

President's Message

By Eileen Avia

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It's Shaping Up to be a Busy Autumn

Beside all the harvesting, canning, cleanup, decorating, shopping and cooking we are doing this month, the WAGC has some terrific events planned for us to enjoy and learn more about gardening! Check out the Class below for starters. Then read the rest of your newsletter for even more activities coming up!

Bergen-Passaic Chapter of Native Plant Society of New Jersey

The next meeting of the Bergen-Passaic chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey (NPSNJ) will take place on *Thursday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m., at Ender Hall, Room*

153, at Bergen Community College in Paramus (go to www.bergen.edu for detailed directions).

The speaker will be *Dr. Hubert Ling, Horticulturist for the NPSNJ*. He will talk about easy-to-grow native plants and will touch on many topics of great interest to home gardeners, such as plant propagation, gardening for butterflies, and shade-loving plants. Plants and seeds will be available for purchase at a nominal charge.

Admission is free and all are welcome.

A Welcome Word from our President

Happy November to all my gardening friends! I am sure the last few months have been difficult for all of us with the lack of rain and the plethora of leaves, which make the task of getting our gardens ready for winter even more challenging. Even though I love the beauty of autumn, I sometimes think I would like to trade all of my deciduous trees for conifers!



Our next meeting on November 12, will be held at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, when we join with the Ramsey Area Garden Club in learning about one of our winter favorites, the amaryllis. Please remember that the meeting starts at 6:45 pm, so come enjoy a lovely evening and an opportunity to meet new friends.

Looking way ahead to April 23, 2014, Kathryn Derderian has volunteered to chair our fundraiser with speaker Kerry Ann Mendez, a “passionate perennialist” and creative horticultural educator. If you are interested in helping Kathryn plan this event, please let us know. Remember, “many hands make light work,” so let’s all do our part to make this day a success!

Wishing you all a relaxing, reflective Thanksgiving,

Eileen



WAGC 2013-2014





Our Next Meeting

* Please note the different day and time

***Tuesday November 12th @ 6:45pm**

Where: Lutheran Church of the Redeemed

55 Wyckoff Ave Ramsey, NJ

Topic: "Everything You Wanted to Know About the Amaryllis"

Presented by Pat Czarnecki

Hostesses:
Sue Barbato, Jackie Fitzmaurice, Diane Backhaus, Connie Hagy

We will be joining the Ramsey Area Garden Club to see a potting demonstration followed by a workshop where you can pot up to 2 bulbs.

Bring a Guest!



Dates to Remember

Wednesday Nov 6th @ 7 pm

WAGC Board Meeting

At Deb Fisk's House

Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop

The Garden Club of Harrington Park will hold a special "Make-It & Take-It" Thanksgiving Workshop On Sunday, November 24th, at 2:00 P.M., upstairs, in the Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring Street.

Come join the fun! Make your own one-of-a-kind centerpiece to grace your Thanksgiving Table or to give as a hostess gift.

The Garden Club of Harrington Park is pleased to present guest lecturer *Barbara Plantholt Melera, President and CEO of The D. Landreth Seed Company*, at their meeting on Thursday, November 7th, at 7:30 P.M., in the Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring Street.

Topic: Saving the Seeds: The Story of America's Greatest Seedhouses
All are welcome.

November – January:

HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW

Fantastic Floral displays with NYC iconic buildings and trains.

New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx, NY

GROWING OUR CLUB

Please bring your guests!
All are welcome 😊



Save the Dates



Chore of the Month

Out and About

Save the Date: December 9th 2013

Join the Tenafly Garden Club on a trip to visit Winterhur and Longwood Gardens to see the beautiful decorations and displays for the Holiday Season.

Cost is \$70. Contact Vivian DeMarco at (201) 944-3925

Save the Date: February 13-16 2014

New Jersey Garden Club Flower Show at Raritan Exposition Center in Edison!

