



Columbia Underground

Columbia Garden Club Newsletter

January 2012

Happy New Year!

The December party was so much fun. We can't remember ever having that much individual participation. A big thank you to everyone, especially the table captains, for making this a fun event. The tables were all very pretty and each so different. And the food...over the top! There were so many wonderful dishes and many that we had not had before. What a treat. Many of you have commented to us about the luncheon. One of our favorite comments was: "It was so fun to sit at a table where I really did not know everyone and get to know them better. We should do that more often."

Carolyn Adams outdid herself on the beautiful display of her collection of elves! Thank you Carolyn, once again!

The centerpieces were beautiful. We should take lessons from Wilma to learn how to attach pine to 2x4's! (New members can teach us a lot!); Mary Jane's terrarium and Marie's fresh flowers and on and on ...Such a display. Thank you to all of you for getting so involved and creative. We would not want to do that often but it was wonderful for a holiday treat.

We have not talked with Barb Devine to confirm how many pounds of food we donated but feel certain we met our goal of 100 pounds. Thank you Barb for taking care of getting our donation delivered and thanks also to all of you for your donation to the food bank.

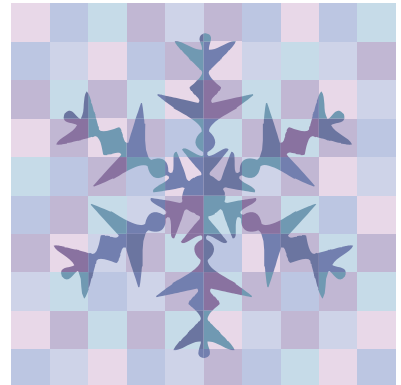
Thank you to Charley Blackmore for providing the equipment to run our slide show for the program.

And one more thank you to our District Director, Cynthia Florek, for taking time out to attend our luncheon and install our new officers.

As we begin a new year, we are in for another real treat right off the bat. Mary Kroening, owner of Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours and former horticulture and entomology faculty member, will make a power point presentation on garden insects. If you have not met Mary, you are sure to enjoy her. She may throw in some information about her wonderful trips around the world. We have members who have traveled with her and would love to go again.

Charley and I are off to Florida with many stops in between. We are not sure when we will be home but will most likely miss the January meeting. Carolyn will conduct the January meeting and this will be her first since she was president in 96-97. We know you will enjoy the meeting. Again, Happy New Year!

Carolyn Doyle and Karen Blackmore, co-presidents



Hospitality Hostesses for January

Carolyn Adams
Janet Lasley
Diane Poole

Columbia Garden Club

Co-Presidents: Carolyn Doyle
Karen Blackmore
1st VP: Barbara Rothenberger
2nd VP: Connie Blackmore
Secretary: Marie Pasley
Treasurer: Evette Nissen
Parlementarian: Carole Van-
Vranken

Newsletter Editor: Evette Nissen
enissen57@gmail.com

Meetings take place at Trinity
Presbyterian Church
1600 West Rollins Road
Columbia, MO 65203

Today's Labor, Tomorrow's Reward





Holiday Tables at the December Meeting



Table #1—Linda Rubin, Karen Brooke, Diane Poole, Gayle Fry, Virginia Itschner—Captain



Table #2—Mary Jane Wheeling, Mary Redders, Lynda Blades- Captain



Table #3—Barbara Rothenberger—Captain, Emily Bonwich, Betty Gladney, Katie, Carolyn Swope



Table #4—Carolyn Kemper, Marie Pasley, Kay Egbert-Captain, Linda Lowenberger, Carole VanVranken



Carol VanVranken admiring the wonderful elf collection that Carolyn Adams used to decorate the room.



