

MT. AIRY CLAY BREAKERS GARDEN CLUB

MINUTES - April 20, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by the president Mary Jane Bishop. The program started with a presentation by Shirley Nicolai, the National Garden Clubs Third Vice President, which featured "Elements of floral design". She pointed out that entries into flower shows were judged on the basis of the following features:

- (a) Conformance
- (b) Balance
- (c) Proportion
- (d) Rhythm

Designs can be done in miniature sizes, which cannot be taller than 5" and small designs which measure up to 8".

She told us that apart from the traditional or Creative form, designs can also be table settings consisting of plates, glasses, knives, ~~and~~ forks, and floral arrangements. We were shown examples of the various kinds of arrangements which incorporated plants like lily of the valley, Spirea, Azaleas, Sengation and Pink lilacs, he lebores, Viburnum, Acuba, Juniper, and dried Hydragea among others. She recommended using tepid water in floral arrangements and soaking Junipers overnight before using. She also suggested using pin holders instead of oases to hold arrangements in place. We were shown a pinholder

which she uses.

REFRESHMENTS: were provided by Elaine Arnold. Fourteen members were present.

THE MINUTES: of the previous meeting was confirmed by Carol and Seconded by Mary Beth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Balance as of April 20, 2006 was \$1,454.54. Mary Beth brought to our attention that there were still dues outstanding. She reminded us that the dues have to be submitted to the Area Club by May 1, 2006. She told us a check was sent to the Penny Pines Project.

HORTICULTURE: There was no presentation by Armintha who was absent because of her husband's illness. Marian said she would get in touch with Dorothy about sending a sympathy card.

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT: Lorraine noted that Kleenex has now joined the fund-raising project "The School Bonus Box Tops". She reported on the National Capital area awards meeting held on March 28, 2006. We were shown the Certificates awarded to the Club. A brochure of the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens was circulated among the members. Lorraine informed us of a garden study course scheduled to be held at the National Arboretum ~~on~~ on

May 15 and 16. She also made name tags to be worn by the club members at each meeting, which would make it easier for us to become acquainted. Members were encouraged to indicate on a calendar when they would be available to work ~~for~~ at least one hour at Holloway Park. Members who were unable to work would contribute plants to the site. A suggestion by Lorraine that we purchase plants from the Maryland State Department of Agriculture Auctionhouse and resell them at a mark up price ^{at the club's annual plant sale} was accepted by the other members.

Conservation: There was no presentation because of Gilda's absence.

Mary Jane mentioned that she had received an E-mail from Karen Jenkins indicating her inability to continue her membership in the club at this time.

WAYS and MEANS: Regarding our upcoming plant sale Marian said she would be at the site at the first hour. She also suggested that nothing should be priced under .50¢. Pam reminded us to name and price the plants we are contributing to the sale. Elaine remarked that if this turned out to be profitable we could consider a plant sale at the Lyons in July.

OLD BUSINESS: A letter from Gene Sumi was read by Marian which explained that the check given to him in October 2005 had to be returned because it was misplaced. Marian suggested that we write him a new check.

NEW BUSINESS: Following on the above-mentioned suggestion, Marian further said, that the Club could make a contribution to District I in honor of Shirley Nicolai. Pam had asked the nomination Committee consisting of Mary Beth, Diana and herself to meet on May 1, 2006. We had decided to remain with Mama Stella's as the location for our June meeting. Carol Ober invited us to a sampling of her cuisine "The Pampered Chef", on May 5, 2006. Jorraine showed us a bloom from her flowering hoya. The meeting was then adjourned.

~~Yours~~ Respectfully submitted
Sonia Johnson, Recording
Secretary.