



ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The Perennial

April 2025

Issue 6

ArlingtonGarden.org

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President's Message



Greetings My Fellow Gardeners,

The Arts in Bloom

- Congratulations to all of you!
- Lots of adult beverages bought from the evening's friendly bartender duo
- Pleasant jazz circled the library

And so many very favorable comments about the gorgeous arrangements: the stars of the evening!

Now moving on to Plant Sale planning...

Saturday May 10th, 9 am-12 noon

- Featuring new MARKETPLACE layout under the large canopy
- Needed: plants, garden-related Tag Sale items, tasty baked goods
- And, of course, YOU
- More specifics from Plant Sale Co-Chairs Jan Ford & Karen MacKinnon appear in this issue

Emily, your President



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

The Master Flower Show Judge: My Creative Journey

Kathy Leva, past Arlington Garden Club president

A former Arlington resident and AGC president, Kathy served as a Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts Board member as well as a master flower show judge throughout New England. Kathy will create several floral arrangements to be auctioned off.

The meeting begins at 10:30 am at St. John's Church, corner of Pleasant St. and Lombard Rd., Arlington.

Reminder: Lunch along with coffee, tea and desserts will be provided by the Hospitality Committee.



Upcoming May Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

Groundcovers

Arlington Garden Club, Kathie Skinner

Kathie is a lifetime master gardener, past education coordinator and past master gardener training coordinator for the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association. A retired educator with over 40 years teaching and administering, Kathie currently does education policy research and writing for state and national education organizations. Kathie will define “groundcover”, which is a broader category than most realize. The focus is on advantages of using plants to conserve water, keep weeds at bay, and create plant communities with common growing conditions.



ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB • ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025 9 - 12 NOON, RAIN OR SHINE

AGC Spring Plant Sale

This year we will move away from a “White Elephant” tag sale to one focusing on garden items. In addition to plants and baked goods, we’re looking for the following items in good and usable condition:

- Large garden tools (rakes, hoes, spades, etc.)
- Small garden tools (trowels, weeder, cultivators)
- Decorative indoor and outdoor pots
- China with a floral theme
- Linens with a floral theme
- Art with a floral / garden theme
- Clay pots
- Tomato cages
- Fencing for gardens
- Gardening books

Carol Nahigian has graciously agreed to use her garage again to collect donations on April 28, May 1, May 6 and May 8 from 10:00 to 12:00 and 2:00 to 4:00. If you can help sorting and pricing during these times, please let Carol know.



Do you remember the program where we made small bud vase arrangements? With our sale on Mother's Day weekend, we would like to make some simple arrangements using roses and bud vases for purchase. If you have any small bud vases, we would appreciate your donations to the Club. You can bring them to our next meeting or drop them off at Carol's. Thanks!

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

Garden Outreach

Jackie Keshian and Carol Nahigian, co-chairs

On March 27, Charleen Donahue, Mary Hatvany, Jackie Keshian, Carol Nahigian, Barbara Neenan, and Robin Watkins met with enthusiastic BrightView residents to create spring flower arrangements using pussy willow branches, variegated carnations in pink and purple, white baby's breath, pink alstroemeria, fragrant lavender, and thistle. After arranging the flowers, the residents decorated their containers with ribbon, stickers, and/or colorful eggs. Everybody enjoyed chatting, and at the end of the hour, the residents chose to take their arrangements to brighten their rooms, to give to a friend, or to place in the common areas for all to enjoy.



Nominating Committee

Agnes Parisse, chair



The slate of nominees for next year's Board will be presented at the April 16th meeting after calling for nominations from the floor. If you would like to be nominated or want to nominate someone else, please contact Agnes Parisse at agnespl41@gmail.com before the meeting.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

Environmental Committee

Lolly Bennett, chair

What matters to you about nature in Arlington? The town is working with Tufts University on a Global Initiative to harmonize the needs of nature and people. Some of you may already be tuned into this. Is Arlington listening to Nature's Voice? Our involvement in nature is timeless and tremendous with too many facets to detail here.

Just to mention a few big picture items without details include: A Municipal Reforestation Bill, Massachusetts Community Trees Coalition, Tufts Pollinator Initiative "Wild Ones", Native Garden Designs, and Garden 250 just to name a few!



I recently joined a walk along the bike path in Arlington from The Winslow Towers to Mill Street led by David Morgan, director of planning and community development as well as environmental planner/conservation agent for the Town of Arlington. The future planning for this stretch of walk/bikeway is to plant native, climate adaptive species that support pollinators, and year round interest at low maintenance. It was well attended and most interesting. I am so thrilled this is happening. **THINK NATIVE!**

Green Space Survey

An online survey is available to all Arlington residents (18+) to express their relationship with greenspaces and hopes for the future of nature in Arlington. More information and a link to the survey is [here](#).

Trees Available



The Arlington Tree Committee's 2025 COMMUNITY CANOPY program has launched! Small, medium, and large native tree species are available for purchase (for planting on private property). \$72 includes the tree and delivery.

Delivery is expected on April 25th, Arbor Day.

For info and to order, visit <https://www.arlingontrees.org/> **learn-more**

MORE EVENTS OF INTEREST

APRIL 22 - MAY 10

Arlington EcoWeek

Presented by Sustainable Arlington

Arlington EcoWeek is a time of learning, reflection, and action. Community and student groups and Town Departments offer presentations, tours, and interactive events to inspire connection to and celebration of our natural world. See Sustainable Arlington for a list of organized litter cleanups, dates and times for Arlington Reuse and Recycling Center, Fix-It clinic and Swap Shed, and an invasive plant removal event. [More information here.](#)



SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 10 AM - 2 PM

(RAIN DATE SATURDAY, MAY 3)

Town Garden Spring Cleanup

Presented by Friends of the Robbins Town Gardens

Located between the Robbins Library and Town Hall, the Town Garden is a sanctuary of flowery shrubs and trees. People of all ages are welcome. They have tools, but gardening gloves are recommended. If you bring your own rake and/or trowel, it's a good idea to mark them with your name or an identifying marker.

Please email FRTG2018@gmail.com to let them know that you're planning to come and to ask any questions.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 9 AM - 1 PM, ZOOM

Join the Movement: 125th Anniversary Symposium

Presented by Native Plant Trust

Build community with other new and experienced gardeners, and join the movement to increase the beauty and resiliency of New England and the planet, one native plant at a time.

Do you want to learn more about why native plants matter, and gain practical tips for incorporating them into your life? Join the Movement is for first- and long-time gardeners, lovers of the natural world, environmental advocates, and curious learners who want to explore both why and how to work with native plants. Whatever the size of your space or your experience with gardening, our panelists will offer their expert perspectives on how to select plants, work with the space you have, and maintain your plantings across all four seasons.

Speakers are Uli Lorimer, Edwina von Gal, Trevor Smith and Dan Jaffe Wilder. \$125. [Register here](#)

MORE EVENTS OF INTEREST



**SATURDAY, MAY 3 AND SUNDAY, MAY 4
AND SATURDAY, MAY 10**

9:30-4 PM

Spring Herb Sale

Lyman Estate Greenhouses, 85 Lyman Street, Waltham

Thousands of culinary, medicinal, and ornamental herbs, plus scented geraniums, tomato and vegetable seedlings, pottery, and garden gifts, and expert advice from greenhouse staff. [More info here](#)

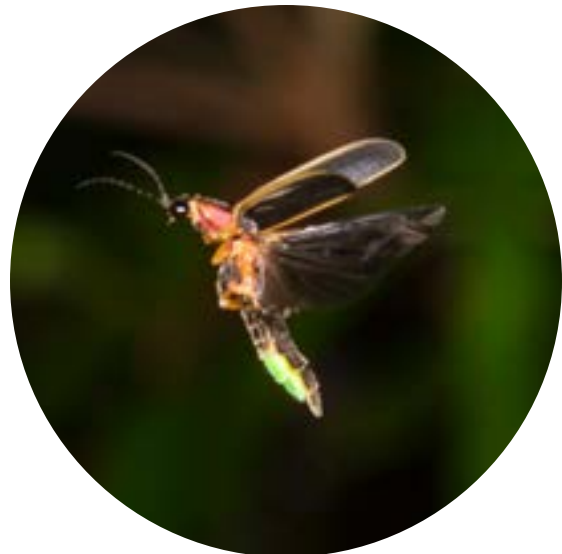
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 7:00 PM

The Wondrous World of Fireflies

Presented by Sara Lewis, a biologist and professor emerita at Tufts University,

in conjunction with Grow Native Massachusetts and the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, Boylston

Fireflies are surely among our greatest ambassadors for Earth's natural magic. For centuries their ethereal beauty has sparked wonder and inspired poets, artists, and children of all ages. Yet they hold so many mysteries! Sara Lewis is a biologist who has studied fireflies for the past 30 years, traveling worldwide in her research and advocacy work. She is the author of *Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies*. In person at NEBG or online via Zoom, free [Register here](#)



New Member

We welcome the following new member to the Arlington Garden Club.

Beatrice Manz

250th Anniversary Daffodils

Daffodils are everywhere thanks to the organizing and fundraising efforts of Beth Locke, director of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. Last fall, the Chamber purchased 10,000 bulbs in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of April 19, 1775. Six hundred of them were donated to the Jason Russell House and a large crew of AGC and Arlington Historical Society members planted them along the stonewall. They're starting to bloom and they're beautiful!



From the AGC Archives

Agnes Parise, recording secretary, found an interesting tidbit in old meeting notes. Years ago, the AGC held a tea, once a year, to honor past presidents of the Club. Lo and behold, Julie MacDaniel found this photo from the 1975 tea. Even past presidents from neighboring garden clubs were invited.



Past presidents of the Arlington Garden Club, honored at the 1975 tea, are, seated, from the left, Mrs. Arthur H. Pulsford, Mrs. Arthur A. Kasabian, Mrs. John J. Cox, Mrs. Warren W. Pearce; standing, Mrs. Wesley A. McSorley Jr., Mrs. Ehrich E.M. Schreiter, Mrs. Frank S. Morell, Mrs. Eli Reingold, and Mrs. Robert A. Adams