

Connecticut Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 62, Number 3

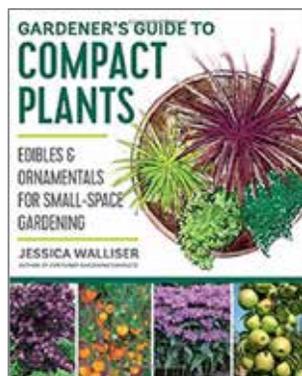
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Winter 2019

2019 Review of Gardening Books

by Karla Dalley, CT Hort member and blogger & Barbara Skomorowski, Communications Director

Welcome to CT Hort's annual selection of the best books from 2019 for reading and gifting. As always, we try to make selections that reflect different types of gardening (and gardeners). Undoubtedly, we have missed one or two but perhaps there wasn't a book about it this year. You will notice houseplant books showing up this year. This may be a lasting trend—there were several good houseplant books out this year alone. You may also notice a couple of revised editions from garden stalwarts like Michael Dirr and Margaret Roach. These are always worth reading. And finally, there are the books of winter: design books and an essay book. Without this sort of gardening book, some winters are far too long! Enjoy and happy holidays.



Gardener's Guide to Compact Plants

By Jessica Walliser

Paperback, 200 pgs

Publisher: Cool Springs Press; June 2019

Reviewer: Karen Tolan

Especially developed for the time conscious gardener with a desire for a beautiful garden and less maintenance, **Gardener's Guide to Compact Plants; Edibles and Ornamentals for Small Space Gardening**, introduces the reader to more than 150 edible and ornamental plants that are smaller and more compact than those you may be familiar with.

The author leads the reader through a logical progression of topics in her chapters that include how to define and recognize compact plants, where to find and how to select them, and how to plant and maintain them. A thought-provoking chapter is devoted to landscape design, in which Jessica presents ten small space plans, submitted by ten different landscape designers from different regions in the USA. Another especially good chapter is devoted to incorporating compact plants as problem solvers in the landscape, for example to extend the growing season, attract more pollinators, or provide more winter interest.

Almost half of the pages in the book are devoted to specific plant profiles that include perennials, trees, shrubs, fruits, and an especially good section on compact varieties of vegetables. Plant profiles are full of specific details, including pictures, typical plant details, and particularly good information on planting, care and pruning or harvesting for success.

Do you know Helesia carolina 'UConn Wedding Bells', Clethra alnifolia 'Crystalina', or Chelone oblique 'Tiny Tortuga'? If sowing seeds is the plan for small space vegetable and herb gardening this year, try some 'Little Gem' Lettuce, 'Little Finger' Carrots, or 'Fairy Tale' Eggplant. Don't forget the herbs, like 'Spicy Globe' Basil and 'Elfin' Thyme.



Once again, Jessica Walliser, award winning radio co-host and author, delivers an information-packed guide for either novice or experienced gardeners. Small space gardening is coming alive in the landscape of America, in raised beds, patio containers, petite yards, and community plots. **Gardener's Guide to Compact Plants; Edibles and Ornamentals for Small Space Gardening** is a great place to start or fine tune your plant selections for many seasons to come!

continued on page 4



Enjoy the
Holiday Season—
see you in 2020!

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Horticultural Happenings & Announcements

Note: Happenings are listed on a space-available basis. To submit an event, send details to news@cthort.org. Please format the announcement to resemble the entries below. Deadline for January issue is December 13.

Tues. Nov. 5, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Join the **Garden Club of Hartford** for an update on **The State of Our Oceans**. Longtime conservation advocate Leslie Lee, who has worked extensively to clean up Long Island Sound and its coastal habitats, will speak on the environmental challenges facing our seas. Business meeting at noon, then program. **Location:** Farmington Public Library, 6 Monteith Drive, Farmington. Please RSVP to patsalner@gmail.com or 860-604-7622.

Thurs. Nov. 7, noon — **West Hartford Garden Club** welcomes Haley Billip, owner of Eddy Farm in Newington. Haley presents “**Eddy Farm and the Local Flower Movement**.” Haley will discuss a modern history of Eddy Farm, the last remaining farm in Newington, and her commitment to sustainable growing practices to produce beautiful cut flowers. Brief business meeting at 12:30 pm followed by speaker. **Location:** Saint John’s Episcopal Church, West Hartford. Park on So. Highland St. and in any of the church parking lots. Meeting room entrance is at the RAMP door in the rear of the church. **Fee:** \$10 guest donation includes a light buffet lunch at noon. Reservations preferred – contact Susan at 860-305-6370 or reserve online at www.WestHartfordGardenClub.org.

