



# Plymouth Garden Club

September 2018

Linda O'Neill, President

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Club Flower  
Plymouth Gentian

Website: [PlymouthGardenClub.org](http://PlymouthGardenClub.org)

## Membership

<b>Active</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Associate</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Life:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Honorary</b>	<b>2</b>

## **Horticulture By Joy Sands**

### **Happy Second Spring**

With it's warm days, cool nights, and increased precipitation some gardeners refer to September as 'the second Spring'. Now is the time to sow a second harvest of cool weather crops such as kale, parsnip, turnips, peas, radishes, beets, spinach and lettuce. But stop fertilizing roses and perennials so they may prepare for dormancy. Lawns should receive their annual fertilizing in September.

As you consider cleaning the garden, think about leaving some biennials to reseed themselves. A biennial grows vegetatively the first year, it blooms, sets seeds, and dies the second. Many biennials are heritage plants – campanula, columbine, poppy, hollyhocks and others. Most of those plants have ripening seedheads now. If you prefer to cut the seedheads, scatter the seeds where you'd like them to grow.

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Our **SEPTEMBER MEETING** program on Wednesday, **September 12<sup>th</sup>** will be a great one! Our presenter is floral designer Mary Huntoon. Mary will be creating "Six Floral Designs to Welcome Fall" and they will be offered for our chance opportunity drawings during "tea time". You may want to bring a guest to this program. Come at 12:30pm to socialize and catch up with fellow members, as the program will start at 1pm promptly. Please wear your nametag as we have many newer members. Introduce yourself to the new faces and welcome them. Your Club yearbook will be at the sign-in table when you enter. Bring in a horticulture specimen (labeled) from your garden. Also bring any pull tabs you have saved, so Linda can bring them to the State meeting.

**GARDEN THERAPY:** We bring joy and smiles to all the residents we visit at nursing facilities. Along with beautifully painted containers, thanks to Coletta Candini, we provide flowers that the residents use to create lovely small arrangements to take back to their rooms. The lovely ladies that volunteer to assist me cut stems and make small bunches of flowers and help the residents put them into the oasis filled containers. All of the facilities we visit are in Plymouth.

Our efforts are rewarding to see the residents smiling while looking at their creations.

The schedule for this years Garden Therapy is as follows:

**Sept.-Plymouth Haborside Healthcare, 19 Obery St. Thurs. Sept. 13**

Oct.-Laurelwood, 10 Golf Dr. Pinehills, Weds. Oct. 17 10:30

Nov. -Newfield House, Newfield St. Thurs. Nov. 15

Dec.- Sunrise Senior Center, Warren Ave. Thurs. Dec. 20.

Meeting time is 9:30-9:45 unless noted.

**LIBRARY FLOWER BEDS** – The library beds are in need of some overhall and replanting. Coletta Candini would like to get a committee to plan the renovation of the library beds. She plans to meet on Wed. Sept. 19 at 10am at the home. If you would like to help with the planning, talk to Coletta at the meeting or call her @774-454-0392. A **fall cleanup day** is planned for **Sat. Oct. 27 at 9:30am**.

**FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP** – Geri Williams will lead an opportunity to create a fall arrangement in a pumpkin, perhaps learn a new technique and socialize on **Wed. Oct. 10 at 10am** before the regular Club meeting. The cost for materials is \$25. There is a limit of 18, and will be a sign-up sheet at the Sept. meeting.

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Echinacea were once sold as perennials. But as their popularity exploded, hybridizers introduced new colors such as red, yellow and orange. Suddenly gardeners were finding their prized 'hot colors' missing the second year. For dependable perennials, stick to the old fashioned pink and white. Treat the less durable shades as pricy annuals.

Now is the time to divide, relocate bearded and Siberian irises. They need dividing at least every 4 years for dependable flowering. Using a digging fork, raise a clump of iris. Cut it into 4 inch segments containing a fan of at least 3 leaves. Discard any rhizomes with the soft rot and/or small holes from iris borers. Replant rhizomes in full sun, 18 inches apart, horizontally with the small roots facing down, and the beige top of the rhizomes facing upward. You may either cover the rhizome with a dusting of soil, or leave it exposed to the sun. Make sure that the thin roots are firmed in. Next year leave the blossom stem and leaves to dry through the summer.

Another plant coming into its own during the increasingly hot, dry summers is the classic sunflower. As you plan next years displays consider sunflowers in yellow, red, white and brown, The classic 7 foot varieties make an excellent screen for a shed, rubbish cans and later will feed the birds and small mammals. More about planting sunflowers seeds next spring.

Welcome back gardeners, Joy

*We are  
growing  
together.*

**WAYS and MEANS** – Are you weeding and cleaning up your flower beds? You may find some perennials that need dividing or seedlings you don't need. Dig them up and bring them to the meeting for the Ways and Means table. Also consider bringing in small dessert breads or packages of 6 cookies or a jar of jam you made. These items are easy to bring that sell well and support the club. Check out what is there Wednesday, when you buy your chance opportunity tickets.

**“BOOKS and BLOSSOMS, Chapter 2”** The first weekend in October we will again create interpretations of books in table settings in the Fehlow Room at the Library. Members and guests are invited to attend the **Opening Reception on Friday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** from 6-8pm, enter through the side door. We would appreciate donations of hors d'oeuvres and desserts for the event. The display will be open to the public during Library hours on Saturday and Sunday, October 6 & 7. Hostesses will be needed to greet people and answer questions as they enter. Please choose a time slot on the sign-up sheet.

**GCFM Fall Conference** – The State Garden Club fall meeting will be held Wed. October 24 at Elm Bank in Wellesley starting at 9am with registration and continental breakfast, followed by a presentation by Claudia Thompson: Grow Native Massachusetts and a wonderful Floral Design Program after a catered lunch by Peppers Artful Events. Register by Oct. 12 by sending a check for \$55 to GCFM to Christine Bjorkland.

**RIBBON WINNERS** –At the SE District Flower Show last July:



Geri Williams 2<sup>nd</sup>,90+      Gail Connor 2<sup>nd</sup>, 90+      Jeanne Burnell, HM  
In Horticulture: Jeanne Burnell - 1st for golden lily; 2nd for Lily 'Conca d'or'; HM for a daylily and HM for a Hosta Collection; Gail Connor - 1st for a Basil plant; 2nd for Coneflower, HM for Butterfly weed; Pat Parker - 2nd for Blue Hydranges, HM for White Hydrangea, 3rd for Coneflower, HM for Liatris ; Geri Williams - Horticulture Award of Excellence, Award of Merit and 1st for a Golden Stargazer Liliium; Award of Merit and 1st for day lily 'Bela Lugosi', and Vegetables, green beans; 1st for Gladiola; 1st for Pink Dwarf Calla lily; 2nd for white Calla lily; 2nd for Liatris; 3rd for Allium, leek; 3rd for hemerocallis 'Chicago Royal'