



Plymouth Garden Club

March 2024

Colleen Costa, President

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Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active 81

Associate 13

Life: 3

Joy would still love to hear from members either by card or a call. If you hear of any other member feeling sick please call Sharon Ferraguto, our Communications Secretary

After a long, cold winter, the first spring flowers are something to celebrate. Tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths are among the cheeriest plants to pop up in gardens. Besides their season of bloom, these plants have one thing in common: they grow from bulbs. To enjoy their colorful blooms, you need to know how and when to plant the bulbs. The goal is to give the bulbs enough time to grow roots before the ground freezes and to literally chill out. After they get enough time in cold temperatures, they'll start growing leaves and flowers.

March meeting will be held on March 13th Social begins at 12:30 PM and the meeting will be at 1PM at the Chiltonville Church in Plymouth. The Garden Club will host Christie Dustman, a certified landscape designer and certified horticulturist. She has owned and operated a landscape design, maintenance and installation company for over 24 years. She has received many awards for her designs and her personal garden has been showcased on national tours. Christie will enlighten us about conifers, a unique, versatile and often misunderstood plant. Conifers can serve the same function as shrubs and perennials creating focal points and canopies in the garden. They tolerate heat and drought well. Please join us for this exciting lecture followed by a traditional afternoon tea. Guest fee \$5.00.

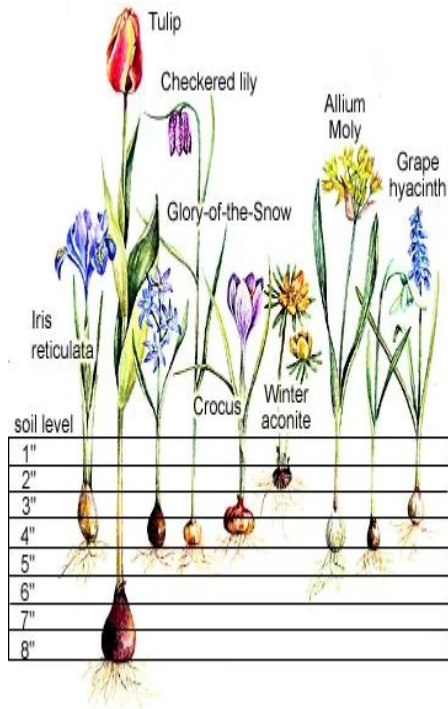
From our President: Hi everyone, Pat will again with help from Paula and Cynthia, fill in for me this month. During the Board meeting I will be in Chicago and during the general meeting this month I will be taking some well needed rest time at our place in Florida. I will be back the first week in April and will be available for the Board and Regular meetings until the end of my term in June. If there is interest, we are thinking of planning a field trip to Boston in May. A bus for 55 people to Jamica Plain to the Arboretum is \$40 per person. A smaller bus would be 14 people and the cost are \$77. Carpool is an option for discussion. The best week of the year for this trip is before Lilac Sunday which is the first Sunday in May.

Floral Workshop Members Gail Conner and Linda O'Neill will lead the workshop in a Monochromatic Design Scheme using either shades of yellows OR pinks. For the flower order Gail and Linda ask that you choose your preferred color choice when you signup. And as usual all materials including vases/containers will be provided. If you've never attended one of our workshops, they are casual, stress free, fun learning experiences for every skill level from beginner to accomplished. Please bring your flower snippers or scissors and a light lunch if desired. I'll be collecting the \$25 cash or check payable to Plymouth Garden Club at the workshop or online by credit card at our website <https://plymouthgardenclub.org>

The Jr. Gardeners Environmental Program begins presentations on Mon. March 4 with Kate Angley presenting and Cathy Grote assisting her at West Elementary. Visits in March and April are scheduled for the remaining 3rd grades in all Plymouth public schools with member volunteers lined up to present and help. The seedling spruce trees have been ordered and we will plan to individually bag each seedling at Geri 's home on April 24th at 10am. Please plan to come and help, it's fun chatting with other members.

Nominating Committee Report: The Nominating Committee is moving along nicely. We have many positions filled on the board and will be in good shape when we present the slate.

Planting bulbs can seem complicated, but you can simplify the process by following this general rule of thumb: plant twice as deep as your bulb height. For instance, if the bulb is two inches tall, dig a hole and plant the bulb four inches down. You can also add a couple of inches of garden mulch on top of the soil after planting without hindering the bulbs when they emerge in spring.



Enjoy your Spring flowers!!!

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

Plant Sale on May 18th: We have a new chair this year, Cynthia Sykes and she has homework for us - Don't go to pot! BUT go find your pots! This month's homework assignment for the Plant Sale -locate pots for transplanting. All members are reminded that the Plant Sale is successful because we all have dug up a dozen things from our yards.) SIGN UP SHEETS - there will be sign-up sheets for plant sale - Bakers, Yard Helpers (morning and afternoon) Boutique helpers (need lead) Gear - list your wagon and similar lugging equipment Signs/Flyer - sign up to do lawn signs and window flyers (available April Meeting) The Boutique will offer garden related items - start collecting!

The Plant Sale will begin at 10am and continue until 2pm on the lawn in front of the Plymouth Public Library. As you walk around your gardens and begin to clean them up look for perennials and especially native plants that can be divided or 'volunteers' where you don't want them to pot up for the sale when they are growing a little better. Right now, is the time to start annual flower seeds such as marigolds, cosmos, zinnias, alyssum and similar easy to grow seeds. You don't need to buy a fancy shop light to supplement the light, you can use a cheap fluorescent shop light. We need many members to volunteer to help on the day of the sale. Some of our volunteers should come to the library at 7:15am to help the custodian bring out the library tables and begin setting up. More volunteers will be needed to help unload plants, price and place them. With another group of volunteers scheduled during the sale to help customers. We usually have sold most of the plants by 1-1:30pm and begin cleaning up and tearing down some of the tables then. A few more volunteers will be needed at 2pm to finish cleaning up.

Free Books: There will be a table set up at the March meeting with gardening books donated by Coletta Candini. She would like everyone to take one. Thank you Coletta for your generosity and kindness.

Annual June Luncheon: Plans are being made for our annual June Luncheon. Members will have a choice of two menu selections, Chicken Piccata or Seared Salmon. A Vegetarian choice of Pasta Primavera will be available upon request. Due to the increase in food prices, the cost will increase slightly to \$39 per person. We will begin to collect money for the event at the April 10 meeting, continuing to the May 8 meeting, with a deadline for ticket sales on Friday, May 31. Tickets may be purchased by cash or check, made out to Plymouth Garden Club, or online. A form will be available for choice of entree.

Hospitality: Our chairs for the March meeting will be JoAnne Makely and Karen Baker along with their committee. I am unable to chair the Holiday luncheon next year. We are asking for two to three members to help with only the Holiday Luncheon, so please see me if interested.

Scholarships: I have returned the form to the Plymouth High Schools Scholarship Committee stating our commitment to give 2 scholarships of \$1500 each to a graduating senior at PNHS and PSHS with the stipulations outlined in our bylaws. I have also contacted Isabel Trautman at Rising Tide Academy and she is delighted we will again give a \$1500 to a Plymouth student at Rising Tide. I'm usually notified in early May about their awards night when we can present the scholarships in person.