

October 8, 2021

Millville Community Center

32517 Dukes Dr. Millville, DE

**Call to Order and Welcome:** President Alva Hutchison

Alva welcomed all and shared the following:

**Be like a tree.**

**Stay grounded.**

**Connect with your roots.**

**Turn over a new leaf.**

**Bend before you break.**

**Enjoy your unique natural beauty.**

**Keep growing.**  Joanne Raptis

Our next year’s theme goes well with the verse above. **Growing our garden club’s future!**

**Introduction of New Members and Guests:** Karen Plis

Birthdays: Steve Zimmerman (2), Kathy Sault (7), Maggie Baker and Carolyn Clipp (11) and Janet Sabo (26), Lee Blackwell (27.) **Happy Birthday!**

Our guests today are Cindy Ream, Carol Batson, Joan O’Day and Karen Favinger. **Welcome!**

**Minutes:** Ellen Dowling asked if there are any more corrections or additions with no response, then stated the minutes are filed and posted on our website under member’s section.

**Introduction of today’s program:**  Maryanne Green

Our guest speakers were Maureen Ryan and Gaye Mara who are both Sussex County Master Gardeners and shared with us their tours of Western Europe. We saw marvelous pictures of a Portuguese winery, Monet’s Garden in Giverny, and English garden with an interesting history and a season of explosion of color in The Netherlands.

**Report of Officers:**

**President:** Alva encouraged the members to attend the Federation meeting Nov. 17 at Modern Maturity in Dover. Dottie Howatt is presenting a program called Twisted Trash. It is simple designs constructed of recycled repurposed materials suitable for table centerpieces. Our National President, Mary Warshauer is scheduled to attend this meeting.

Please remember when Laura Martin sends out correspondence, they are usually authored by someone identified in the email. Please reply to that individual not Laura for questions or more information. Laura sent a thank you letter to Dave and Cathy Green.

**Vice President Report:** Maryanne Green

Reminded us of the Oct.11-17 at East Coast Garden Center 20% off coupon of all hardgoods and plants. Does not include deliveries and RSC Landscaping services.

Sheets were out for sign up to help with Northeast Dine and Donate (this is for the 50/50). Sheets are also for the Oct. 18 cleanup of beaches, two optional workshops, and the Dec. 10 Boardwalk Plaza Christmas luncheon. Checks for the luncheon should be sent to **Maryanne Green at 38226 Piney Point Road, Ocean View, DE 19970 (703-307-5669).** Be sure to write in the memo section the purpose of the GBTS check and include luncheon selection as well. All checks payable to GBTS are due by Nov. 12.

 Zone 7 – Monthly Garden Calendar: Chores and Planting Guide: Planting by USDA Zone is a

good starting point to get a handle on what you should be thinking of planting and when. If

you pair this overview of garden tasks with zone experience, local knowledge, and a good year

on note taking, then you should have a pretty good annual gardening calendar! Please refer

to the link below for a full calendar listing of helpful gardening tips:

<https://sowtrueseed.com/blogs/monthly-garden-schedule-by-zone/zone-7-monthly-garden-calendar-chores-and-planting-guide>

November’s speaker will be on African Violets.

**Corresponding Secretary:** No report

**Treasurer:** Carolyn Clipp (report given by Brenda Wimperis)

Activity through Oct. 7, 2021

**Starting Balance** $12,876.04

 **Income**

 Book signing tickets 1,800.00

 Raffle tickets 745.00

 Donations 105.00

**Expenses**

Book signing ($153.13)

 Community projects: OVHS ( 17.68)

 Town of Millville (security deposit) ( 100.00)

**Ending Balance** $15,255.23

**Committee Reports:**

**Special Fundraising – Book Signing Event:** Brenda Wimperis

GBTS First Fund Raiser for 2021-22 was a Book Signing on Saturday, September 18th at the home of David and Kathy Green. Local authors, Gregg Tepper and Ruth Claussen presented their newly released book ~ “Deer-Resistant Native Plants for the Northeast”. I don’t know how many books they sold BUT I do know there were very busy all afternoon signing books and were always engaged in conversation with all the attendees.

Maureen Eisenhart did a great job of selling Raffle Tickets to our attendees ~ $660.00 ~ combining her sales with “prior to event sales” for a grand total of $745.00 in Raffle Ticket Sales. Raffle Ticket winners were Alva Hutchison, Alan Tuttle, Kathy Green and Janet Sabo. Congratulations!

Laura Martin led the Food Committee which included Ria Carraro, Karen Plis and Anne McKinney. They met and started planning in July. They planned a lovely menu and several club members stepped up and volunteered to help prepare and serve the food. Everything was beautifully presented with Covid restrictions in mind, and it was all delicious! Good Job everyone!

The Greens donated wine, water and paper goods which came to approximately $250.00 and most of the volunteers who helped make the food ~ donated their food cost also!

Several other club members that were instrumental in getting this event rolling were Margaret Woda, Mary Williford, Lee Blackwood and Carolyn Clipp. Also, Alva Hutchison and MaryAnne Green were always available for guidance and support!

