



Garden Club News

December 2010

PO Box 3253 Teaneck, NJ 07666

www.gardenclubofteaneck.org

Calendar: December 2010

The Garden Club of Teaneck will meet on Thursday, December 9th at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held at the Rodda Center at 250 Colonial Court. **The Garden Club of Teaneck will hold its Holiday party that night.** There will be no speaker. Please bring canned goods or other non-perishable foods for the Food Bank. If first letter of your last name is from A - I please bring a main course. If the first letter of your last name is from J - P please bring a dessert, and if the first letter of your last name is from R - Z please bring an appetizer.

The next Greenhouse Committee meeting will be held at the Greenhouse, on Saturday, December 4th, at 10:00 am.

Member News

Message from Debbie Morgan, President:

Greetings & Salutations:

I hope everyone had a marvelous Thanksgiving. If you have not already done so, please send in your Garden Club membership application and dues as soon as possible. Several years ago we decided that instead of grab-bag gifts we would donate to a food bank. Please remember to bring canned goods for the Food Bank to the party. You may also make out a check to the Center for Food Action. I will see you all at the Holiday Party on Thursday, December 9th.

Everyone please have a healthy and happy New Year.

Message from Christina Mackensen, Greenhouse Horticultural Director:

Over the holidays, many of us decorate our homes with a beautiful, blooming amaryllis.



When the holidays are over, there is no reason to discard the bulb, but with proper care, it will most likely come

back to life the following year. After blooming has stopped, the spent flowers should be cut off and watering and fertilizing should continue over the winter months. In the spring, the plant can be placed outside and when the stems begin to sag, they should be cut down to about two inches from the top of the bulbs. Amaryllis bulbs need a period of cool, dark storage for about two months. This can be done in September, and in November, the bulbs should be placed in a light, warm spot, and soon, another blooming cycle will delight us again.

All greenhouse groups have been busy cutting and propagating various annuals and house plants. Most of the time the soil barrels have been filled up and the work area and aisles have been swept clean when groups finish up. It is a delight to walk into a clean greenhouse and admire the wonders of nature. We are very fortunate to have this place. Let's keep up the good work.

Let's welcome our newest members: Frances Epps Wilburn and Ronald Mckay.

Our newsletter editor, Marty Steeil, has taken incredibly beautiful pictures of our members' plants which are now blooming in the greenhouse, and for us all to admire. Thank you, Marty!

Happy Holidays to all!

Message from Dania Cheddie, New Group Leader of the Outside Garden Plots:

All Greenhouse members that have an outside garden plot are reminded that these areas must be kept neat and clean. I have reviewed all of the outside garden plots and several are in severe need of end of season cleanup.

Recipe of the Month

Cranberry Bars

Submitted by Christina Mackensen

Ingredients

2 Cups of Sugar
 2 Eggs
 ½ Cup of Butter
 1 ½ Cups of Flour
 2/3 Cup of Broken Pecans
 2 Cups of Cut-up Cranberries
 Powdered Sugar

Preparation

Combine the Cream sugar, eggs and butter. Add the pecans and flour. Stir in the cranberries that have been cut into quarters. Spread in a 10x15 inch pan that has been well greased. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-35 minutes. Let Cool. Dust with powdered sugar. Cut into squares.



Ask Sara

Our "Ask Sara" question this month is How do you care for Poinsettias?

From an article written by Ralph Snodsmith, Poinsettia-Euphorbia Pulcherrima.

General care: Upon arrival immediately remove the potted poinsettia from the paper sleeve used by the florist to protect the foliage from damage. Check the soil to



insure that the plant has adequate moisture. The soil should be damp to touch. If the pot is wrapped in decorative foil, make sure that there

is proper drainage. Puncture the foil to allow water to drain into a saucer. Place the new plant in a brightly lit growing location but not in the direct sun. It can be enjoyed in average room temperatures. Keep the plant away from drafts and chilly air. Do not set the plant on a cold window sill or on top of the TV. The tender roots do not like cold soil or excessive heat. Keep the soil-less mix slightly moist at all times, but not wet. Allowing the plant to reach the wilting point will cause immediate leaf drop. It is not necessary to feed the newly purchased plant as the grower has provided sufficient nutrients to keep the plant healthy for several months. Happy Holidays to everyone. Sara

The Blooming of the Greenhouse

By Marty Steeil, Editor of the GCT Newsletter

During these past several weeks I have been setting up my bench at the Greenhouse. As all the members moved back in I have seen it come alive. It is our unique resource. I hope these pictures will encourage all members of the Garden Club of Teaneck to also become members of the Greenhouse Committee.



Come to the Greenhouse meeting on Saturday, December 4th at 10am. These pictures and many more will be on display for the plant owners to keep.