

The Community Garden Club of Cohasset

November Newsletter 2016 Edition



President's Message ~

We were lucky enough to find ourselves in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont over the Columbus Day weekend. The colors on the mountains were amazing! It was almost as if someone had painted a giant tapestry. The yellow, golds and rusts were set off by the brilliant reds on the maple trees and the vibrant greens of the fir trees. They had experienced several frosts in the North Country that allowed Jack Frost to wield his brushes. Vermonters also have been blessed with a lot of rain. As we came home, the colors dimmed the closer we got to Boston. The severe drought we have here has left many of our trees stressed. I am not sure we will have as brilliant a showing on the South Shore.

Fall is giving us shorter daylight hours and cooler temperatures but Mother Nature, with her sense of humor, has provided occasional days of late summer temperatures. As I write this, the prediction is for 75+ degrees for most of the upcoming week. Now is the time to clean up the garden and pot up the plants we would like to keep over the winter. Bulbs should be taken out and stored for blooming next summer. The spring bulbs, like mine, that are sitting patiently need to get into the ground. This is also a good time to inspect our garden tools. Cleaning and sharpening will make them ready for spring. Sort out the plastic pots that have stacked up and either save them for the Plant Sale or recycle them.

Please be sure and join us on November 22 for our General Meeting. Sue Reagan has arranged for another wonderful speaker. Deborah Trickett will show us Winter Boxes and Holiday Containers.

I would like to wish all our members, their families and extended families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Maureen Adams

Garden Tips: Fall is the Time to...

1. Aerate your lawn and over seed.
2. Toss Holly-Tone "espoma" around the water line of your acid loving plants and evergreens. Scratch into soil. Apply just before rain so it soaks in. Though organic, **keep Pets away so they do not ingest.**

www.CommunityGardenClubofCohasset.org

November Calendar

1 Executive Board Meeting: Lightkeeper's Cottage, 9:30 a.m.

Hostesses: Dolores Roy, Sheila Toomey, Carol Graham

9 Garden Therapy: Harborview Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
"Turkey Hill Flowers"

9 Flower Design Workshop: Lightkeeper's Cottage, 10:00 a.m. **Private class.**

16 Horticulture Workshop: Lightkeeper's Cottage, 9:30 a.m. Bring Amaryllis bulb and container.

17 Craft Workshop: Lightkeeper's Cottage, 9:30 a.m. "Oyster Ornaments"

21 Junior Gardeners: Deer Hill School Cafeteria, 2:40-3:40 p.m. "Edible Arrangements in the Ikebana Style"

22 Monthly Meeting: Second Congregational Church, 43 Highland Ave Coffee: 9:00 a.m.:
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. Program: "Winter Boxes and Holiday Containers" with speaker,
Deborah Trickett

September General Meeting



Speaker, Melissa Pace,
talked about "Downsizing your Garden."



Pam Kelly and hostesses went all out
on refreshments with a harvest theme.

Junior Gardeners

Thank you Maureen and Dolores for leading the craft workshop, "Pumpkins with a Chapeau."



Bow Workshop with Jeanne Boutross





Senior Center "The Colors of Fall"

The Willcutt Commons Senior Center flower arrangers filled pumpkins with a colorful array of bright fall flowers at their October meeting. Thank you to Maureen Adams, Jeanne Carroll, Barbara Dillon, Jane O'Brien and Mary Lou Tedeschi for their help preparing for and assisting with the program.

Dolores Roy

Garden Therapy

"Pumpkin Party Time" arrangements made by the residents of Harborview Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation at October's Garden Therapy. We all had fun creating these wonderful bouquets. One of the residents wrote and recited a heartwarming poem called "Walking With You". Our group this month included Dolores Roy, Maureen Adams, Julie Hess, Susan Reagan, Adrienne DuBois, Jeanne Boutross, & Diane Herth.

Ann Helbock.



Water Conservation

Replacing Plantings That Did Not Survive the Drought of 2016 by Pat Cammett

You have probably suffered losses of several plantings from the summer drought and are wondering what to replace those dead plantings with. Presently I am working with a landscape designer for a garden design for our new home currently under construction. Because I am very lazy, and because I want to prevent having to re-plant in the future due to drought, I did some research to find drought-tolerant plants. I want to share with you what I learned so that you can incorporate the same design concept when replenishing your garden from the effects of the drought. Selecting drought tolerant plants has the added benefits of saving money, and not having to water, thereby, conserving our valuable water supply.

First, walk through your garden and make note of the plants that survived, and perhaps even thrived the drought, and plant more of them.

If you are looking to fill in with new varieties, keep in mind these rules of thumb for selecting plants having low water needs:

- plants with blue-gray foliage (think artemisia) have low water needs
- plants with hairy leaves (think lamb's ears) have low water needs
- plants with rhizomes, corms or tubers store their water underground to survive long periods of drought
- purple cone flower, sedums, yarrow, pachysandra, kinnikinnick (manzanita), cat mint, daisies and succulents such as hens & chicks, red yucca, and Pary's agave also do well surviving a drought

The fall is the ideal time for planting most perennials, bushes and trees when the cooler air is less stressful on young plants and the water demands are less, so take advantage of those indian summer days and make your replacements. Remember that even drought resistant, newly planted perennial varieties must be watered thoroughly for the first two summers until the roots are well developed. As the roots develop, the plants develop their drought tolerance.



Sister Garden Club of Nagoya, Japan



Our October general meeting was a field trip to Unuma, an old post town situated along the River Kiso with beautiful scenery of mountain torrents nicknamed “Japan Rhine” after the Rhine River in Germany.

We visited Teishoji Temple and Banshoen Villa, both dedicated by Sadayakko Kawakami, the Japan’s first actress who became very famous both in the States and Europe between 1899 through 1902.

Recording Secretary

Takako Kohri

