

PINE ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

Minutes

April 15, 2010

The April 2010 meeting of the Pine Island Garden Club was brought to order at 9:30am by the 1st Vice-President, Marty Kendall. Members stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Marty thanked the members of this month's "Tea Committee", who provided the beautiful selection of food today. They all stood for a round of applause to thank them.

Membership: Kathie Reiter announced that we have three new members today. She is collecting dues for 2010-2011. She would like all members to pay this spring, in order that their name and information is contained in the yearbook for next season.

Program: Marty introduced Peg Guttman, a Master Gardener who has a strong interest in butterflies and butterfly gardening. Peg's topic was "Creating a Butterfly Garden." She showed a wonderful computer slide presentation which included pictures of the plants our local Florida butterflies like to use for nectaring and shelter, and also pictures of the many of the local butterflies we might expect to see in our gardens. She also had several hand-outs about butterflies and butterfly gardening in south Florida. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful pictures and learning about the plants.

BREAK: During the break, members were asked to take care of any club business, pay their dues, and look over the minutes and treasurer's reports.

Minutes and Treasurer's Reports: The minutes were accepted as presented. Guylyn Demeyere talked about the treasurer's report. She said she added another \$300 this morning from the Gala, and expects to have a full Gala Report at the May meeting.

Corresponding Secretary: Pat Rooney announced that he has completed writing and sending out the Thank-You notes for all the vendors and suppliers to our Garden Gala. He also said he was pleased to announce that everyone must be healthy, as he did not need to send out any Get-Well cards the past month. Pat received a thank-you letter from the Pine Island Pantry, thanking the club for our contribution.

Field Trips: Doug Fix asked for all members to vote on their selections of future club field trips. Copies of suggestions are on the tables. Vote for your choices and give the copy to Doug.

Website Report: Phil Rosenberg reported that there is a tribute to Margie VanderKruik on the website. Phil also thanked the club for their donation to the Calusa Land Trust.

Plant Therapy: Kathryn Aldridge thanked both Janet Rovaldi and Jean Blatchley, who visited local shut-ins this past month. Kathryn would like the plant therapy program to continue through the summer, but she needs volunteers from the membership. Call her if you can help.

Scholarship Committee: Guylyn will be meeting with the scholarship committee this afternoon, and will announce the recipient of the \$1000 scholarship at the May Meeting. There are eleven candidates.

Special Presentation – Installation of Officers:

Doug Fix, chairman of the Nominating Committee, led the ceremony for the Installation of New Officers. The following members were voted in at the March meeting, and will hold their respective executive offices and board positions for the next two years, 2010 – 2012:

Officers:

President	***see note below
1 st Vice-President	Marty Kendall
2 nd Vice-President	**no candidate
Asst. 2 nd Vice-President	Tracy Helin
Recording Secretary	Rita Davis
Asst. Recording Secretary	Susanne Quattro
Corresponding Secretary	Dottie Kernaghan
Treasurer	Joan Rosenberg
Asst. Treasurer	Donna Cook

Board Members:

Membership	Kathie Rieter
Parliamentarian	Marjorie VanderKruik
Historian	Joyce VanDeusen
Publicity	**no candidate

***President-elect Carlene Sharples was out-of-town today. She will be installed for her next term of office at the May meeting.

**Note: there were no nominees and/or candidates for 2nd Vice-President or for Publicity.

The new officers said their oath of office and were presented with roses. The members stood for a round of applause.

Horticulture: Tracy Helen gave a brief report on a plant called Pink Wisteria and Sandpiper Vine, a southern version of Wisteria. Both are beautiful blooming vines for our local gardens, but, although they are not considered invasive, they are very aggressive.

Announcements:

- Bonnie Kellen announced the Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 17, 9am – 2pm, at Rotary Park. There will be hundreds of beautiful plants and many of them will be great for butterfly gardens. Flyers and maps are on the tables. Come early for the best selection.
- Susie Quattro announced that our local nursery, Earth and Spirit, on Maria Drive, will be having its first Earth Day celebration this coming week-end, both Saturday and Sunday, 4/17 and 4/18.

- Hope Rooney announced that Lee County Florida Yards and Neighborhoods is sponsoring a field trip to Lakeland, on Tuesday, May 4. The cost is \$50. See Hope for more information.
- Margie received an email from Phil Buchanan with information that our Winn-Dixie may be in danger of closing, and Dan, the manager, may be moved to another location. She asked all members to support the local store and Dan by calling the number on your Winn-Dixie receipts.
- Member Linda Jacobs is the volunteer coordinator for FISH, another member, Dianne Higgins is the president of FISH, and both ladies are requesting help from garden club members. Volunteers are needed to support FISH throughout the summer.
- Tracy Helin gave a brief update on the ear-leaf acacia tree, an invasive plant that has become very prevalent on Pine Island. Roy Beckford is continuing to have meetings with Lee County DOT and other entities with responsibility for removal of this plant. More information to follow.
- Bonnie Kellen said that the library project, to replace invasive vegetation with native plants, is in progress, but the removal of the debris from the java plum trees has been delayed because of all the rain the past few weeks, leaving huge puddles and lots of mud on the site. Work will continue when the area has dried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10am. The plant raffle followed, called by Dolores Sansone and Nancy Wood.

Respectively submitted,

Bonnie Kellen
Recording Secretary