

The Mt. Airy Claybreakers met at the home of Carol Ober on 14 November 2013 with 14 members present.

PROGRAM

Mr. Jon Elifritz and brought samples of different types of mushrooms and presented a slide show on fungi including coral mushrooms, stinkhorns, cauliflower, hedgehog, and hen of the woods. He recommended the Audubon Guide to Mushrooms be used for identification. On his mushroom hunting field trips, he mentioned the area of Front Royal from early April to mid-May as a good time and place to hunt edible mushrooms, such as morels (first choice of mushroom eaters) and chanterelles. He also told how to identify poisonous mushrooms, such as the Amanita, also known as the "destroying Angel" as well as some Puffballs.

BUSINESS

TREASURER: Carol Ober reported a balance of \$1,302.00.

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT: Jessica Sherlock talked of the Holloway Park entrance that had been decorated by the club with winter cabbages and chrysanthemums. The arrangements for the Bradford Oaks nursing home, made by seven persons, were much appreciated.

DESIGN: Julie Harrison described the arrangement she brought to the meeting, which consisted of nandina, tree hydrangea, grasses, and pumpkins. She also reported on the recent morning of design. One creative design was of the Washington Monument. Members are urged to attend future events.

HORTICULTURE: Jessica Sherlock told the story of begonias, flowers that were named after the governor of Haiti. They were accidentally transferred from India to England .They are easy to propagate by leaf or stem. Purchase plants that are clean.

MEMBERSHIP: Elaine Arnold said that Mary Jane Bishop, a former member, would like to rejoin the garden club. Elaine will contact Mary Jane with an invitation.

SUNSHINE: Dot Lower has sent out 15 get well, birthday, and "Thinking of you" cards since June. Diana Morse expressed her appreciation of the members' support during her injury. Jackie George and Marilyn Berkut's birthdays were celebrated.

WAYS AND MEANS: Linda Millette requested Thanksgiving arrangements for the craft sale at the St. Thomas church in Croom on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The event subsequently garnered \$200 and was very successful.

CONSERVATION: Pat Hall gave a report on how Thomas Jefferson was the first to develop a land policy that supported individual ownership of land.

TELEPHONE: Lenay O'Quinn and Marilyn Berkut contacted all members.

NEW BUSINESS

The annual Christmas party will be held on Thursday 5 December, at the home of Deborah Determan in Brandywine, MD. Members are asked to bring a potluck dish, a gift to exchange and an ornament made out of natural materials.

Lorraine Leonard mentioned the Central Area Region Conference (CAR) and made a motion to allocate \$30 for awards to children who submitted posters of Smoky the Bear and Woodsy the Owl. The motion was seconded and approved by the members.

Diana Morse announced that the Landscape Design council is sponsoring a three-day trip to Charleston South Carolina on 25-27 March for a house and garden tour. Cost is \$850.00.

A trip to Winterthur is scheduled for Sunday 8 December. Members are to let Gilda Allen know if the date is not acceptable. Suggestions for future tours were made of the Hillwood Museum, the Baltimore Arboretum, and Lilypons.

The January meeting will be held at the home of Pat Hall. Pat and Jessica Sherlock will be the hostesses.

A 50/50 drawing was held after the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Esther Neckere

Esther Neckere, Recording Secretary