



# Plymouth Garden Club

Club Flower - Plymouth Gentian

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

## Membership

Active: 83

Associate: 16

Life: 2

## **An Old Garden**

By Joy Sand

Some are drawn to the ocean. They cannot breathe unless the air is touched by the tang of salt. Others are drawn to mountains where the sky is framed by rugged peaks and deep green forests. But for a few, there is no space like that of a garden. Here the air is perfumed by blossoms from spring to late fall. The view is framed by trees of green from the lightest of birch to the deepest of fir and hemlock.

But a breed apart is the old garden. The garden first planted long ago to feed a family with corn, potatoes and herbs, and then evolving to add antique roses of such heady perfume that their dried petals are used to scent the chests of clothing and linens. These roses are known not by commercial names such as 'Peace' or 'Mr. Lincoln' but as "Grandma's Rose" or "Aunt Tilly's Rose". And cuttings are shared with each wife, new to the family, as she begins her first garden.

The lush full peonies known today as 'Maxima' and "Sarah Bernhardt" were shared with neighbors in exchange for sharp scented clove pinks and Sweet Williams with their

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Our **June meeting will held on Wednesday, June 10, 2026** 11:am - 2:30pm at East Bat Grill on the Plymouth Waterfront. This will be our Annual Luncheon with Installation of Officers for the coming year and the final meeting with Linda O'Neill as President. We'll gather at 11:00am for social time followed by introductions of special guests, our Scholarship recipients and Club Awards. Lunch will begin at noon. A great big thank you to Karen Baker and Paula Butterfield who have worked so hard to make this event so special and to all the other members who assisted.

**Hospitality:** Diane Thomas and Karen Baker will co-chair Hospitality. The Tea Committees each month for the coming year will remain the same unless you have discussed a change with Karen Baker: If you must make any changes, please let Karen know by June 21 at [karenl\\_baker@msn.com](mailto:karenl_baker@msn.com), so that all tea committees can be finalized for the 2026-2027 Yearbook.

**Dues must be paid by June 30** in order for your picture and contact information to appear in next 2026-2027 yearbook. If you would like to pay your dues at the Luncheon you can use cash, check, or Venmo, credit card use will not be available. You can also pay dues on our website. Contact **Sharon Ferraguto** with any changes to your contact info. Also, if you'd like to switch your membership from Active to Associate, please email or text Sharon - [beachrose22@yahoo.com](mailto:beachrose22@yahoo.com) or 978-618-7838.

**Committee Chairs needed:** We still need members to chair or co-chair the Garden Therapy and Ways and Means Committees. Please contact Becky Freer Freedman at 617-543-2320 if you are interested in helping or have questions about these roles.

**Yearbook Committee:** Sharon Ferraguto, 2nd Vice President, has scheduled meetings in the Board Room of the Library starting at 10am on Wednesdays June 24, July 1 and 8 to prepare our Club Yearbook for 2026-2027. Sharon has requested that if you have any photos of club activities during the past year, beautiful gardens or scenes of Plymouth that you think might be suitable for the yearbook send them by email to Paula Butterfield, [pbutter516@comcast.net](mailto:pbutter516@comcast.net) before June 24. Send any text or information changes to Sharon at [beachrose22@gmail.com](mailto:beachrose22@gmail.com). Any member who would like to help with the Yearbook is welcome, you'll learn more about club activities. Let Sharon know and she will send you meeting reminders.

**"Rose Man" Trip:** The outing to visit Irwin Ehrenreich's gardens is on Thursday, **June 18th at 10:30 am**, 3780 Main St Barnstable Village (6A). Linda O'Neill is hosting the lunch reservation for Dunbar's Tea Room in Sandwich at 1pm. Becky is hosting lunch at the Dolphin Restaurant in Sandwich for any other members who would like to eat lunch after the garden tour. Linda is meeting any one interested in carpooling at the Shaw's Grocery Store parking lot, State Rd. (Rt.3A) Cedarville at 9:45 am.

pointed leaves and flowers. Violets in purple, blue and white bloomed at the base of trees and taller plants and sometimes wandered into the lawn to flower among the clovers and grasses.

As the garden grew and aged, benches were added in shaded nooks and bird baths added for refreshment of the birds who nest in bushes and trees. At dawn and dusk cottontail rabbits frolic at the garden edges and snack on any tender leaves that they fancy.

Then year fold into year, and family members move away. The house succumbs to neglect, and the garden loses its struggle with weeds and invasive vines. Until one day, all that remains are a few determined old roses with their thick canes and strong thorns supporting blooms of clear pink or bright red early each summer and full blossoms of peonies in pink and white bloom in clumps, scattered among the grasses. Perhaps a gardener who loves the vintage plants will dig some of the survivors and plant them in her garden, saving them from the developer's bulldozer.

Garden on... Joy

*"Summer is the time for all of the quiet activities - sunbathing, sailing, being with Nature."*

*People of the North, PBS*

## **Come Grow With Us!**

2025 – 2026

Our 97th Year

Founded 1929 • Federated 1971

**Plant Sale:** Our Plant Sale fundraiser was a great success. The weather cooperated this year and was sunny. We had a large selection of plants donated by our members and lovely crafts, wreaths and planters for sale. The net proceeds announced at the Board meeting is \$4533 with some additional money still coming in. Thank you to all who donated plants, time and energy, especially Geri Williams for lots of plants and organizing plant tables, Sally Cohen for creating crafts and organizing the Boutique Tables, and Marcia Sykes for coming to the rescue with lots of tables to display everything.

**Welcome to our Newest Member:** Elizabeth Sellon, 15 N. Carver Rd, West Warehan, MA 02576. Elizabeth jumped right in and helped at the plant sale.

**Scholarships:** Three \$1500 scholarships and a \$500 Vocational Grant were awarded to graduating Plymouth seniors. On Wednesday Linda O'Neill presented a scholarship at PSHS to Michael Caruso. The following evening Geri Williams gave our scholarship to Toriana Beale at PNHS who will attend Lehigh University. At Rising Tide Charter School Crystal Payne presented a \$1500 scholarship to Jae-min Adragna who will attend Mass Maritime Academy and Denise Faherty awarded our first Vocational Grant of \$500 to Madeline York who is interested in becoming a florist.

**Thank You:** After the Senior Awards Night at Plymouth North High School, Geri Williams was stopped by Alison Riordan, the Science Coordinator for Plymouth Public Schools, who sincerely thanked us for our Jr. Gardeners Environmental Program and for the Scholarships our club donates. She hopes we will continue to present our program in the third grade classrooms.

**Well Wishes:** Joan Govoni really appreciated the cards and well wishes sent to her since her move to Stafford Hill Assisted Living facility, located at 60 Stafford Street, Plymouth, MA 02360. She loves hearing from us, keep the cards coming. Karen Baker will be having hernia surgery on June 11. Over the summer, if you hear about a member to whom we should send a get well or sympathy card, please notify our new Communications Secretary, Sally Cohen, [sallycohen88@gmail.com](mailto:sallycohen88@gmail.com)

**Great YouTube Video:** Garden Gate featured Ellie Gilbert's former garden in Chiltonville in their magazine several years ago and they also posted a video about it. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsT55lLj\\_AI&t=36s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsT55lLj_AI&t=36s). It's a lovely video well worth watching.

**Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts:** Our club was well represented at the GCFM Annual Meeting on June 4th with President Linda O'Neill, incoming President Becky Freer Freedman, and members Denise Faherty, Carol Hartnett and Geri Williams. We learned from the National Garden Club President, Donna Donnelly, that we are all also members of NGC and eligible to receive their communications including the digital newsletter 'The National Gardener' which has lots of valuable information. You need to go to the website <https://gardenclub.org/> fill out the free membership application, then sign up to subscribe to the National Gardener. Donna also urged us to plant red, white and blue gardens to celebrate our Country's 250th, we hope to do so in the Library urns. Check out the GCFM website: [GCFM.org](https://www.gcfm.org/) to read the latest Mayflower magazine and learn about workshops, flower shows, and classes.