

NCGC April, 2017 General Meeting

April 6, 2017

****President**

Cheryl Fawvor called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and called on Mary Lou Proctor to introduce the speaker.

Mary Lou introduced Bart Brechter, the Curator of the historical gardens at Bayou Bend. After the presentation, Cheryl called the business meeting to order at 11:00.

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

****Treasurer:** Vikki Rogers gave the treasurer's report as of March 31, 2017.

Starting Balance	\$8,037.38	
Income	1,773.00	(plant sale, raffle, field trip, E-O-Y Lunch, bulb sale)
Expenses	926.03	(speaker fee, bulb purchase, Fed and District dues, field trip bus, MUD room set-up, misc.)
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Ending Balance	\$8,884.35	

Vikki also encouraged members to renew their membership by the end of May so that she may send in our payment to the Federation, Texas Garden Clubs, and District IV.

****Parliamentarian:** Kim Patrick was ill, so Cheryl reported on the suggested amendments to the bylaws. These had previously been emailed to members. Cheryl called for a vote to approve the amendments, and the changes were approved unanimously.

****Fundraising:** Nan Righter was in charge of the raffle and the Plant Swap. She thanked everyone who had helped her set up and run these activities, as well as everyone who had brought plants to trade.

The winners of the drawings were:

Hanging Art Planter (donated by Vikki Rogers) and Pocket Guide to Herbs

(donated by Pat Plesko) – Pat Morf
Floral Wreath – Carole Royer
Table Runner – Sigrid Compton
Planter Door Prize – Gayle Spence
Bunny in Carrotmobile (donated by Nan Righter) – Mary Weatherl

Nan announced the final tabulations for the bulb sale (not counting those sold at the meeting today):

44 Buyers

685 White bulbs sold

430 Red bulbs sold

415 Pink bulbs sold

Total bulbs sold – 1,530

Out of every bulb sold for \$1, the club got \$.50, for a total of \$877.21.

With today's additional sales, the club should make just over \$900.

Nan asked the members to please take pictures of their caladiums this year and email them to Flora. She will put these together in a slideshow for next year.

At the Plant Swap after the meeting, everyone is encouraged to take plants, even if they did not bring any. Also, any unclaimed plants need to be taken home by the donor.

Cheryl added that the rain barrel was still available on the silent auction and would be awarded at the conclusion of the meeting.

****Historian:** Margaret St. Clair was not present, so Vikki Rogers took the pictures today. Thanks, Vikki!

****Hospitality:** Pamela Stephens asked today's hostesses to stand and be recognized. She has put out sign-up sheets for next year. Please sign up to bring refreshments next year or to help with events. Pamela also has a hospitality survey on the back table.

****Membership:** Patti Crawford is resigning at the end of this year, and she introduced Laurel Gonzalez, who has volunteered to finish out Patti's term. Thank you, Laurel!

As of today, we have 79 members, with 39 present. We have no visitors. Dues for next year are due. Almost half of the members have already paid.

****Newsletter:** Flora Tiedt expressed her hope that everyone will enjoy this month's newsletter. It is posted on the website.

****Programs:** Mary Lou Proctor reminded members to sign up today for the End-of-Year Luncheon. The cost is \$25, and that includes soup or salad, a choice of four entrees, a choice of two desserts, rolls, and coffee or tea. The date is May 4, and the luncheon will be at Hasta la Pasta. Also at the luncheon, we will have our annual Busy Bee Exchange and we will collect donations for Katy Christian Ministries. KCM is asking for bottled water, toiletries, and canned goods. Pat Plesko, Lisa Holden, and Chris Rogers are in charge of the luncheon.

Unfortunately, not enough members have signed up for the trip to the Japanese Gardens on April 13. So, we will not be able to get the bus. Mary Lou asked for volunteers to drive. Kathy Burlison, Gayle Spence, Chris Rogers, and Linda Warren volunteered. We will meet at the MUD parking lot at 9:00 and will leave at 9:15. We should return by 2:30. While there, we will get an introduction to the Japanese Gardens and a tour. Lunch will be at Goode Company Seafood. The gardens have asked for a donation, and Linda Warren suggested donating the \$5 we originally paid for the bus driver's tip and lunch. Mary Lou agreed, but asked members to see her if they would like a refund instead. Cheryl suggested that each car tip the driver for gas money and willingness to drive.

****Publicity:** Pat Plesko is done with publicity until July.

****Sunshine and Lunch:** Maddy Gardner has booked the Longhorn Steakhouse for our lunch today.

****Horticulture:** Jean Bays identified and shared the plants brought in by members.

**** Federation:** Sharon Cecil was not present, so Cheryl announced that Sharon is stepping down, and Karen Holmes has volunteered to be our Fed Representative next year. Thank you, Karen! The next Fed meeting will be on Friday, May 14. Please see Cheryl if you would like to carpool to this meeting.

****New Business:** Cheryl Fawvor shared her quote for the day:

God made rainy days so that gardeners can get housework done.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35. Members proceeded then to the Plant Swap.