

The Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club met on 13 November 2014 at the home of Arminta Donovan, with 19 members present. Absent were MaryBeth Cecil, Debora Determan, Dot Lower, Marian Moreland, and Diana Morse. November birthday members, Marilyn Berkut and Jackie George were celebrated. The minutes were approved with one correction.

PROGRAM: The theme of the evening comprised three table settings, each accompanied with a complementary arrangement.

Table #1: Lorraine Leonard laid her table with green figured Williams Sonoma cloth napkins and tan mugs and plates, a setting suitable for a soup and sandwich lunch. Her arrangement was an old fashioned oil lamp surrounded by dried hydrangea flowers from her garden.

Table #2: Gilda Allen portrayed a fall scene with a vase formed out of a bark cylinder filled with red Japanese maple leaves, seed pods, and a red flower. Her turquoise plates were set on an antique crocheted table cloth with antique glassware and silver and a tan napkin.

Table #3: Arminta Donovan's table portrayed an elegant, classic Christmas setting of red and gold rimmed Edgerton china, Yugoslavian crystal, a glass wine rinser, and gold plated utensils. She also presented a dessert service complete with plates, silverware, teapot, sugar, and creamer. Her arrangement of red and white carnations completed the festive table.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Carol Ober reported a club account balance of \$1,322.86.

Civic Development: Pam Smart gave a status report on the Edge of the Woods and park entrance gardens. Fall maintenance continues.

Design: Julie Harrison demonstrated a candle jar arrangement with roses and mums. She showed how one arrangement could be changed to suit both the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Horticulture: Jessica Sherlock spoke on the history and propagation of chrysanthemums, a flower that was known in China originally as an herb. Two types of mums are available: garden hardy (can overwinter) and exhibition (must be protected). Mums need 12 hours of darkness to control blooming on schedule. By the 4th of July, home gardeners should cut their mums back to the size of a softball and then let them grow. An insecticide, pyrethrin, comes from mums. It is effective and safe.

Membership: The six members of the bylaws committee has formulated a revision of the club bylaws, which will be circulated among all club members for comments. An open discussion and vote will be held in the near future.

Publicity: Lorraine Leonard has submitted an article to the Marlton newsletter and to the Capitol Gardener. Although these articles do raise awareness of the club's activities, they also stimulate questions about how to join our club (which is already at our membership limit of 24.)

Sunshine: Arminta Donovan sent one get well card and two birthday cards,

Ways and Means: The next fundraiser will be held in conjunction with the fall fest on 22 November at the St. Thomas Church in Croom. Members volunteered to create 17 fall or Thanksgiving centerpiece arrangements for sale at this event.

Linda Millette offered some of her Christmas decorations for sale, with the profits going to the garden club. Jackie George suggested that we have an in-house yard sale.

The fall bulb fundraising event, headed by Dot Lower, raised a total of \$308.82.

Members attending the Franklin Store garden club fund raiser were Iona Black, Joyce Meyer, and Lenay O'Quinn.

Telephone: Jackie George and Joyce Meyer will be on the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

The club project of making floral arrangements for dining room tables in the Bradford Oaks Nursing Home has been canceled. In its place, members are asked to donate one or two personal items such as lotion, socks, deodorant, soap, hats, gloves, scarves, etc. All items **MUST** be new. Please bring all items to the December meeting.

Julie Harrison attended the Design Show at the Arboretum.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Morning of Design will be held 20 November at the White Oak Community Center in Silver Spring.

Gilda Allen proposed that the club purchase a tablecloth with the club logo on it to be used at fundraising and other events in which we participate. The discussion is tabled (no pun intended) until the next meeting.

The Christmas potluck will be held on 11 December at the home of Marilyn Berkut. Please let Marilyn know what you will bring. Members are to create a small seasonal doorknob decoration. The judging categories are *best use of natural materials*, *most original*, and *best design*. Please bring a gift for exchange.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm, followed by a 50/50 drawing won by Lorraine Leonard.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Neckere

Esther Neckere, Recording Secretary