

RECORDING SECRETARY'S MINUTES

The March 27th. meeting of the La Plata Community Garden Club took place at the La Plata Firehouse. The meeting began at 7:05 pm. with a program entitled "What's New for Spring". Mike Rose introduced Brad Kuklinski from Patuxent Nursery who presented the program. Brad grew up in Illinois and attended Eastern Illinois University where he studied botany. He worked for a time at Creative Plantings in Washington D.C. where he designed huge planters for use outside federal buildings. He stressed that the most important part of any planting is the use of good soil. He advised using 100% organic compost and mixing that with the dirt removed from a hole twice the size of the root ball of your plant . He also urged frequent watering when a plant is first placed in the ground. Brad introduced to the members new and hearty varieties of azalea, spiraea, abelia, and jasmine . He also demonstrated how to plant a container using thrillers, fillers, and spillers and how to use a container to plant an herb garden. Brad was kind enough to leave two lovely hanging baskets and one planted container with us to be raffled off at the end of the meeting. After the program, snacks were served.

President, Dianne Shisler, announced that during the March 25th. meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland our club was awarded a silver bowl for Civic Beautification engraved with the name of the club. We are allowed to keep the bowl for ten weeks. Club member, Cindy Barnhart, won an award in the photography contest. Our club also won a publications award for our newsletter. It was a great day for the La Plata Community Garden Club.

There were no guests present. The treasurer's report remained unchanged from last month and the minutes from the February meeting remain on the website.

Dianne urged members to pick up their new year books and copies of the reprinted By – Laws. Copies of the new maintenance schedule were also available. Members were invited to go by the Memorial Star Patio Garden to see the new trellis which has been installed.

Carole Raucheisen said that pots were available for planting flowers for the May 3rd. plant sale. Members can drop off plants and items for the yard sale (no junk) to be priced at the old Safeway on Thurs. May 1st. from 5pm. to 7pm. and Fri. May 2nd. from 5pm. to 8pm. We will also be selling cookies and brownies, six to a pkg.

Judy Ruth announced that 32 people have signed up for the May 30th. bus trip to Maymont and Ashcroft Hall in Richmond, VA. We can take 48 people. The deadline for registrations is May 2nd.

Sharon Suiter urged anyone interested in going on the Secret GardenTour in Annapolis on May 31st. and June 1st. to contact her soon as a discount might be available if we have enough people .

Dianne also has a limited number of tickets available for members who would like to go to the London Town Daffodil Show April 11th. and 12th.

Elaine Miller announced that 14 members have signed up for the Spring Luncheon on April 26th. The luncheon will be held at the Christ Episcopal Church Hall in La Plata. There will be a demonstration on making Spring Arrangements by Ann Ford of the Studio III Flower Shop in La Plata.

A raffle was held for tickets to the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage and also for the hanging baskets and planter donated by Brad Kuklinski.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

Refreshments were served by the Host Committee: Sherie Zimmer, Jane O'Farrell, Jessica Milstead, Cindy Barnhart, and Karen Allison.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane O'Farrell, Recording Secretary