More Pictures from December Meeting



Table #5—Alice Havard, Leslie Rosenkrans, Wilma Rajcher-Levy, Marie Crenshaw-Captain, Margaret Sullivan, Terry Reid



Table #6-Carolyn Doyle-Captain, Carolyn Adams



Table #7—Marsha Taylor, Karen Blackmore-Captain, Leigh Speichinger-guest



Table #8—Carol Notbohm, Janet Lasley, Connie Blackmore-Captain, Janet Lindstrom



District Director Cynthia Florek installs officers: Secretary-Marie Pasley, 2nd VP Connie Blackmore, 1st VP Barbara Roth- enberger, Co-Presidents Carolyn Doyle and Karen Blackmore, Parlemtarian- Carole VanVranken



December Minutes

December 12, 2011

Columbia Garden Club

Karen Blackmore, called the meeting to order. Following the potluck luncheon we enjoyed a PowerPoint presentation from the flower show.

A brief business meeting was held.

Karen expressed thanks to all who helped with tables and decorations.

Cynthia Florek, Central District Director, installed officers for 2012. The officers are as follows:

Co-Presidents-Carolyn Doyle & Karen Blackmore

First Vice-President & Program Chairperson-Barbara Rothenberger

Second Vice-President-Connie Blackmore

Secretary-Marie Pasley

Treasurer-Evette Nissen

Parliamentarian-Carole VanVranken

In addition, Carol Notbohm and Alice Havard were appointed to the advisory board for 2012-2013.

A brief summary of the year's projects and programs was presented by President Karen and all members were encouraged to participate in 2012. The 2012 flower show theme will be "Over the Rainbow" and is being held in conjunction with the Iris Society at the public library.

A request was made for participants in the garden tour.

The 2012 Yearbook was distributed.

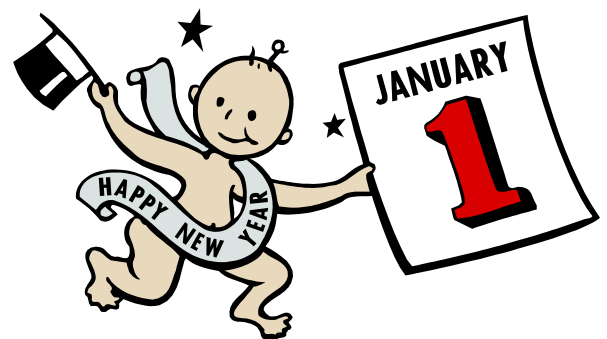
Meeting adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Linda Lowenberg

Respectfully submitted, Evette Nissen, Secretary

December Treasurer's Report

There were no transactions for the month of December, so the balance in our account remains at \$6,052.33





Growing and Caring for Amaryllis

By Carl Hoffman and Mary Meyer, University of Minnesota

Amaryllis (*Hippeastrum* species) are popular for their 6 to 10 inch trumpet shaped flowers that are born on 1 to 2 foot stalks (scapes). Although red and scarlet are the most popular colors, the flowers may be pink, white, salmon, apricot, rose, bicolor or picotee (petals with a different edge color) and in both single and double forms. Because they can produce flowers in mid-winter, they are prized for the color they add to indoor landscapes. Amaryllis may be purchased as bulbs or plants, in or near bloom. Blooming plants are often given and received as gifts. Amaryllis plants should be kept out of direct sunlight while they are in flower to prolong the life of the flowers.

When growing amaryllis from bulbs, careful selection of the bulbs is important because the plant's performance is influenced by both the size and condition of the bulb. It is best to select the largest bulbs available as they will produce more stalks and blooms the first year. The bulbs should be firm and dry with no signs of mold, decay or injury.

Select a container that is deep enough to allow adequate room for good root development and has provisions for drainage. The diameter of the pot should be about ONE inch larger than that of the bulb. Although this may seem small, amaryllis bulbs prefer a smaller container. Select a potting medium that has a high organic matter, but drains well. The bulb should be positioned so that at least one-third, preferably one-half, of the bulb is above the surface of the potting medium. Firm the potting medium around the bulb, water it thoroughly and place the container in a warm, sunny spot. Do not fertilize the bulb until it begins to grow. After growth appears, it is essential to fertilize the plants regularly with a fertilizer that has high phosphorus content. Move the plant out of direct sunlight when the flower buds have begun to show color.

