



# THIENEMAN'S HERBS & PERENNIALS

# THE PLANT PRESS

9120 Blowing Tree Road • Louisville, Kentucky 40220 • ph:502-491-6305 • www.thienemans.com • Winter Vol.5, No. 1

## Happy New Year from Thieneman's!

January has been generous to gardeners this year - in between the gray and the wet and the wind, we've actually had some days in the 50's and 60's. (And just what IS that big yellow thing in the sky?)

Fine garden cleanup weather! Lovely days to wander the yard, poking around in the mulch to see little green bits at the base of last year's brown. Daffodils and crocus are already waking up, and peonies won't be far behind. We're gaining a little bit more light every day now - it's enough to make any gardener itch for the feel of dirt under fingernails!

Spring is already reaching full swing, back at the farm. We're all in a flurry of activity, planting and transplanting and filling greenhouses with pots full of fresh, new growth. On the finest days, we pop outside to weed and rake and begin awakening our Retail area. By the time Retail "officially" opens on March 15th, we'll have some sun on our noses and Spring smiles on our faces, ready to welcome our customer friends back for another year.

In the meantime, we can help you ease the itch for Spring, with our Winter Class Series and the Metro Louisville Home, Garden, and Flower Show. Read on for details, and we hope to see you soon!

## Thieneman's Hours of Operation: (January, February, March)

Monday - Saturday, 9am - 5pm  
Sunday "by chance"!

## Catnip



**Latin Name:** *Nepeta cataria*

**Meaning:** From the Roman town Nepeti, where it was grown

**Uses:** Cat entertainment, tea, medicinal

**Care:** Full sun to part shade, well-drained average soil

**Legends:** While we think of catnip as belonging only to our furry friends, it has a long history of use by humans. The Romans used it as a sedative over 2000 years ago, and colonists brought it with them to America, where they put it to work for nervousness, digestive complaints, headaches, sleeplessness, and colic in babies. Legend has it that chewing catnip root promotes bravery, and there is an account of a reluctant hangman who used catnip root to help him carry out his grisly work!

## Greenhouse News



### Attention, Trellis Group!

There will be no Trellis Group meeting in March, but we're planning on seeing you the third Thursday in April! Check out the next Plant Press for more information.

### Winter Road Note:

Our Bunsen Way entrance is currently closed for road maintenance - if you come see us, please use the Blowing Tree Road entrance, off of Taylorsville Road.

### Perennial of the Year for 2006 is *Dianthus gratianopolitanis* 'Firewitch'.

It's easy to see why this Clove Pink was selected this year! Steely gray-green foliage forms a low, neat mat and the fiery pink flowers bloom all summer long. Add to that a great fragrance and the fact that the foliage is evergreen, and you have a winner for the sunny border.

### Herb of the Year for 2006 is Scented Geranium.

Rose, Lemon, Peppermint, Nutmeg, Apple Cider, Eucalyptus, Citronella...Fernleaf, Skeleton Key, Snowflake, Split Leaf Rose... just how many different scents and shapes are there? At last count we're raising over 40 varieties! Edible flowers for salads, scented leaves for jellies, potpourri, and baking - it's easy to fall for this fast-growing, warmth-loving annual. Stop by for a little "scratch & sniff" and start a collection of your own.

**It'll be here sooner  
than you think!  
We open for the  
Spring Season  
on March 15th!**



[www.thienemans.com](http://www.thienemans.com)

## Winter Class Series

It's time for a little late-winter inspiration! Come out to the farm and join us in the greenhouses for our Winter Class Series 2006. Just be advised that these classes tend to fill up, so **advance registration and payment is required**. See Page 3 for a handy registration form, and join us in getting a jump on Spring! And, as little "extra" this year, **each class attendee will receive a 10% off coupon toward a future plant purchase!**

### Color in Your Garden

**Friday Feb. 3rd or Saturday Feb. 4th, 10:00 a.m.**

Be an artist in your own back yard, with plants as your palette! Learn how to combine perennials, annuals, herbs, trees, and shrubs for maximum color impact. \$20.00 fee.

### Garden Journals and A Spot Of Tea

**Friday Feb. 3rd or Saturday Feb. 4th, 1:00- 4:00 p.m.**

Describing your garden on paper can help you define and refine what you'd really like it to be. And what better way to record your thoughts than in a little book you've made yourself, over a cup of your own herbal tea? Book artist Amanda Leake will show you how - \$25.00 fee includes materials to make your own journal, plus herbal tea and goodies to sample (and recipes, of course).

