

December 2024

The highly anticipated, annual garden club Christmas luncheon was celebrated at Perry's Steak house this year. The Christmas luncheon committee did a great job finding a restaurant that was able to accommodate 47 members in a private room. A variety of delicious menu items were offered at a reasonable price.



The Committee team members were: Tammy Delforge, Fran Hamel, Barbara Durr, MaryEtta Wood, and Susan Hanson.



On entering the dining room, we saw the hard work that went into making this event festive. Every table had a beautiful flower arrangement of white hydrangeas and red roses, sprinkled with just a touch of gold dust for added sparkle. Each place setting was adorned with a pretty decorated box containing a cup cake. Additionally, a small gauze bag held a jeweled purse holder.













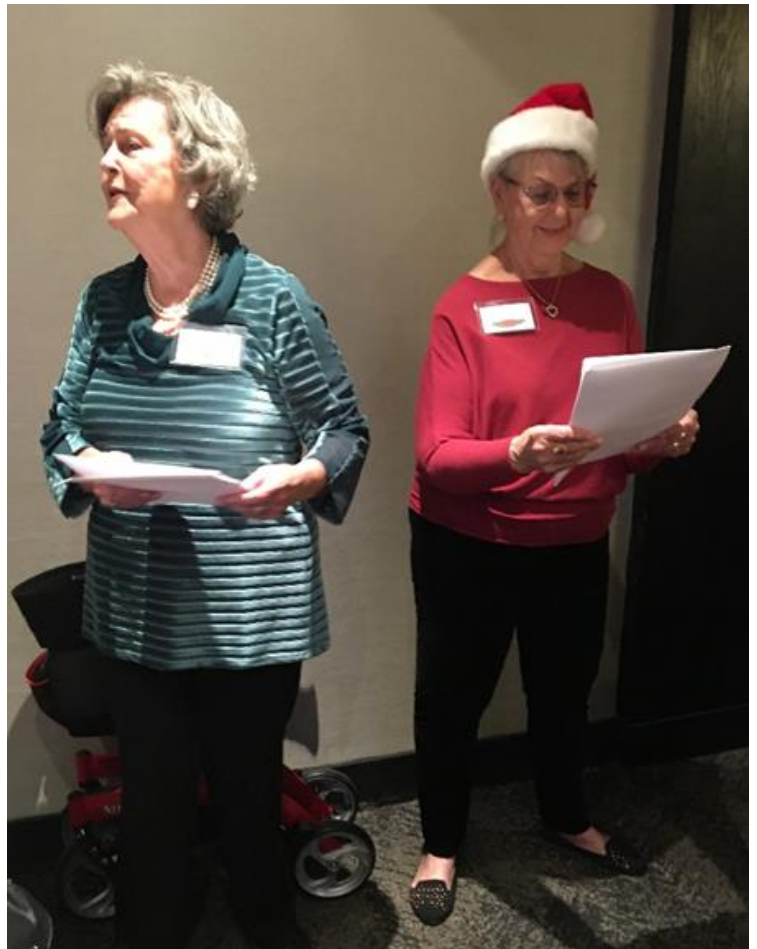


After much mingling, hugging and well-wishing, we took our seats. Barbara Crum welcomed us to the luncheon then Marlo opened the gathering with a short prayer.

As waiters started the service, some members made a few announcements. Barbara gave each of us a coupon to area garden shops for a discount on our purchases. Judy Beckham reminded us that she is still collecting donations for CAM. She was short of her goal to collect \$1,000,00.

Then MaryEtta, the Christmas luncheon committee chair, welcomed us and introduced her team.

Next was the recital of a **'Gardener's Christmas'** poem by MaryEtta and Fran. The poem was a big hit last year. This year they creatively changed the rhyme to personalize it to our club and its members. It was funny and received much laughter and cheer.



A Gardener's Christmas



*'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through the yard
The branches were bare
And the ground frozen hard;*

*Barbara's roses were dormant,
She'd mulched all around
To protect them from damage
When frost came around.*



*Mary's flowers were nestled
All snug in their beds,
While visions of horse dooky
Danced in their heads.*



*On Adrienne and Bette's lawns
The rare Houston snows
Protected the roots
Of the grasses below.*

*When, what to our wondering
Eyes should appear
But a hybrid truck full with gifts
Of gardening gear.*

*St Nick was the driver,
(A jolly old elf),
And he winked as he said
"I'm a gardener myself!"*

*For Jayne and Susan some seeds
For them to give it a go
And we'll all take bets
On who has the best show!*



*Jean needs some weeding
So, I brought bags of mulch
To attract the pollinators
Hope we see good results!*

*To add to Margo's joy
For Reach's good honey
I've plenty of bloomers
To make them more money!*

*For Gabby, your angel
I've trowel and spade
For those beautiful things
She grows in the shade.*



*I've books for Harolene
Plus, accessories she'll love;
Book marks and covers
To protect the above.*



*For Harriet, a compost bin
And a soil testing kit;
If her pH is off
She might throw a fit!*

*With these colorful flagstones
Lay a new garden path
For Gloria's view of
A bird feeder and bath.*

*And last but not least,
Some well-rotted manure
Marilyn's garden health
These gifts will ensure."*



*Then jolly St. Nick
Having emptied his load,
Started his old truck
And took on the road.*

*And I heard him exclaim
Through the motor's loud hum
"Merry Christmas to y'all,
And to all a green thumb!"*





Bette, the avid horticulturist, collected seed pods from her Candle Stick plant. Wrapped with ribbon and a tag explaining the specie, she graciously shared the long hulls with her fellow gardeners.



Judy had been busy visiting every table to encourage us to help her collect the targeted donation amount. At the end of the luncheon she met and exceeded her goal; collecting \$1,150.00 which she will happily deliver to CAM.



My Christmas Wish for You

By Cecilia Bailey

*My Christmas wish for you, my friends
Is not a simple one,
For I wish you hope and joy and peace,
Days filled with warmth and sun.*

*I wish you love and friendship, too
Throughout the coming year
Lots of laughter and happiness
To fill your world with cheer.*

*May you count your blessings one by one
And when totaled by the lot
May you find that all you have been given
To be much more than what you have sought.*

*I wish this all and so much more
May all your dreams come true,
May you have a Merry Christmas, friends
And a Happy New Year, too.*

