



# Plymouth Garden Club

October 2025

Linda O'Neill, President

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Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

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

## Membership

**Active: 83**

**Associate: 18**

**Life: 2**

## **The Late Season Gardener**

By Joy Sand

Every Season offers new experiences to the gardener/ environmentalist - especially autumn. The light is different - more golden - and the air is crisper. The garden and wildlife respond. The cooler temperatures and normally increased moisture have earned fall the name the "second spring". Clear cutting the garden after a killing frost has fallen out of favor. Leaving stems, leaves, and seed heads provide food and shelter for beneficial insects and small mammals. Tall native asters that tend to flop over in wind and rain may be cut back to stronger, upright stalks for aesthetic appeal. Cooler weather veg such as lettuce and spinach can be encouraged to produce into deep fall. Pinch off any flower buds. Cover the plants on frosty nights. Peas, beans and zucchini will continue to produce through October. Pick veg as they mature, continue to water and cover plants on frosty nights. Eliminate annual weeds such as crabgrass, lambsquarters, ragweed before they set seeds. If you can't dig them out, (continue)

**Our October meeting will held on Wednesday, October 8th** at the Chiltonville Church. Social time will begin at 12:15pm and the meeting will begin promptly at 1:00pm. Our program will be 'Our Changing Climate' with Kevin Lemanowicz, the Chief Meteorologist at Boston 25 News. He will explain how the weather works both locally and globally. He will also detail how climate change is impacting our lives today and what to expect in the future. Kevin is a certified meteorologist recognized by the American Meteorological Society and has received special recognition from the Boston/ New England Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The program will be followed by a business meeting and then our traditional tea.

**Hospitality:** The tea committee will be hosted by Patricia O'Brien and Norene Casey assisted by Margi Delafield, Carla Garrison, Carol Hartnett, Susan Mann, Servane Rogers, Linda Souza, Leslie Taylor.

**Floral Design Workshop:** Geri Williams and Linda O'Neill will lead a workshop to create an arrangement 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. There is still room for a few more participants, contact Geri at 508-833-4355 or [geri3williams@comcast.net](mailto:geri3williams@comcast.net) if you would like to participate.

**Ways and Means:** Under the guidance of Diane Thomas and Carol Hartnett with help this month from Julie Decot and Susan Fessenden, the Ways and Means table will sell gloves, oasis, and other supplies. This year they plan to have six items for the raffle each month. You should purchase your raffle tickets when you arrive before the meeting starts.

**Library Beds:** A group of members under the direction of Debby Clark-Lalley met at the library recently and dug up and replanted 4 Soft Touch hollies, moved some of the mums that had returned from past years and planted some new ones, weeded, watered and added compost to the library beds. Debby also pruned the red twig dogwoods that were looking shabby from a non life threatening fungus. She will also replace some of the daffodils when the soil is cool enough. Thanks to everyone who helped, the front of the library looks terrific.



at least cut off the seed heads. Don't compost the clippings. Bag and discard them.

Adjust lawn mower blades to cut higher. Taller grass shades the soil making weed seed germination more difficult and helps conserve moisture. Allowing clippings to decompose on the lawn returns nutrients to the soil. Before the soil freezes, spread a layer of screened compost on the lawn to feed the grass over winter.

Pots of plants stored in unheated garages or sheds can be insulated with a layer of compost over the soil. Water the plants whenever the soil feels dry. A solid plate or saucer placed over the soil and weighed with a brick discourages foraging varmints.

If your garden mums are not flowering, your lamp post or nearby streetlight may be to blame. Traditional garden moms - such as Sheffield strains - depend on longer nights for flowering. Turn off the lamp post light or in the future plant the mums away from streetlights. To prolong the life of your pumpkin on your deck or porch, set the pumpkin on pot feet to raise it off the deck or steps.

Garden on.... Joy

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

*Joyce Kilmer*

**Come Grow With Us!**

**December Holiday Luncheon:** Co-chairs Suzanne Carchedi and Cheryl Larsen with Karen Baker have set plans for our Holiday Luncheon at the Chiltonville Church. Suzanne met with Chef Chris O'Connor at PSHS South Side Fare and has arranged for the same menu as last year with chicken piccata, vegetable lasagna and Pink Lady apple salad with stilton cheese and cranberries. Gluten free option available. Members are encouraged to bring cookies and desserts. The cost will be \$14 /person. You can **sign up and pay at the October and November meetings** or on the PGC website under SHOP. The deadline to sign up or cancel and request a refund is Dec.1.

**Greens Sale:** Our Sale in December is a major fundraiser for our scholarships and community projects so we need the support and participation of all members. We will have workshops to decorate wreaths, create arrangements, and fill cemetery/porch boxes on Thurs. Dec.4 and Fri. Dec.6 in the Library Fehlow Room. Please plan to attend and help at least part of one day of the workshops and/or the sale on Dec.5 & 6. A sign up sheet will be at the meeting. Save dried flower heads, grasses, seedpods, and pinecones, spray them with silver, gold, white or red paint. Pick up and donate small sprays, snowflakes, fake fruit, glittery flowers or ornaments that we could use on wreaths or in arrangements and baskets. If you are going through your old holiday decorations, call Geri (508-833-4355) to arrange to donate ornaments or old wreaths that could be redecorated, or bring them to the October and November meetings.

**Art In Bloom:** The lovely event at the Plymouth Center for the Arts was a huge success thanks to Nancy Markley who organized it and all the floral designers from 8 local clubs who created the beautiful interpretations. Members from our club were Natalie Caramello, Colleen Costa, Judy MacDonald, Linda O'Neill, Geri Williams, Crystal Payne, Gail Connor, Judy Fosdick, Judy Tessin, Jeanne Burnell, Carl Hartnett, Jean Nalen Dobachesky, Judy Brown and Debbie Wells. You can view the photos of their arrangements on the PGC website here: <https://plymouthgardenclub.org/events-and-shows/>

**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 Needs-two more individuals who will be responsible for leading the activity at a nursing home. Please contact Becky at 617-543-2320 or [milesdavislovesbecky@gmail.com](mailto:milesdavislovesbecky@gmail.com)

**Please add to your Yearbook:** The email for the Southshore District Director was not available when our yearbook was printed. Please add it after Terry Harrison's name on page 7; email: [harrisonm5@gmail.com](mailto:harrisonm5@gmail.com)

**Educational programs:** There are a couple of interesting zoom programs that I have read about. The *Wild Ones* are offering a free webinar, "**Next Steps for Nature**," featuring the renowned **Doug Tallamy** on Oct. 16 at 7pm. Register: <https://wildones.org/next-steps-for-nature/> In the Master Gardeners newsletter *The Dirt* there is a link to register for a program by C.L. Fornari on Oct. 22 on 'Changing Gardens in a Changing World. Go [HERE](#) for more info.

**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](mailto:coastalgardenerma@gmail.com)