



January 2012 Meeting Notice December 2011 Meeting Notes

Mission Statement: The Cincinnati Flower Growers Association is an organization of growers, retailers, suppliers and educators dedicated to the promotion of flowers and the well being of those around us.

Where: A. J. Rahn Greenhouses
4944 Gray Road
Cincinnati, OH 45232-1513
(513) 541-0672

When: Wednesday, January 4, 2012
Tour at 3:30 PM
Meeting at 5:00 PM
Dinner following meeting

RSVP: Please RSVP, by Tuesday at 10:00 AM, at 513-541-0672

History of A. J. Rahn Greenhouses

A. J. Rahn Greenhouses is located on Gray Road, a part of Cincinnati once known as Wooden Shoe Hollow. In the late 1800's and early 1900's, growers from this area made their living by producing vegetables in cold frames and hot beds then selling the produce at Findlay Market. At one time 19 family-run operations were located on Gray Road. By 1930, most of these businesses were raising fall and winter crops of lettuce and spring crops of tomatoes in glass houses or greenhouses.

During the late fifties, intense competition with produce shipped from the southern and western states drastically reduced the profit made from vegetables. When the cost of operating expenses such as fuel, maintenance, and labor began to rise, growers had to change to keep in step with changing times. Vegetables were no longer an option, but flowering plants fit the bill nicely. Each plant requires less greenhouse area, so just making the switch increased production. A. J. Rahn Greenhouses quickly earned a reputation for growing quality flowering plants in the Cincinnati area.

Today the fifth generation of the Rahn family offers Cincinnati an excellent selection of quality flowering bedding, holiday flowers, and yes, even vegetable plants. Open all year, you'll always find something blooming. Stop in and feel closer to nature.

December 2011 Meeting Notes:

Welcome and Minutes

The meeting was hosted by H. J. Benken Florist and Greenhouses. President Elmer Grosser called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. He thanked Benken's for hosting. Mike Benken introduced his family and staff.

Guests included Bruce Cate and his wife, Allison from Krohn Conservatory and Kim from Krueger Maddux.

The minutes were approved as sent, with a motion made by Mitchell Schott and seconded by Don Furterer.

Correspondence

Scott McCabe reported that we received \$95 in donations, in memory of Earl Schroer.

Treasurer's Report

Scott McCabe gave the treasurer's report. Payments were made for November dinner and deposits were made from November dinner, split-the-pot and dues. No bills were presented.

Committees:

OFA:

Surveys went out. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. Please turn in by the end of the month. Also, Mary Jane Wales retired after 13 years of service to the OFA.

Hamilton County Extension:

Julie Crook gave the update. The Tri-State Green Industry Conference will be held on February 2. There are currently 72 active Master Gardeners. Graduation for Master Gardeners will be the second week of December, at Krohn Conservatory.

Farm Bureau:

No update.

Cincinnati Zoo:

There will be a record 100,000 tulips this season. The zoo received a grant to print brochures.

Flower Show:

Planning is underway for next year.

Old Business:

Reminder - Krohn Conservatory train and poinsettia is going on now. Side note, from Lisa - Thank you, Andrea, for the tickets. Dan and I attended the show and if you missed it, you missed a beautiful display of Christmas flower combinations and great train display. Please let us know if you would like to see photos.

New Business:

A vote was held to cancel the February meeting, since the Green Industry meeting and weather usually come in to play. A motion was made by Mike Burns and seconded by Bob Maddux. Everyone was in agreement.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Jordan Holtkamp. The motion was seconded by Don Furterer. The meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting, we had another delicious meal by Kathy Benken. Everyone should attend a meeting at Benken's just so they can sample some of Kathy's great cooking. Another fine meal, Kathy!

Linda and Jenna, from Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, presented information on their program and how CFGA can assist them with their beautify Cincinnati goals.

Claudio thanked Krueger Maddux and Benken's for assisting and CFGA for participating in the poinsettia trials.

Next Meeting:

Will be held on Wednesday, January 4, and will be hosted by A. J. Rahn.

2012 Meeting Schedule:

January	A. J. Rahn Greenhouses
February	Cancelled
March	Stockslager's
April	Krueger-Maddux
June	Green Acres/Steve Selhorst
July	Open
August	Cincinnati Zoo
September	Open
October	Open
November	Open
December	Open