

NCGC October General Meeting

October 6, 2016

****President:** Cheryl Fawvor called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

****Vice President:** Mary Lou Proctor introduced the guest speaker: Katherine Ashby. Katherine spoke on "Feng Shui in the Garden," and she handed out a template for members to use in their own homes and gardens.

****President:** Cheryl Fawvor called the business meeting to order after the presentation.

****Secretary:** Linda Warren announced that the September minutes have been approved by the board and are posted on the webpage.

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

Starting Balance	\$8701.43
Income	\$350.00 (mostly from membership renewals)
Expenses	\$1,162.72 (printing of directory, new nametags, etc.)
Ending Balance	\$7,888.71

Vikki will be looking into the possibility of accepting charge cards at our meetings. She asked for a show of hands to see how many members are interested in having this option. Since many members indicated interest, Vikki will investigate further. If anyone is familiar with portable chip readers, please contact Vikki.

****Programs:** Mary Lou Proctor reminded members of the field trip to the Houston Bulb and Plant Mart on Oct. 14. Twenty members have signed up so far. The group will leave from the MUD parking lot at 9:00 and return at 3:00.

The next meeting will be on Nov. 10 – NOT the first Thursday of the month – because of the election. Our speaker will be Louis Bennett from Wabash Feed and Garden. He will speak on organic fertilizer and soil solutions.

The sign-up sheet is out for the December luncheon. Information and menu are posted at the sign-up table. The luncheon will be on Dec. 1 at Pappadeaux on I-10. The cost will be \$27.50, which includes salad, choice of four entrees, choice of two desserts, and coffee, tea, or soft drinks. Next month's meeting will be the last time to sign up.

The bus trip to Mercer Arboretum originally scheduled for Jan. 5 has been cancelled because the bus was not available. We will try to set up a car trip to Mercer at some later date. Mary Lou asked for a show of hands for those interested in going and those interested in driving. The program for January will be announced later.

Cheryl sent out information on which programs count for hours in the Master Gardener program. If you did not receive this information, let Cheryl know.

****Parliamentarian:** Kim Patrick announced that three positions will be up for election in January: President, 2nd Vice President, and Parliamentarian. We will need a nominating committee. Let Cheryl know if you are interested in running or in being on the committee. Officers serve a 2-year term.

****Fundraising:** Lori Fay and Nan Righter conducted the drawing for door prizes. The winners were:

Pumpkin decoration – Nan Righter

Fall Wreath (made by daughter of Jean Bays) – Cheryl Fawvor

Serenity basket (donated by Flora Tiedt) – Sigrid Compton

Fall mum – Pat Plesko

Book (donated by Flora Tiedt) – Sigrid Compton

Lori announced that our Caladium Bulb Fundraising Sale will begin in January.

Kim announced that there are still some great plants available in the Plant Shoppe.

****Historian:** Margaret St. Clair asked all prize winners to please stay for pictures at the end of the meeting.

****Hospitality:** Pamela Stephens asked today's hostesses to stand and be thanked. She needs a few more volunteers for January and March. She sent around a sign-up sheet.

****Membership:** Patti Crawford announced that today we have 76 members, with 50 in attendance. We also have six visitors, and two of those joined. Welcome!

****Newsletter:** Flora Tiedt was not present, but Cheryl announced that the newsletter was attached to the email she sent to members. It is also on the website and extras are available in print form at the membership table.

****Publicity:** Pat Plesko was thanked by Cheryl for getting our meeting information placed in many local publications. Pat's husband manages our website, and he would like some recent pictures. Please send him your photos.

****Sunshine and Lunch:** Maddy Gardener asked members to let her know of any concerns in the club. She announced that lunch after the meeting today will be at BB's Cajun Café.

****Horticulture:** Jean Bays identified a wide variety of beautiful blooms brought in by members.

****Federation:** Sharon Cecil was not present, but Cheryl reminded us that we are also members of the Federation, and they will meet next Friday, 10/14, at 9:30. The topic will be Monarch Butterflies.

****New Business:** Alice Brown and Cheryl Fawvor warned members about the presence of sod webworms this year. They recommended we spread Spectracide or Bug-B-Gone on our yards.

The next meeting will be on November 10.

Thought for the day:

An addiction to gardening is not all bad when you consider all the other choices in life.

Cora Lee Bell

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.