



The Perennial ***April 2022***

2021-22: Issue 7

Website: <ArlingtonGarden.org>

Facebook: m.facebook.com/arlingtongardenclubma



Greetings, Club members...

During these past few years we have endured unthinkable circumstances beyond comprehension (my feelings at least). I can hardly listen to the news anymore. It has become frightening and so very heart breaking. What to do? As I have mentioned before, the virtues of getting outdoors and into the serene and peaceful company of nature... The draw for me now is even greater. I can only hope spring is really on the way! Going to the seashore and sitting on the warm sand, staring out onto the horizon, listening to the gulls calling and the sound of the surf rolling in is truly a soothing balm for me. Closing my eyes and listening truly amplifies and enhances the peaceful feelings that wash over me. I do love the forest and its' special beauty, but perhaps sitting by the sea may be equally beautiful, each in their own way.

So please "stay calm and carry on....."

Your President, Lolly Bennett

April Program

Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 – 10:30 am
Masonic Temple, 19 Academy Street, Arlington

Bring your own bag lunch ~ Coffee, tea and water will be provided



“A People’s Garden: Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens”

Jean Rosenberg, AGC member and Docent, CMBG

In 1991, a small group of visionaries gathered to discuss the idea of a Maine botanical garden. Distinctive natural landscapes cultivated gardens and accessibility, along with a focus on education, horticulture and research, formed the basis for the master plan before the gardens opened in 2007. She will share the history, unique gardens and property, and programs that make this one of the most distinguished botanical destinations in the country.

Pollinator Pathway

***Jan Ford, Programs Co-Chair
& St. John’s Gardener / Designer***

Following Brucie Moulton’s presentation last fall, St. John’s Church - site of the Club’s long time meeting space - applied and was accepted to the Pollinator Pathway map. Having a majority of native plants is the criteria for inclusion. We look forward to continuing to grow our pollinator garden. Now if only we can keep the rabbits away.



Environment – Stephan Miller, Chair **Gardening and environmental web sites**

This month, I thought I would tell you about a few of my favorite gardening and environmental web sites.

1. One favorite is *All About Birds* produced by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, <www.allaboutbirds.org>.s The Cornell Lab is one of the primary centers for the scientific study of birds. Every month it features in-depth articles about a specific species of birds. It is also the go-to site for bird information and identification. I can also highly recommend their bird identification phone app, *Merlin*, which allows you to carry, in your pocket, pictures, bird calls, geographical distribution and much more for over 7,500 birds.

2. For agricultural and gardening information relevant to our geographical area, I go to the UMass. Agricultural Extension website, <www.ag.umass.edu>. This is a large site devoted to local agriculture, landscape and urban forestry. I visit this site for information on weeds and invasive plants. I especially like the Weed Herbarium, <www.extension.umass.edu/landscape/weed-herbarium>, which is an exhaustive compilation including any weed you are likely to encounter. This is the place to find out about UMass Extension projects throughout the state on clean energy,

agriculture, horticulture and much more.

3. An excellent site dedicated to disseminating information about plants native to Massachusetts is Grow Native Massachusetts, <www.grownativemass.org>. This site provides in depth information about native plants, invasive plants and can give you a good grounding in botanical terminology. Grow Native Mass. produces very worthwhile programs such as “Evenings With Experts” where you can hear talks on gardening with native plants and other environmental topics. It is currently accessible on line at <www.grownativemass.org/Our-Programs/evenings-experts>. Visit the web site for a schedule of upcoming events.

4. To cheer up when enduring the winter doldrums, I visit the Horticulture Magazine site, <www.hortmag.com>. The site features articles on the latest innovations in garden plants illustrated with colorful photos. I especially like the sections on edible and smart gardening. The magazine itself also features articles on all aspects of gardening with frequent stories about specific gardens and gardeners.

