



CHESAPEAKE GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

GARDENING FOR ALL SEASONS JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 2011

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

Dates to Remember

January

- Design Workshops sponsored by District II 1/15
- Woodstream Orchids Open House 1/29-30

February

- President's Meeting Severna Park 2/11
- CGC Meeting 2/15 Speaker Gene Sumi Homestead Gardens

March

- District 2 Annual Meeting 3/11
- CGC meeting 3/15
- Federation Annual Meeting 3/22

April

- Art Blooms at the Walters 4/8-11
- District II Daffodil Show 4/4-6
Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Severna Park, MD
- Ikebana International Baltimore Chapter 118 4/15
- CGC meeting 4/19
- Maryland Daffodil Society Show at Kenilworth 4/19-20

- Flower Show School Course I, Comfort Inn, Bowie, MD 4/27-29
Come and have fun learning to "Grow and Show" both horticulture and design. It is fun and we even have a wine and cheese party for you. Registration forms can be mailed to you or are available on line. Contact Sandy Wolf cwolfsden@comcast.net and she will send you the attachment.

Birthday's

Mary Alys Sweetman – January 1
Mary Jo Blaine – January 13
Susan Charbonneau – January 9
Lisa Bierer-Garrett – February 2
Blanche Thompson – February 5
Sybil Russell – February 7
Nancy Cooke – February 17
Mary Porter – February 18
Rosanna Noyes – March 14
Vickie Trego – March 26

Plantings from the President

These past 3 months have been very busy for us....starting with our flower show...then on to the Jessup prison project, cleaning up the Appreciation and Butterfly gardens for the fall, and two garden therapy workshops at the NB senior center. Then kicking off the Christmas season with "The Magic of the Nutcracker" flower show, the Annual Festival of Trees, and finally "Christmas made.....Easy and Elegant" greens show. It makes me tired and proud just thinking about all our accomplishments in such a short time. Looking back, I can truly say that we "did good". The main reason for our success is our very dedicated members who are willing to step up when they are needed. As president and on behalf of the committee chairs I want to say thank you for being there for us.

As the New Year rolls in things will be a little, calmer no meeting in January but February's meeting with Gene Sumi should be very informative. March will be our annual birthday luncheon and the induction of our new officers. Thank you to the nominating committee for the work in selecting the slate of officers. Thanks also go to the members who were willing to step up and take on the executive positions. Good luck to you in the coming years.

Happy New Year to all of you and
May your weeds be wildflowers,
JoEllen

New Officers for 2011-2013

President	Marybeth Krovisky
Vice President	Kay Parris
Corresponding Secretary	Jenny Wolfe
Recording Secretary	Susan Charboneau
Treasurer	Denise Wesolowski
Parliamentarian	Patti At Lee
Advisor	JoEllen Youngblud
Delegate	Carol Hayden
Delegate	Bev Steadman

Green Show Report



Marybeth Krovisky

Our 2010 Holiday Greens Show was a great success. While we were disappointed in the attendance (despite Susan's excellent publicity), it met our fundraising goals. We made approximately \$1300 profit after our expenses were deducted. This is in line with past greens show profits which ranged from a low of \$541 to a high of \$1950. The sale of our green centerpieces was our biggest money maker. The live and silent auctions came in second and third in terms of profit. And, the \$1300 is a great contribution to our treasury and gives us more flexibility for our 2011 activities.

The show could not have taken place without the hard work of our club members. I want to thank each and everyone for their hard work but especially the chairs for organizing the silent auctions, the raffle and the greens workshop. A special thanks to Sybil for again hosting the designing workshop and the use of her home.

I was especially proud of how well we decorated St. Anthony's Hall and how beautiful and professional our table arrangements were. In the last several years our members have come a long way as designers! As expected, Sylvia Deck and Linda Masland were fabulous and so original with their ideas and designs. Once again I want to thank everyone for their time and expertise in making this program so rewarding.

Festival of Trees Report

Kay Parris



This year's tree was declared a success with compliments from many corners. MaryAlys, Sybil, Kitty, JoEllen, and Blanche dutifully decorated the tree the day after Thanksgiving. But I believe just

about everyone helped prepare the ornaments for hanging and making the tree skirt. Thanks go out to everyone.

Garden Therapy

Kay Parris & Mary Alys Sweetman

Our members took time out of their busy schedule to help the seniors make holiday floral arrangements on December 8th at the North Beach Senior Center. Garden Therapy programs at North Beach are very popular and the sign-up sheet is full almost immediately. However, as popular as they are with the seniors, we should let it be known that all of our members walk out 'ten feet off the ground.' Nothing is as much fun or rewarding as doing something for others.





Sandy and Sybil Gardening Tips

Care of Poinsettia
Euphorbia pulcherrima

This plant will last for many months in bloom after Christmas with the proper care.

Place plant in indirect sunlight. Let it dry out completely between waterings. Feed with an all-purpose fertilizer once a month. Discard plant in the Spring or cut it back and place outside in full sun after all danger of frost is past. Water regularly. To have blooms for Christmas bring indoors in mid fall and plant in a pot filled with an all purpose soil mix. This plant must be placed in total darkness like a dark closet or covered with a black cloth for 12 to 14 hours of uninterrupted darkness every day in order to bloom.

Amaryllis bulb
Amaryllis belladonna

Keep plant moderately moist. Place in full light Use an all purpose liquid fertilizer monthly. When plant finishes blooming and goes dormant, do not water allow plant to rest until late fall. Repot bulb in a deep pot in a potting soil with sand 6 " deep and water regularly to have bulb

re bloom. Note leaves appear before flowers and then die...This is normal...

Windowsills or window shelves are favorite places to put house plants. Direct sunlight is not always good for all plants. Cyclamen, gardenia, geranium, waxplant and others that are grown mainly for flowers should be grown in full sunlight, a window facing south. East or west windows that get morning or afternoon sun are best for African violets, bromeliads and many orchids. Foliage plants such as philodendron should be grown in no direct sunlight. Some distance from sunlight you can raise plants like snakeplant. Water sparingly and fertilize only infrequently. Best thing to remember is to water all plants thoroughly when watering. Use warm water when watering, this better than cold water. Azaleas do best in a cool temperature. The Prayer plant does best when kept in partial shade and soil kept moist. The Jade plant needs about 6 hrs. of sunlight daily. Let soil dry out before watering. And my favorite Christmas cactus - the soil must be kept moist during growing season, but somewhat dry during resting time. Full sunlight and average temps are best. On Sept. 1. plants should have total darkness from 6 pm to 8 am until buds form. Most common cause of buds falling off is too high temp. or too low a light level. African violets can be placed in east, west or south window. But away from direct sunlight. If plant is too cool, leaves will turn pale and curl downward. Keep the soil moist, use warm water. Water fertilizers will spur continual flowering.

Bird Articles – Kay Parris



THE CHARMS OF WINTER

Some of us shutter at the thought of cold weather and snow, but for me it is an opportunity to bird watch. I never appreciated the diversity of bird life until moving to Calvert. When the leaves drop the weather turns cold, I replace my hummingbird feeders with seed feeders. Some people complain about the seed attracting other critters, but I'm philosophical about the process and Buster our cat sees this as his chance to supplement his diet! I recommend using black oil sunflower seed because it attracts a wide variety of small birds. My friend Bernie might disagree, but pound for pound, sunflower seed attracts more birds than most mixes. Millet seed found in mixes is usually strewn on the ground by my birds when they look for the 'good stuff.' Once you start feeding birds, you'll find yourselves looking out the window more often to observe nature and discover things aren't really dead at all! We still have large flocks of Robins feeding on the Holly berries and Jays scour the ground for acorns. Soon I'll start collecting stale bread, crackers, leftover cereal flakes and such for the next snowstorm. Birds are hungry critters and they even appreciate old fruit, or beans. I recently checked my baking supplies and come up with some old currants from last year that will be a real treat. I hope that I inspire you to help our feathered friends. I promise untold dividends!

District 2 News

The newly elected District 2 board members are as follows:

Director - Marjorie Glennan, Shipley's Choice GC

Assistant Director - Liz Williams, Chartwell GC

Treasurer - Linda Dyson, Charles County GC

Recording Secretary - Mary Carruthers, Four Rivers GC

Corresponding Secretary - Evie Renz, Garden Club of Annapolis

The Magic of the Nutcracker flower show was a huge success. Chesapeake had seven members entering horticulture and designs. Everyone won ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Congratulations CGC!



Susan Charbonneau won a top award for her Christmas cactus.



JoEllen's Christmas tree won a first



Sande's Golden Boat won a 2nd



Dorrie's mums won all the ribbons in their class

In Closing

It is hard to believe that 2 years have flown by and our board will be stepping down in March. I have been very lucky to have a strong team behind me. I want to thank them for their hard work and dedication to our club. It has been a good two years, I feel we have accomplished a lot and have achieved our goal of "expanding our gardening knowledge". Thanks to all of you for your kindness and support, I look forward to watching as our club continues to grow under our new leadership. May the New Year bring love, health, a wealth of beautiful flowers, and time to enjoy them.

Love and hugs,
JoEllen