



Plymouth Garden Club

April 2021

Pat Parker, President

Volume 50 Issue 8

Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active	73
Associate	14
Life:	2

Rite of Spring From Joy Sand

It's spring and Garden Club member's thoughts turn to – the Plant Sale. It is time to tour our gardens and divide crowded or overgrown perennials. Basic gardening tools helpful in dividing plants include: pots to hold the separated plants; a sharp pointed shovel; garden fork or two; soil knife for cutting fibrous clumps like Siberian iris; pruning saw for separating shrubs; pruners to cut back dried stalks and foliage. A wheelbarrow will help to move pots.

Begin dividing by cutting back dried leaves and stalks. Then use the shovel to loosen the soil around the perennial. In the case of day lilies, peonies, or garden phlox avoid damaging the new buds and shoots. Lift the clump from the soil and insert the fork(s) and gently pry the clump apart. For Penstemon, ornamental grass, and tall bearded iris, locate the crowns and use the fork(s) to break up the clump at each crown. A shrub or bush may come from the garden in a huge clump, and it's less traumatic to separate it with a saw.

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APRIL MEETING: We will meet again via zoom this month on **Wednesday, April 14 at 1pm**. Our Vice President, Colleen has arranged a wonder speaker for our meeting, Ellie Gilbert. Ellie is from Plymouth. She has been gardening for over 18 years at her present home location and involved in gardening for over 75 years. She has had five submissions approved and printed in Fine Gardening Magazine, which have been highlighted by her perennial plantings and shrubs. Ellie's gardens include a hillside that she has beautifully landscaped. She'll be sharing tips for planting in our area. Join the [Zoom Meeting here](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88985795672?pwd=V0dJeWR3YWd6WnpmcUNZN21JQWhwUT09) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88985795672?pwd=V0dJeWR3YWd6WnpmcUNZN21JQWhwUT09>. There will be a brief business meeting and Ways & Means will have a contest to guess the number of jellybeans in a wine bottle with a prize provided by Linda Berthold tea committee chair. We are welcoming potential new members. If you have a friend interested in joining our club invite them to this zoom meeting, share the link above, and let Crystal Payne, crystalannpayne@gmail.com, know so she will admit them to the meeting.

MAY PLANT SALE: Our annual **Plant Sale** will be on Saturday, **May 22 on the Plymouth Library front lawn**. The rain date will be Sunday, May 23. We will need many volunteers to set up from 8-10am and to work the sale from 10am-2pm. Please email or call Geri Williams (508-833-4355) to volunteer to help. Start dividing and potting your plants. The longer they are growing in their pots the better they will look and sell. You should **label** your plants with plant name, and a short description of bloom color, height, sun requirement, etc. You may drop off your plants on Fri. May 21 from 3-5 pm behind the library or Sat. morning by 10am. If you cannot drop off your plants during these times, call Linda O'Neill or Debbie Clark-Lalley they will arrange to get your plants there. Meghan Rinker will coordinate the Attic Treasures. Please only donate items that are clean and in good condition with a garden theme. Remember: only donate items that you would be willing to buy. Call Meghan if you have items to donate but cannot drop them off Sat. morning before 10am. We will not sell baked goods this year.

JUNE LUNCHEON: We will be having our Annual Meeting and Luncheon on **June 9** at 11:30am at the **Plymouth Yacht Club**. Lavishly Dunn Caterers will provide boxed lunches with your sandwich choice of: Grilled Chicken & Pesto, Italian Roast Beef & Cheddar, or Roasted Vegetable Wrap. 33 have already indicated they will attend. Members should call or text Susan Denehy, 508-317-4130, with your lunch preference. The club will cover the cost of the food this year, beverages can be purchased from the Yatch Club bartender.