Garden Therapy

Carol Nahigian & Carmen Torres, Co-Chairs

March program report ~ thanks to Robin Watkins

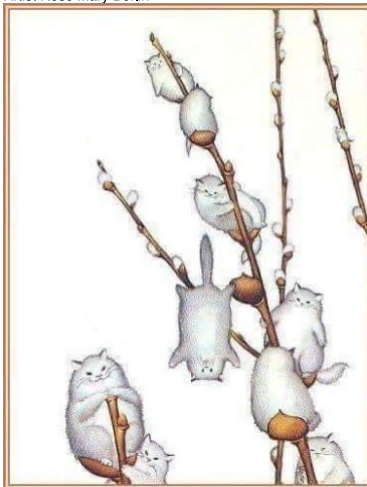


Garden Therapy visits to BrightView Senior Living Center resumed in March as Covid restrictions eased. Twelve enthusiastic residents came early to create spring bouquets for their rooms and the reception area. Participants filled Mason jars with pussy willows, yellow and lavender tulips, and forsythia branches not yet in full bloom. Everyone learned the legend of the pussy willows and enjoyed chatting while making decorative spring arrangements.

The Legend of the Pussy Willow

According to an old Polish legend, many springtimes ago a mother cat was crying at the bank of the river in which her kittens were drowning. The willows at the river's edge longed to help her, so they swept their long graceful branches into the waters to rescue the tiny kittens who had fallen into the river while chasing butterflies. The kittens gripped on tightly to their branches and were safely brought to shore. Each springtime since, goes the legend, the willow branches sprout tiny fur-like buds at their tips where the tiny kittens once clung.

Artist Rose Mary Berlin



ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

PLANT SALE

TAG SALE | BAKE SALE

21 MAY 2022 | 9AM-1PM

RAIN OR SHINE

JASON RUSSELL HOUSE

JASON ST & MASS AVE, ARLINGTON, MA

ARLINGTONGARDEN.ORG



Some AGC Plant Sale blasts from the past....

The Spring Plant Sale is returning....

Jason Russell House Grounds ~ Corner Mass. Ave. & Jason Street

Saturday, May 21st, 2022 ~ 9 am – 1 pm ~ Rain or Shine

~ Tips & Tactics ~

PLANTS – Chair

Stephan Miller

steffmiller@mac.com

- Donate your excess perennials, small shrubs & house plants to the Plant Sale.
- The sooner you dig up & divide you perennials the plants, the better. That way plants will have sufficient recovery time before the sale & will not be stunted or wilted.
- Plants should be in pots or flats & labeled with the plant's name & 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 16-18 (Tues.-Thurs.).
- Pots are available from Stephan, who can also help with the digging if you need it.

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

TAG SALE – Chairs Carol

Nahigian & Nancy Pike

nancy.pike20@gmail.com

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

- We will collect items after April 30th. They will be stored in Carol's garage, 3 Monadnock Rd., off Pleasant St., Arlington.
- We ask that you place all your donations in **boxes**, which are much easier for us to store & transport.
- Please **do not** just “stop & drop” but make an appointment with Carol (781-648-6219) or Nancy (781-646-4121), so that a designated AGC member can be there.
- Items must be clean & of good material, *i.e.*, “consignment quality.”
- All books should be relevant to gardening, sustainability &/or the environment.
- We will also be accepting & selling jewelry, small antiques & special household items.

BAKE SALE – Chair Ginger

Tower towerg@verizon.net

- Package muffins & scones as singles; cookies, brownies, bars, etc., in quantities up to of 6
- All items should be wrapped in clear packaging. Presentation increases sales
- Label items & note if they contain nuts and **what kind** of nuts
- Gluten-free items are welcome
- Drop off baked goods at the JR House by 8:15 am on the morning of the Plant Sale
- Bake Sale Committee will price all items

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

THERE WILL ALSO BE ... Herbs & Annuals



Old Schwamb Mill Gallery

Exhibit "Into the Woods: From Trees to Frames"

This special exhibit traces the steps involved in making a frame beginning with identifying individual tree species (most native to New England) to learning how our artisan woodturner David W. Graf uses the original Schwamb Mill machinery to create truly unique made-to-order oval and circular frames. It provides a fascinating look at the operations needed to produce our beautiful frames. There is a lot of information about regional tree species and Arlington's tree history. Arlington Tree Warden (and recent speaker) Tim Lecuire provided a copy of the Tree Inventory map and other materials as well.

Members' Corner

Ginger Tower, Membership Chair

It must be Spring because we just had another new member join.

Annie Grear
103 Grafton Street, Arlington, MA 02474

Cell: 781.454.5825 **Email:** anniegrear@gmail.com

Annie is interested in: Town Beautification, JRH Kitchen Garden, Environmental Programs, and the Plant Sale.

Please add Annie to all of your email lists.

<p>Please note: The AGC Board voted to increase the club's due to \$50 per year, effective June 1st, 2022.</p>
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