



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

***Gardener's News***  
***October 2016***

***HAPPY HALLOWEEN!***

**President's Message:** Hello all gardeners, It finally happened!! The crisp, cool weather of autumn. It welcomes all of the beautiful colors and the planning of fun fall activities like apple picking and pumpkin painting. The Executive Board has also been busy planning for our "Club." We have successfully prepared and accepted a new budget for the upcoming year and also planned for fun activities throughout the year. Some of these activities include a workshop previously mentioned on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Holiday Workshop on November 28<sup>th</sup>, a Holiday Party at Tuto Bene's on December 13<sup>th</sup>, and our biggest undertaking, the Garden Show at BHS on April 9<sup>th</sup>. To all of you who have not participated in the "Show" previously, it is a lot of work, but we also have so much fun and the public really appreciates it so much. The first meeting for this will be on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Park Dept. (plant sale location). Please try to attend as we need to set up the committees and get things moving.

We are also trying to set up a committee for Brockton's Holiday Parade the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Club has not participated for a couple of years due to a lack of enthusiasm, but we would like someone to head up this project again. We will discuss this in detail at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are interested in this undertaking, please contact either Jean or Bobbie for more information.

***Bobbie and Jean***

***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

***HOSPITALITY:*** The hostesses and host this month are. Peg Parenteau, Susan Nicastro, Bobbie Lemasa, & Tim Steadman. Hostesses please be at the meeting 30 minutes early. Reminder: October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Arnone School.

Please remember we are trying to GO GREEN! Please bring your own cup or mug for tea or coffee. Recycle, reduce and reuse. The theme this month is "ENJOYING FALL. HAPPY HALLOWEEN."

I am in need of 1 more hostess for the November 28th meeting. Please see me during the meeting or call if you would like to volunteer.

Thank you,

**Lisa Landerholm.**

**Programs:** October Program is "Putting the Garden to Bed" by Suzanne Mahler.

**Children and Education:** Tower Fest, October 8, 2016.

The Brockton Garden Club gave away 200 Daffodil bulbs to eager children ready to make their gardens beautiful. Mini-lessons on proper planting of the bulbs and Danny's Daffodil Story coloring sheets were given out. Additionally, fact sheets on prohibited plants and poisonous plants were given to adults and all were encouraged to join in the fun with Brockton Garden Club. Thanks to Jean McLaughlin, Jacky Bonarrigo, Carla Azersky and Joyce Vorhis (new members) for making this event so successful.

**Peggy Curtis**

**Membership:** September 26th opening meeting for the garden club had 24 members in attendance and 3 guests. Hope the October meeting has a better turnout. Remember to pick up your 2016-2017 yearbook and membership card at the sign-in table. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting.

**Pat Emanuel**

### **Horticultural Corner**

#### **By Jay Dembling**

Hi everyone,  
Hope everyone had a good month. Now it's raining! It hasn't rained most of the spring, and all of the summer, and my lawn looked like a desert. Now that it's almost time for everything to go dormant, it's raining and turning everything nice & green!  
Have you been thinking of starting a new compost pile?  
Let me help you get it going.  
As you begin to rake your leaves, put them into a pile and, instead of recycling your newspapers, put them on top of those leaves, and then put some grass clippings on top of that.



If you don't get the paper you can use cardboard, like empty cereal or rice boxes. You can use whatever type of box you have, break it up and place the pieces on top of the leaf pile. You can layer it as high or as wide as you want. After you have your compost bed ready to go, soak it. Soak it well and then next year, you will have a nice compost pile.

If you don't want a compost pile but you don't want to bag all your leaves, you can dig them directly right into the soil and turn it over with a shovel or pitchfork. The leaves will decompose over the winter and enrich your soil with nitrogen. Brockton soil is terribly acidic, as it is, and this helps to balance it out.

I do this every year when I am blowing leaves and I have improved my soil without fertilizer.

When I bought my house the soil was all brown. Now, it's black, and I have lots of worms. Worms—not grubs--in your soil are

a good sign, because worms produce nitrogen and naturally fertilize your lawn. Oh—and don't forget--when the leaves are done falling, don't forget to clean your gutters. You can use the leaves in your compost pile. Happy Halloween!

**Special events:** Hi Members, As most of you know the Club is planning to present a Garden Show on Sunday 4/9/17 at Brockton High School.

If any of our newer members are not familiar with the Garden Show, this will be the 6th time the Club has presented a show and the second time at Brockton High School. It is quite an event. We can expect 2,000 to 3,000 people to attend and shoot for much more. It has been very well received in past years, has received praise from the Federation, other clubs, political officials, and, most importantly, the many people who attend. The show includes approximately 50 vendors, speakers, demonstrations, Auction, activities for children, food, and so much more. We also have a special event, which in the past, has included juried flower shows and “Art in Bloom”. This show really demonstrates what a great Club we are, what we can accomplish and is our gift to the City.

The first real planning meeting will be held Wednesday, October 19th, at 7 PM at the Park Department Office on Meadow Lane. Please come. Whether you are creative, organized, a planner or a doer, there is a place for everyone's talent or ability to make a difference and make things happen.

The Brockton Garden Club Garden Show is: Fun to plan! Fun to present! Fun to attend! Come be a part of a very special event.

**Co-Chairs Lorene & Peg**

## **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.