Tues. Nov. 12, 2:00 p.m. — **Avon Library, Avon Garden Club and West Avon Garden Club** co-sponsor an author talk and book signing with **Suzanne Staubach**. In her book, “**A Garden Miscellany**” Suzanne shares the

history, evolution and contemporary use of all the that makes up a home garden-from borders, compost bins, decks to pergolas, roof gardens statues and troughs. **Location:** Avon Free Public Library in Avon. For more info visit www.avonctlibrary.info.

Mon. Nov. 18, 10:00 a.m. — **Simsbury Garden Club** will hold a **Holiday Wreath Making and Chowder Luncheon**. Assemble a wreath that will be placed on a town building and enjoy a bowl of corn chowder for lunch. **Location:** The Apple Barn, 60 Old Farms Rd, West Simsbury. **Fee:** \$10 for guests.

Tues. Nov. 19, 7-8:30 p.m. — The Gardeners of Simsbury will host **About the McLean Game Refuge with Connor Hogan**. The public is welcome to this free event. **Location:** Simsbury Public Library, Large Meeting Room, Simsbury.

Sat. Mar 21, 2020, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. — **27th Annual Connecticut Master Gardener Association (CMGA) Symposium**. Guest speakers include: Margaret Roach, Dan Benarcik, Tovah Martin, Lorraine Ballato, Irene Brady Barber, Gregory Bugbee and Nancy DuBrule-Clemente. **Registration starts January 2020. Admission:** \$65 for CMGA members and guests; \$95 for non-members and walk-ins. **Location:** Connecticut College, New London, Conn. For more information, go to <https://ctmga.org/2020-symposium-information>.

Visit cthort.org for the MOST CURRENT listings and links.

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C. Marina Marchese

Saving the Bees: The Sweet Life of a Beekeeping Entrepreneur

with C. Marina Marchese, Red Bee Honey

Thursday, November 21, 2019



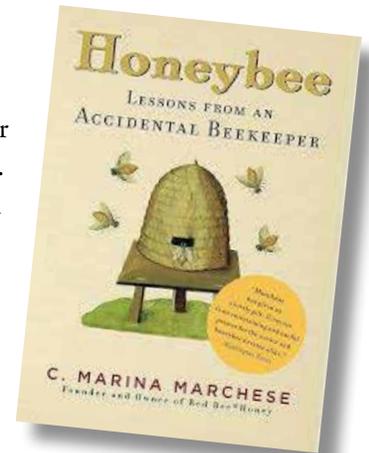
C. Marina Marchese is changing the way people taste and think about honey. This designer turned beekeeper is the visionary behind the iconic brand Red Bee Honey. During her former career as an international designer, Marina unexpectedly visited a neighbor's apiary where her first taste of fresh honey from the beehive would change the course of her life. She quit her job, built a beehive and acquired some Italian honeybees to become a beekeeper.

Compelled by the philosophy of terroir, Marina studied wine tasting in order to transfer those skills to honey tasting which lead her to curate a collection of single-origin honeys launching the [Red Bee Brand](#). She returned to Italy to continue her formal education becoming the first US citizen to be accepted as a member of the Italian National Register of Experts in the Sensory Analysis of Honey. In 2011, Marina established the [American Honey Tasting Society](#) as the leading resource for honey sensory education in the United States. An accomplished apiculturist, Marina has also successfully completed the Charles Mraz Apitherapy Course twice, achieving a deep understanding

of products of the beehive and their applications to health and healing.

Passionate about nature and environmental issues around food, Marina's best-selling book **Honeybee Lessons from an Accidental Beekeeper**, published in 2009, chronicles her entrepreneurial journey into beekeeping and how Red Bee became a nationally recognized brand. Marina coined the term '[Honey Sommelier](#)' in her first book. Her second book **The Honey Connoisseur** is the definitive guide to US honey.

A fervent and dynamic, sought-after speaker, Marina shares her knowledge in her animated and inspiring presentation and will leave you with a fascinating view of the importance of honey bees to our food chain and the gastronomic delight of varietal honeys. Marina will have her books and some of her Red Bee products on hand for sale at the meeting.



IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Emanuel Synagogue requires that we institute formal sign-in procedures for added safety and security at their facility. Please bear this in mind, and we appreciate your patience as we carry out their request. Thank you.

CT Hort Program Meeting

Meetings are open to everyone with a drop-in fee of \$10 collected at the door from non-members. For more information, visit www.cthort.org.

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2019

Time: Program starts at 7:30 p.m. **but come early – 7 p.m.** – to socialize, browse through books, participate in raffle items, look at travel fliers or get your plant questions answered by our resident horticulturalist.

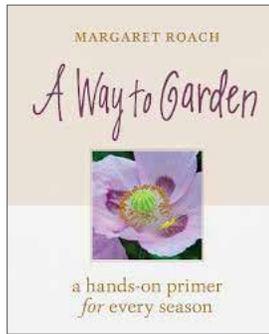
Location: Emanuel Synagogue Auditorium-**please park and enter at rear of building.** 160 Mohegan Dr., West Hartford



Speaker Feedback

After you attend a speaker meeting, please take a moment to tell us what you thought of the presenter. Your candid feedback helps us to arrange for speakers that will hold your interest. Take the five-question survey on our website – cthort.org. Click on the survey icon found on any page then chose the speaker you want to rate. Thank you for your feedback.

“2019 Review of Gardening Books” from page 1



A Way to Garden: A Hands-On Primer for Every Season

By Margaret Roach (an update to her 1998 book)

Paperback, 316 pgs

Publisher: Timber Press; April, 2019

Reviewer: Sarah Torff

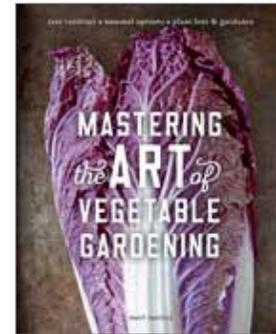
Several decades ago when I purchased my first home, the word “garden” evoked swaths of never-ending color. Though I had a knack for indoor plants, my notions about the landscape were informed by glossy commercial garden magazines and glamorous artsy coffee table books filled with stunning photos. I knew nothing about the varied and changing nature of outdoor plants and looked upon landscape gardens, as Roach calls them, “outdoor decorating.”

Ms. Roach’s latest book **A Way to Garden** upends these popular commercial notions and invites the novice as well as the master gardener to approach gardening not as a process of making things “better” but one of listening, of connecting the successive changes in the cycles of our garden plants to the larger environment and our personal lives. To this end Roach has organized each section of the book

around the life cycle: conception, birth, youth, adulthood senescence death and afterlife. She finds this anthropomorphic view “... comforting, a handle to hold when trying to remember what to do when reviewing the incessant chores list. It also reminds me that this gardening stuff is not just a hobby.... the medium is alive, and always changing and no, you are never really in charge for a second... something larger is always at work...”

Roach creatively and with great integrity weaves the practicalities of each cycle of gardening into her larger perspective on why we bother with this endeavor at all. Most topics cover the basics: plants for birds, planting zones, mulches, fall cleanup. But Roach also amplifies and offers some fresh takes on the topics drilled into every experienced gardener: underplanting, cover crops, etc. The uniqueness of this book is her framing the practical within the boundaries of seasonal cycles and their connections to our inner as well as outer lives. Her introductions to each chapter are personal but relevant and refrain from the TMI that invades much of current personal writing. She includes animals in her book: not just the “good” or “bad” insects and critters, but how they too connect to this vast network. And yes, the photographs are beautiful; but they are not included as a standard to be met but rather an invitation to reflect on how the beauty that emerges from sound practice is grounded in acceptance of the larger ebb and flow of nature.

Perhaps this is a book that could only have been written from the perspective of someone firmly planted in adulthood; after decades having gained an appreciation for the “big picture.” Through practical advice, photos and personal reflection, Roach illustrates how these beautiful things called plants incarnate the cycles of our personal and collective lives: slow to emerge, often dry, but at each stage filled with their own beauty and color.



Mastering the Art of Vegetable Gardening: Rare Varieties – Unusual Options – Plant Lore and Guidance

by Matt Mattus

Hardcover: 272 pgs

Publisher: Quarto Publishing Group;

January, 2019

Reviewer: Beth Ann Loveland Sennett

If you have begun to think that your vegetable garden selections are a bit mundane, or that your planting and growing patterns have become a little bit stale, it may be time to read Matt Mattus’s **Mastering the Art of Vegetable Gardening** for some inspiration.



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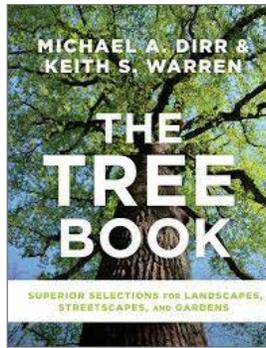
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Matt represents the third generation of his family farming in Worcester, Massachusetts. This gardening book describes tried and true methods for growing everything from kohlrabi to tomatoes, parsley, and onions. Some of the approaches promoted are age-old, such as crop rotation and use of cover crops to restore soil health. Other methods such as strategic use of containers and floating row covers may be new to you.

