

# Academy Garden Club Thymes

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY GARDEN CLUB OF LENOX

**NOVEMBER 2020**

## **Hello Academy Garden Club Friends!**

Here's hoping your garden clean-up is well underway or better yet, finished for another year! Before you start chopping, it's always a good idea to walk around your gardens and take notes for spring regarding plants that need to be moved or divided, spots that need soil amending, and areas where you would like to add plants. If you are like most gardeners, these thoughts will vanish during the winter unless you take copious notes in the fall!



Although not nearly as satisfying as spring chores, there is something to be said for getting ready to move indoors now that the days are getting shorter and the nights have a chill in the air. The move to shorter days and longer nights does not, however, have to be void of the garden plants and colors that we so admire in the fall.

One way to savor the look of fall once the frost hits is to decorate window boxes, planters or walkways and walls with fall plumes, pumpkins and gourds. This does not have to be expensive as cattails and wild grasses can be foraged from roadsides and fields. Here is an idea for window boxes that only cost the price of the pumpkins and a roadside stop with clippers in hand!

Moving inside your home, you can use dried flowers, grasses, and delicious looking apples to bring those luscious fall colors and smells into your living spaces. In this photo, you can see allium, grasses, and yummy apples piled high in a gorgeous bowl bought years ago from Annie Selke's Pot Luck collection. Another idea is to bring in the outdoors with birch candle holders. You can make them yourself or if you are lucky, you may spot them in a garden gift shop.



Finally, if you look closely you can see the puppy peeking in the doorway! Do not forget to bring in your pets for snuggly warmth and friendship during the long chilly months ahead.

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Most of us aren't having dinner parties these days due to the pandemic, but why not have some fun and decorate your dining room as if you are hosting a harvest dinner for all your favorite friends? Set out your best china and glassware and create a fall scene using pumpkins, gourds, eucalyptus greens and candles. Again, these lovely placemats are from Pine Cone Hill's Pot Luck collection and the adorable flowerpot napkin rings are a treasured gift from a neighbor.



One final tip to bring the outdoors in on these dark days of fall and winter is to keep your gardening books within reach! Perusing books on the darkest days will inspire you with warmth, sunshine, and a multitude of ideas for spring! These books are stacked high on an old school bench in a reading corner fit for inspiration and relaxation. Where can you keep your gardening books so they are within easy reach?



Our wish is that this newsletter finds you all healthy and happy. We are living in unprecedented times and living our daily lives very close to home. If you are like us, you miss seeing family and friends as well as having everyday adventures without wearing a mask, washing hands, and wondering if we will become ill. Our hope is that this newsletter inspires you to create a space in your home that brings the outdoors in and gives you a change of scenery without leaving the comfort and safety of home.

Warm regards,

Lynn and Carol

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