Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

October 14, 2021

Minutes

Start time for the ZOOM meeting was 12:45 p.m.

During the hospitality time, the testimony was given by Gilda Allen.

Elaine Arnold introduced Laura Francis, owner of “Floral Presentations” and an accredited flower show judge for the Garden Clubs of Virginia. She did three arrangements. The first could be used for a thanksgiving buffet table and focused on greens and purples, the greens from her garden. A good tip was to use balled up chicken wire in the container as a way to help positioning the flowers (instead of oasis). The second was a Christmas/winter holiday garland to be used as a table “runner-type”- type arrangement. A good tip was using an inexpensive artificial garland as the base and using the bendy branches of the garland as twist ties to attach natural materials. Her accent color for the garland was bronze—spray painted on hydrangea and sensitive fern and finished with a “pinched” wide wired ribbon of that color. The third arrangement was a candle stick arrangement using a special oasis-holder that fit into the candlestick holder. She showed how Belgian floral designers are “articulating” tulips to give them a completely different look. She added a bonus by showing us how the candlestick floral design could also be used in a large circular hanging candle holder from Ballard Designs. She explained the importance of conditioning the flowers and plant materials, at least for 24 hours, and of spritzing all arrangements when done. She also talked about the importance of wiping/cleaning all blades carefully after cutting flowers The program was recorded for the use of our garden club only, so that members who couldn’t come to the meeting could see the program.

The arrangements were available to club members and helped pay for the program. Elaine would pick up the arrangements and deliver them on Friday, October 15th.

Roll Call:

Present: Gilda, Elaine, Connie, Lorraine, Linda, Diana, Pam, and Mary

Absent: Marilyn, Iona, Mary Beth, Deborah, Arminta, Lucille, Julie, Dot, Esther, and Carol

Minutes were approved as submitted.

**REPORTS;**

**Civic Development**: Pam has had difficulties trying to contact Parks and Rec, but finally, she recently got in touch with them. They will be sending someone over soon to see what needs to be done. Mary Beth and Lorraine did a small amount of weeding.

**Conservation:** Our group shared information regarding using shredded paper in the garden and in the compost heap.

**Newsletter:** Mary said she could use pictures and especially articles for the newsletter.

**Financial Report:** Diana reported that Dot told her that our current balance is $1,222.32.

**Old Business**: None

**New Business**.

* Discussed the December meeting. Connie volunteered her home. We’ll talk more about it at the next meeting. Send ideas to Diana.
* Linda provided an update on Julie that she received from Julie’s daughter, Lisa. Julie fell a couple of weeks ago; she is at her daughter’s home in Florida for the next few weeks. Linda gave information on communicating with Julie. Address is Julie C/O Lisa Wiles, 4228 Eagle View Ln, Jacksonville FL 32277. You can also use her cell phone number. Please contact Linda for more details.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Lorraine Leonard (substituting for Iona Black)

Secretary

Updated 11/9/21--DFM