

The LEAFLET

December 2020



Club News for the Members of the Martha Washington Garden Club

Happy Holidays!

Members were asked if they have a favorite holiday collection that is part of a family tradition. Perhaps some special tree ornaments, collectible figurines or family heirlooms that they bring out for the holidays. Or possibly a front door display that's a show stopper, or a beautiful tablescape...

Here we share what brings you joy this holiday season. Thanks to all of you who contributed!



← **From Barbara Heisler:**

"Here is my collection of counted cross stitch Old World St. Nick's. They are all stitched on linen. I began doing them in 1986 and finished the last one this year."



↑ **From Cindy Singh:** "Our treasured Santa comes out every year to spend Christmas with us. He's older than me and has flown across the Atlantic ocean twice. My grandmother bought him in Chicago when my mother was a teenager in the early 1960's and he hasn't missed a holiday since. I'm hoping he holds together long enough for my daughters to inherit him to preside over their Christmas celebrations."

↓ **From Karen Papastrat:** "This is my favorite Christmas decoration. Though it looks similar to ceramic trees you see today, it was made by my paternal grandmother in the late 1940's for my mother. She had two kilns in her basement and many Original Royal Dalton ceramic molds (no longer sold to the public) which she would hand paint and glaze. It makes my Christmas just seeing it every year!"



→ **From Jeremy Perry:**

"These three Christmas ornaments were hand-made for me by my older sister, Hilary, in the '70s. Each bead/sequin is attached to the base with a straight pin."



continued on the next page



↑ **From Lynn Holl:** “These five elegant crystal trees were once the treasured collection of Mary, the mother of Russ (Lynn’s husband). After she passed away five years ago, Russ gladly took possession of them. Each Christmas holiday we display the set interspersed with tea lights. They stay there throughout the Winter months until Mary’s birthday in the beginning of Spring.”



↑ **From Christine Bicardi:** “Here is our Williamsburg bird feeder decorated for Christmas.”

Due to continued COVID-19 restrictions, the club will continue as is without in-person meetings. We are hopeful by March that we’ll be able to provide a list of activities.



↑ **From Betsy Jurey:** “I always bring out the *Byers Choice Carolers* for the Holiday. I started with a Santa given to me by a friend. There are many more but I don’t have room for them all.”



← **From Becky Eroh:** “This is a wall hanging I created in 1994 while working in a 2 person office where I had a lot of downtime. It is individual counted cross-stitch squares, sewn together and quilted by my mother. The COVID pandemic has allowed me to re-visit my love of counted cross stitch and I’m thankful I have this hobby since I can’t be outside in the garden!!”

→ **From Becky Eroh:** “These are Christmas cards I’ve received over the years that I hated to toss out. I decided to make them into a collage which I hang every year instead of them sitting in a box”



← **From Arlene Gordon:** “My tree collection started with my mother giving me the ceramic one she found at a garage sale and then sort of grew with gifts from my daughter and daughter-in-law, my sisters and the cork one that I made.”



↑ **From Donna Myers:** "This is my favorite fireplace with my stocking made by my grandmother 65 years ago."

↓ **From Regina McHugh:** "This Christmas stable is over 100 years old. At one time it was displayed in St. Marks Church in Bristol, Pa."



↑ **From Janice Fetterolf:** "I love to use all my holiday dishes to set a beautiful table."

Birch Box Make It ZOOM Workshop

On Wednesday evening Dec. 9, fourteen club members tuned into a ZOOM workshop led by club member Deborah Moyer to create birch box arrangements with their provided supplies. What fun!

The event profits of about \$100 are being donated to "Give A Christmas," a fund from the Kiwanis Club that collects money from local citizens and businesses. Vouchers are distributed to children from struggling Lower Bucks County families and are redeemable at supermarkets and other stores.



Top left, Donna Myers, Arlene Gordon, Julie (Becky's daughter), Becky Eroh and Sue Chassen gather at Donna's house. Lower left, Deborah Moyer instructs through ZOOM; on the right is the finished arrangement.

For the January 2021 Leaflet, please consider sending in a photo with caption of something you find beautiful in nature.

How about a serene winterscape; a fork on a trail as you walk in the woods; or birds enjoying a nibble at your bird feeder?

Will post as many as possible, so start keeping an eye out for that special picture!



**Submit by January 18 to
Lynn Holl at
lynnholl@verizon.net**

November Little Show Entries "A Time for Gathering"

Thanks to all of the members who submitted entries in November's Little Show.



