Biannual Report 2017-2019

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

The themes of this two-year period were ***Growing for the Table*** (2017-2018) and ***Growing for Maryland*** *(2018-2019);*both carried out the themes of the NGC president “**Plant America**,” NGAGC president “**Plant America-Let’s Grow Together**, and the District 1 president “**Set a Goal and Watch It Grow**.” We currently have 21 members. Honorary member Ann Williams passed away in August of 2018 and Mary Jane Bishop resigned.

**Programs:**

Presentations during this period included Companion Planting, Garden Photography, Arrangements Using Vegetables, Food Equity in Prince George’s County, Starting an Edible Garden, Math in Plants, Homestead Gardens two visits topics ( Fruit-Bearing Shrubs; Deterring Deer), Raising Monarch Butterflies, From Tobacco to…(family farming in Prince George’s County), A Startup Chestnut and PawPaw Orchard, Birds of the Patuxent River, and Soil Science.

**New Initiatives from 2017-2019:**

\*Deborah, with help from Dot, Linda, and Esther, converted forty-two hardcopy yearbooks into a digital format, available on the club website. The covers of the two hardcopy yearbooks reflected the themes of the programs.

\*Field trips during this period included a Patuxent River boat tour, a trip to the Prince George’s County Mulch Recycling Facility, a Suitland Bog Tour facilitated by Pam, and a field trip to the Villa de Alpacas Farm and two trips to Homestead Gardens, with speaker Heather Wheatly organized by Dot.

\*Eight members created arrangements to be displayed in homes to be visited on the Prince George’s County House and Garden Pilgrimage. Pam coordinated the delivery and placement of the flowers.

\*Diana used information from a book, ***The Carrot Purple,*** as the source of horticulture presentations.

\*Educational support consisted of $50 were awarded to a horticulture student at Gwynn Park High School; children’s books, “***The Saved Seed***,” an NGC publication, were donated to two elementary schools. The awards were presented by Esther.

\*Julie created a “virtual” plant sale, with the goal of earning $400. (We made it.)

\*Club members donated plants and garden gloves for sale to the Surratt House Museum’s “Celebrate The Bounty.”

The club supported the following changes:

\*Instituted alternative potluck meeting places should a member not be able to serve as hostess (Chapel of the Incarnation, Concordia Lutheran Church), with the stipulation that the hostess donate $25.

\*Established a daytime meeting for the club.

\*Conducted a “teacup” arrangement flower show; hold a Christmas wreath contest.

\*Awarded three Garden Club State Life Memberships: Arminta Donovan, Marilyn Berkut, Dot Lower

**Ongoing Activities:**

**Fundraising**: Virtual Plant Sale, (Julie) Three White Elephant Sales (Connie/Iona), bulb sale, Cutlery Sale (Dot),

**Picnics**: Linda (2018) Julie (2019)

**Christmas Parties** Deborah (2018) Dot (2019)

**End of year Dinner/Installation dinner at** Chevy’s (2018) and Hanabi Grill (2019)(Esther/Dot)

**Maintained Holloway Park Garden** (Pam) **Maintained garden at Dupont Garden** **Elementary** (Gilda)

**Publicity:** submitted Mount Airy Clay Breakers article to District I’s newsletter ***The Garden Post***

**Nominated from club two District 1 Busy Bee Awards** (Linda 2018) (Pam 2019)

**Donations**: ($50 each year) Arboretum’s Fern Valley, NCAGC Scholarship Fund, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Local student scholarship ($50 one year) to the CAR conference.

**Awards Earned:**

**District 1:** Outstanding Garden Club Achievement Citation, Yearbook Certificate of Merit, Community Gardening Projects Citation, Outstanding Club Newsletter Certificate of Merit, Educational Exhibit Citation, Horticulture at Meetings Citation, Continuing and New Projects Awards, Application Citation Award, Arbor House Volunteer Citation, Philanthropy Award

**NCAGC Awards:** Outstanding Garden Club Achievement, Publication Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Club Newsletter (electronic).

**NGC State Award:** Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Club Newsletter (electronic)

**Beatrice Coiner Award:** Dupont Elementary School Support ($150)

**Budget:**

**The beginning budget September 2017 $77.95**

**The ending budget August 2018 $775.70**

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**The ending budget August 2019 $1779.34**

**Signed: Esther Neckere, President; Dorothy Lower, Vice President**