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Vines and ground covers, like lily of the valley, strawberries, or periwinkle are easily dug with a shovel. Separate with pruners the transplants at joints in the stems or roots. Once you have dug your transplants, pot them as soon as possible. Use soil from last years containers mixed with new potting soil, compost or garden soil. Plant the new transplants at the same level in the pot as it was in the garden. With peonies, put no more than an inch of soil over the red 'eye'. For iris make certain each plant has a fan of at least 3 leaves. Lay the rhizome parallel to the soil surface and firm an inch of soil over it. Plant shrubs or bushes at the same level as they were in the garden. Water the plants lightly and hold them in a shaded area. Check the soil often and water if dry. Label your plants with name and growing conditions. If you can't dig, you can create containers of purchased annuals for the sale, I have baskets and containers lined and ready to use. Call me at 508-866-2407 to arrange a pick up time. If you get the message machine, leave a message. I'm digging in the garden, and I check the machine frequently.

Happy digging!

If you are on face book, be sure to join our page - The Plymouth Garden Club.

***Building Community
through
Gardening Together***

SEPTEMBER FLOWER SHOW: The library will host our Club Flower Show, 'Celebrating Plymouth - 400 Years', on **September 17 -19th** in the Fehlow room, providing pandemic precautions allow. Geri Williams has written a synopsis of the Design classes with some notes that is attached with this email. Janet Voyer will put the whole updated Flower Show Schedule on our website under events. Select the design class(es) you would like to enter and email Judy Brown at judyatthepond2@gmail.com or Gail Connors gcandpc@comcast.net. All classes need 4 exhibitors to be judged. Geri (508-833-4355) is happy to answer any questions regarding the flower show.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairperson Liz Hester reports the following are willing to fill the offices for the coming year. If you have an objection to any nomination, please contact Liz.

President – Pat Parker

First Vice President – Colleen Costa

Second Vice President – Janet Voyer

Recording Secretary – Paula Butterfield

Corresponding Secretary – Linda Berthold

Treasurer – Rose Cain

Assistant Treasure – Marie Young

Auditor – Kate Angley

Nominating Committee Co-Chairs – Diane Dunlap and Elaine Gallerani

TIDMARSH TOUR: We have planned a guided tour of the Audubon Tidmarsh Reserve on **June 23rd at 10am**. The tour will last about 2 hours and be an easy walk. The cost will be \$6 per person. Call Paula Butterfield (508-746-7374) if you would like to join us. We will be limited to 25 participants, the first 25 to call can come. After the tour, those who would like will go to lunch together at our own expense at a nearby restaurant.

CONSERVATION TIPS: **May 8th** will be Plymouth Hometown Clean-up Day, when we are encouraged to cleanup the litter and trash in our neighborhoods. You can sign out bags to use for your cleanup on the 3rd floor of Town Hall and indicate where you will leave the filled bag for pickup by DPW. We each can make a difference if we replace part of our nonproductive lawn with native plants that host native pollinators and insects. You can find the best host native plants for our specific area on National Wildlife's [Plantfinder](http://nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/Plants), (<http://nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/Plants>) by entering your zipcode. SEMPBA has developed a Native Plant Guide for Plymouth with places to purchase. It can be viewed on their website (<https://pinebarrensalliance.org>). When you are purchasing plants be sure to specify you want the native species and plants that have not been treated with neonicotinids. Morrison's in Plymouth has been very helpful to our club and they will be stocking many native plants this year.

LIBRARY BEDS: We need 3 more volunteer bed tenders for the coming growing year. Call or email Coletta 774-454-0392 to volunteer. She thanks those who have cleaned your beds. She has ordered perennial veronica plants to add to the beds and will send out a date for planting when they come in.

ARBOR DAY: Kate Angley and Crystal Payne will be presenting our Jr. Gardener Environmental Program to the 3rd graders at Nathaniel Morton Elementary School. The Town Parks Dept. will plant a tree there on Arbor Day, April 30th and PGC will give seedling trees to each 3rd grader.

PAT PARKER has a new cell phone number 774-454-1077.