

Seasonal Planters – November 3, 2012



On November 7th our guest speaker **Catherine Disley** entertained over 40 members with a demonstration of how to put together seasonal outdoor planters. A range of assorted greenery, including white pine, cedar, juniper, yew, fir and cotoneaster, as well as a bundle of red-osier dogwood and other decorations, covered two tables at the outset. All of this material was, at the end of the evening, arranged into two attractive and quite distinctly different displays.

The first planter that Catherine put together was more 'traditional' with a centre of red-osier dogwood surrounded by cascades of different shades of evergreen cuttings. The arrangement was finished with gold glitter-covered decorations, three large red Christmas balls and a hand-made ribbon. The technique of attaching the balls to sticks before 'planting' in the container, and how to make a bow from a large ribbon were shared with members as we watched the final product come together as a delightful creation.

The second container was more 'natural' with the same centre of red-osier dogwood. This arrangement included three large pieces of white birch and was surrounded by clumps of different greenery. The finishing touch was three very large pine ('sugar pine') cones. Catherine showed us how to attach the pine cones to sticks with the use of long wire pipe cleaners. In attempting to be a bit 'modern' with the positioning of the pine cones, Catherine quickly realized she was dealing with a more 'traditional' crowd. The arrangement was completed with the addition of several pieces of birch bark as decoration.

To the delight of two of our members, both arrangements were given away as draw prizes.