

Minutes of Wildflower Bunch Garden Club Meeting (1)
Big Canoe Clubhouse
March 4, 2015

Welcome

President Eunice Nichols welcomed all and mentioned that lots of work is going on for the year. She talked about how she had prayed to the garden Gods, the weather Gods, and the golf Gods to please at least bring warmer temps so we would not have to worry about snow or ice. On her trip to Florida, there and back, she noticed evidence that warmer weather is headed our way. She then reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones.

Presentation

Ed Straw introduced the guest speaker, Cynthia Henry. Most of you know her from her monthly articles in "Smoke Signals" and know her design work thru Southern Living and Atlanta Homes. Her company, "Woodland Gardens" is known for low maintenance gardens and they have done well over 500 homes here in Big Canoe. Her presentation was titled "Big Canoe Gardening/Striking a Balance." Looking back this year she said we had a good amount of rainfall, great acorn crop, and that plant life should be pretty good. Our late spring frost destroyed many hydrangea buds. I think everyone got a big laugh out of the "funniest" question... "I like to be naked on my deck, so what is the best plant for total privacy?" Hmm...wonder who asked that? The lesson we all learned was "monitor your spring fever, be creative within your pocketbook and energy, and let the rest go wild. You and the birds will be happier!"

Eunice thanked Cynthia for her presentation. She also thanked board members for getting the year ready to go.

Business Meeting

Membership Barbara Henry stated we have over 102 members with 16 new members. As she read names off, they were asked to stand if present. Barbara also introduced the Member Ambassadors that are helping her this year. There are four...Patty Friedman, Jeanette Waldrop, Bonnie Plikaytis, and Patsy Wohlwend. Treasurer Jeri Ramo stated that we started and ended the year with a little over \$5,000 dollars. It is expected that we should bring in \$8,000 for the year. We expect to spend about \$9,000 dollars. About \$3,500 will be set aside for outreach

communities. About \$1,800 has already come in thru membership. We are expecting to have a good solid basis to work with for the year.

Plant Sale Judy Kaufman and Cherie Muehlberger were so creatively dressed and gave a cute and short presentation talking about the upcoming plant sale at Wildcat Pavillion the 16th, 17th, and 18th of April. Judy talked about pottery being brought, local people coming, plants for sale and more. She stressed though, that the most important thing to make it work, is to be involved and sign up to work.

Brochures Eunice announced that we have new brochures while Ed and Barbara handed them out. The brochure lists the club flower, bird, and tree, monthly programs, and the tours with dates and what is planned.

Programs Ed talked about our upcoming programs. April 1st, Vince Dooley, will be the speaker. The topic will be, "A Horticultural Journey of a Football Coach." There will be a book signing at the end of the program.

A & O's The 1st outing will be to the Fairmount Area on a nursery tour on the 24th of April. If you choose to go to the creamery, you may want to take a small cooler as they have delicious refrigerated and frozen goodies. In May, there is a Bonsai tour at the home of Joe DeFrancisco's home here in Big Canoe. Check out brochure for upcoming tours.

Eunice announced that Frank Wright will be giving a lecture at 2:00 p.m. on March 21st on top of Mt. Oglethorpe. Helpers are needed after lecture to plant wildflowers so be sure to take planting tool.

No New Business

Our next meeting is April 1st beginning at 10 a.m. and will feature a program by Vince Dooley entitled, "A Horticultural Journey of a Football Coach." The meeting was adjourned.

Luncheon

The blessing for the luncheon was given by Lonnie Puhger. The gorgeous birds nests centerpieces were all made from natural materials gathered here in Big Canoe. Barbara Knysz, our Hospitality Chairperson, found the idea and Lonnie Puhger, JoAnn Crawford, and Teresa Keesecker helped Barbara make them.

Lonnie, made the adorable macrame dragonflys. Inside each nest was a different plant. One door prize was won at each table. A blue sticker was under one of the chairs at each table. Whoever had the sticker, got to take home the birds nest. The luncheon was a successful kickoff to our new year.

Teresa Keesecker
Recording Secretary

