



# The Spade & The Hoe

Issue 1 Volume 11

November 2003

## November Workshop

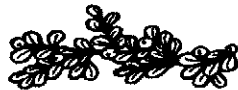
Our regular meeting will be on November 13th, Thursday, at 7:30 pm in Room 102 at the Park Center. This month we will have a hands-on workshop on making Christmas baskets. We will provide baskets and all other supplies necessary to design a beautiful basket for you to take home for your holiday parties. However, if you have a special basket, ornament, or small stuffed animal like a teddy bear, please bring it. Everyone is asked to bring a glue gun with extra glue sticks if you have one and an extension cord.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY!** Please register with Holly at

[SunshineStudio2000@hotmail.com](mailto:SunshineStudio2000@hotmail.com) or call her at 729-7729.

The fees will be collected at the door that evening and no registrations will be taken then.

**The October meeting** was such an interesting one! Lois McDermott from Pasquesi Garden Center displayed the many different spring- and fall-blooming bulbs that she had brought with her. She discussed their planting requirements, bloom dates, heights, and how to layer them in pots or the ground, and how to plan a bed from tall plants in the background down through medium high growers to small border plants. Her descriptions were of enormous help to our newer members, and a vivid reminder to our 'seasoned veterans'. Afterwards we were all able to purchase bulbs to fulfill our dreams of glorious spring and fall gardens! Dee Kalchin was the hostess for this meeting.



A very happy Thanksgiving to all of you! May your table be groaning under the weight of tasty and nutritious dishes shared with loving family, old friends, and good neighbors.

## Through the Garden Gate

I have good news to report: the other day two blue jays came to my bird feeder, the first ones here since West Nile Virus did its dirty work. And, the first junco arrived from Canada on October 20th, right on schedule! I just love those little birds! I'm still hoping some black-capped chickadees will venture into this barren locale and brighten up my days.

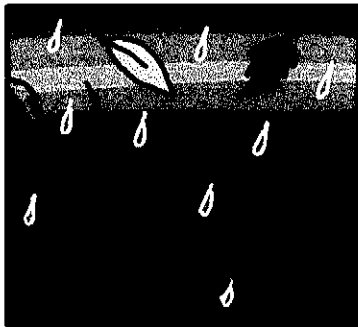
As I was tidying up the south beds for their winter slumber, I suddenly decided to remove some annoying spreading plants and replace them with a few vegetables next spring. I cleared out a nice area and I am very happy to have a spot for a few tomatoes, Italian broad beans, and maybe a few snow peas. What more could anyone want? I have a good place for a hill or two of zucchini, too. I have been busy this fall with transplanting, clearing out, planting, and planning. Wow! If everything works out, it'll be pretty nice next summer.



## November Meeting

We will have a hands-on workshop conducted by Holly and Esther. The cost to members is \$5.00 for supplies to make a Christmas basket. Guests will pay \$15.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY.**



**Odd but true food facts:** boiled silkworms are all protein and taste like veal. Korean children eat them as snacks;

Chinese eat every part of a chicken, head, feet, everything except the feathers - goose and duck tongues are good, too; Italians did not eat tomato sauce before about 1650, as tomatoes came from Mexico & South America; corn was not eaten worldwide until after 1500 when it was brought from Mexico and Latin America; Chinese eat sweets first, soup last; red ant eggs, mosquito, beetle & agave plant moth larvae, grasshoppers, and more were eaten by Pre-Hispanic Mexicans.

## December Dinner

Jane Prentis has booked the Gusto Ristorante for our Holiday Dinner. See her flyer on the back of The Spade and The Hoe.

## Hyacinth Jars

Fill a hyacinth jar almost to the neck with water and add a small lump of charcoal to keep the water fresh. Sit the hyacinth bulb in the top and keep the jar in a cool, dark place until the roots are about 5 inches long and leaves are showing. Then move it to a warmer and lighter place and enjoy the blooms in the dark days of winter.

## Questions, comments, payment of dues?

Esther Behnke, president & editor 498-4178  
eabehnke@earthlink.net  
Joan Ruehrmund, treasurer 729-1383  
dierrueh@aol.com  
Jane Prentis, circulation 729-3230 jrprentis@msn.com  
**ggardeners@earthlink.net**  
(new email address!!!)  
www.NorthStarNet.org,  
then click on  
Community, then on  
Glenview Gardeners.

## In November, remember to:

- ✓ shred fallen leaves and use to mulch the garden once the ground freezes hard;
- ✓ plant spring bulbs and sprinkle a bit of bulb booster to help them;
- ✓ after a hard frost, lift and store your cannas, dahlias, begonias, and other tender bulbs;
- ✓ continue to water trees, shrubs, and perennials until the ground freezes;
- ✓ cage and mound roses with shredded leaves to protect them from rabbits during the winter;
- ✓ prune hybrid teas to knee height;
- ✓ fertilize the grass one last time before winter; mow as long as the grass is growing;
- ✓ shred leaves that land on the grass; either leave them there but shredded, or gather the shredded leaves to add to your compost piles or spread them around the garden beds to help protect your perennials from frost-upheaval.

