

Modern Gardeners

Mount Airy, NC

1998 - 1999

Organized August 31, 1956
Charter Received May 14, 1957
Meetings: Third Tuesday, 12 p.m.



Membership: Twenty-four

Membership In
National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.,
South Atlantic Region: The Garden Club of
North Carolina, Inc., District 4.



Virginia Bluebells
Mertensia virginica



MODERN GARDENERS' OFFICERS



Tracy Greenwood

President

Barbara Gardner

Vice President

Charldean Gwyn

Secretary

Mary Kilby

Treasurer

Membership Roster

1. Mrs. Horace Bondurant
150 Greenbridge Drive
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Jewel) 786-5384
2. Mrs. Ralph Cooke
838 Cross Creek Drive
Mount Airy, NC ;27030
(Sue) 786-8423
3. Mrs. W. H. Cooper
209 Brookberry Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Betty) 786-5584
4. *** Mrs. Jack M. Cox
127 Orchard Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Shirley) 789-2204
5. Mrs. Ralph Epperson
312 Robin Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Earlene) 786-4498
6. Mrs. Carroll Gardner
1046 Greenhill Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Barbara) 789-1765
7. Mrs. Thomas Greenwood
1686 Woodbury Lane
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Tracy) 789-7074

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8. *** Mrs. John Gwyn
332 Marion Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Charldean) 786-5961
9. *** Mrs. Gordon Hennis
P. O. Box 347
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Lyda) 786-2473
10. *** Mrs. W. L. Holcomb
129 Oaklawn Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Marjorie) 786-2486
11. Mrs. Andrew Kilby
216 Howard Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Mary) 786-1560
12. Mrs. Gary Kniskern
350 Farmbrook Place
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Linda) 789-5388
13. *** Mrs. Edward McGee, Jr.
P. O. Box 1241
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Sarah Lee) 786-5401
14. Mrs. Haywood Merritt, Jr.
836 Country Club Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Claire) 786-4735

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15. *** Mrs. John Norman
108 Jackson Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Eleanor Powell) 786-4389
16. Mrs. J. T. Palmer
1743 Madison Avenue
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Betty) 786-4871
17. *** Mrs. John Parries
215 E. Lebanon Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Katherine) 786-7723
18. Mrs. Bill Refven
725 Crosscreek Drive
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Joanna) 789-1822
19. Mrs. David Rowe
215 Howard Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030
(Inglis) 789-4854
20. ** Mrs. C. B. Turpin
~~P. O. Box 48~~ 2140 Heatherstone
~~White Plains, NC 27031~~ Lone
(Mae) 786-7988 Mt. Airy

- * Denotes Charter Member
- ** Denotes Life Member

Northern Hospital of Surry County Garden Center Assignments

Betty Cooper, Chairperson

October 1998

Shirley Cox
Sue Cooke
Earlene Epperson
Betty Palmer

January 1999

Jewel Bondurant
Betty Cooper
Lyda Hennis
Marjorie Holcomb

April 1999

Mae Turpin
Eleanor Powell-Norman
Claire Merritt
Joanna Refven

Modern Gardeners Committees

Ways and Means:

Co-Chairpersons
Inglis Rowe
Jewel Bondurant

Sara Lee McGee
Mae Turpin

Programs and Yearbook:

Tracy Greenwood
Barbara Gardner
Charldean Gwyn
Mary Kilby

Public Relations:

Eleanor Powell-Norman

Horticulture:

Mae Turpin

Hospital Garden Center:

Betty Cooper

Garden Therapy:

Charldean Gwyn

By-Laws:

Tracy Greenwood
Barbara Gwyn
Charldean Gwyn
Mary Kilby

Membership

Claire Merritt

Scrapbook:

Sue Cooke

Gifts:

Marjorie Holcomb

Awards:

Katherine Parries

Projects:

Episcopal Church:

Claire Merritt

Earlene Epperson

Moore House:

Marjorie Holcomb

Eleanor Powell-Norman

Katherine Parries

Mini-Garden:

Chairperson

Betty Palmer

Eleanor Powell-Norman

Sue Cooke

Linda Kniskern

Mary Kilby

Katherine Parries

Telephone:

Joanna Refven

Betty Cooper

Earlene Epperson



PROJECTS

Continuing Projects:

- I. MODERN GARDENERS shall continue upkeep of the mini-park garden of the triangle entrance to the business district on the north end of town.
- II. MODERN GARDENERS shall assist in decorating historic Trinity Episcopal Church at Christmas for the Mount Airy Restoration Foundation.
- III. MODERN GARDENERS, as a club, shall provide the TMH Class at Mount Airy High School with materials and programs on Garden Therapy during the school year.
- IV. MODERN GARDENERS shall provide arrangements and/or exhibits for Northern Hospital of Surry County.
- V. MODERN GARDENERS shall continue to assist in the garden restoration of the Edwards-Franklin Homeplace.

PROJECTS

- VI. MODERN GARDENERS shall assist the Beautification Committee of Mount Airy in projects relating to conservation, litter, and beautification.
- VII. MODERN GARDENERS shall actively assist the Restoration Committee.

Past Presidents of Modern Gardeners

Mrs. Robert Carson	1956-1957
Mrs. Gordon Hennis	1957-1958
Mrs. Winfred King	1958-1959
Mrs. Edward McGee	1959-1960
Mrs. Ronald Boyles	1960-1961
Mrs. John Gwyn	1961-1962
Mrs. W. L. Holcomb	1962-1963
Mrs. John Parries	1963-1964
Mrs. Richard Wimbish	1964-1965
Mrs. Jack Greenwood	1965-1966
Mrs. William Johnson	1966-1967
Mrs. Joe Powell	1967-1968
Mrs. Ralph Epperson	1968-1969
Mrs. Walter Leonard, Jr.	1969-1970
Mrs. James H. Bryant	1970-1971
Mrs. Marshall Clark	1971-1972
Mrs. Max Hiatt	1972-1973
Mrs. Bill Breedlove	1973-1974
Mrs. Gene Garland	1974-1975
Mrs. James Hazel	1975-1976
Mrs. J. T. Palmer	1976-1977
Mrs. J. Dale Simmons	1977-1978
Mrs. Carroll Gardner	1978-1979
Mrs. Ray Goad	1979-1980
Mrs. W. L. Holcomb	1980-1981
Mrs. Dale Hughes	1981-1982
Mrs. J. D. Bartley	1982-1983
Mrs. Ralph Cooke, Jr.	1983-1984
Mrs. John Gwyn	1984-1985
Mrs. Tom Hart	1985-1986
Mrs. Richard Johnson	1986-1987
Mrs. C. B. Turpin	1987-1988
Mrs. Carroll Gardner	1988-1989
Mrs. John Gwyn	1989-1990
Mrs. Ronald Marshall	1990-1991
Mrs. David Rowe	1991-1992
Mrs. P. J. Snow, Jr.	1992-1993
Mrs. Horace Bondurant	1993-1994
Mrs. Paul Sink	1994-1995
Mrs. Andrew Kilby, Jr.	1995-1996
Mrs. P. J. Snow, Jr.	1996-1997
Mrs. Steve Yokeley	1997-
Mrs. Ralph Cooke	-1998

Retiring President's Report

With the theme "Discover Our Gardens," we began our 1997-1998 year with a luncheon at Cross Creek Country Club. Plans for the year were discussed and committees were appointed for the District IV Garden Club meeting on October 29, 1997, at The First Presbyterian Church. All the Mount Airy Garden Club members were hostesses for that big event and spent many hours preparing for our guests.

We were proud to have the Garden Club President of North Carolina, Inc., Mrs. Phebe Kirkman and District IV Director, Mrs. Joyce Adams visit with us.

Our guest speaker, Mrs. Llewellyn B. Churchill gave a wonderful demonstration on the use of art objects and flowers in arrangements. This was a well-attended meeting and we received many nice compliments.

The bulb sales at the Autumn Leaves Festival was a successful event.

Our October meeting was a salad luncheon, held at the Gardner's Mountain home near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Norma Johnson was our guest and did a beautiful job presenting "Autumn's Paintbrush."

November meeting brought a large group of our club members to Rachel Hazel's front lawn to plant hundreds of spring-blooming jonquils.

Rachel was so elated as the group of 20 arrived at her home and enjoyed visits from each one. Rachel talked about the bulb-planting and visits for days and days. All of us felt that this had been good therapy too!

Early December brought us together to decorate two of Mount Airy's historic landmarks, Trinity Episcopal Church and the Antebellum Alfred Moore House in the "Yuletide Tradition." We were guest at the Garden Gate Tea at the beautifully holiday decorated Antebellum Alfred Moore House. A lovely event!

Our January program was presented by Daryl Siefert, Landscape Designer from Winston Salem. Guest attending were members of the Garden Gate and Mountain View Garden Clubs.

February was an interesting meeting with Bruce Malmo teaching us as we built birdhouses for our gardens.

Terry Garwood, Extension Service Specialist, shared his expertise on "How to Have a Successful Garden."

Also, we observed Arbor Day and planted a tree at J.J. Jones Elementary School.

Spring arrived and our April "Spring Spectacular" was held at the beautiful home of Horace and Jewel Bondurant. Every member presented an outstanding arrangement and we were very happy to have achieved such a production with flowers from our gardens.

