

NCGC October General Meeting October 1, 2015

****President** Cheryl Fawvor called the General Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She recognized the visitors in attendance, and she thanked them for coming. Next, she introduced Mary Lou Proctor, who introduced today's speaker: Michael Shoup from the Antique Rose Emporium. Mike presented a great program on the history of roses, the Rose Emporium, and the types of roses. He then took questions from the members. After the meeting, he sold copies of his new book, *Empress of the Garden*, and rosebushes from the Emporium.

Cheryl thanked Mike for the excellent presentation and called the business meeting to order.

Cheryl honored Gwen Heck for her contributions to the NCGC. Gwen served on the board for eight years. She was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation. Thank you, Alice Brown, for preparing and framing the certificate.

****Treasurer** Vikki Rogers reported that the club had a beginning balance of \$6,656.10. Income was \$647.00 (from the Plant Shoppe, the Drawing, and new members). Expenses totaled \$313.22, leaving a current balance of \$6,989.88.

****Secretary:** Linda Warren announced that the board had approved the September minutes and that they are now posted on the website.

****Programs:** Pat Chislett reported that because of the size of the club, some changes are being made. From now on, money collected for field trips and programs will be non-refundable. If a member finds out he/she can no longer participate, the registration fee will be a donation to the club. Also, seats for trips (like the bus trip later this month) will be non-transferable. Since there is a waiting list, if a member cancels, Pat will move up the next person from the waiting list. For our trip to the Antique Rose Emporium on Oct. 29, Pat announced that the Precinct bus will be used and only holds 39. It is currently full, so anyone on the waiting list can meet at the MUD to carpool or can meet us at the Emporium.

Moving on to the Holiday Luncheon, Pat announced that it will be on Dec. 3 at 3 Olives. Information regarding the menu options is on the sign-up table. The cost will be \$21 per person, and the sign-ups are today and at the Nov. meeting.

Looking ahead to November, Pat announced that the speaker will be Elizabeth Barrow on the topic of Shade Gardens.

****Parliamentarian:** Kim Patrick was not present, but Cheryl explained that we are in the process of forming a nominating committee to fill empty positions on the board. Vikki Rogers and Linda Warren have agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Secretary, so the only opening will be 2nd Vice President/Programs. The election will be held in January. Please let Cheryl know if you are interested in helping on the committee or serving on the board.

****Fundraising:** Lori Fay, Kathy Burleson

A drawing was held for the door prize and our raffle items. The winners were:

Door Prize (Beautiful roses!): Zara Aliyeva

A Garden Book for Houston: Jean Bays

Jack-o-Lantern Garden Art (Donated by Todd Patin): Freddy Kelly

Jar with Rose Lid: Freddy Kelly

Lori and Kathy also briefly explained the Home Tour/Plant Sale set for April 23/24. Volunteers are needed.

****Historian:** Jeannie Gordon asked new members and others not yet in the directory to stay for pictures after the meeting.

****Hospitality:** Gayle Spence reported that host/hostess volunteers are still needed:

Nov. – 1

Jan. – 2

Mar. and Apr. – several

Gayle mentioned that volunteering is a good way to meet people, and she recognized today's hostesses for their great job.

****Membership:** Patricia Crawford reported that we have 75 members, with two new members added today, and that we had six visitors.

****Directory:** Janet Blowers announced that directories are available today and will be at the sign-in table for the next several meetings till all are picked up. Eilizabeth McCormack made a correction on her address, and then Cheryl thanked Janet for all of her hard work on the directory.

****Newsletter:** Jewel Munoz encouraged members to join our NCGC Facebook group. Email or contact her to join. This is for members only.

****Publicity:** Cheryl thanked Pat Plesko for getting out the word on our meetings. Pat asked members to let her know if there are local subdivision newsletters that our meetings are not yet posted in.

****Sunshine:** Maddy Gardener asked that members keep her abreast of any special needs within the club so that she can send out cards.

****Horticulture:** Jean Bays shared and identified a lovely assortment of cuttings brought in by members. A special thanks to all who shared.

****Phone Committee:** Maddy Gardener and Pamela Stephens will share phone duties this year. The next time they call, they will ask each member if they need or want to continue the calls. Some may stay on top of club activities and no longer need a reminder call. If so, then Maddy and Pamela will have fewer calls to make.

****Federation:** Cheryl announced that the next Federation meeting will be on Friday, 10/9 and will be on the topic "Water for Texas/Water for the Future." The workshop will be on making fall centerpieces.

Cheryl closed the meeting with a few reminders:

Our speaker in November will be Elizabeth Barrow on Shade Gardens.

Lunch today will be at El Jarrito.

Cheryl's thought for the day:

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The next best time is today.

Cheryl thanked everyone for coming, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40.