



Plymouth Garden Club

September 2025

Linda O'Neill, President

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Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active: 83

Associate: 18

Life: 2

Timber-r-r-r

By Joy Sand

Increasingly, it's becoming part of newscasts that seemingly healthy trees are splitting, loosing limbs, or toppling over on houses and cars. With no obvious signs of decay or disease, what is bringing down these trees? Theories are offered about climate change and tree stress. If so, what can be done for trees?

Tree risk assessment is a systematic process to evaluate the overall health of a tree in a managed forest or on a homeowner's property. First is a visual inspection of the tree's structure, the surrounding environment, and any potential targets. The assessment is completed by a certified arborist. Recommendations include pruning, canopy reduction, or cabling of weakened branches. Total removal of a tree should be a last resort. Summer's high heat, drought and increasingly violent storms make summer a crucial time for risk assessment. Most arborists agree that humidity levels in the tree canopy are a major contributor to limb drop or tree splitting. Trees absorb water through roots and

Our September meeting will held on Wednesday, September 10th at the Chiltonville Church. Social time will begin at 12:15pm and the meeting will begin promptly at 1:00pm. Susan Leigh Anthony will present an enlightening program on "Heirloom Plants and Medieval Gardens", which will include some of the history, use, and art associated with them. As a respected gardening professional with over 45 years of experience, Susan will share valuable insights from her career, including her role at Doveflower Cottage and Kennedy Country Gardens. She has designed gardens all over the South Shore, Cape Cod, Brookline and Beacon Hill. Susan is a longtime member of the Herb Society of America and the North American Rock Garden Society. Please bring in a labeled horticultural specimen from your garden. After the business meeting we will enjoy a delightful tea. Remember to pick up your beautiful Club Yearbook for 2025-2026. If a friend is not at the meeting, please bring her book to her to save postage.

Hospitality: The tea committee will be hosted by Pat Tarantino and Judy Tessin assisted by Dawn Barrett, Natalie Caramello, Colleen Costa, DeeDee Dunlap and Crystal Payne.

Floral Design Workshop: Geri Williams and Linda O'Neill will lead a workshop on October 8 starting at 10:15am before our October meeting at the Chiltonville Church. Whether you are a beginner in floral arranging or experienced you'll have fun learning some design principals and go home with a fall colored small grouped mass design perfect for your table. Flowers, container and other supplies will be provided, just bring small clippers or scissors. The cost will be \$25 cash or check collected at the workshop. Limited to 16 members. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September meeting or contact Geri at 508-833-4355 or geri3williams@comcast.net.

Membership Update: We are so happy to welcome **Rose Cain** back as an associate member of our Club. Her address and contact information is in the new yearbook.

Ways and Means: Under the guidance of Diane Thomas and Carol Hartnett with help this month from Debbie Wells and Pat Windelspecht, the Ways and Means table will sell gloves, (Could you use a new pair after a summer of gardening?) oasis, and other supplies. This year they plan to have six items for the raffle each month. Members signed up at the June luncheon to bring in items for the raffle. Diane will email them a reminder before the meeting. You should purchase your raffle tickets when you arrive before the meeting starts.

Library Beds: From Debby Clark Lalley: Please mark your calendars. On Thursday, **September 18th at 9:30am** we will be doing our fall clean up at the library. This includes weeding, pruning, planting mums and applying a healthy top dressing of compost. Any amount of help you can contribute will be greatly appreciated. Rain date will be September 19th at 9:30am.

through trunk, limbs, branches and twigs to the leaves where the water vapor exits through the leaves. This is a process known as evapotranspiration in essence the tree 'sweats'. But on hot, calm, humid days, the tree cannot shed enough water vapor. The extra water vapor adds weight. The extra weight leads to structure failure. A tree responds with autoamputation - letting go of a limb or a whole section of a tree. What to do? Additional watering at night can help the tree. Extend the watering to the edge of the tree canopy. Consistent assessment and pruning of trees is important. Trees are vital for providing shade and cooling, food and shelter for wildlife, and beauty.

Garden on.... Joy

"I think that I shall never see
a poem as lovely as a tree"

Joyce Kilmer



Colleen's Marshfield entry

Come Grow With Us!

2025 – 2026

Our 97th Year

Founded 1929 • Federated 1971

Art In Bloom: The Plymouth Art Center is hosting **Art In Bloom** this **September 26, 27 and 28** in their galleries. Nancy Markley is coordinating this event. A number of our members signed up last spring to interpret an art work with a floral arrangement. Including members of other local garden clubs there are 35 who plan to participate. You will choose a piece of art on September 15 or 16 from 10am-2pm at the Art Center, 11 North St. There will be a reception on September 26 from 6-8pm. It will be free for participants, \$20 for others. See the flyer attached with this newsletter. Nancy is looking for additional pedestals, please contact her if you can lend one or more at nmarkley@comcast.net or 508-320-2417.

Garden Therapy: Garden Club volunteers visited two assisted living residences last spring and brought joy to the residents with small flower arrangements. Vice President Becky Freedman will continue to spearhead this effort this year and hopes to be able to visit more of these facilities in Plymouth. Needed - three individuals who will be responsible for leading the activity at each nursing home. Please contact Becky if you are interested at 617-543-2320 or milesdavislovesbecky@gmail.com

Help Send Thoughts to Members: If you hear about a member to whom we should send a get well or sympathy card, please notify Ellie Gilbert at 508-732-0410 or coastalgardenerma@gmail.com

Congratulations to Members Who Entered Flower Shows: In July at Heritage Museum and Gardens the Southeast District staged a Standard Flower show. Our Garden Club was represented in the Club Competition by Carol Hartnett, Colleen Costa and Linda Santulli in the table class called "Wedding Vow". Their table design was lovely, the competition was fierce. Unfortunately Judy MacDonald who is a superb floral arranger and was part of the team was in the hospital and unable to help. They received the honorable mention award. Geri Williams entered the class "A September to Remember" which required an analogous color design. She was awarded 3rd place. Colleen Costa entered "Art is Everywhere You Look" and received an honorable mention. In August at the Marshfield Fair Colleen entered the design class "Back to the Future" and earned a 2nd place ribbon. Crystal Payne won a 2nd place ribbon for her honey.



Colleen, Carol And Linda's table



Geri's entry