Mrs. Phebe Kirkman of Winston Salem, the president of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. was a special guest for our May luncheon meeting and installation of officers. The occasion was held at the Antebellum Moore House.

We were saddened at the passing of Rachel Sides Hazel, a life member, on March 31, 1998. Members of our garden club sat together at Central United Methodist Church.

I really appreciated all the help and support from each member. Thank you for the lead crystal biscuit barrel. I will always treasure it and remember this year.

Sincerely,
Sue Cooke



OFFICIAL COLLECT OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Our Heavenly Father, who dost feed the birds and clothe the flowers and who knoweth and careth for every need of us, Thy children, so enlighten our minds to use wisely all the gifts of Thy Mighty Hand, that we, being imbued with Thy Holy Spirit, may so work Thy will that those who come after may mark their path by our footsteps.

For all the beauty of the earth, Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

For our families, our friends, our free and beautiful country, Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

We beseech Thee of Thy great goodness and tender mercy to forgive our sins, and grant that as we work together in fellowship we may draw closer to Thee, Almighty God, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—Marie Rehder Gerdes.

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National and State Officers

National Council of State
Garden Clubs, Inc.

National President:

Mrs. Barbara Barnette
P. O. Box 3268
Greenwood, SC 29648-3268

South Atlantic Regional Director:

Mrs. William H. Horton (Anne)
Reedy Branch Farm, 6097 Applewhite Road
Wendell, NC 27591

State President:

Mrs. Phebe Kirkman
101 Brampton Court
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

District IV Director:

Mrs. Joyce Adams
4207 Shattalon Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27104

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Schedule of Coming Events

Fall Board Meeting
The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
Wrightsville Beach
Wilmington, North Carolina
September 20-21, 1998

District 4 Meeting
Winston Salem, North Carolina
October 27, 1998

1999

South Atlantic Regional Meeting
Charlottesville, Virginia
March 14-16, 1999

State Annual Convention
Boone, North Carolina
April 25-27, 1999

Annual Meeting
National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
Atlanta, Georgia
May 18-20, 1999



Calendar of Meetings
1998 - 1999

Theme
"Discover Our Gardens"



September 15, 1998
12 Noon
Luncheon - Cross Creek Country Club

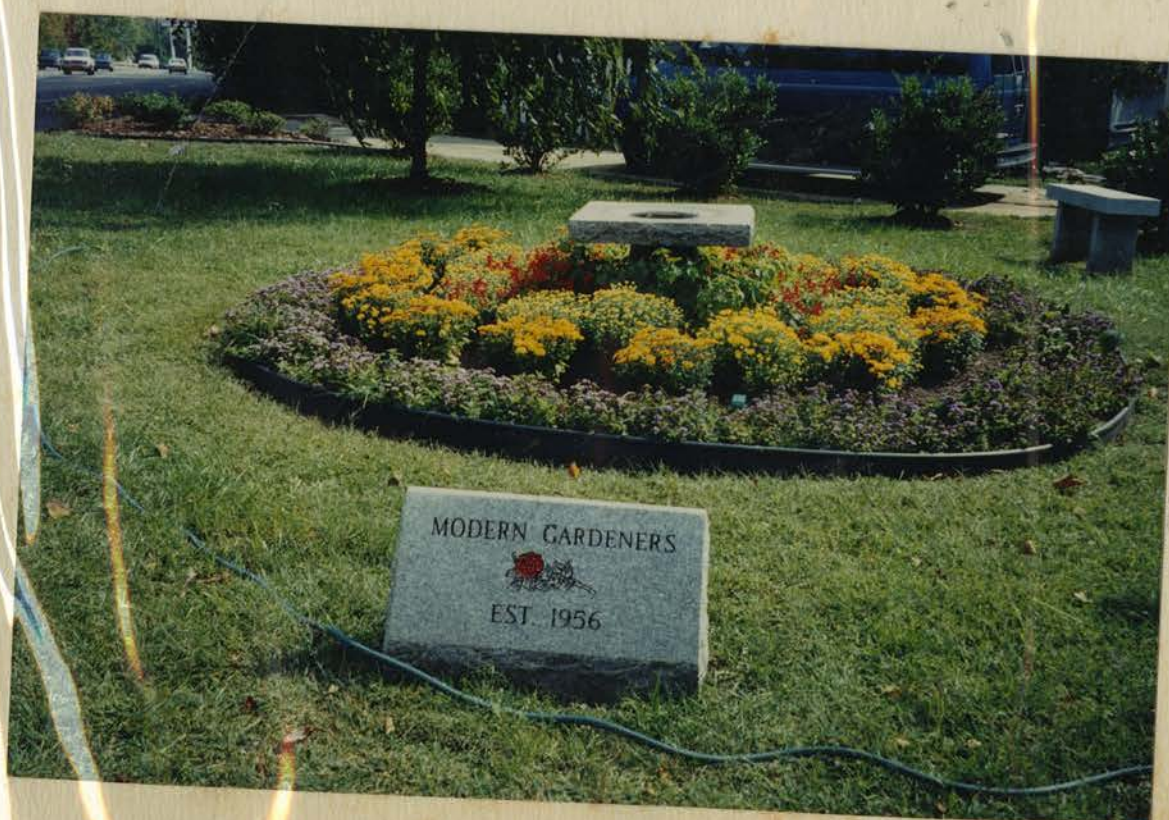
Topic:
"Discover Our Garden"
Business Session - Sharing Ideas
Program Chairperson: Tracy Greenwood, President

State and National Goals and Objectives
Club Speaker: Barbara Gardner

Hostesses
Tracy Greenwood Barbara Gardner
Charldean Gwyn Mary Kilby

Reminders:
Bulb Sale - Autumn Leaves Festival
October 9-11

October - Garden Center Month
at Northern Hospital



October 20, 1998
12 Noon
Edwards-Franklin House

Topic:
"Autumn's Paintbrush"

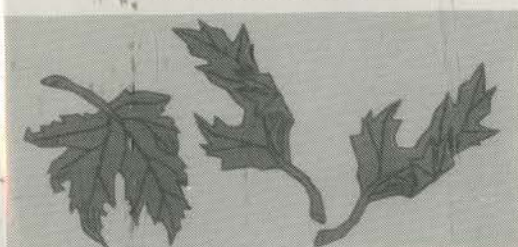
Guest Speaker:
Cama Merritt

Program Chairperson:
Claire Merritt

Bring your own sandwich

Hostess:
Marjorie Holcomb - Claire Merritt

October is Garden Center Month
at Northern Surry Hospital



District IV Meeting
October 27, 1998
Winston Salem



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

BULBS FOR SALE: Modern Gardeners of Mount Airy will be selling spring bulbs at its booth on Franklin Street during the Autumn Leaves Festival. Pictured above are Inglis Rowe (left) and Jewel Bondurant, chairmen of the ways and means committee, who will head the event. Top-grade Holland Flower Bulbs, including tulips, jonquils, narcissus, crocus, hyacinths and amaryllis, will be available. Proceeds will be used to maintain Modern Gardeners' mini-garden at the triangle on Renfro and North Main streets.





November 17, 1998
12 Noon
Mount Airy Public Library

Topic:
"Grow To Show"
(Holiday Arrangements Workshop)

Workshop directed by Club Members:
Eleanor Powell-Norman
Katherine Parries

Program Chairperson:
Shirley Cox

Hostesses:
Mary Kilby
Tracy Greenwood

Reminders:
Bring greenery and other materials for "Hanging
of the Greens" in December at Trinity Episcopal
Church and The Antebellum Alfred Moore
House





December 1, 1998

10:00 a.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Topic:

"Community Yuletide Tradition"

A workshop to decorate historic landmarks

Trinity Episcopal Church and the
Antebellum Alfred Moore House

Project Chairpersons:

Trinity Episcopal Church:
Claire Merritt and Earline Epperson

The Antebellum Alfred Moore House
Kathryn Parries and Eleanor Powell-Norman

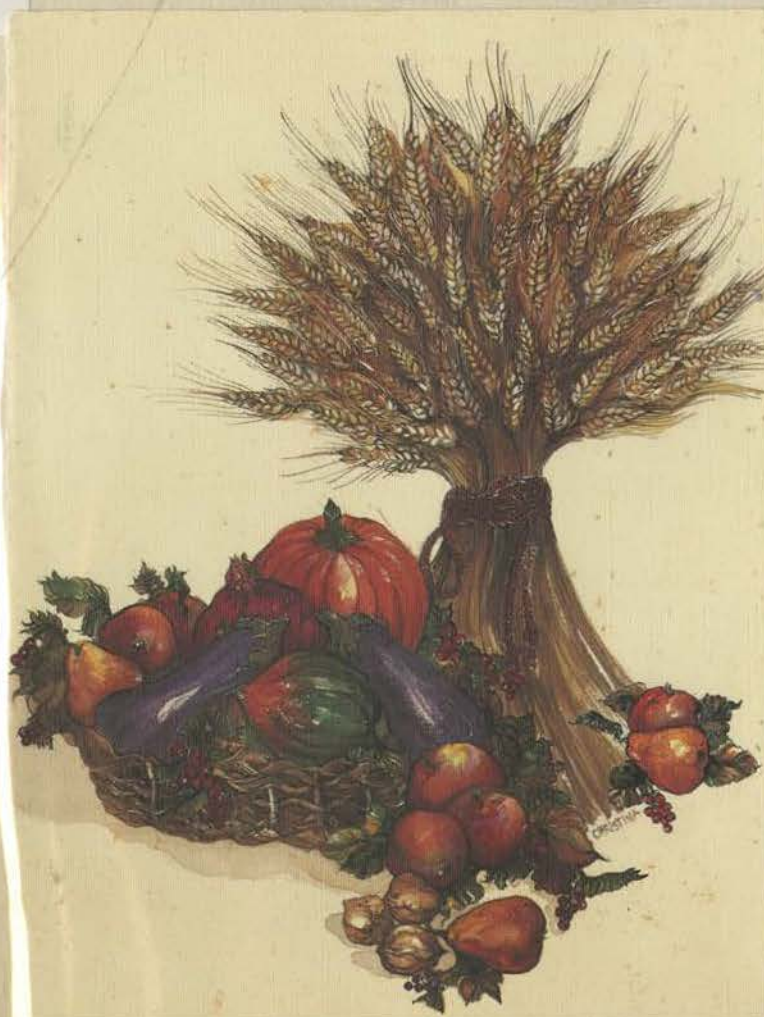
Hostesses:

Charldean Gwyn and Barbara Gardner



Reminders.

January is Garden Center Month at Northern
Hospital.



December 1, 1998

10:00 a.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Topic:

"Community Yuletide Tradition"

A workshop to decorate historic landmarks

Trinity Episcopal Church and the
Antebellum Alfred Moore House

Project Chairpersons:

Trinity Episcopal Church:
Claire Merritt and Earline Epperson

The Antebellum Alfred Moore House
Kathryn Parries and Eleanor Powell-Norman

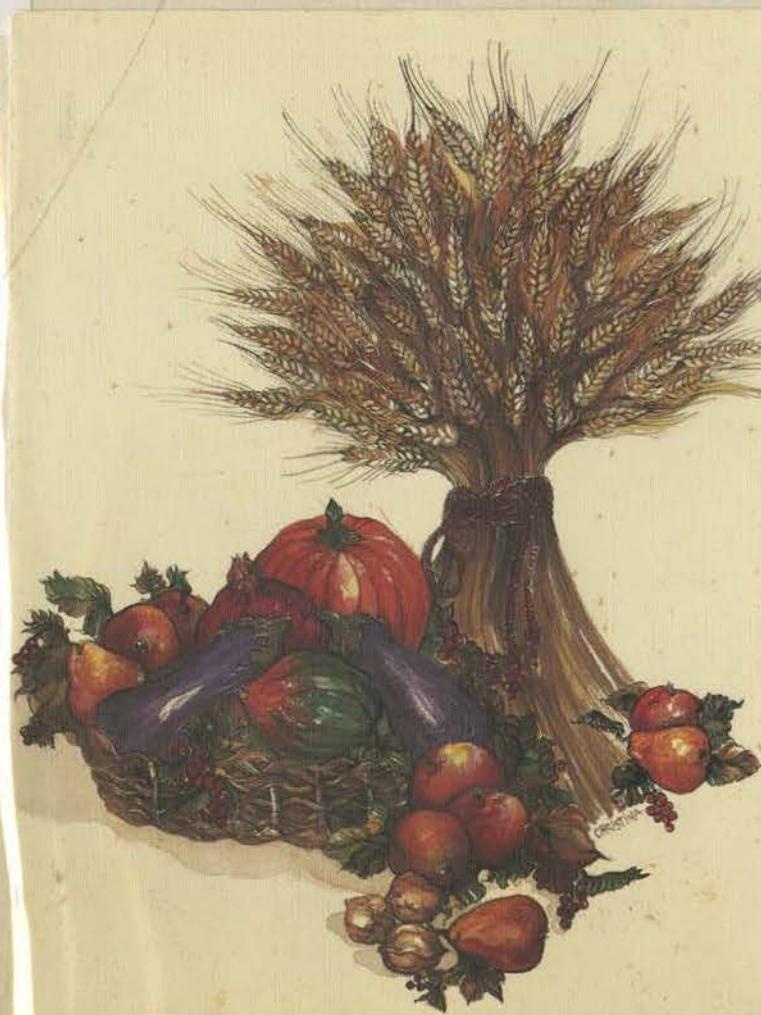
Hostesses:

Charldean Gwyn and Barbara Gardner



Reminders.

January is Garden Center Month at Northern
Hospital.



January 19, 1999
12 Noon
Ridgecrest Retirement Center

Topic:
"What Attracts Butterflies and Birds"

Guest Speaker:
Ginny Adams

Program Chairperson:
Jewel Bondurant

Hostess:
Ridgecrest Staff

Reminders:
Turn in horticulture sheets to Mae Turpin

Feed the birds!



February 16, 1999
12 Noon
First Presbyterian Church

Topic:
"For The Birds"

Club Speaker:
Shirley Brinkley

Chairperson:
Sue Cooke

Hostesses:
Lydia Hennis and Inglis Rowe

Reminder:
Membership Dues
Elect Officers



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March 16, 1999
12 Noon
Foothills Nursery

Topic:
"Dooryard Gardens"

Guest Speaker:
Karen Harris

Program Chairperson:
Barbara Gardner

Hostesses:
Betty Cooper and Betty Palmer

Arbor Day - March 15th
Plant tree at
Oakdale Cemetery
in memory of Rachel Hazel

April is Garden Center Month
at Northern Hospital

April 20, 1999
12 Noon
Home of Linda Kniskern
Flower Show

Topic:
"Spring Spectacular"
Flowers from the Garden

Program Chairpersons:
Katherine Parries
Eleanor Powell-Norman

Luncheon Hostesses:
Tracy Greenwood
Barbara Gardner
Charldean Gwyn
Mary Kilby

Reminders:
Installation of Officers in May



The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
Seventy-Fourth Annual Meeting



Mountain Gardens

April 25 - 27, 1999
Quality Inn
Boone, North Carolina

Sue Cooke
Modern Gardens
Mt. Airy



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Club Mem





May 18, 1999
11:30 a.m.

Old Fashion Picnic in Robert Smith Gardens

Topic:
"Sharing Garden Secrets"

Installation of New Officers

Program Chairperson:
Majorie Holcomb

Hostesses:
Sara Lee McGee
Mae Turpin

Surry Scene, Thursday, June 3, 1999



LIFE MEMBERS: Katherine Parries (left), awards chairman of Modern Gardeners, presents life memberships to (left to right) Earlene Epperson, Barbara Gardner, Sue Cooke and Betty Palmer.

MODERN GARDENERS HONORS FOUR CLUB MEMBERS

Four members of Modern Gardeners were honored at the club's recent May picnic held at the Robert Smith Memorial Park.

Katherine Parries, awards chairman, presented life memberships to Earlene Epperson, Barbara Gardner, Sue Cooke and Betty Palmer, all of whom have been members of the club for 20 years or longer. They were each remembered with life membership pins for their dedicated work with the club.

Officers were installed by Michella Huff, horticulturist for the City of Mount Airy. They are: Linda Kniskern, president; Marjorie Holcomb, vice president; Earlene Epperson, secretary; and Sarah Lee McGee, treasurer.

Tracy Greenwood, outgoing president, was presented an engraved polished pewter tray for her outstanding leadership this past year.

She remembered each member with decorative candle holders that she made using tiny clay pots, spagnum moss and ivory candles.

Inglis Rowe reported that she and Tracy had visited with the Lifeskill students at Mount Airy Junior High for a garden therapy program. They carried fresh flowers and containers for each student to make an arrangement for their mothers and also entertained the group by reading stories about "Mother's Day." Their program was highlighted with refreshments.

A delightful picnic luncheon was served in a garden setting with Sarah Lee McGee and Mae Turpin as hostesses.

The club has disbanded for the summer with meetings to resume in September.

MODERN GARDENERS

Spring is here, the flowers are blooming and everything looks so beautiful. For our annual luncheon and installation of new Officers we want to go on a picnic. As Modern Gardeners we should feel quite at home in the lovely garden behind the Visitor Center on May 18th at 11:30 a.m. I do hope every one of you can attend. We ask that you bring a covered dish or salad or that certain mouthwatering recipe that you don't think any picnic should go without. It is a picnic so dress comfortably and bring a blanket to sit on if you like. There are plenty of benches to sit on as well. It has been asked that we park in the BB&T parking on Rawley ave. This is the parking lot across from the bank. Then you can walk through the backyard to get to the garden. The telephone committee will be calling to see who will be attending. This will help our hostesses Mae Turpin and Sarah Lee McGee with the preparations.

I want to thank each of you for making this year so wonderful. It is because of you, your knowledge, talents and willingness to work that we are able to accomplish so much together. It's amazing, we work and still have a lot of fun!

Your President and fellow member,

Tracy Greenwood



Top Flower Show Judge Says Creativity The Key

By ELEANOR POWELL
Staff Writer

Marie Cruse, a master flower show judge, told her audience of garden club members, "Don't be afraid to be different. Be creative, use your imagination."

During her recent platform performance in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church in Elkin, the artist, who has created arrangements for the White House and participated in the Chelsea Flower Show in England, explained her interesting and unusual containers. She said that she got one from Eleanor Yeatts, a past state garden club president, and picked up the driftwood on the coast.

Working along, she used pink protea, a cactus-like bloom, with green ti leaves to complete the display which she entitled "Flight to the Moon."

For a "Bewitching" abstract design, the genial arranger featured a straw witch accented with a large grapevine, tiny pumpkins and red ti leaves.

When someone asked where she got the huge five-foot grapevine, the Charlotte garden club president laughed and said she and her husband were in Atlanta, it was raining, and they passed some debris near the street. "I asked him to stop and let me get it, and luckily he had his saw, so he cut it for me."

"Jungle Fever" was the title for another creation in exotic black tubes. Red ginger and philodendron were used for the flowers and line. Another container featured bamboo with sunflowers and Birds of

Paradise and was named "In the Oriental Manner."

The final design was a huge piece of cypress sculpture accented with deer antlers. She chose the protea for an effective desert composition and added a cluster of green ti leaves. While turning to the audience, the leaves fell from the creation, and with a cheerful note she added, "Oh, well, I didn't like them in the arrangement anyway."

The women rushed to the stage when the program ended and bought some of the flowers which were quite unusual and hard to find.

They even purchased the pumpkins that centered each of the tables for the 100 or more attending the luncheon meeting. The bittersweet that encircled the pumpkins was not for sale or it would have gone home with them.

The District 4 meeting was hosted by the Home and Garden Club and Yadkin Valley Garden Club of Elkin, with Lucy Chatham as luncheon chair-



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

TALENTED DESIGNER: Marie Cruse of Charlotte, N.C., a number of unusual designs for garden club members attending the recent District 4 meeting of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., held in Elkin.

Weisner, District 4 Pelt, state president, and Ann M. chairpersons for the meeting. Representing View Gardeners were Betty Midkiff, Betty and Minnie Long, and Sue Cooke and

MODERN GARDENERS' OFFICERS



Linda Kniskern	President
Marjorie Holcomb	Vice President
Earlene Epperson	Secretary
Sarah Lee McGee	Treasurer



PUMPKIN WORKSHOP: Members of Modern Gardeners listen as Steve Scott of Airmont Florist gives instructions on using fresh pumpkins as a container for their Halloween flower arrangements. Betty Palmer, Shirley Cox, Mimi Patterson and Sarah Lee McGee were among those present for an October meeting held in Elkin.





Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

FLOOD DONATION: Members of Modern Gardeners have turned their interests to the victims of Hurricane Floyd, which caused extensive flooding in the eastern part of the state, leaving many people homeless and despondent. Sarah Lee McGee (left), the group's treasurer, presents a check to Linda Kniskern (right), president, while Earlene Epperson (second from left), secretary, and Marjorie Holcomb, vice president, look on during a recent luncheon meeting at Cross Creek Country Club. The check, which was presented to the American Red Cross, will be added to other donations and sent to the Hurricane Floyd Flood Relief in eastern North Carolina.

Surry Scene, Thursday, October 28, 1999



MODERN GARDENERS: Attending the recent District 4 meeting of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., in Elkin were (front, left to right) Katherine Parries, Eleanor Powell and Sue Cooke. Standing are Linda Kniskern, president, Tracy Greenwood and Earlene Epperson.

Feed the birds!



Robert Smith Gardens



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

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Feed the birds!



Robert Smith Gardens

Local Holiday Tour Of Homes Planned

By ANGELA LEONARD
Staff Writer

The 10th Holiday Tour of Homes is planned Saturday and Sunday in Mount Airy with six of the city's most beautiful homes opening their doors to visitors.

The sanctuary of the historic Trinity Episcopal Church, 472 N. Main St., also will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday during a luncheon to be held in conjunction with the tour.

The Mount Airy Restoration Foundation has been holding the tour of homes since 1983. The first tour included Corinthian Apartments on South Main Street and the Ashby Home on Cherry Street.

Susan Ashby, a member of a planning committee for the first

The Mount Airy Restoration Foundation has been holding the tour of homes since 1983.

event who remains involved in the tour coordination, said the tours began as a fund-raiser and a "wonderful way to show off some of the beautiful homes in the city."

The group skipped a couple of years between 1983 and 1995, making this the 10th event, Ashby said, which will spotlight the six homes and the church.

The tour hours Saturday are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

"It helps people get in the Christmas spirit to see all the homes decorated for the holidays," she said.

Houses are picked through invitation by the Restoration Foundation, which tries to include different architectural styles on each year's tour.

Included for 1995 are the homes of Allen and Brenda Edwards, 658 Woodside Drive; Haywood and Claire Merritt at 836 Country Club Road; Tim and Doreen Welch, 324 W. Lebanon St.; the Louis H. Comer House at 2856 Sheep Farm Road; the William Alfred Moore House, 202 Moore Ave.; and the William E. Merritt House, home of Park Place, at 127 Rawley Ave.

See TOUR, page 2

MODERN GARDENERS DECORATE HISTORIC EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Members of Modern Gardeners gathered at Trinity Episcopal Church December 5 to decorate the front courtyard and entrance of the historical landmark. They also decorated the diningroom of the Antebellum Alfred Moore House.

The church and home were among the historical locations opened during the recent tour of homes sponsored by the Mount Airy Restoration Foundation.

Mary Kilby and Sue Cooke were in charge of the church decorations, while Joy Snow and Eleanor Powell-Norman headed the arrangements at the Moore House.

Others assisting with the decorating projects were Shirley Cox, Leigh Ann Epperson, Tracy Greenwood, Charledean Gwyn, Marjorie Holcomb, Sarah Lee McGee, Claire Merritt, Betty Palmer,

Katherine Parries, Inglis Rowe, Joy Snow and Mae Turpin.

Mary Kilby, president, conducted a brief business session. Charledean Gwyn and Shirley Cox planned to visit the TMH Class at Mount Airy High School and remember the students with Christmas gifts from the garden club.

During the morning, Mae Turpin served refreshments of hot cider and Moravian cookies.

Members responsible for placing flower arrangements in the garden center at Northern Hospital of Surry County during January are Barbara Gardner, Linda Sink, Katherine Parries and Shirley Cox.

The members meet on Jan. 16 at the Mount Airy Public Library. Inglis Rowe will present the program on "The Joy of Growing Orchids."

MODERN GARDENERS CREATE TOPIARIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Llewellyn Churchill, a master flower show judge from Yadkinville, gave instructions to 20 members of Modern Gardeners on the art of creating a boxwood topiary for the holidays.

The group met recently in the fellowship hall of Central United Methodist Church with Jewel Bondurant as program chairman.

Members arrived carrying pokeberry stalks and loads of boxwood and greenery, along with clay pots and oasis. After cutting the oasis to fit the pot, Mrs. Churchill showed the procedure for placing the pokeberry stalks in place for the dowel and then topping that with the remaining piece of oasis.

From there the boxwood was gently

placed on the top portion with other sprigs forming the base. Bright ribbons, baubles, fruits, berries and bows were added to make effective arrangements for the Christmas holidays.

Hostesses for the occasion were Charledean Gwyn, Magdalene Comer, Betty Cooper and Shirley Cox. They served a luncheon of party sandwiches, congealed cranberry salad, cake squares and hot tea.

It was reported that Barbara Gardner and Magdalene Comer had conducted a garden therapy project with the students in the TMH Class at Mount Airy High School during October and Joy Snow and Lyda Hennis were in charge of the project in November.



Jewel Bondurant (right) introduced Llewellyn Churchill, a master flower show judge, who instructed the garden club members on making boxwood topiaries.

Mount Airy, NC

1999-2000

Organized August 31, 1956
Charter Received May 14, 1957
Meetings: Third Tuesday, 12 p.m.



Membership: Twenty-four

Membership In
National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.,
South Atlantic Region: The Garden Club of
North Carolina, Inc., District 4.



MODERN GARDENERS: Attending the recent District 4 meeting of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., in Elkin were (front, left to right) Katherine Parries, Eleanor Powell and Sue Cooke. Standing are Linda Kniskern, president, Tracy Greenwood and Earlene Epperson.

OFFICIAL COLLECT OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Our Heavenly Father, who dost feed the birds and clothe the flowers and who knoweth and careth for every need of us, Thy children, so enlighten our minds to use wisely all the gifts of Thy Mighty Hand, that we, being imbued with Thy Holy Spirit, may so work Thy will that those who come after may mark their path by our footsteps.

For all the beauty of the earth, Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

For our families, our friends, our free and beautiful country, Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

We beseech Thee of Thy great goodness and tender mercy to forgive our sins, and grant that as we work together in fellowship we may draw closer to Thee, Almighty God, in whose name we pray. Amen.

-Marie Rehder Gerdes.

1999-2000



Theme:
"BREAKING NEW
GROUND"



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

STATE MEETING: Members of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc. recently held their 75th-anniversary meeting at Adams-Mark Hotel in Winston-Salem. Marion Robinson (left photo), a native of Sussex, England, and life judge, entertained the gathering with flower designs in the English manner, with her flower presentation the highlight of the three-day convention. She presents one of her creations to Rusty Van Pelt



(right photo), the president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., as Robin Weisner, District IV director, looks on. Meanwhile (right photo) Juanita Daber, a former president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., and Katherine Parries, both members of Modern Gardeners, take a close look at the arrangements displayed by the visiting artist. More than 300 garden club members from throughout the state were present for the event.

1999

The Governor's Highway Beautification Program
Certificate of Appreciation

Awarded to

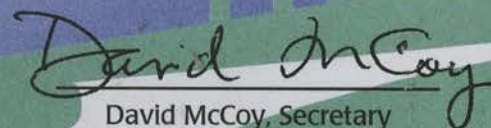
MODERN GARDENERS

*for commitment to preserving the environment of
North Carolina by participating in the*

**"Litter Sweep"
Fall Cleanup Campaign, 1999**



James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor of North Carolina



David McCoy, Secretary
Department of Transportation



Susan Roderick, Chairperson
Governor's Highway Beautification Council

Keep NC Clean & Green

September 21, 1999
12 Noon
Luncheon – Cross Creek Country Club

Topic:
“BREAKING NEW GROUND”
Business Session – A Look at the New Year
Program Chairperson: Linda Kniskern,
President

State and National Goals and Objectives
Club Speaker: Marjorie Holcomb, Vice
President

Hostesses – Officers
Linda Kniskern Marjorie Holcomb
Earlene Epperson Sarah Lee McGee

Reminders
Bulb Sale – Autumn Leaves Festival
October 8-10

October – Garden Center Month
At Northern Hospital



October 19, 1999
12 Noon
Grace Moravian Church Fellowship Hall

Topic:
“Pumpkins Come Alive”
A Floral Arrangement Workshop
Using Pumpkins
by
Steve Scott
N.C. Florist Certified

Program Chairperson:
Mae Turpin

Hostesses:
Betty Palmer - Mimi Patterson

October is Garden Center Month
At Northern Hospital

District IV Meeting
October 14, 1999
Elkin



12

November 16, 1999
12 Noon
Mount Airy Museum of Regional History

Topic:
**“HISTORICAL GARDENING -
REMEMBERING THE PAST TO
UNDERSTAND THE FUTURE”**

Club Speaker and Master Gardner – Linda
Stanfield

Program Chairperson: Sarah Lee McGee

Hostesses:
Shirley Cox – Charldean Gwyn

Reminders:
Bring greenery and other materials for
“Hanging of the Greens” in December at
Trinity Episcopal Church and The Antebellum
Alfred Moore House



Mt. Airy Museum of Regional History

13

Eleanor Powell
The Mount Airy News

CHRISTMAS TRADITION:

Members of Modern Gardeners decorated the historic 100-year-old Trinity Episcopal Church in Mount Airy last week for the holidays. Tracy Greenwood (top photo, left) and Inglis Rowe add apples, boxwood and magnolia foliage for the apple fan above the church's front-door entrance, while Barbara Yeatts, Linda Kniskern and Sue Cooke (bottom picture) tie red velvet bows to the pine garland roping on Trinity's wrought-iron courtyard fence. The garden club has conducted the decorating project for about 20 years.



December 7, 1999
10:00 a.m.
Trinity Episcopal Church
Topic:
"Historic Yuletide Tradition"
A workshop to decorate historic landmarks



Trinity Episcopal Church --Project
Chairpersons: Inglis Rowe and Tracy
Greenwood



The Antebellum Alfred Moore House --
Project Chairpersons: Joy Snow & Jewel
Bondurant

Local Group Learns About Hummingbirds

By ELEANOR POWELL
Staff Writer

Well-known local horticulturist and bird lover Bill Holcomb told some interesting facts about hummingbirds, as members of Modern Gardeners gathered at the Mount Airy Public Library for their February meeting.

With a chuckle, Holcomb began by saying, "I must have given a really good program to your club the last time, since you invited me back again."

Introduced by his daughter, Inglis Rowe, Holcomb said the hummingbird is found only on this continent, from South America to Alaska. While there are 319 species, only one is present east of the Mississippi River – the Ruby Throated.

The garden club members learned that, as far as family matters go, the males' only contribution is to carry on the race. After mating, he does nothing.

"The hummingbird is the smallest bird in the world, about 3 inches in length and weighs less than a penny," Holcomb said.

"The hummer is propelled on ball-socket wings that can beat up to 200 beats per second, and can travel from 0 to 65 miles per hour.

"It is also the acrobat of the sky," the speaker continued. "They can fly backward, forward, upside down or remain motionless in flight. They move only by flying with feet and legs so small and weak they cannot walk, only perch."

See HUMMINGBIRDS, page 2B



ALL ABOUT HUMMERS: Inglis Rowe, a member of Modern Gardeners, introduces her father, Bill Holcomb, who spoke to the group about hummingbirds and how to attract them to the area. He shows one of the feeders that the Holcombs use at their home.



Hummingbirds Continued from page 1B

Holcomb went on to show a feeder from his home and explained that he sprays a small piece of cotton with bug spray and wraps it at the top of the chain to prevent ants from invading the feeder.

"The food mixture must be at least one-third cup of sugar to a cup of water. No coloring is needed. An adult bird feeds every 10 to 15 minutes and consumes twice their body weight each day. Compared to man, it would be 10,000 calories per day. To feed, its tongue is split in two sections that act like straws to extract nectar. The edges are rough to catch insects, which provide protein and the tongue works at 13 licks per second," he mentioned.

"Feeders should be put out sometime between April first through the fifteenth. No matter what, the hummingbirds leave in late September or October. Before their trip South, they double their normal weight for the non-stop flight. The trip across the Gulf of Mexico is approximately 500 miles and it takes almost 25 hours. Sometimes, if they encounter a strong head wind, they might not survive the crossing."

The female builds the nest 10 to 20 inches above the ground with cobweb, moss and down. It's about the size of a quarter outside and a dime inside. Most of the time she will lay two eggs, the size of a pea. They

February 15, 2000
12 Noon
Mount Airy Public Library

Topic:
"In Search of the Hummingbirds for the Future"

Guest Speaker:
Bill Holcomb

Program Chairperson:
Marjorie Holcomb

Hostesses:
Betty Cooper and Barbara Gardner

Reminder:
Membership Dues – Select Officers



YARD OF THE MONTH: Massive groupings of Chinese Red Firefly and Snow azaleas highlight the front lawn of Bill and Marjorie Holcomb's home on Oaklawn Drive in the Smith Woods community of Mount Airy. Holcomb, who is semi-retired from Holcomb Hardware, uses his horticultural expertise in maintaining a beautifully manicured lawn year-round. For their efforts, the Mount Airy Appearance Commission has presented the couple with the Yard of the Month Award.

Arbor Day Celebrated At Mount Airy Middle School



TREE PLANTING: Members of the student council at the Mount Airy Middle School gathered in the school courtyard March 15 to plant five presidential trees donated by Modern Gardeners. The garden club sponsored the Arbor Day event. Van Dearmin (center), school principal, is shown standing with (left to right) Nancy Gentry, A.J. Penn, Chase Smith and Linda Kniskern, president of Modern Gardeners. Kneeling and helping with the planting are Lizzie Johnson, Loren Bradley, Linda Stanfield, horticulture chairman for Modern Gardeners, and Paula Walker.



PROCLAMATION: Mayor Emily Taylor presents the Arbor Day proclamation to Van Dearmin, principal at the Mount Airy Middle School.



MODERN GARDENERS: The Arbor Day program, sponsored by the local garden club, was chaired by Linda Stanfield (kneeling) and Linda Kniskern, club president. Club members participating in the celebration were (left to right) Juanita Daber, Betty Palmer, Emily Crossingham, Tracy Greenwood, Inglis Rowe, Earlene Epperson, Katherine Parries and Betty Palmer.





Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

STATE MEETING: Members of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc. recently held their 75th-anniversary meeting at Adams-Mark Hotel in Winston-Salem. Marion Robinson (left photo), a native of Sussex, England, and life judge, entertained the gathering with flower designs in the English manner, with her flower presentation the highlight of the three-day convention. She presents one of her creations to Rusty Van Pelt



(right photo), the president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., as Robin Weisner, District IV director, looks on. Meanwhile (right photo) Juanita Daber, a former president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., and Katherine Parries, both members of Modern Gardeners, take a close look at the arrangements displayed by the visiting artist. More than 300 garden club members from throughout the state were present for the event.



ENGLISH VISITOR: Kathy Pruett (center) arrived in her British attire to present a program to Modern Gardeners on the gardens of England and the Chelsea Flower Show. Betty Palmer (left), program chairman, and Linda Kniskern, president, pose with the guest speaker at the Gertrude Smith House.

Kathy Pruett Guest Speaker For Modern Gardeners

Members of Modern Gardeners visited the Chelsea Flower Show in London without leaving the Gertrude Smith House.

The group gathered in the living room and foyer of the home for their January meeting and were greeted by Kathy Pruett as she descended the staircase of the historic home.

Decked out in British attire - a printed dress, abstract wool sweater, knee-high stockings, a horsehair brim hat and handbag complete with tea bags - Pruett told about her trip to England. She and four other friends visited several famous gardens, including the Kew Botanical Gardens and the London Rooftop Gardens. Highlighting the excursion was their venture to the Chelsea Flower Show which was reproduced on video.

Betty Palmer introduced the guest speaker, who is a member of Garden

Gate Garden Club, and remembered her with a potted bromeliad.

Linda Kniskern, president, conducted the business meeting. Ann Vaughn, executive director of the Gilmer-Smith Foundation, introduced Cindy Puckett, horticulturist for the foundation.

Vaughn announced that the Susan P. Ashby Endowment Committee is sponsoring a benefit luncheon on Wednesday, Feb. 23, at noon at Cross Creek Country Club. Chip Callaway is presenting the program as a tribute to the memory of Mrs. Ashby and for his hometown. Tickets are \$15.

The group remembered a club member, Marjorie Holcomb, who is recovering from an automobile accident.

Hostesses Tracy Greenwood and Mrs. Kniskern served refreshments in the sun room.

The February meeting will be held at the Mount Airy Public Library, with Bill Holcomb speaking on "Hummingbirds for the Future."

MOUNTAIN VIEW GARDEN CLUB PAYS TRIBUTE TO FANNY JONES

Members of Mountain View Garden Club paid tribute to the late Fanny Peace Jones by dedicating a granite bench to the City of Mount Airy.

The ceremony was held April 15 at the Mount Airy Municipal Building with Betty Wright, president of the Mountain View Garden Club, in charge of the service which included comments from Mayor Pro-tem John A. Browne.

Special guests were Mrs. Jones' husband, Ed Jones; her niece, Barbara Burton, and daughter, Sissy, of High Point; and special friends, Mr. and Mrs. Les Holyfield of Smith Mountain Lake, Va.

Members of Mountain View Garden Club, Modern Gardeners and Garden Gate Garden Club gathered at the front entrance, along with other friends and Mount Airy City Commissioners Maynard Beamer, Tycho Wood and Bill Joe Woodruff.

Mrs. Wright told the group, "We are all here this afternoon to once again remember a talented lady who made our city a prettier place in which to live. Fanny was a member of Mountain View Garden Club for 42 years. She taught the members of her garden club the joy of gardening, the stimulation of artistic expression and, above all, the full meaning of friendship. Fanny generously gave the flowers from her abundant garden to all church and civic groups and unselfishly shared with them her God-given talent of designing flower arrangements.

"It is with gratitude and admiration to Fanny that this granite bench, inscribed with 'In Memory of Fanny Peace Jones from Mountain View Garden Club and Friends,' is dedicated to the City of Mount Airy. I am deeply appreciative to the Appearance Commission for their placing this bench in such a prominent location in front of our beautiful Municipal Building."

Frances Johnson, the only charter member of Mountain View Garden Club, spoke fondly of Mrs. Jones, after which Alice Pell read one of Mrs. Jones' favorite poems.

Norma Johnson, a member of Garden Gate Garden Club, created an arrangement of red tulips, yellow curry roses and scotch broom which was placed on the bench. Mrs. Johnson had gathered some of the flowers from Mrs. Jones' garden and arranged them in a burnished copper container that had belonged to Mrs. Jones.

Copies of the poem were distributed as the dedication service closed.



BENCH DEDICATION: Betty Wright (right), president of Mountain View Garden Club, dedicates the granite bench in memory of Fanny Peace Jones as Commissioner John Browne (left) and Ed Jones, husband of the late Mrs. Jones, listen to remarks from club members.



Members of Mountain View Garden Club, Modern Gardeners and Garden Gate Garden Club attended the dedication ceremony. They are (front, left to right) Inglis Rowe, Betty Wright, Joy Snow, Norma Johnson, Betty Palmer, Lyda Hennis and Eleanor Powell-Norman. Back row: Katherine Parries, Nell Cox, Dot Loftis, Rachel Hill, Pat Eggers, Gerlene Snow, Alice Pell, Frances Johnson, Jill Barr, Marjorie Holcomb, Claire Merritt, Sarah Lee McGee, Heeth Clark and Susan Gitt.





50th ANNIVERSARY: Members of Mountain View Gardeners Garden Club were decked out in Easter finery to celebrate the golden anniversary of their club, organized in 1950. Members wore dresses, hats, gloves and accessories from that era. Special guests for the anniversary luncheon at the historic Moore House included members of Modern Gardeners and Garden Gate Garden Club, in addition to state officers. They are (front, left to right) Pat Eggers, Betty Wright, Gerlene Snow, Ann Watson, Sue Mason, Imogene Midkiff, Lisa Robertson, (behind) Minnie Loffen, Jill Barr, Rachel Hill, president, Carolyn Walker and Page Hardy (back). Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

Club Holds Flower Show

Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News
SPRING EVENT: Members of Modern Gardeners recently staged their annual spring flower show at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bucky Holcomb, Laurel Ridge Place. Linda Kniskern (left), club president, and Kim Holcomb, hostess, are shown with the flower show judges, Juanita Daber (right) a master flower show judge and a former president of the Garden Club of North Carolina, and Joyce Adams, an accredited flower show judge from Winston-Salem. They are critiquing a flower arrangement created by Linda Kniskern.



Eleanor Powell
The Mount Airy News

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS:

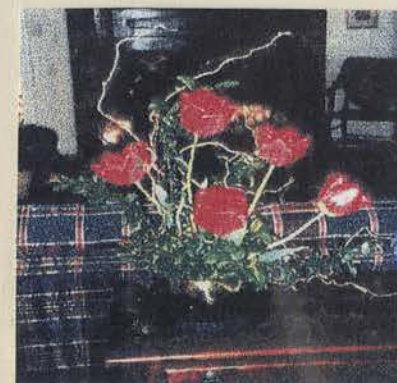
Tracy Greenwood (left photo) poses with a creation that she designed for the foyer of the Holcomb home. Mary Kilby (right) used tulips from her garden for the exquisite design on the dining room buffet. These are just two of the arrangements created by garden club members for specific settings throughout the



"Flowers Burst Forth from the New Ground" Flower Show

Program Chairpersons:
Katherine Parries
Eleanor Powell-Norman

Hostesses: Officers
Linda Kniskern
Marjorie Holcomb
Earlene Epperson
Sarah Lee McGee



Flower Show Entry by Inglis Rowe





Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

SPECTACULAR RHODODENDRON: Haywood Merritt shows off a few of that specimen's blooms to members of Modern Gardeners during a Tuesday tour of the Merritt garden. Linda Kniskern (left), club president, Earlene Epperson and Betty Palmer listen as Merritt presents tips on growing rhododendron. A blue-ribbon-winning member of the North Carolina and National Rhododendron Societies, Merritt also explained the proper care for hybrid rhododendron throughout the year. Claire Merritt hosted the luncheon meeting and introduced her husband as program speaker.

Modern Gardeners Install New Officers

Haywood Merritt Jr., was guest speaker for the May luncheon meeting held recently at the Merritt home on Country Club Road. He talked to the group about growing rhododendron and led them on a tour of the magnificent garden which was reaching its peak.

Claire Merritt hosted the covered-dish luncheon along with Emily Crossingham, Jewel Bondurant and Mary Kilby.

Linda Kniskern presided during the meeting and introduced special guests, Beth Martin, assistant District IV director, who installed new club officers, and Cassie Mackie, a charter member of Modern Gardeners, both of whom are garden club members in Winston-Salem.

The new officers are: Claire Merritt, president; Eleanor Powell, vice president; Katherine Parries, secretary; and Betty

Palmer, treasurer.

Martin installed the officers in an impressive ceremony and presented each a potted plant representing the office they hold.

Kniskern was remembered with an engraved silver bowl for her capable leadership throughout the year. The presentation was made by Marjorie Holcomb, outgoing vice president.

Tracy Greenwood reported that she and Linda Stanfield visited with the skilled care class during the month of May and led the students in decorating terracotta pots to be taken home to their mothers. They also helped the group plant flowers on the school lawn as a garden therapy project.

Gifts of appreciation were presented to the installing officer, Beth Martin, and program speaker, Haywood Merritt Jr.

Eight club members gathered on Thursday to prepare and plant the mini-garden at the triangle on Main and Renfro streets. Participating on the day-long beautification project were Emily Crossingham, chairman; Inglis Rowe, Mary Kilby, Jewel Bondurant, Betty Palmer, Katherine Parries, Claire Merritt and Eleanor Powell.

...Linda Kniskern (right), outgoing president, receives a silver bowl from Modern Gardeners. Marjorie Holcomb makes the



May 16, 2000
11:30 a.m.
Covered Dish Luncheon
Home of Claire and Haywood Merritt

Topic:
"Rhododendron Spectacular"



Guest Speaker:
Haywood Merritt
Blue Ribbon Winning Member of the N.C.
and National Rhododendron Societies



MODERN GARDENERS: Beth Martin (left), assistant District IV Director of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc., installs new officers of Modern Gardeners. They are (left to right) Claire Merritt, president; Eleanor Powell, vice president; Katherine Parries, secretary; and Betty Palmer, treasurer.



Modern Gardeners' Mini Garden

A Good Year!



The triangular garden at the intersection of Renfro Street and North Main Street gives a colorful welcome to the downtown area.

Group To Honor 'Secret Gardens'

From Staff Reports

If you've noticed and enjoyed colorful gardens around Mount Airy this summer, you're not the only one.

Beginning this month, the Mount Airy Appearance Commission will be recognizing a "Secret Garden" each month -- awarding the plantings for their colorful and creative additions to the city.

This month, two winners have been selected -- the alleyway garden off Main Street downtown, created and maintained by the Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club, and the triangle garden at the Renfro-North Main intersection, planted and maintained by the Modern Gardeners. "The alleyway garden adds wonderful color to the downtown area," said Steve Scott, commission member, "and the triangle garden offers a brilliant welcome to the city."

Scott said that future "Secret Gardens"

Gardens

Continued from page 1

may be as small as a container garden or a window box, or as ambitious as a backyard cottage garden.

"We'll also be awarding originality as well -- perhaps an herb garden, a water garden, or a trellised grape arbor," he said. "Members will be canvassing their communities to find these hidden treasures."

Scott said the new award may encourage gardeners to put forth extra effort, but has another purpose.



This alleyway garden planted and maintained by the Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club adds color to a barren alley off Main Street.

COOKS OF THE WEEK



MODERN GARDENERS

By **ELEANOR POWELL**
Food Editor

Modern Gardeners not only have a knack for flower arranging and gardening, they're also experts in the kitchen. Each one brought a favorite dish to the May luncheon meeting at the lovely home of Claire and Haywood Merritt.

Claire hosted the occasion, along with Mary Kilby, Emily Crossingham and Jewel Bondurant, who provided some delicious desserts.

Surprisingly, no two members brought the same dish. Baked ham, rolls and tea were enjoyed with a variety of salads, casseroles, vegetables and fruits.



COOK OF THE WEEK

SUE COOKE

COOKS OF THE WEEK



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News
SPRING BUFFET: Marjorie Holcomb, hostess Barbara Gardner, Barbara Yates and Joy Snow (left to right) arrange dishes on the island for Modern Gardeners' annual luncheon meeting.

MODERN GARDENERS



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News
SPRINGTIME LUNCHEON: For a garden club meeting Sue Cooke prepared and served this delicious Cream of Pimiento Soup, Wild Rice-Chicken Salad, Asparagus with Roma Tomatoes and Herb Vinaigrette.

Club/Civic



CLUB SPEAKER: Claire Merritt (right), president of Modern Gardeners, introduced Juanita Daber (left), who addressed the membership on national, state and local goals and objectives.

Modern Gardeners Hear Former State President

Juanita Daber, a former president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., addressed Modern Gardeners at their September luncheon meeting at Cross Creek Country Club.

Introduced by club president, Claire Merritt, Daber reported on national, state and local objectives and went into detail describing projects conducted on each level.

A former resident of Durham, she moved back to her native Mount Airy last year and is currently a member of Modern Gardeners. She is also an accredited flower show judge.

All 24 members of the club were present for the occasion. The luncheon tables were decorated by Merritt and other club officers: Eleanor Powell, vice president; Katherine Parries, secretary; and Betty Palmer, treasurer. For the centerpiece Par-

ries created a moss-covered topiary picture hat trimmed with fall flowers to coincide with this year's theme, "Covering New Ground." Places for each member were marked with framed photographs of the flower arrangements they created for the club's annual flower show.

Each was also presented a potted cup of coleus and a scroll of menus for gardening recipes.

Parries explained that the club will place a Christmas tree in the mini garden in November and decorate it with "tweets" for the birds.

Tracy Greenwood was congratulated on her flower show photograph which was selected for publication in the North Carolina Garden Club Calendar 2000-2001.

Members were reminded of the District 4 meeting Oct. 31 in Winston-Salem.



State Garden Club President Joins Locals For Anniversary

By ELEANOR POWELL
Staff Writer

Modern Gardeners celebrated their 45th anniversary Tuesday morning with a fast-moving, colorful program paying tribute to their members, honoring state dignitaries, recognizing four new life memberships, a flower arranging demonstration and delightful refreshments served in a spring garden atmosphere at Cross Creek Country Club.

All of this took place as Dr. Rusty Van Pelt, president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., paid tribute to Modern Gardeners at their 45th anniversary gala.

The state garden club president congratulated the local garden club on their many accomplishments and presented Claire Merritt, president, with a certificate of appreciation for the club from state headquarters.

Merritt introduced special guests: Joyce Adams and Phebe Kirkman of Winston-Salem, past presidents of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc.; Beth Martin, incoming District 4 Director; and Juanita Daber, a member of Modern Gardeners and a former state garden club president.



LIFE MEMBERS: Four members of Modern Gardeners were presented life memberships in the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., during the club's 45th anniversary celebration at Cross Creek Country Club. They are (left to right) Joy Snow, Inglis Rowe, Mary Kilby and Jewel Bondurant.

Others recognized were: Ann Watson, president of Mountain View Garden Club; and Patty Gunn, president of Garden Gate Garden Club. Their club members were also invited as special guests.

Past presidents and former members of Modern Gardeners attending the celebration were: Jane King, Lib Boyles, Bettie Leonard, Lydia Garland, Lea Simmons, Frieda Chauncey, Rocelle Hart, Sarah Johnson, Sandra Marshall and Linda Sink.

Four members of Modern Gardeners were presented with life memberships in the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., in recognition of their dedicated work and support in the local club. State garden club pins and certificates were presented to Jewel Bondurant, Mary Kilby, Inglis Rowe and Joy Snow. The club now has 15 members who have been honored with state life memberships.

Six charter members of the garden club who met and organized the club in 1956 and still maintain their membership served as hostesses: Shirley Cox, Charleane Gwyn, Marjorie Holcomb, Sarah Lee McGee, Katherine Parries and Eleanor Powell.

Inglis Rowe created a centerpiece of spring flowers for the refreshment table and Katherine Parries made the white camellia corsages for special guests. Mountain View Garden Club honored the club with a centerpiece of all-white flowers for the table where the club's scrapbooks were displayed.

Betty Palmer, club treasurer, helped distribute the new uncirculated silver quarters from North Carolina to each one attending the celebration.

Guest Artist

Trish Summers, an accredited flower show judge from Winston-Salem, charmed the audience with her presentation of "Lemons and Lines."

Summers is a true believer in enjoying what you do with flowers. "If you don't like doing a particular design, then do something else," she said with a twinkle in her eyes. "Always make this fun."

She also likes using spray paint for interesting effects. The mother of two sons, Trish said the boys have outgrown Easter baskets, but she saved one favorite, and sprayed it bright green. For the mass arrangement she chose some thistles that came from her native New



Dr. Rusty Van Pelt (left), president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., presents a certificate to Claire Merritt (right), president of Modern Gardeners. About 60 garden club members from the area attended the event.

York and painted them with green spray paint. "Don't you think these look like eggs?" she asked.

She then inserted lemons which were impaled with sticks into the Oasis. Next came the white, yellow and purple chrysanthemums, interspersed with clippings of fresh pine. The basket was placed on a purple place mat and complemented with purple candles.

As the artist stacked pieces of driftwood for another line arrangement, one of the gardeners asked, "How do you keep them from falling apart?" Her answer was "pray a lot!"

For a dramatic composition Summers suggested using a

plain candlestick found around the house. Spray it black. Using Ting-Ting, which is found in craft stores, spray black and insert in the candlestick. Place lemons at strategic points in the Ting-Ting for a very effective conversation piece.

With a black plastic container, she showed how three yellow jonquils make an effective design with corkscrew willow for the line.

Summers was applauded for her designs and one member commented to her, "You were just wonderful. You didn't intimidate us and you made everything look so easy. We've had fun!"



Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News

GARDEN CLUB CELEBRATION: Trish Summers, an accredited flower show judge, puts the final touch on an Easter basket during Modern Gardeners 45th anniversary gala at Cross Creek Country Club.



Caroline Beamer/The Mount Airy News
THINKING ABOUT SPRING: Mount Airy's Modern Gardeners are planning ahead by planting spring bulbs at the intersection of North Main and Renfro streets. Participating in the planting are (from left to right) are Inglis Rowe, Katherine Parries, Kim Holcomb, Betty Palmer, Emily Crossingham and Mimi Patterson.

The Mount Airy Public Library

accepts with gratitude

your gift

in memory of

Claire Grace Angle

an acknowledgement has been sent to

Mrs. Claire Merritt



GARDENERS GALORE: (Top left) Modern Gardeners members attending the District IV meeting were (left to right) Betty Palmer, Eleanor Powell, Claire Merritt, Katherine Parries, Earlene Epperson and Juanita Daber, a former president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc. (Top right) Members of the Mountain View Club attending the meeting (left to right) Imogene Midkiff, Lisa Robertson and Gerlene Snow.

14A-The Mount Airy News Wednesday, October 25, 2000



FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP: Juanita Daber (left) conducted a recent flower arranging workshop for members of Modern Gardeners in the fellowship hall of Grace Moravian Church. An accredited flower show judge, Daber is also a member of Modern Gardeners. She gave a demonstration using fall flowers and foliage and then guided the group in making their own designs. Hostesses were Earlene Epperson (center) and Mimi Patterson.

Eleanor Powell/The Mount Airy News



GARDEN CLUB CONVENTION: The South Atlantic Region, National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., convened March 11-13 at New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern. Representing Modern Gardeners were (left to right) Katherine Parries, secretary; Claire Merritt, president; Eleanor Powell, vice president; and Juanita Daber, a past president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc. About 250 garden club members were there from North and South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky.



CHECKING ARRANGEMENTS: Phebe Kirkman (left), recording secretary of the South Atlantic Region, looks at the centerpiece arrangements along with Dottie Austin (center) and Wava Howard. The decorating committee used pots of daffodils with handpainted birdhouses at each of the tables.



PROGRAM SPEAKERS: Dr. Rusty Van Pelt (center), president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., introduces symposium speakers, Lucille Hipp, chairman of the board of governors, Daniel Boone Native Gardens, and Cecil Frost, director of the Plant Conservation Program of the N.C. Department of Agriculture.



CITY LANDSCAPING: Michella Huff (right), landscape supervisor for the City of Mount Airy, tells Modern Gardeners about various beauty spots located throughout the city that are planted and maintained by the city's landscaping department. Earlene Epperson is pictured to the left.

Huff Talks To Modern Gardeners About Beauty Spots

Michella Huff, landscape supervisor for the City of Mount Airy, was guest speaker for the February meeting of Modern Gardeners. Her topic was "Mount Airy's Beauty Spots."

Kim Holcomb introduced Huff to the gardeners who met in the conference room of the Mount Airy Municipal Building.

Huff told the group that the city landscaping department planted over 7,000 annuals and 600 bulbs last year and used 24 40-pound bags of fertilizer in the 33 beds throughout the city.

Among those beautification projects were the War Memorial on Main Street, the two welcome signs to Mount Airy, Davenport Park, City Hall, Westwood and Riverside Parks, Andy Griffith Playhouse, Mount Airy Police Department, Mount Airy Public Library and mini garden on Renfro Street.

In addition to the gardens they also planted and hung 28 planters on Main Street.

For the year 2001 Huff and her group will plant red, white and blue petunias at the memorial. At other focal points they will use Dragon Wings, sun tolerant caladiums called "Florida Sweetheart", new vinca named "Passion", dwarf compact coleus dubbed "Fairway Rose and the shrimp plant.

The horticulturist also noted that 80 percent of the annuals for the planters are grown in 6-inch pots for instant color and size.

Claire Merritt, president, noted that Modern Gardeners will celebrate Arbor Day on March 15 by planting a presidential tree on the grounds of the Mount Airy Middle School. Linda Stanfield added that a granite marker will be installed to identify the established area where the garden club planted five other presidential trees last year.

Merritt announced that the club will observe its 45th year anniversary gala on March 27 at Cross Creek Country Club. Trish Sumner, an accredited flower show judge, will give a platform demonstration. Present members of Mountain View Garden Club and Garden Gate Garden Club have been invited to attend as special guests.

3-11-01



GREEN WITH ENVY: Inglis Rowe (right) shows how simple it is to make all-green winter arrangements using fresh materials found near the home. She created several designs as illustrations for members of Modern Gardeners. Admiring the display are Mary Kilby (left) and Linda Kniskern, January hostesses.

By Eleanor Powell Staff Writer

Inglis Rowe shared some decorating tips for brightening one's home after the Christmas decorations come down and the lights are put away.

"The rooms inside the house just look a little blah, but with a trip outside, you can gather all types of greenery to make an arrangement for your home," she told Modern Gardeners during their January meeting in the fellowship hall of the First Presbyterian Church.

Rowe displayed a number of beautiful arrangements that she had created for illustrations and to carry out the program title, "Green with Envy." One was a very effective design using tall lines of pine with various groupings of euonymus, eleagnus, variegated aucuba, magnolia leaves, hemlock, camellia foliage and Burford holly.

The program chairman emphasized that the design was suitable for a church arrangement and she planned to place it at the altar for last Sunday's service at the First Baptist Church. "Greenery is so interesting as it varies from broad-leaf foliage to delicate foliage and needled evergreens."

Using various containers, the ardent arranger combined suitable materials for pleasing effects and pointed out that different greenery makes an effective arrangement even in small, insignificant containers.

Members brought a collection of greenery to create their own designs with many becoming acquainted with greenery from other gardens. Displayed on the long tables were camellia foliage, Scotch broom, barberry, cotoneaster, English ivy, magnolia, boxwood, geranium, photinia, mahonia, jasmine, nandina, cotoneaster, aucuba, pine, spruce, yew, hemlock and juniper.

Barbara Gardner brought a huge piece of boxwood about four-feet tall and the size of a bush basket. She announced that someone had run over one of their large boxwoods and split it. "I decided to bring it today so everyone would have something to work with," she said with laughter.

The ardent flower arrangers created many striking designs to be used either in their homes or carried to friends to enjoy.

The club president, Claire Frank, conducted a business session. Linda Kniskern and Mary Kilby, hostesses, used a snow man theme for refreshments and table decorations.



CHARTER MEMBERS: Modern Gardeners celebrated their 45th anniversary March 27 with a gala at Cross Creek Country Club. These six charter members (front, left to right), Eleanor Powell, Marjorie Holcomb, Shirley Cox and (standing) Sarah Lee McGee, Katherine Parries and Charledean Gwyn, helped organize the club in 1956. They were hostesses for the anniversary celebration.



VISITING OFFICERS: Juanita Daber (right), a past president of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., and a member of Modern Gardeners, welcomes (left to right) Joyce Adams and Phebe Kirkman, past presidents of the state garden club, and Beth Martin, incoming director of District 4, to the celebration held in honor of Modern Gardeners' 45th anniversary.



PRESS AWARD: Eleanor Powell (left) accepts a first-place award for her entry in the North Carolina Working Press Association contest. Melissa Clement, president of the association made the presentation during the group's annual meeting in Chapel Hill.

Powell Wins First-Place At State Press Contest

CHAPEL HILL - Eleanor Powell, lifestyles editor of The Mount Airy News, won a first-place award in the annual North Carolina Working Press contest held here Saturday night at Pyewacket's Restaurant.

Powell was recognized for her entry written about a co-worker, "rjberrier@heaven.com." Berrier passed away just a year ago and the writer reminisces the years they worked together in the newspaper business.

Gail Kerr, a columnist for The Tennessean, Nashville, Tenn., judged the columns division of the contest. She remarked, "You had me from R.J.' Touching, well-written. I

felt R.J. was an old friend by the end. It brought tears to my eyes. Great detail. It read fast. Well done."

This was the second time Powell captured a first-place award for her writing in the N.C. Working Press contest. She also won a first-place award from the North Carolina Food Service Association and was a part of the winning team to capture a first-place award for her cookbook supplement by the North Carolina Press Association in 1998.

Melissa Clement, president of the N.C. Working Press, and a staff member of the Fayetteville Observer, made the presentations to winners from

throughout the state. About 50 winners and their guests attended the awards banquet.

Powell has worked at The Mount Airy News 42 years covering the society news, civ and club news, her week cooking column and Mount Airy Happenings in the Sun Scene.

Club/Civic



GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS: New officers of Modern Gardeners were installed at a luncheon meeting. Robin Weisner (left), District 4 Director, was in charge of the installation service. Serving for 2001-2002 are (left to right) Mimi Patterson, president; Linda Stanfield, vice president; Joy Snow, secretary; and Inglis Rowe, treasurer.

District Director Installs Modern Gardeners Officers

Robin Weisner of Winston-Salem, District 4 Director of the Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., installed the new officers of Modern Gardeners during a luncheon meeting at the home of Barbara Gardner.

Claire Merritt, president, welcomed the group and introduced Weisner. During the installation service Weisner presented each of the officers with roses which are symbolic of their duties for the coming year. Mimi Patterson is the president for 2001-2002; Linda Stanfield, vice president; Joy Snow, secretary; and Inglis Rowe, treasurer.

Weisner commended the club on their achievements during the year. They were the recipients of the Hannah McNeil McMillian Arbor Day Award which was presented at the state convention in Raleigh. The club's entry for the Nichols Bird Award captured a red ribbon, as did the club's Press Book.

Merritt was remembered with an engraved silver bowl from the club for her dedicated leadership during the past year. Weisner was presented a gift of crystal as a token of the club's appreciation.

Hostesses for the occasion, in addition to Gardner, were other life members, Sue Cooke, Betty Palmer, Earlene Epperson, Mae Turpin and Marjorie Holcomb.

Tables set up on the enclosed sunroom were covered with lavender linen cloths and centered with whimsical arrangements created by Parries and Powell. For the centerpieces they used containers from Spain that were made of recycled glass. Four pairs of colorful garden gloves were placed in each container with the fingers representing flower petals with a large fuchsia peony inserted in the center. The gloves were later removed and presented to each garden club member as a gift from the outgoing officers, Merritt, Powell, Parries and Palmer.

Emily Crossingham reminded the group about the clean-up project at the mini-garden and the planting of summer flowers.

Merritt also mentioned that several members plan to attend the Tour of Homes in Boone on July 14. Those planning to make the trip are asked to contact Merritt.