



ARLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The Perennial

December 2025

Issue 4

ArlingtonGarden.org

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President's Message

So we've put our garden beds to sleep, happy for them to store their energy and to re-emerge to delight us in a glorious New England spring. Or maybe you, like me, have been known to still be planting spring bulbs atop snow cover.

I'm looking forward to the club's Holiday Luncheon December 17th. Your Board has been busy behind the scenes creating some fun features to enjoy. Of course, most of the enjoyment is gathering with each other, so we leave plenty of time for that, too. One last reminder: if you haven't already done so, please contact Hospitality Chair Julie McDaniel by Dec. 11th to let her know you plan to be at the luncheon. She needs to let our wonderful caterer, Beaujolais, know numbers. Julie can be contacted at juliemcdaniel@mac.com or 781-888-0285. We look forward to seeing you at this event!

The Arlington Holiday Market, hosted by Arlington Brewing Company, will be held on Saturday, December 13th at Arlington Town Hall (12 - 5pm) bringing together local businesses, craft beer, live music, and community members for an afternoon to support local businesses during the peak holiday shopping season.

Our Program Chairs, Janet and Jan, have received a lot of praise for our November speaker, Martha Charchari and her talk Women Floral Painters Through the Centuries, and they have already researched other topics she lectures on to bring her back again.

Martha's talk was better because of the successful debut of the Club's new audio system, a gift from friends and family of Valerie Maxwell. We will be attaching a plaque to the new system to acknowledge this generous gift.

Emily Snyder, President

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17, 2025

Holiday Lunch

The Arlington Garden Club holiday luncheon is set for December 17th at St. John's Church at our usual time of 10:30. There will be games, prizes, plenty of time to socialize, and a catered meal by Beaujolais. Many people have signed up to come, and some are also bringing holiday desserts to share. Please contact Julie McDaniel juliemcdaniel@mac.com if you haven't signed up already to attend. Cost is \$10, which can be paid at the door. We're looking forward to celebrating the season!

Cheers,
Julie McDaniel, Hospitality Chair

Festivities start at 10:30 am at St. John's Church, corner of Pleasant St. and Lombard Rd., Arlington



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

The Roots of Gumption: A small Biz from the Ground Up

Ingrid Gallagher

Ingrid has had a lifetime curiosity about plants, especially their uses as food and medicine. Inspired by the old-time drug store soda fountains which served health-promoting tonics, she founded Gumption Elixir in 2021. She brews time-honored roots and herbs into delicious, distinctively modern beverage syrups. There are currently eight original flavors. Join us for this unique story and a chance to sample her products. Ingrid will have bottles of her syrups for sale at the meeting.

MORE EVENTS OF INTEREST



Photo by Aram Boghosian

DECEMBER 5 - 21, VARIOUS DATES

SOLSTICE: Reflections on Winter Light

Mount Auburn Cemetery

SOLSTICE: Reflections on Winter Light is an annual event at Mount Auburn Cemetery that includes an outdoor journey with large-scale light and sound artworks created by MASARY <<https://www.masarystudios.com/>>, and an indoor experience with live music and candle lighting. Guests are invited to walk through the light-filled landscape, explore the Winter Solstice atmosphere, and to reflect on moments of change as the year ends and a new cycle begins.

[Purchase tickets here](#)

THROUGH JANUARY 4, 4 - 10 PM DAILY

Night Lights: Dazzling Gardens

New England Botanical Garden at Tower Hill

Wander among twinkling trees and enchanting landscapes. \$25/adult. [Purchase tickets here](#)



DECEMBER AND JANUARY

A Holiday Garden

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Holidays are a special time to come to the Gardner, where the festive Courtyard features dark forest greens and shades of red and silver. This holiday tradition showcases masses of flowering jade trees, silver dusty miller, green aloe, and the dark red winter blooms of amaryllis.

[More information here](#)

Photo by Erika Rumbley

MORE EVENTS OF INTEREST



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7, 5-6 PM, THROUGH TUESDAY MARCH 24, ONLINE

Introduction to Native Plants

Native Plant Trust

Eight classes on native plants from botanical basics to gardening practices. Topics include stormwater management, native plants for gardeners, ecological gardening for birds, understanding and managing soils, native seed sowing, native plant garden design, native Northeast wildflowers. \$60 for all eight classes, or \$10 per class. [Register here](#)



SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 9:30 - 4:00 PM

Houseplant and Begonia Sale

Lyman Estate, 185 Lyman St., Waltham

This exotic houseplant sale features semi-tropical and tropical houseplants.

Event listings courtesy of Helen Snively, member, Somerville Garden Club



Photos by Agnes Parise

How I winterized my rosemary bush

by Agnes Parise

I'm attached to my rosemary bush, but the pot is too big to bring indoors. So I looked online, got creative and found everything I needed in my shed: styrofoam and duct tape to insulate each side of the pot, chicken wire and heavy plastic to shield the plant from wind, mulch and bricks around the plant to hold heat in, and clothes pins to easily close the plastic on chilly nights and open it during warm sunny days. Wish me luck!

Below: Agnes has a visitor familiar to most of us

