


<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p><u>October 24, 2019</u></p> <p>The monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday October 24, 2019, at 6:30 pm at the Morse Institute Library 14 E. Central St.</p> <p>Note: this is the <u>4th</u> Thursday</p>	
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p>October 2019</p>

President's Letter

Hello All!

Happy October!

We have had a great start to our club's year!

- A wonderfully informative talk in September during which several people expressed interest and Liana Glenn joined the club. Welcome Liana!
- The downtown planters and the library gardens and plants look great!
- The new member tea was a great success in providing a warm welcome to new members.
- Many members decided to step out of their comfort zone and participate in the Morse Library Art in Bloom!

And there are more interesting and inspiring activities to come.

So many volunteers that help our club thrive! I am privileged to be part of this organization! I hope to see you at the October meeting.

Happy gardening,
Laurie Adelstein
President, 2019-2020



Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, October 24th October meeting – **NOTE: 4th Thursday**
- Thursday, November 7th Trip to Fall Chrysanthemum Show at Smith College
- Thursday, November 7th Board of Gardeners' meeting, all members welcome
- Sunday, November 18th Downtown Winter Greens
- Thursday, November 21st November meeting – Make a holiday arrangement
- Monday, December 2nd Holiday decorating at Morse Institute Library

October Program

Betsy Szymczak – *Gardening with Dahlias*

A long-time NGC member, Betsy is a specialist in both begonias and dahlias as well as a flower show judge. She will begin her presentation with a brief history of dahlias and their introduction into the American garden, then she will show us how to select dahlia tubers, where to plant, and how to water and fertilize. She'll address the perennial dahlia questions: "To stake or not to stake" and "To dig or not to dig." And, for those frugal souls who overwinter their tubers, she will also discuss how to store them and how to wake them up.

September Meeting

Rebecca Warner – *Easy First Steps to an Earth-Friendly Garden*



For our initial meeting of the 2019-2020 club year, we welcomed Rebecca Warner, the author of *The Sustainable-Enough Garden*. Her presentation was right on target, showing us adaptations we can reasonably make to our gardening practices that will allow us to create beautiful gardens while still following environmental principles. Among her suggestions were a simple and labor-saving method for making compost (featuring patience, not back-breaking pile turning); easy ways to make mulch from free materials available close to home (chopped leaves, wood chips); a time-saving, earth-friendly way to prepare beds for annuals and vegetables in spring; and a quick recipe for making peat-free potting mix. A PDF about wood chips is attached to the newsletter email. And see Rebecca's blog here: <http://thesustainable-enoughgarden.blogspot.com/>



News, Notes, and Upcoming Events

New Member Tea

On Sunday, October 6th, five of our six new members were welcomed at a tea held at Sue Mandell's lovely home. Amy Foley, Liane Glenn, Linda Lentz, Marci Sapers and Deanne Shaffer were joined by club officers and some committee chairs. They filled antique tea cups provided by Pat Polimeno, and enjoyed tea sandwiches, quiche, cheese, fruits and sweet desserts provided by members. President Laurie Adelstein made a brief presentation about what the club does and Elizabeth Carroll, who has been a member since the club was founded, talked about how the club came to be. The new members were presented with a plant as a small welcome gift, and the three lovely arrangements made by Elizabeth Carroll went home with three delighted new members.



See separate appendices for Auction and Annual Dinner notes & photos.

Mark Your Calendars for These Natick Garden Club activities...

Membership book

The **2019-2020 NGC Membership book** will be available at the October meeting. Don't forget to pick yours up at the desk when you sign in and pick up your name tag. And thank Sue Mandell for a terrific job.

Holiday arrangement sign up

Be sure to sign up at the October meeting for the November 21st meeting to make a holiday arrangement with the help and guidance of our own Shirley Fitzpatrick and Maggie Keene Rezendes. No experience required, amateurs welcomed! Note that there is a \$10 fee for this meeting which will cover some of the cost of the containers and materials. NOTE: Signup form is attached to the newsletter email. If possible print and bring with you, or mail with your check to Pat Polimeno 11 Dover Rd., Natick, MA 01760. There will be some signup forms at the October meeting.

2020 UMass Garden Calendar

October 27th will be the last day for NGC bulk order of 2020 UMass Garden Calendar.

