

For many years now, either in the paper or on the radio, I have sought out, listed, and described each year's All America winning vegetables and flowers, so that you might know which varieties have been determined to be superior to the more than 300 other cultivars that are offered each year. And I'm going to do it again, right now.

While I know who the winners are. I have yet to find a single winner listed in the seed catalogs that I have received this winter. I certainly don't get all of the hundreds of catalogues that are printed, but then I remembered that the majority of them are probably printed and in your mailbox before the All America selections

have been announced. And so in most instances, we will wait until next year to buy the seed of this year's award winners. Listen, it's not like there aren't plenty of other superior plants of other varieties being offered for the first time. There are dozens and dozens of beautiful and productive offerings out there, and I'll check out a few of them for you next week.

But, for what it's worth, here are the 2013 All America winning vegetables and flowers. If you see packets of seed with the following names on them, buy 'em, and be assured (reasonably) that you will have a successful crop.

Three new vegetables have been named as winners by the

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All America selection committee. One of them is a cherry tomato named Jasper. Obviously, there are dozens of cherry and grape tomatoes available these days, and here comes another one. Jasper was bred by the folks at Johnny's Selected Seeds located in Albion, Maine and just might be the most productive cherry tomato ever developed.

And then here comes another seedless watermelon, this one named Harvest Moon. It grows to 10 or 15 pounds and looks like a smaller model of the old heirloom, Moon and Stars, and it even has little yellow specks on it. Looks like a winner to me.

Finally, there is a winning melon, a honeydew type, given the name of Mellomon. It is said that the flavor is a bit tangy, but absolutely delicious. It is ripe when the green rind turns chartreuse.

There are also three All America winning flowers this year, and all their descriptions sound wonderful. One is called...take a deep breath...Pinto Premium White to Rose Geranium. That might be the longest flower name in history. It bears dense balls of white florets that age to pink and rose.

Or, how about a new award winning canna, called South Pacific, a beautiful scarlet flowering plant that grow to 4 or 5 feet, and loves to be planted in patio pots where it will grow to a height of about 2 feet.

And finally, you'll be anxious to try the new Cheyenne Spirit echinacea, that produces an abundance of purple, pink, red, and orange-to-cream blooms, around white cones! And they are very fragrant, unusual for an echinacea.

You can buy no better than All America winning varieties! Since 1933, they have been tested and grown in every climate zone before they are offered to you. As noted earlier, seeds may be difficult to find this first year.



ENTERTAINING AT MUSIC CLUB were (l to r) Brenda Nelson, Beth Maifeld, Lynn Busse, Althea Lebow, Sharon Olofson, Pat Leibrandt, Rikki Rueb, Talley Morrow, Sandy Bandel and Louanne Isernhagen.

Herald photos by Louanne Isernhagen

Music club holds meeting



Neala Carmichael and Donna Zimelman.

The St. Francis Federated Music Club met Monday, Feb. 4, at the home of Debbie Grace with 32 members and guests present. The program by Louanne Isernhagen was about the life and music of British composer, John Rutter.

Rutter lives outside of Cambridge, England and is known world-wide for his sacred choral music. The Cambridge Singers, directed by Rutter, records his compositions for compact discs.

Talley Morrow performed a solo, "What Sweeter Music," accompanied by Jean Ann Confer. An ensemble of 12 women sang six Rutter works accompanied by Debbie Fiala. Selections included--"Nativity Carol," "Shepherd's Pipe Carol," "Jesus Child," "Candlelight Carol," "The Colors of Christmas" and

"For the Beauty of the Earth."

Following the program, refreshments were served by Brenda Nelson, Miriam Yonkey and Debbie Grace.

For the Poetry Moment, Rikki Rueb read a funny Shel Silverstein poem entitled "Sick." Beth Maifeld conducted a short business meeting.

The next meeting of Music Club will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 4, at the Good Samaritan Village (note earlier time). Neala Carmichael will direct the Peace Lutheran Magnificent Men's Chorus singing favorite patriotic music. Refreshments will be served by Dorothy Smestad and Louanne Isernhagen and the Poetry Moment will be by Marsha Magley. Guests are welcome to attend.



KIM ZWYGARDT reads from her book, 'Women at the Wall' at the quarter's Rough Writers Reads held Sunday, Feb. 3, at the Old Country Church. Other readers were Gerald Wright, Marie Holzwarth, Barb Ewing, Joy Fisher, Helene Landenberger and Janet Carman.

Herald photo by Lucille Rossbach

Cheyenne County's "Sweetheart Couples"



Dale and Alma Neitzel receives an arrangement from The Classic Rose



Charles and Dixie Curry receives an arrangement from The Flower Shop

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The Classic Rose
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785-332-2200



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