

Plymouth Garden Club

April 2020 Linda O’Neill, President Volume 49 Issue 14

 Club Flower

 Plymouth Gentian

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

As you may have already read in various emails, all the rest of the Plymouth Garden Club meetings and activities through June have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus crisis. We had to cancel our meeting and speaker for April, but have rescheduled the award winning floral designer Maureen Christmas for October 2021. She is a much sought after speaker and we are happy to be able to reschedule her. Regrettably we decided we must also **cancel our May meeting**. Pat is working with the Audubon Society to reschedule the Firefly program in the ’21-‘22 season. Susan Denehy has contacted the Plymouth Country Club and arranged to have our **June luncheon rescheduled for Wednesday, August 26th**. More details will be sent out later with menu selections and costs.

Likewise, we felt it necessary to **cancel our May Plant Sale**. Even if the Stay Home restrictions are lifted by then, we felt people might still be uneasy about crowds and it would be difficult to plan and advertise for the sale.

However, we hope to have some other opportunities to sell our plants, so please still pot up perennials that you need to divide or extra plants you may have while you are working in your gardens this spring. We will let you know when things start to get back to normal how we can sell them to help our treasury for next year.

**NOMINATIONS:** Gail Conner has worked hard to secure a slate of willing and hard working members to serve as officers of the Plymouth Garden Club for the 2020-2021 club year. We will not have meetings in April and May to present and confirm the slate. You are requested to contact Gail Conner **only if you have any reservations** about the slate.

*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**

**The Spirit of the Garden**

We are the luckiest people in the world right now! Why you ask? Because we live and work/ recreate among the living proponent of growth and renewal – a garden. The snow crocuses, snowdrops, and snowglories poking up through a scrim of snow are dedicated to rebirth. Little is as dedicated to rebirth and life as a garden.

Having or having access to a garden is a spiritual experience. We enjoy sharing life with bright, fragrant plants which have succeeded year after year, century after century, millennia after millennia. They survive drought and flood; arctic blast and dessert-like heat; and the ravages of civilization. Who hasn’t seen grass, Queen Anne’s lace, or a daisy erupting from a crack in asphalt? This is what plants do. They persevere. They attract the attention of pollinators, produce and disseminate seed in (over)

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creative ways: all in obedience to the command of the Life Force that is Nature. To live.

Being a hands on the earth gardener, or one who appreciates a beautiful perennial border, puts us in intimate spiritual contact with these inspiring forces of nature.

A garden is a living being. Viewed at sunrise and sunset, it has changed. Self-seeding plants jump from spot to spot in the garden. Some so called perennials fade after just one season. But those who survive are the steady workers of the garden. Fancy hybrids make glow for only a season, but the survivors – the thrivers – inspire us for generations.

As I sit here writing this, I hear a robin calling territory. A goldfinch becoming more golden grabs a thistle seed. I see a Starr Magnolia tree, 30 years in the same place, with ivory blossoms.

And in the background, forsythia braves the chilly April air with fountains of yellow and spears of white. This is Nature, ‘not red in fang and claw’ as Jack London saw it, but as inspiration for perseverance and endurance: fostering thought of life, joy and hope. Go and enjoy an emerging garden. Nature – ‘gotta love it!

**DUES:** Please send your dues check for next year to our treasurer Elaine Finneral at 18 River Dr. Plymouth, MA 02360 by **June 1st.**

Regular member: $40, Associate member: $60

(Since we do not know yet the cost for the luncheon in August, just send a check for your dues to Elaine.)

**GARDEN THERAPY**: Due to the virus the senior residences are closed and there will be no further garden therapy visits until next fall. A big thank you to Meghan Rinker, Linda Berthold and all the members who volunteered this year to bring joy to the residents of many of Plymouth’s nursing homes and assisted living centers.

**LIRARY FLOWER BEDS –** Since you can easily maintain social distancing if you go to the library to clean up a library bed, Coletta said it would be appreciated if you cleared leaves and weeds and deadheaded the daffodil blooms after they are finished blooming. She does not want anyone to prune shrubs yet.

**JR. GARDENER ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM –** Since we were unsure when or if the Plymouth students will be returning to school, and how we could distribute them, the order for the seedling trees was canceled.

**FLOWER SHOW:** Don’t forget to read the schedule for our upcoming **Plymouth Flower Show “ Plymouth - Celebrating 400 Years”** which will be put on by our club at the Plymouth Public Library October 9,10 &11. The schedule was sent out by Pat last week and is also on our website [PlymouthGardenClub.org](www.plymouthgardenclub.org). You can register for a design class with Judy Brown judyatthepond@verizon.com or one of the Botanical Arts classes with Gail Conner gcandpc@comcast.net. 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

**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. She can only upload digital images.

Anyone who has a **baby monitor** no longer being used, please contact Linda Berthold (LB4336@icloud.com) to arrange for it to be donated to a local hospital. They will be used to enable Doctors and nurses to closely monitor Covid-19 patients.

**DESIGNING WITH NATIVE PLANTS:** There will be a webinar sponsored by GCFM next Thursday, April 16 at 10am. More info should be coming soon in your email or go to [www.gcfm.org](http://www.gcfm.org/)

***90 Years***

 ***and Still Growing***