Matt's beautiful photographs of his own farm, gardens, and produce will motivate you to think differently about what you want to grow. Once you have read Matt's celtuce story, you will want to grow it, and his photos will help you to confirm that decision. Celtuce is a true stem lettuce, not a cross between asparagus and lettuce or celery and lettuce. Its stem is peeled, sliced, and eaten raw or stir fried. If celtuce does not interest you, look at Matt's okra blooms, and you may decide to grow okra as an ornamental.

Book sections are devoted to artichokes (which I have never considered growing until now), asparagus, rhubarb, garlic, onions, and the lovely leek. I have multiple onion varieties in my garden, inherited or gifted, and Matt's informative passages and photographs clarified the planting, harvesting, and storing of my alliums.

Matt writes about what he learned from growing bitter melon and why he keeps growing it, which most readers will find instructive. This book may put you on the path to thinking about new vegetables and recipes, and your personal goals and reasons for growing. The book is clear and well-organized; the advice and recommendations are thoughtful and informative, and Matt's stories and reflections are entertaining. The photos make this a worthy coffee table volume, but it is way too valuable to leave it there unopened. Find one idea you can adopt to grow a little bit smarter and more successfully next year. Artichokes, perhaps?



The Tree Book; Superior Selections for Landscapes, Streetscapes and Gardens

By Michael A. Dirr and Keith S. Warren
Hardcover: 939 pgs

Publisher: Timber Press; April, 2019

Reviewer: Janet Leonberger

Some good news: Planting a trillion trees can combat global climate change, according to a July report published this summer in *Science* journal. The bad news: the trend is backward. A 2015 Yale study said of 6 trillion trees on earth we are losing about 15 billion per year. A trillion trees can soak up as much carbon pollution as humans have created in the past 25 years. There is enough room, about 3.5 million square miles, mostly in 6 nations including the US, to plant those trees even allowing for cities and farming needs.

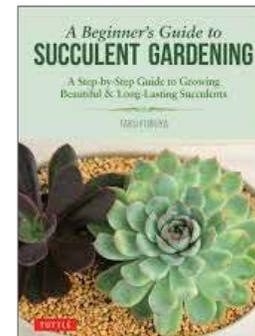
This handsome book can help achieve that goal. Dirr's academic horticulture work intersected Warren's nursery management and tree production work. Their professional friendship has germinated ideas and plant production for over 30 years.

The introductory essay catalogs civic, psychological, scientific, aesthetic and economic value of trees as well as current production practices and disease control progress. Thereafter, the emphasis is on usefulness in the landscape for homeowners, gardeners, landscapers and urban foresters who question how to select the right tree for the right location. Trees in the book were included if they are available, promising or underutilized. Listings apply most to zones 3-7.

Articles are arranged alphabetically under scientific name in a format similar to Dirr's older tree books and include

new cultivars and also trademark names in bold print. Clear color photos support entries which describe foliage, flowers, fruits, cones, native range, adaptability, landscape and street use and availability, among noteworthy features. Occasional humor peeks in here as in the other books. Example: (re monkey puzzle tree) "You would be a foolish monkey to try to climb through these."

Get it as a holiday gift, read it all winter and plant trees in the spring. We know what we have to do. Let's get crackin'.



A Beginner's Guide to Succulent Gardening

By Taku Furuya

Paperback, 96 pgs

Publisher: Tuttle Publishing; English translation-March, 2019

Reviewer: Jody Morgan

Step-by-step skillfully drawn illustrations and detailed instructions guide the reader from purchase to potting and on through care and propagation. Most of the several succulent species described are listed as easy to cultivate. The final chapter includes a few like lithops that are difficult to maintain.

However, this book lacks some information the novice grower needs. Cold tolerance temperatures are missing. None of the plants described is hardy in New England. Most need protection below 40°F and a few won't tolerate temperatures below 50°F. The excellent graphics showing care and exposure during each month of the year are drawn for a climate where these plants only need to be indoors from December-February.

The recommended soil mixes include specialty items more familiar to bonsai enthusiasts than the average home



gardener. For Echeverias, for example, Furuya suggests: “Mix 5 parts small-grain Akadama, 3 parts Kanuma soil and 2 parts mulch for a ratio that has good drainage, water retention and breathability. Add a layer of gravel like large-grain Akadama or pumice to the bottom of the pot.” Akadama is made of clay pellets. Kanuma soil is composed of volcanic rock. Both are available online.

For anyone experienced enough to check hardiness and enthused enough to follow Furuya’s advice, success with succulents seems assured. There’s even a chapter on Tillandsias, commonly called air plants.

