

GGG

Granville Gardeners Gazette

Promoting Education and Recreation through Gardening Activities

Oxford, North Carolina

www.thegranvillegardeners.org

December 2025, Volume XV, No.12



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Monday, December 8, 2025, at 6 p.m.
Main St. Oasis 130 Main Street, Oxford, NC

Social: Begins at **6 p.m.** – Hors d'oeuvres bar – Salad bar – Cash bar
Served dinner

Program: Installation of Officers and board members, Awards Presentation

- President: Bob Holtaway
- Vice President: Doreen Arnott
- Secretary: Jacalyn Thomas
- Treasurer: Mark Arnott
- Board members: Liz Carr and Joyce Cifers

Thanks to the officers and board members who are leaving office: David Quinn (2 years), Joyce Cifers (1 year), Danny Devito (14 years!!), board members Diane Holtaway (3 years), Mark Arnott (1 year), Christi Henthorn (1 year).

Congratulations and thanks to the incoming officers and board members and to Jacalyn for continuing in her office.

By Marty Finkel
Photos: Oasis website

To-Do List for December

- If you still have more leaves than needed to cover beds, pile them up and let them weather into compost for next year's garden. Or alternate with "green stuff" to make lasagna compost (see November 2014 issue of the GGG)
- Continue to plant trees and shrubs this month.
- Keep checking kale, cabbage, etc., for caterpillars even if the temperature has been in the low 20's a couple of times. Treat with BT or insecticidal soap.
- Wait a couple of months before pruning (if any is needed).
- Leave ornamental grasses standing for winter interest and for habitat for overwintering pollinator insects, larvae, and eggs.
- If perennials still have seeds (coneflower, black-eyed Susans, etc.), leave for the birds.
- Cut stalks of perennials that have gone dormant – except perovskia (Russian sage), perennial salvias, caryopteris (blue mist shrub), or any others that have hollow stems that will collect water, freeze, and kill the roots.
- If you didn't get all the spring bulbs planted last month, be sure to do so now.
- If certain perennials or shrubs didn't do well for you over the past couple of years, take them out.
- On nice days this month and in January, walk through the yard and garden with pad and pen and make notes of where and what to plant. There will still be time for roots to become established before the heat of summer.
- Look at seed and plant catalogs as well as garden magazines and books for inspiration for combining colors, adding textural plants, etc.
- Order seeds so you will have them on hand when they need to be started early for transplants to set out around March 31 (revised last frost date). Vegetable seeds such as snow, snap, or green garden peas need to be in the ground in February.
- Trees and shrubs planted in Oct. and Nov. should be checked to be sure the soil they are planted in is not dry. If it's dry, one deep watering is probably all the water they will need until the spring rains come.

By Marty Finkel

Happenings

December 4 (Thurs.) Cooking with Herbs. 1-2pm. South Branch Library. Cooking workshop offered by Granville County Cooperative Extension. We will discuss different herbs and spices, health benefits, food pairings, and explore new recipes. Free. So. Branch Library, 1550 S. Campus Dr., Creedmoor.

Dec. 6. (Sat.) Friends of the Library Book Sale. 11am-1pm. (Members get in early at 10am.) Richard Thornton Library, 210 Main St., Oxford.

Dec. 6. (Sat.) The Wondrous World of Moss. 10-11:30. Durham County Main Library. Discover the wondrous world of mosses with Blanka Agüero, the Bryophyte Collections Manager at the Duke University Herbarium! Free. Registration is appreciated: durhamcountylibrary.libcal.com Limit 65.

Main Auditorium, Durham County Main Library, 300 North Roxboro Street, Durham. Parking is available in the library lot or at the North Queen Street Garage which is located at 115 North Queen Street which is located directly across the street from the library. Parking is free in the garage. Bring your parking ticket to a library service point for validation. Questions? Email mkoslofsky@dconc.gov

December 6. (Sat.) Granville-Person Master Gardeners Wreath-making Workshop. The Granville & Person County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Association is hosting their annual wreath making workshop on Saturday December 6th at the Person County office building in the auditorium. There will be two sessions, 9:00 - 10:30 and 11:00 - 12:30. Cost is \$45.00 per wreath, cash or check only. To register call [919-451-9745](tel:919-451-9745) right away! Held at Person County Cooperative Extension Center. 304 S Morgan St., Roxboro.

December 8. (Mon.) Granville Gardeners' Installation Dinner and Presentation of Awards. 6-8pm. Hors d'oeuvres bar, salad bar, cash bar, and served dinner. Main St. Oasis, 130 Main St., Oxford. Fee: \$22 per person. Members and guests only. Contact Danny Devito to register.

December 11. (Thurs.) Seasonal Stewardship: Gardening for Biodiversity in Winter (virtual). 12-1pm. Learn from Dr. Neeti Bathala, professor, author, gardener, graduate of the Nicholas School of the Environment, how to support local wildlife through thoughtful winter gardening practices. Discover native and select ornamental plants that provide food, shelter and unexpected blooms. Free. Registration required (recording will be shared with all registrants): [Gardening for Biodiversity Webinar](#).

December 19. (Fri.) Winter Tree Trek with a Treecologist. 1-3pm. Join Leaf & Limb for a Tree Trek at the NC Botanical Garden led by treecologist, Matt Archibald. Explore the beauty of local trees and learn fascinating facts about various species, their ecological importance, and their role in our environment. Fee \$6 (\$5, members). Registration required: [Winter Tree Trek](#).

LOOKING AHEAD

January 17. (Sat.) Propagating Native Plants: Winter Sowing. 10-12am. Come learn how easy it is to sow native seeds that require certain conditions. You will leave the workshop with seeds sown and ready to set outside for the winter, plus with the knowledge of how to sow other seeds with similar requirements. Thornton Branch Library, 210 Main St., Oxford. Free. Registration required. Email Melanie.Baldwin@granvillecounty.org or call 919-693-1121.

Plant of the Month: 'Orange Storm' Quince (Chaenomeles 'Orange Storm')



'Orange Storm' is a medium-sized shrub of approximately 4' tall by 6' wide. It is an excellent late winter/early spring accent plant. Unlike the old-fashioned quince, this one is thornless, the double flowers are larger, and it doesn't fruit. Branches with buds can be cut and brought indoors to bloom. It blooms best in full sun (6 or more hours) but can grow in partial shade. It grows well in average, well-drained soil with medium moisture, and established plants will tolerate dry soils. It root suckers, so remove these to control spread. Prune if needed after flowering in spring, remembering that it flowers on old growth.

Also in Bloom This Month (*indicates Southeast native)

Note that bloom times vary, depending on climatic and meteorological conditions, and many plants bloom several months in a row (and sometimes rebloom).

Compact strawberry tree
Evergreen Chimonanthus
Wintersweet
Cyclamen
Loquat
Alpine wallflower
Witchhazel*
Hellebores
Several Mahonias
False shamrock
Flowering apricot tree
Rosemary
Sweet box
Some viburnums

Various camellias
Henry Lauder's Walking Stick
Crocus
Darley heath
Japanese Fatsia
Snowdrop
African gladiolus
Winter flowering iris
Tea-olive
Fuji cherry tree
Reblooming azalea
Butcher's broom
Japanese snow rose

Chosen by Marty Finkel from JCRA Horticulture Showtimes
Photos: JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University

Photos of Some Other Plants in Bloom this Month



Evergreen chimonanthus



Fragrant wintersweet



Henry Lauder's Walking Stick



'De Jager' crocus



Variegated Japanese fatsia



Double Lenten rose



Iris 'Again and Again'



Evergreen magnolia*



Mahonia 'Underway'



Flowering apricot



Fuji cherry tree



'Renzels' Rosemary

Selected by Marty Finkel

Photos: 'Henry Lauder's Walking Stick' NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox by JR P CC BY-NC 2.0

All others: JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University