



North Shore Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 171, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944

March 2022 Volume XXIV Number 6

www.NSHorticulture.org

Meeting Location

Sacred Heart Parish Hall
62 School Street
Manchester-by-the-Sea

For Zoom attendance,
we will email the link to
members on the Monday
before and again the
morning of the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

**Thursday, Mar 24th
7:30 PM**

Joann Vieira
*Trustees Public Gardens:
Marrying the Past
and Present*

**Thursday, Apr 28th
7:30 PM**

Pamela Hartford
*Frederick Law Olmsted –
His Legacy on the
North Shore*

**Thursday, May 26th
7:30 PM**

Plant Sale
and Auction

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, April 14th
7:30 PM



Trustees Public Gardens: Marrying the Past and Present

Joann Vieira

**Thursday, March 24th
7:30 PM**

View images - both historic and present day - of flagship gardens and learn about their history and evolution, owners and designers, and the vision held for these gardens today. Garden visitors find respite and inspiration originally designed for the personal pleasure (and in the personal taste) of one individual or family. Besides giving us a peek into a different era, our speaker will describe how these gardens now provide important connections to nature in a time when many people feel isolated from it and in need of its healing solace.

Our speaker will be Joann Vieira, statewide Director of Horticulture for the Trustees of Reservations. Founded in 1891, The Trustees is the nation's first and the state's largest conservation and preservation organization. Among the 123 properties protected by the Trustees are significant and treasured historic landscapes and gardens, including 12 public gardens. We will learn from a true professional in her craft who brings many years of experience in public horticulture to The Trustees public gardens initiative.

President's Message

Carol Batdorf

Hi Everyone,

Spring is coming! There are snowdrops coming up in my gardens. I have a smile on my face when I see them. The garden has been a lifesaver these last two years. Things feel almost normal when I am in the garden. I am going to continue to enjoy that feeling as all my plant friends wake up from their long winter nap. The birds are chirping away and the owls were calling to each other this morning at 5 AM. I admit that I am looking for signs of spring to help lift my mood when I think of the horrors that are going on in Ukraine. We can show support for the Ukraine people by planting sunflowers in our gardens this year. It is their country's national flower. Also, the colors of blue and yellow in your gardens could be a nod to their country's flag. It may be a small thing but I think it will lift my heart a bit to see these plants and colors in the gardens this year.

I also am cheered when I see dragonflies flitting about in the garden. They are flying jewels and seem to enchant me as I watch them. Besides being magical creatures in my book, they are also very good hunters of mosquitoes and I am all for depleting the mosquito population so there are fewer to feed on me when I am out in the garden. Here is a list of plants that dragonflies are attracted to in the garden: Black-eyed Susan, White Yarrow, Meadow Sage, Swamp Milkweed, Joe-Pye Weed, Coneflowers, Borage, Water lily, Pickerel



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President's Message *(continued)*

Rush, Arrowhead (Duck potato). You could plant some of these species to help attract these colorful hunters to your outdoor oasis.

We will have a hybrid in-person meeting this month, provided Covid continues to decline. Please come, be safe and enjoy the meeting. Hope to see you there. ~ Carol

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## March Meeting Safety Protocols

We look forward to another in-person meeting. Masks are optional. We will have a limited supply of KN-95 masks to give to anyone who would like one. We will provide hand sanitizer. There will be no refreshments. For members who cannot attend in person, we will send an email with Zoom attendance instructions.

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Are you interested in joining the NSHS Board?

We'll be voting on our Board Members during our April member meeting. If you are interested in joining the Board, please let Carol know before April 2: 978-525-3528 or nina_carol@verizon.net

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## Cape Ann Blossoms

Cape Ann Museum  
May 13 Fundraiser 6PM – 9PM  
May 14 - 15 10AM – 5PM

Spring is in the air! A weekend-long event celebrating all things spring! Take a docent-guided or self-guided tour through the Museum galleries and see unique floral arrangements from local designers, inspired by select artworks.

Day pass reservations are strongly recommended.  
<https://www.capeannmuseum.org/events/cape-ann-blossoms-galleries/>

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Upcoming Gardening Events at Long Hill in Beverly

<https://thetrustees.org>

Saturday, March 19 Sustainable Gardening – Healthy Soils: Practical Solutions for a Healthy and Safe Landscape

Sunday, March 20 Vernal Equinox Walk

Saturday, March 26 Sustainable Gardening – Your Place in the Watershed

The Plant Box



Q: When is The Mayflower not a ship?

A: When it's a Trailing Arbutus!

Otherwise known as the Mayflower, the Trailing Arbutus is a hidden gem as well as the Massachusetts State Flower (since 1918). Growing low and slow, this evergreen shrub boasts very small flowers ranging in color from white to pink. It's one of the first to bloom in the Spring and is in the same family as blueberries and cranberries. However, it's not for every garden as it's very hard to grow, being very particular about what it likes. The best habitat is constantly moist with acidic soil along with being lightly wooded or open to a breath of fresh air – rocky hillsides are good ground for the Mayflower. It can be found in several states, primarily on the East Coast and is getting harder to locate with its native areas gaining ground cover and forest.

It still may be possible when you're out on a hike along a trail in some Massachusetts woodland to come across the Trailing Arbutus. And when you do, you may be inspired to bring back a specimen. But fair warning: pick it at your peril. A 1925 law that's still on the books will cost you a fine up to \$50 and if you were to do your harvesting in disguise or at nighttime, the fine will be as much as \$100 (MGL Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 7).

The Trailing Arbutus, as part of our landscape and nature's beauty, is locked in our heritage as well as our laws. And we're lucky to have it so well-protected.

This edition of the Plant Box was submitted by Anne Morin. Thanks, Anne!
Is there a type of plant that is special to you?
Please submit your idea (photo and relevant informative text ~200 words) for a future edition of the Plant Box to northshorehorticulture@gmail.com

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