

Cheryl Monroe : The Garden in the Burrow

2016-17 Lectures and Workshops

Hydrangeas for the Northeast Getting reliable mophead and lacecap hydrangea blooms can be tricky in the Northeast. Questions abound about pruning, changing the color of the flowers from pink to blue, and correct garden siting. Come learn how to plant, grow, and prune hydrangeas as well as find the answer to the age old question “Why won’t my hydrangea bloom?”. Hydrangeas are not only stunningly beautiful garden plants, they are remarkably resilient IF you plant the right ones for your garden. We will cover zone/climate and the best bloomers, native selections, hydrangeas for sun, shade and in-between, and best of all some superb choices for containers and small garden spaces. The hydrangea list given out with the program is updated annually to reflect the BEST new introductions, and also includes a few lesser known species for the adventurous gardener

The Fabulous Fall Garden: The Garden in the Burrow is often open to tours when other gardens have finished for the season. Learn from a pro the absolute best plants, tips, and techniques to ensure your garden looks like a showplace from late August right through to the first snowfall .

The Blended Garden: In Praise of Multihorticulturalism: Are you feeling guilty and confused about the current hype surrounding native only planting? Overwhelmed by terms like invasive, aggressive, exotic, indigenous, alien and sustainable? Worried about the environmental impact of your garden? Learn the **science** and dispel the **myths** behind the Native vs. Exotic Plant Debate and the **best** way to make a garden that you, the pollinators, and Mother Earth will adore.

Clematis: Queen of the Vines: Did you know there are over 300 species of clematis with over 1000 cultivars? Did you know there are clematis that will bloom continuously in your New England Garden for more than 16 weeks? Do you know the secrets to growing these beautiful and versatile plants? Come learn how this truly easy to grow vine can make your garden the envy of all .This slide presentation (accompanied by lots of flowers from late May through September and stunning photos in the winter) will teach you proper planting, cultivation, and design tricks that you can use in any garden, from an English Manor House to condominium patio, sun, shade or in between.

Design with Vines: There is nothing like a vine to add height, scale and drama to any gardening space. Take your garden into a new dimension by learning creative uses for a variety of ornamental vines, both annual and perennial. During this slide presentation of beautiful garden photographs, we will discuss using vines as structural elements, ground covers and as a second season of interest in shrub borders. We will also learn vines to avoid and how to follow the golden rule: “Right vine, right place.”

Shrubs for Year Round Interest: From January to December, Azalea to Yucca, a fast paced presentation covering a list of almost 50 spectacular shrubs that will give your garden VAVOOM. Growing the RIGHT shrubs is the easiest way to incorporate lots of low maintenance color, texture and appeal, **without** relying on fussy perennials. Cultivars on this list are selected for multi-season interest, size, ease of cultivation, and local availability (including nursery list).

Grow it, Cut it, Arrange It: Want to have beautiful blooms fresh from your own garden to adorn your house and table but don’t have the space for a separate cutting garden? This program will give you plant selections you can easily work in to your existing garden space that will provide you bouquet after bountiful bouquet as well as suggestions for foliage , fruit and other fun additions to make your arrangements POP!

The Art of the Vignette: A fun design presentation illustrating how to effectively use small spaces in the garden to convey a sense of drama and personal style **and** how to avoid common faux pas. We will learn how to use color, design features and objects d’art to draw the eye and create fabulous vignettes that will have your visitors admiring your savior -faire.

Faithio: A story of a girl, her mama, pink flowers, chipmunks, fairies , and cancer: In what promises to be one of the most unusual and compelling programs of the year, come hear my journey through my daughter Faith’s illness told through stories that take place in the garden. Will you cry? Maybe. Will you laugh? Most definitely (and I hope often). Will you leave inspired? I truly think so. Based on my private memoir of the past few years, this presentation will give you a sudden urge to plant more perennials, dig in the dirt, and laugh at any circumstance thrown your way. You will also get a sneak peek at the fairy garden Faith and I have created to provide a happy home for these magical creatures we have become so fond of. This is not a sulky story, not a woe is me story, a religious story or even a sad story. It is a story of growing, of hope, of laughter, of gardening, of Faith.(Books will be available for purchase if requested)

Get Ready! The Spring Garden: A program offered in the early months of the year to get us all prepared for a productive and creative gardening season. Topics covered include: what to prune now and why, tool sharpening (demonstration and bring yours too!), flower bed cleanup and evaluation, transplanting, lawn care, pest control (voles, winter moth, and scale), houseplant basics, bulb care and bare root plants. Get through this busy season informed, prepared, and ready for whatever Mother Nature throws your way.

Learn a Little Latin: A slightly serious, slightly irreverent look at the form of Latin used in botanical nomenclature. We will discuss the wacky ways some plants get their names and how to write them correctly, explore the perils of pronunciation, and learn a few handy dandy words that will help you decipher your garden and bring out your latent Linnaeus. Great for gardeners of all levels and a wonderful winter program.

Easy Care Roses: Yes, you can grow roses without spraying harmful pesticides or fighting disfiguring defoliating diseases.....you just need to know the right roses to plant! This lively and colorful program will show you the healthy way to healthy rose growing just by choosing roses proven to be winter hardy, disease resistant, drought tolerant, and prune free. Handout includes cultivar list of all my selections and great sources to find them.

Container Gardening With Perennial Plants : Do you have limited garden space? Unworkable clay soil? Lots of hardscape to adorn? Learn which perennials work best containers, how to plant them, and basic care including overwintering information so you can have a beautiful outdoors without breaking the bank .

Perennial Gardening 101: An informative gardening class that covers site evaluation, plant selection, pruning, maintenance, design considerations and season extending perennial garden plants.

All programs accompanied by a double sided handout, props and/or fresh floral material whenever possible

Workshop: Pressed Flower Cards: In these popular hands on workshop we will use pressed flowers, both dried and fresh, to create lovely artwork that will then be computer scanned and sent back to participants as a greeting card. All materials will be provided, although everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring pressed material that is of special interest to them. If you love your masterpiece, you will be able to order more printed cards. Orders will be sent separately and price list and order form will be available at the workshop.

Pressed Flower Prints: A follow up workshop to the immensely popular Pressed Flower Cards, this workshop will feature a short presentation on collage making with pressed flowers and participants will design an 8x10 print using colored papers and floral material.

Garden Tours: For a modest fee (all of which is donated to The Jimmy Fund) The Garden in the Burrow will host your group for a delightful tour and refreshments.

Reviews and recommendations available upon request

Bio: Cheryl is a licensed adult educator who follows the science, reading constantly and taking classes to stay current with the latest in plant research, new plant introductions and design trends.

Cheryl is a gardener who follows the motto "Pretty it up!" and strives to have beautiful pest free gardens on her 1 acre plot in central Massachusetts where she grows close to 100 clematis species and hybrids, dozens upon dozens of ornamental vines, hundreds upon hundreds of perennials, and a large variety of both deciduous and coniferous trees and shrubs.

Cheryl is a mom of four, lover of corgi dogs, avid reader, and knitter, but mostly and whenever possible, a gardener.

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Lecture fee: \$325.00 plus mileage .40 /mile accruing after the first 20 miles which are free

Workshops \$345.00 and a minimal per person materials fee plus mileage