

March 2024 – 50th Anniversary

The long awaited event – the Lakewood Forest Garden Club 50th Anniversary Celebration is finally here. The committee, under the direction of Harolene Hatley, spent many months on thorough preparations.



The committee members: Fran Hamel, Sandra McKeon, Jean Robinson, Margo Probst, Susan Busler, Harolene Hatley, Adrienne Juno and Pat McGrath. Not pictured are Dawn Bramwell, Susan Hanson, MaryEtta Wood, Carolyn Calvert, and Gabriele Klopp.



Each member of the committee contributed to the success of the event. The club house was procured by MaryEtta Wood, a resident of the subdivision. Talented artist Pat McGrath painted two large posters that were displayed from the mantels of the fire place which divided the large meeting room at the residents club.

Historian Gabriele Klopp collected pictures from available president books and created a power point presentation of memorable events from previous decades. This presentation was shown in the background during the celebration.



The theme of the party was a "High Tea". Every detail was addressed and rehearsed to make this festivity a success. The afternoon before the anticipated date, committee members gathered at the clubhouse to set up tables and chairs and lay out a festive and inviting dining area.



Each of the ten tables was covered with a white table cloth and cushions were placed on each chair.

Members provided the valuable fine china tea service, and arranged each table setting.



Jean assured that the porcelain was shining.



Each table had a different set of cups and plates.



Adrienne and Susan arranged special name tags, designed by Ricca Brock, in alphabetical order.



Jean is signing a memorial plaque that was created for the anniversary, which will stay in the library.



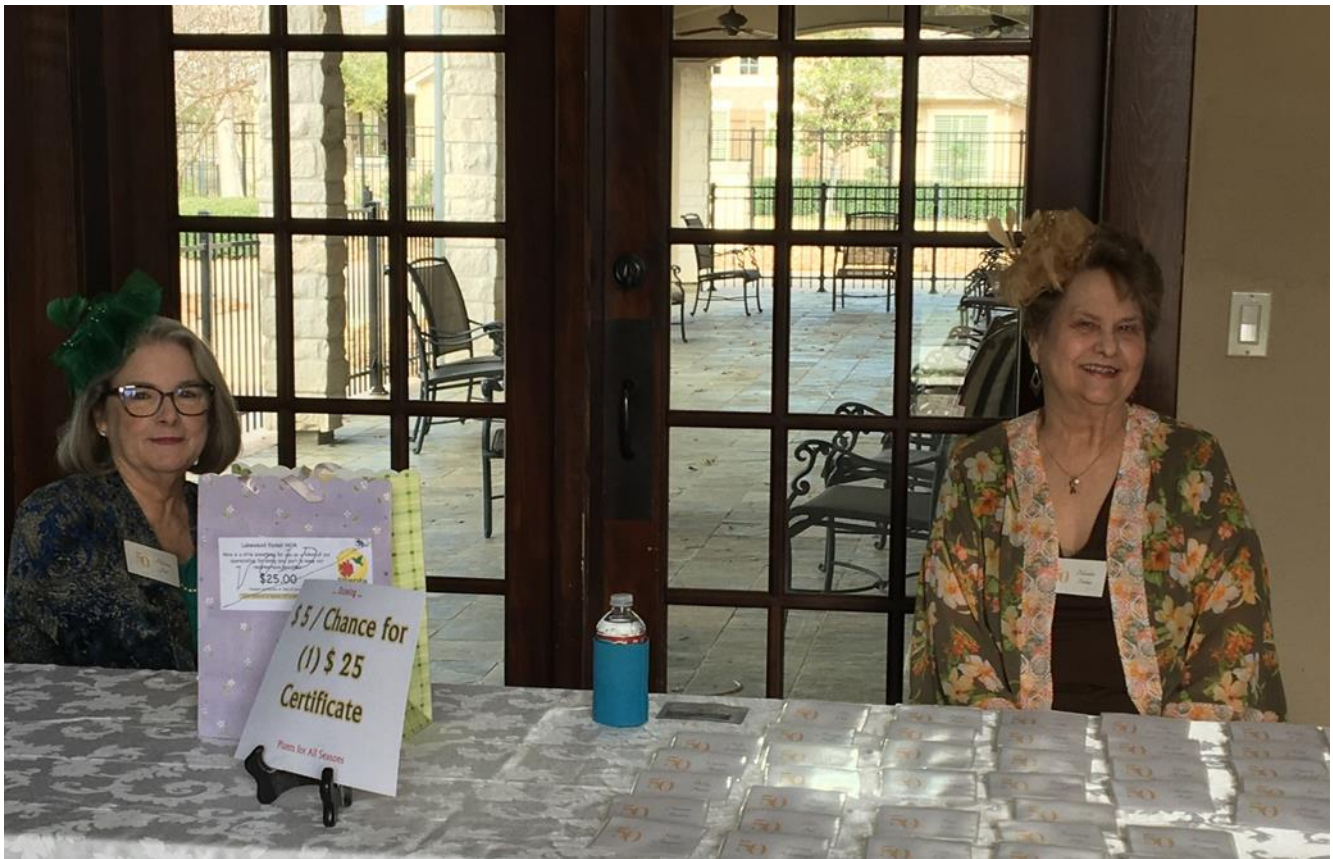
Mission accomplished!
The volunteers take a well deserved break, sampling cookies, but without the tea. The committee members were back early in the morning to complete the final preparations.

