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Garden Surprises

Have you ever walked out to your garden and wondered....what in the world is that? Or - I never planted that? Or - Where did that ever come from....I certainly don't remember that? Or-surprise - when did this happen? Happens all the time with weeds....but maybe not when you see something beautiful, new and perhaps unknown.

So here is something Beautiful.....and a Surprise! I moved all my Amaryllis outside, some into my little "greenhouse" and some just sitting about under a tree....waiting for the fall when I start the process of bringing them all back to bloom just in time for the holidays. Well one beauty decided it was time now to put on a show....and so I brought inside to enjoy!



How often do we enjoy the birds that coming to the feeders in the winter, nesting in our birdhouses in the spring and enjoying a drink from the birdbath on a hot summer day....it is one of the joys of gardening for sure! Another joy for me has been the flowers they "deliver" each summer....there is one in particular that remains a mystery as to what it is - all the more fun. My "mystery" is this tall, yellow-orange daisy like plant that blooms in July....name still unknown...

Many years back (2001) about eight of your fellow TCGC members took a trip with *Horticulture Magazine* to the Hamptons to see some of the beautiful gardens on the eastern tip of Long Island. We flew from Easton "International" Airport and had a blast! At the end of the trip we stopped at nursery and loaded up on plants, hoping they would all fit on our plane ride home How could we not! I will never forget our dear Caroline Benson sitting in the last seat of the plane surrounded by our fabulous plants of all sizes and shapes. One that I brought back is *Hellanthus 'Lemon Queen'*.....a vigorous grower that in my experience can get to over 5'tall. This plant needs to be in the back of the garden and expect it to spread. Back in 2001 Lemon Queen had a spot in my garden, but not in later times.....so out it came, or so I thought....It has been gone now a few years, but not really. It is back again and of course not where it had originally been, so I guess the message is "Leave the 'Queen' where she is," and I guess I will!

