

The Mt. Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club met at 6:30 p.m., November 10, 2016, at the home of Marilyn Berkut. There were nine members present, Elaine Arnold, Marilyn Berkut, Arminta Donovan, Julie Harrison, Lorraine Leonard, Linda Millette, Esther Neckere, Carol Ober, and Lenay O'Quinn

Program: The November program consisted of three table settings. Arminta Donovan did a patriotic-themed table setting, "red, white and blue," adaptable for various holidays and seasons. Her plates were "spatterware," dark blue enamelware with white spots. She used complimentary pieces for side dishes, plus a napkin ring with "cut out" stars. Her tablecloth was a flag motif layered over a red embroidered cloth. The centerpiece had red white and blue flowers. Julie Harrison arranged a small table with a winter holiday lunch/dessert place setting consisting of a cup, saucer, and a small plate. Julie used this opportunity to talk about the some of the rules for place settings, normally specified in a flower show schedule. (Not using silver ware and having a flower arrangement.) Julie used holiday figurines to decorate her place setting and said the flower show schedule will be clear about using additional decorative elements like figurines. Lorraine Leonard did an autumn breakfast table setting with an orange/sunflower print table cloth, rust colored luncheon dish and mug, plus a small circular old fashioned glass for fruit or juice. The centerpiece was three small house-type plants and Spanish moss in a brass oval planter.

Members present extended birthday wishes to Marilyn Berkut.

The recording secretary sent meeting minutes previously via e-mail and they were approved as corrected.

Club History: Linda researched the ways the "horticulture" portion of the program was handled through the years and gave the group interesting examples from the club's early days.

Horticulture: Lenay brought seeds to share with everyone from an unusual plant in her yard. She said it was similar to a blackberry lily and asked if anyone knew more about the plant.

Sunshine Committee: Arminta reported on the cards she recently sent. (It was mentioned that Deborah Determan's father had died earlier in the week.)

Update on Ongoing Projects: Lenay cleaned up the children's garden at Concordia Lutheran Church and Iona helped to put the Holloway Park Garden to bed.

Old Business: Esther and Elaine gave an update on the Anniversary Committee, including information on potential places for the dinner, including Mt. Vernon, Mt Airy Mansion and Billingsly Manor. They welcome ideas and will continue to work with the committee chair, Elaine, to come up with a good plan..

New Business: Gilda sent a note asking the club to consider a donation of \$200 for the Dupont Park Elementary School project. Because of the small attendance at the meeting, the group tabled the decision until the next business meeting.

Announcements:

1. Linda updated the group on the harvest festival at St. Thomas' church and asked for no more than three arrangements per person to be delivered between 1 and 1:30 on Saturday, the 19th.
2. Julie is still looking for people to serve on the District 1 Board starting next year in April.
3. Robin Hammer (NCAGC 1st Vice President) will be holding a membership workshop in January.
4. The December meeting will be held at Julie's home on the 15th of December (one week later than normal as discussed at the last meeting.) She asked us to get with her regarding what we will bring for the potluck. The gift exchange value should be no more than \$15. Bring a holiday card decorated with some natural materials.

The 50/50 was won by Lorraine Leonard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Leonard (for Mary Jane Bishop, Recording Secretary)