**Awards:** Donna Gray

Reminded the member chairs to please take pictures of activities and send to her with a brief write up so she can determine if event is worthy of submitting for an award. She will need this information by Nov. 10 to submit. There is Grant money to “*grow locally*”, that comes from the DFGC President’s project: Grow Awareness, Grow Member, and Grow a Garden.

**Coastal Cleanup:** Thea Chandross

The next GBTS Community Cleanup is scheduled for Monday, October 18, 2021 (Rain Date: Wednesday, Oct 20) from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. (Co-Chair, Maryanne Green) – Meet at York Mall (estimated walk round trip approximately 1 ½ miles).Please bring rubber gloves, hand-gripper (if you have one) and bottled water*.*

RSVPto Maryanne Green no later than October 12.  Maryanne will provide trash bags.

There has been little interest in cleanup activities so we will revisit this program going forward if this activity has no participants. Lord Baltimore will also have a rain garden and front entrance cleanup Oct. 21 with rain date of Oct. 22, 2021.

**Community Projects:** Maureen Eisenhart

OVHS will have a cleanup Nov. 2 at 9:15am. There will be more discussion regarding the

 flowerpots and bulbs in the gardens at a later date by the committee. The making of wreaths for the doors of the building will be done for the Nov. 27 Christmas at OVHS. (reported by Martha Gallagher)

Maureen is looking at the gardens at Evans Park with a possible need by us to enhance the area. She will price out shrubs and possible children’s garden and bring it to the Board.

There was a proposal to allocate more money for Habitat plantings as our current donation does not show as well as it could. Board can also look at this suggestion.

**Historian and Website:** Lee Blackwood would like new members and those who have not submitted a photo to please do so to her.  simdelish@gmail.com

**Hospice Tree:** Brenda Wimperis

We have begun making our ornaments and have two more workshops left. We will have more if needed. There is a lot of interest by the members and this year’s theme may be Woodland Wonders. Some of the ornaments made will be shown at our November meeting. The Festival of Trees is the biggest fundraiser for Hospice. The completed trees are big on by donors and then the location of the trees is decided by the Hospice group.

**Hospitality:** Sallie Melvin

Sallie thanked Barbara Ware for coordinating today’s desserts as well as Karen Plis, Janet Sabo and Sandra Erbe for their contributions. Susan Sitek made a lovely succlent arrangement inside a pumpkin for our greeting table. A vote was taken as to continue with desserts or the light luncheon with dessert. Nov. will be just desserts for now. The kitchen at the Center has an icemaker. We are unable currently to leave anything in the cabinets. Coordinators will have to ensure cups, dishes and serving utensils are available. Discussion regarding eliminating plastic water bottles used at meetings. Since this location has a water cooler, we can us our cups and ice and get water out of the cooler going forward. $100.00 security deposit has been given to the Millville Community Center.

**Membership**: Karen Pis

Connie Ryan has resigned. Cindy Ream, Carol Batson, Joan O’Day and Karen Favinger are our guests today. The yearbooks have been printed and the information sent out to members to print at home as well. If you would like a color printed copy, they are $10, and you can contact Karen.

Karen is also hosting a picture frame workshop 10/28 which is currently full but there is a wait list if you would like to be added. Any questions please contact Karen.

**Scholarship:** Lisa Arni

Lisa was pleased to inform the members that a student, Emely Mendoza-Garcia has been identified as our recipient for this year’s award. In the past we have had several students who received our awards come to our meeting to let us know how this helped them with their studies and future.

**Ways and Means:** Ria Carraro

Dine and Donate Northeast Seafood is Thursday Oct. 14 4:30pm to close. We need volunteers to sign up for ½ hr shift to sell 50/50 tickets at the event. We want to recognize the Salt Pond couples golf groups for their ongoing support of our D&D events.

**Youth:** Pat Drizd (Alva reported for her)

Pat is home recouping from hip replacement surgery. Pat and her committee will be putting together kits for the school for November.

**Horticulture Moment:** Lisa Arni **Groundcovers**

Below are the lists of plants Lisa shared with us for Sun and Shade.

**Sun:**

Angelina sedum – evergreen and bronze in the winter

Black Mondo grass or green looks good against a light color rock or missed with lime greens

Creeping Thyme also for foot traffic areas

Bergenia looks like a small open cabbage with pink/red flowers

Low growing Sedum with many hardy varieties

Ice plant

Blue Rug Juniper “Pacific”

Sheffield mums

**Shade:**

Sweet Woodruff

Wild Ginger and variegated ginger

Liriope clumping variegated with purple flowers now

Strawberry Begonia

St. John’s Wart low growing and now a variegated one (yellow flowers)

Ferns

Annuals both sun and shade loving but needs to be planted each year.

**Announcements:**

Reminder of our seed exchange in December.

50/50 ½ hour shifts need volunteers.

Inland Bays has a Succulent workshop of Saturday 10/16.

Don’t forget photos to  simdelish@gmail.com Lee Blackwood for the website under Members section.

**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Dowling