The secret to successfully growing amaryllis is to keep the plants actively growing after they have finished blooming. After the flowers have faded, cut them off to prevent seed formation. Do not remove the flower stalk until it has turned yellow; it will help manufacture food that will be stored in the bulb. If the bulb does not produce a flowering stalk the next blooming period, it has not stored enough nutrients during the post-blooming period. It is important that amaryllis receive plenty of bright sunlight after they have finished blooming so place it in the brightest possible location indoors. Water the plant from the top of the container thoroughly whenever the top 2 inches of the soil is dry to the touch. Empty any excess water that drains from the pot as wet soil will promote root and bulb rot. Continue to fertilize the plant regularly.

When all danger of frost is past, acclimate the plant to the outdoors by first placing it in shade or indirect light. Gradually move it to a bright garden or bed where it will receive full sun for at least 6 hours daily. Sink the pot into the soil and fertilize with a balanced houseplant fertilizer monthly to build up nutrients for flower production the next year. Amaryllis plants should be brought indoors before the first frost in the fall. Amaryllis do not require a resting period and will bloom if kept evergreen. However, blooming time can be controlled by allowing the bulb to go through a resting period. After bringing the potted plants indoors, store them in a dark place like a basement or cool closet (above freezing) and do not water. Do not remove the foliage until it has become dry and shriveled. The bulbs can be forced into bloom again after resting for 8 to 12 weeks. Inspect the bulbs periodically and bring them into light if new growth appears. If no new growth appears, they can be forced to bloom by bringing them into bright light and watering the soil thoroughly. Usually one or more flower stalks appear first, but occasionally they are preceded by leaves. Flowers usually develop in about 4-6 weeks from dormant bulbs, so they can be timed to flower at Christmas or for Valentine's Day.

Amaryllis plants bloom best when they are potbound so they will require repotting only every 3 or 4 years. The best time to replot them is after they have gone through a dormant period, and you are bringing them up from the basement to reflower. Follow the same potting procedure as with a newly purchased bulb.



House Plant Tips from Missouri Botanical Garden

- Some plants are sensitive to the fluorine and chlorine in tap water. Water containers should stand overnight to allow these gases to dissipate before using on plants.
- Wash the dust off of houseplant leaves on a regular basis. This allows the leaves to gather light more efficiently and will result in better growth.
- Set the pots of humidity-loving houseplants on trays filled with pebbles and water. Pots should sit on the pebbles, not in the water.
- Fluffy, white mealy bugs on houseplants are easily killed by touching them with a cotton swab soaked in rubbing alcohol.
- Insecticidal soap sprays can be safely applied to most houseplants for the control of many insect pests.
- Quarantine new gift plants to be sure they do not harbor any insect pests.
- To clean heavily encrusted clay pots, scrub them with a steel wool pad after they have soaked overnight in a solution consisting of one gallon of water, and one cup each of white vinegar and household bleach.

Floral Arrangements Schedule

<u>Month</u>	<u>Boone Library</u>	<u>Wyatt Guest House</u>
January	Barb Devine	Marie Crenshaw
February		Janet Lindstrom
March	Kay Egbert	
April		Kay Egbert

If you would like to furnish flowers for the open spots, please contact Lynn Birkby at 573-443-8704.

Reminder: Each Columbia Garden Club member is asked to sign up for at least one of our committees. The list of committees was published in the December newsletter. There will be sign up sheets at the January meeting or contact Karen Blackmore or Carolyn Doyle with your choice(s).







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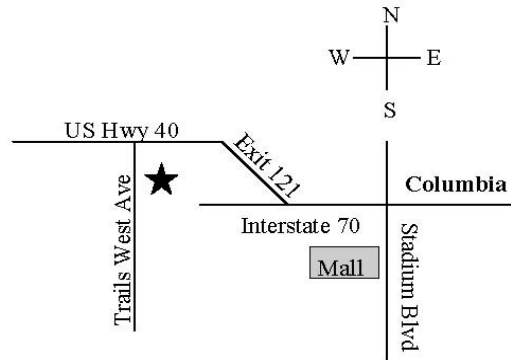
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