Next Meeting:

April 16, 2020

The April meeting will be held via Zoom

The next monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday **April 16, 2020, at 6:30 pm**

Natick Garden Club

www.natickgardenclub.org

April 2020

Dates to Remember

The dates of all club activities are under review and TBD with the exception of our April meeting which will be held online. See below.

April Program

The Growth of Trees – *Michael Wojtech*

Because no single view of a tree is a fixed snapshot that tells the complete story, botanist, ecologist and author Michael Wojtech will help to broaden our perceptions of trees as they grow, reproduce, and interact with their environment. In addition, he will look at some of the reasons for the differences between trees, such as the functions of different types of leaves, seeds, and flowers. http://knowyourtrees.com/

The program will **start at 7** but the Zoom meeting will be available for you to log in to starting at 6:30. The meeting will be set up so that only the speaker Michael Wojtech and Laurie will have video and speaking capabilities, the rest of us will be able to see the slides and hear the presentation, but not speak. We will be able to type in our questions, so the program will be interactive. Laurie will send an email with the login information, meeting number and password well before the meeting.

February Meeting

Hardy Succulents of New England *presented by Paul Steen*

Paul Steen, a retired physician, Master Gardener, and garden speaker with 45 years of gardening experience, spoke about succulents and cacti that are hardy to New England. He explained what is unique about succulents and cacti and the difference between the two, illustrating his talk with photos of the dozens of succulents that grow in New England, including both the familiar and many that were new to us.

Late summer
or fall
Sedum tatarinowii

News, Notes, and Upcoming Events

Container and Library gardens

In this time of social distancing, all our outdoor activities have been curtailed or postponed, and this included the pansy planting originally scheduled for early April. However, this left the sad remnants of our holiday and winter greens arrangements in place, contributing to the overall sadness of this difficult time. So, in late March, four members (Elizabeth Carroll, Terry Fitzgibbons, Doris Fina and Catherine Clifford) worked very quickly, and **very** far from one another, to remove the no-longer-green greens from the bridge, downtown containers, and library planters.
Subsequently, Jill has worked solo in the library garden to clear out winter debris and start the necessary pruning. She plans to finish up hydrangea pruning with a single, distanced helper.

Penny Pines

Thanks to Pat Polimeno, who made up the difference between what had been collected and what was needed, the club has purchased two "penny pine plantations."
http://gardenclub.org/projects/penny-pines.aspx

Natick Service Council Food Pantry donation

Since the Natick Service Council is not accepting food donations currently, the Board decided that the club would make a cash donation of $100. If you want to make your own donation, the mailing address is: 2 Webster St, Natick, MA 01760

Club Trips

In lieu of physical trips, our trip coordinators will select for us virtual tours of botanical gardens and flower shows. Details and links will be provided by email by Elizabeth Carroll, Joanne Rampe, or Carolyn Wirth. Stay tuned.

For online classes or workshops of interest, check these websites….

Arnold Arboretum https://my.arboretum.harvard.edu/

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts http://www.gcfm.org/Calendar-News/Calendar.aspx

Garden in the Woods http://www.newenglandwild.org/learn/our-programs

Grow Native Massachusetts https://www.grownativemass.org/

Massachusetts Horticultural Society https://www.masshort.org/Events

Tower Hill Botanic Garden http://www.towerhillbg.org/index.php/visit/what-s-happening/events-calendar/

Useful link(s):

- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter is now **Hort Notes: Clippings from the Garden.** It is written for landscapers, grounds managers, arborists, and other green industry professionals with the understanding that home gardeners may also look to this publication for information as well. **https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/newsletters-updates/hort-notes**
- You can read the latest issue of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts' newsletter *The Mayflower* online at **https://www.gcfm.org/mayflower**
- Check the calendar on the Federation's website to see what other clubs are doing, there frequently are open meetings. **http://www.gcfm.org/Calendar-News/Calendar.aspx**
- Here is the latest Newsletter from New England Garden Clubs, see what's going on in other states: **New England Region Newsletter February 2020**

Recommended Blogs:

http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com/blog/ Jana's blog is always a treat!

https://awaytogarden.com/ sign up here for Margaret Roach's free email newsletter; she gardens in Copake Falls NY in the Hudson River Valley, zone 5B so her advice is pertinent.

http://gardenrant.com/ A recent blog pointed to a curated collection of good gardening videos.

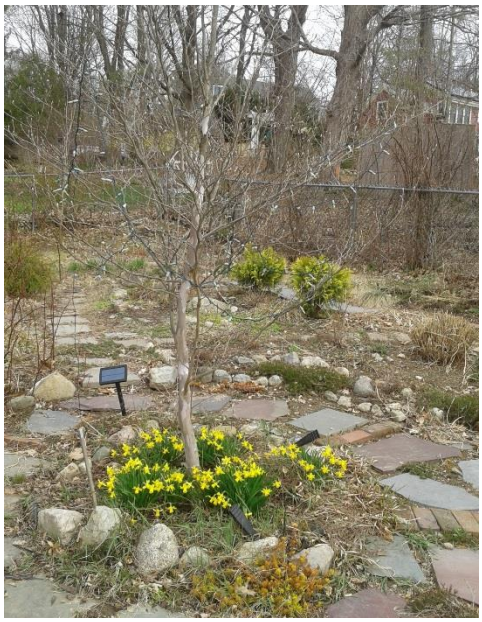
You can see them here **https://goodgardeningvideos.org/**

Reminders:

- Vice President Jean Egerhei is 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.

- Remember if you have traveled to places of horticultural interest, send your photos to Catherine Clifford at c.clifford90@comcast.net.

What's Blooming in our gardens:



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Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk