

**The Garden Club of Santa Barbara
General Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2019**

**Next meeting:
November 4, 2019
Celebrate Our Bounty
Open Meeting
Music Academy of The West**

President Anne Rhett Merrill called the meeting to order at 10:00

Anne Rhett introduced and thanked Dr. Steve Windhager for the opportunity to be at The Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens. Dr. Steve welcomed the Garden Club and reminded members to visit the Centennial Maze and the Wooded Dell which are both past projects of the GCSB.

Thank you to Sherry Tilton for coffee and to Ellen Pillsbury and Linda Phillips for refreshments. Thank you to Cheryl Miller for the floral arrangement.

Second Vice President: Jocelyne Meeker introduced the provisional class of 2019-2020. They met on September 25, 2019 with some sponsors and committee heads to share information and get acquainted.

Anne Rhett announced her theme for the year; “Back to our Roots, Back to the Future, and Oh! The Places You’ll Go”

Secretary: Alex Bongaerts announced that our account currently has \$96,089.92.

Visiting Gardens: Mary Hampson took a group vote for trip ideas. Northern California in the Spring of 2020 got the resounding “yes” vote. There are some ideas for day trips to Santa Ynez, Pasadena and Los Angeles as well. More specific information and dates to be announced. Mary also asked members to consider having a gathering after a general meeting as a way to come together.

Conservation: Susanne Tobey and her committee have picked pollinators as the theme for this year. Thanks to Bobbie Kinnear we will be raising milkweed plants to be shared with each other and within the community. There is a Conservation Committee meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at Susanne’s house. Susanne sent around a sign-up sheet for the day trip to The Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve on Friday, December 6, 2019.

Anne Crowe presented information about the GCA Conservation Study Conference in Louisville, Kentucky called “Greening the Bluegrass”. Anne suggested that all members visit the GCA website for more detailed information and there were two books that she recommended: “The Unsettling of America” and “Hillbilly Elegy”.

Floral Design: Cheryl Miller passed around two sign-up sheets: a GCA workshop in Spring 2020 on 101/201/301 “contemporary techniques” and Equisetum workshop on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at Cheryl’s home. Also, the Flower Show is set for May 5 - 7, 2021 at the Music Academy.

Beth Leddy passed the sign-up for Cancer Center floral arrangements and made containers available to members. There is also a design workshop for patients at the Cancer Center on Wednesday, October 16 at 9:00 a.m. Tip of the Day: Don’t smash your foam into a container because it alters the beneficial components of the foam. Also, you can cut a small wedge in the back of your foam piece so that continued watering is easy.

Photography: Teri Taylor is forming her committee and asked that all members take pictures at various garden club events or outings and share them with her.

Garden History and Design: Sarah Heatwole announced that Suzanne Bishop, the Zone XII representative and regional garden historian from GCA, will be holding a workshop on Historical Gardens on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at The Valley Club of Montecito. The cost is \$30 and lunch will be included. Please make checks out to GCSB and send them to Sarah.

Sarah asked members to share any information they might have on Lockwood de Forest designs in the Santa Barbara area.

Teri Taylor has been working on the Garden Club of Santa Barbara's book showcasing our member's gardens. There have been forty new gardens added.

Communications: Teri Taylor asked for any submissions to The Budding News to be emailed to her by Friday, October 11, 2019.

Horticulture: Amy Mayfield and Sharon Bradford announced a day trip for thirty members to Folded Hills Winery on Monday, October 21, 2019. The cost includes a private tour and lunch and is \$75 for those who wish to take the bus and \$50 for those who will drive themselves. The bus will leave at 9:00 a.m. and should return around 3:30 p.m. Checks should be written out to GCSB and sent to Sharon or Amy.

The committee will have a clean up day at the Arizona Garden at Casa del Herrero on November 12 at 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Members were encouraged to try the "tighty whitey" challenge in their yards to check the health of their soil.

There will be a pop-up home and garden tour at El Cielito on Hot Springs Road from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2019

Programs: Carol Newman announced our next meeting is an “Open Meeting” at The Music Academy on November 4, 2019 and it is called “Celebrate Our Bounty”. Send your checks for lunch (for you and/or a guest) made out to GCSB to Peggy Ittner.

Membership: Norma Jean Shaw talked about the attributes of perspective members; it should be a good fit for garden club and the individual, it is a dedicated time commitment, there should leadership potential, willingness to participate and interest in group camaraderie.

Ways and Means: Betsy Coates and Meghan Stoll have a meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at Betsy’s house. All interested members are welcome to join.

Old Business: Susanne Tobey presented information about the 2nd Century campaign to raise money for the GCA. There was a suggestion to possibly make a group donation. More information will follow.

New Business: None

Announcements: There will be no Lady Buds gathering in October. Email Vicki Hough if you are unable to attend a meeting and remember to always sign in for meetings. Membership Directories are available, please take yours home today.

Adjournment: Meeting ended at 11:13 a.m. and Carol Newman introduced our speaker, Betsy Collins who discussed “A Little Bird Told Me”; Native Plants and The Bird Friendly Garden.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kelly
Recording Secretary