

May Newsletter



“Tra la, it’s May, the lusty month of May, when everyone goes blissfully astray....”

Well, perhaps they went astray in Camelot, but here in Bristol, we pulled off an amazingly successful Plant Sale! A huge round of applause goes to Diana for once again so skillfully organizing this massive endeavor. It’s truly a year long project, with many elves working industriously behind the scenes replanting and nourishing unsold plants, taking cuttings from houseplants, dividing plants in the fall, planting starter seeds in the wintertime, and creating fabulous items for the gift table.

One of the most delightful aspects of the plant sale is that every member of the Garden Club manages to get involved in one way or another; members donate plants from their gardens, grow plants in their homes, help with organization and publicity, and with set up, sales and cleanup. Once again, Mount Hope Farm’s Farmers Market provided an excellent location for our sale; this year the farm was also hosting a Vintage Market and that, plus a State Street Artisan Fair downtown, drew in many out of town shoppers...we managed to set a record amount of income from the Plant Sale this year!

A few days prior to the plant sale, we had our annual spring luncheon. This year, it took place at The Lobster Pot, and though the weather was dreary the view was still beautiful. Our business meeting was brief, affording us the opportunity to enjoy both one another’s company and a lovely lunch. Thank you to Robyn and Pam for organizing the event and for the sweet fans which will come in handy on hot summer days!

On Wednesday the 22nd, Mary Fran and Carol G hosted a “weeding and feeding party” at Mrs. Perry’s Garden. Many members were able to show up and get the gardens in order. Leftover potted plants from the plant sale were tucked into the berm, and the two gardens were weeded and cut back. As a reward, Mary Fran and Carol had an “Elegant Garden Tailgate Party” set up

for everyone to “sip, snack, and chat”. As Mary Fran says, “Mrs. Perry’s Garden and Thomas Park are just two of many gems in Bristol. We can take pride in all of our efforts to keep it beautiful and inviting.”

Thank you, Mary Fran and Carol, for coming up with this delightful way to prepare the gardens for the summer months!



Upcoming events:

June 12, we will be taking a field trip to Lavender Waves Farm in South Kingston. Please let Robyn know asap if you will be attending. We will meet to carpool from Bank Newport at 10:00 am.

June 18, there will be a pollinator panel at Mount Hope Farm from 5:00-8:00 pm.

We have been instrumental in organizing this event and it's going to be great! From 5-6:30, stroll through the gardens and meet organizations and businesses who are working to help promote pollinators within Rhode Island. Two Gals cocktails and other food vendors will be selling their wares as well. From 5:45-8:00, head into the barn for a panel discussion on pollinators and the initiatives that are happening and how you can get involved. This should be both an informative and fun evening! Bring a friend!

Note: please register for this on the MHF website.

Also in June: We have taken on the "challenge" to overhaul the little garden area surrounding the sign at the Herreshoff Marine Museum. Our new member, Laura Thomas, is busy working on a landscape plan and when we are ready, the call will go out for members to help dig up old plants and put in the new ones! The exciting benefit to this is that in exchange for our time and efforts, the museum is giving us the opportunity to host an event there! We are planning to have a cocktail party in November to show appreciation to the friends and spouses who have so graciously helped us throughout the past year. Details to come! Meanwhile, if you'd like to help with the garden, please let me know...or I'll just hunt you down....

Meanwhile, for those of you playing the "where in the world is Gail now?" game here's a photo I took yesterday in Rangeley, Maine...

Happy gardening!

Gail Burmeister

