

The Perennial



2017-2018

Issue 8: April

Website: ArlingtonGarden.org

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

What joy to be able to work out in the garden. I love the smell of the soil and seeing all the tiny creatures who have been waiting as eagerly as I have for the warmth and light of spring.

Garden Tip of the Month:

Now is the time to divide perennials and you can pot them up for the Plant Sale as well!

May Program: May 9 at 10:30 am

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

Polishing the Masterpieces: The Trustees Public Gardens – Lucinda Brockway, Program Director for Cultural Resources of The Trustees (formerly the Trustees of Reservations). In Massachusetts, you find history under every rock and on every corner. From the tracks of dinosaurs and the settlements of Mohicans to the stone walls of colonial farmers, The Trustees care for and share an incredible array of places and things that illuminate who we were, who we are now, and who we will be. Historic homes, magnificent gardens and cultural landscapes all come under the purview of The Trustees



Naumkeag – Stockbridge, MA

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Garden Therapy – Robin Watkins and Barbara Neenan



The theme of April's Garden Therapy project was "April Showers Bring May Flowers." A flowered carton held an umbrella and signs of spring renewal: flowers, grass and (jellybean) eggs. Barbara Neenan and Janet Clarke provided the project and a snack of marble cake and spring cookies. Out the window snow was falling, but all was bright inside as Carol Nahigian led the residents in a sing-along of spring songs, such as 'Take Me Out to the Ball Game', accompanied by Florynce Bornstein on the piano.

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

The date has been set: Sunday, September 23, 2018, rain or shine. If any members are interested in having their garden be part of the tour, please contact Eliza Burden. Tickets will be \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 the day of the tour. Mark your calendars to be available to help with this fundraiser.

Nominating Committee – Flo Dunlap, Chairperson

The final slate of Officers and Chairs for 2018-2019 was presented to the general membership at the April meeting. Voting will take place at the May meeting.

- President – Janet Pagliuca
- VP Operations – Flo Dunlap
- VP Programs – Nancy Pike
- Recording Secretary – Jan Ford
- Treasurer – Mary Rogers
- Hospitality Chairs – Bronwyn Dillon and Zohreh Damghany
- Civic Development Chair – Nancie Richardson
- Environment Chair – Karen MacKinnon
- Publicity Chair – Eliza Burden
- Garden Therapy – Barbara Neenan and Robin Watkins

Membership – Jackie Keshian

It's time to renew your membership for next year. An application is available at the end of the newsletter, at the website or at the next meeting. Please return the renewal form and a check for \$45.00 made out to Jackie Keshian (please see your Yearbook for Jackie's address.) This should be done by June 1st to ensure that your information appears in next year's Yearbook.

Environmental Corner – Karen MacKinnon, Chair

AGC Working with Arlington Schools' Green Teams:

Thank you for bringing in your used button batteries. Keep them coming! With the funds we have received from the program we have been able to work with the Arlington Schools' Green Teams to further their efforts in their various gardens. Each year, beginning last year, we have allocated \$500 of the \$1000 that we receive from the Button Battery program to the Green Teams. For last year's funds we gave \$500 to Stratton School to fund their garden after the renovation of the school. They will be using the funds for seeds, planting materials and tools. This year's \$500 has been split between 3 schools as follows: \$100 to Hardy for soil, compost, perennials and flowers for the entrance to the building; \$200 to Thompson for seedlings, garden stakes, soil amendments and supplies; \$200 to Bishop for a pollinator garden.



The following is a short overview of the Green Teams provided by the School Sustainability Coordinator, Rachel Oliveri:

These groups are working on fantastic projects! Arlington Public Schools' Green Teams engage students, teachers, parents, and the whole school community in activities that promote environmental sustainability, like lunchroom waste reduction, school gardening, textile recycling, and more. Most teams meet before or after school throughout the school year and participate in town-wide events like Town Day in September, EcoFest in March, Earth Day programs and the Patriots' Day Parade in April. All Green Teams (or environmental clubs like Arlington High School's SAVE Club) are registered with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Green Team program. Most teams are supported by their school's PTO, team fundraisers, and/or teacher stipends for facilitation of an after-school club (at the middle school and high school). In the fall of 2016, the town of Arlington hired a School Sustainability Coordinator, partially funded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's School Recycling Assistance Grant. The School Sustainability Coordinator created an online resource library of Green Team projects, guest speakers, and grant/fundraising opportunities, and facilitates bimonthly meetings for the Green Team parent/teacher/student leaders to share ideas and support.

Rain Barrels Available Through the Town:

The town is offering rain barrels to residents, discounted price: \$79.00. Rain barrels can save you money on water bills. They come with simple instructions for a fast and easy installation. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Plant Sale – Emily Snyder, Chair

Gearing up for the Garden Club's Spring Plant Sale
Jason Russell House Grounds ~ Corner Mass. Ave. & Jason Street
Saturday, May 19th, 2018 ~ 9 am – 1 pm
~ Tips & Tactics ~

PLANTS – Chair Stephan Miller

steffmiller@mac.com

- Donate your excess perennials, small shrubs and house plants to the Plant Sale.
- The sooner you dig up the plants, the better condition they will be in on the day of the sale.
- Plants should be in pots or flats and labeled with the plant's name and growing conditions. Labels are available from Stephan or at the Club website [arlingtongarden.org].
- Potted plants can be dropped off at the Jason Russell House from May 15-17 (Tuesday-Thursday).
- Pots are available from Stephan, who can also help with the digging if you need it.

