



# North Shore Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 171, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944

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[www.NSHorticulture.org](http://www.NSHorticulture.org)

## Meeting Location

The Zoom meeting link will be emailed to members the Monday before and again the morning of the meeting

## Upcoming Zoom Meetings

**Thursday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 PM**

*Garden Gate* seminar  
*Monarchs and Milkweeds*  
James A. Baggett

**Thursday, Mar 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 PM**

Catherine Brown, DVM  
*Ticks and Tick-Borne  
Diseases in MA*  
Live presentation  
over Zoom

**Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
7:30 PM**

*Garden Gate* seminar  
*Perennials that Live up  
to their Promise*  
Sherri Ribbey

## **Board Meeting**

Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 PM



## **President's Message**

*by Carol Batdorf*

Hi Everyone,

A new year has started and the plant and seed catalogs have started to pile up. It is wonderful to see flowers, plants, veggies, and trees as I go through the pages. I admit that I get all excited and then I have to talk to myself and say, "I don't have the time or the money to plant all the great plants that have caught my eye." I also have to remember that half of the ones that I really covet are sun plants and I have a shade garden. Some suggestions for things to keep in mind as you consider a catalog purchase: Are there shipping fees for the plants? Some companies ship for free if you place an order over a certain amount. What is the size of the pot that the plant will come in? Or is it bareroot, or tuber, bulb or corm? When will the shipment be sent? Will it be sent so early that you must have room and sun indoors to unpack and grow the plants for a few months before they can safely go outside? Think about the size and known quality of a plant that you can select yourself at a garden center compared to what may arrive in the mail.

If you are buying seed, order early. Last year many companies ran out because everyone was turning to their gardens for food, family time, and/or solace. If you plan to do preserving, make sure that you already have the supplies because bands and lids for glass canning jars are still on back order.

By all means have fun going through the catalogs, make lists and dream! Figure out where you can get the best plant for your money. The planting season isn't far away.

Happy garden planning!

~ Carol

## ***Monarchs and Milkweeds***

**Thursday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**

This month's Zoom seminar is presented by James Baggett of *Garden Gate* magazine. Monarch populations are declining all over North America, and one reason is a loss of habitat. Want to help stop the decline and bring more of these butterflies back into your garden? Plant milkweed! James Baggett will show you which milkweeds are best in our region and exactly how to grow this beautiful plant so it'll help the monarchs.

We will send an email with the link for our Zoom meeting on the Monday before the meeting. We'll follow up with a reminder email on the day of the meeting. If we don't have your email and you want to join the Zoom meeting, please let us know: [northshorehorticulture@gmail.com](mailto:northshorehorticulture@gmail.com)

## ***Nearby public gardens getting rejuvenated***

The public gardens protected and cared for by The Trustees of Reservations are a living documentary of Massachusetts horticulture and design traditions. Many of their gardens were developed during the so-called "Country Place Era" (1890 to 1930), when wealthy Americans showcased their travels and taste by drawing inspiration from European garden design. Now, a rejuvenation of two of The Trustees public garden sites—Long Hill, in Beverly, and The Stevens-Coolidge Place, in Andover—is underway. For more information, check out the Trustees web site at: <https://live-trustees.pantheonsite.io/gardens-transformed/>

## Turn kitchen scraps into regrown vegetables

Submitted by Joan Johnson

Joan recommends a technique that she read about in the January 2021 issue of the *Erikson Tribune* by Michelle Harris. Here are some excerpts:

"In the spring of 2020, Americans embraced gardening like never before. It became such a popular pursuit that suppliers quickly sold out of their best varieties of tomatoes, zinnias, and herbs. There's something therapeutic about working the earth, nurturing emerging seedlings, and enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of your labor..."

Now, as cold weather moves across most of the country, gardeners will have to satisfy their green thumbs by scouring seed catalogs to plan out next year's garden...

However, you don't have to abandon your urge to grow things entirely. You can grow...or rather regrow...vegetables on your kitchen counter. You don't need any special tools: just a knife, a glass of water, and later on, a pot with a bit of soil. While it is not the same as growing food in your garden, regrowing gives everyone a chance to have a little plant project..."

Joan experimented with regrowing the scallions from her garden last summer: "It was fun and it worked!!!"

Here are instructions for regrowing scallions:

"Snip the bottoms off a bunch of scallions – about two inches. Place the scallion pieces in a glass of water. Before long, you will see roots emerge from the bottom of the onion and the green part will start to grow above your cut point. You can plant the scallions in a pot of soil and just snip off pieces as you need them for cooking.

Try the same thing with leeks and lemongrass."

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## Lush Oasis at Gardner Museum

Joan also shared an article (with colorful and inspiring photos) from the *WBUR Weekender* newsletter about the indoor courtyard at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston:

[Need Some Color In Your Life? Here's How Gardner Museum Horticulturalists Raced To Create A Lush Oasis](#)

## Garden Design and David Culp webinars

by Traci Sobocinski

I have some snowdrops coming up early! Get those pussy willow and forsythia branches in to force!

I recently took part in a webinar with David Culp (author of *A year at Brandywine Cottage*: <https://www.davidculp.com/a-year-at-brandywine-cottage/>) sponsored by *Garden Design Magazine* (a great print product that went digital and is morphing into all sorts of new gardening content). Culp will be doing a monthly webinar featuring his garden and various projects. He is a great educator and his garden is beautiful. He also collects snowdrops and breeds hellebores!

You can sign up for the class announcements here: <https://www.gardendesign.com/classes/>

I also have his book, *The Layered Garden*, if anyone would like to borrow it, I can leave it on my porch. I know that many people don't have the internet and it is difficult to go to the library. I also have a few back issues of *FLOWER* magazine, a floral and home magazine that I discovered last winter when I worked for a florist. The periodical swaps at the meetings are missed. Maybe we can continue to share some resources with a garage/front porch safe swap? Just an idea for a time of the old new normal!

Be well and enjoy the beauty of nature!

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Gardner Museum director of horticulture, Erika Rumbley, carries a *clivia miniata* through the courtyard of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. (photo by Jesse Costa/WBUR)