



# Sproutings

## Chatham Garden Club

[chathamgardenclub.org](http://chathamgardenclub.org) | [facebook.com/chathamgardenclub](https://facebook.com/chathamgardenclub)

December, 2022

*"If you want to experience the true meaning of the holidays, give something to someone who can offer nothing in return." — Toni Sorenson*

### What's Happening in December?

[Links are underlined in blue](#)

**December:** Toys for Tots donations being accepted at Police Station - new & unwrapped toys - Drop box is available 24 hours a day in the lobby

**Dec 1st - Dec. 23rd:** - [Gardens Aglow](#) - Heritage Gardens, Sandwich

**December 3rd:** Stuff a Cruiser at Ocean State parking lot - new & unwrapped toys for local Cape Cod recipients 10 am - 2 pm

**Dec 6th:** Chatham Garden Club's Holiday Party at Wequasset 12:45

**Dec 9 - 11th:** Chatham's Christmas by the Sea Stroll [Chatham Christmas Stroll](#)

**December 10th:** [Chatham Christmas Concerts](#) 2:00 pm & 5:00 pm and [Christmas Cookie Express](#) - both at First Congregational Church

**Dec 10th:** [Christmas by the Sea Gala](#) at Chatham Bars Inn

**Dec 13th:** 1:00 Board Meeting - CANCELED

**December 21st:** Winter Solstice - First day of Winter ❄️❄️❄️

**December 31st:** First Night in Chatham [First Night Chatham](#) Noon-9:00\*

From Martha Miller of [Chatham Food Pantry](#)

*Dear Gardeners,*

*We wish to thank you for your recent generous Food Drive.*

*Please know that you have truly made an impact on our mission to provide nutritious food for our Chatham families in need.*

*It was a pleasure to attend your meeting last week and to get the chance to thank all of you in person.*

*You are an integral part of our Chatham community, and we thank you for all that you do.*

*Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your time with family and friends. Sincerely, Ted & Martha Mill*



Cece & Shelly helping Martha with donated goods for our Food Pantry  
Photos by Katherine Touafek



Jo-anne & Beth at our November workshop  
Visit our [Facebook](#) page for more pictures!



Kit welcoming new member, Susan Gotschewski



November Horticulture Table by Mary Ellen included gardening reminders, winter care for hydrangeas & winter "beauties"

**Do you know the difference between these two cacti? And then there's an Easter cactus too!**

[Christmas Cactus vs Thanksgiving Cactus](#) *from Garden Gate Magazine*



**Recommended Conservation Books  
for Giving & for Reading!** By Liz Scheld

**Adult books**

Nonfiction:

- *Nature's Wild Ideas: How the Natural World is Inspiring Scientific Innovation* by Kristy Hamilton
- *Attracting Birds, Butterflies, and Other Backyard Wildlife* by David Mizejewski, NWF
- *The Nature of Nature: Why We Need the Wild* by Eric Sala

Fiction:

- *The Overstory* by Richard Powers

**Children books**

Nonfiction:

- *National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Why* by Amy Shields
- *Birds vs. Blades: Offshore Wind Power and the Race to Protect Seabirds* by Rebecca E. Hirsch
- *John Muir, America's First Environmentalist* by Kathryn Lasky
- *Wangari's Trees of Peace, A True Story from Africa* by Jeanette Winter

Fiction:

- *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom
- *The Great Kapok Tree, A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest* by Lynn Cherry

- ★ And check out books by publishers such as Scholastic, DK, and Usborne. There's ecology-themed books across interests, genres and age levels!



Photo by Jen Stello

Linda with our October speaker, Cherie Bryan

### Daffodil Planting at Ryder's Cove Marconi Power House



Donna Walen, new member Mary Brigden Snow, Barbara Cotnam & Jacquie Crimmins

Photo by Donna Maiocca



Sonny's program at November. meeting



Workshop arrangements: Susan, Polli, Donna & Katherine

Photos by Catherine Gryska



Crowd pleaser from our November meeting was Claire Krueger's Pumpkin cheesecake squares -see link below for delicious recipe! Hit link below for the recipe.