Plants' condition and selection have improved every year, so keep up the good work!

TAG SALE – Chair Nancy Pike

nancypike44@verizon.net

Yes, there will be a tag sale at the plant sale!

- We will collect items after May 1. We will be storing them in Carol Nahigian's garage, 3 Monadnock Rd., off Pleasant St., Arlington.
- We are asking that you **not** just "stop and drop" but make an appointment with Carol (781-648-6219) or Nancy Pike (781-646-4121), so that a designated AGC member can be there.
- We are limiting items: they must be clean and of good material.
- All books should be relevant to gardening, sustainability and/or the environment).
- We will also be selling jewelry, small antiques and special household items.

BAKE SALE – Chair Ginger Tower

towerg@verizon.net

- Package muffins and scones as singles; cookies, brownies, bars, etc., in numbers of 2's, 4's, or 6's
- Wrap baked goods in clear packaging if possible - presentation increases sales
- Label items and note if they contain nuts-- specify kind of nuts
- Gluten-free items welcome
- Drop off baked goods by 8:15 am morning of the Plant Sale
- Bake Sale Committee will price all items

Thank you for all baked goods donations and your continued support.

*THERE WILL ALSO BE
... Herbs & Annuals
... Ask-a-Master-Gardener
Table*

Labels are also attached at the end of the newsletter.

Garden Shop Discounts and More

Our [website](#) has a list of the garden shops offering our members a discount on plants and gardening supplies. In addition, you can find back issues of the Perennial, information on upcoming programs, forms for membership, plant labels and much more.

Town Hall Garden Tour

The Arlington Town Hall Gardens has been a “Project Garden” for the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association (MMGA) since former master gardener and garden club member Trish Webb had it approved as a volunteer site 5 years ago. The Arlington Garden Club collaborates as the community organization with MMGA to allow master gardeners and students to accrue volunteer hours for work they do on the site. On May 12 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, there will be a “Visit a Project Site” event at the Town Hall Gardens for MMGA members and students. AGC members who are familiar with the site are invited to help with the tour of the gardens. If you can help, please contact Emily Snyder.

Gift Ideas for Mothers and Fathers Day

From two members come ideas for gifts for the mothers and fathers in our lives or for dropping hints for ourselves.

- Native Plants for New England Garden, a book by Dan Jaffe and Mark Russell. This book has beautiful photos of native plants and information on planting them in the right site. This is a great resource if you are planning to begin adding native plants to your garden.

- An adjustable garden rake that can become narrow enough to reach into small places and under shrubs and can then be opened for raking lawns and beds. There are a variety of rakes available on Amazon.com or from local garden centers (don't forget to check out the discount list).

Programs of Interest

Grow Native Massachusetts is offering a series of walks this spring and summer highlighting native wildflowers, shrubs and trees. The last of the Evenings with Experts will be held on May 2 at the Cambridge Library with a program on the High Line garden in New York City. For more information on these programs you can visit the Grow Native [website](#).

Massachusetts Horticultural Society offers many garden-related lectures and events throughout the year, many but not all of which are held at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's headquarters at Elm Bank in Wellesley, MA. Seasonal garden tours and daily programs are also held in the Gardens at Elm Bank, 36 acres on the Elm Bank Reservation at 900 Washington Street in Wellesley, MA 02482. The site includes open fields and meadows, streams and pools, wooded areas and formal gardens. Gardens are Open May 1st – October 12th each year, Tuesday-Sunday. Admission is free to MassHort members and \$8 for non-members. Find more information at their [website](#).

New England Wildflower Society's Trillium Week will be held Sunday, May 6 to Saturday, May 12. There will be free, with admission, tours and master workshops on growing trilliums. Plants will be available on a first come, first served basis in the garden shop. For more information on this and other programs, visit their [website](#).

The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts' website lists their programs as well as offerings by other garden clubs and provides an on-line version of their newsletter, The Mayflower.



Harbingers of Spring
Grape Hyacinth & Trillium

Please continue scrolling down for a membership application and plant labels.

Plant Name: _____

Sun Part Sun Part Shade Shade

Bloom Time: Spring Summer Fall

Height: Width:

Flower color, care instructions or other comments:

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Arlington Garden Club
Arlington, MA

Membership Renewal Form
2018-2019

Membership dues are \$45.00 per year. Make check payable to "Arlington Garden Club."

Please complete this form and bring it with your check to the **May 9th** meeting or mail it to: Jacqueline Keshian, 93 Falmouth Road West, Arlington, MA 02474. **Membership renewals must be received no later than June 1, 2018.** Please print all information.

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please indicate your interest in any of the following Projects and Programs:

Civic Development Projects: Islands/Planters Committee ____ Arlington Heights Planters ____

Jason Russell House Herb Garden ____ Broadway Plaza ____ Town Hall Gardens ____

Whittemore Robbins House Gardens ____

Social and Educational Programs: Hospitality ____ Garden Therapy ____ Environmental Programs ____

Fund Raising Programs: Books in Bloom ____ Spring Plant Sale ____

New Projects - Open to suggestions: _____

Do you have the skills for and/or can you help with:

____ Website development and/or maintenance ____ Access to *pro bono* legal advice

____ Access to a truck or SUV (transporting tables, etc.)

Please indicate other garden-related interests, or topics you would like to explore: _____
