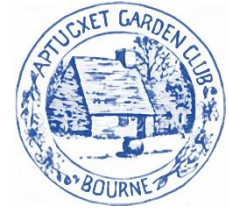


Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne



"Go Green - Plant Bourne"

Monthly Newsletter November 2025



"Life is like a garden; nurture each blessing and let them bloom"

Anonymous

Presidents Day Luncheon – October 8, 2025 – Joint Day Meeting



Current President, Jan Rogers with Past Presidents : Cynthia Smith, Joan O'Brien, Bobbie Dwyer, Nancy Selchan, Judy Sheehy, Carolee Packard, Laura Bergeron and Sally Baer who were honored at the Presidents Day Luncheon. Thank you all for your outstanding contributions and leadership to the Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne Club.

Presidents Presentation: Drying/Preserving Flowers and Floral Design with Preserved Materials by Anna Holmes



Drying flowers for designing. There are so many design options when using dried flowers. There are a number of ways to acquire beautiful, dried flowers and arrangement that can prolong the beauty of the flowers & foliage.

I'm going to share my experience of various methods and suggestions for designing with the material.

Common Methods to do at home:

1. Air Drying flowers: by hanging upside down, or wired directly onto a wreath frame (hydrangea are great), leaving on the plant or using chicken wire.
2. Flower pounding is a technique using a hammer to pound the pigment from the plant onto fabric or a very porous paper.
3. Pressed Flowers can be used for multiple designs, pictures, candles, resin, and/or cards. Design options are endless.
4. Microwave small delicate flowers works great also.
5. Using silica crystals is a very successful way to keep the shape & color.
6. Plaster of Paris can create a porcelain look to the design.





Isabel Melo and Cathy Glynn greeting members at the check-in table.



Beautiful Floral Bouquets created by members.



Members seated at the beginning of meeting.



Gorgeous Display of Delicious Luncheon options and desserts



Hospitality Team: Melissa Fox, Alda Barron, Jayne Urso, Laverne Newmann, Judy Sheehy and Betsy Woodley – Thank you!

Why are hostas such popular garden plants?



Most properties have a shade area and hostas thrive in shade

---Hostas are low-maintenance

---Hostas come in a huge variety of sizes, shapes, and colors, making them quite versatile in the garden.

--- Fun names....Cool as a Cucumber

What do hostas attract?

Hostas attract pollinators, like butterflies, bumblebees, and the occasional hummingbird with their flowers. However, their leaves are a favorite of deer and slugs. I use coffee grounds and eggshells to discourage slugs.

Do hostas spread quickly or slowly?

Most hostas grow slowly, taking 2-4 years to reach their full size; they usually do not spread.

Consider when planning:



Location, in fertile moist soil and, like all perennials, in groups of 3

Size; place the largest against a stone wall or in the center of a circular garden.

Giant size....Sum and Substance

Petite size....Blue Mouse Ears

Color, variety of leaf shape

Don't be afraid to highlight one special hosta, perhaps in a container

Companion plants: Ferns, brunnera, heuchera, pulmonaria, astilbe, bleeding heart, and perennial geraniums.

Final Thoughts: Hosta coloration can be affected by sun exposure: some blues and dark greens perform best in full or part shade, and a gold edge might fade to white if it gets too much sun '1

Consider a stone or natural mulch pathway

Consider putting hosta as a filler in your containers.

Looking Ahead - AGC Month Events

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 – Joint Meeting – 12:00 Bourne United Methodist Church
Program: Design Workshop with Flowers and Leaves – Yvonne Capella is an experienced floral designer, flower show judge, and engaging presenter.

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 – 10:30 am -Garden Therapy – Bourne Manor

HOLIDAY GREENS SALE WORKSHOPS

Sunday, November 30, 2025 – 12:30 pm -3:30 pm – Pocasset Community Building
Boxwood Tree Adornment Workshop. Come and help make our boxwood trees for the Holiday Green Sale

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 – 9:30 am-3:00 pm – Bourne United Methodist Church
Wreath Workshop Come and help make our wreaths for Holiday Green Sale – Pizza will be served.

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Bourne United Methodist Church
Centerpiece Workshop – Come and help make centerpieces for the Holiday Greens Sale. Appetizers will be served.

