

The Perennial



2015-2016

Issue 2: October

Website:

ArlingtonGarden.org

The frost has definitely ended the growing season. Now we need to put our gardens to bed. You may want to consider leaving some seed heads on your plants both for winter interest and to feed the birds. After this year's drought, it will remain important to continue watering until the ground freezes, especially any recently planted trees, shrubs or perennials.

Upcoming Programs:

Evening Meeting – October 29

Senior Center (third floor art room) 7:00pm

The Essentials of Landscape Design – Sally Naish, Certified Landscape Designer and AGC Board Member. Sally will help us discover the essential elements of landscape design that can be applied to any residential setting, from a large site to a single bed as well as the selection of plants and the creation of a planting plan.



Daytime Meeting – October 14

St. John's Episcopal Church – 10:30

Books in Bloom Displays – Garden Club Members. Learn how members choose the books that inspire them and then how they translate their ideas into their floral selections and designs.



Books in Bloom Friday, November 6th 7:00-9:00 pm

This important fund-raiser needs volunteers for the following tasks:

*Bakers for small fancy desserts (no brownies please). Please contact Carol Nahigian 781 648-6219

*Members to buy & sell tickets and help publicize the event

*Members to help set out food, tend tables, help with clean-up

*Loans of tiered and pedestal plates for staging desserts



Be sure to buy your tickets as soon as possible for this important and fun event. Tickets can be purchased from Patsy Kraemer or at the Robbins Library Circulation Desk. This event has sold out in the past.

Civic Development: Jane Foley, Chair

This past weekend, Joanne Morel, Ellen Poretta, Nancie Richardson and Ruth Yannetti prepared the planters in the Heights for planting in the spring. Ellen won the “Strength and Determination Award” for her work in digging out two HUGE beach plum roots!



Web Master Still Needed

After several years of managing our website, Juliette Avots is retiring. She has left the site in great shape to start the year but we need a volunteer to update the site as needed. One suggestion has been to look within our families and friends for a responsible tech-savvy teen who could earn community service points for maintaining the site.

Garden Tour – Emily Crowley



A guided walking tour (about 90 minutes) at Mount Auburn Cemetery is being planned for 10:00 A.M. October 29th. Car pooling will be available from St. Camillus parking lot at 9:15 A.M. The fee for the tour is \$10. There is a possibility that the fee could change slightly (up or down) depending on how many attend. To confirm a reservation or for more details

please contact Emily Forshay-Crowley by email realtoremilycrowley@rcn.com or phone [781 718 5060](tel:7817185060) by October 23rd. Mount Auburn Cemetery is an historical landmark, renowned for its landscape and structures. It should be very enjoyable, educational and a great time to be outdoors!

Invasives Corner: Mary Stack, Environmental Chair

Although Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) smells wonderful on warm summer evenings, it is really a menacing invasive plant. It can grow from seeds and rhizomes, and it thrives in a variety of habitats. Because it's leaves are semi-evergreen, it gets a jumpstart on its competitors and can overgrow and replace many native plants especially near forested areas.



It is hard to eradicate and must be dug out or sprayed repeatedly. There's also the chance of reintroduction by birds dropping the seeds.

One alternative native plant is Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*). It turns bright red in the fall and provides nutritious berries for birds. Coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) is another native vine. It attracts humming birds and other pollinators, and is a host for Spring Azure butterfly larva.



Virginia Creeper



Coral Honeysuckle

Robbins Library Donation

The club has donated \$500.00 to the Robbins Library to purchase gardening books to update their collection.

Garden Therapy: Ginger Tower and Irene MacKinnon, Co-Chairs

Garden Therapy had a very successful first meeting at the Park Avenue Health Center on Monday, October 5th. Twenty residents were delighted to see their pumpkins come to life when they applied the eyes, nose and mouth to the faces. Some residents even had a nice little conversation with their pumpkins. They also enjoyed delicious cupcakes with lots of orange frosting with a pumpkin candy—who wouldn't? As always, the meeting ended with a resounding song fest.

The next Garden Therapy meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd.

Members' Corner

The club extends our sympathy to Peg Capodanno on the passing of her husband.

We welcome the following new and returning members. Please add their information to the back of your yearbook.

Lolly Bennett 61 Norfolk St. Arlington, MA 02476 781 646-7010
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Garden Club Aprons Available

These attractive green aprons with the club's logo are available for \$15.00 from Emily Snyder (617 750-0106). Consider wearing one of these when you volunteer at Books in Bloom!

Garden Club Speakers at the Jason Russell House

The Arlington Historical Society recently had a "Thank You" meeting for their docents. Carol Nahigian and Patsy Kraemer did a presentation on our herb garden at the Jason Russell House, focusing on the plans for the garden next spring and the history of herbs and their uses.

December Meeting: "Pound Auction"

We need several (12-16) members to provide a pound of __?__ for our Pound Auction. You can wrap up a pound of anything from the practical to the utterly impractical, from serious to silly. Add a clever but cryptic tag to the package and let the bidding begin! Members will be able to bid on the items, sight unseen. This should be a lot of fun.

The luncheon will be catered. This year the Hospitality Committee will be asking you to RSVP so that they are able to order the appropriate amount of food.

