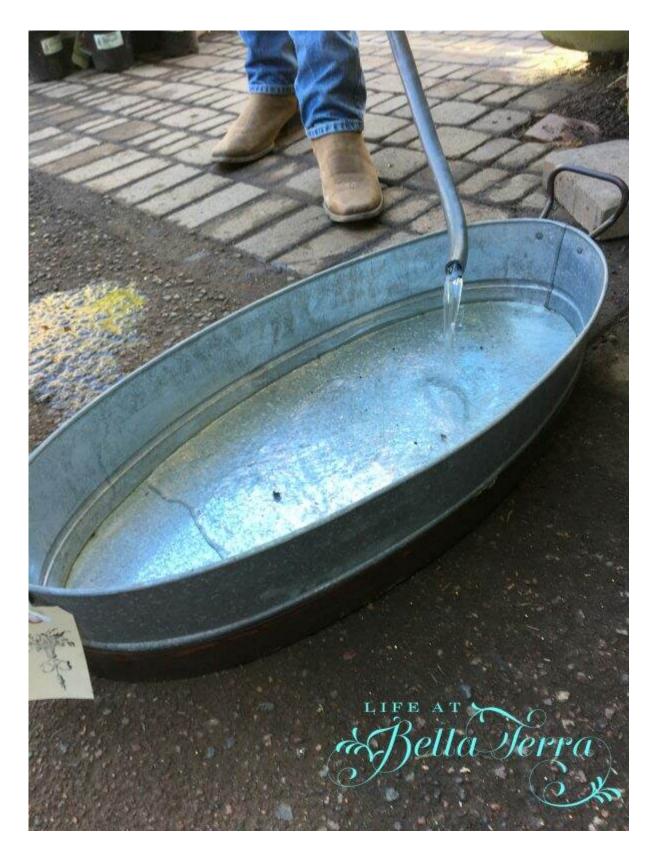
Happy New Year's Eve!

Happy New Year's Eve....hard to believe it will be 2018. I want to push a big brake pedal on life...it's is going T00 fast!

We are having a nice dinner this evening with no plans for anything formal tomorrow. When I made my Thanksgiving centerpiece (to see the post, click here), my friend Tracy, wished I had provided more information on how I did it. As a result, I created a similar one for our New Year's Eve dinner table.



You can really use any tray or container that will hold plants and flowers and is somewhat waterproof. For Thanksgiving, I used a wooden tray I lined with foil and plastic. For this one, I went to the Garden Shop at Whitfill Nursery and purchased an oval, galvanized tin one with handles. I had them fill it with water to make sure it didn't leak.



It was nearly waterproof, but leaked slightly on the side edge. I can work with that. While I was there, I selected a variety of green plants with white flowers-geraniums, ornamental cabbages, variegated ivy, and dusty miller.



I lined the tray with a black plastic trash bag, covering the seam where there is a slight water leak.



I removed the plastic containers and arranged the plants in the tray. I did not need to add additional soil, since I will be removing them and planting them in the garden next week. I really like the ability to re-purpose these plants after they have served their time as a centerpiece.





Next, I added some cut flowers for color and texture \sim using 2 dozen white roses.



I inserted plastic cups in the bare spots, filled them with water and added the cut roses.





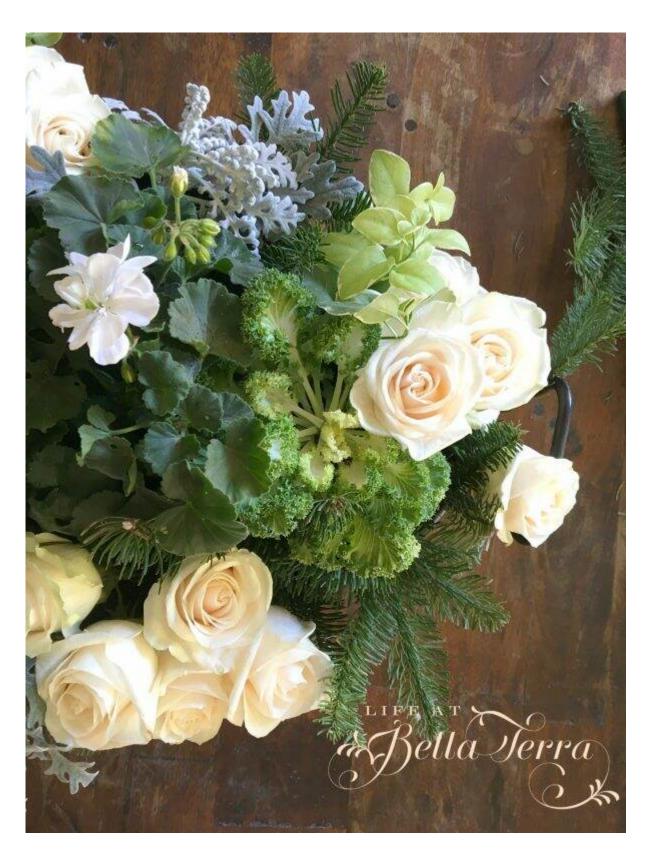


There were still some holes so I filled them with leftover fresh greens from the Christmas tree (that were sitting in a bucket of water for the last few weeks). Again, I can't say enough about the quality of Christmas trees at Whitfill. Our tree and these greens are still so firm and fragrant.





At this point I thought the centerpiece was completed. I really like how it looks against the natural wood table. However, when I placed it on the white linen tablecloth, I felt it still needed something.



Initially, I wanted my New Year's table to be whites, greens and silver. But at the last minute I changed my china to this for a burst of color.



By adding gold and green balls, it help to spice it up a bit. I love the shape of this tray, however, I feel the galvanized tin is a bit rustic for the formal place settings. I'm hoping with the candles lit, it won't be as noticeable. But again, it's fun to mix and match!



Thank you for your inspiration, kind words and loyalty in 2017. From everyone at Bella Terra, we wish you and your family a safe, healthy and prosperous 2018!

Resources: Silverware: Wallace Napolean Bee purchased from Horchow; China: Royal Worcester Greek Urn with Flowers; Roses purchased from Safeway

Mary