

<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>January 28, 2021</p> <p>The monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday January 28, 2021, at 6:30 pm via ZOOM</p>	
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p>January 2021</p>

President's Letter

Happiest of New Years to all of our Garden Club Members,

"There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogues."

Hal Borland

Although our country has had a disturbing start to the new year, we can only hope that things will get better from here on. Soon the vaccine will be available, and we will be able to meet in person once again. Till then we have truly been enjoying our Zoom meetings. Not only do we get to visit with all of our members, but we have had amazing and inspiring programs. Our December program, "Foolproof Roses", presented by Mike and Angelina Chute of Rose Solutions, gave our members many great tips on easy ways to grow spectacular June rose blooms. Based on their presentation, I went out the next day to re-mulch my new roses that my daughter had planted in the summer.

Our next Zoom program will be on January 28 with Alicia Carroll, sister to our own Elizabeth Carroll. Dr. Carroll is not only a professor of English at Auburn University but a veteran garden club speaker. She will be giving us a little history about a small group of women in England during the beginning of WWI who were able to cultivate local herbs and eventually produce new plants, new gardens and modern versions of herbal medicines. Their work brought forth and promoted the biodiversity which resonates in our gardens today. Those of us who grow herbs in our gardens or use them in our daily life will thoroughly enjoy this program. It is not one to miss.

Take care and enjoy those seed catalogues that have been coming in the mail lately.

Jean Egerhei

Natick Garden Club President 2020-2021

Dates to Remember

Thursday, January 28, 2021 - NGC monthly meeting, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83485448264?pwd=VEo3K0xEKzNJSjBERFYyQ1lYU2JPUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 8544 8264

Passcode: 486506

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Thursday, February 4, 2021 – Board of Gardeners meeting, 7-9 pm, via Zoom

Thursday, April 8, 2021 – **Note NEW date** for our April program

January Program



January 28, 2021 (via Zoom)

Working Relationships: Women and the Twentieth-Century English Herbal Revival - presented by Dr. Alicia Carroll

Alicia Carroll, professor of English at Auburn University, author, and veteran garden club speaker, will discuss how a small group of women worked together to revive the local cultivation of herbs in England at the outset of World War I. Their work eventually produced new plants such as Seal lavender, new gardens such as Vita Sackville-West's famous herb garden at Sissinghurst, and modern versions of herbal medicine. Alicia's talk will explore how this group's books, gardens, and working relationships embodied their vision of an ecological future and promoted the biodiversity which resonates in our gardens today.

You can read a review

of her recent book: *New Woman Ecologies From Arts and Crafts to the Great War and Beyond*,

here: <https://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/4986>

And, if Dr. Carroll looks familiar, it is because she is our own Elizabeth Carroll's sister.



December Meeting

Mike and Angelina Chute – Foolproof Roses

Mike and Angelina Chute of RoseSolutions, (<http://www.rosesolutions.net/>) gave us both useful tips and lots of eye candy at our December program, “Foolproof Roses”. Most, if not all, of the photographs they showed us were from their own garden which whetted our appetites for a “road trip” once the world returns to something like normal. Sadly, the Chutes no longer open their garden to visitors, but you can follow them and see more gorgeous rose photos as well as the work they do to keep them gorgeous by reading their blog: <https://therosejournal.wordpress.com/>

News, Notes, and Upcoming Events

Giving Tree:

When Morse Institute was obliged to close its doors to walk-in patrons, it looked as if our club’s Giving Tree to benefit A Place to Turn would be just one more casualty of the pandemic. BUT, thanks quick thinking by Kate Grzesiuk who offered to host the tree on her covered front porch just two blocks from the library, we collected **8 bags** of new (with tags) warm socks, scarves, hats, gloves and mittens. Kate

made two deliveries before the holidays, and one after, as donations kept arriving. She reports that a Place to Turn was very grateful for the club's generosity of spirit and distributed most of the donations immediately, as they arrived. Thanks to those who donated. And thanks

to Kate
and her
son
Jack
who
helped
with
sorting
and



labeling!