HOLIDAY GREENS & BAKE SALE

Friday, December 5, 2025 – Holiday Greens & Bake Sale – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm
at Briggs-McDermott Forge

Saturday, December 6, 2025 -Holiday Greens & Bake Sale – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
At Briggs- McDermott Forge

December Holiday Potluck

Monday, December 8, 2025 – Joint Meeting – 12:00- Bourne United Methodist Church
Holiday Potluck – Members are invited to our festive holiday luncheon. Bring a garden themed ornament and a dish to share.

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 – 10:30 am - Garden Therapy – Royal Cape Cod

TBD - Garden Therapy at Cape Cod Senior Residences

Clean up time in the gardens
Many hands make light work



Cathy Kert and Marilyn Crane
cleaning gardens and property at
Briggs-McDermott House
gardens/property



Marcia Willmott, Clare Stone, Judy Sheehy,
Sheila Murray and Dorothy Haney cleaning up
Aptucxet Trading Post Museum native
plant/herb garden



Alda Barron, Laverne Newman, Anna Holmes, and
Cathy Kert cleaning up the
Aptucxet Trading Post Museum Wildflower Garden area

Laurie York's Bench Dedication October 18, 2025, at Aptucxet Trading Post Museum

In honor of Laurie York's dedication to the Town of Bourne, Aptucxet Garden Club, Briggs-McDermott House, and Bourne Historical Society, the Aptucxet Garden Club purchased a garden bench to be placed beside one of the gardens that Laurie created at the Aptucxet Trading Post Museum and Gardens. Laurie has been a member of the Garden Club since 1965 and created many garden projects throughout Bourne and won the 2009 National Garden Clubs' "Member of Honor Award" for outstanding contributions in civic horticultural development. She is the author of "A Potpourri of Herb Gardening Workshops" which is a manual used by many gardeners for growing and cooking with herbs. It was a beautiful day to celebrate Laurie's accomplishments with her family, friends, and fellow garden club members.

Below pictures: Wildflower Garden with bench, a close-up photo of the bench plaque, a beautiful photograph of Laurie, and Laurie and her children sitting on the bench



Below photos: Jan Rogers, President of Aptucxet Garden Club, speaking at the bench dedication surrounded by garden club members. Mavis Robinson, President of the Bourne Historical Society, speaking about Laurie York. Laura Murphy and Alda Barron with Laurie after receiving her bouquets. Photo of Laurie York's Bench before the bow cutting ceremony.



Ode to the Unseen

As I till the earth, a humbled hand,
Amending soil of clay and sand,
A greater hand with skill and grace
Is secretly working in this place.

As I bury seeds, a gesture small,
I hear in silence Nature's all
And the hidden current deep below
Nurturing all things that grow.

A whispered knowledge, pure and true
Of what to reach for, what to do.

As my shovel scrapes the rocky ground,
With no visible tools around,
It paints the rose a blushing hue
And send the Sun to bless the dew!

The garden's magic is not mine,
My joy is following its design
The bees, the rain, the sun above
Are guided by this unseen love
And as with them, how blessed are we?
Partners in this mystery!

by Anonymous Gardener

(This poem was appropriately recited at Laurie York's bench dedication.)

Holiday Greens Sale Bow and Pic Workshop

October 22nd at Carolee Packard's home



Cindy Williams, Sue Barlow, Ann Walsh
Betsy Woodley making pics for
centerpieces and boxwood trees.



Moe Smith and Paula O'Neil making
drums for boxwood trees.



Ann Walsh, Emilie Martin, Carolee Packard
wiring the small ornaments onto pics for
boxwood trees.



Judy Sheehy creating bows



Marcia Willmott
creating small bows

Continuing Education Opportunities

Master Gardeners Association of Cape Cod Community Propagation Workshop

When: Thursday, November 13th - 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Where: Osterville Village Library, 43 Wianno Avenue, Osterville MA

Price: \$20.00

Please go to Master Gardeners Association of Cape Cod to register.

