

NCGC September General Meeting September 3, 2015

****President** Cheryl Fawvor called the General Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She introduced Pat Chislett, 1st Vice President, who introduced today's speaker: Judy Ulke from Enchanted Forest Landscapes. Judy's topic was "Night-Blooming Gardens." Judy provided flyers on plants suitable for night-blooming or for providing pleasant evening scents. She also handed out information on upcoming programs at Enchanted Gardens and Enchanted Forest. Judy had brought a lush assortment of plants to talk about and sell.

Cheryl thanked Judy for the excellent presentation, and Pat Chislett announced that anyone who did not get the two flyers could sign up to receive them by email.

Cheryl welcomed returning members, new members, and visitors. She then honored two of our retiring board members for their years of service: Sue Straub and Norma Beustring. These ladies received certificates with the NCGC logo, signed and framed. These had been prepared by outgoing president Alice Brown. Cheryl thanked Alice for these gifts and for her service as President.

The first item of business was to vote on the proposed budget. Copies were distributed and Cheryl explained how the budget had been prepared and that it had been approved by the board. Pat Chislett moved to approve the budget, and Debbie Hamm seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cheryl asked that all Master Gardeners meet with her after adjournment for information on getting credit for our meetings.

Cheryl then proceeded to introduce this year's board members, who each gave a brief report.

****Treasurer** Vikki Rogers reported that the club had a beginning balance of \$6,875.86. There was no income, and expenses totaled \$219.76, leaving a current balance of \$6,656.10.

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

****Programs:** Pat Chislett and Mary Lou Proctor reported on the calendar for 2015-16. The speaker on October 1 will be Michael Shoup, owner of the Antique Rose Emporium. He has a new book out, and it will be available for purchase. On

October 29, the club will take a trip to the Antique Rose Emporium. We will take the Precinct Bus, which holds 39, and Mary Lou announced that it is almost full. Anyone still wanting to sign up may need to wait for a cancellation or else drive (carpool). The cost is \$2, which covers lunch and a tip for the driver. After the Emporium, the driver will drop us off in Brenham for lunch and shopping on our own. Those going on the trip are to meet at the MUD Building at 8:45. We will leave at 9:00, and we will return around 3:00.

Mary Lou also suggested that those interested in volunteering should see her about working on the Dec. 3 Holiday Luncheon. There will be a sign-up sheet for the luncheon available at the Oct. and Nov. meetings.

****Parliamentarian:** Kim Patrick was introduced.

****Fundraising:** Lori Fay, Kathy Bureson, and Nan Righter

A drawing was held for plants from Enchanted Gardens, the door prize, and our raffle items. The winners were:

Plants from Enchanted Gardens – Phyllis Hogue, Freddy Kelly
Door Prize (donated by Kathy Glass) – Patty King (a new member!)
Butterfly Art – Karen Meehan (another new member!)
Birdbath – Elizabeth McCormack

Lori and Kathy also briefly explained the Garden Tour set for April. Volunteers are needed. Thank you to Maddy Gardener for volunteering today.

Kathy advertised the Plant Shoppe. Great selection today!

****Historian:** Jeannie Gordon is new in this role. She asked new members to stay for pictures after the meeting, and she asked that members talk with her if they do not want their pictures taken.

****Hospitality:** Gayle Spence and Alice Brown are in charge of hospitality this year. Today's hostesses stood and were acknowledged for the beautiful and tasty snacks and beverages. Hostesses will wear a pink rose to identify them, and they will also greet members and visitors as they arrive. Volunteers to host/hostess are still needed for January, March, and April. Contact Gayle or Alice if you are interested.

****Membership:** Patricia Crawford reported that we have 85 members, with 64 paid for this year. Today we had nine guests. Anyone wanting to be included in the directory needs to join today. The form for membership is on the website.

****Directory** Janet Blowers had to leave, but Pat Crawford asked members to be sure their information is correct. She has forms for changes. Directories will be out in Oct. or Nov.

****Newsletter:** Jewel Munoz was not present, but the Sept. newsletter was sent out earlier and is posted on the website. Cheryl also asked members to check out NCGC on Facebook. We have one FB account for members and one for the community.

****Publicity:** Cheryl thanked Pat Plesko for handling publicity again this year. Notification of today's meeting was in the *Chronicle* as well as a number of local magazines and papers. Cheryl also thanked Pat's husband Edd, who maintains our website. Cheryl suggested that members pick up NCGC business cards to distribute to friends or other prospective members.

****Sunshine:** Maddy Gardener explained what the Sunshine Committee does and asked that members keep her abreast of any special needs within the club.

****Horticulture:** Jean Bays shared and identified a lovely assortment of cuttings brought in by members.

****Phone Committee:** Ana Barrett and Gayle Granger were not present, but Cheryl asked for volunteers to help them out. Both have served in this position for many years. Maddy Gardener helped with the phone calls this month.

****Federation:** Sharon Cecile thanked Donna Luther for her years of service in this position. Sharon explained what the Federation is and gave out basic information: The federation meets on the second Friday of the month at 9:30 at the White Oak Conference Center. Anyone interested in attending can contact Cheryl or Sharon to carpool.

Cheryl closed the meeting with New Business:

- Volunteers are still needed (especially for helping with the luncheons).
- The next meeting will be October 1 with Michael Shoup, owner of the Antique Rose Emporium, as the speaker.
- Thank you all for coming.
- Lunch will be at Red Oak Grill after the meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Cheryl's thought for the day:

Volunteers are not paid, not because they are worthless but because they are priceless.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.