

{ December 2018 }

What's growing on

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

Department of Cultural Affairs Visits CGNI



Pictured above are representatives from the Department of Cultural Affairs, with board president Troyce Fisher (far left), who toured the Gardens on October 24th as part of their visit to us and other cultural attractions in Clear Lake. The visit was organized by the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce.



Set Your New Year's Resolutions with the Gardens in Mind!

Need to spend more time outdoors and unplugged from electronics? Then you are the perfect volunteer for us! Come get Down N' Dirty with us every Sunday or help the kids during Fresh on Fridays or anything in between. There will be a new form for easy sign up on the website soon, but until then email director@centralgardensnorthiowa.com to get on the list.

CGNI Board Honors Three Members

The Central Gardens board will recognize the long-time service of three board members who are resigning from the board this year.

Gail Harringa has been a board member since nearly the inception of the Gardens and has volunteered her time and talents in many ways, including being the coordinator of rentals, the point person for brick sales, and the chair of the Summer Garden Party. She's lent her decorating skills to create a beautiful garden ambiance, is an accomplished gardener, and a faithful participant in down and dirty clean up sessions.

Mary Woerner has been on the CGNI board since its beginning. Her generosity in the development of the actual grounds, her skills as a grant writer and newsletter author, and volunteer executive director for a period of years all were instrumental in the Gardens' success.

Mary Stealy served on the board until new job commitments made it difficult to continue in that role. Mary served on various committees, helped with the Plant Sale and Gardening Fair, the Kids BEE Happy Garden, created auction items for the Summer Garden Party, and volunteered for lots of behind the scenes work that no one ever knew about.

The Gardens were blessed to have these three dedicated volunteers serve as board members, and we wish each of them well.

Membership Reminder

Did you know that for only \$50 annually you can continue to receive this newsletter in hard copy form as well as help sustain and grow the life of the gardens?! But there are more opportunities - the more you give, the more you get! Membership brochures will be sent out to our wonderful newsletter recipients shortly but if you are eager let us know and we will mail one now!

Happy Holidays from all of us at Central Gardens. See you in 2019!



Central Gardens of North Iowa
P.O. Box 735
Clear Lake, IA 50428

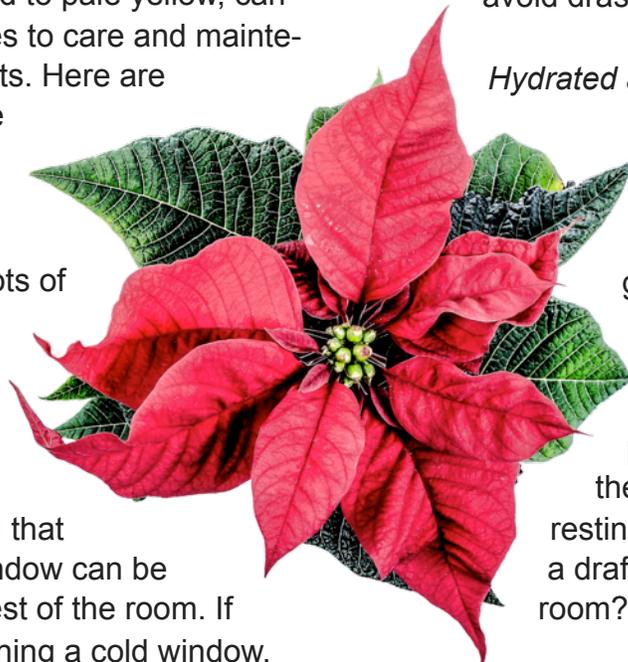
Return Service Requested

This Iconic Holiday Plant Has Tropical Roots

Perhaps no flower represents the winter holidays like the poinsettia. But these festive plants, which range from the traditional red to pale yellow, can be mysterious when it comes to care and maintenance due to its tropical roots. Here are some tips on poinsettia care that can help extend those blooms as long as possible.

Warm and Bright: Provide lots of sunlight - a sunny window with east, west, or southern exposure is best. Also try to keep the temperature between 65° and 70°F during the day, keeping in mind that the area around a drafty window can be quite a bit cooler than the rest of the room. If your plant's leaves are touching a cold window,

they may drop off. At night, poinsettias like a slightly lower temperature (55° and 60°F) but avoid drastic drops in temperatures.



Hydrated and Humid: Make sure to water the poinsettia whenever the surface of the soil feels dry. Give the plant a good watering, but don't flood or soak it - gravel in the bottom of the pot will help keep the roots dry.

Prevent Leaf Loss: If your plant starts to lose leaves, ask these three questions: is the plant resting against a cold window or near a draft? Is it too warm or dry in the room? Is the plant thirsty?