



# WINCHESTER HOME & GARDEN CLUB

## Meetings 2020-2021

Please join us on Zoom!

- December 16** - Holiday Party
- January 20** - Demetra Tseckares
- February 24** - Deborah Trickett
- March 17** - TBA
- April 28** - TBA
- May 19** - TBA

## Last Call Drive-By Apple Pie

Just another way to see all your smiling faces and stay connected. Don't be shy, sign up, everyone enjoys a slice of pie! RSVP to Dot!

### Winchester Home and Garden Club "Drive-By Apple Pie!"

November 23 from 12 to 1pm  
Sons of Italy Parking Lot



- Grab a pie to go & say hello!
- Contactless car window service
- Masks please!

RSVP Dot Butler  
butlermaild@gmail.com  
No later than noon on 11/20



## Festival of Wreaths

The **Festival of Wreaths** website is open for preview. Log on, take a look at the amazing creations many of our members have



created! Every day, Nickie and Dot were blown away as each entry came in. They assure you there is something there for everyone. We are just so grateful to Ghina Sahagun for working with us to make a virtual "online" festival possible. We are asking our members to help spread the word. Please share with all who are in your contact lists. One of the benefits of doing the Festival of Wreaths this way is that you don't have to be present to participate.

Grab a cup of coffee or a glass

of wine and log on to <https://01890-festivalofwreaths2020.com> and leave a check mark next to the wreath or wreaths you would like the chance to win. Tickets are priced the same as years passed - **10 tickets for \$20 dollars!**

This is our major fundraiser for the year, so we are hoping all of you will support this initiative. And we are so grateful to all the designers who took the time to make such wonderful creations!

*Happy Thanksgiving! Wishing you a harvest of blessings, good health and good times.*



Check us out and follow us on Instagram [winchester\\_hgc](https://www.instagram.com/winchester_hgc)

## “Winter Birds in Our Gardens”

*By Dawna Blum from Wild Bird Unlimited*



On Wednesday Night we had a very informative presentation by Dawna Blum from Wild Bird Unlimited on “Winter Birds in Our Garden.” Dawna is a wealth of knowledge for anyone interested in birds. Dawna shared insight on how to attract Winter birds and what to feed them.

Her contagious enthusiasm for birds was very evident. She is a self described indoor birder - meaning she likes to watch the birds out the window while enjoying a cup of coffee or a glass of wine.

One of the most frequent questions people have is - how to keep the squirrels away? In addition to using a baffle and keeping the feeder away from branches that a squirrel can hop from, Dawna’s secret trick is **HOT PEPPER**. Hot pepper bothers squirrels as it does many humans, but it does not bother birds. Dawna showed us various varieties of hot pepper bird seed mixes, suet and even a hot pepper bark butter. Many of us made a note to go get some!

**Some Tips:** Are messy shells on the ground and snow the thing that keeps you from having a bird feeder? Try a no mess blend so there are no shells. Many birds will be happy to eat the seed from the feeder and some birds will be delighted to go for what falls on the ground. Do you worry about the birds during winter storms? Get a nesting or roosting box to protect the birds. Be sure to clean out old nests each year.

Did you know that birds need to stay clean to stay warm? To help your feathered friends stay clean, consider getting a heated bird bath. Birds need the opportunity to clean their downy under layer of feathers so they stay fluffy and warm. Whatever question you may have about attracting, feeding and caring for birds, Dawna has the answers. Stop in to see her some time. You will find Dawna at Wild Birds Unlimited at 344 Cambridge Street in the Whole Foods Plaza. And congratulations to Susan Borges the lucky winner of one of WBU bird feeder systems!

*P.S. A BIG thank you to Liz Darby for taking such extensive notes - much appreciated!*

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### Thank You to Bernadette Kearney

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A thankful shout out goes to Bernadette for the beautiful arrangements delivered to the Mt. Vernon House and The Gables. These will surely put a smile on the faces of all the Residents at both places. Thank you for taking the time to share good cheer for “Thanksgiving”.



## Two Little Old Ladies

Two little old ladies, Connie and Jean, were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was in progress.

The short one, Jean, leaned over and said, "Life is so boring. We never have any fun anymore. For \$10 I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid, boring flower show!"

"You're on!", said Connie, holding up a \$10 bill. So, Jean slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes. She grabbed a dried flower from a nearby display and held it between her teeth.

Then, completely naked, she streaked (*as fast as an old lady can*) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling. Finally, the smiling Jean came through the exit door to the sounds of a cheering, clapping crowd.

"What happened"? asked Connie.

"I won \$1,000 as first prize for 'Best Dried Arrangement'!"

*Life is short...Break the rules...*

*Forgive quickly....Love truly....*

*Laugh uncontrollably...and*

*Never regret anything that made you smile!*



## UP AND COMING EVENTS

### Festival of Wreaths

November 23 - November 30

Drawing November 2nd

### Secret Santa

November 24 Deadline for signup!

### Holiday Party

December 16th at 7PM on Zoom

Join in on the fun!

### Demetra Tseckares on January 20

Presentation on: **Gardens Got You Down?** Is your front foundation overgrown and maybe boring? Is your fence line garden dull and predictable? What about the shade garden by the patio? She is here to help you revive and learn about exciting plants, attracting beautiful pollinators and birds to your space! Also offer design considerations that add dimension and scale to a garden.

### Deborah Trickett on February 24

Presentation on: **The Captured Garden: Beauty and the BEES.** More details to follow.

## Holiday Celebrations

Big shout out to Mai Harrison and Adrienne Spignesi for all the planning they have put into place to make sure we have our annual “**Holiday Gathering**”. Below Mai and Adrienne have outlined what is in store for us! Please note, the **Secret Santa** signup has been extended to **November 24**. If you missed the deadline, don't worry sign up now and be part of this festive evening.

*Hello Fellow Winchester Home and Garden Members!*

Quick update on our Secret Santa and Holiday Party:

- **Secret Santa:** We **extended** sign up for Secret Santa participation to Tuesday, 11/24 at 7pm. The more the merrier! Fill this form out please: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdH6mO\\_9IClhYYs\\_bj2oB1p4TSw2oLXIh5yovU-YLzzV3yk4Q/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdH6mO_9IClhYYs_bj2oB1p4TSw2oLXIh5yovU-YLzzV3yk4Q/viewform)  
Please remember deliver gift by Monday, 12/14
- **WHGC Holiday Zoom Party:** Wednesday, 12/16 at 7pm. We will open gifts at the same time!
- **Holiday Costume Contest:** Best Holiday Sweater, Best Pajamas and Best Holiday Accessories! Totally optional but for those who would like to participate, please make sure your video is on and we will vote through chat!
- **WHGC Holiday Slideshow:** Although, we can't see each other we can still feel like we are celebrating together! Another totally optional fun idea: Please send in a picture of how you celebrate your holidays — whether it be your Christmas Tree, Menorah, Wreath, Nutcracker collection, gingerbread house, candles, family holiday card or even simply your favorite ornament —we would love to share and feel the magic and joy of what makes your holiday season so special! Please send pictures to Mai at [mai\\_harrison02@hotmail.com](mailto:mai_harrison02@hotmail.com) by Friday, 12/11.



*We can't wait to celebrate with you all!*  
*Any questions ask Adrienne at [adrienne@spignesi.com](mailto:adrienne@spignesi.com)*  
*or Mai at [mai\\_harrison02@hotmail.com](mailto:mai_harrison02@hotmail.com)*