



CLAY BREAKING NEWS

MOUNT AIRY CLAY BREAKERS GARDEN CLUB

Member of National Capital Area Garden Clubs. The National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

“ Protecting the Environment “



Picture courtesy of Pam Smart.

Julie Harrison_ President

The month of May was a busy month for the club. We had the plant sale, plant exchange, seasonal tables and a visit from our District 1 Director Danielle Brabazon, who spoke to us about what is going on in District 1. Danielle also agreed to do the installation of officers in June, and we thank her for doing this.

This has been a great year for the garden club. We had programs that were educational and informative. We did flower arrangements for Bradford Oakes Nursing Home, started and completed a project with the After Care School Children at Concordia Lutheran Church. Members volunteered their time for Arbor House Trunk Shows, and attended Franklins Day sponsored by District 1. We also attended District 1 and the NCAGC meetings.

The Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club won many awards like Outstanding Garden Club Achievement, Outstanding Garden Club Yearbook, Arbor House Volunteer Citation, Community Projects Citation, Education and Youth Programs and Financial Supporters Certificate and Marian Moreland received a Perennial Achievement Award. In addition we won the Beatrice M. Coiner Award for Community Projects and a check for \$100.00. This project entry was sent to NGC Convention in Buffalo, NY. What a wonderful surprise, we received the Award of Merit and a check for \$50.00. This is the first time since I have been a member of this club that the club has entered a project and received money for our efforts. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU. My deepest appreciation for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President for the past four years. It has been a pleasure for me to see what all of you can do. You amaze me with your talents and that is why this club is so great.

Julie Harrison, President.

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

DESIGN Linda Millette, Chairman

In April, after months of covering the Elements of Design, I began talking about the Principles of Design and covered Balance and Proportion.

May brought us information on Rhythm, Contrast, Dominance, and Scale and ended this year's Floral Design program.

HORTICULTURE: Chairman Elaine Arnold continued her informative talk on planting native species, and thus attracting native wildlife. We were introduced to Blue Dog Bane, a native perennial. We were encouraged to plant gardens and create environments which serve to attract the "Jewels of the Garden", which are butterflies. Therefore special attention should be paid to nectar plants and plants which provide food for butterfly larvae or caterpillars, such as milkweed.

CONSERVATION: Chairman Diana Morse in her exploration of the importance of Wetlands informed us of the various types of wetlands such as marshes, swamps, bogs, mangroves and fens, and how a micro wetland could be replicated in our backyard.

WAYS & MEANS: Our participation in the local fundraiser supported by Shelby's Wholesale Plants has yielded considerable profits for our club. Over the past three years, Lenay O'Quinn, Ways and Means Chairman has been instrumental in organizing this effort.

PUBLICITY Marian Moreland, Chairman

The following articles were submitted and included in the Monthly Publication of the Marlton Community Advocate.

April, 2012 Publication: On March 3, 2012, District 1 of National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. held an awards meeting for 2011 at Behnke's Nursery in Beltsville, MD. The Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club received the following awards: Outstanding Garden Club Achievement, (club with 24 or fewer members); Outstanding Garden Club Yearbook; Arbor House Volunteer Citation; Educational and Youth Programs; Community Projects Citation; Financial Supporters Certificate. A Perennial Achievement in a garden Club Award went to Marian Moreland.

Looking Ahead – Our Annual Plant Sale!

To be held 8:30 A.M.-2 P.M., May 5 2012 at 8404 Trumps Hill Road in Marlton.

May, 2012 Publication: The Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club received the Beatrice M. Coiner Award and second place from District 1, along with \$100.00 for our work with the after school program for children at Concordia Lutheran Church in Upper Marlboro.

MEMBERSHIP

Jessica Sherlock became a member of our club in April, 2012. Jessica is an accomplished artist, and comes to us with knowledge of Horticulture. Welcome Jessica !

CLUB PROGRAMS

In April the meeting was held at the home of Armintha Donovan. Joyce Meyer made a presentation on grasses. We were shown ornamental grasses such as: Miscanthus, Strawberry & Cream which grows to 4 feet high, variegated sedge, and Blue Fescue which stays small and is recommended to be planted in threes or fives. We were reminded that all grasses should be cut back in the Spring season.

In May the meeting was held at the home of Julie Harrison. The ladies exchanged a wide variety of plants, which were taken from their gardens. There was also a Horticulture and Design feature in which Anne Deboeser (Accredited Master Flower Show Judge) demonstrated her skills in Ikebana Designs through two creative flower arrangements. This was followed up with three table settings done by club members: Julie Harrison, Lenay O'Quinn and Marsha Kirchhoff. Danielle Brabazon, District 1 Director was a guest at the meeting. She introduced herself to the ladies and graciously shared about her reasons for getting involved with garden clubs. She also spoke about how the garden clubs are structured into Districts, States and Regions under the umbrella of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Her enthusiasm about the various activities of District 1 was infectious and we thoroughly enjoyed her time with us.

ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER

On Thursday, June 7, 2012 the ladies of the club met at the Mama Stella's Restaurant in Clinton, MD. It was a joyous and memorable occasion in which the club's 35th Anniversary was celebrated. All members were present. Danielle Brabazon, District 1 Director, Kyle Musselman a 7th grade student of St. Mary of the Assumption School, Upper Marlboro, MD were among the four guests in attendance. Kyle was the local nominee for the Central Atlantic Regional Youth Poetry Contest Award, and we were delighted to have him read his poem. Some members received recognition for their achievement, and President Julie Harrison presented each lady with a Certificate and a metal Cheese slicer in the form of a mouse which signifies steadfastness. Ann Williams, a retired Charter member was honored with a Service Award. Mary Beth Cecil (Ann's daughter) accepted the Award on behalf of Ann. Anne Deboeser, another original member of the club was recognized for her 35 years of service in which her skill and expertise in Horticulture and Design have delighted the ladies of the club over these many years. Marilyn Berkut was presented a Service Award for 20 years of active involvement in the club. Lorraine Leonard was presented a Perennial Bloom Award for her service as Arbor House Volunteer Coordinator. Mary Beth Cecil, Arbor House Manager was given a Perennial Bloom Award in recognition of the various

Trunk Shows for which she was responsible. These shows have proven to be successful in facilitating the sale of a significant amount of gift items from Arbor House Gift Shop. Elaine Arnold, Marian Moreland, Carol Ober and Diana Morse were given Perennial Bloom Awards for their involvement in the After Care School project at Concordia Lutheran Church. The project had earned the club the 2011 NCAGC Beatrice M. Coiner Award. A Perennial Bloom Award was given to Sonia Johnson for service in producing the "Clay Breaking News" - the Newsletter of the Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club. Service Awards were given to Pat Hall, Esther Neckere, Marsha Kirchhoff, Joyce Meyer, Lenay O'Quinn and Pam Smart. Joyce Meyer and Pat Hall were recognized for their diligence in making contact with club members each month, and reminding them of the meetings. Appreciation was shown to Esther Neckare, Marsha Kirchhoff and Pam Smart who served as Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Historian respectively. Lenay O'Quinn, Ways and Means Chairman was recognized for the tremendous effort and energy she expended in organizing the club's fundraising projects, which were very successful.

THE AWARD OF HONOR: Gilda Allen received the Award of Honor for her major contribution to the project with the After Care School Children at Concordia Lutheran Church, for which the Club won the 2011 NCAGC Beatrice M. Coiner Award. Gilda worked as Environmental Program Specialist at the District Department of the Environment for 22 years before retiring in 2011. She was instrumental in developing Environmental Education Programs for young people. This experience and expertise have enabled her to draft an educational program in which the children were introduced to elements of gardening. They grew a vegetable/herb garden and ate what they had produced. The children also produced a garden, which provided the ingredients for pizzas which the children ate and enjoyed. Gilda also made significant contribution to the club's education program in Conservation. She was presented with a Certificate, a Cheese slicer and a Gift.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Danielle Brabazon, District 1 Director conducted the installation of the newly elected officers of the club. She presented the outgoing and incoming officers with an interesting array of flowers. Pam Smart, outgoing/incoming Historian received a **pink** Stargazer lily. Marsha Kirchhoff, outgoing Corresponding Secretary was given **purple** flowers. Jackie George, incoming Corresponding Secretary got yellow flowers. Esther Neckare, outgoing Recording Secretary received **blue** veronicas. Armintha Donovan, incoming Recording Secretary was given **purple** stokesia and Carol Ober, outgoing/incoming Treasurer received an **orange** gerber daisy. Gilda Allen received **white/pink** roses for her service as outgoing Vice President. Iona Black incoming Vice President was presented with white roses. Outgoing President Julie Harrison was honored with **pink** roses and Gilda Allen, incoming President received **red** roses.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING

Our outgoing President Julie Harrison, who served with excellence for the past four years, was presented with a surprise basket filled with items such as bottles of wine, pieces of jewelry, books, a lavender wreath, a gift certificate and an official Past President Pin. She was overwhelmed and graciously received the honor.

SUMMER CALENDAR

July 21, 2012: Annual Club Picnic at the home of Pat Hall.

September , 2012: Prince George's County Fair

District I Fall meeting scheduled Thursday , September 13, 2012 and the NCAGC Fall meeting Tuesday, September 25, 2012.

HELPFUL HINTS

Deadhead spent blooms of the following in July and August:

Begonia Grandis (Hardy Begonia); Centaurea Montana (Bachelor's Button); Gaillardia Grandiflora (Blanket Flower). Taken from the Month- to -Month Perennial & Shrub Maintenance Chart for the Mid-Atlantic Region (published by District 11).