

May 2024

The gray and rainy day did not deter Lakewood Forest garden club members from gathering for the last meeting of the fiscal year. Plants from member's gardens were displayed outside waiting for adoption to a new home.



Inside, Candace was busy greeting members and handing out name tags while Susan was signing up

volunteers to cover hospitality services in the upcoming year.



As always, members gathered at the coffee station, greeting each other and exchanging hugs and news.



Flowers for the president's table by Marilyn Bullen.





Christine brought her sister and her friend, visiting from Belgium, to the meeting today. Anneke, our Dutch member, joined to group to exchange information on their home countries.

Hospitality



The hostesses today, Harolene Hatley, Betty Boyland, Annette Andrew, and Adrienne Juno, prepared a delicious spread.

MaryEtta and Cathy, along with many others, enjoyed the yummy treats.





Punctually at 10:00 am Harriette called the meeting to order, asking members to quiet down and take their seats. Not an easy task with this group! 😊

Meditation

Loving Father,

*We gather today as members of our Lakewood Forest garden club, seeking
Your blessings of joy and fellowship.*

*Grant us the ability to find solace and inspiration in one another.
May our shared love for gardening deepen our connections and enrich our
lives.*

*Bless each member with happiness, fulfillment, and a sense of belonging.
Bless our garden club with a continuous awareness of the profound blessings
that nature bestows upon us.*

*We come before You with grateful hearts for the projects and programs
undertaken by our garden club this past year.*

*Guide our hands and hearts as we work together, instilling our efforts with
purpose and grace.*

*May these projects not only beautify our surroundings but also inspire others
to discover the joy and fulfillment that gardening brings.*

*We are thankful for all the gifts of our members who have served in the past,
those who have served this past year and those who will serve us in the
upcoming year as they are installed today.*

*As we take time for the upcoming summer, please be with each of us as we
travel and have new adventures, opportunities, and experiences.*

*We look forward to the fall when we return
again to our next season as a garden club.*

We thank you for all these blessings

Amen



This beautiful prayer was recited by Mary Davis. Both 'Beckys' felt the grace and peace of the moment.

After the 'Pledge of Allegiance', the meeting continued with Candace announcing that 46 members are in attendance and Christine's guest were recognized and welcomed.



A cart with flowering plants awaited the program to come.



Barbara Crum and Mary Davis shared their discovery of the *Best Garden Shoes Ever* with the membership and demonstrated their many practical features.



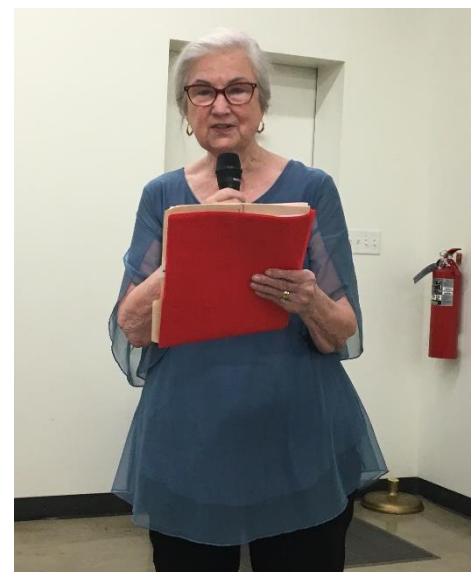
They are widely available and some members were already familiar with and in possession of a pair of 'Sloggers'.



Next, Susan Busler gave the financial report announcing a balance in excess of \$20,000.00. This sparked a vigorous discussion as to why we have so much money in reserve and should we not donate most of it to our community charitable causes. After much debate, a motion was made and passed to table this discussion. The next board will take all suggestions into consideration when establishing the budget for the upcoming garden club year.

Jean reported on May birthdays and shared various letters and cards received. In the weeks to come she will send donation checks to the organization the club elected to support this year.

Harriett is in contact with the Mercer Arboretum administration in regards to the memorial brick the



club donated to honor previous garden club president, Barbara Wolz. No final date has been set yet. Harriett will keep us informed.

In preparation for our annual fundraising for CAM, Judy Beckam has set a new goal for the club. Last year her goal exceeded and she collected over \$1,200.00. In discussion with the membership the goal for next year was set for \$1,500.00. A provision was suggested that the club makes up the difference if the goal is not reached by member's donations alone.



