



Plymouth Garden Club

October 2019

Linda O'Neill, President

Volume 49 Issue 10

Club Flower
Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active	78
Associate	11
Life:	1
Honorary	2

Horticulture By Joy Sand

October: The Second Chance Month

After another one of our increasingly arduous summers, along comes fall with a second chance for our gardens. Garden experts are increasingly recommending fall as the ideal season for planting perennials. The soil is warm and ready for roots to grow and spread. Heat waves are less of a worry, and rain is more plentiful. One plant enjoying a renaissance is garden phlox. The vintage varieties love low humidity, cold winters, and cool summer nights. Plant breeders are producing new varieties which seem adapted to the warming planet. It is strongly recommended that the phlox be deadheaded after blooming to prevent seeding of inferior offspring. Another fall chore is ridding the lawn of creeping Charlie, also called ground ivy or robin run away. It's a vine with round lobed leaves with (over)

Our October meeting will be on Wednesday, **OCTOBER 9TH** in the Chiltonville Church. Social time will begin at 12:30pm, with the meeting starting promptly at 1pm. Our speaker will be Morgyn Ellis, the Education Coordinator at Mass Audobon Tidmarsh Farm Wildlife Sanctuary. She will be teaching us about owls and the adaptations that make them such impressive night time predators. This will be a great meeting to bring a guest.

If you did not pick up your **Club Yearbooks for 2019-2020** they will be available at the check-in table at this meeting. We have enough for 1 copy/member, please keep track of your copy.

Thanks to Gail Conner for a wonderful program on Monarchs last month and for donating her honorarium toward purchasing supplies for our Greens Sale in December.

GARDEN THERAPY: We will be visiting **Sunrise Senior Center** on Warren Ave. on Thursday, **October 10 at 10:30 am.** This is a good program for new members to participate in, no experience in flower arranging is needed. It only takes about one and a half hours. If you have any questions you can contact Meghan Rinker at Meghan.rinker@outlook.com or 774-404-7539.

A **FLORAL WORKSHOP** will be held at **10am** before the October meeting. Geri Williams will help you make a Creative Line Design. The workshop is full. Call Jane Bishop if you signed up but can't attend or would like to attend to see if there is a vacancy. Cost will be \$25.

LIBRARY FLOWER BEDS – Chrysanthemums were added to the library beds and they look great. The beds were well maintained this summer and all the new plants survived. There will be a general cleanup and perhaps some bulbs to be planted in early November. Many thanks to all those who helped and Coletta Candini, who masterminded it all.

WAYS and MEANS – Thanks to all who participated in the chance opportunities and purchased items on the Ways and Means table. Last month \$232 was raised. These funds help defray costs of our programs. In addition to a few ergonomic trowels, which sell for \$13, there will be garden gloves and some plants. If you have any extra vegetables from your garden, you can bring them for sale on the table and small packages of cookies and other baked goods.

(continued)

scalloped edges and small purple flowers. Charlie spreads its stems along the soil. At each leaf is a node which forms roots where it touches the soil.

The spreading habit makes eradication by weeding almost impossible. Weed killer containing dicamba applied in early to mid fall weakens the weed so that winter cold kills it.

If still deadheading, avoid removing spent blooms from biennials because they follow a two year cycle of bloom, self seed, grow vegetatively one year, bloom the next. Do not remove yellowing, broken, or insect infested foliage, especially German bearded iris. Divide bearded iris and replant with the top of the crown exposed.

Water newly planted shrubs and trees. They should have 1 to 1½ inches of water, either rain or watering, per week until the soil freezes.

If your garden is at the shore, spray trees and shrubs, especially evergreen shrubs such as azaleas and rhododendrons, with an anti-desiccant to protect them from salt and wind, especially from coastal storms.

Many of the mums offered for sale now are basically annuals. Perennial chrysanthemums are offered mostly in catalogues and planted in the spring. The sheared asters for sale now are perennials and can grow to three feet tall if not “pinched” or clipped.

JR. GARDENER ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM – The Plymouth School District has changed their elementary school science curriculum, and we have been asked to present our Environmental Program to third graders next March and April as it integrates with their science curriculum best. Geri Williams needs help to adapt our Power Point program for third graders. If you are willing to help, please call her at 508-833-4355, especially if you have some experience with lower elementary students. We will need at least 5 or 6 presenters and also that many helpers next Spring. Please sign up at the meeting or call Geri with any questions or to volunteer. This is a fun program where we make an impact helping students learn about Plymouth’s unique environment.

Save the dates to help with our club **Greens Sale**, workshop to decorate wreaths and create arrangements on **December 6** and **sale on December 7**. This is a major fundraiser for our club, everyone needs to help. You can pick up decorations we can use, small sprays and picks, ornaments that can be wired on wreaths or inserted into arrangements to donate to the club effort. Or you can collect some pitch pine or other small pinecone and spray them gold or silver.

Please add member **Shelia Sadler** to your **Yearbook**. Her contact information is PO Box 1032, Manomet, MA 02345 508-224-2981 Email: ichheiseshelia@netscape.net

Joy Sand has ordered daffodil and grape hyacinth bulbs to plant in front of the new Plymouth Municipal Airport. We will plant them in November after the soil is cold enough. Please sign the sign up list if you are willing to help plant the bulbs, we will contact you when a date is set.

Brewster Gardens – Jean Dobachesky noticed that the garden in front of the memorial stone was looking rather neglected when she walked there this week. So she purchased three mums and planted them, Linda Berthold is watering them. Looks nicer, see photo below. She said many people stopped by to say how beautiful the park looks.



We are growing together