Few details were revealed to the membership and most of us anticipated a surprising soiree. Due to the lack of parking spaces at the clubhouse, a carpool had been arranged and shortly before 11:00 am guests started to arrive.



Members were encouraged to dress for a "High Tea" and most came with hats and gloves, spring dresses, or other colorful garments.





The registration table was set up and well organized. Susan handed each guest their name tag. Adrienne sold raffle tickets for a large, unusual Begonia plant donated to our event by Sherry Harrah from 'Plants for all Season'.





Tickets for \$1.00 were purchased for the chance to win this gorgeous plant. This also served as a fundraising event for our club.



Marlo made an elegant entrance.











Some ladies wore their stylish hats to the 'High Tea'.

















While the guests were mingling and chatting the kitchen crew, under the watchful eyes of Sandra McKeon, prepared the refreshments.



Tea pots were filled with hot water and covered with kitchen towels to stay warm until it was time to brew the tea.
Fran added another tray of finger sandwiches to the buffet table.





After Harolene welcomed everyone, Mary Davis said a prayer for the occasion and Harriet spoke a few words, it was time to start the party.

One lady per table was designated to fetch a pot of hot tea from the kitchen and serve it at their table.



Lines formed at the buffet as we filled our plates with the variety of delectable treats.







The noise of chatter ceased as everyone enjoyed the food. The melodic clinking of teacups could be heard.





Becky's fascinator was very exotic and perfectly matched her outfit.



Rica looked elegant in her black dress accented with a string of pearls.



After making sure the buffet was set up and refilled and everyone was taken care of, Sandra can finally enjoy her tea time.





President elect, Barbara Crum visited with the ladies at each table.



Candace and Sheila were relaxed, as they had no official duties on this day.





In a small alcove to the side of the meeting room, Harolene displayed scrap books from previous presidents. Members were invited to browse the artful accountings of the LF garden club. It was a trip down memory lane for many of the long-time members. New members also enjoyed the journals.



Rosemarie Felix describes events pictured in the scrap books to Beth Elington.



New members also are getting an idea about the many activities of the garden club.





Gloria Cox and Rosemarie are some of our senior members. We thank them for the years of loyalty to the club as well as the many hours of volunteering activities.



Many thanks to our catering crew for the delicious sandwiches and the tasty desserts. This was a memorable event. Known for its friendly people, interesting speakers and exciting outings the club will retain its long-standing members and attract new gardeners. We will have many more mile stones to celebrate in the future.

Fran Hamel, Adrienne Juno, Susan Busler, Margo Probst, Dawn Bramwell and Sandra McKeon (not pictured) provided our refreshments.