

Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne

As the Garden grows, so shall the Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

January 2020

Holiday Elves and The Green and Bake Sale



There is no winter without snow, no spring without sunshine, and no happiness without companions. – Korean Proverb

Right after Thanksgiving, Club members became busy, busy elves! First, we had the Boxwood Trees and Swags Workshop.

Then our Wreath Workshop got cancelled because of a snow storm. Oh my! What can we do? A small group of elves went to work and made sixty wreaths! Those busy elves were not to be put off by a little snow! Making the wreaths is more than a story about work; it is a story about friendship and dedication. On the morning of the workshop, Alda awoke at 3:00 AM, worried sick by the weather. She knew she would have to cancel the workshop.

As the word went out, other club members became worried about Alda and knew she needed help. And without being asked, they started showing up at her door. Laverne was first, and stayed all day. By noon the others had arrived, and Isabel showed up with soup to serve lunch to the busy elves. This small group of ladies did the work normally done by thirty or more members. This story is amazing, heart warming and true! *Many thanks to Alda Baron, Sally Baer, Isabel Melo, Joan O'Brien, Carolee Packard, Laverne Newman and Kathy Sargent-O'Neill. Wow!*

At our evening meeting, we made table centerpieces. In a flurry of greens, bows, ornaments and flowers, over twenty ladies made a centerpiece for sale and one to take home. It was a fun evening!

On December 6th, we kicked off the holidays with our Green and Bake Sale at the Briggs-McDermott House. As the sun set, Mother Nature brought us a little light rain; but that didn't dampen the elves! The greens were on display; the Blacksmith's Workroom was filled with baked goods; and a good time was had by one and all. Our Sale was once again one of our best fund raisers. We made **\$3,270**. Well done ladies!

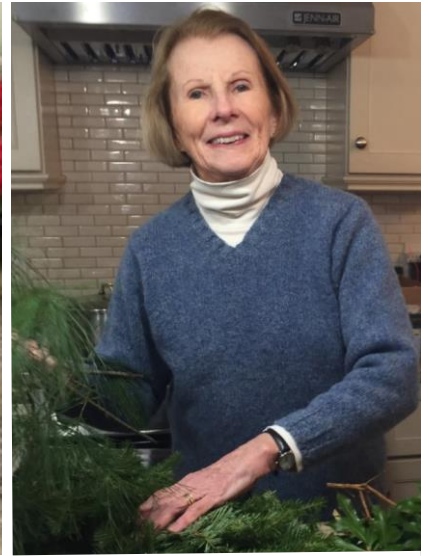


Photos of Holiday club activities follow on the next three pages. Enjoy!








Lee Drugan's Angels
at the Briggs House!





Looking Ahead

January Calendar	
13	<p>10:45 AM Board Meeting 12:00 PM Tea 12:30 PM Day Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Artistic Design: Designer's Choice based on the 2017 Handbook for Flower Shows.  Horticulture: My Favorite Things, by Karen Cronburg.  Program: Bourne's Integrated Solid Waste Management Facility Ever wonder what goes on at our landfill? Heather DiPaolo (Chair of the Recycling Committee) and Phil Goddard (Manager of Facility Compliance & Technology Development) will answer your questions about the Town's waste management practices. <p>Hospitality Chair: Dawn Labenski Committee: Jan Browne, Bobbie Dwyer, Joan O'Brien, Mary Reid & Jan Rogers</p>

December Day Meeting

Our daytime meeting was our annual holiday pot luck luncheon and garden ornament swap. The food was amazing!

Karen Cronburg shared some of her favorite Christmas things. This included: clove studded oranges, cinnamon dough potpourri ornaments and gardening gift ideas.

Judy Sheehy read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" and everyone rotated an ornament every time they heard a "the" or an "and". Needless to say we had a few traffic jams, a number of helping hands and lots of good cheer!



Special thanks to the Hospitality Committee for the lovely table set up.

Our lunch ended with many Christmas hugs and Best Wishes for the Holiday season. ***We give each other the gifts of kindness, friendship and community goodwill!***

AGC Members Participated in Caring & Sharing

Once again AGC members took the time to make donations for the Caring & Sharing Silent Auction at the Jonathan Bourne Public Library. Our efforts will benefit six charities. Here is what we raised.

- Pamela Matheson raised \$65 for Cape Cod Cares for the Troops.
- Pat Nemeth raised \$170 for Doctors Without Borders.
- Carolee Packard raised \$1,000 for Habitat for Humanity! Wow!
- Jayne Urso raised \$55 for the Barnstable Police K-9 Foundation.
- Lynda Wagner and Amy Fenton raised \$100 for Cystic Fibrosis, Ski for the Cure. They also raised \$80 for AGC, with a tree decorated with ornaments donated by the estate of Neil W. Watson.

All together AGC raised \$1,470. Many thanks to one and all!

Interesting Holly Facts

The holly family (Ilex genus) includes a diverse group of shrubs and trees. You'll find plants that grow only 18 inches tall, as well as trees as tall as 60 feet. The leaves may be hard and spiny or soft to the touch. Most are dark green, but you can also find purple tints and variegated forms.

Some of the more prevalent types of holly are:

- English Holly, dark green leaves with bright red berries,
- Variegated English Holly, with creamy white bordered green leaves,
- Chinese Holly, with berries that range from red to yellow,
- Japanese Holly, with dark black berries, and
- Blue Holly, blue green leaves with red berries.



Nelly Stevens Holly

If you only have room for one holly plant, there are cultivars that are able to produce fruit without pollination from a second plant. One of the most popular is the 'Nellie R. Stevens,' which is a cross between an English holly and a Chinese holly.

One favorite local site is Bill Cannon's Holly Farm in Brewster. There he has over 300 types of holly. To tour the Holly Farm, call 508-896-3740. To quote Bill, "The Cape is a great place to grow holly."



Message from the President

So This is Christmas

(Excerpt from a song written by John Lennon)

*So this is Christmas
And what have you done?
Another year older
And a new one just begun.*

*A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear.*

I wish you all the happiest of Holidays! I look forward to seeing you all again in the new year and new decade!



- *Laura Bergeron*

Aptucxet Garden Club of Bourne is a member of the Southeastern District of Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, New England Region Garden and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Newsletter Editor Pat Nemeth pat.nemeth@hotmail.com
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