

Academy Garden Club Thymes

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY GARDEN CLUB OF LENOX

NOVEMBER 2016

Tuesday, November 8, 2016- 7:00 pm
Lenox Academy Building

Program:

Boxwood Workshop - Cost: \$5.00

Speaker:

Jodi Huber of Family Flowers, Lenox

Refreshment Hostesses:

Lynn Schmitter and Carol Way

Dear Members,

As you can see, last month we created many beautiful wreaths to help bring in the fall season! Each one was a unique arrangement of the items brought in to personalize the wreath. Some made the hydrangea wreath, but even here, there was great individuality amongst the group. What fun we had!



For this coming year, Jodi Huber will teach us how to use boxwood for decorating our homes. She has her own floral shop, Family Flowers in Lenox,

so some of you may be familiar with her wonderful work. This will be an exciting workshop!

Come prepared to try your hand in working with boxwood and bring any questions you might have in regards to its use.

If you have a chance, check out the Fall Chrysanthemum Show at the Smith College Greenhouses. This is just as beautiful as the spring bulb show, but something you do not hear of as much. In the past, the mums presented had been created by the horticulture students in the spring to be ready for this

show. The show runs from November 5-20, 10 am to 4 pm daily and 10 am to 8 pm on Fridays.

Northampton has many wonderful places to grab a bite to eat, at any time, lunch or dinner! So why not make the trip?

Enjoy this rain we are finally having!

Warmly,

Anne
Anne Gannon
President



Horticultural Column by Harriet Wetstone

No, no, no, not November! The glorious fall colors, gone; the last hold-outs in the garden, gone. November can be cold and damp and dreary! Quick, two antidotes (at least for me): Window sill vegetables, and Cyclamen!

Did you know that you can grow, and regrow vegetables in water on your window sill? Garlic and scallions and green onions all do well in water giving you lots of tasty green to scissor into dishes.



Did you know that if you put the business end of a horseradish root in water that it will grow roots, and over several days, sprout leaves (horse radish leaves are very tasty in sandwiches).

The stumps of heads of romaine, bok choy and cabbage, and even celery, if put in water, will root and new leaves will begin to push up. Lemon grass and ginger can also be regrown in water. Who knew? Thanks to www.gardeningknowhow.com

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Cyclamen, with their up swept petals of reds and purples and their wonderfully patterned leaves, come back into flower now that it is getting cold.

Florists' cyclamen are derived from *Cyclamen persicum*, a genus of 23 species of perennial flowering plants in the family Primulaceae.



Cyclamens grow from tubers and are native to Europe and the Mediterranean Basin east to Iran.

They prefer cooler temperatures and indirect light, and if you water them from the bottom (which I learned from Dorthe Hvid), they will bloom and bloom. What works wonderfully is setting the whole pot into a slightly bigger container (a jardinière) half filled with water, and then just leaving it, to be checked in a couple of weeks or so when all is dry and then repeat.

* * * * *

I have begun to water all my house plants from the bottom. I find I water far less frequently, and everyone has been very happy.

I used to throw my cyclamen plants away when in late spring they stopped blooming and their leaves got yellow and sick looking - but this year I put them outside. I confess I promptly forgot about them - but I just discovered them, and they have all put out a crown of new leaves. It turns out that this is what is supposed to happen.

The Cyclamen Society (www.cyclamen.org) tells us that native cyclamen are long lived, resting through the long dry Mediterranean summer and growing again once the winter rains start.



Cyclamen africanum

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