Life in the Garden

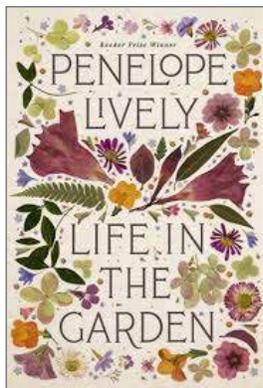
By Penelope Lively

Paperback, 199 pgs

Publisher: Penguin Books; 2019 (first published in GB 2017)

Reviewer: Jody Morgan

From her perspective as a best-selling novelist, avid reader and life-long lover of horticultural pursuits, Penelope Lively leads the reader along a philosophical



getting down in the dirt transforms the dedicated gardener’s concept of time. Like a stroll through a series of mental garden rooms, Lively’s text alternates from focused observations on the work of a single painter or author to a broad view of the impact of both imagined and actual gardens.

Claude Monet described his garden as “my most beautiful masterpiece.” Yet Lively notes that his series of water lily paintings transcends the immediate experience of seeing or filming the garden. “The photograph reports; the painting examines, interprets, expands.”

r a m b l e examining the roles gardens play in art and literature, h o w d o m i n a n t designers have shaped taste and most importantly how actually

Examining the way writers use gardens to establish mood, Lively highlights Daphne du Maurier’s opening chapter of Rebecca setting the stage with a dreamed return to the sinister scene of action. “The rhododendrons stood fifty feet high, twisted and entwined with bracken, and they had entered into alien marriage with a host of nameless shrubs ...”

After analyzing the influence of landscape designers from Capability Brown to Gertrude Jekyll, Lively concludes that contemporary gardeners “are opportunists, not slaves to fashion. Most know a good thing when they see one, and are pragmatic enough to change course if that looks expedient.” Speaking from personal experience, she asserts: “A garden is never just now; it suggests yesterday, and tomorrow; it does not allow time its steady progress.”

Replete with quotations gardeners will cherish for years to come, Lively’s slim volume is meant to be savored. “Gardening we step beyond the dictation of time. We create order. We design and direct.”

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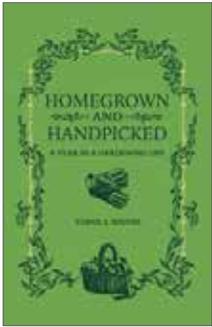

SOME OF OUR SEMINAR SPEAKERS THIS YEAR

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 Craig LeHoullier	 Petra Page-Mann

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Sat 10–8 • Sun 10–5

Ticket prices include State of CT 10% Amusement Tax	Adults \$18
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Photo of phlox subulata by Heather Turczi – HT-Photography



Homegrown and Handpicked: A Year in the Gardening Life

by Carol J. Michel

Paperback, 142 pgs

Publisher: Gardenangelist Books;

March, 2019

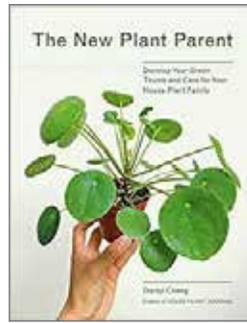
Reviewer: Karla Dalley

Gardener Carol Michel's second collection of essays is a treat to read. Her first book in this series, **Potted and Pruned**, won the Golden Trowel award from GardenComm (the Association for Garden Communicators) in 2018. And her most recent collection, **Seeded and Sodded**, has just been released. They form a trilogy of delightful humor in which most every gardener will see him or herself.

Some of her best writing in **Homegrown and Handpicked** has to do with every gardener's dilemma in the spring: what to do with the plants one brings home. Not only does she come up with some creative ways to hide them—behind existing shrubbery and even in one's neighbor's yards—but she specifically went out and acquired two new vehicles to haul plant purchases, mulch, and statuary, calling her white SUV "Vita" (after Vita Sackville West and her all-white garden) and her truck "Christo", after Christopher Lloyd. Her comment was that they bicker in the garage over who gets to go on the next garden outing.

There are also line drawings at the heading of each chapter. Without spoiling the surprise, these drawings, while lovely in their own right, convey something more as well.

This is just a quick peek into **Homegrown and Handpicked**. If you don't see yourself in one or more of the garden essays yet, it's just a matter of time before you will!



The New Plant Parent

by Daryl Cheng

Paperback, 208 pgs

Publisher: Abrams Image; March, 2019

Reviewer: Jim Sirch

Every parent knows that it takes a village. Readers will be pleased to have Darryl Cheng as part of their houseplant parent village. Multitudes of indoor gardeners are familiar with Cheng's sage advice through his popular Instagram account, @houseplantjournal. After reading his enjoyable book, any reader can become a more skillful and successful house plant parent.

