



Plymouth Garden Club

January 2019

Linda O'Neill, President

Volume 49 Issue 5

Club Flower
Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active	81
Associate	11
Life:	2
Honorary	2

Horticulture By Joy Sands

Christmas After Care

The majority of the plants sold for Christmas décor and gifts were coddled and intensely prepared for the holiday season. Many are tropical plants and our house air is too dry. When you bring these plants home, they need specialized care. Greenhouse azaleas need consistently moist soil in a room with bright indirect light. In the spring they can be moved outdoors. They need six weeks of cool weather and short days to re-bloom. However many are not frost hardy. Amaryllis bulbs are popular gifts. Dormant bulbs take seven to ten weeks to bloom. Pot in soil-less mix and keep bulbs evenly moist in a bright room at 65 degrees. Blooms can appear for Valentine's Day. After blooming, cut off the blossom stalk and allow the foliage to yellow and dry naturally. The Norfolk Island pine is the perfect tabletop Christmas tree

JANUARY MEETING this Wednesday **JAN. 9th**, April Daley, a Master Gardener, will speak on Pets and Plants. She will present myths and truths about pets, plants and poisonings. Reminder: the Jan. meeting will start at **12:00 noon**. You may bring a guest to this program. Come at 11:15 am to socialize and catch up with fellow members, as the program will start promptly.

Arnold Arboretum Day Tour: For those who wish to attend the Arnold Arboretum Day scheduled for Thursday May 2, we plan to participate in a group walking tour starting at 10 a.m. that will last 90 minutes at a cost of \$125.00 for up to 20 participants (little over \$5.50 each.) If we have over 20 participants we would pay an additional \$125.00 for up to 20 more. Members must sign-up by Mar 13 and pay Liz Branch by April 3. We plan to hire the Plymouth Brockton Bus for \$1,000.00 for 8 hours. The final per person price will depend upon the total number of attendees, but is expected to be between \$30-40. The bus can hold 55 people, but if e.g. we have 40 participants it would amount to \$25.00 each, giving us a price per person just over \$30.

There are a number of tour selections: Landscapes for Learning; Common Trees of Boston; East meets West; Native Trees and Native Americans; Trees Inspire; and Explore the Conifer Collection. We will need to indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice on our registration form. To get a sense of our interest, please send an email, leave a phone message, or speak to Liz Branch at January's meeting to indicate your 1st and 2nd choices only.

No food is allowed on the property. However, you can bring a bag lunch and eat on the bus. Another option is there are many nearby eateries and the Arboretum provides maps to these locations. They do not provide any food services.

For those who might have difficulty walking the tour it is suggested you bring whatever you need, i.e. wheelchair, walkers, cane, to assist. Arnold Arboretum only provides one or two wheelchairs and those are first come first served. Break in new sneakers so that you'll be all set. We're well on our way!

(continued)

or indoor specimen evergreen. Grow the tree in a cool, bright room, again evenly moist. Turn the tree regularly for even growth. In the summer, move the tree outdoors to a location protected from wind as the stiff, multi-layered branches are brittle.

The ever popular Christmas cactus is a true cactus; the Christmas cactus is a second or understory tropical plant. It needs at least two hours of bright, not direct light per day and moderately moist soil.

Wrinkled leaves indicate dehydration and result in blossom drop.

Florist cyclamens thrive in a bright cool room. When the soil feels dry, water thoroughly. Cyclamens can summer in the garden in dappled shade, but this tuberous plant is frost tender.

The Poinsettia is the acknowledged symbol of Christmas. Dec. 12, is National Poinsettia Day. Grow the plant in bright light and consistently moist soil, away from heat and drafts. The bracts often stay bright until March. But many of the newest hybrids - bicolor, orange and yellow colors are considered annuals and ready for the compost when the color fades
Happy New Year!

Design Class: Nancy Carafoli will lead a design class March 13. The cost is \$25. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Jan. meeting.

Missing Signs: There are 2 signs missing from the greens sale. If you have them, or know that they were lost, please let Pat Parker know so she can order the right number of replacements.

Greens Sale: The annual Greens sale was quite successful with a profit of \$2,343.10, despite increased costs for wreaths. The next greens sale will be Dec 7, 2019, with the workshop on Friday, Dec 6, 2019.

Speaker for next year: A speaker for Jan. 2020 is needed. If anyone has a suggestion please let Pat Parker or Linda O'Neill know.

Annual June Luncheon: A committee was organized and is investigating 5 different locations. Since Rose Howard has volunteered to bring a sound system, the committee has more flexibility in selection. More information will be available soon.

Garden Therapy: There will be NO garden therapy in Jan. The next will be Thursday Feb 21, at 10:00 a.m. at Stafford Hill.

REMINDER: January meeting will begin at **12:00 noon** rather than the usual 1:00 p.m.

Let us be grateful to people
who make us happy.
They are the charming gardeners
Who make our souls blossom.
Marcel Proust