



Plymouth Garden Club

December 2023

Colleen Costa, President

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Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active 81

Associate 13

Life: 3

Roses in Autumn

In Grandma's or Great Grandmother's Day when roses stopped blooming in late summer, the bushes, climbers, or long canes were left to their own device to weather the winter.

Today's hybrids, teas, floribundas and grandifloras require a bit more preparation in our climate to survive the instability of un-seasonable warmth, followed by an Arctic blast.

Clean debris, especially diseased leaves from beneath all rose bushes. Do not compost any diseased leaves. Dispose of them in trash or add them to the brush pile for burning. Add two inches of compost to protect and feed the roots all winter.

Prune roses lightly, removing any overgrowth/damaged vines. Lightly tying the canes of climbers or long canes to supports can prevent wind damage.
growth vinevinecanes.. all



December meeting will be held on December 13th at 11:30 at the Chiltonville Church. This is our annual **Holiday Brunch**. We have 73 members signed up for the brunch. Please bring a tree ornament to exchange or a holiday table arrangement if you feel festive. There will be holiday music and raffles for all at our luncheon. Big thank you to our chairs, Paula Butterfield, Diane Dunlap, JoAnne Makely and Karen Baker.

From our President: I would like to thank everyone for a great **Greens Sale** with a profit as of the newsletter of \$4,431. It was a lot of work from our dedicated members and thank each of you who picked up wreaths, helped make arrangements, attended workshops, helped at the sale. We could not have raised this money without all of your help. Next year, we are looking for a new chair the Greens Sale, if you think you can step up and share your ideas and organize, please let us know. Next year could be our best with your ideas and any changes you would like to make.

And don't forget the wonderful **Bake Sale** Becky and Janet did. The table looked great and the baked food donated was spectacular. I am sure many enjoyed your baking.

Hospitibilty: A BIG THANK YOU to my ELVES!!! You worked hard, gluing, twisting, glittering while you made pinecone wreaths, decorated artificial wreaths and trees, filled glass baubles with beach sand, kissed the kissing balls with ribbon and bling and helped clean up the mess!!!! And our ELVES are Marie Young, Diane Thomas, Barbara Moser, Crystal Payne, Judy Fosdick, Susan Weitzmann and three new members, Debbie Wells, Maureen Brekenridge and Salley Cohen. I hope I didn't miss anyone and a

BIG THANK YOU – BIG THANK YOU

We have a few leftover items and they will be **for sale in the foyer on Wednesday!** Fascinators \$5, Ornaments \$10, Small Lighted Trees \$15, Kissing Balls \$8, Pinecone Wreath \$45, Pinecone Star \$25. Cash or a check is preferred.

Help Wanted: We will be developing a Greens Sale Book/Doc. If you would like to help or would like to contribute helpful information, please send to Colleen or Cynthia. We will later develop a Plant Sale guideline.

Recent innovations in rose breeding have introduced “Grand Cover Roses”. But these roses are less dense than traditional ground covers and don’t inhibit weeds. They need mulching to prevent weed growth. Refresh the mulch/compost after clearing away debris.

The long cane “New Dawn” ones are my favorites, can bloom up to a killing frost. It can grow to 15 to 20 feet tall and 10 feet across. My two Dawns completely cover two 8 foot section of picket fence. I stop cutting for vases/deadheading in late summer and allow rose hips to form. Developing rose hips signal to the plant that is time to go dormant.

The wildly popular Knock Out roses are promoted as needing no care. That is not quite true. They too benefit from a fall clean up, light prune and mulching.

Whether an antique rose rescued from an old homestead or a lush grandiflora covered with fragrant blooms from Spring to Fall, the “Queen of the Garden” will reward the attentive gardener with a grand show of flowers and fragrance. Garden on...

Especially appropriate for gardeners and the world at large: “For like nothing else in the world hope arouses passion for the possible”. William Sloan Coffin, Jr.

Treasury report will be posted at the meeting. For a copy email treasurer@plymouthgardenclub.Org.

COOKBOOKS: The Plymouth Garden Club cookbooks have been printed and will be available for sale at the Brunch for \$5/each. These are recipes from the cookies made from last year’s Holiday Brunch. Along with some cookies, these would make a nice Holiday/Hostess gift.

Library Beds Please take a moment to look at how lovely the library looks with the donated swags/wreaths from the Greens Sale. The planters look great for the holiday season. The mums looked great but their time has passed. A work party will be needed to clean up the beds for the winter.

Communications: “We’re thinking of you” cards were sent to Colleen Costa and Linda Berthold. Too late this year but next year we should put our Greens Sale on Town websites that are free.

Nominating: We will be looking for members to step up for next year to fill spots on the Board and share their ideas. Please think about what talents you have! Remember our club is run by volunteers like yourself.

Junior Gardener Environmental: The volunteers of the Jr. Gardeners Environmental Program meet in December to review the presentation, train new volunteers and schedule the dates for classroom visits. We have a good number of volunteers, but I am always happy to welcome and train new volunteers. Anyone can contact me, Geri3williams@comcast.net or 508-833-4355, if they are interested in helping with this program next March and April.

Greens Sale Signs: Please return any signs that you have borrowed to the meeting. Thank you.

**Enjoy your Holiday Season with your family and friends
and may 2024 bring you Beautiful Gardens.**