

President's Message



I always expect the sun to shine a little brighter on New Year's Day and new signs of life to appear. Alas, not in these northern climes. Maybe I was a Druid in a former life. Although we do have many weeks of Winter left, it is still possible to start planning our gardens for Spring.

Check out the wonderful collection of gardening books and magazines in the Hudson Library, many of which were donated by our Club. Don't miss our general meeting programs to give you inspiration to start to plan and plant. And, by Christmas Day I had already received my first Spring plant catalog. There is hope as the days do get longer.

Wishing you a mild but beautiful Winter!

Wendy Hilty

Let's Talk Pots



In the past many gardeners have considered plastic tacky, but the stigma associated with plastic pots is beginning to wane. From a distance, many newer, higher-grade plastic pots are indistinguishable from their stone or terra-cotta cousins and much lighter in weight.

Developments in design technology over the past few years have created a new generation of plastic pottery with thicker walls, interesting textures, and colors that realistically mimic natural materials or make a bold statement as undisguised plastic. The walls of a plastic pot are impermeable to water, which means less frequent watering and more weather resistance. Plastic pots are very light, so while they are easy to move about, they do not sufficiently anchor larger plantings, which can blow over in strong winds.

Pros: Lightweight; can be left outside year-round in colder zones; virtually indestructible; retains water better than other container materials.

Cons: Stigma that plastic is cheap/tacky; susceptible to blowing over in strong winds.

THE HUDSON GARDEN TOUR GIFT SHOP COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING....

In planning for the 2013 Home & Garden Tour the Gift Shop committee has come up with some neat ideas and needs your help with supplies.

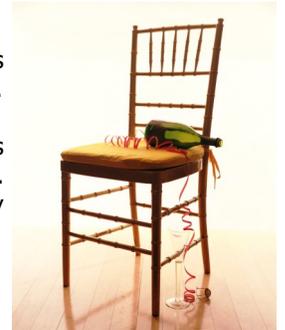
Do you happen to have an old wooden or metal chair that you no longer use? They can use it even if it doesn't have a seat. And those blue wine bottles that were a Gift Shop hit in 2012 are on the much-wanted list.

And don't forget your nearly-new garden magazines and hard cover books. We have been collecting them at our General Meetings and can use all we can get.

Also, how about garden decorations in good shape that you no longer use.

Or maybe you have some good ideas for items to sell at the Gift Shop. Please pass them along to Wendy Hilty or Judy Mikita.

Thanks for your contributions.





Rilona



Flamenco Queen

AMARYLLIS BULLETIN

Hello fellow amaryllis planters!

When we planted our big bulbs from Colorblends on November 9 we knew that it could take up to twelve weeks from potting to bloom, bringing us beauty in late January or early February. By then we'll need it while we wait for Spring to come! I'm curious to have a report so far — how are your amaryllis growing? Where have you put them while they are growing? Have you cut the blooms to use in a bouquet or arrangement? What have you learned about these flowering bulbs as you've watched their progress? Has anyone had a bloom yet? How many blooms per stalk? How many total blooms? How long are the blooms lasting?

In case you forgot the names of your bulbs, there were two we chose from: "Flamenco Queen" with big white blooms brushed and stippled with red or "Rilona" with huge apricot flowers.

Please take a moment in this last week of the year to check in about the progress of your bulbs. Nancy Kolodgy, as our Garden Club newsletter editor, will possibly be able to compile the replies to share with the whole Club in the February newsletter. And if you will, report in again when your bulb blooms! Send a photo too, if you wish, and any other comments to share.

Thanks to everyone and may our 2013 be bright with blooms.

Barb Earnhardt

Progress Report as of the end of December from some of our Amaryllis growers:

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|-----------------|---|
| Carole Smith | My Rilona is still sleeping, fat and happy, but no growth yet. |
| Jo Anne Kreps | My three Rilona bulbs are at different stages of growth. It is hard to believe they were planted at the same time. One is twelve inches tall with two buds which should be blooming in the next week or two. The second is five inches tall with a plump, fat bud. My third bulb is taking its own good time and doesn't show growth yet. How much fun it is to watch them with everything outside looking bleak. Will send you a photo just as soon as the tallest blooms. |
| Dorothy Malpass | My Flamenco Queen is twelve inches tall with one bud not quite opened. I have two Rilona bulbs, with one showing one-half inch of growth. I have kept them near a north window with a temperature between 68 degrees in the night and 70 degrees during the day. |
| Judy Maupin | The Rilona bulb is up and ready to bloom and I also see a second bud. The Flamenco Queen has just started up so I'll have continuous blooms for a while. They are in a south window and seem very happy. A south window in Ohio's winter seems to be just right. Will keep you posted on their progress. |
| Nancy Kolodgy | My Flamenco Queen is growing in a south window and four blooms are ready to pop on the main stalk. The second stalk is close behind. Now my Rilona bulb is another story. Also in a south window it shows only four inches of growth. Just like my kids...similar growing conditions but no two alike. |

Treasurer's Report

Cash on Hand November 30, 2012

Unrestricted \$ 56,799.44
Restricted (Scholarship Fund) \$ 0.00
Total Bank Accounts \$ 56,799.44

Overall Total \$ 56,799.44 Citizen's Bank
\$ 50,000.00 PNC Savings
\$ 100.00 PNC Checking

Nancy Agler, Treasurer

GARDENING MYTHS.....