[Pumpkin Cheesecake Bars](#)

### \*\*\* Winter Solstice Facts:

The word solstice is derived from Latin, meaning 'sun stands still' and was chosen because during a solstice the sun appears to remain still in its position in the sky. On the Winter solstice, there are 24 hours of sunlight in the Antarctic Circle and 24 hours of darkness in the Arctic Circle



**Hydrangea Festival Garden Tour COMMITTEE being formed!** The Hydrangea Festival is now a stand-alone committee. Our first Committee Meeting will be immediately after our January 17th general meeting. If you are interested in attending this first meeting to plan the garden tour and have not already signed up, please email [Edie Hamilton](#) or [Donna Maiocca](#).

**Prepare your soil for the Spring:**

Till or No-till? - see links below for Gardening with Cardboard from Horticulture Magazine and No Dig Gardening from The National Gardening Association.

[Gardening with Cardboard](#)

[No Dig Gardening](#)

Give yourself a gift (or tell someone looking for a gift idea for you this holiday season) of a Garden Journal! Take the time to jot down notes from your current garden during our long winter months of what did well, or didn't do well, what you want to buy more of, etc., - even draw a diagram of where things were planted so you can refer back to it next spring! I use my journal to remind myself of what bulbs I want to purchase in the fall, where to move things to, etc.

## ***“Teach your (grand)children well” – Make some memories!***

*by Donna Maiocca*

Although I believe Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young first coined this phrase in a song, I've added “grand” to children in the title as most of us are well past having young children around, but many now have grandchildren.

Judy Schmitt invited me to The Welfleet Gardeners meeting in October that hosted a speaker – John Forti, author of *The Heirloom Gardener*. John put on a wonderful program, but during his presentation he stopped to ask us all if any of us had a special memory of our grandparents, parents, etc. It seemed to give us all pause to get lost for a moment in our own childhood memories....

Heirlooms of any kind “hold the keys to the past” and “unlike common antiques, heirlooms are artifacts of our life experience that beckon us to preserve them.” I suggest to not only preserve what has been taught to you, but to continue to pass down your knowledge and experiences, or a special memento to another generation. Be it gardening, knitting, painting, cross-stitching, baking, whatever you learned from a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or godparent to pass along what you have learned to your grandchildren. Leave your grandchildren with a special memory of you!

On the way home, Judy shared a memory of her grandfather with me – she remembers her grandfather taking her out to his vegetable garden and grabbing a handful of basil. He told her “Smell this, and every time you smell this, think of me...”. And sure enough, Judy told me she does to this day think of her grandfather whenever she smells basil! Thanks for sharing that special memory Judy!

John Forti also said, “I’m sure many of you have a special recipe that has been passed down to you from your family members” – be sure to give your grandchildren a copy of a family favorite recipe with your name on it or the name of the relative/friend that gave it to you! Create a special memory or memories with your grandchild, and like Judy has found, something like the smell of basil will trigger a grandchild’s memory of you!

For those of you fortunate enough to have your family around this holiday season – Enjoy them all and make some memories with your grandchildren!



For more from John Forti’s book and his gardening: addressing sustainable gardening; protection of our environment; and “building upon a sense of place to promote health, happiness and common ground”...”, he is on Facebook under *The Heirloom Gardener - John Forti*, and his well-written book, *The Heirloom Gardener* is in our CLAMS library database, hopefully at one of our local bookstores, and on Amazon.

## **SOMETHIN’ TO TALK ABOUT**

Occasionally we will post gardening/environmental articles of interest appearing in local newspapers. No opinions given or requested - just “Somethin’ to talk about”.

First link below is an article published by Agway of Cape Cod in response to a Home Rule Petition in Orleans regarding the ban of fertilizers. Second link is from the Chronicle. Will fertilizers be banned here on the Cape?

Hit Links below:

[Home Rule Petition in Orleans on banning fertilizers](#)

[Fertilizer ban?](#)



Christmas at the Fish Pier

' TIS THE SEASON TO...



GIVE  
BELIEVE  
SPARKLE  
BE JOYFUL  
SING CAROLS  
PARTY. PARTY  
DECK THE HALLS  
BE MERRY & BRIGHT  
KISS UNDER MISTLETOE  
BE WITH YOUR LOVED ONES  
INDULGE IN HOLIDAY TREATS  
DREAM OF A WHITE CHRISTMAS  
MISS THOSE WHO ARE FAR AWAY  
CREATE MEMORIES FOR YEARS TO COME  
HUG YOUR LOVED ONES A LITTLE TIGHTER  
REFLECT ON THE YEAR THAT IS BEHIND US

