



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

Gardener's News
September 2016

Welcome Back!

President's Message: Welcome back Gardeners. We hope everyone had a pleasant summer and are now looking forward to fall with cooler temperatures. As you know, we need a lot of energy when preparing for autumn with all of the raking, mulching, moving of plants back indoors and, of course, using up all of those tomatoes that we so carefully tended to in the heat of the summer.

But gardeners somehow always find time to get through all of these chores and still attend the Garden Club meetings and help with the club's chores also for which we thank you very much. So, welcome back and we look forward to seeing everyone at the "social" on the 26th of September. **Bobbie and Jean**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HOSPITALITY: We look forward to welcoming everyone back from our summer break at the general meeting Sept. 26 at the Arnone School at 7 p.m. The hostesses will be Lorene DeSimone, June Brasill, Pat Gorman & Lisa Landerholm.

The theme this month is "Apples, Apples, Apples." You guessed it: we will be enjoying a "Make your own caramel/chocolate covered apple bar." There will be whole and sliced apples with many choices of toppings. There will be a little something for everyone.



Hostesses please be at the meeting 30 minutes early!! Also, we need 2 hostesses for October and 2 for November. If you can volunteer for one of these months please see me at the meeting or go to "Contact Us" at www.brocktongc.org. Remember we want to be GREEN. Please bring your own cup or mug for tea and coffee. **Lisa Landerholm.**

Children and Education: With the help of Janet Trask the Brockton Garden Club had a table at Summerfest, August 23, 2016 at Brockton High School. The theme was “Free to Good Home.” Special thanks to Jacky Bonarrigo, Pat Emmanuel and Jean McLaughlin who



helped 70 children plant Purple Basil, Rose of Sharon, Morning Glories and Holly Hocks. Mini lessons were given on how to cook with Purple Basil, how to correctly plant the roots for Rose of Sharon and the best places to grow Holly Hocks and Morning Glories. Several interested new members were recruited. The next event is Tower Fest on October 8 at D.W. Field Park. The

theme will be “Fall Planting with Bulbs.” Volunteers are needed and welcome. Please go to “Contact Us” at www.brocktongc.org to request more information. Thanks, **Peggy Curtis**

CIVIC:

Hi Everyone, I'm excited by my new committee assignment and I'm looking forward to a new year. A few of us already did a planting at the Campello Fire Station on Main St. near Cape Code Café. I purchased plants to match the East Side Fire Station we planted last year. Thank you to Birute Silvia, Betty Mattoli, Tim Steadman, Don Myers and Jean McLaughlin for getting up early and digging. The firefighters were very pleased.

I've scheduled a Civic meeting for Wednesday September 28 at 7 p.m. at the Parks Dept., 45 Meadow Lane. This meeting as always is open to the entire club. Please come and join us! We will be going over our maintenance schedule and looking for some new ideas. Don't forget everyone is on the Civic Committee. Thanks, **Peg Kearney**

Yearbook:

I would like to introduce the committee members: Susan Spaulding, Barbara Maki, Jay Dembling, Evelyn Cronin and Jo Rutkauskas. Thanks to them we have a very detailed and updated Yearbook. We have brightened up this year's book by adding a color photo on the cover and also on the back with a 'notes' page in the back for your convenience. You will also find a lined page after the membership listing for any new members and changes. All the hard work the Club has accomplished in 2016 has also been included to the Garden Club endeavors in an organized manner. We hope our efforts will contribute to a very successfully 2016-2017 Brockton Garden Club season. Enjoy! **Carol A. Beffert-Banks**

Programs: It's a Meet-and-Greet with sticky, yummy apples on the side! Also, we will be having a Wreath Decorating Workshop in November. At the September meeting we will have a sign-up sheet to get an idea of who is interested so I can determine what supplies I need and cost. Thanks, **June and Tim**

September Spotlight
by Jay Dembling



It's been a really hot summer & now we're in a severe drought. I gave up on my lawn, but I have been watering my Pampas grasses and my many flowers. I didn't want to lose those! It brought to mind that September is the time of year to look around and see which, if any, plants, flowers or bulbs I want to move. The cool, fall temps are the best time to make those moves. It's also the time of year to think about what you want to cut back for next year. I have some Rose of Sharons taller than my gutter and I am going to give them a good haircut. It will also help your shrubs bush out next year. Hydrangea's need to be cut down to the

ground soon and if you have Pampas grasses, like I do, they also have to be cut down after the plumes are gone.

If you've been watering your lawn this is also the time to put down weed & feed fertilizer. However, with this dry weather you're going to have to water it yourself. Mother Nature hasn't been helping. I put down pellet lime twice a year--spring & fall--because of Brockton's soil. It runs acidic. See you next month.

Light Up Your Halloween—Decorative Candle Workshop Oct. 22

The Garden Club is planning a workshop on October 22nd, Saturday, at 10 am for all of those interested in doing the following project. Location to be determined depending on how many sign up. We will have a sign-up sheet at the September 26th



meeting. Cost for this project will be about

\$10.00 and you should be able to make more than one.

See you next month!

We thought that these would make a lovely table centerpiece for the holidays. The gold is very bright and look beautiful when the room is dim and the candle shines. We will have samples at the next meeting.

Peg and Bobbie

When to Plant Bulbs:

- Plant any time before the ground freezes. Ideally, plant your bulbs soon after you purchase them.

How to Plant Bulbs:

- Select a site with lots of sun and well-drained soil. Work a few inches of compost in the soil.
- Plant bulbs generously in case some do not sprout. And plant them in random order and spacing for a more natural appearance. If you love groves of daffodils and

blanketed landscapes of tulips, be prepared to buy and plant a large quantity of bulbs!

- In general, plant bulbs at a depth of three times the width of the bulb.
- Water well after planting. Apply mulch to keep the weeds down and hold in moisture. (Courtesy Old Farmer's Almanac @ www.almanac.com.)