Lynn Lee



Arlene Gordon



Barbara Heisler



Janice Fetterolf



Betsy Jurey



Lynn Holl



Jackie Quinn-Palmer

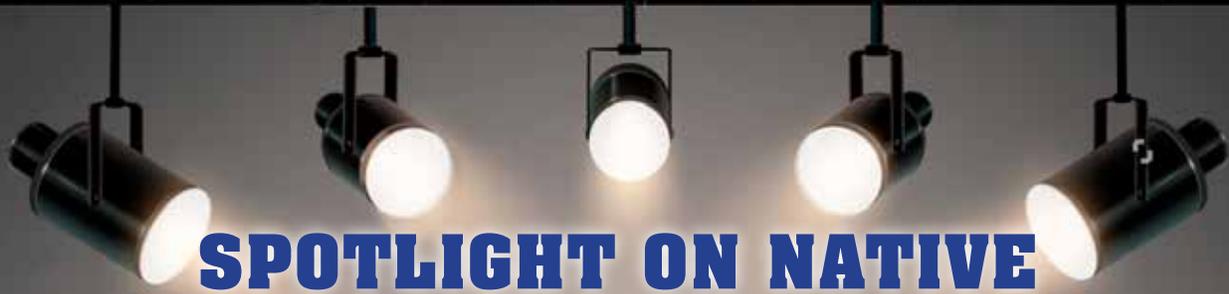


Jeremy Parry

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Website: www.marthawashingtongardenclub.org



SPOTLIGHT ON NATIVE

Bring Winter Color to Your Garden

When most people think of holly, they think of a shrub with bright red berries and glossy evergreen foliage. Holly always has glossy evergreen leaves, right? Well, not always. *Ilex verticillata*, commonly known as winterberry holly, is a native shrub that loses its leaves each autumn. After the leaves have turned yellow and dropped, you are left with a breathtaking view of thousands of brightly colored berries clinging to every stem. What a joy to have such color in the middle of winter!



in higher, drier soils. Though it is most commonly found in moist soils, it can also be grown quite successfully in average garden soils.

This plant has few serious insect or disease problems. It can range in heights from 3 feet to 15 feet in the wild. The width of the plant is also variable. In wet sites, it can sucker to form a dense spreading thicket. In drier soil, it tends to form a tighter clump.

Winterberry holly isn't really grown for its flowers, though it does bloom. It has very small, inconspicuous white flowers, with male flowers and female flowers found in different individual plants. In autumn, female plants develop colorful berries where those tiny flowers bloomed. Its slender branches are draped with small but plentiful berries from base to tip. The berries remain on the plant for several weeks to months through winter, as the birds tend not to be interested in them until they have softened considerably. One male winterberry holly will pollinate up to five female plants; to ensure abundant fruit set, plant the male within about 50'/15.25m of the females.



Winterberry holly is an amazing plant with a tremendous geographical range and a very diverse genetic expression. Native populations of *Ilex verticillata* stretch from Nova Scotia, south to Florida and west to Missouri. It can be found growing in low grounds, moist woods, swamps and occasionally

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IN MEMORIAM

We'd like to acknowledge all of our members who have lost family and/or friends during this past difficult year.



2021 Tour Update from Karen Papastrat

We are looking forward to a better year in 2021! Two spring trips are planned for next year, one in May and the other in June with dates still to be determined. Our final early summer trip to Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow in Newtown was a great time. We plan to follow the same guidelines in 2021, encouraging everyone to drive themselves or with close friends, to always social distance and of course to wear masks. If you have any suggestions for spring trips, please contact me! Watch for dates and locations to be posted soon. Happy Holidays to all!

Spotted Lanternfly Management Resources

The public can do a great deal to stop the spread of the invasive Spotted Lanternfly



Egg Mass. Found September-June.
Photo Credit: E. Swackhamer



Early nymph (actual size = 1/8") Found late April-July. Photo credit: PA Department of Agriculture



Late nymph (actual size = 1/2") Found July-September. Photo credit: PA Department of Agriculture



Adult, wings open. Photo credit: PA Department of Agriculture

Spotted lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, is an invasive planthopper, native to Asia, that was first detected in southeastern Pennsylvania in 2014. It feeds on many plants, including economically important crops like grapevines and ornamentals. If you think you have SLF, do not panic! First, make sure the insect you are seeing is the spotted lanternfly. Second, learn about its life cycle and habits. Third, determine what plants it is infesting and what it is not. Fourth, employ effective management strategies at the proper time of the year.

Walk around your property to check for egg masses on trees, cement blocks, rocks, and any other hard surface. If you find egg masses on your property from September to May, you can scrape them off using a plastic card or putty knife. Scrape them into a bag or container filled with rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer and keep them in this solution permanently. Egg masses can also be smashed. Remember that some eggs will be unreachable at the tops of trees, in other well-hidden areas, and throughout your neighborhood and community. Be aware that this method may not reduce the number of nymph or adult SLF you see later in the year.

Excerpted from extension.psu.edu

For more detailed information visit the PennState Extension at <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-management-for-residents>

Upcoming Little Shows:

DECEMBER: "A Present"—A creative design with an emphasis on gift giving. Design may be on top of a gift box, basket or bag, or incorporate a gift box within the design. Designer's choice of plant material. Floral tubes or floral foam may be used. Accessories permitted. Entries must be emailed **by December 21**.

JANUARY: "Ice Palace"—A creative, monochromatic display using winter hues of whites and blues. Water or reflection may be incorporated. Entries must be emailed **by January 25**.

All Little Show digital entries get emailed to **Barbara Heisler**, heislerbd@gmail.com

