



Needham Garden Club Newsletter

March/April 2022

Visit us online at

www.needhamgardenclub.com

Upcoming Events

March 8- Tri-Club Meeting, 7:15pm

April 27- Shade Plant Gardening, 9:30am

LETTER FROM THE TRI-PRESIDENTS

2021 has come and gone. It tested us but we met the challenge with enthusiasm. January has given us some bitter cold and didn't leave without dropping a pile of snow. Now Punxsutawney Phil tells us spring is on the way.

Unfortunately, the library wasn't able to offer the Community Room for public meetings in February. This meant that Dan Jaffe Wilder needed to present his program called, *Native Plants of New England* on ZOOM. Nevertheless it was a most informative and interesting program.

The Tri-Club meeting in March is always a popular event. Details on this are below.

April's program, *Shade Plant Gardening*, will be presented by Chuck Doughty on April 26 at the library, hopefully. He will show us how to use native plants to provide all-season interest in our yards.

By April, spring will be in full swing. We wish everyone a happy and safe late winter.

Jane Lischewski, Martha Schleck and Debbie Wentworth, Tri-Presidents



Recently we have lost two members.

Sally Burns, most recently a member of the Membership Committee. She would often be seen sitting with Eileen Mecagni at the desk at our meetings in the library.

Fran Phillips, passed on February 12th. She was a long-time Needham resident before moving to Florida with her husband, Arthur. She was a member of the Needham Garden Club and served as President from 1988-1990.

Please keep these ladies and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Jane, Martha and Debbie

COMMITTEE NEWS

Program Committee

Beth Shalom Garden Club will present New Leaf flores at the annual, in person Tri-Club meeting along with Needham Garden Club and Kalmia Garden Club on Tuesday, March 8 at 7:15 pm. New Leaf flores is a boutique flower shop in Jamaica Plain that provides floral arrangements for personal and large scale events. Jeb Taylor and Daniel Lopez-Ospina will delight us with their creative floral designs. Many of us have seen their floral displays at the MFA Art in Bloom and we look forward to seeing their creative arrangements. Check out their website at newleafjp.com. Members only are invited, but new members are always welcome. Please contact gardenclub@tbsneedham.org for questions or to join the club.



The April 26th program will feature Chuck Doughty, Program Director of Landscape Grounds and Arboretum at Northeastern University and co-owner of Cochato Native Plants Nursery in Holbrook, MA. Chuck will speak to us on shade plant gardening and how to design and enhance our gardens. Chuck's nursery is well worth a field trip. His collection of hostas is unsurpassed.

Let's hope we can have an in-person meeting by then.

Pat Hession and Bonnie Waters, Co-Chairs

Horticulture Committee



Snippets of spring have popped up briefly to tease us in recent weeks, and dreams of the garden are leading us onward...

In the coming weeks, the Horticulture Committee will be gearing up for the **Spring Plant Sale on Saturday May 21**, located again at the Congregational Church lawn on Great Plain Avenue.

Given the success of last year's sale, we're planning for a container-building workshop; more

information to come by email as the details of this April activity come together. To get your creative juices flowing before the garden is ready for you, perhaps you'd rather travel virtually to the UK. Years of the BBC show, *Gardeners' World*, are archived on YouTube (and on Amazon Prime, for subscribers). Settle in to watch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaEOMPFy8T4>

Planning to share your garden's beauty at the Spring Plant Sale by dividing your perennials this April? (Last year most members did so, though others found it simpler to make a financial contribution in lieu of "trowel-time.") Enjoy some detailed advice on dividing perennials from *Fine Gardening* magazine by following this link:

<https://www.finegardening.com/project-guides/gardening-basics/10-tips-on-dividing-perennial-plants>



Tip number 10 may be most helpful to you, since it supports gardeners with video guidance on the various types of root systems, and what techniques are best for each.

Trish Cruickshank and Terry Luskin, Co-Chairs

Community Outreach Committee

Our club, like many garden clubs, sponsors several activities to make our community a better place to live. All members are encouraged to participate in these activities which are listed below. Sign-ups for each event will be sent via all-club emails at the appropriate times.

LIBRARY SERVICE- During the gloomy days of January and February our club members have provided a welcoming display of flowers or plants in the reception area of the library. They were often accompanied by a card to educate the public about the flowers or plants. Thank you to all who have participated these past two months. Also thank you to members that have already volunteered for March and some of April. Volunteers for later weeks would be most appreciated.

LIBRARY URNS- In late March or early April we will be changing from winter greens to spring flowers. Volunteers will be needed to plan, plant and water the urns. This is, of course, a weather-related event. Specific dates will be posted online



Cathie Cummings and Lynne Jones, Co-Chairs

Ways and Means Committee News



Diana, Nancy and I have been busy bees during the off-season of the Wreath Sale. In early January, we resupplied our special decoration items by going to Jacobsons and taking advantage of their after Christmas sale. (See photo.) And, we scored big time!

In addition to our purchases, Nancy Yablonski has been making these fantastic, playful gnomes and other decorations these past few months! Club members' **"To Dos"** over the next coming months should include nice containers to use for the live arrangements, as we have a very small supply. Free is best, so that we can maximize profits. And, please hold onto them until the sale. So when you're out and about during the summer months, keep an eagle eye out for pretty containers and clever design ideas for the fall. Thank you.

We also need the signage back, so please arrange to drop them off at Nancy Yablonski's home on 82 Old Farm Road (you can leave them by the front door.) Thank you and think Spring!!!



Diana Conroy, Fabienne Madsen and Nancy Yablonski, Tri-Chairs

Social Media Committee News

Visit our Club Website <http://www.needhamgardenclub.org/> and Facebook page often to stay abreast of Club news.

Nancy Agler, Lyn Jekowsky, and Gail Davis, Social Media, Website and Publicity Tri-Chairs

Newsletter Committee

We thank everyone who contributed to this and all of our newsletters this year. It's one of the many ways that The Garden Club has been able to keep in touch.

May/June newsletter deadline is April 10, 2022.

Amy Cicala and Carol Alper, Co-Chairs



Early Signs of Spring!

