MOUNT AIRY CLAY BREAKERS GARDEN CLUB: OCTOBER 2018 MEETING MINUTES

The Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club met on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at the home of Connie Dalpra with 16 members present. The flowers of the month for September: the aster and morning glory. Members were given the 2018-2019 yearbook, which featured a cover that illustrated our theme for this year: ***Growing for Maryland***. Pictured in a framework of honey comb were typical Maryland crops such as apples, corn, peaches, wheat, and garden vegetables.

The producer of the yearbook was Deborah Determan, who was also the producer/editor of our newsletter, which won a NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB AWARD. Congratulations, Deborah, and to all who contributed pictures, information, and other material to the four newsletters published this past year. All are encouraged to show the same level of support to our new newsletter editor, Mary Woodruff, whose deadline for the fall edition of the newsletter is October 7.

**PROGRAM**

Member Gilda Allen gave the program on ***Raising Monarch Butterflies***. Gilda brought a sample of milkweed, the monarch’s primary food. She encouraged all to help the butterflies by planning milkweed in a corner of their gardens. She showed several varieties of butterfly cages, one which was made of a plastic tub covered by netting. One of her cages contained a piece of milkweed with a caterpillar eating away on it. She then explained the four stages of monarch development: egg, larva, chrysalis/pupae/butterfly, and finished with a short video of the Monarch development. All enjoyed the demonstration Gilda prepared; it showed her hands-on expertise in raising monarch butterflies.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Arminta Donovan will serve as the Corresponding Secretary in addition to her position as the Sunshine Chair.

Treasurer Pat Hall reported a total of $586 in our checking account. Our book sale netted $23, and the 50/50 $7, which, added to the $586 makes a final total of $616.

Historian Deborah Determan demonstrated the many features of the club website and asked members to contact her for a logon. She also reported that the scanning of 40 years of yearbooks into the website, a major effort, was complete, thanks to help from Linda Millette, Dot Lower, Diana Morse and Esther Neckere.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Budget Chair Julie Harrison announced the creation of a “virtual” plant sale. She has created a clever thermometer-like receptacle for donations to the club in lieu of holding a plant sale each year. She will track the progress of the fund on the container, with a goal of $400. All members were in favor of this approach.

Pam Smart, Civic Development Chair, sent in pictures of our Holloway Park garden to honor the NCAGC President’s project: “A Garden for Every Club.”

Design Chair Lorraine Leonard created a unique arrangement of using one vase inside of another, with the gap between the two vases filled with slices of lime and topped with white chrysanthemums.

Fundraising Chair Connie Dalpra distributed catalogs for our fall fundraising effort of ordering Rada Cutlery, with a 40% rebate of the total order to be returned to the club. Members were asked to bring their order form and checks made out to Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club to the October meeting so that they cutlery could be ordered and made available at the November meeting.

Diana Morse, Horticulture Chair, introduced the book ***The Carrot Purple***, the source of her horticulture information. She talked about broccoli, which was at one time an unknown and unpopular vegetable, until one grower decided to give it the nickname it “Andy Boy.” His marketing strategy, which included cooking instructions, brought the vegetable our of obscurity and into the public awareness of its healthful properties.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The annual picnic was held August 23 at Linda Millette’s home, with Gilda Allen and Deborah Determan as co-hosts. The food was delicious and plentiful.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The District 1 fall meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 15 September, at the National Arboretum.

The NCAGC fall meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 25 September, also at the National Arboretum.

The Morning of Design is scheduled for 2 November at the Cheverly Community Center Auditorium, 6401 Forest Road, Cheverly, MD 20785. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for social and snacks. The program, which will be held from 11 – 12:30 a.m. will feature three of our own special designers. The theme is a ***Holiday Spectacular***.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mary Beth Cecil thanked the club for their flowers at her mother’s memorial service, and for their support. Her mother, Ann Williams, was a charter member of the Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club**.**

A memorial mass for Lorraine Leonard’s mother, Dorothy Yashinski, will be held at St. Mary’s church in Upper Marlboro at 8:00 am. Dorothy enjoyed attending many of our garden club meetings with Lorraine.

Our next meeting will be held at Arminta Donovan’s home on October 11. The speaker will be Margaretta Danshaw. Her topic will be **Math in Plants**, one of her most popular presentations.

The meeting concluded at 3:40 pm followed by a 50/50 drawing

Respectfully submitted

Esther Neckere/for Iona Black