

# The Perennial



2017-2018

Issue 7: March

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

Facebook: [arlington garden club - ma](https://www.facebook.com/arlingtongardenclubma)

When I suggested that we needed to be aware that there could be an occasional snowstorm in March, I never expected that there would be four! I've watched bulbs pushing up only to see them smothered under more than a foot of snow only to emerge almost unscathed. I am now looking forward to the predicted warmer temperatures and those bulbs coming to flower.

## *Garden Tip of the Month:*

*If you mulched your garden, remove leaves from around bulbs that are pushing up to expose the foliage to the sunlight.*

*April Program: April 11th, 10:30 am*

*St. John's Episcopal Church 74 Pleasant St. Arlington, MA*

## Raising Spectacular Roses Organically and

Without Chemicals - Eric Eisenhauer, Qualified  
Rosarian, Massachusetts Master Gardener

This presentation is highly photographic.

Emphasis is on the beauty of "old rose" blossoms and their extraordinary scent. A 100% organic, chemical-free approach is presented.

Key steps in the growing of roses are emphasized, as well as garden design concepts to enhance their beauty. Content is based on three decades of hands-on learning gleaned from years of trial and error. Concentration is on

Ornamental Roses: namely, English, Floribunda, Grandiflora and Hybrid Tea roses.



## *Plant Sale – Emily Snyder, Chair*

This is the major fundraiser for the Garden Club. Please check the areas where you can pitch in to help make this a huge success. This is always a lot of fun as well!

~ Get Ready for our Spring Plant Sale ~

**Date:** Saturday May 19, 2018

**Time:** 9 am – 1 pm ...1 hour longer this year!

**Location:** Jason Russell House, corner Mass. Ave. & Jason Street

Please contact the table coordinators to see how you can help.

**Lots of Plants** - Stephan Miller & Carol Davis

Start thinking about what you can dig up, pot and donate. You can ask for help to split or dig plants from your garden. You may also donate *Herbs and Annuals* because we always appreciate color and delicate aromas.

**Bake Sale** – Ginger Tower & Joan Robbio

Get your oven mitts ready to prepare the delicious baked goodies that our members bountifully supply.

**Tag Sale** – Nancy Pike, Carol Nahigian, Donna McGowan & Valerie Maxwell

Save your attic treasures that customers love to rummage through and that are a unique feature of our Plant Sale

**Ask a Master Gardener** – Karen MacKinnon & Eleanor Mezer

Certified Master Gardeners and students will be on hand to answer plant questions.



A great time, come rain or come shine!

## *Garden Therapy – Barbara Neenan and Robin Watkins*



Our Garden Therapy program for March ushered in spring with a lovely windmill flower, lady bugs and butterflies. Carol Nahigian, Irene MacKinnon, and Zohreh Damghany provided the craft and snack for 24 residents at the Park Avenue Health Center. After completing the craft and a snack of festive cookies and coffee or soda, the residents sang Celtic songs for St. Patrick's Day and residents' requests, accompanied by

pianist Florynce Bornstein, who imparts so much happy energy to the program.



## *Environmental Corner – Karen MacKinnon, Chair*

Starting in March of this year and being phased in over the next few months, Arlington is joining some 60 communities in Massachusetts by instituting a single-use plastic bag ban. By joining other communities in this effort Arlington is helping to reduce the amount of trash that ends up in our waterways, parks, and neighborhoods.

The plastic used in plastic bags can take decades, or even longer, to degrade. This plastic, in addition to looking terrible, can harm wildlife. Animals, birds and fish may try to ingest these bags, which can cause serious health problems. As the bags break down in the soil they can release toxic chemicals. Plastic bags are often swept into the local sewer systems where they cause blockage, damage to pipes and create water-flow problems.

So, let us all do our part in helping Arlington reduce plastic bag use. Remember – never put plastic bags in your recycling bin. They will hamper the operation of the machinery at the recycling plant. Some grocery stores accept plastic bags for recycling. In Arlington both Whole Foods and Stop and Shop offer this service to their clients.

## *EcoFest – Marilyn Sullivan and Jane Foley*

Many thanks to Marilyn and Jane for coordinating the Garden Club table for this event and to the members who helped man the table



*Garden Tour Committee - Patsy Kraemer, Eliza Burden and Beth Locke  
(Arlington Chamber of Commerce), Co-chairs.*

The date has been set: September 23, 2018, rain or shine. If any members are interested in having their garden be part of the tour, please contact Eliza Burden. Mark your calendars to be available to help with this fundraiser.

*Members' Corner*

We extend our sympathies to member Ellen Poretta on the passing of her husband.

We welcome new member, Kathie Skinner.



Tête-à-Têtes grateful for Warm Rain and Sunshine