**Chappell Hill Garden Club**

**September 14, 2022**

The Chappell Hill Garden Club meeting opened in prayer by Tommie Montgomery at 10:08. Sally Mitchell led the pledge of allegiance. Present were 43 members, including Mary Humphries, our newest member. Judy Seligman and Martin Lefebvre, Jana's son, were visitors.

Quorum was established.

Refreshments were provided by Angela Rutland, Tommie Montgomery, Diane Wann and Fran Hunt.

Dale Dugas made a motion to approve the August 10 minutes. Diane Wann seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Dale Ramey introduced our newest members, Tina Hart, Mary Humphries, Janis Boulware and Janice Williams.

**Treasurer's Report** Lynda Harrison reported the book balance in the combined bank accounts was $18,094.70 as of August 31, 2022. There was a net loss of $13,819.51 through August 2022. Lynda explained that the club's major fundraiser is in December so it's not unusual for the club to be operating at a loss. She emphasized the importance of having a successful home tour. The profits will be used to finance the club's activities in 2023.

Lynda moved that the home tour on December 10, 2022, be the second of the club's two tax free days. Dale Dugas seconded the motion, which passed.

It's time to start thinking about the 2023 budget. Lynda encouraged members to submit their suggestions in the suggestion box. Committee chairs need to start thinking about their budget requests for 2023.

**Elections** Elections for 2023 board members will be held at the October 12 meeting. Any member may run for the board, which has a maximum number of nine members. If interested, please contact Lynda Harrison or Dale Ramey.

Lynda Harrison will present board training at the September 26 board meeting. Anyone interested in being on the board is welcome to attend.

**Scholarships** Dale Ramey thanked Sally English for chairing the scholarship committee. Libby Beckenbaugh is the new chair. The committee is setting up rules and procedures and updating the application. Libby reported that applicants no longer need to be full time students.

Thank you notes from several scholarship recipients were available to read. Other thank you notes were also available, including one from Washington County EMS.

In 2022, the club provided $18,000 in scholarships, donations of $3,000 to Washington County EMS, $500 to Chappell Hill Fire Department, $500 to the Masonic Lodge, and supplies for the fire disaster in Somerville.

**Home Tour** Six homes are on the December 10, 2022 Home Tour, including Mary Humphries' home.

Bennie Yates collected money from members for their home tour tickets. Members can purchase tickets at the October 12 meeting or go to The Bluebonnet House to buy their tickets. Members are required to buy $100 of tickets to either sell or give away. Members get tickets for $20 a ticket, which is a discount. The public will pay $25 per ticket. The deadline to buy tickets is October 12.

All members are required to docent at the home tour. Shifts will be in the morning or the afternoon for four hours. Bennie Yates will schedule docents. Bennie asked members who have a special request to text her at 979-337-1200. Dale Ramey thanked Bennie for all she does for the club.

Dale Dugas asked for volunteers to distribute home tour fliers to businesses. Dale Dugas and Paula Barrett will cover Brenham; Kim Pope and Susan Baumann will cover Bellville; Stanley Smith and Loyce Jardell will cover Navasota; Vickie Henson will cover Hempstead and Bennie Yates will cover Chappell Hill. Members are encouraged to keep fliers in their car and ask businesses to post them.

On Friday, December 9, there will be a pre-tour for docents, homeowners and sponsors donating $500 or more. After the tour, a cocktail party will be held at Mandy Forbes' home. Loyce Jardell is in charge of catering for the party.

Twyla Kingsley is the chair for the home tour contest. The theme this year is porch signs. Twyla passed around a sign-up sheet. Participation is voluntary but encouraged as it is a great way to get to know other members. Team leaders are needed. If interested, please contact Twyla at 832-785-7275.

Sponsorships for the home tour are due by October 1. Dale Ramey has been working on sponsorships and encouraged all members to approach businesses and ask for sponsorships.

**Name Tags** Bennie Yates asked members to look for nametags they may have left at home. Many name tags are missing.

**Christmas Party** The club is paying for the party this year in appreciation to the members. The party will be held at the Brenham Country Club on Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 11 am to 3 pm. The deadline to RSVP is October 1. Angela Rutland asked new members to contact her to RSVP. Angela reminded the member who received the gnome last year to wrap it and bring it to the party, with a description of what the gnome has been up to this year. Members should bring a wrapped gift to exchange. Gifts should be something you would like to receive.

**Website** Karen Kubeczka reported that the club's website platform, Weebly, is changing to Square Up and our current website will not migrate. Karen is

researching an alternative platform, WIX. She will create a new, much simpler website. Janis Boulware volunteered to help Karen.

The current website will be unavailable after Sept. 29 so members were encouraged to visit the website to download any documents they would like, particularly membership rosters.

Dale Ramey thanked Karen for all her hard work on the website.

**Club Pinterest Group** Karen Kubeczka setup a CHGC Pinterest group for picture sharing. She invited board members to join to test. If members are interested, Karen will include all members.

**Seed Library** Debra Salcedo is the chair for the seed library. She has stocked and organized the library, which is available for members to take seeds.

**Main Street Cleanup** Everyone is invited to help at cleanup, which is the first Wednesday of the month. The next cleanup will be October 5. The beds on Main Street, including the Memory Garden, are planted and maintained and the beds at Chappell Hill United Methodist Church are maintained by the club. Dale Ramey thanked Twyla Kingsley and Woody Taylor for doing such a good job on the beds at the church.

**Watering on Main Street** Debi Faver has made a schedule for watering on Main Street, which is on the website. If you are scheduled to water and cannot do it, contact Debi at 281-948-9248.

**Memory Garden** Margie Ogrodowicz is the chair of the Memory Garden. Dale Ramey thanked Margie for volunteering and Debbie Roberts for doing such a good job with the garden in the past.

**Membership** Bob Markos has covid. Please keep Bob in your prayers.

**Community Events** Angela Rutland asked anyone interested in volunteering at the Scarecrow Festival to contact her at 281-451-4676.

A celebration of life for Kim Gibson will be held at the Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 4-7 pm.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 12.

Jodi Rodriguez introduced the speakers from John Fairy Gardens. Craig Jackson, nursery manager, and Kara Humphrey, office manager, spoke about the Gardens and gave away unique plants as door prizes.

A trunk show will be held at the John Fairy Gardens Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 am to 3 pm. Desirable and difficult to find trees will be available for purchase. More information can be found at the website, jfgarden.org

Angela Rutland moved to adjourn; Tommie Montgomery seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 12:27.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Madeley