

Nottingham Country Garden Club General Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2011

President Gwen Heck called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM . Visitors were introduced:

Jewel Cullins – returning

Cheryl Fawvor

Ann Stricker

Sherry Anderson

Vice President: Susan Straub introduced the speaker, Doug McCloud, Harris County Master Gardener, to speak on Fruit Trees for the Houston Area. Mr. McCloud is a retired police officer of 29 years and then served with the Secret Service for President George H. Bush. Today he is enjoying being a grower. Gwen announced that this presentation would count as one hour credit to all master gardeners

Secretary Report:

Minutes from the January meeting have been posted on the Nottingham Garden Club web site.

Membership Report:

Mary Lou Proctor reported that as of today we have 47 paid members. Our newest member is Betsy Ross-Poulin.

Fundraising Report:

Janet Blowers has labels for plants being donated for the Plant and Bake Sale on March 26th at the Richmond Wal Mart. She suggested members start dividing their plants about one week prior to the sale and start planting of seeds now if you have not already. Brochures with special instruction on how to proceed are available now along with the labels.

Labels for bake goods should be marked by the member as to what the item is and if it contains nuts. A sign-up sheet for workers at the Plant and Bake sale was circulated during the meeting.

The Garden Tour slated for May, still needs one more garden to show.

Raffle prizes this month were a Quilted binder cover made and donated by Gwen Heck and a copy of Doug Welsh's Texas Almanac . Both prizes were won by Norma Beustring!

Treasury Report:

Gayle Granger reported expenditures of \$143.86 and deposits of \$93.00 for the month of January leaving a balance of \$2,745.99 to date.

Vice Presidents' Report:

March's meeting will be with speaker: Carol Brower on the topic of "Texas - Super Star"

Federation Report:

Donna Luther reported that the speaker this month will be John Fergusson on "Why Compost is the Real Good Gold."

April 1, 2011 is the Tour of Houston –“Art is all Around” by Deana Roberts. Cost is \$68 per person of which \$28 goes back to Federation and is a tax deductible donation. A bus will be provided for transportation of the tour. Federation gives \$3,000 in scholarships to collage sophomores majoring in Horticulture. The Houston Tour is their way of making money for the scholarships . Anyone knowing someone eligible for one of these scholarships should contact Donna Luther.

Newsletter Report:

Jean Bays announced the newsletter for both January and February is on the web site. Jean suggested everyone print out the first page of this newsletter as a reference for up coming events, programs and workshops. The next issue is for March and will be posted next month.

Sunshine Report: No official report

Horticulture Report:

Due to the freezing temperatures, no one ventured out to collect specimens!

Old Business:

- The Nottingham Country Garden Club Logo entries were evaluated by the Board of Directors and the winner of one free year of membership was awarded to Helen Poole for her design.
- No propagation workshop this month due to lack of interest.
- The “Butterflies for Art” project entries should all be in by the next meeting. We have 48 made so far.

New Business

- A new nursery, The Papershell, owner Elizabeth Barrow, opened Feb.1st and Gwen has coupons for \$5 off purchases of \$20 or more available. These were passed out.
- February 12th is the Fort Bend Master Gardeners’ Fruit Tree sale at their location. There will be a speaker on the Fruit Trees from 8-9 AM and the sale begins at 9 AM to 1PM. There will be multiple vendors there.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Helsel, Secretary
Nottingham Country Garden Club