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Interiors by Susan, LLC Newsletter



Breathtaking Winter

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."

~Anne Bradstreet~



"Winter, a lingering season is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey and enjoy every idle hour."

~John Boswell~



Precious Pine Cones

Pine cones are beautiful, fascinating and unique. Pine cones are part of our lives in so many different ways. We use them for different purposes – including decorative wreaths, floral displays and potpourri. They can be suspended as bird feeders filled with peanut butter or suet coated with seeds. Wildlife such as squirrels love to eat the seeds out of them.

What do we really know about them besides what a striking appearance they have? There are female and male cones. The females are the hardened, dark brown ones. They are found in the top half of the tree. The male cones are the smaller, inconspicuous and grow singly or in clusters and are found towards the bottom half of the tree.

In the world of pine cones



the females are the ones who get the most attention and are primarily used for decorative purposes.



Snowshoeing 101

Snowshoeing has been around for thousands of years. The first snowshoes were nothing more than bent twigs with rawhide lacing. The use of snowshoes has gone from a simple survival tool to a winter sport.

The North American Indian tribes are credited with designing the four distinct styles of shoes. The Bear Paw design is the most popular and is the style used today. They are short and wide with no tail, which makes it easy to turn around in.

Today snowshoeing is the

fastest growing winter sport in the world; it is even ahead of snowboarding according to Snowshoe Magazine.

There are several advantages to the sport of snowshoeing. It is easy to learn, has a low risk of injury, inexpensive and environmentally friendly. The cost of snowshoes varies from \$100 to \$300 a pair. Snowshoeing improves cardiovascular health and burns 600 calories an hour. Women are the fastest growing participants. Wow, fitness, fun and the great outdoors. Who can resist?

Outagamie County has three snowshoeing trails ~

1000 Islands Environmental Center; Kaukauna, WI

Mosquito Hill Nature Center; New London, WI

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve; Appleton, WI

Try it today!





“Winter is the time for comfort – it is the time for home.”

~Edith Sitwell~

The Cool Color Palette of Winter

Winter, like every other season, is defined by unique colors. The colors are in the “cool” tones. The winter palette is the only palette containing pure white and black combined with strong primaries.

Magenta, crimson, true red, shocking pink, lemon, jade, midnight blue and indigo work well when set off by black, white, charcoal or silver.

This color palette makes a dramatic impression. Leather upholstery and matte walls add to the effect.

If an individual does not want to re-do the entire space in these colors, why not try a splash of color or accessories to help celebrate the season.

~ The right throw or pillows can give any room a clean crisp feel. Scatter throw pillows with geometric patterns or clean stripes.

~ Replace the tablecloth with a bold colored table runner and add silver balls for a centerpiece.

~ Group candles together for maximum effect. It helps with the dark cold evenings.



Photo by Tim Pawsey

Winter Holiday Traditions

People from around the world have different ways to celebrate the holidays. Hanukkah, St. Lucia Day and Christmas are some of the most popular ones.

Hanukkah

Also known as the **Festival of Lights**, is an eight-day Jewish holiday. In either November or December Jewish people will light candles in a special candleholder called a menorah. This is done to remember an ancient miracle in which one day’s worth of oil

burned for eight days in their temple. Hannukkah is a time to eat special potato pancakes called latkes, sing songs, and spin a top called a dreidel to win chocolate coins, nuts or raisins.

St. Lucia Day

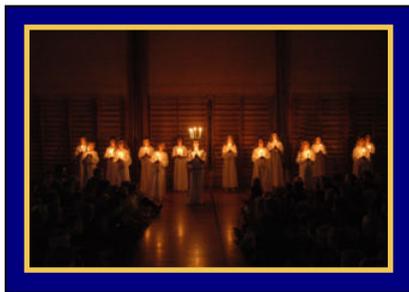
Is celebrated on December 13th to honor a third-century saint named St. Lucy. Many Swedish girls dress as “Lucia brides” in long white gowns with red sashes, and a wreath of burning candles on their heads.

They sing songs to their family and bring them coffee and twisted saffron buns.

Christmas

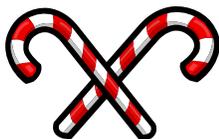
An annual holiday celebrated on December 25th to honor the birth of Jesus. Modern customs of the holiday include gift-giving, church celebrations, and the display of various decorations.

Enjoy the holiday season. It is a time for thoughtfulness and kindness towards others. A simple smile and thank you can do wonders.



St. Lucia Day

People from around the globe celebrate the holidays with special traditions.



Christmas



Hanukkah

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Thank you for reading my winter edition.

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