



## ***The Perennial - March 2020***

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

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Facebook: [m.facebook.com/arlingtongardenclubma](https://m.facebook.com/arlingtongardenclubma)

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**March Program ~ Monday 3/16/19 – 10:30 am**  
**St. John's Episcopal Church, 74 Pleasant St., Arlington, MA**



***From Nancy Pike, VP-Programs***

*Now for something completely different...*

*At our March meeting, instead of learning about flowers in our gardens, we will learn about how "Chickens in the Garden" can help our growing season. Gretel Anspach, Lifetime Master Gardener and Trustee of the Mass. Horticultural Society, will teach us the ins and outs of housing, feeding and tending chickens – and, if we are lucky, we will get to meet a couple of the ladies (i.e., hens).*

**REMEMBER...**

**For March, April and May meetings members will provide lunch.**

The wonderful lunches we enjoy are compliments of the members whom our Hospitality Chairs ask each month. A sign-up sheet will be posted at each meeting. When you do sign up, bring one of your favorite dishes to share at one of our Spring meetings. We request salads, sandwiches, and desserts.

Because our membership has grown, please be sure to bring enough of your food choice for 20 people. This way, we will all be assured of enjoying a delicious lunch with friends.

Thank you for your generosity!

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***February Meeting Recap & Photos***

Our February meeting saw over 50 members gathered to watch and enjoy Thelma Shoneman do her magic with flowers, focusing on the Club's upcoming 'Music in Bloom' presentations.



She showed how we can either make displays representing the feelings of a chosen piece of music – a story, an opera, a children's song – or representing the actual story. Thelma dazzled members with her talent and humor. What an inspiration that was!



In addition, Thelma left several creations for us to auction off, a fun activity with semi-professional Nancie Richardson donning her auctioneer's hat and fetching over \$200 for the Club's coffers.

***~Nancy Pike, VP-Programs***





**Garden Therapy**  
**Carol Nahigian and Carmen Torres, Co-Chairs**  
*Next meeting – March 3<sup>rd</sup>*

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Garden Therapy Committee celebrated Valentine's Day with residents of the Park Avenue Health Center.

Marcia de Rosas brought delicious homemade sour cream coffee cake. Robin Watkins' doily decorating project was also well received.

After polishing off the snacks, everyone engaged in an a cappella songfest enthusiastically led by Donna McGowan.



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***PENNIES FOR PINES***



Well, we did it! Big thanks to the many members contributing pennies, we garnered the \$68.00 needed to participate in a meaningful and practical conservation project to plant pine trees in our Commonwealth.

No, we don't have to dig the holes and plant them ourselves. We partnered with the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts and the Forest Service. The trees planted will provide soil protection, watershed protection, soil stabilization, future harvestable timber and beauty and shade for recreation.

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## **2020 AGC Plant Sale – Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Looking for a Chair for this annual Club undertaking. Will you take on the mantle to work with a dedicated group of veteran organizers?*

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### ***Environment Corner - Chair, Karen MacKinnon***

**Remember:** Please bring your button batteries to Club meetings!

**Arlington's Recycling Center's Next Open Day**

**Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> 9 am – 12 noon**

**51 Grove Street**

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### ***Books in Bloom is becoming Music in Bloom !***



**Friday evening, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ~ Robbins Library**

- We need members to sign up to be floral displayers - think songs, children's songs, musicals, operas - and books based on music! Please be in touch with Patsy to sign up.
- At the March meeting we will ask members to sign up with ways of helping:
- Bakers/food providers
- Cocktail waitresses/food organizers/clean-up crew
- The Jim Nicoloso trio will provide music for the event.

Please be in touch with committee members with any questions or comments. We will have tickets available for members to purchase - and hopefully take any they can sell!!

***Patsy Kraemer & Sally Naish – Co-Chairs***

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### **Test your knowledge with some Garden Riddles & Trivia**

*Answers appear at the end of The Perennial*

1. What flower makes my garden sing?
2. What flower goes with a white sport coat?
3. This brings good luck.
4. What is blue, dilly, dilly?

5. What is the official flower of the Arlington Garden Club?
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## **PLANNING FOR THE CLUB'S END-OF-YEAR JUNE DINNER**

This year we want to celebrate you, the gardeners of our Club, at our June dinner. We are asking you to submit photos of your gardens along with a couple of sentences about why you love to garden.

*Do you grow dazzling dahlias...radiant roses...verdant vegetables?*

*Do you have a special spot where you enjoy sitting in your garden?*

*Do you relish the early bulbs popping through black earth?*

*Or is fall when your garden flaunts its most vibrant self?*

Photos of your gardens – from this year or past years --will become part of a Power Point presentation to be enjoyed at the dinner.

Please send the photos and comments to Jan Ford.  
We're excited to see the variety of plants and gardens you share with us.

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GARDEN GLOVES...will be on sale at the March meeting  
\$5 / pair  
Easy-to-find-in the garden neon colors -

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As spring approaches, here's a job for a garden-lover, working for a local garden company owner and former Garden Club speaker, Ben Barkan of Home Harvest –

Do you know of any gardeners who are looking for full time gardening work? HomeHarvest, a local Arlington-based company, is seeking a gardener to help with maintenance of their remarkable edible landscapes. This position is all about plant care and is ideal for someone who's passionate about plants and urban agriculture. [www.homeharvest.biz](http://www.homeharvest.biz)

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### **Garden Riddles & Trivia Answers**

1. Lily of the Valley    2. Pink carnation    3. Four-leaf clover    4. Tulips

5. Mock orange *Philadelphus x virginalis*

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