The book is divided into two sections: *Caring for Plants*, offers plenty of useful advice; *Plant Journal*, contains suggestions for successfully caring for mostly foliage plants.

In *Caring for Plants*, Cheng's greatest strength lies in his advocacy for a shift in the typical house plant care mind set. The author suggests that we optimize our care efforts by following what he calls holistic houseplant care, rather than blindly following "cookie cutter" directions. He recommends doing this by observing each plant to assess its individual needs. He emphasizes the importance of understanding a plant's requirements for a balance of light, water and nutrients. Observing that a plant's leaves are drooping, for instance, should signal watering.

These concepts are well illustrated with useful photos and diagrams.

In *House Plant Journal*, each species is presented in an honest, straightforward style. There is information on survival strategy, growth strategy, soil management and subjective life span. Also included are valuable recommendations on propagation, photos of growth through time, and a focus on how a plant survives at different light levels—all told in an engaging manner using personal anecdotes.

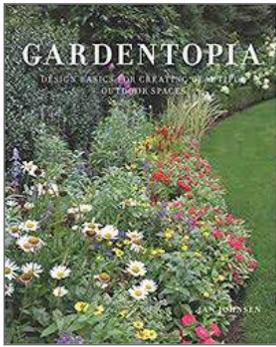
Cheng's intimate writing style reads as if he were sharing secrets with a close gardening friend. He introduces personal stories of experiences both successful and not. How many authors would admit that their prayer plant caught the pest thrips and had to be thrown out? But it's not all doom and gloom; he offers plenty of clever and useful tips born of long experience—such as how to use a chopstick to tell if the soil is wet or dry, and using it to aerate compacted soil by poking vertical holes. Or using a light meter to determine how much light is reaching the plant—with the admonition that how much water should be applied depends on how much light is present.

I highly recommend this book to plants parents who are newbies as well as those who have been around the block. They say all growers can relate to the adage: "Been there, killed that." Reading **The New Plant Parent**, can help new as well as more experienced indoor gardeners reduce their house plant obituary list.

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Gardentopia: Design Basics for Creating Beautiful Outdoor Spaces

by Jan Johnsen

Hardcover, 286 pgs

Publisher: Countryman Press; April, 2019

Reviewer: Jim Sirch

Anyone's backyard, no matter how expert the gardener, can be further enhanced using knowledge gained from others. Jan Johnsen's book is sure to help readers see new potential in their space. Some of Johnsen's recommendations seem simple at first, yet prove to be useful and even profound the more one thinks about them. The book is presented as a series of 135 short vignettes that contain useful tips from a seasoned designer with more than 40 years of experience. The 100+ lovely color photos include many of the gardens Johnsen has herself designed. The photos effectively illustrate a wealth of design tips and concepts.

The book is divided into five sections. "Garden Design and Artful-Accent Tips" offers How-to information for gardeners who like to take a "Do It Yourself" approach. It covers key concepts from visualizing a finished garden and establishing goals in the beginning of the planning process to critical design concepts such as the principle of the three depths, the power of the portal, and capturing the view beyond. In the section "Walls, Patios, Walks, and Steps," the author offers sophisticated ideas for making niches as well as useful tips to enhance the public face of one's house. The author's section on "Theme Gardens," offers helpful advice on a range of different approaches. With impactful photos, Johnsen celebrates the joy of putting different hues to work in the section "Color in the Garden." In "Plants and Planting," the author celebrates some of her favorite and easy-to-grow plants.

For the weekend gardener whose time is short, this book provides valuable insights about plant placement. Readers who occasionally subscribe to the "plunge it in the ground, think later" club, will gain inspiration for making additions and changes to their garden beds and find themselves continuing to refer back to this book as a reference.

In tip #94, Why We Garden, Johnsen says "garden to daydream, to enjoy the earth and to be healed. It is where we have an opportunity to co-create with nature, and we end up creating beauty." This book is made to help gardeners do exactly that. 🌿

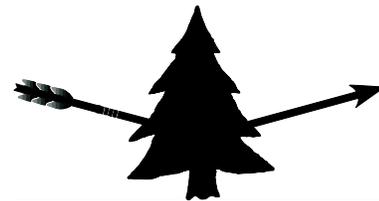
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www.brokenarrownursery.com

203-288-1026

13 Broken Arrow Rd., Hamden, CT 06518

Connecticut Horticultural Society Proudly Presents
Creating a Beautiful and Healthy Oasis - Every Yard Matters
Saturday, February 1, 2020 • 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

On February 1, CT Hort will sponsor its 10th biennial Symposium. Speakers have been thoughtfully chosen by the Symposium Committee, headed this year by Nancy DuBrule-Clemente.

