

NCGC March General Meeting March 3, 2016

****President** Cheryl Fawvor called the General Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Pat Chislett introduced our speaker – Linda Gay on the topic of “Bulbs for Naturalizing on the Gulf Coast.” Linda presented a fun and informative talk and slide show.

****President:** Cheryl Fawvor called the business meeting to order at 11:05.

****Secretary:** Linda Warren announced that the approved minutes from February are now posted on the website.

****Treasurer:** Vikki Rogers gave the treasurer’s report:

Beginning balance \$6,779.77

Income \$590.00 (mostly from ticket sales for Backyard Passions)

Expenses \$417.90 (mostly for printing of the directory)

Current balance \$6,951.87

****Programs:** Pat Chislett

Today is the last day to sign up for the field trip to the Azalea Trail on March 11. The sign-up sheet and a flyer are on the table. The plan is to meet at La Madeleine on I-10 at 10:00 for brunch. From there we will carpool to Bayou Bend and tour that property together. After that, we will split up by car group and each group can decide on lunch and which homes to visit. We will not return together or try to stay together after Bayou Bend. Tickets are \$25. The event is from 11-5. Pat will send an email soon to all who have signed up.

Our speaker for April will be Darrin Dulling from Mercer Arboretum. He will speak on “Finials and Follies...Architectural Garden Features.” Pat announced that the presentation is longer than normal, so we may start the meeting at 9:50 next month.

Sign-up sheets are out today (and next month) for the End-of-Year Luncheon. It will be on May 5 (Cinco de Mayo Day) at Alicia’s. The cost will be \$20 (payment is due when you sign up) and will include fajitas with all the fixings, as well as drinks and tea. Alcohol will be available for purchase in the bar. There will also be a Busy Bee Exchange as well as a food drive for Katy Christian Ministries. More on this later.

****Parliamentarian:** Kim Patrick had nothing to report.

****Fundraising:** Tickets are on sale for Backyard Passions, our spring Garden Tour. The date will be April 23. Tickets purchased by April 22 will be \$12. Sheets are also out for members to volunteer to work at the tour. All members are encouraged to volunteer for a three-hour shift. That will leave the other three hours for touring the yards. Tickets and volunteer sign-up sheets will also be available at the April General Meeting.

The results of this month's drawings were:

Outside bunny – Elizabeth McCormack

Quilt – Norma Beustring

Decorator Bunny – Alice Brown

Door Prize – plant from Linda Gay – Guest

Arbogate Gift Card donated by Linda Gay – Fay Pirooz

Orchid – Cheryl Fletcher

****Hospitality:** Alice Brown recognized this month's hosts/hostesses.

****Historian:** Jeannie Gordon asked anyone not yet in the directory to please see her to get their picture taken.

****Membership:** Patti Crawford reported that we have 61 members in attendance today as well as four guests. Dues should be paid by May 31.

****Newsletter:** Jewel Munoz handed out hard copies of the newsletter to those without internet access.

****Sunshine:** Maddy Gardner thanked the club for keeping her informed.

****Horticulture:** Jean Bays identified a beautiful and varied collection of March blooms brought in by members.

****Publicity:** Pat Plesko announced that she is done for the year!

****Federation:** Sharon Cecil invited all members to the next meeting of the Federation. It will be next Friday, March 11, and the speaker will be Dr. David Creech on Viburnums. Social time is from 9:30-10:30, with the meeting starting at 10:30.

****New Business:** Cheryl announced that there are many opportunities to volunteer with NCGC and that we encourage all members to volunteer one or two hours each year. There are now two board openings: Hospitality

Coordinator and Newsletter Chairman. Anyone interested should contact Cheryl.

Lunch today will be at Rocco's Italian.

Thought for the day:

Play in the dirt because life is too short to always have clean fingernails.

-Anonymous

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37.