



# North Shore Horticultural Society

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

January, 2017 Volume XIX Number 4

<http://www.NSHorticulture.org/>

## Meeting Preview

**Tuesday, 7:30PM**  
**February 28th**  
Nancy Coffey  
*Estate Gardens and*  
*Gardeners*  
1850-1919

**Tuesday, 7:30PM**  
**March 28th**  
Ellen Ecker Ogden  
*Designing a Kitchen*  
*Garden*

**Tuesday, 7:30PM**  
**April 25th**  
Peter Bradford  
*Gardens of Europe*

**Tuesday, 6PM**  
**May 23rd**  
Fred Rice,  
Auctioneer  
*Annual Auction*  
*And Plant Sale*

**Tuesday, 6PM**  
**June 27th**  
*Tuck's Point*  
*Pot Luck Picnic*

*All NSHS meetings, except as noted, will be held at the American Legion Hall, 14 Church St., Manchester (behind Town Hall).*

**Board Meeting**  
**Thursday,**  
**February 9th**  
**at the home of**  
**Anne Mesgar**  
**7:30PM**

## **POTLUCK DINNER** **VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR** **Tuesday, January 24th, 6PM** ***GROWING AFRICAN VIOLETS*** ***AND OTHER GESNERIADS:*** ***TIPS, TRICKS AND TRAPS*** ***Stuart Hammer*** **7:30PM**

Our annual potluck dinner starts off the 2017 calendar for the Society. For more information see the [President's Message](#). During the dinner there will be our Virtual Garden Tour showcasing members' gardens, plant material, hardscapes... as well as photos from members' travels.

Promptly at 7:30, the meeting will start with Mike Mack's HPOI. Then, Stuart Hammer, a director of the Gesneriad Society, will present his program on African Violets and other Gesneriads. We will learn helpful "tips, tricks, and traps" about a plant family that can be found on all continents except Antarctica. The group is so diverse that it is impossible to come up with one descriptive trait that would fit all species. Certain types are often classified by their roots, fibrous to rooted, tuberous to rhizomous.

Stuart will also discuss cultivation requirements of these plants with live examples. There will be a number of small plants for sale so we can try growing them ourselves.

This January meeting is a wonderful time to enjoy horticultural camaraderie/vision through the visual garden tour, good food, and learning. This is a good way to start the new year. Be a friend - bring a friend.

\*\*\*

*Into the prison of the seed comes water, the liberator.*

*D.C. Peattie, naturalist*

*1898-1964*

\*\*\*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** ***Carol Battdorf***

Happy 2017, Best of luck in all your endeavors and especially in your gardening efforts. I have looked over my past letters for this month and it seems that some of the hellebores are always blooming the first week of January and then the deep freeze comes and snow. Well, it is winter so that is the pattern. Blooms to enjoy one day and snow the next. Since the outside plants are now under their winter blanket (for a day or two) we have to look to other places for flowers and color to get us through the winter. I have two begonias in my living room that are giving some nice color with their leaves and one is also blooming. Our speaker, Stuart Hammer, will be able to give us a list of plants (African Violets and other Gesneriads) that will help brighten up our indoor spaces.

The January meeting will also include a potluck dinner provided by all the members. We have some wonderful cooks out there. Please bring a yummy dish to share. The meal will start at 6:00 as will the Members' Virtual Garden Tour slideshow. The meeting will start at 7:30PM and the desserts will be put out then for all members to be able to enjoy. Please bring something to share for the meal or dessert, invite a friend to come to the meeting, and join me in a meal, virtual garden tour and then our speaker. (So far I have received pictures from three members of the group for the virtual tour. Please send pictures to [nina\\_carol@verizon.net](mailto:nina_carol@verizon.net) by Saturday, January 21st.) See you at the meeting.

*Carol*

**A Post Script from Carol - A big Thank You** to all who contributed to the November toy and gift collection for the **Children's Friend and Family Services of Salem**. Your contributions were greatly appreciated. Thank you for your kindness and caring. And a sincere thank you to Norm and Ruth Weeks who for several years have been bringing the gifts over to CFFSS.

\*\*\*

### **HORTICULTURAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

Vice President Mike Mack's HPOI will give pointers on flowering indoor plants and what to be aware of when ordering plants through the internet or by mail. All of Mike's HPOIs are available on the Horticultural Society's website.

\*\*\*

### **VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**

**By Saturday, January 21st, please send photos** along to Carol Batdorf who will be conducting the tour. Be sure to jot down appropriate captions for the photos when you send them on to her at [nina\\_carol@verizon.net](mailto:nina_carol@verizon.net). Please no more than three photographs per email, but many emails with attachments are welcome. Thank you in advance.

\*\*\*

### **REFRESHMENTS POTLUCK and DESSERT**

Members please bring something for the potluck if you are planning to come for dinner or a dessert for the January meeting.

\*\*\*

### **HELP!!!**

**At our December meeting, "SHARING YOUR YARD WITH NATURE", Mass Audubon's Carol Decker** brought several of her personal books. When she was packing up "**State of the Birds: Documenting Changes in Massachusetts Birdlife**" was among the missing. If you know of its whereabouts, could you bring it to the January meeting. We would appreciate it very much.

\*\*\*

### **COMPOST**

**Mark your calendars:** "Camellia Blooming Season", at the Lyman Estate (185 Lyman Street, Waltham) Greenhouses Tuesday, February 14th to Wednesday, March 15th, 9:30AM-4:00PM. Many of the trees are more than 100 years old and the Camellia house itself was originally built in 1820 and in 1908 was partially taken down and rebuilt wider and taller to house the growing camellia trees. For more information call 617-994-5913.

Mass Hort's Flower and Garden Show, "Superheros of the Garden" will take place March 22-26th, Seaport World Trade Center.

**Do You Know** what "Seed to Table" is? From Mass Hort's website: "*Start with a seed. End with a Meal.*" The Seed to Table program exemplifies Mass Hort's commitment to education for the public good. Since 2011, we have provided education and hands on experience with the cultivation and use of food and beverage plants. Working to educate all levels, we encourage intergenerational exploration of our food heritage in our many Seed to Table teaching spaces throughout The Gardens at Elm Bank.

"To further promote the joy of growing and cooking vegetables and herbs, we forged a partnership with the [Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging](#) in 2013. Through this, we helped install a community garden in downtown Boston. Today thousands of people who pass by their research center can witness food production, and all of the produce is donated to the St. Francis House. This partnership also works to present *The Talk and Taste* lecture series that pairs an HNRCA scientist, Mass Hort horticulturist and local chef to educate on plant and nutrition science and cooking.

"Beyond education, the Seed to Table program works to address issues of food access in our community and provides a model for other communities to do the same. From our Seed to Table vegetable garden, we send semiweekly donations of fresh organic produce to the Wellesley Food Pantry and Natick Service Council food distribution center. We are proud of the results extending from the enormous amount of work that is poured into this endeavor. Many thanks to our dedicated Master Gardeners that make this happen from June through October."

\*\*\*