



# Plymouth Garden Club

October 2023

Colleen Costa, President

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Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

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

## Membership

Active 81

Associate 13

Life: 1

## Geri's Fall Gardening Tips

Yesterday as I was digging up my calla lily bulbs I saw my first wooly caterpillar and that reminded me that I shouldn't be as thorough as I used to be with my fall garden cleanup. The new gardening mantra is 'Leave the leaves and leave the seeds'

You can save yourself some time and nourish your lawn by not raking your lawn but instead mow the leaves to chop them up and let the bits of leaves decompose. But since so many caterpillars and insects lay their eggs and/or hibernate during the winter in the leaves, the best thing to do is leave them in place, especially in your garden beds and under trees. If they are too thick or you can't stand them on your lawn, gently rake them into a corner or cover your perennials to protect them from the winter cold.

Leave the seed heads of your cone flowers, evening primrose and black-eyed Susans standing in your garden rather than cutting all

## October meeting will be held on October 18th

at 12:30 and the meeting will be at 1:00 PM. The Plymouth Garden Club will present "Designing and Gardening with Heirloom Flowers" by Bob Hoxie on Wednesday, October 18th at 1:00 PM at Chiltonville Congregational Church, 6 River Street, Plymouth. Bob is a garden designer and horticulturist with a diverse background. It will be a colorful and informative program about the creation of the Cobb House Museum gardens in Brewster Massachusetts. All are welcome to attend this program accompanied by a Traditional Afternoon Tea. Heads up the Garden Club Federation meeting will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> at the 1620 at the waterfront.



**From our President:** Art and Bloom was a great success. Above is my entry and 14 Plymouth Garden Club members shared their talent. Thank you to our Nancy Markley for organizing. For the holidays we will have annual Greens sale on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are looking for Swag (greens) materials. If you have trees which need pruning, please think about us. Our December meeting will be a Holiday Brunch. We have a new coffee pot for our meeting.

**The December 13, 2023**, PGC meeting will be a Holiday Brunch costing \$13.00 per person. This event will be for members only. The menu will include a strawberry with greens salad, two different kinds of quiche, and French Toast casseroles with blueberry almond glaze. Members are asked to make a holiday dessert to share for the dessert table. The co-chairs, Paula and Dee Dee have been hard at work, so plan to join the fun.

garden rather than cutting all down. Some native pollinators lay their eggs in the hollow stems and the seed heads will feed the birds this winter and add interest to your winter view.

In addition to planting spring bulbs fall is a good time to divide and replant perennials such as daylilies, hostas, bee balm, Black-eyed Susans, garden phlox and tall sedums. Fall is also a good time to plant shrubs and trees. The cooler weather and moister soil stress the plants less and allow them to take hold and grow. If you grow Siberian iris it is good to cut the leaves down to 4-6 inch tall. I find that voles and chipmunks will hide under the long leaves and over the winter and eat the crowns of the plants. In the spring you will not have any plants left under the leaves. Cutting the leaves shorter in the fall removes the hiding places.



Treasury report will be posted at the meeting. For a copy email [treasurer@plymouthgardenclub.Org](mailto:treasurer@plymouthgardenclub.Org).

**Greens Sale will be on December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 to 3pm** at Plymouth Public Library, Fehlow Meeting room. There will be workshops scheduled so please sign up at the October and November meeting. **Ornament Workshops.** There will be workshops on Thursdays from 10 to 12PM at Cynthia Sykes house. The ornaments are to be sold at our Greens Sale

**Library Beds** Thank you to all the members who helped with planting the Mums and Bulbs. The beds look wonderful!!! The club is looking for someone who has a rototiller and willing to help on the beds please let Debby Clark-Lalley know.

**Junior Gardener Environmental Program** Alison Riordan, the Science Curriculum Coordinator, replied to Geri's email: 'Thank you so much for your interest in volunteering in our schools again. The work that the Plymouth Garden Club does is valuable and we cherish that.' Thank you to all who signed up for the program last month. If you missed the sign up sheet and would like to help or would like more information email Geri Williams at [geri3williams@comcast.net](mailto:geri3williams@comcast.net). A meeting will be scheduled in December to go over the program presentation and the classroom schedule for volunteers.



*Crystal Payne Arrangement*

**BULB PICKUP!** If you ordered bulbs, please pick them up at Cynthia's house ASAP.