

Don't wait for New Year's to have fun with **Bodker Eggnog**



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DOWN TO EARTH
Outdoor Lighting Sparks Many Yuletide Displays

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

As you socialize around the town during the holidays be sure to leave a few minutes early so that you may enjoy the night lighting. Your writer has been busy these days judging the various displays and I always want to give an award to those good neighbors who go out of the way to share their Christmas joy by having a lighting display outdoors. If you follow the fine points of what makes a good display you might be interested in some of these ideas. The total effect should be in character with the architecture of your house. Colonial and homey displays are for homes which have a colonial motif. If your home is contemporary, the display will call for a sophisticated design.

AVOID THE IDRA of having lighted bulbs follow the roof line like a drive-in. If you trim evergreens, you can achieve a stunning effect by using one color of bulbs. Just notice as you drive around the tree which is trimmed with one color. The efforts stand out in comparison to the tree which is multi-colored.

Be sure and use a spotlight and a floodlight for accent. It is possible to secure colored glass caps to attach over the bulb itself. So many of you have attractive windows and entryways. If you just snap on the overhead porch light, your door arrangement does not stand out. For the best effect you should have one or two spotlights, and not be close to the door.

THE OTHER NIGHT at 354 Dalebrook in Westchester the owners had a tree in the center of the lighted paper bags which are really stunning. You take a paper bag, cut it to the largest size and cut a wide cuff at the top with a double roll. Fill the bag with a quart of sand and trim in the sand candles. The sandlight coming through the bags is really beautiful. Just can't wait until next summer when I can use it for hospitality.

The Westchester National Farm and Garden took the initiative for sponsoring a trimming contest for their community. It was open in competition for all residents and the judging was on doorways alone. The outstanding doorway was decorated at the Donald Kostman home, 3623 Bradford Road. The red door had a gold candle created by a convex shape. A scene was in the center of the candle. This detail provided a three-dimensional effect.

TWO OUTSTANDING doorways were created by Mrs. James Fisher at 180 Wadsworth when she used an enameled tree of bright fruit on a black door. It was in good character considering the total architecture of the house. A spotlight topped off this artistic effect.

The second awarded doorway was designed by Mrs. Albert Pester, 504 Beanoke. Beautiful white storm door looked like a picture on a card. A poinsettia arrangement was in the center of the door with roping around the perimeter. It had clusters of red and white lights at measured distances.

As my driver said, "The total effect looked 'scubbed'". The door does have a day and night appeal which is another measure of a job well done. Outstanding recognition could be given to 155 Hillboro, 2880 and 3200 Middlebury. The latter address is occupied by newsmen. Welcome to our town.

The judging of the door designs in Westchester was done by a score of one to ten with good taste, a central theme and originality being important factors in evaluation.

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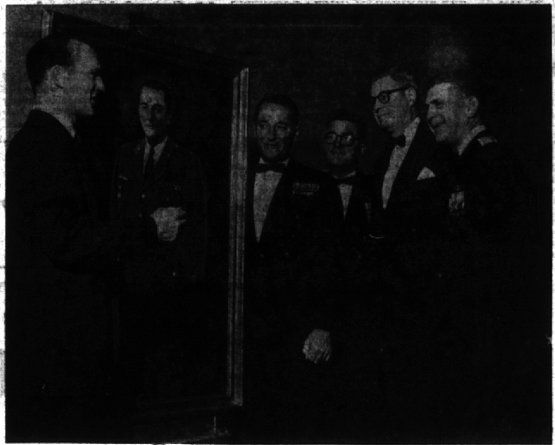
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Nino Salon



Honored by Fellow Officers

Col. John W. Richardson, Bloomfield Hills resident and former national president of the Reserve Officers Association, stands by his portrait following its unveiling at Selfridge Air Force Base last week. From left to right, admiring the portrait, are the artist, Lee Townsend; Col. Richardson; Major Gen. Robert Eaton, deputy chief of staff for the Air Force Reserve; William Wright, assistant secretary of the Air Force and Major Gen. Harold Maddox, commander of the Fifth Air Force Reserve region at Selfridge AFB. The painting will hang at the base and later will be hung at the proposed AFR building when it is constructed in Washington.

Northwestern Pledge Home for Awhile

John Roberson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Roberson of Riverside drive, Beverly Hills, recently became a member of Pi Mu Epsilon fraternity at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. A junior, he is majoring in chemical engineering. He is also a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Cubs Celebrate Yule

Birmingham Cub Pack No. 1033 had one of its best turnouts for its annual Christmas party at the Community House last week. Program chairman Jim Longwell and Bob Broussard of Birmingham, and Pack Mother Mrs. Betty Frost prepared a program of games and refreshments.

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The Birmingham Eccentric

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Just Ask For **The Newsroom**

PRACTICE SAFETY in the house during this cycle of lighted trees, they have a habit of becoming dry before the end of the season. How about having every member of the family go through a fire drill?

At several places in the house, you should have the fire number for your area. Number two, have you tried to use your fire extinguisher lately? Do you know how to use it? Does everybody know where buckets are kept?

THANK YOU for being such a responsive audience this last year. In order to look forward to the two days ahead in 1961, let's share this quotation by Dean Burchard of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"It is one of the puzzles of belonging to the company of educated men that you can never in an absolute sense be quite sure that you belong. For you as an individual there will always be another man still closer to the center than another, still secret room. If, as an individual, you ever cease to perceive that there is another such door, it is even probable that you will then cease to belong to the company of educated men."

Take It Easy On Business End Of a Shovel

Snow shovelers' heart disease, a malady which has been on the increase the last few winters of heavy snowfalls, may strike you if you don't take it slow and easy.

This note of caution was sounded by doctors on the state health department with the recent arrival of winter's blast. "It was a directed principally at men over 40 who aren't used to strenuous physical exertion."

If you aren't in good physical condition, leave the shoveling to the kids, doctors suggest. They can use the money, or can't afford a heart attack if you avoid it.

If you must shovel, either because you can't get someone else to do it or because you may feel you must shove to someone, you're not a party-waiver; take it easy and don't rush.