

LAKWOOD FOREST GARDEN CLUB

General Meeting

September 6, 2024

President - Barbara Crum called the September General Meeting of the Lakewood Forest Garden Club to order at 10:00 am on Friday, September 6, 2024.

Chaplain - Marlo Wilson asked for a moment of silence in honor and memory of Sheila Anderson. She then gave an inspirational fall reflection to begin the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program: Pat Gager introduced Cheryl Whitfield, President of the National Memorial Ladies and the Fallen Warrior's Memorial. Cheryl gave a presentation of how her organization started, was funded and supported by the community. Pat told us how we could support our fallen heroes through the Wreaths Across America project here locally at the Houston National Cemetery. Pat will be collecting today and at the October and November meetings for wreaths to be laid at the cemetery in December 2024. Wreaths are \$17 a piece and there is a special form if you have a request for our area cemetery.

Recording Secretary – Mary Davis stated that we have no official record of the May General meeting due to the death of the Recording Secretary, Sheila Anderson. There is an unofficial posting on our website of the installation of officers that occurred at the May 2024 meeting.

Corresponding Secretary - Jean Robinson presented letters of appreciation from donations at Cy Hope, Brookwood Community, Mission of Yahweh, and Mercer Society. These letters were passed around for the membership to read. Jean also sent out cards to Gail Bramwell after her knee surgery, to the family of Sheila Anderson in June and to Janna Niemann who sustained eye and knee injuries during a fall. Flowers with cards were sent belatedly to Judy Beckham who had a procedure in February, to Pat McGrath-Jones who had a fall with spinal injuries in May, and to Gloria Cox hospitalized with an infection. A large live plant was sent on behalf of the garden club for the funeral of Sheila Anderson in June. Jean encouraged club members to call and encourage one another when an illness or tragedy occurred. Gloria Cox and Patty McGrath-Jones have sent a thank you for their flower arrangements. As a special note Jean explained the club guidelines to address what actions we take for both current and former members. All the information is found on our website. Before publicizing health issues, be sure to acquire permission from the member to share. September birthdays were announced. September birth flower is the aster. Our September birthdays are Mary Lynne Christopher, Beth Elkington, Joyce Hebert, Karen Ybanez, Maggie White, and Marlo Wilson.

1st Vice President (Programs) - Bette Gerhold stated that the yearbooks and website will have all programs for each month listed.

2nd Vice President (Membership) - Mary Etta Wood announced that we had 49 members in attendance. We had a new member, Cydney Miller joined and welcomed guests, Gayla Bonina and Susan Hahn.

Budget - Barbara Crum presented the budget for the calendar year of 2024 - 2025. She explained that it does show that our income is short of the expenses for this year. Extra expenses will currently come out of our surplus, but we cannot do that for too many years. We need to look at other means of covering our expenses. The funds the Ways and Means receives from our plant sales is designed to provide for our donations to those charities that we sponsor.

(LAKEWOOD FOREST GARDEN CLUB

BUDGET 6/1/24 – 5/31/25

INCOME DUES **\$2,130.00**

BUDGET

Awards	\$75.00
Conventions	\$300.00
Corr Secretary	\$250.00
Memorials & Donations	\$300.00
Affiliation Dues	\$600.00
Federation (Non-Dues)	\$100.00
Historian	\$50.00
Hospitality	\$100.00
Christmas Luncheon	\$625.00
Installation of Officers	\$100.00
Membership	\$150.00
Programs	\$600.00
Office Supplies	\$100.00
Yearbook	\$450.00
Website	\$200.00
Other	\$100.00
	<hr/> \$4,100.00

Treasurer – Susan Busler reported that there is a new Reimbursement form to fill out to collect the money for your expenses. The form is on the website under forms. She also reported that she and Barbara Crum had secured a 9-month CD

on \$10,000 with 3.9% interest to earn us some money. Susan Busler reported the following status of the LFGC treasury:

**LAKEWOOD FOREST GARDEN CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
MAY 3, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 6, 2024**

PREVIOUS ACCOUNT BALANCE: **\$22,776.68**

INCOME:

Deposits:

6/04/24– Membership Dues 2024-25 660.00

6/09/24 – Houston Federation attendance award 25.00

7/17/24 – Membership Dues 2024-25 120.00

TOTAL INCOME: **\$805.00**

Uncashed checks:

8/17/24 – Add back Ck #3516 100.00

8/17/24 – Add back Ck #33514 17.00

Total uncashed checks: **117.00**

Total additions: **\$922.00**

EXPENSES:

5/03/24 – Ck # 3546 – Jean Robinson (greeting cards) 7.51

5/06/24 – Ck #3547 – Marlo Wilson (plants for installation) 170.98

5/28/24 – Ck #3550 – Texas Garden Clubs 560.00

Dues for 70 members at \$8 per member

6/09/24 - Ck #3551 – to replace ck #3493 for website expenses 156.59

6/09/24 – Ck #3552 – Adrienne Juno - Website 187.69

6/30/24 – Ck #3553 – Jean Robinson – flowers for Patty McGrath 120.15

Jones & Sheila Anderson funeral

8/17/24 - Ck # 3554 – Jean Robinson – flowers for Judy Beckham 27.06

8/30/24 – Ck #3555 – Mary Etta Wood – Deposit for Holiday Luncheon 750.00

9/03/24 – Ck #3556 – Wreaths Across America (3 wreaths) 51.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: **2,030.98**

Cash transfer to CD **10,000.00**

PRESENT ACCOUNT BALANCE

\$11,667.70

Committees & Volunteer Chairs 2024-2023

Awards and Directory/Yearbook: Awards position is open -Pam Randall also reported that Federation is working on some Legacy Awards for children and grandchildren living in Texas. Pam also reported that the yearbook inserts are delayed as when she received them, they were hole punched on the wrong side. She has worked out a new delivery day and a 15 % off our future order. They will be available at the next general meeting.