Nancy insists that this is an event worth attending because she has made sure that... "...some of my favorite and highly respected colleagues will be our guests. If you have never seen Roy Diblik speak, you are in for a treat. I have been trying to get him to come to our winter symposium since 2016! I was truly inspired by Lisa Mason-Ziegler's book *Vegetables Love Flowers* as she so beautifully explains exactly what I believe is the smartest and most sustainable way to garden. Mike Nadeau... every single person I know that has taken a course with Mike considers him their guru. He has a deep knowledge of the organic world and the most wonderful way of explaining it." Speaker's topics will include:

- **Roy Diblik** – recognized perennial plant expert, grower designer, speaker and author has agreed to treat attendees with **two** one-hour talks:
 - Finding your instinctive self through plant driven design
 - The character of plants, coming to know their nature and pleasures
- **Lisa Mason Ziegler** – explains why flowers are the missing piece in many gardens. Her talk – Restoring Nature with Flowers – will explain how flowers complete the circle of life in a successful organic garden.
- **Mike Nadeau** will share his organic and sustainable holistic land care knowledge in his discussion From Sunlight to Soil to Seed: Connecting the Dots. Mike will explain how to carefully maximize wildlife habitat with specific plantings and techniques to improve the overall health of land, water and wildlife.

There will also be plenty of gardening vendors and friends, and a coffee bar and lunch are included in your day. Visit CTHort.org for more info and to register.

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Feb 20-23: Visit our booth at the
CT Flower Show

March 19: We open for the season



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Businesses Offer Members 10% Discount

Please present your membership card before your purchase. Discount normally applies to non-sale items.

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204 Kelsey St., Newington 06111,
(860)-667-1822, alslandscaping.com

BETTER STONES, 200 Tolland St,
East Hartford 06108, (860) 289-1414,
betterstones.com

BIDWELL'S YARD, GARDEN AND

PET, 133 Hopmeadow St., (Rte. 10),
Weatogue 06089, (860) 651-8555,
simsburygarden.com

BOSCO'S GARDEN CENTER

& LANDSCAPING, 1376 Hopmeadow
St., Simsbury 06070, (860) 658-2428,
boscosgardencenter.com

BOTTICELLO FARMS

209 Hillstown Road, Manchester 06040
(860) 649-2462, botticellofarms.net

BROKEN ARROW NURSERY

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brokenarrownursery.com

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(860) 283-1042, treepeony.com

CROPLEY'S GARDEN CENTER

& LANDSCAPING, 1262 Boston
Tpk., Bolton 06043, (860) 649-6364,
cropleysgardencenter.com

EDMONDSON'S FARM GIFT SHOP

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(860) 742-6124, edmundsonsfarm.com

GO ORGANIC LLC

1244 Thompson Road, Thompson 06277,
(860) 935-5235, <http://goorganicllc.com/>

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gottasfarm.com

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plant material only,
harkenslandscapesupply.com

LARSON'S GARDEN CENTER

26 Covey Road, Burlington 06013,
(860) 404-5747, larsonsgardencenter.com

MOSCARILLO'S, 2600 Albany Ave.,
West Hartford 06117, (860) 236-5487,
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riversidenursery-ct.com

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Glastonbury 06033, (860) 633-8681,
scottsorchardandnursery.com

STONE POST GARDENS (seasonal)

1185 Randolph Road, Middletown 06457,
(860) 343-0360, stonepostgardens.com

THE GARDEN BARN NURSERY

228 West Street, Vernon 06066
(860) 872-7291, www.gardenbarn.com

TORRISON STONE & GARDEN

422 Main Street, Durham 06422,
(860) 349-0119, www.torrisonstone.com

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This season, White Flower Farm is offering more than 70 varieties of Amaryllis in a wide range of colors and forms. All are large, top-quality bulbs procured from our growers in Holland. Given a spot in a sunny window and occasional water, the majority will bloom 8-10 weeks after receipt. Easy to care for and great for gifting, they provide a spectacular display of colorful blossoms that will warm a room over many weeks in winter.

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CT Hort Travel



Maine-Style Holiday

Friday, December 6 to
Sunday, December 8

Set aside this long weekend in December to celebrate the holidays in Maine. Home base for the weekend will be the **Westin Portland Harborview**. Its central location provides travelers a perfect vantage point to explore Maine's largest city.

Weekend activities will include:

- Gardens Aglow at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens
- Evening Performance at Portland Stage – 'It's a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play'
- Portland Museum of Art
- Victoria Mansion – 'Ghosts of Christmas Past'
- Seashore Holiday Trolley ride in Kennebunkport
- Time at the Kennebunkport Holiday Prelude
- And more....