<https://mastergardenerscapecod.square.site/product/community-propagation-workshop/181>

Fall décor for the Bourne library planters and Main Street planters



Sweet arrangement of Pumpkin and Gourds create a Fall Feel at the Bourne Library – courtesy of Joan O'Brien and Cindy Williams



Colorful Mums were added to the Main Street Planters. A Big Shout out and Thanks to Olsen's Garden Center in Wareham for the generous discount on the Mums.

Kit Nelson's Memorial Bench Dedication October 25, 2025, at Valley Farm Community Thrift Store and Gardens

It was a beautiful Fall Day at Valley Farm Community Gardens to dedicate a memorial bench to our dear member, Kit Nelson. Carolee Packard hosted the dedication with speakers, Jan Rogers, Diane Speers, Alda Barron, Judy Sheehy and Bob Nelson. Wonderful words were spoken describing how Kit was always a lady and set the bar high with her generosity and spirit. She served the Aptucket Garden Club as Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentary Officer. She was the 2011 recipient of the Floribunda Award. Kit was a reliable, accurate cashier at the garden club sales. She was famous for her baked beans which always sold out at bake sales. She always attended workshops and also participated in floral design with a quiet presence and beautiful smile. Bob Nelson and Kit were married for 65 years and were always together in a quiet partnership with their participation and generosity. Kit was a giving, kind person who donated to the Garden Therapy program, Scholarship Fund and Community Gardens. She volunteered at the Valley Farm Community Thrift store every Friday. She was instrumental in building the community farm and donated funds for the Valley Farm Community Gardens shed. Most of all – everyone spoke of Kit's spirit of kindness and generosity. Kit's memorial bench, lovingly donated with funds donated in her remembrance by her husband, Bob, is located behind the thrift store and will be anchored by two rose bushes which were her favorite flower. This beautiful bench with its vista of the community gardens, will be a special place for the gardeners to rest, chat, and quietly reflect.





Bench Dedication Ceremony-
Diane Speers, Carolee Packard, Jan Rogers and Bob Nelson



Carolee Packard and Garden Club members enjoying lunch



Member/Gardener/Friend Luncheon after Dedication Ceremony



Tribute Table to Kit with Photo Collage and Roses



Bob Nelson on Kit's bench After ribbon cutting

Poem about Fellowship and Service

In fellowship, we stand as one
Beneath the sun, our tasks are done.
A circle formed, a loving embrace
We find our strength in this shared space.

With will hands and open hearts,
We play our given crucial parts.
A helpful hand, a word of care
A burden that we choose to share.

For love is not a silent plea,
But action, bright for all to see.
A selfless act, a gentle guide
With fellowship and service, side by side,

So let us walk this path with grace,
Reflecting love in time and place.
In fellowship, we find our way
Through selfless service, day by day.

By Anonymous

(This poem was appropriately recited at Kit's bench dedication ceremony)

Garden Therapy
Wednesday, October 29, 2025
At Cape Cod Senior Residences



Laura Bergeron and the dedicated members of her team visit Cape Cod Senior Residences. They assist residents in creating beautiful seasonal flower arrangements. The Residents love their flower time.



Message from the President

Greetings Garden Club friends,

How did it get to be November? It has been a good year for our Aptucket Garden Club, and we have a lot to be grateful for in this month of Thanksgiving.

Did you know that there is a book called, The Garden of Gratitude? The title “is a metaphor for actively cultivate thankfulness” in our lives, by creating a garden of gratitude. As gardeners we already know that gardening promotes wellness and brings out the hidden gifts and talent of our many AGC members. So, this month, we give thanks for many things.

We give thanks for all the new members who have joined our club to participate in our numerous community gardens and outreach.

We give thanks for the long-standing members who pass along their knowledge and love of gardening and donate countless hours to programs and fundraisers that benefit our club.

We give thanks for deceased members of our club, like Kit Nelson and Bobbie Lingard, who generously gave their time, talents, and resources to support the mission of AGC.

We give thanks for members like 100 yr. old, Laurie York, who modeled civic beautification and stewardship of our community, long before it was fashionable.

We give thanks for all who serve on hospitality committees. It is at our social gathering where we welcome new members and build our friendships.

This month of thanksgiving, take a moment to express gratitude for the beauty of our region, and the friendships and service that we share in our Aptucket Garden Club of Bourne community.

Peace,

Jan

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

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