



Needham Garden Club Newsletter

November/December 2020

Visit us online at
www.needhamgardenclub.com

Up-coming Event

**November 17- General Meeting
at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom**

LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Hello Fellow Gardeners!

In our first letter of the season, we tried to be optimistic about the 2020-2021 Needham Garden Club season. Although we were sad about the loss of in-person contact, we were optimistic about keeping our club together through the use of Zoom. So far we are off to an amazing season, far better than we anticipated. With the creativity and talents of some of our members we have had 3 great virtual club meetings.

Debbie Kraft kicked off our season with a flower arranging demonstration using a fabulous assortment of dahlias. From button to dinner plate dahlias, Debbie wowed us with the beautiful arrangement from her garden. Thank you to her husband for the technical support.

Lyn Jekowsky, a very talented member, created a phenomenal presentation called Pecha-Kucha which is a format that uses slides of plants. The photos were all from members gardens. Combined with poetry and music, she created a magical presentation. Again, there was technical support from her husband. This can be found on our website.

And our third virtual meeting was pumpkin decorating using washi tape. We broke out into work groups and decorated pumpkins and created beautiful seasonal decorations for our home. The best part, we had the opportunity to catch up with other members.

So, as strange as the Needham Garden Club season started off, the talent within our club and the desire to create our "new normal" has prevailed.

Looking for more, great virtual meeting in the months to come.

Jane Lischewski and Martha Schleck, Co-Pandemic Presidents





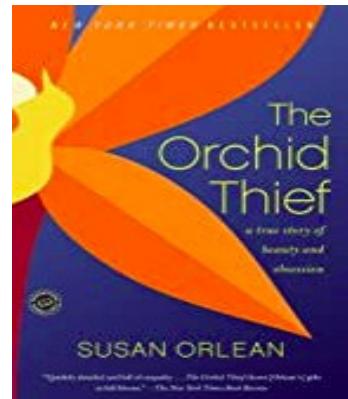
In memory of Nina Saltus, a long-time and active member of the Needham Garden Club, who died suddenly on October 14. Her Memorial Service will be on November 14 at 2 p.m. A Zoom link will be forth-coming.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Program Committee News

For our General Meeting on November 17, 9:30 a.m., we will read "The Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean. Following a discussion of the book, Cathie Cummings and Lyn Jekowsky will give a presentation on orchids. If you don't have time to read the book, the author wrote an article in *The New Yorker*. Here is the link:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.newyorker.com/magazine/1995/01/23/orchid-fever/amp>



Dendrophylax lindenii, the ghost orchid

A modern classic of personal journalism, *The Orchid Thief* is Susan Orlean's wickedly funny, elegant, and captivating tale of an amazing obsession. Determined to clone an endangered flower—the rare ghost orchid *Polyrrhiza lindenii*—a deeply eccentric and oddly attractive man named John Laroche leads Orlean on an unforgettable tour of America's strange flower-selling subculture, through Florida's swamps and beyond, along with the Seminoles who help him and the forces of justice who fight him. In the end, Orlean—and the reader—will have more respect for underdog determination and a powerful new definition of passion. (Amazon)

Future Meetings

The Program Committee has actively been pursuing all 2021 scheduled speakers to see if their programs are conducive to a Zoom presentation. Knowing how important it is to keep our members engaged during these isolating times, we have contacted all three speakers.

At this time, Nancy Riggs has agreed to do a Zoom presentation on *Gardening for the Future* on January 19, 2021.

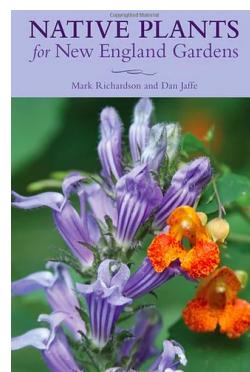
This replaces *From Field to Florist: Beloved Flowers and Their Incredible Journey*.



Susan Guest will present *Your Body in the Garden* via Zoom on April 27, 2021.

We are still waiting to hear from Dan Jaffe who is scheduled to do a talk on native plants of New England. We have heard that Dan has been doing Zoom presentations, but as of yet he hasn't gotten back to us.

Pat Hession and Bonnie Waters, Co-Chairs



Community Outreach Committee News

The garden that we tend at Noyes Park is winding down, but still has spots of color from the mums, the sedum and the leaves of the spirea which should soon be displaying fall colors. In September we decided to fill the library urns with mums even though the front entrance is closed for now. In mid-November we plan on using greens in the urns for the winter season. Anyone that has branches of evergreens or other interesting branches to donate, such as red twig dogwood or white birch, can contact Cathie Cummings. You can leave them outside and she will pick them up.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO WATER NOYES PARK AND THE URNS.

Last issue we thanked the Garden Angels for Noyes Park by name. Now we'd like to recognize those who are watering the library urns:

Nancy Yablonski, Amy Chan, Anne Brain, Kathryn Bender, Ellen Barnes and Isabell Wells.

Thank you!

Cathie Cummings and Lynne Jones, Co-Chairs



Ways and Means Committee News

Calling all crafters! If some of you find time hanging heavy on your hands with so much that has been cancelled, please feel free to check out Pinterest and YouTube videos for ideas for Christmas decorations! We found for the 2019 sale that wreaths decorated with a large central motif such as a teddy bear, penguin, very large star, etc. were quite popular. If you feel that you would like to tackle something like that to contribute to the 2021 sale (fingers crossed that it will be back to "normal") please let the co-chairs know as soon as you have something that you are pleased with. We will even store it for you!

Best wishes for a safe, and healthy holiday season.



Diana Conroy and Fabienne Madsen, Co-Chairs

Social Media Committee News

Visit our Club Website <http://www.needhamgardenclub.org/> and Facebook page often to stay abreast of Club news.

Nancy Agler, Lyn Jekowsky, and Gail Davis, Social Media, Website and Publicity Tri-Chairs

Newsletter Committee

Our thanks to all those who have shared articles and pictures. The next deadline for the January/February newsletter is December 10, 2020.

Amy Cicala and Carol Alper, Co-Chairs



Coleus and impatiens dress up my old shed.

Cathie Cummings

Photos from the October Garden Club Mixer. Using Washi tape to create wonderful table decorations for the up-coming holidays.





Such Creativity!

Highlights from Autumn



My sole harvest. Amy Cicala



SNOW *in October!*

