

President Betty Abercrombie called the meeting of the Mount Airy Claybreakers to order on Thursday, October 10th, 1996. The minutes from the September meeting were read by Recording Secretary May Kemp and were approved as read. Jimmy Nell Finley, Corresponding Secretary reported that no letters were written during the month. Three thanks were received. One from Peggy Stovall thanking the group for the plant that was sent after her cataract operation. Another was from Helen Foster, Mary Ellen Heagy's Mother, with thanks not only for the lovely tree dedication at Holloway park, but also for the joy and friendship the group had given to Mary Ellen during the years. Betty reported that she had sent a copy of the program and pictures from the ceremony to Mrs. Foster. There was also a thank you received from Gene Brady, Chairman of the National Beautification Fund, for the donation from our club. Historian, Marie White, asked people to "keep those pictures coming" for the scrapbook. Treasurer, Anne Williams reported a balance for September of \$996.47 and an October balance of \$864.49. Vice President, Peggy Martin, expressed appreciation to Al Abercrombie for the Claybreakers yearly booklet and said that she had given him a gift of a good set of pruners and ten Dutch Master daffodil bulbs. She also purchased the same bulbs and a box of candy for the night's Speaker, David Weston. The next program will be "Holiday Tables", creative designs for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. Civic Development, Betty Abercrombie, hopes to have a work session at the Park before winter sets in. Marie White, Design Chairman, had no report for that or for Federation as no meetings had been held. Marian Moreland, Horticulture Chairman, displayed the ginger plant she had started and again discussed the process of rooting that she had covered in September. Her discussion on this month's herb, Coriander, was postponed until after the evening's speaker, David Weston, had given his talk on soil and compost.

Mr. Weston said that the soil and weather of Maryland make it more difficult to garden than in his native home of England. His specialty is flowers. Among his recommendations were the following. Forget about topsoil and use at least one foot of compost for planting after having removed all of the perennial weeds. For compost use "Leaf Gro" and feed with slow releasing nitrogen in early Spring. Don't use the compost in containers and don't use sand or clay. do projects in small beds and dig a small gully to keep compost from running off. Peat Moss can cause root rot. Above all, enjoy gardening! If it is too much of a chore make your garden smaller. Call the Maryland Environmental Services at 261-8596 for information about Leaf Gro. Get warm weather plants in early in the Spring and go for the form, shape and size of the plant. David Weston stated that he was not a firm believer in mulch. He uses leaf compost instead, but it is important not to let it dry out. For information on garden insects call the University of Maryland at 868-8780.

After the main program, Marian returned to her presentation on Coriander, which is the seeds from Chinese Parsley or Cilantro. The tastes are not related just because one comes from the other. Coriander provides a pungent note for potpourri or a lemon touch to food.

The rest of the meeting was continued. Dotty Garrison, Hospitality, wants input on ideas for the Claybreakers 20th anniversary. Peggy Martin volunteered to be a hostess for a function at the end of March. Photographer Chairman, Liz Saniga, is taking pictures. Publicity, no report. Sunshine, no report. Ways and means, Peggy Martin, reported that

at Kall
home of
Joann Davis

nothing is happening in catering. The possibility of a flea market or plant sale in the Spring was discussed.

The following items were discussed under unfinished business. There will be a flower show in Fort Washington on October 18. Jimmy Nell, Peggy Martin, Anne Williams, May Kemp, and Betty Abercrombie will work at it. The Claybreakers and the Hilltop garden clubs will put on a joint flower show on April 26. The following people from our Club have agreed to do the following jobs. Awards, Anne Williams. Judges' luncheon, May Kemp. Judges, Marie White. Scheduling, Peggy Martin. 1 Invitation~~a~~! Dotty Garrison. Entries and Horticulture, Jimmy Nell Finley and Betty Abercrombie. Placement, Joyce Meyer. Entries for Design, Liz Saniga.

Under New business, Liz Saniga offered some large plants to anyone who could use them. A motion to adjourned the meeting was made by Julie Harrison and Seconded by May Kemp. Following the meeting the 50/50 raffle was won by Marie White.