MYTH: If a plant is under stress it should be fed.

TRUTH: Fertilizing plants that are not nutrient deficient can lead to additional stress. Fertilizer is added to plants growing in poor soils and to plants that show symptoms of lacking a particular nutrient. Generally, when a plant is stressed, it's not from lack of food. Compacted soil, heat, salt spray, faulty planting, and improper placement are usually the culprits that stress plants. It is important to rule out other environmental conditions before deciding a plant is underfertilized. When fed, stressed plants use up energy that is better spent on growing roots, walling off decay organisms, or defending against insects.

2012 FIELD TRIPS IN REVIEW

Barb Earnhardt, Field Trip Chair

DID YOU KNOW... that 2012 offered more than a dozen different field trips? About 100 people attended our various excursions! We stayed within Hudson and also ventured to nearby places to enjoy a variety of educational programs, sights, shopping trips, workshops, tours and demonstrations. All shared a common purpose: to expand our knowledge and love of gardening, horticulture, and related fields and especially to have fun and sow and grow seeds of friendship with others in our Club.



February found us learning about Gardening Trends with Cynthia Druckenbrod of the Cleveland Botanical Garden and a **February** Sneak Peek 2012 at Dayton's Nursery.

March took us to the Orchid Mania at the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

April was a hand's-on at Lowe's Greenhouse in Bainbridge where we were given a tour plus a how-to and actual planting of a hanging basket.

May we were off shopping at Breezewood Gardens, Eagle Creek Petitti's, Lowe's Greenhouse (returning to pick up our lush hanging baskets planted in April). **May** also found us doing more shopping at K&S Greenhouse with special time having lunch at Joan and George Brandon's Portage Lakes cottage.

July offered a private tour of Cynthia and Mark Druckenbrod's day lily and home gardens.

August saw us taking a private tour of Judy and Phil Mikita's lovely home and gardens. **August** was also a time for a floral arranging workshop at Stan Hywet with the Garden Forum of Greater Akron.

September a trip to the ever-popular Barberton Mum Fest.

October offered a private tour of the Smithers Oasis Factory in Kent with the special treat of make-and-take carnation pumpkins.

December rounded out the year with the stylish Christmas Tree decorating demonstration at Suncrest Gardens.

Special thanks to Garden Club members Sue L'Hommedieu, April and Charlie Walton and Judy and Phil Mikita for offering their connections that turned into some of our most memorable and popular trips this year. Do you have an idea for 2013? Share it with Barb Earnhardt at (330) 653-3831 or barb.earnhardt@yahoo.com.

Think about attending one or more field trips in 2013. You'll be pleasantly surprised at how easy it is to get to know other Garden Club members just by spending some time together sharing our common interests. Friendships grow so easily while at field trips, at gardener-to-gardener events, volunteering at the Home & Garden Tour, at Herb Group get-togethers, and digging in the dirt with the BUGs in the gardens and garden boxes around town.

Plans for 2013 include a hypertufa planter workshop and more flower arranging events. Stay tuned!!

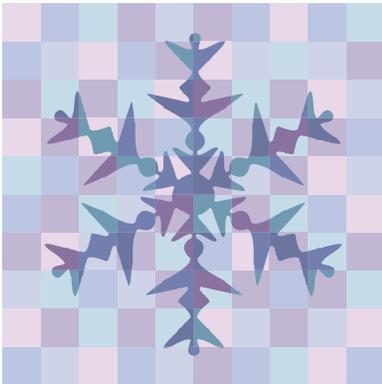
Hudson Garden Club
P.O. Box 651, Hudson, OH
44236

What's Coming Up

Thursday, January 17, 2013
HGC General Meeting
"Special Flowers & Gardens" of Hudson
7:00pm Social Time - 7:30pm Program
See page 4 for details

PLEASE NOTE:

The Herb Group will not be meeting in January. Meeting rooms were unavailable so we will be doing the workshop in February.



Newsletter Committee

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HGC January General Meeting *"Special Flowers & Gardens"* of Hudson

Thursday, January 17, 2013
Social Time 7:00pm—Program 7:30pm
Laurel Lake Community Room

Featuring
HUDSON
IN BLOOM



All Club members and members of our community look forward to our Annual Slideshow featuring *"Special Flowers and Gardens"* of Hudson.

The long hot and very dry summer was hard on gardens and gardeners alike but, as they have for centuries, flowers and gardens are able to thrive. April Walton and Gretchen Hubach were able to capture them in their glory and will bring them to life and in vibrant color for us.

It is a perfect time to take a break from gazing out at the snow covered lawns and gardens and giving us a sense of what lies beneath waiting to burst through in just a few months.

Please come and join us for this special evening — and do a 'no snow' dance, too. Mother Nature has played tricks on us a couple times in the past few years, forcing us to reschedule our January program. We will post on Hudson Cable if there is a cancellation.

If school is canceled that morning, there will not be a meeting. If weather becomes inclement later in the day and road conditions deteriorate, we will try to notify as many members as possible via phone. Please call Sherry Beam (330) 342-0969.