Last year the club bulk ordered the UMass Extension Garden Calendar, and we are doing it again. So far, we have orders for 17 calendars, so they will cost a \$10.15 at this point, (single calendars are \$14) and the price will drop if more are ordered. Take a look at umassgardencalendar.org and let me know if you are interested. Call or text 978-808-2950, or email at c.clifford90@comcast.net.

Northampton Garden Trip

On **November 7th** we will be taking a trip to Smith College in Northampton, MA to visit the Fall Chrysanthemum Show. We also plan on visiting the Smith College Museum of Art and if the weather permits, we can stroll the campus grounds designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Then we will gather at a local restaurant for lunch. Contact Trip Coordinators: Elizabeth Carroll, Joanne Rampe and Carolyn Wirth to sign up if you haven't already.

Board of Gardeners meeting

November 7th, 7 - 9 pm Board of Gardeners meeting, Community Room in the lower level of the Morse Institute Library. All members welcome.

Greening Downtown:

Start looking for greens now. Don't prune yet, wait a few weeks. But scout out where to prune. Check with your neighbors, relatives and friends and offer to prune their evergreens or red twig dogwoods. Even if you can't help install the greens, we need your contributions, and you can deliver them to Helen Johnson in advance. There will be follow up emails in early November.

As we've done the past couple of years, we'll do this in several steps: removing the fall flowers, attaching the garland, and finally, the creative part, creating the arrangements of greens. The dates for the first two steps haven't been determined yet, but weather permitting, on **Sunday, November 17th, at 11 am**, we will install the greens, so save that date! This is one of the events that calls for lots of volunteers, and is always a lot of fun.

Library Holiday Decorating

On **December 2nd**, the Monday after Thanksgiving, we will put up the decorations and decorate the giving tree. We'll take down the decorations on Thursday, **January 2nd**. We start at 9am on both days and try to be finished by 10am, when the library opens. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting.

And for These Events of Interest

Landscape Design School – October 24-25th <https://www.gcfm.org/landscape-design-school>

Film: The Path of the Daff – November 7th A documentary about the Marathon Daffodils, "Path of The Daff" has been awarded the Opening Night at the Arlington International Film Festival, and the Best Documentary at the The Valley Film Festival.

<https://pathofthedaff.wpengine.com/film-festival-home/> **BUY TICKETS NOW:**

<http://51520.formovietickets.com:2235/T.ASP?WCI=BT&Page=schedule&SelectedDate=20191107>

<http://capitoltheatreusa.com/arlington-international-film-festival/>

Holliston Garden Club – November 15th Floral Demonstration program, see attached flyer

Check these websites for events, classes and workshops of interest.....

- **Arnold Arboretum** <https://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>
- **Garden Club Federation of MA** <https://www.gcfm.org/schools>
- **Garden in the Woods aka Native Plant Trust** <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/education/>
- **Mass Horticultural Society** <https://www.masshort.org/Events>
- **Tower Hill Botanic Garden** <http://www.towerhillbg.org/index.php/visit/what-s-happening/events-calendar/>

Reminders:

- Vice President Jean Egerhei is now the contact for the NGC Sunshine Fund. If you know of a member who should receive a card from us, (illness, bereavement) please let Jean know at jegerhei@gmail.com or 508-655-7916.
- Recycle gardening books, magazines, or catalogs you no longer want by bringing them to the meeting to pass on to club members, or to put in the library magazine swap rack.
- Send photos of any and all club activities and events for inclusion in the newsletter to c.clifford90@comcast.net

Useful link(s):

- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter *Clippings* is always worth reading. You can always read it here: <https://ag.umass.edu/resources/home-lawn-garden/newsletters> And you can subscribe at: <https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/home-garden-email-list>
- You can always read the latest issue of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts newsletter *The Mayflower* online at: [Mayflower](#)

Members' Travels:

Separate appendix coming soon. Note: you do not have to have traveled far, we are always happy to have photos of your visits to local horticultural places as well as from more distant venues – we publish these to inform as well as inspire each other. If there is a great garden spot in Waltham for example, I, for one want to know about it! As always, send your photos to c.clifford90@comcast.net

Thanks to Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Sue Mandell and Judy Sabol for their contributions of content and photographs to this issue.

Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk