

## Chappell Hill Garden Club General Meeting

October 15, 2025

President Dixie Ford called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM in the fellowship hall of Chappell Hill Methodist Church. She welcomed all and then presented a prayer and led the group in the pledge. A quorum was established with 23 members present. There were no minutes of the September meeting as that was a field trip to Blackwood Educational Land Institute, but the minutes from the August 13 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Program:** Mary Smith introduced Jennifer Hermann, owner of Hermann Furniture in downtown Brenham. Jennifer explained the store dates to 1876 and grew to 7 stores. She considers it a “lifestyle store” now. She then used materials from the floral department of her store to demonstrate the making of a swag suitable for a door, mantel, or tabletop complete with bows and picks. Many photos were taken, and the group indicated an interest in a field trip to the store for a bow-tying lesson. Jennifer indicated there is always staff around to help customers who bring in their own materials and want to supplement a wreath or swag with more bows, ribbons, or decorations. Jennifer announced a fundraising event for the Heritage Society of Washington County at the store on November 7-9 from the sale of Christmas décor and other items.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Kay reported Total Assets of \$55,009 with a Bank Balance of \$15,887. YTD Revenue is \$13,764, including HT member tickets, sponsorships, dues, and interest. YTD Expenses total \$24,576 for a YTD Net Loss of (\$13,014). Twelve sponsorships have been received so far totaling \$4,675.

**Fundraiser:** Bennie will give docent assignments at the November meeting. Member tickets were handed out at this meeting. Mary reported that the member Christmas contest would be flowerpot creations. Each member team will receive 3 pots at the November meeting to construct into something to be sold in the silent auction held at the Masonic Lodge on the day of the Home Tour.

**Christmas Party:** Debi announced the party will have a Nutcracker theme. Invitations and more info to come, but there is a \$15 charge, and everyone is to bring a \$20-\$25 valued gift, wrapped without a name, to swap in a game. Also, optional donations for the Brenham Pregnancy Center will be accepted including unwrapped diapers, toys, and clothing sized for up to 3 years.

**Main St.:** November 5 for cleanup of weeds and dead branches/plants.

**President’s Report:** Dixie requested ALL members step up to help with a committee or board position. The election is postponed until November while the board is searching for new members. She emphasized the importance of committee chairs creating a summary of their committee’s actions throughout the year, including vendors and expenses, as well as suggestions for future years.

**Community Outreach:** Dixie announced the board approved a \$1,000 donation to the Senior Center in Brenham to assist with meals for homebound seniors. Bennie added that kitty litter and food for pets can also be taken to the Senior Center at 1301 E Tom Green St, as some seniors give their meals to their pets instead of eating the food provided for them.

**Other announcements:** Angela brought luffas for members to take; Kathryn announced a Texas history program at her Texas Heritage Event Center and which vegetables should be planted soon.

Dixie thanked those who provided chili and more for lunch: Gary and Katherine Pullins, Pam Hall, and Kay Clerc.

Kay made a motion to adjourn and Jodi seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janis Boulware  
CHGC Secretary