



Weymouth Garden Club

Growing since 1931

WEYMOUTH GARDEN CLUB (“WGC”) GENERAL MEMBER MEETING March 9, 2024

The WGC March General Member Meeting was called to order at 9:33am by Lisa Kimball, President.

Invocation:

“Considerations” adapted from *Almanac* with R. Sweetster, updated by Charlotte Nichols, Vice President.

A new year means a brand-new growing season to contemplate.

Winter’s quiet may not be as exciting as summer’s first tomato ripening or spring’s first bloom, but it is a time of promise, of optimism, and of a tangible sense of opportunity.

Nature’s dormant time gives us a chance to slow down and renew our bonds with the natural world – take a walk, watch the birds, gaze at the stars on a clear, cold evening.

Our gardens may have disappeared under a thin coverlet of white, which, thankfully, hides all the chores left undone. This temporary lull in activities gives an excuse for dreaming. For now, we have time to take stock of the past with an eye toward creating an even brighter future for ourselves, our community and the earth in general. No matter how long you have been gardening, there is always more to learn, something new to try, and wisdom to share.

Officer Updates:

Welcome from President (Lisa Kimball)

- Daffodils and crocuses are sprouting around town!
- 96 total members. Welcome to 2 new members (Katy and Julie).

Treasurer’s Report (Carole Johnson)

- Penny Pines success (see recap below).
- Donated 3k to the Weymouth Scholarship fund.
- Prepping for success at the Plant Sale in May. The entire sale brings profits for the club.

Approve February Minutes (Allie DeCastro)

- **Approved** – *February General Meeting Minutes*

Newsletter Glow up (Terry Harrison)

- The March Newsletter is now being sent via MailChimp. MailChimp allows us to scale with the size of the club.
- Please let Terry know of any email address updates directly.
- Please do not unsubscribe.

New Business:

Penny Pines

- Thank you to everyone for donating spare change. Across the January General meeting (\$97) and the February General Meeting (\$59), we collected a total of \$156. Each Penny Pine planting is \$68. The club contributed an additional \$48 to purchase three Penny Pine plantings at the White Mountain National Forest. Three honorees for 2024 = Michelle Cappellini, Fran Hale, Judy Suket.

Food Pantry Donation Drive

- Charlotte D. and Paula F. are leading the collection of non-perishable food items and checks made out to the 'Weymouth Food Pantry.' Every dollar counts; \$1 brings \$7 worth of food to the pantry.
 - **Action** – Collecting food items and checks today and at the April meeting.

2024 Library Programs

- The first program was in February led by Yoshie P., "Kokedama." Had full registration and received positive feedback.
- The second program is coming up on [April 2nd at 7pm](#), led by Tess S. and Paula F, "The Language of Flowers." Registration open now.
- Fall program - Library requested another program in the fall for adults. Reminder that the library is paying us to host Library Programs so we do have a budget.
 - **Action** – Looking for ideas for programs for the public (e.g., harvesting herbs, drying herbs, drying flowers). Please reach out to Lisa K. with ideas.

Field Trips

- Wellesley College Botanic Gardens: [Thursday, March 14th 11:15am](#) (free).
 - Meet at Ocean State Job Lot. Can accommodate 15 people, 6 signed up so far.
 - **Action** – Any members interested, please contact Mayre H.
- Cochato Nursery, "Spring Ephemerals": [Saturday, May 4th 11am](#) (free).
 - Tour of the garden with refreshments.

Garden Therapy

- Pope Nursing Home: [Thursday, March 21st 10:30am](#).
 - Collecting green vases at the meeting today.
 - **Action** – Any members interested, please contact Mary F.

April Board Elections

- Board positions up for re-election: Treasurer and Recording Secretary.
 - Current candidates:
 - Treasurer: 1/Carole Johnson (current Treasurer, running for a third term) and 2/**YOU?!**
 - Recording Secretary: 1/Allie DeCastro (current interim Recording Secretary) and 2/**YOU?!**
 - **Action** – Any members interested in running, please contact Jean B.!

Project Lead for Library Staff Thank-you Lunch

- The Thank-you Lunch will be on [Thursday, April 11th TBD](#). We want to thank the library staff for letting us use the space. The club is purchasing pizza and salad, with members donating easy-to-serve desserts and bottled drinks.
 - Looking for project leads.

- **Action** – Any members interested in co-leading the event, please contact Lisa K.

Weymouth Clean-up Day

- The Clean-up Day will be **Saturday, April 27th 9-12pm**. Hosted by the Weymouth town hall. Lunch provided for anyone who volunteers. Invite your family and friends!
- **Action** – Release form needs to be filled out for each participant. Please see 3/6 email from Terry with form attached and bring to the event. No formal sign-up needed.

Art in Bloom

- **Friday, April 26th – Sunday, April 28th** at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA).
- Assignment officially announced for Michelle D. and Kari P.: *Landscape with Two Breton Women, 1889* by *Paul Gauguin*.

Plant Sale

- Location: Weymouth DPW
- Timeline:
 - Dropoff: **Friday, May 17th 4-7pm**
 - Dropoff: plants, tables, raffle items, garden shop items.
 - Setup: **Saturday, May 18th 6:30-8:30am**
 - Plant Sale: **Saturday, May 18th 8:30-12pm**
- Directions to members:
 - Each member brings: ~10 plants.
 - Plants to bring: Veggies, herbs, and annuals (along with perennials and houseplants). No invasive plants.
 - Bring plants in: Plastic pots (containers that plants come in; if you need some, nurseries have extras, also some available at March and April General meetings).
 - Divide, grow, or purchase plants: Start growing or dividing plants in your garden now so they are thriving by the sale. Idea: buy a ~\$4 flat of plants, repot them and put them into bigger pots.
 - Must have a labeled stick with:
 - 1/Name of Plant
 - 2/Perennial or Annual
 - 3/Color (if applicable)
 - 4/Indoor or Outdoor
 - 5/Sun or Shade
 - 6/Native? (specify NE or NA)
 - [Example of labeled stick will be shared in future meetings/emails]
- Raffle items: Shared photos from past raffles and discussed ideas, such as a salad bowl with a head of lettuce started in it.
- Marketing:
 - Signs
 - 5 Town signs
 - X Yard signs (could be in your yard!). We will ask members to put them in their yard, distributed across town.
 - Flyers
 - No physical flyers this year. An electronic flyer will be shared.

- Social Media
 - Marketing on Facebook, Instagram.
- Soil Testing: Marye H. is doing soil testing, will publish the directions.
- Leads: Suzanne S. and Charlotte C.

Launching the first annual *WGC Award Ceremony* this spring!

- We have a new awards ceremony this year to recognize members for the wonderful things that they do, specifically peer-to-peer recognition. Opportunity for members to vote and celebrate others creativity, passion, camaraderie. There will be three awards.
 - Vote will be held at April meeting.
 - Award Ceremony at the May meeting (with prizes!).

Library Flowers

- See email attachment sent from Terry H. on updated instructions for Library Flowers.
 - If you have any questions reach out to Michelle C.

Announcements adjourned at 10:12pm.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is [Wednesday, March 27th 6:30pm](#) at the Tufts Library.

Program Speaker

Blake Dinius, Plymouth County Entomologist will speak about “Insect Apocalypse.”

Minutes submitted by Allie DeCastro.