

Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne

As the Garden grows, so shall the Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

February 2019

January Meeting



Karen Cronburg

Karen Cronburg gave a wonderful talk on the *Birds on Cape Cod*. She shared her fun and passionate journey into learning about the birds on the Cape. Members participated in sharing the names of birds that they have seen on the Cape. The list was extensive and included types such as: swans, the Hooded Madagascar duck, the Northern Hillier, and the King Elder.

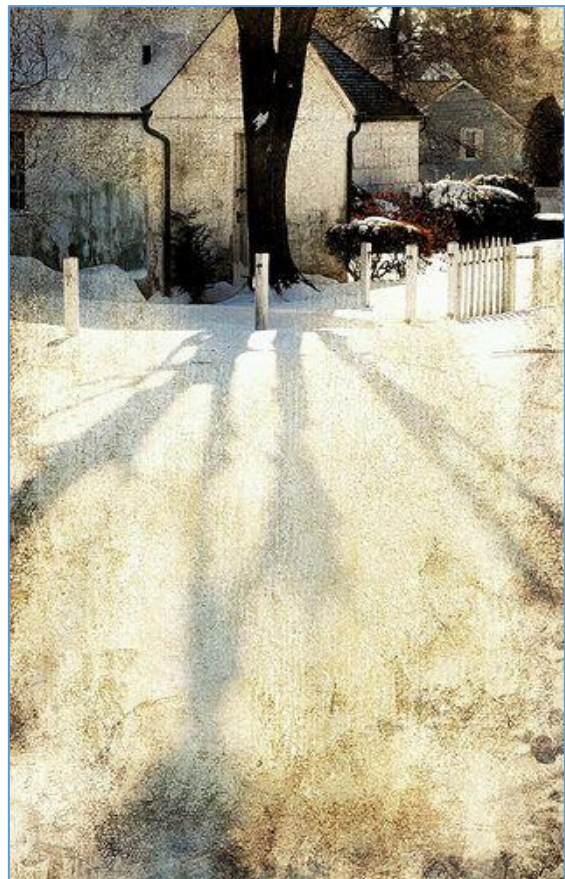
We learned about Audubon Duck Walks, an early morning Owl Prowl and a heated bird bath.

Karen also shared a lot of information about resources for learning about birds. She brought some of her favorite books; and also introduced websites, radio shows and even a bird identification application called Merlin.



I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape – the loneliness of it; the dead feeling of winter. Something waits beneath it, the whole story doesn't show.

- Andrew Wyeth



Snowfall by Andrew Wyeth

January Meeting



The Panel: Jan Rogers, Karen Cronburg, Sylvia Wahl, Cheryl Keown, Julie Saunders

Jan Rogers moderated a delightful panel discussion about gardening. She began by sharing one of her favorite books, "The Roots of My Obsession". And of course, there you have it! All gardeners are a little bit obsessed by digging in the dirt and participating in the transformation of the land through the seasons.

Each member of the panel responded to a few questions from Jan and the audience was invited to join in. Here is a little snapshot of the discussion.

To the Panel: *What is your niche of knowledge?*

- Julie: "Perennials and paying attention to what blooms when".
- Cheryl: "None of us are experts; but we all know a little bit about something".
- Sylvia: "Trees are where the garden begins for me; and learning how to do something different".
- Karen: "Annuals and growing them from seeds, especially Zinnias."

From the Panel and the audience answers to: *Do you have a magic solution for ...?*

- To avoid Poison Ivy blisters, scrub after gardening (and of course after using protective gear) with Tecnu Poison Ivy soap.
- To get rid of sugar ants, mix ½ cup peanut butter, ½ cup honey and 1 teaspoon of borax. Spread mixture on pieces of cardboard and tape to deck or floor. Ants will eat it, take it back to their nest and die. In about a week, they are all gone.
- To keep deer away from Hotsa, grate Irish spring soap around the plants.
- To fertilize acid loving plants, spread used coffee grounds around the drip line of the plants.

From the Panel and the audience answers to: *Winter is a good time to ...?*

- Get organized for Spring.
- Start herbs with an Aerogarden.
- Spend time with indoor plants.
- Read gardening magazines and books.
- Go to Winter Flower Shows, such as: Flora in Bloom at the Worcester Museum, Art in Bloom at MFA and the Spring Flower Show in Providence, RI.

Memories from the Christmas Potluck



Then and Now



During his presidency, when he had little time to garden, Thomas Jefferson kept an account showing the earliest and latest appearance of each vegetable on the Washington market. He noted thirty-seven varieties of garden produce. New varieties of beans and peas – including black-eyed peas - pumpkins and squash, sweet potatoes and yams, plus all the culinary plants that grew in England, gave early Americans a greater variety of vegetables than any other people had at that time.

Source: The Williamsburg Cookbook

February is a great time to start seeds indoors for spring planting. Wouldn't Jefferson have been amazed at the hundreds of choices that we have today!



Helen Farrington welcomed new member Fran Minichiello to the Club.

Garden Therapy



Diane Svensen, Judy Loomis, Barbara Daniels, Denise Walsh, Barbara Cavanaugh, Paula O'Neil & Jody Bolton

The Committee brought a little holiday cheer to residents at Bourne Manor. The ladies alternate monthly visits with Cape Cod Nursing Home and Bourne Manor. Working with the residents, they help them arrange a vase of flowers for their rooms. The flowers bring a tender touch to the residents' lives.

Many Thanks to the Committee for this noble service! And a special "Thank you" to Diane Svensen for her years of service as a Committee Chair.

- Paula O'Neil, Committee Chair



Bourne Manor

Looking Ahead

February Calendar	
12	3:00 PM Garden Therapy Cape Cod Senior Residences
13	6:30 PM Social 6:45 PM JOINT Evening Meeting Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✚ Artistic Design: Cindy Williams will present a Valentine themed design✚ Horticulture: “Before We Spring Into Action” by Ellen Hammond✚ Program: “The History of BCT” by Grace Rowe, a Trustee of the Bourne Conservative Trust (BCT). Learn where to find all the BCT Trails and how you can help preserve them. Men will also enjoy this program.
	Hospitality: Chair: Irene Johnson Committee: Ellen Hammond, Julie Saunders, Sylvia Wahl & Marcia Wilmot Décor Theme: Pain the Town Red
20	10:00 AM Garden Therapy Cape Cod Nursing Home



Happy Valentine's Day!

A Little History

The red rose was the favorite flower of Venus, the Goddess of Love.



Message from the President

Recently I was on vacation in Palm Beach, Florida. One of the things I noticed the most was all the color. The sky, water, palm trees, and especially the flowers were all so bright. I went to a huge farmers market that had the most beautiful bromeliad plants and orchids of all shapes, sizes and vibrant colors. At an Italian grocery store I saw this beautiful bouquet of tropical flowers with miniature bananas. Here it is for you to enjoy!



- *Laura Bergeron*

Design of a Functional Tray for One



Gloria Gammons demonstrated the design of a Valentine's Day Tray. She discussed design principles for Flower Shows, including balance, proportion and style. It was a lovely tray!

Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne is a member of the Southeastern District of Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, New England Region Garden and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Newsletter Editor Pat Nemeth (pat.nemeth@hotmail.com)
Visit The Aptucxet Garden Club Website www.aprucxetgardenclub.com