

Chappell Hill Garden Club General Meeting

August 13, 2025

President Dixie Ford called the meeting to order at 10:15 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 24 members present. Minutes of the July 9 meeting were approved.

Program: Mary Smith introduced Celeste Dickschat and three students from Texas Brigades who spoke about their camp experiences. Julia described what she learned about prescribed burning, Averi enjoyed the Bobwhite and Quail experiences, and Mylee had an exciting time learning about beef and ranching. Texas Brigades is a five-day, non-stop learning experience open to about 250 Texas campers age 13-17 per summer. The camps are Bass Brigade, Bobwhite Brigade, Coastal Brigade, Waterfowl Brigade, Buckskin Brigade, and Ranch Brigade. The application period is November 1-March 15, and students must apply for each camp individually and then complete various activities to share their experiences in the months afterwards. More info at TexasBrigades.org

5 Minute Tip: Bonnie Wills spoke about the Jujube plan and her attempt to can the fruit (not recommended). She was impressed with how long the fruit lasted and how much the tree produced.

Treasurer's Report: Kay reported \$52,515 in Total Assets, YTD Revenue of \$8,238 and YTD Expenses of \$23,008 for YTD Net Loss of (\$15,508). Four members still have not paid for Home Tour tickets. Kay also reported the beer booth issue has been resolved and a refund check of \$138 was received from the Comptroller. The 5-month CD matured in July and was renewed for 8 months at a rate of 3.78%. She also explained that more detailed reporting is available on the website.

Main St.: Dixie said the August work was completed successfully despite missing Debi and thanked the members who volunteered. The next date will be September 3.

Home Tour: Kay reported that sponsorship letters would be mailed at the end of August and once again asked for names of potential businesses to include in the mailout. Dixie reported there are currently 4 houses on the tour plus St. Stanislaus and the Lodge.

Program: Mary said the September 10 tour/entrance fee of Blackwood Educational Land Institute (<https://blackwoodland.org/>) at 27144 Rock Island Rd, Hempstead, TX 77445 will be paid for by the club but members should plan to pay for their own lunch. Be ready to tour this model farm for regenerative agriculture and food systems at 10 AM. If you want to carpool, meet at the church at 9:30 AM.

Dixie then reported that the board decided to host a club social at Carol's Ice House on August 13 at 5 PM in response to multiple requests for more visiting time outside of meetings. Upon inquiry, members reported that the mention in the Banner calendar and on Facebook had been noticed.

Kay moved to adjourn at 11:35 AM for an August National Food Appreciation lunch on Back to School Day provided by Doug & Maclyn Jones, Sharon Staley, Libby Beckenbough, and Janis Boulware. The motion was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Boulware