out with menu selections and costs when we know whether we will be able to meet at the Plymouth Country Club.

DUES: Please send your dues check for next year to our treasurer Elaine Finneral at 18 River St. Plymouth, MA 02360 by **June 1st**. Regular member: \$40, Associate member: \$60.

We need to know who wants to be a member next year as we will be putting the yearbook together in July, so that we can give it out at the luncheon in August. So please *send in your dues promptly*.

Since we had decided to **cancel our May Plant Sale**, we brainstormed other another way to sell some plants and raise some funds for our club. We are going to try to have a **Driveway, Drive by Plant Sale**. The plan is to have a few club members host a plant sale in their driveway on Wed. May 20 and Thurs. May 21 from 10am – 2 pm. We hope to have a home or two north of Beaver Dam Road on May 20 and the same on May 21 in the south part of town. Tell your friends and family about the sale. All customers should pay by check made out to PGC. It will be promoted through our club members and Facebook page. So please pot up perennials that you need to divide or extra plants you may have. If you are willing to host one of these driveway sales or have some plants to contribute, please **call Linda O'Neill at 508-759-1870**. If there is enough interest we could repeat the next Wed. and Thurs.

Officers for Next Year: The Board voted to approve the following officers for PGC's 2020-2021 club year. You will be considered a yes vote for the slate, unless you contact Gail Conner by May 20th.

Co-Presidents.....Patricia Parker & Rebecca Freer Freedman
First Vice President..... Colleen Costa
Second Vice President..... Janet Voyer
Recording Secretary..... Paula Butterfield
Corresponding Secretary..... Linda Berthold
Treasurer..... Rose Cain
Assistant Treasurer..... Marie Young
Auditor..... Katherine Angley
Nominating Committee Chair..... Liz Hester
Immediate Past President Linda O'Neill

Membership

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Active | 78 |
| Associate | 12 |
| Life: | 1 |
| Honorary | 2 |

Horticulture By Joy Sand

It's Spring?

What a confusing spring we are having! February it was 60 degrees; in May we've had 30 degree nights. It's still not too late to do some of the early spring chores. Bare spots in the lawn can still be overseeded. Use a thatcher or rake to loosen the soil and remove debris. The soil is moist now and will accept your seed. For large patches, use a spreader to scatter the seeds. For smaller spots, scatter by hand. Firm the seed into the soil with the back of a firm rake. If you are plagued by wild turkeys cover the seed with hardware cloth.

Many grass seeds now are bred to require less watering. Freshly seeded lawn needs to be kept moist for the first 4 days. Don't saturate the soil, the seed will rot.

Then water early in the day to minimize evaporation. Allow the surface to dry slightly: the lawn will develop deeper roots and become more drought tolerant.

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Forsythia is a welcome sign of spring, but it easily becomes overgrown. If your forsythia is blooming less lushly, cut it back after blooming. Cut back to the ground all arching branches that are touching the ground. They can develop roots, and the forsythia will “walk” all over your yard. Cutting the bush back to 3 or 4 inches will rejuvenate the whole shrub.

Agricultural colleges have been researching control of the scourge of red lily leaf beetles. Asiatic and trumpet lilies are the favorite food; daylilies are unaffected. Do not use systemic insecticides! They render the nectar and pollen toxic to pollinators: butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. The only foolproof control is picking and drowning the loathsome critters.

Fill a 6 or 8 ounce container 1/3 to 1/2 full of soapy water. Two to three times a day, visit your lilies. Hold the can under the beetle, and knock it into the can to drown. Empty and refill the can every 3 days.

Warmer weather is coming, get outside. Stay healthy and enjoy your gardens!

90 Years and Still Growing

The first **Board Meeting** of the new officers and board members will be on **July 8 at 10am**. Hopefully we will be able to meet in the Library Board room, but if not we will hold it via zoom.

FLOWER SHOW: We are still planning for our **Plymouth Flower Show “ Plymouth - Celebrating 400 Years”** which will be presented by our club at the Plymouth Public Library October 9, 10 & 11. With so many of the Plymouth 400 Events canceled, we hope that we will be able to host our flower show and help celebrate 400 years of local history. The schedule is on our website PlymouthGardenClub.org under Announcements. **Please read the schedule and register** for a design class with Judy Brown judyatthepond@verizon.com or one of the Botanical Arts classes with Gail Conner gchandpc@comcast.net. We cannot put on the show if we do not have 4 entries in each class and we have very few entries so far. Look over the horticulture classes and think about them when you are planting your gardens this spring. If you would like to plant one of the four herb planters, contact Geri Williams. Remember the plants must be growing together for at least 6 weeks before the show. If you have any questions you can contact Geri Williams 508-833-4355 or geri3williams@comcast.net

WAYS and MEANS: Cynthia Sykes has royal blue aprons with our logo in color for \$10, heavy duty canvas totes for \$10, baseball caps and royal blue T-shirts with our logos are \$15 each from Ways and Means. If you would like any items contact her at cynsykes46@gmail.com. She will arrange for you to pick up any items from her front porch.

FACEBOOK: Even if you are not a member of Facebook, you can go on the Plymouth Garden Club page and view the beautiful photos members are sending to Paula Butterfield. Go out in your yard and take some pictures with your phone or tablet and send them to Paula at PButter516@comcast.net.

Geri Williams has potted up many of her perennials and some shrubs. Among the plants she has are: hybrid day lilies, German bearded, Siberian and dwarf iris, lily of the valley, bee balm, garden phlox, obedient plant, black eyed susan, evening primrose, woodland poppy, forget-me-not, Solomon seal, Montauk daisy, dwarf columbine, sweet woodruff, fringed bleeding heart, creeping thyme and some other herbs, as well as white lilac bushes, climbing hydrangea, spirea, and a red twig dogwood. If you would like to purchase any plants to support our club, call Geri (508-833-4355) to arrange to come by her home.