



THE PLANT PRESS

9120 Blowing Tree Road • Louisville, Kentucky 40220 • ph:502-491-6305 • www.thienemans.com • Fall Vol. 7, No. 2

Frost on the pumpkin...

...well, here and there anyway. In parts of the city, geraniums and impatiens are still blooming alongside autumn mums, with the last little tomatoes still ripening on the vine! Be that as it may, the trees are turning colors in earnest and Thanksgiving is breathing right over our shoulder.

It's time for the annual change of focus, from bright sunny days outside to the "merry and bright" time of year. Time to turn our thoughts inward, to home and hearth and all warm indoor things.

Back at the farm, we're easing into winter mode as well. Plastic is back up on the greenhouses, heaters are tuned up and ready to go, and the outdoor garden center is settling down for its yearly nap. Our work moves indoors now as we settle back into the beginning of the cycle: sowing seeds and taking cuttings for next year's crop. But before too much longer, those jobs will go on hold for a bit as we start working to turn a truckful of greenery into fresh wreaths and tabletop Christmas trees.

We'd love to teach you how, too - take a look at Page Two for our Holiday Class schedule. Handmade, homemade, simpler pleasures can be a comfort in the face of chilly economic times: fresh greenery on the door and decorating the house, gifts from kitchen and garden, the joy of growing green plants on a windowsill indoors. All these things help our "comfort and joy" in our own homes, and we hope to share them with you this season. May your winter days be "merry and bright"!

- Thieneman's Staff

Thyme



Latin Name: *Thymus*

Meaning: From the ancient Greek "thymon", or "courage"

Uses: Culinary, medicinal, cosmetic, aromatic

Care: Full sun, good drainage, and average to poor soil

Legends: To gain vigor, Roman warriors soaked in thyme-infused baths, and Scottish highlanders drank wild thyme tea for strength and courage. One soup recipe from 1693 suggests using thyme and beer to overcome shyness, and another from 1600 uses it "to enable one to see the Fairies". It has represented style and elegance, chivalry, and the Wee Folk.

"Simple Gifts", our 8th Annual Holiday Open House

Sat. Nov. 29th, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Come on back to the farm and escape from holiday traffic and stress!

Fresh greenery wreaths

Tabletop Christmas trees

Free hot cider & cookies

Boxwood topiaries

Miniature Christmas Tree Village

Sale on gardening gifts in
The Finch House

Come on back -
we'll be keeping the cider
warm for you!

Thieneman's Hours of Operation: (November and December)

Monday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm

Sunday 10am - 4pm

From the Finch House... ➤ ➤ ➤

When you're at the farm for
Holiday Classes, be sure to drop in!

We've got some great gifts for the
gardeners on your list,
with new items arriving each week.

And from Open House weekend
until Christmas, look for hand-crafted
herbal items, catnip pillows, cinnamon
Christmas ornaments, and sterling/
gemstone/ Swarovski crystal jewelry from
the Finch House workshop.

HO HO HO!

www.thienemans.com



Peggy's Corner

Thoughts from the farm

Weather rules in this industry; there's no getting around it. I'm supposed to be in writer's mode right now but the cold rain and the pale watery sun makes enthusiasm an intellectual challenge. The good thing is I'm sitting in a greenhouse (laptops - wonders of technology) with hot coffee in hand.

Given that it's November it's time for us to plant garlic. I'm excited to report that we will have 4 new varieties to offer you in the spring German Extra Hardy, Shvelisi, Shantung and Siciliano. I never knew that some are better for baking than others, that there are various degrees of heat from mild to incandescent as well as nuances in flavor. Details will be available at the greenhouse in the spring.

During the summer we also fell in love with succulents. It's great to be in love. More to follow.

During the summer Mother Nature also sent her son Ike to visit. Boy! Did that kid have a temper! In retrospect it wasn't as bad as it seemed but still he left rough spots.

Our beautiful tent that we use for the solstice was torn in half. That one hurt but Kevin assures me that it can be repaired and since the uprights weren't damaged there's hope.

I read recently that one should never let a crisis go to waste so when Ike lifted the wooden uprights on greenhouse #2 (our just-for-looking production house customers love to wander) off their base (they're 40 years old, what can you expect?) I felt a crisis in the making. It wasn't going to make it through winter snow loads and March winds. It was too late in the season to consider rebuilding from scratch. What to do? Lynda and Becky triaged the situation and decided chances of survival could be increased significantly by replacing some of the base plates and some of the uprights. So with a crew of women ranging in age from the mid-forties to the early seventies along with a lot of "Yes we Can!" we did just that. It was a great crisis!

Greenery is due in this week and our thoughts are turning toward evergreen reminders that Spring will follow. Come see us!

- P.J.T.

Holiday Class Calendar



The holidays are on their way - add your own personal touch to your decorating with our Holiday Class Series. **Please note that advance registration & payment are required for all classes.** Just visit www.thienemans.com (click on "Coconut's Corner", then "Classes") for a printable registration form or give Peggy a call at 640-2039.

Make a Fresh Greenery Wreath Fri. Nov. 21st, Sat. Nov. 22nd, or Wed Dec. 3rd, 10a.m.

Make a lush outdoor wreath from evergreen boughs. Wreath forms, wire, and base greenery supplied - we suggest that you bring work gloves and clippers, and your own accent greenery (boxwood, holly, pine, juniper, etc.) if you'd like. \$25.00 fee.

Make a Tabletop Christmas Tree Fri. Nov. 28th or Sat. Nov. 29th, 10a.m.

Learn how to turn fresh evergreen boughs into a unique accent for your holiday table. We suggest you bring work gloves and clippers, and accent greenery if you'd like. \$28.00 fee.

Holiday Open House

Sat. Nov. 29th, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

See Page One for details.

Make a Boxwood Topiary

Fri. Dec. 5th or Sat. Dec. 6th, 10 a.m.

Use cut boxwood branches to make a round "lollipop" style topiary, just the thing for your mantel or holiday table. Please bring clippers and work gloves. \$20.00 to make one or \$35.00 to make two.

Mini-Tree Workshop

Wed. Dec. 10th, 10 a.m.

Create a little "fantasy tree" from fresh greenery, fragrant herb branches, and other fresh-cut materials. \$20.00 fee includes all materials; please bring clippers and work gloves. (View some sample trees at our Holiday Open House - see Pg. 1!)

