

Central East District Director
Joyce Bulington
MCL Cafeteria in Indianapolis
December 07, 2023

Madam Vice President, Fall Harvest is the time that CE clubs are celebrating the success of their projects to raise monies, to beautify their communities and the gain of new members.

The clubs are all participating in the President's project and are eager to fulfill their plans in the 2024 year. Donations are collected for Penny Pines in all clubs as a district goal.

Creative Hands and Gas City clubs held a combined meeting and made all - greens arrangements that will last through the end of the year. Their graduate student president was thrilled to hand over the reins for a month to another club president. The partnership of clubs was successful with all attendees wanting to do this again next year. This partnership will go forward as co-hosts of the 2024 annual district meeting.

Summitville had a Make & Take fundraiser on the last Monday of November allowing participants to make wreaths or an all-greens arrangement. This was not quite as successful as in the past for two reasons. The loss of a local weekly newspaper to advertise the annual event and because of the truly frigid weather.

In October, Garden Club of Marion had a speaker sharing information about feeding our friendly wildlife critters in the winter. In November they had a short presentation from Matter Park about "park care": and then took greens home for winter arrangements. Their annual Christmas Party will be at the Hostess House tomorrow.

Smalltown held their Holiday Dinner last week and Pendleton has sent their information to me for the Membership promotion and sent donations to TGCI projects.

Petal & Stem held their annual soup luncheon in November at Hayes Arboretum, followed by member, Gail Davis, speaking on house plants. Yesterday they held their annual Holiday auction and even with a low attendance they made \$1000 in less than 2 hours. This money will be part of their budgeted allowance for annual donations.

Our district meeting was normal and successful for us, we sang the Garden Club Bunch song with props, and answered unexpected questions. Carolee Snyder gave a great power point presentation on the past and current history and trends of growing herbs. I recommend this program to all clubs.

Our district is busy working on the Wildflower Workshop, the planting of trees, hiding from nominating committees and sharing speaker ideas. Having only 2 months since the last report leaves us with accomplished goals, harvesting of ideas, and the anticipation and participation of Holiday parties.

I miss being here with you but am sending my heartfelt wishes for your happy holiday celebrations, safe travels, and good health.

Joyce Bulington
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