

December 2019

www.bookcliffgardens.com

## WINTER HOURS: Monday-Sunday: 10am-4pm

## THE BUZZ by Mona Dyer

Have you caught Christmas joy yet? C'mon! You know the sensation! It's that fluttery feeling ... found in surprises, sharing and giving! Christmas joy shows up in beautiful, unexpected ways. Joy came to our house this year, on the wings of bluebirds!

Bluebirds have always been treasures to me. Chance sightings of them darting in waves over open fields or perched happily on fence posts ... they've filled my heart with glee since I was an itty-bitty kid in sheep camp! Such delicate little creatures, with adorably expressive eyes ... tiny jewels cloaked in impossibly blue feathers! There's only one explanation. They're made of pure magic! So ... how did bluebirds bring joy? Let me explain.



Our house isn't in bluebird country. No open fields ... no fence posts ... zero, zip, nada! Apparently, that didn't matter to my beautiful blue feathered friends! What did matter was the banner crop of berries on the Engleman Ivy growing by the backyard gate! I had a ringside seat through a bedroom window as dozens of brilliant bluebirds feasted for days ... with the grit and gumption of Viking warriors! They fluttered and pecked, flapped and chirped until every last berry was gone! Barbaric table manners ... but every beautiful blue feather was

nourished! I was glad to have accidentally grown something useful for each tiny heart! The spectacle outside my window was entertaining but fleeting ... 'cuz I know critters won't stick around if they're hungry.

What's happened since, though, makes me weep happy tears. Daily visits to the

farm I grew up on have been blessed by bluebirds! In 50 years, I've never seen bluebirds there before! Still, almost every day, brilliantly colored azure blue birds adorn fence posts and wire down the long driveway to the farmhouse! Sometimes a couple bluebirds will even sit and let me admire them a minute or two on posts or rusty old wire ... just hangin' out in the sun. Oh, how I love these little birds! I wish each little bluebird well through the cold winter to come, and on into spring!

So ... that's how Bluebirds delivered Christmas Joy to my house. I'm wishing you a Bluebird Christmas... with gleeful happiness today, and all the New Year through!

## Meet Rick Griggs ~ A New Bookcliff Owner!

Hello! Rick Griggs, here! I'm the new co-owner of Bookcliff Gardens. As I write to introduce myself, I can't help but reflect upon the last six weeks. My wife Steph and I took ownership of the fabulous Bookcliff Gardens on October 18th, and have been running around like Mike the Headless Chicken ever since!

Originally from Kansas, I've lived in Grand Junction for 20 years. My



background is in construction and geology. Seems I've spent my life learning ... building things with rock and soils! That fits my new mission ... building and renovating landscapes through Bookcliff Gardens' Landscape!

Snow is moving into the mountains, and landscape construction and maintenance work is slowing down here at Bookcliff Gardens. With any luck, I may get a much-needed breather ... a few days on the hill at Powderhorn! Up until now, I've spent most of my time working in the landscape office. But come early spring, trucks will start rolling in! They'll be filled with beautiful perennials, ornamental trees and flowering shrubs. Work will be in full swing in Bookcliff's greenhouses, too ... and I couldn't be more excited to be part of this!

But, first things first. I have more leaves to rake. Dang! They just keep coming! Didn't I just do this two weeks ago? Oh well. Fall raking and early winter pruning. I've kinda gotten used to it in my 20 years in Grand Junction.

Ownership of Bookcliff Gardens has changed, but the company's vision and heart has not. Thank you all for being loyal Bookcliff Gardens customers! I look forward to meeting each you!

Sincerely wishing everyone Happy Holidays ... and a Happy New Year!

Rick Griggs



#### TRADITION LIVES HERE!

Bookcliff Gardens keeps tradition alive! For brilliant holiday decorating, our beautiful Poinsettias are exquisite! You'll find dazzling Christmas cactus, loaded with blossoms and buds ... and pretty little Norfolk Island Pines that are the perfect Christmas tree for tiny spaces. For the scent of Christmas, our evergreen wreaths are kept in climate-controlled storage so they're fragrant and fresh when you take them home. Need fresh, aromatic evergreen garland for swags or table décor? Look no further than Bookcliff Gardens! If you like getting your hands dirty, we've got a huge selection of plants for DIY gifts! Succulents are

all the rage ... along with a wonderful selection of lovely houseplants, pots and soils to put them in! We have an endless supply of fresh seeds, gloves and gadgets for stocking stuffers ... and unique garden statuary and décor for every patio or yard. Bookcliff Gardens sells gift certificates that never expire ... and they're always the right color and size! Stop by and browse ... nibble some cookies and sip hot coffee and just visit awhile. We're just up the street and well worth the stop. Bookcliff Gardens Nursery and Landscape where 'We help...You grow'!

# **MERRY CHRISTMAS** & THANK YOU! As 2019 comes to a close, Bookcliff Gardens sends you and your family warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year! We feel blessed by each of you... humbled and appreciative for your friendship and patronage. May 2020 be filled with love, laughter and joy! Here's to you, and a beautiful new year! We help ... You grow! Bookcliff Gardens nursery & landscape

Click here for printable calendar!

### **December 2019 Gardening Calendar**

Mulch roses after ground begins freezing by piling 12" of course organic material like chopped leaves, straw or cedar mulch onto plants. A big drink of water might be in order for them, too!

Monitor houseplants for insect problems. Bring samples to Bookcliff so we can help identify your issues. We even know how to get rid of fungus gnats!

Heavy snow build-up can break evergreen limbs. Remove snow as needed.

Shop at Bookcliff Gardens for unique gifts and beautiful live plants that'll be treasured!

Decorate with fresh evergreen boughs, garlands and wreaths from Bookcliff Gardens!

Find Christmas Cactus at Bookcliff Gardens. We'll customize Poinsettias to match your home décor! Keep potted Christmas trees in the house no longer than 3 days. Too long puts your tree at risk for breaking dormancy & will damage tender new growth.

Last days to shop! Specialty gifts for Gardeners on your list are here! Bookcliff Gardens Gift Certificates are awesome!		Closed	25	Plant your potted Christmas tree quickly.
		for the	Merry	Remember to keep it watered this winter
		Holidays!	Christmas!	to avoid winter drought damage.
29	30	31	Happy New Year!	Bookcliff Gardens wishes you & your family peace & blessings in 2020!!! We're closed until early January. See you then!

Bookcliff Gardens. We Help ... You Grow!

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