



GARDEN DIRT



Issue 9 ● December 2016

RGC Gets In The Holiday Spirit



Amanda Barratt, left, and Liz Walker, right, were the featured presenters at the November garden club meeting. New member, Claire Adams, is

pictured in the middle. Liz dazzled members with her detailed instructions on how to make a della Robbia wreath. Liz brought the beautiful fall wreath, pictured above, and then demonstrated and made another Christmas wreath, left. Amanda demonstrated how to make swag wreaths using various types of greenery -- magnolia, white pine, holly, etc. Both Amanda and Liz stayed afterwards to help RGC members with their holiday designs. RGC member Paula Brinser, bottom left, was the lucky recipient to all of the additional help. Just look



at the beautiful basket she created. RGC member and seasoned designer, Deborah Brooks, right, made this lovely holiday swag. Everyone enjoyed the presentations and the design workshop.



Plus One Membership Campaign

Don't Forget the Plus One Membership Campaign! RGC Can Make a Difference!

Garden Clubs and members are challenged to promote and increase our membership. It's up to each one of us to invite prospects to join our organization to add more talent, ideas, and helping hands.



**Seasons Greeting from the Membership Committee
By Jo Manson,
Chair**

2016 was an exciting year for RGC. Following the guidance of the Plus One Membership Campaign, we welcomed eight new members into the club. All new members have been very active and engaged in club activities and their enthusiasm and energies are tremendous! Below are the new member names and their sponsors. Congratulations to all for helping RGC grow. We can't wait for next year!

- Clare Adams (Jo Manson)
- Jane Austin (Jo Manson)
- Paula Brinser (Cathie Elliott)
- Gail Feddeman (Anne Warner)
- Muffin Fitzpatrick (Sharon Timm)
- Mary Hutya (Sara Ford)
- Chrissy Ketner (Honorary) (Jenny Boyenga)
- Glo Romaine (Robin Perks)

Subs and Chips Served Up in November



RGC Members were treated to a selection of Subway subs and chips along with cookies from ICYCC. What a great way to keep it simple but

delicious. Thanks to Bonnie Schaschek, Deborah Brooks and Jenny Boyenga for coordinating this luncheon. Special thanks to Sharon Rowe for stepping in for Robin Perks and getting ladies to sign up for the December luncheon.

Best In Show Results in November



Pictured left is Best In Show for horticulture. This perfect *Camellia hiemalis* 'William Lanier Hunt' Rose Red was exhibited by our own

Debbie Burgess.

RGC Members Read to 4th and 5th Graders



On November 28th, RGC Youth Committee Members Jenny Boyenga, Susan Edmonds, Cathie Elliott, Mary Ann McKay and Cathie Ward read the Smoky Bear story to 4th and 5th graders at Lancaster Middle School. Marilyn Sprouse who is the art teacher at

Lancaster Middle will be working with these students in preparation for the Smoky Bear art contest which is an NGC initiative. Committee members commented that the students were very engaged in the subject matter and asked a lot of questions. The very next day, the horrible fires in the Gatlinburg area were reported in the news.

Don't Forget the Birds this Winter



With winter approaching, don't forget the birds. They still need a fresh water source and food supply.

December Luncheon Fast Approaching



The 2016 Christmas Luncheon and Awards Presentation will be at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club on Thursday, December 8th. Plan to arrive at 11:30 am to socialize. Lunch will be served at noon. If you

have not already signed up, contact Robin Perks for payment. Deadline for payment is December 5th. President Schaschek will have sign up sheets at the December luncheon for members to sign up for clerk, judge, guide, and hostess. At the November meeting, President Schaschek explained that she would be going back to the way signups were done in the past. Members will be given the opportunity to sign up for the dates they want. Then, the Chairpersons of the Judges, Horticulture and Hostess committees will take these lists and assign members as needed. Please bring your calendar to the December luncheon.

Master Gardeners Are Selling Rain Barrels



Rain Barrels, \$60 and come with a screen on top, 2 overflow pipes to which one can attach a hose which leads the water away from one's house, and a faucet to which one can attach a hose to water. Also a soaker hose can be attached to the faucet for gentle watering. They are black and can be painted if desired. They hold about 60 gallons of water. About 1/4 to 1/3 in. of rain will fill them. They can easily be ganged together. If interested, please contact Edna Roberts at jjerober@verizon.net or call 804-438-4238.