

RECORDING SECRETARY'S MINUTES

The February 22nd meeting of the La Plata Community Garden Club was called to order by President Dianne Shisler at 7:00 P.M. The meeting took place at the La Plata Firehouse.

Dianne asked members to contribute one dollar towards a free will offering to help defray the \$50.00 cost of renting the firehouse for the meeting.

Committee Reports.

The Treasurer's Report appeared in the last newsletter.

Hospitality. Elaine Miller reminded all members to check the 2007 list of hosts and hostesses and make note of the meeting for which he or she is asked to serve.

Special Projects. Judy Ruth announced that the Town of La Plata will contribute towards the cost of refreshments for the dedication of the Star Memorial Garden on April 28th. Members will be asked to bring finger foods for the dedication. Judy also asked members to bring large plants in pots to help decorate the street area in front of the garden where the food will be served. She asked for volunteers to help set up this staging area. Formal invitations to the event are in the final stages.

Ways and Means. Carol Raucheisen reminded members of the May 5th Plant and Yard Sale which will be held along with the Charles County Garden Club. No site has been selected as yet for the sale. Carol provided a sign up sheet for members who are able to help with the sale.

Memorial Garden. Barbie Walter will contact members to help with the maintenance of the garden.

Dianne welcomed all guests to the meeting and introduced a new member, Polly Zimmerman. Polly invited members to participate in a wet lands planting program at Middleton Elementary School, May 7th – 11th.

Dianne urged members to pick up the new 2007 pages of the year book. She announced that the newsletter will now come out three times a year. Dianne thanked all those who helped to decorate the Train Station for the Christmas holidays. She also thanked the Town of La Plata for contributing \$7,000.00 towards finishing touches on the Star Memorial Garden.

Dianne proposed the following By-Law Revision:

Article IV Dues – Paragraph II

Current wording: All members joining after May will be assessed one half of the Annual dues.

Proposed wording: All members joining after July 1 will be assessed one half of the annual dues.

Reason for the proposed change:

We hold ten meetings during the year. New members joining after July 1 would pay half the annual dues and would be eligible to attend half the meetings scheduled for the year.

The motion was voted on by the members and was passed.

Dianne announced that our club would purchase two tickets for the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage at a cost of \$50.00. The tickets will be raffled off at a later date. She reminded members of the District II Annual Meeting to be held on March 9th. Dianne also asked members to pay membership dues by November 1 st.

Sharyn Suiter announced that the February 14 th. Valentine Luncheon which had been cancelled has been rescheduled for April 18 th. Anyone who would like to attend at this new date is welcome.

Sherrie Zimmer encouraged all members to visit the Star Memorial Garden. The dedication plaques are here and the benches should be put in place next week.

Mary Beth Chandler offered to conduct an artistic design workshop for club members. Meeting times were discussed and it was decided that the class would meet at 6 P.M. before our regular meeting time of 7 P.M. Mary Beth thought that the workshop would probably consist of three or four sessions. A sign up sheet will be made available.

The meeting was adjourned. Refreshments were provided by the Host Committee, Linda Lockhart, Melissa Leiter, Elaine Miller, Susan Cusack and Sherrie Zimmer.

Following refreshments, Joyce Rose introduced Gary Fick, who is the Chef at Casey Jones Restaurant in La Plata. Gary gave an interesting lecture and demonstration on the use of Culinary Herbs. He stressed the use of herbs in cooking for medicinal reasons and also to add a third dimension to the taste of food. Gary demonstrated how to make a pesto with fresh basil and also a basil oil. He answered many questions about herbs from the group and inspired us all to use more herbs in our cooking at home.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane E. O'Farrell, Recording Secretary+