



# North Shore Horticultural Society

P. O. Box 171 Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944  
January, 2019 Volume XXI Number 5

<http://www.NSHorticulture.org/>

## MEETING LOCATION

is generally at  
The Manchester  
Masonic Lodge,  
9 Church Street,  
Manchester-by-  
the-Sea (behind  
Town Hall)

## MEETING PREVIEW

**Tuesday, 6:00PM**

**January 22nd**

Potluck Dinner  
and Virtual Garden  
Tour VIII

**7:30PM**

Gary Gilbert  
*An Introduction  
To Mushrooms*

**Tuesday, 7:30PM**

**February 26th**

Betsy Szymczak  
*Gardening  
with Dahlias*

**Tuesday, 7:30PM**

**March 26th**

Tomoko Tanaka  
*Ikebana: A Dem-  
onstration of the  
Japanese Art of  
Flower Arranging*

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday,  
7:30PM**

**February 14th**

at the home of  
Joan Johnson

## **POTLUCK DINNER and VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR VIII 6:00PM**

### **AN INTRODUCTION TO MUSHROOMS**

*Gary Gilbert*

Our Annual Potluck Dinner and Virtual Garden Tour VIII starts off the 2019 calendar for the Society. Please bring something to share (appetizer, main course, salad, dessert) and appropriate serving utensils. Call Joan at 978-927-8829 by January 20th if you are planning to come and let her know generally what you are bringing; leave message, if necessary. During dinner the Virtual Garden Tour VIII will be showcasing members' gardens, various plant material, hard-scapes...as well as photos from members' travels. See the next column for submission details.

Promptly at 7:30PM, the meeting will start with Mike Mack's HPOI. Then Gary Gilbert will present "An Introduction to Mushrooms". He will speak on the ways mushrooms function in the ecosystem. (Mushrooms are fungi and are usually placed in a Kingdom of their own, apart from plants and animals. They contain no chlorophyll and most are considered saprophytes which live on dead or decaying material in soil, breaking it down into simpler compounds that can be taken up by other organisms.). Although those attending the program may want to know more about edibles, this talk will mostly be ecological and scientific. It certainly will be interesting to learn about what is hiding in our soil.

Guests are always welcome. Bring a neighbor or a gardening friend or both! See you then!

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Carol Batdorf*

Welcome to 2019! Do you have any New Year's resolutions? One of mine is to meet with friends and not put off doing things together. One of those outings could be walking together in a garden or woodlands or going to a plant nursery to get some "green air" as I call it-the warm moist air of summer. We think we have all the time in the world to get the "round to it" list done but not all of us have time left in our time banks. Please make an effort to contact friends near or far and connect.

One idea: bring a friend to our January 22nd meeting to learn about mushrooms. Gary Gilbert will give us an introduction to the world of Fungi and why they are so important to our ecosystem.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 6PM potluck meal. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet with people, look at gardens in our 8th Virtual Garden Tour, and share a meal together. Bring your favorite potluck offerings or try a new dish and we can be the tasters/testers. See you there.

*Carol*

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## **VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR VIII**

Have you been going through the photos on your phone to look for a holiday photo and then see all kinds of horticultural moments? I couldn't believe what I have captured over the last year. Carol will be collecting photos (max 3 per email to [nina\\_carol@verizon.net](mailto:nina_carol@verizon.net)) until Saturday, January 19th for inclusion in our Virtual Garden Tour. Please send some horticulturally interesting photos on to her.

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**THANK YOU TO BOARD MEMBER ANNE MESGAR** who is retiring from the Board. She has, for many years, been in charge of hospitality (and logistics) for the Society. We will miss her lovely table decorations, and thoughtfulness.

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### HORTICULTURAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mike Mack's HPOI this month gives us all kinds of information about getting indoor plants to flower, and dealing with houseplant pests. And then, if all that is too much to deal with, he presents great opportunities for dreaming about being outside in the garden and all the opportunities the arriving catalogues present.

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### BITS FROM GARDENING BOOKS

From *Trowel and Error* by Sharon Lovejoy: "When leaves turn yellow from the tips to the stem—a sign of serious nitrogen deficiency—treat your plant to a helping of unflavored gelatin. Sprinkle a packet around the base of the plant for a slow-release nitrogen boost. Always allow the soil to dry out between waterings."

From *The Curious Gardener's Almanac* by Niall Edworthy: If you wonder about whether your seeds are too old to germinate properly, "sprinkle a few of them on a damp piece of paper towel (or coffee filter—*ed.*) and keep them in a warm place to see if they germinate."

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### JANUARY MEETING CLIP BOARDS

At our January meeting there will be clip boards passed around which ask for volunteers to help with various activities of the NSHS. The activities are: program, membership, hospitality, and road trips. Please sign up! At the bottom of each sign up sheet, there is the name/phone number and email address of the Board member who is in charge of the committee so that if members have questions they can contact the person in charge. Many hands make light work.

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### WANTED—NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Society is in need of someone to do the Newsletter starting in September. If you would like to talk about it or shadow me, please call Joan Johnson at 978-927-8829.

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### COMPOST

Be prepared for tick season. The **Friendly Garden Club** of Beverly is having a free program *Tick Talk* presented by Catherine Brown and Matthew Osborne, of the Mass. Dept of Public Health Tuesday, January 15th at the Beverly Public Library, 7-8:30PM. Free.

On Tuesday, February 19th at 7PM, Nancy Coffey will be doing a program on the *Spaulding Gardens-Orchidvale* property which is now the location of the Glen Urquhart School. Following the lecture Barbara and Carol Gomez will share memories of their father who was the last Orchidvale superintendent and their mother, the orchid breeder. Nancy did *Estate Gardens and Gardeners 1850-1919* two years ago for NSHS. The talk will be given at the Beverly Farms Library on Vine Street, Beverly Farms. Free.

On Saturday, February 16th, there will be a program, *History of Greenhouses in America, at Historic New England's Lyman Estate*, 185 Lyman Street, Waltham. The Lyman Estate greenhouses are among the oldest greenhouses in the United States. In an illustrated talk the greenhouse manager, Lynn Ackerman, reveals how the Lyman Estate fits into the history of greenhouses and related technology in America. Advance registration is required. Call 617-994-5913.

If you are not able to get to the *Greenhouses* talk, the **1820 camellia house** along with others on the **Lyman Estate** are open Tuesday through Sunday, 9:30AM-4PM. The camellias in February are absolutely beautiful! It is worth the trip! Admission free.

You can build a **milk jug greenhouse** at TTOR's **Stevens Coolidge Place**, 1 Chestnut Street, North Andover, Thursday, February 7th at 6:30PM. Materials will be provided. Registration required. Call 978-356-4351x3202.

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### ANOTHER THANK YOU

Children's Family and Friends Services of Salem again benefitted from members' generosity of toys and gift cards. And a sincere thank you to the Weeks' who have been bringing the gifts over to CFFSS for several years.

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