Change to April meeting: New date, new program.

Small Plants, Big Bang! *Jen Kettel of Radiant Leaf Consulting*

Spring is an ideal time to be transplanting woody plants, and this class will introduce you to new and old favorites that make the most of small spaces. In the excitement to create a beautiful outdoor living space, many gardeners overplant (in number or size). Learn about the long-term consequences of overplanting, and how to avoid it by introducing the smaller gems of the plant world into your garden. Design your next garden bed with some unique native groundcovers, dwarf conifers, and more!

Ordering NGC Logo Items

Alison Parnes has obtained the order form for logo items. It is attached to the email with this newsletter.

Items available include:

- Pink or Navy short-sleeve polo S-M-L \$25, XL-XXL \$27
- Khaki Bucket Hat (2 sizes, same price) S/M \$18.50, L//XL \$18.50
- Stone Baseball Hat \$18
- Apron \$19.75
- Tote Bag \$25
- And your own personal items can have a garden club logo as well \$10. Personal items can be delivered by hand to Alison, with payment, at the address below.

Please get your orders and checks to Alison (snail mail address below) no later than March 31.

Checks should be made out to Alison, and mailed with the order form to:

Alison Parnes
9 Fiske Lane,
Natick, MA 01760

If you have questions, you may reach Alison at 508 653-8545 or aparnes@verizon.net

Mark Your Calendars for these NGC activities...

And for virtual events of interest...

Here is a link to virtual visit to Monet's Garden in Giverny for those of us who have always wanted to go:

<http://fondation-monet.com/en/>

Good news from club members:

In spite of everything, some truly wonderful things happened in 2020!

Gorgeous babies, beautiful brides, handsome grooms!

Melanie Harvey's gorgeous granddaughter, (her first grandchild) was born on December 14, 2020. Here is Georgina Linn, a healthy 7 lbs. 9 oz. Melanie's daughter Jen and her husband Matt and Georgie are all doing well! (As are the proud grandparents!)



Jo Green's son Seth and new daughter-in-law Sari, were married at sunset on December 3, 2020 in San Rafael, Marin County, CA. Here they are, accompanied by their dogs Arlo and Betsy. The service was filmed on Zoom so family could witness the happy day.



Judy Sabol's daughter Elissa and son-in-law Craig, looking joyful at their September 5, 2020 wedding in Burlington, VT. You can be certain there are ear-to-ear smiles under those masks!



Elizabeth Carroll's daughter Dorothea and son-in-law Mike, celebrating at their September 12, 2020 wedding here in Natick.



For other events, 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 *Clippings* is always worth reading. You can subscribe at: <https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/home-garden-email-list>
- 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 Central-South District page under clubs on the Federation's website to see what other clubs are doing, often there are open meetings. <https://www.gcfm.org/central-south-district>

Recommended Blogs:

<http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com/blog/> Jana's blog is always a treat!
The current entry lists ten outstanding mail order nurseries, some within the range of a day trip.

<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:

- Linda Lentz 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 Linda know at LindaRLentz@gmail.com or 508-208-8686.
- Recycling gardening books, magazines, or catalogs you no longer want or need is challenging these days. If anyone wants to do an outside "meet up and book/catalog/magazine swap" on a sunny day, let's try to make it happen. Alternatively, if you have old copies of Horticulture or Fine Gardening that you probably won't read again, MassHort's library is accepting donations of gardening magazines and books. They can be left at the gate house if the library is not open.
- If you travel virtually to places of horticultural interest, please let Deb Thompson know DeborahThompson567@gmail.com, and if you physically go someplace, send your photos to Catherine Clifford at caclifford18@gmail.com



Joseph Tychonievich

Our thanks to Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Jean Egerhei, Jo Green, Melanie Harvey, Sue Mandell, Alison Parnes, Judy Sabol and Deb Thompson for their contributions to this issue.

Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk