


<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p><u>December 12, 2019</u></p> <p>The monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on the 2nd Thursday December 12, 2019, at 6:30 pm at the Morse Institute Library 14 E. Central St.</p>	
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p>December 2019</p>

President's Letter

Hello All!

Well, winter has arrived and the ground is covered with snow! We're about to celebrate the holiday season together at our annual potluck. The club continues to welcome more new members as we participate in engaging and informative programs. Our website is evolving, the downtown and the library look great, and once again we have a stunning Club donated tree in the Festival of Trees at Elm Bank.

See you at the potluck and enjoy the holidays.

Laurie

Laurie Adelstein

President, 2019-2020

Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, December 12th Holiday Potluck followed by speaker; **NOTE 2nd Thursday**
- Thursday, January 2nd Holiday UN-decorating at Morse Institute Library
- Thursday, January 16th NGC monthly meeting
- Sunday, January 26th **SAVE THE DATE:** Flora in Winter at Worcester Art Museum
- Thursday, February 6th NGC board meeting, 7 pm, Morse Institute Library

December Program

Holiday Pot-Luck followed by **Karen O'Brien** – *Preserving the Tastes of Summer*

Karen is a Master Gardener and owner of The Green Woman's Garden in Central Massachusetts. She will show us several methods for preserving herbs, including drying, freezing, and other simple tricks to ensure that the delightful smells and tastes of fresh herbs will be on hand to enliven our cooking and capture the essence of summer year-round.

November Meeting

Shirley Fitzpatrick and Maggie Rezendes – *Make a Holiday Arrangement!*

The club had much to be thankful for at our November meeting, a wonderfully festive gathering with record-breaking attendance for our hands-on workshop for Thanksgiving flower arranging. Long-time club members Shirley Fitzpatrick and Maggie Keene Rezendes showed us how to create professional looking holiday arrangements with a combination of purchased flowers and clippings from our yards. We each left with a beautiful horn-of-plenty and had ample time to appreciate one another's creations, get tips from Maggie who made the rounds, and hear Shirley's pro tips regarding arranging. Many thanks to the members who set up for and cleaned up after this delightful event, and to Shirley and Maggie for leading it. Clearly this was a huge success! Best regards to all for a festive season!







News, Notes, and Upcoming Events



Library Holiday Decorating:

On Monday, December 2nd, a team of talented, hard working club members decorated the new giving tree and the library. Thanks to a Natick Garden Club donation, the library now has a larger and fuller tree which will hold more donations of warm winter gear, all of which will be given to A Place to Turn on Hartford Street. Our thanks to decorating co-chairs Rhea Gallagher and Fran Guthery and volunteers: Rosalind Forber, Sibby Hill, Joyce Hannaford, Bryan Smith, and Ana Timmins for doing such a great job.

MassHort Festival of Trees:



Once again, Ellen Yetman has created a stunning tree for the Club's 7th donation to this annual Massachusetts Horticultural Society fundraiser. Ellen selected The Nutcracker as this year's theme and as well as all the ornaments, the club's donation includes a pair of tickets to Walnut Hill's Nutcracker performance. Elizabeth Carroll enhanced the club's gift by contributing a beautiful print of a painting by her father, well-known artist Davis Carroll. Thanks Ellen and Elizabeth!



Additional trees were contributed by NGC members Beth Gray-Nix (Patriots' and Dunkin' Donuts) and Catherine Clifford (Audubon Christmas.)



Mark Your Calendars for These Natick Garden Club activities...

Membership book

The **2019-2020 NGC Membership book** will once again be available at the December meeting. If you didn't come to the October meeting, be sure to pick yours up at the desk when you sign in and pick up your name tag. And thank Sue Mandell for a terrific job.

Worcester Art Museum: Flora in Winter Trip

Sunday, January 26, 2020. Preliminary sign up and details to be announced at the meeting on Thursday.

And for These Events of Interest

- **MassHort Festival of Trees:** until **December 15th**. Ellen Yetman has once again created the club's entry in this annual MassHort fundraiser, and it is fabulous! For dates and times see <https://masshort.org/garden-event/festival-of-trees/>
- **Framingham Garden Club – Saturday, December 7th** Holiday Greens Sale, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Needham Garden Club Wreath, Arrangement, and Gently Used Jewelry Sale - Saturday, December 7th**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Needham Congregational Church, 1180 Great Plain Ave. Proceeds to benefit Community Outreach and Scholarships, (Look for Monica Foley there!)
- **Hopkinton Garden Club – Saturday, December 7th** Holiday Greens Sale 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- **Westborough Garden Club – Saturday, December 7th** Holiday Boutique & Design presentation 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- **Other Seasonal Events** -see Jana Milbocker's blog for a terrific list of places to go and things to see now and through the holidays. <http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com/blog/>

Check these websites for events, classes and workshops of interest.....

- **Arnold Arboretum** <https://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>
- **Garden Club Federation of MA** <https://www.gcfm.org/schools>
- **Garden in the Woods aka Native Plant Trust** <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/education/>
- **Mass Horticultural Society** <https://www.masshort.org/Events>
- **Tower Hill Botanic Garden** <http://www.towerhillbg.org/index.php/visit/what-s-happening/events-calendar/>

Reminders:

- Vice President Jean Egerhei is now the contact for the NGC Sunshine Fund. If you know of a member who should receive a card from us, (illness, bereavement) please let Jean know at jegerhei@gmail.com or 508-655-7916.
- Recycle gardening books, magazines, or catalogs you no longer want by bringing them to the meeting to pass on to club members, or to put in the library magazine swap rack.
- Send photos of any and all club activities and events for inclusion in the newsletter to c.clifford90@comcast.net

Useful link(s):

- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter *Clippings* is always worth reading. You can always read it here: <https://ag.umass.edu/resources/home-lawn-garden/newsletters> And you can subscribe at: <https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/home-garden-email-list>
- You can always read the latest issue of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts newsletter *The Mayflower* online at: [Mayflower](http://www.mayflower.org)
- Natick is lucky to have both town employees and dedicated citizens actively working on sustainability initiatives, many of which align with our Club's mission to "beautify, revitalize and preserve.... for nature's sake." Please take a moment to click over to the Sustainability website <https://www.natickma.gov/964/Sustainability> where you can subscribe to a newsletter or read back issues. Or follow their efforts on <https://www.facebook.com/sustainablenatick>

Members' Travels:

Separate appendix coming soon. Note: you do not have to have traveled far, we are always happy to have photos of your visits to local horticultural places as well as from more distant venues – we publish these to inform as well as inspire each other. If there is a great garden spot in Waltham for example, I, for one want to know about it! As always, send your photos to c.clifford90@comcast.net

Thanks to Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Fran Guthery, and Sheila Tiberio for their contributions of content and photographs to this issue.

Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk