

## **General Membership Meeting**

**December 7, 2015**

**FFGC University/Kapnick Center/ Buehler Auditorium**

Roberta Ross, President, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m., welcoming members and guests. She introduced Kathy Ericson, President of Gulf Coast Garden Club as one of our guests.

Susan Kinhead, Chaplain, opened with an invocation and **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Crowd control officer Raynelle Perkins made the safety announcements.

Pat Fosberg, Hospitality Chair thanked her committee and the many donors of cookies being served.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. Refreshments on the tables may be enjoyed during the meeting and program.
- b. Members are encouraged to attend and bring spouses to the December 16 Christmas Luncheon at the Chabraja Center at the Naples Botanical Garden. A show of hands was requested to see how many were planning to attend with their spouses.
- c. Members are asked to check their yearbook/directory and on-line directory to make sure their information is correct. Contact, Barbara Sampson, Data Manager, to make corrections.
- d. FFGC membership cards may be obtained from Roberta if members did not already receive theirs at last months meeting.
- e. The Cyber Drawing for a tropical hydrangea donated by Jackie and Mike Malloy was won by Sharon Hildebrandt.

### **Business Meeting**

House and Garden Tour Chair Mary Beth Johns announced that Patron Tickets became available November 17 and General Admission Tickets on December 1, 2015. Both sold out in record time. She thanked Peggy Blackburn and Mary Pulick for their outstanding work on ticket sales. The Preview Tour is also filled and has a wait list.

Using the analogy of a bowl of lemons, Mary Beth shared the challenge of having two homeowners withdraw from the 2016 Tour. One house has been replaced with a historic home in Old Naples. Members were asked for suggestions of a replacement for the fourth house. The committees continue making lemonade by proceeding full speed in preparation for the event. Also needed are additional Bus Hostesses and Hospitality Hostesses.

The 'sugar' for the lemonade is the Razzle Dazzle Raffle chaired by Sallie Miller and Margaret Brodeur who have amassed donations worth fifteen thousand dollars. Each member was given an envelope containing sixteen raffle tickets to be sold (1-\$5, 3-\$10 8-\$20). Each attending member was given a list of prizes and their descriptions. Purchased tickets may be placed in boxes of donor's choice prior to the tour.

Mary Raymond, Naples Flower Show Chair, announced that designs are needed and that twenty spots have already been filled. Members are asked to contact Polly Gallagher to register their design choice. Brian Holley, with the assistance of Member's Challenge Class Co-Chairs Judy Perkins and Julie Peterson, drew names of those who will participate in the 2016 Member's Challenge Class using window boxes. They are Leslie Branda, BJ Gifford, Louella McAloose, Jackie Frodsham, Susan Schreiber, Nan Merrick, Helen Roth, Elaine Fisher, Linda Heacock, Farron Wings, Gail Duke and Arlene Cluff. Nasturium seeds were distributed; plants and window boxes will be distributed at January's GM meeting.

Education Chair Sudie Minamyer shared the products of her committees' efforts in a Power Point presentation prior to and during the Business Meeting. She described the Design Workshops, the Design Study Group, a program on Palms to be held at the NBG on December 9 and a trip in conjunction with the NBG to Butterfly World in March. Sudie stressed the importance of the workshops in learning about tropical horticulture, design and our environment.

Roberta Ross introduced Gail Pica who in turn made a thorough and clever introduction of Kathleen Hawryluk and her program/demonstration, Floral Designs for the Holidays.

Kathleen and her assistants presented a wide array of holiday designs including multi-rhythmic, Exhibition table Type 1, Mass designs with radial placements, a tabletop tropical tree, holiday display and several Asian-inspired designs. Her demonstrations were accompanied by a steady stream of helpful tips and humorous comments. The completed designs were all included in the raffle.

The main raffle prize, a limited edition Lynn Haney "Santa with Bear", donated by Provisional member, Judith Ringler was won by Roberta Ross.

In attendance were 11 Provisionals, 99 Active Members and 14 guests.  
Total attendance: 124.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Lemmon, Secretary  
15-12-7 DRAFT