### Sowing Seed and Taking Cuttings

**Friday Feb. 10th, Friday Feb. 24, or Saturday Feb. 25th, 10:00 a.m. to noon each day**

A yearly tradition and our most popular winter class! Get hands-on experience with guidance from our staff. Sow seed and take cuttings from our stock plants, and keep what you plant. We'll even grow your baby plants till April in one of our greenhouses. \$30.00 fee includes all materials.

### Stumperies 101

**with special guest Ralph Archer**

**Saturday February 11th, 10:00 a.m.**

**(One day only)**

*Stumpery??* Picture a rock garden, with ferns and woodland plants nestled into exposed tree roots instead of boulders!

Fern expert Ralph Archer is a Master Gardener, member of and speaker for the American Fern Society, and all-around woodland plant fiend (just for starters). While volunteering in the gardens at Whitehall, Ralph installed a stumpery and continues to maintain it. He'll be on hand to teach us the ins and outs of stumperies, ferns, and the shady plants that go with them. (Hey, Ralph - did D.M. in the Extension office really call you a "Garden Gnome"??) \$20.00 fee.



## ...and a Few More

### Stories Hidden in Plants with special guest Wren Smith Friday Feb. 17th, 10:00 a.m. (one day only)

Plant stories are deeply connected to our own stories. Join Bernheim Arboretum's naturalist and "herbal-lorist" Wren Smith for an engaging exploration of plant stories, legends, and lore. You might be surprised by the fascinating stories hidden in plain sight! \$12.00 fee.

### Sow Your Own Salad

**Saturday Feb. 18th, Friday March 3rd,  
or Saturday March 4th, 10:00 a.m.**

Springtime is salad time, and there's no fresher salad than the one you grow yourself! Come learn about growing container greens at home and what to do with them for your table. \$30.00 class fee includes all materials, including window sill pot that you will plant and take home, plus samples and recipes for spring salads and dressings.

### ...And if that's not enough...

Peggy and Mandy are both conducting classes for Bernheim Arboretum in February, too! On Sunday Jan. 29th, Mandy will present "Exploring the Art and Craft of Book Making", and on Feb. 12th, Peggy will be "Contemplating the Spring Garden". For more details, contact Bernheim at 502-955-8512 or visit [www.bernheim.org](http://www.bernheim.org).

### Show-ing Off!



Once again this year, Thieneman's Herbs and Perennials will participate in the Metro Louisville Home, Garden, and Flower Show. The show is in the new South Wing at the Fairgrounds and runs from Friday March 10th through Sunday March 12th. We'll be in the Garden Market area, in Booth #23.

We're looking forward to the show - hope to see you there!



## Peggy's Corner

Thoughts from the farm



Last month *Chrissy* and *Julie* spotted a great blue heron wandering down the lengths of empty benches in the garden center. Usually he is found terrorizing the bluegills in the small lake behind my mother's house so the girls correctly surmised he was taking the circuitous route around the back of the barn in search of *Koi*! They doubled back around the other side and sure enough a few minutes later along comes *Mr. Blue*. They also spotted *Leroy* the cat snoozing in the sun stretched out along a crosstie. They couldn't tell who was more shocked to see the other but both *Mr. Blue* and *Leroy* vacated the premises promptly after discovering each other's presence.

That's one of the great things about this place. You never know what interesting thing might be found next back here. Sometimes they're unexpected but often we work very hard to come up with entertaining and informative activities for you to experience - not to mention the plant selection!

It's January and it's sunny and we're gearing up for another year. Make plans to come visit and share in some of the fun.

- P.J.T.

**"I appreciate the misunderstanding I have had with Nature over my perennial border. I think it is a flower garden; she thinks it is a meadow lacking grass, and tries to correct the error."**

~Sara Stein, *My Weeds*, 1988

### A Mailing List Note

Have we misspelled your name? Would you prefer an e-mail? Or to be removed from our mailing list entirely? Please just call, drop us a line, or send an e-mail to [finchhouse@ka.net](mailto:finchhouse@ka.net) with "Thieneman's Mailing List" in the subject line. And as always, we never sell our mailing lists to anyone else.

## CLASS REGISTRATION

(Please print clearly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in:

CLASS:	DATE:	COST:
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL COST:</b>		\$ _____

**All classes must be prepaid in full. If you need to cancel after registering, please be kind enough to notify us as early as possible so that someone else can fill your spot. Your full class fee will be refunded only if we receive your cancellation notice two days prior to your scheduled class. Thank you!**

Method of payment (Please circle one):

Check or money order

MasterCard    Visa    AmEx    Discover

Your card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date MO/YR: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

**Thieneman's**  
and mail to: **9120 Blowing Tree Rd.**  
**Louisville, KY 40220**  
**Attn: Peggy or Julie**