Visit: www.gardenclubofNewJersey.com and click on Flower Show tab

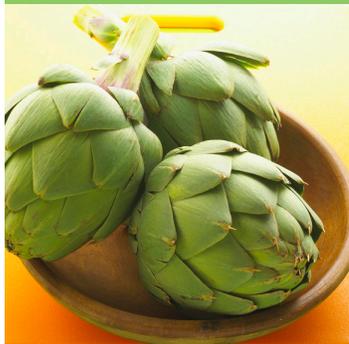
From awaytogarden.com Visit the website for additional information.

nov garden chores:

I KNOW, IT CAN FEEL OVERWHELMING:
How will we ever tuck it all in for the offseason, battening down the botanical hatches “in time”? Particularly in the Northern zones, November can turn on us. Let’s take the pressure off by working in priority order, making sure we get the important things done first, in case the weather shuts down the cleanup operation.

(continued)

Chore of the Month



safe keeping

OBVIOUSLY, NON-HARDY THINGS must be stashed safely. I got advice for [stashing tropicals from Dennis Schrader](#), a wholesale nurseryman who specializes in them. (Also in my archives: [overwintering rosemary](#), and [storing figs](#), and a [general page of plant-stashing tips](#).) Storing the vegetable-garden harvest in the correct spots—no, a winter squash and an onion won't be happy in the same temperature and humidity!—means longer-lasting enjoyment.

are bulbs all planted?

MANY FLOWER BULBS can go in the ground surprisingly late, even up North, but what they can't do is sit forgotten in your garage all winter. Get those bulbs in (and even purchase more on closeout sales, if you have time for extra digging). [My bulb FAQ page](#).

Garlic is a bulb, too, and I'm hoping yours is already planted (do it today if not!). [How to grow garlic](#).

an ounce of prevention

CLEAN UP with a particular eye to prevention—of pests, weeds, and general chaos in 2014. First hit things that showed signs of disease, weed or insect infestation, as author and longtime friend Ken Druse and I explained in [this story and podcast](#). More tips:

WEED WAR! Minimize weed woes for next year. Some weeds are actually easier to thwart in late summer and fall, [like these](#).

PEST PROBLEMS? Deer, voles, cabbage worms, squash bugs and other garden pests can be limited with tactics [like this](#). (If you had viburnum leaf beetle, start your rounds of egg-case elimination now. [The details](#).)

CLEAR TURF OR WEEDS

from around the trunks of fruit trees and ornamentals to reduce winter damage by rodents and rabbits. Hardware cloth collars should be in place year-round, sunk an inch or so into the soil, and standing 18 inches high. Use half-inch mesh or smaller.

AND THIS: LAST CALL FOR SOIL SAMPLES. If you had areas where something didn't fare well, gather a soil sample before the ground freezes and take or send it in for analysis to [your local Cooperative Extension service](#). [all the while, be thoughtful!](#) I KNOW I SAID to keep priorities in order, but don't rush around mindlessly. While I teased the 2012 garden apart, I made [my 2013 gardening resolutions](#), remember? Bring a pad and pen outside with you; this is the time for recording inspiration about what to do differently next year.

Make an Autumnal Apple Topiary Centerpiece

from www.hgtv.com

Materials Needed:

foam topiary form (ball or cone shape)
 15-20 small fresh apples or pears
 fresh sprigs of greenery (boxwood or evergreens)
 florist's skewers
 pot
 pruning shears or sharp scissors
 hot glue gun and glue sticks (optional)

Place foam topiary form in pot. Secure with some hot glue, if necessary. Insert a floral skewer into form, leaving approximately 1-1/2" - 2" exposed (Image 1). Press bottom of an apple or pear into skewer (Image 2). **Tip:** Smaller fruit works best for this project. Large pieces may be too heavy for skewers.



Cover entire foam form with fruit, evenly spacing pieces. Topiary may tip if all apples are inserted on only one side at a time so insert one apple on each of the four sides and then fill the rest out.

With pruning shears or scissors, clip several pieces of boxwood, evergreens, berries or fresh flowers that are 2" - 3" long.

Cuttings

Choose greenery with a stiff stem, so it can easily be inserted into foam form, or reinforce weak stems with florist's wire. Stick sprigs into foam, filling in all gaps between apples (Image 1). Continue this process until foam is no longer visible and topiary is full (Image 2).



Wyckoff Area Garden Club
 Visit our website:
<http://www.wyckoffgc.org>

By Anna Abma, member WAGC