

Aptucket Garden Club of Bourne

As the Garden grows, so shall the Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

May 2020

Reminder to



Its time to elect our Board for 2020-22.

Here is the slate of officers that is proposed for the next two year term. We are so pleased to have such a great caliber of leaders willing to serve the club.

Board Slate for 2020-22:

- * **President: Sally Baer**
- * **1st VP: Susan Dmochowski**
- * **2nd VP: Jan Rogers**
- * **3rd VP: Nancy Selchan**
- * **Corresponding Secretary: Kathy Sargent-O'Neill**
- * **Recording Secretary: Harriet Place**
- * **Treasurer: Laverne Newman**

If you have not voted already, please do so by May 13th.

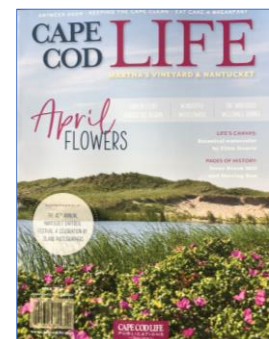
Please send your "YES" or "NO" for the entire Slate to Joan O'Brien at joanobrien@comcast.net Our By-Laws require a majority of the members to elect our officers. **Your Vote counts!**

Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing, getting dirty without feeling guilty,



and taking time to soak up a little peace and serenity. - Lindley Karstens

Wow!



Check out the latest copy of Cape Cod Life and get ready for a thrill. Karen Cronburg's wildflower garden is the featured story! It has wonderful pictures of her garden and Karen with her husband Terry.

What a beautiful place of peace they have created! It is so great to see their garden honored this way. Three Cheers to Karen and Terry!



HOME GROWN YARD FOODS

By Laurie York

If you are avoiding grocery stores, and if you do not spray your yard, here are a few yard “growceries” to pick.

VIOLETS: Pick the leaves, remove stems, cook like spinach.

HOSTAS: In spring when new shoots look like asparagus spears, cut some spears out of the emerging plant, clear of roots. Steam them or sauté them as you would asparagus. (These are the popular Japanese food plant called “urui”.)

DANDELION Leaves: [Loaded with GOOD for you.] Pick the youngest green leaves and cut off the stem root ends. Blanch a minute in boiling water then cold water. Cut up the greens and braise in oil with spring onions or chopped bacon. **Yellow Flowers:** Pull the petals off the stems and sprinkle into muffins and cakes.

GARLIC: Where I lived in Virginia, edible wild garlic grew plentifully in the lawns. In spring when the grass was being mowed, the whole neighborhood smelled like a tossed salad. The same garlic grows around the Cape. Wild garlic looks more like chives than domesticated garlic. Identify wild garlic by its smell.



BE CAREFUL TO AVOID “STAR OF BETHLEHEM” - It is poisonous. It looks like chives; but does not smell of onion or chives. (There are some growing in the lawn at Briggs-McDermott House.)

Nasturtium Glory



Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum, Boston



Green House, Hingham

Do people really grow nasturtiums for 9 months in a hot house, for 3 weeks of glory in Spring? You bet!

Welcome to the annual celebration of Spring at the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum. For 100 years, the gardeners at this wonderful museum begin in June to grow this humble plant by seed. Over the months they train the vines to grown on trellises. Then each 30-pound pot is carried up three stories of stairs by three men carefully holding the 20-foot-long vines. The pots are then placed on balconies and the vines are arranged into a majestic display of orange blossoms.

What a labor of love! This tradition celebrates Ms. Gardener’s birthday. You can enjoy a virtual reality tour at

www.gardenermuseum.org/experience/nasturtium-timeline

Thanks to Cindy Williams for sharing this link.



AGC Members “Work Out”

Just because times are tough and we are under a quarantine, it doesn't mean that good work cannot be done. Here are two stories of projects that our members are working on.



Jayne Urso is making masks for the Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. They will be used on the outside of the N-95 masks, so the scarce masks will last longer.



Pat Nemeth, Marilyn Crane, and Pat's dog Fergus, are cleaning up the Kitchen Garden at the Briggs-McDermott house.

We would love to know what you are working on. Please send your stories to pat.nemeth@hotmail.com

Plant & Bake Sale – June 20th



Due to Covid-19, the May Plant Sale has been cancelled. The Plant Sale is now planned to be part of the Strawberry Festival, at the Aptuxet Trading Post on June 20th.

This is a wonderful way to celebrate summer and (fingers crossed) the end of being “sheltered in place”. All members are invited to provide plants and baked goods for our Plant and Bake Sale. Plants and bake goods should be delivered the morning of the sale, at 9:00 AM.



This is a big fund raiser for the Club. Please e-mail Alda at aldabarron@gmail.com and let her know what you can bring. Everyone's support is greatly appreciated!

Alda Barron & Jayne Urso
Co-Chairs of Ways & Means



Membership Dues are due by June 1

Please mail in your dues this month. A transmittal form is attached as the last page of this Newsletter. Make your check payable to **AGC** and mail to:





**Aptuxet Garden Club of Bourne
PO Box 844, Pocasset, MA 02559**

Looking Ahead

May & June Calendar	
May	All meetings and activities are cancelled for the month.
June 10 	Installation Dinner Pocasset Country Club We are still hoping to have our installation dinner on June 10 th . These plans are dependent on the status of our war with Covid-19. Please save the date and cross your fingers. More news will follow.
20	Plant Sale at the Strawberry Fair Aptuxet Trading Post More news will follow.





Editor's Correction

Last month I featured a blooming succulent from Dawn Labenski. I knew the plant as a "Hen and Chicken". I looked it up on the internet and found out its Latin name was *Sempervivum*. Well that was wrong. It turns out there are two succulents called "Hen and Chicken". And Dawn's plant was an *Echeveria*. Since mistakes are opportunities for learning; here is what I learned with further research.

Hen and Chicken – <i>Echeveria</i>	Hen and Chicken - <i>Sempervivum</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native to Central America, likes warm semi-desert areas • Plump rosette leaves • Baby chickens grow around the base • Bell shaped flowers rise on slender stalks • Blooms annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native to Europe, likes cold mountain areas • Rosette leaves with tiny teeth on their edges • Baby chickens grow around the base • Daisy shaped flowers rise from a thick stalk, and after blooming the mother Hen dies
 	 

Interesting Plant & Fabric Facts

Plant-based fabrics are gaining popularity. With increasing awareness about animal cruelty in the production of leather goods, and the environmental concerns associated synthetic fibers, we are turning to some of the oldest and most sustainable plants for our fabrics.

 <p>Cotton</p>	<p>Cotton is one of the most popular fabrics used for clothing. It's known for being durable, light and breathable.</p>
<p>Linen is made from the fibers of the flax plant and is more of a luxury fabric. It is stronger than cotton and cooler and lighter.</p>	 <p>Flax</p>
 <p>Cannabis Sativa</p>	<p>Hemp is made from the stems of the Cannabis Sativa plant. Until recently, hemp fabric was too rough to wear. New processing methods have made it much more wearable.</p>
<p>Rayon is made from bamboo. The fabric is extremely soft, hypoallergenic, and breathable. It also absorbs up to 60% more water than cotton.</p>	 <p>Bamboo</p>



Message from the President

This is my last President’s message to you; it is my “Swan Song”. Years ago, I took a picture of a pair of swans in pond in Sagamore Beach. I searched in vain to attach that photo to this column. No luck. But as I searched, I came across so many pictures of life before Covid-19. There were pictures of our meetings, flower shows, conferences, and friends.

The world has changed a lot in the last month. We have missed meetings and postponed events. I still hope we can have our installation dinner and plant sale in June. But if not, we will when we can!

Our club is resilient. We are now voting on our new Board electronically and sending out our membership dues application with this Newsletter. All the things we did in person, we are still doing. I am so proud of every contribution that each of you have made to the Club. You made my job easy!

Dear friends, it has been my pleasure to have been your President. Just remember, *Life goes on and Life will get better!*

- Laura Bergeron

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.

Aptucket Garden Club of Bourne



Membership Dues 2020-21

Submit by June 1, 2020

From: _____

Print your Name

Check Membership Dues: \$35 for Active Members \$50 for Associate Members

Additional Voluntary Club Donation: _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

Make check out to AGC, attach this form, and mail to:

Aptucket Garden Club of Bourne

PO Box 844

Pocasset, MA 02559

Photo Permission

I grant AGC permission to use my photograph (with or without my name) for illustration and other publicity purposes.

Agreed: _____

Sign and Date

If your address, e-mail and phone remain the same as currently listed in the Yearbook, skip the rest of this form. Otherwise please provide any new information.

My new information is shown below. Please print.

New address: _____

New phone: _____ New e-mail: _____

If you do not plan to renew your membership, please e-mail Laverne Newman:

lnewman26@comcast.net