Barbara Davidson reminded us the Mercer has a monthly 'Lunch and Learn program'. You bring your own lunch and listen to the lecture. More information can be found on their website.

https://www.kingwood.com/events/event_details.php?event_id=9000&event_date_id=44134

Rica talked about her volunteer work at Jesse H. Jones park and the many activities that are offered there. A picnic this weekend is a fun event for children and adults. While there, you can pick up native milkweed to feed the Monarch butterflies visiting your garden this time of the year.



EVENT INFORMATION

Location 20634 Kenswick Drive Humble, Texas 77338	Date and time May 11, 2024 5 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
Contact JesseJonesPark@pct3.hctx.net ~ 281-446-8588	



Donna Stephens has exciting plans for our next daytrips. On July 31, 2024 we will visit Houston TRANSTAR Center to observe how traffic and emergency services are managed from this one location. Afterwards a lunch at Treebeard restaurant is planned, followed by a tour of historic Christ Church Cathedral.

Donna also reserved a Precinct 3 bus for us for September,



October and November. If you have a good idea and want to plan a destination on either of these days, please let Donna know.

Margo Probst thanked the membership for our support of REACH. She continues to sell products from REACH that provides needed assistance for the community. Margo will take delivery of Hydrangeas at her house on 5/8. Orders placed with Margo must be picked up that day.

Pat Gauger reminded us that she will collect for Wreath Across America starting at our next meeting in September. The cost for the wreaths has increased and she will inform us of the price as she gets more data.



Harriett announced a joint board meeting on May 17th at 11:00 at the Spring Valley BBQ restaurant. Outgoing and incoming officers will have a chance to exchange information about the job.

With the regular business concluded, we moved on to the installation of the new board for 2024-2025.

Installation of Officers



Marlo Wilson compared the membership to a flourishing and bountiful garden. She encouraged each newly elected officer to plant their special flowers in the L F Garden Club garden. Each received a plant to remind them of the responsibilities their office brings.

Barbara Crum,
president elect

received a rose bush. As a focal point in the garden, the rose is to remind Barbara to focus on her tasks ahead, which is to guide our group with grace and respect to the best of her abilities. Barbara agreed to do this with dignity, fairness and impartiality.



As First Vice President **Bette Gerhold** will be in charge of programming. She received a Hydrangea. This plant symbolizes ambition and willingness to achieve something great, such as finding good speakers to enrich our gardening knowledge. Bette agreed that she will execute her duties and also step in when the president is unavailable.



As Second Vice President **MaryEtta Wood** also received a Hydrangea because it will take ambition to grow our 'membership garden'. MaryEtta agreed to support the membership to the best of her ability.

As Treasure **Susan Busler** has earned and maintained the trust of the membership. Her flower was the Lantana, as it symbolizes integrity, veracity and justice, the foundation for our garden club finance manager. Her office requires dignity and seriousness as it is her duty to be the custodian of the funds of the club. She willingly accepted all obligations connected to the office of the treasurer for another year.





Elected Corresponding Secretary, **Jean Robinson** received a daisy plant. The daisy represents cheerfulness, beauty, purity, fun and affection. All these are attributes that will be desirable in generating correspondence for the club. Jean agreed to send cards and flowers as appropriate and to announce monthly birthdays.

A Dahlia was given to **Mary Davis**, the elected Recording Secretary. The Dahlia symbolizes grace, strength, determination, and focus. Mary's responsibilities will enquire her to pay attention and take accurate minutes during the meeting. She agreed to do a good job.



Harriett Bedenbaugh, as the past president will remain a member of the board. Members have come to appreciate Harriette for her warmth, happiness, and optimism. Harriette's motto is JOY and she is spreading joy wherever she goes. She will be a thoughtful mentor for the new board members.



The new board of the LF garden club 2024-2025, ready to take on the challenges the new garden club year will bring.



For the last time, Harriett swung her presidential gavel to declare the meeting adjourned.

With good wishes for a pleasant summer and anticipation of the reunion in September, members departed the scout house, promising to stay in touch with their garden club friends.

Special Event

For all members that were not able to attend the 50th Anniversary Tea or did not see the entire presentation

of the LF garden club history, a special meeting is plant for Friday, June 7th at 11:00 am. Bring your own lunch and watch the power point presentation.

