

Minutes of Wildflower Bunch Garden Club Meeting (1)
Big Canoe Clubhouse
May 6th, 2015

Welcome and Remarks, Cell phones, Questions

The meeting started at 10:18 as the speaker, Ken Gohring, got a little lost. Eunice welcomed all and asked that all cell phones be silenced and to save questions till the end of program.

Introduction of Ken Gohring: Ed Straw

Eunice asked Ed to please introduce the speaker, Ken Gohring. Ken was born in Colten, Missouri. His own interest started in his fathers garden. He graduated with a Master of Arts at Washington University. His career included various teaching positions at several different colleges. As a member of the Rhododendron and Azalea Society, he has dedicated his time in horticultural pursuits. Before the program began, he asked Jeri and Ed to pass out handouts that he had brought with him. The program was titled, "Appreciating Georgia's Native Azaleas." Many pictures were shown and talked about, of the different varieties of native azaleas in Georgia. There are seventeen species of native azaleas that bloom throughout the US. He suggested that if we had not visited Hamilton Gardens in Dahlonaga that the Oconee Azalea has been the prettiest he has seen this year. The azalea is a great landscape plant growing to about eight feet. At the end of the program, seeds of Spider Lilies and seed packets of wild native azaleas were passed out to those who wanted them.

Business Meeting

Thank Ken Gohring, "Appreciating Georgia's Native Azaleas". Eunice thanked Ken for coming and for the fabulous pictures and information.

Thank Erika, Coffee in the Garden. Eunice said that gardening in Big Canoe can be challenging and that Erika had taken a clay hillside and made it into something fabulous. The terracing was gorgeous and we can't wait to see how it evolves in a couple of years.

Coffee in the Garden at Cindy Bonner's. It begins before the June 3rd meeting around 9:00 am. General meeting starts promptly at 10:00 at Clubhouse.

502 hits on the website. Eunice thanked Carole English for a great job of managing the website.

Green Trade, discounts. Eunice said that Green Trade is a wonderful nursery that does sell to public. WFB members can get a 10% discount. No discount is given at other area nurseries.

Article about Atlanta Botanical Garden, Gainesville.

July Event. Eunice said she knows that everyone is anxious to hear about secret July event and probably have lost sleep over it! We were shown a short video clip that gave us a “hint” of what will take place for the July 8th scheduled event. “Le Diner in Blanc”/Flash Feast. Sorry, but we will not be sending everyone to NYC. Instead, this will be a lovely countryside version! Sign-up sheets are on the tables.

Remarks about the plant sale. Eunice personally thanked Judy and Cherie for the wonderfully organized plant sale despite the bad weather..

Plant Sale Recap: Judy Kaufman, Cherie Muehlberger

Judy talked about how they were dripping wet when they got home after setting up on Thursday. Having to face another two days of rainy weather was daunting, but everyone pitched in to make the sale a huge success. They sprayed all plants in the rain with deer repellent as they had promised the vendors they would. Judy said that plant sale and WFB have a magical combination...from donated new aprons, the WFB came, they greeted, they shopped, they sold, they got sopping wet, they laughed and they cleaned up. Judy and Cherie thanked everyone involved for a successful sale with an approximate profit of \$1,850 dollars.

Treasure's Report: Jeri Ramo

We started the month with \$7,000 in the bank and now have \$8,000 in the bank thanks in a large part to exceeding our goal at the plant sale.

Programs: Ed Straw

Sara Henderson, Director of Gardens, at Oakland's Cemetery in Atlanta, will be speaking June 3rd on “Oakland's Timeless Gardens.”

There will be no program in July.

August 6th, Crystal Merrell, Herbalist, will speak on “21st Century Herbalism.”

A & O's: Catherine Mann

The Show and Tell that will be next Thursday, May, 14th, at 10:00 and 2:00 at Joe

DeFrancisco's home is closed. We will meet at Wildcat Pavilion at 9:45 and 1:45 to carpool. If you signed up, please indicate on the sheet which tour you plan to go on.

The June tour will be on the 23rd to Georgia Mountain Ethnobotanical Gardens near Blairsville. It is not handicap accessible. Wear comfortable walking shoes! Please sign up as there are plenty of slots.

Membership: Barbara Henry

Total membership. 159 members

Intro of new members. 16 new members joined in April. Each new member present was asked to stand as she called out their name.

Scrapbooks, hats. Trying to clean out my storage room. Please take red hats or the scrapbooks if you have an interest in that year.

Garden Tour: Cindy Bonner and Lauren Grant

Cindy introduced Lauren Grant.

The 2015 tour is called, "Garden in the Woods" and is set for September 12 & 13th this year. The times have not yet been set. We have 4 gardens selected for the tour and are in the process of selecting a 5th garden to be added. We were taught that if you have a garden, you share it as a gift to others. Through your sharing of your garden, you celebrate them. Come and join us in the celebration of these wonderful and varied gardens. More information about each garden will be forthcoming.

Door Prizes

Eunice drew names for plants to be given away that Ken Gohring was kind enough to bring.

Closing remarks

Stay for lunch. She invited everyone to stay for lunch at the club. The next general meeting is June 3rd. Happy gardening.

Teresa Keesecker
Recording Secretary