



Brockton Garden Club
P.O. Box 154
Brockton, MA 02303

Gardener's News

Happy Spring!

April 2016

President's Message: As another Brockton Garden Club season comes to an end, a new one begins. "Dues" for the 2016-2017 year are now being collected. The form is near the end of this newsletter.

Also, The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts is coordinating an heirloom plant sale, as noted in the March newsletter. A key to the Federation's program is registering where these plants will be planted because these plants are in danger of becoming extinct. The registration is expected to help their survival. The order form is at the end of this newsletter. I will be collecting the orders at our April 25th meeting. Please enclose payment with your order.

We have completed a physical inventory of club items and a report will be available at the end of June. We also have been working with an archival specialist at Stonehill College. She has sorted and logged our history of items and is in the process of creating a table of contents to help us sort and locate items. **Peg Parenteau**

Committee Reports

CIVIC:

Although the weather has been challenging, please start thinking about the plants you wish to donate for the Annual Plant Sale scheduled for May 14th. Soil is being delivered to Tim Steadman's house at 51 Country Club Drive on April 11th. Feel free to come over and take what you need. Tim will also leave a box of empty pots should anyone need them.

There will be a shovel with the soil, just bring the buckets you will need to transport it home. Plants should be potted at least a week or more prior to sale so they adapt to their new environment.

Keep Brockton Beautiful Day was Saturday, April 16th. Thanks everyone for your participation. Several years ago, we had a donation of gardening supplies from a club member who was moving out of state. With a plethora of pots, we also received a large base for a water

garden/fish pond that someone could put in a backyard. Civic does not have a need for it and I am asking if anyone is interested in it, please let me know. All you need to do is have a truck or SUV. I will give to anyone on a "first come, first serve" basis. [Co-Chairs Birute Silvia and Tim Steadman](#)

Programs: Want to learn about all the lies, myths and latest dirt about gardening. We are excited to have C.L. Fornari presenting at our regular meeting Monday April 25. Known as the Garden Lady, Fornari will offer a "down-and-dirty" talk that will help gardeners sort through the folklore and hype surrounding plants, practices and products. Visit her website at GardenLady.com [Co-chairs Judy Burnett, Carol Beffert-Banks & Susan Spaulding.](#)

Toolin' Around



By John Duggan

Hello fellow Brockton Garden Club members:

I can't believe it is mid-April and time for cleaning up the yard and flower beds from winter. The best part is that since we virtually had no winter, I got everything done a few weeks ago – lime and fertilizer down, branches and leaves raked, and lawn mower tuned up! Now to the workshop to build new window boxes – maybe! I am probably late to the dance on this one, but I stumbled onto "The Leaf and Lawn Chute" at Lowe's last fall. After spending years struggling to keep my yard waste paper bags upright as I throw grass clippings and leaves into them, this corrugated plastic chute is amazing. I use approximately 50 bags a year of yard waste



and I can honestly say my frustration of trying to keep the bags upright while I dump lawn clippings into them has gone away. No more fear of the neighbors hearing me swear out loud while doing yard

work! And the best part is that the chute cost less than \$10 at Lowe's and Home Depot, and they fold up for easy storage.



Here are a few tips I thought you might enjoy:

- If you really want to get your car windshield squeaky clean, spray the windshield with water, take a damp sponge and sprinkle with Comet or

Bar Keepers Friend, and wash the windshield lightly with the sponge. Rinse the windshield and you will be amazed at the results! My barber told me this, so it has to be true! It works really well.

- I always remember to cut my rose bushes back on Patriots Day weekend. Someone told me this tip 20 years ago and I have had excellent results.
- If you haven't signed up for the Home Depot Garden Club on their website, I would take a look at it. Very interesting, and they always email you tips with \$5.00 coupons.

See you at the Civic Garden Sale in May!

SOWING SOME NEW SEEDS: Pat Emanuel and Anne Beauregard recently spent a day at Shoe City Redemption with members of ARC (adult program for the developmentally challenged) to bring seed preparation and seed starter kits for a variety of flowers to be planted throughout the city in the weeks to come. There were at least 25 participants and as of a few weeks ago, many of the seedlings were growing toward the sunlight. A few of the ARC members volunteered with us on April 16 for Keep Brockton Beautiful Day. Gayle Delgado, the coordinator of this program, is very excited about making this an annual event.

Hostesses for the April 25th meeting are Margarite Sheridan, Susan Spaulding, Kelly Howe. Bring a mug for coffee and tea. Recycle, reduce and reuse.

Brockton Garden Club Annual Dues

Dues are payable on or before the May General Meeting.

_____ Enclosed is my check for 2016-2016 dues: \$30.00

Please supply your contact information for the yearbook!

Name _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Do not publish my email or cell # in the yearbook. _____

Please make check payable to Brockton Garden Club
Mail to: Brockton Garden Club P O Box 154, Brockton MA 02303

Deadline is the May Meeting, 05/23/16 !



"HAPPY EARTH DAY!!!!"
BY: STEPHEON HOLIDAY
04/2016

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12th at 11 am at the Monponsett Inn in Halifax. The Inn is located on Route 58. The cost for this event is \$25.00 per person. Payment may be given to Claire Lineberry or mailed to BGC, Att: Annual Meeting, P.O. Box 154, Brockton, MA 02303. Reservations and payment are due no later than June 1, 2016. Please make your reservation early as seating is limited to 30.

Annual Meeting

Monponsett Inn

550 Monponsett Ave., Halifax, Ma.

Sunday,

June 12th

11 am

Chef Carved Roast Beef with Au Jus & Gravy

Chef Carved Baked Ham with Glaze

Made to order Omelet Station

Scrambled Eggs, Eggs Benedict

Home fries

Bacon & Sausage

Waffles with assorted berries for topping

Fresh Fruit

Tossed Salad Bar or Soup (in season)

Mashed Potatoes

Fresh Vegetables

Baked Fish, Seafood Newburg

Pasta and Chicken

Desserts

Assorted Cookies, Brownies, Cupcakes and more!

Included Beverages Coffee and Tea

Heirloom Plant Order Form

QTY

_____ Blue False Indigo (Baptista Australis)
1 gal \$15.00

_____ Sweet Pepper Bush (Clethra Alnifolia)
3 gal \$44.99

_____ Gas Plant (Dictamnus Albus)
2 qt \$14.99

_____ Peony 'Festiva Maxima'
3 gal \$31.50

_____ Snowberry (Symphoricarpos Albus)
2 gal \$26.99

_____ **Total**

Name: _____

Tel: _____

Address: _____

(where you will plant this)