Brookwood – Terri Cole reported that a group from the LFGC worked the fall festival. We are still looking for a chairman. Any small group of LFGC members can plan a visit to work at any event posted on their website. Barbara Durr receives emails from Brookwood and will forward events to members.

Christmas Luncheon Planner - Mary Etta Wood gave a report that they were finalizing plans for the luncheon. Her committee of Barbara Durr, Fran Hamlin and Tammy Delforge have had fun planning the event. Prices have gone up and they have secured a meal for \$45 dollars so bring your checkbooks or cash to the October meeting when she will reveal the finalized location.

Communication - Barbara Durr recognized her “Call Girls” who are sending out information to the members in advance of the general meeting. Let her know if you have not been informed or if you have information you want passed on to members in advance.

Cypress Assistance Ministries – CAM – Judy Beckham will have a speaker at the November meeting from CAM. She has set a goal this year of \$1,500. You can make checks out to CAM. She will check with the membership to bring cans to the November meeting. We thank Judy and her husband for the use of the mike system which greatly aided in allowing everyone to hear all our speakers and committee members.

Facebook Administration - Jayne Wilson has encouraged club members to join and share pictures of their gardens and even problem areas.

Federation Representative - Pam Randall gave a report that the program will be about Brookwood Community. They need help with planting poinsettias. See their website for other events and programs that you can serve as a helper. Federation has all their programs on their website. Hopefully we can get carpools to attend their meetings. Meetings are at a new location, but we can carpool from the Lakewood Methodist Scout room. Meetings are on the second Friday of the

month. The October 11 Federation meeting will have a Flower Show. You can enter a plant, arrangement, or a single flower as a specimen. Club zones may be changed as some clubs are no longer in operation. Gala tickets are still available for \$40.

Historian - Gabriele Klopp printed out an example of what she puts together for the yearbook to bring to the meeting to encourage someone to learn how to do this for next year. She would like to teach someone how she documents our club activities.

Horticulture - Susan Hull will present a report on Fall at the October general meeting. Gloria Cox had donations of plumerias, and Bette Gerhold explained how to root and care for them for now until winter arrives.

Hospitality - Susan Hanson thanked the many members of the board who furnished refreshments for the September meeting. Thank you to Jean Robinson, Harolene Hatley, Susan Hanson, Barbara Durr, Gabriele Klopp, Sue Hull, Judy Beckham, Carolyn Cox, Harriett Bedenbaugh, and Debbie Jones.

Librarian - Harolene Hatley reported that all library books are listed on the LFGC website. She will highlight a few books at each meeting. She explained the process of checking out any books including the Spring Fling books.

Mercer- Barbara Davidson announced that Mercer is now in Precinct 3. It will be a transition as they reallocate staff and equipment to get back up to full operation. The west side is closed for the current time.

Parliamentarian - Carolyn Calvert compliments the members on their very quiet presence during the speakers and committee members' announcements. The use of a very good speaker system seemed to help us all stay focused.

Publicity – Open position that is looking for a volunteer.

Reach - Margo Propst reported that they need more volunteers as they are getting poinsettias ready. She will again be selling them for \$10 and we need an order of 100 to keep this price. The date for pickup will be December 6.

Spring Fling – Bette Gerhold and Donna Stephens are still researching and developing the plans for Spring Fling 2025.

Transportation - Donna Stephens reported that she has 2 dates, October 16 and December 9 available for outings. The October day needs a volunteer to plan and do an activity. The December date will be chaired by Kathy Rogers and will be called "Shop till You Drop". See Kathy for signup and details on this outing.

Way and Means - Harriett Bedenbaugh explained the vouchers for the plant sale. She handed out voucher packets before the meeting and will have them available at the October meeting also. Vouchers are good from October 1- November 12. They do expire. They are for flats and mulch only. This money we make is to give out to specific donations voted on by the club. Harriet also explained the monthly fundraising idea of the 50/50 bucket. Chances can be bought where a

winner will be drawn to get half of the proceeds from that meeting and the other half goes to the operating expenses. This will start at the October meeting.

Web Editors - Adrienne Juno and Jayne introduced the website and explained how to use the password protected portions that are available only for club members. The password protected portions use the password, "gardeners74". Adrienne also asked club members to return their forms expressing their interests if they had not already done so.

Wreaths Across America - Pat Gauger did not give any more information as she did this during the program portion of the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Rica Brock announced that she has 5 LFGC aprons available at a cost of \$20 each.

NEW BUSINESS - None was brought to the attention of the club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mary Davis announced the upcoming Lakewood Forest Fund meeting scheduled for Monday September 9 at 7pm to be held at the Fund office. The agenda is posted on the door as you leave the Scout room, and they will have a representative from the trash company and present a proposed budget for 2025. An announcement was made to watch for new SCAMS that target seniors.

ADJOURNMENT – Barbara Crum announced, "There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned". Meeting is closed at 12:29pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Davis, Recording Secretary