Cost: \$599 per person double occupancy, \$759 per person single.
Non-members please add \$50.

**Fills
up fast!**



Say G'day to the WONDERS DOWN UNDER

Saturday Feb. 22 – Friday, Mar. 13, 2020

This once-in-a-lifetime exploration of Australia and New Zealand includes an amazing itinerary. Begin your adventure with two nights in Sydney, Australia. There will be sightseeing trips planned and an elegant dinner cruise. Then board the luxurious Holland America's Noordam to begin your cruise. Stops in Australia will include: Melbourne, Port Arthur and Tasmania. Cruise through Milford Sound and Fjordland National Park before the first stop of your week stay in New Zealand (NZ). Ports of call include: Port Chalmers, Christchurch, Wellington, Gisborne and Tauranga. Cruise the Bay of Plenty and Cormandel Peninsula before disembarking in Auckland for an overnight with sightseeing.

Cost: Prices range from \$5,899 per person to \$7,099 per person for twin; based on type of cabin chosen. An additional \$330 per person must be added for taxes. **Call to learn more and to receive a 4-page flyer detailing this exceptional excursion.**

2020 Philadelphia Flower Show



Riviera Holiday

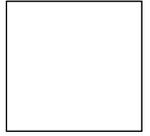
Sunday-Monday,
March 1-2, 2020

This will be the 191st show organized by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS). The Philadelphia Flower Show is America's largest horticultural event, which attracts 250,000 guests each year. Enjoy acres of gardens, thousands of displays, more than 180 shops in the Marketplace, interactive exhibits and more.

Overnight accommodations have been secured at the Holiday Inn Express Midtown, which is located in the heart of downtown Philadelphia. Sunday's Welcome Dinner guest will be Ron Mulray, of Philadelphia Flower Co. Ron is a long-time supporter, exhibitor and friend of PHS. He will give us his intimate, behind-the-scenes take on the show!

Cost: \$399 per person double occupancy | \$479 per person single. Non-members please add \$50.

**To reserve your spot or for more information, please call
Friendship Tours at (860) 243-1630 / toll-free (800) 243-1630
or visit www.friendshiptours.net.**



Dated Material  *Please Rush*

CT Hort Calendar at a Glance

Thurs., Nov. 14 – Board of Directors Meeting,
7 p.m. at Friendship Tours.

Thurs., Nov. 21 – CT Hort Program Meeting,
7:30 p.m., C. Marina
Marchese presents *Saving
the Bees: The Sweet Life of a
Beekeeping Entrepreneur*
Emanuel Synagogue,
West Hartford

Sunday, Nov. 24 – Wreath Making Workshop,
5–7 p.m. @ Broken Arrow
Nursery, Hamden

Monday, Dec. 16 – Deadline for January
Newsletter

Printed on recycled paper.



2019 Fall Plant Sale & Auction Recap

by Trish Lyons, Plant Sale & Auction Committee Chairperson

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Fall Plant Sale & Auction in Vernon. It takes many people to pull this event together. From publicity, collecting plant donations and food prep to auction setup/breakdown, pricing and cashiers—everyone's help and hard work is greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who donated plants from your yards or who donated items to our Silent Auction. Also a big thanks to the Master Gardeners and members of the UConn Horticulture Club. Collectively we raised about \$3,000 for the CT Hort Scholarship Fund!

Many thanks to our educational and entertaining auctioneers: Dan Furman from Cricket Hill Garden, Lisa Elder and Melissa Spencer from Natureworks and perennial favorites Maryanne Gryboski and Kevin Wilcox.

The following businesses generously donated to our auction. Please consider patronizing them when garden shopping:

Agway of Manchester, Manchester	Garden Sales, Manchester
Ballek's Garden Center, East Haddam	Gotta's Farm, Portland
Botticello Farms, Manchester	JillyBean's Farmstand, Farmington
Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden	Moscarillo's Garden Shoppe, West Hartford
Butler's Florist & Garden Center, West Hartford	Natureworks, Northford
Cheshire Nursery Garden Center, Cheshire	Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses, Greenwich
Cricket Hill Garden, Thomaston	Tower Farms, Cheshire
E. Draghi & Sons Farm, South Glastonbury	Twin Gardens, Collinsville
Garden Barn Nursery, Vernon	Winterberry Gardens, Southington

The wonderful wholesalers, Monrovia Nursery Co - Connecticut in Granby, Summer Hill Nursery in Madison and Woodward Greenhouses in Chaplin, also generously contributed plants to our auction.

If you have any suggestions for future CT Hort Plant Sale & Auction events or if you would like to be added to our volunteer list, please email auction@cthort.org.