JANUARY 1952

On Thursday, January 3, the members of the Covington Garden Club were the guests of Mrs. Lowell McKee, Mrs. S. L. Guynn, Mrs. Wilfred Glockner, Mrs. J. A. Hawley, Mrs. H. D. Hagerty, Mrs. Owen Heyer, Mrs. L. P. Hickey, Mrs. George Hindermann, and Mrs. J. H. Warner, at the Southern Hotel.

The minutes were approved after one correction in the nomenclature of the Christmas Contest committee was made.

The Treasurer reported a previous balance on hand of $148.12, plus dues collected of $40.00, less expenses of $14.70, leaving a balance of $173.63.

Mrs. Hebert reported on the library project from its beginning, starting with the approval of the plans from Miss Glisson and Mr. Burns, then the assistance of Mr. Ike Champagne in obtaining five loads of top soil. She stated that Mr. Burns had rectified the drainage troubles.

Mrs. Benedict announced the winners of the Christmas decoration project as: Yard Decoration - 1st, Mrs. Chandler, 2nd Mrs. Pitcher. Door Decorations - 1st, Mrs. Hebert, 2nd, Mrs. van Zant. Mrs. Benedict thanked Mrs. Blossman and her committee for the success of the project.

Mrs. McKee reported on plans for a luncheon at the hotel, and Mrs. Peytral moved that a plant sale be held next month. This was seconded by Mrs. Katz and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Valois announed the Ozone Camellia Show, to be held Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20, at the Slidell Motor Co.

Announcement of the Camellia Show to be held at Christ Episcopal Church for January 26 and 27 was also made, with rules and regulations to be announced in the Farmer next week. Mrs. Price Magee invited the club as a group to bring in an exhibit, and Mrs. Hickey and Mrs. Lambert were asked to work up exhibits for the club.

Mrs. Heyer gave timely hints on hardy annual and things to be done in gardens this month.

Mr. Claude Davis, Professor of Agricultural Extension of the Department of Education spoke on day lillies and bulbs, using beautiful colored slides to illustrate his talk, on which many of the members took notes. Mr. Davis also distributed roots and seeds to the audience, and at the conclusion of his talk he was presented with a gift of appreciation from the Club.

Refreshments and a social period were enjoyed.

FEBRUARY 1952

The Covington Garden Club met on February 7, at the Southern Hotel, with Mrs. Benedict presiding. The Treasurer reported a balance of $185.80.

A letter from Mrs. W. A. Chandler was read, thanking the club for the prize in the Christmas contest.

The resignation from Mrs. W. R. Privette was presented, in which she stated that since she could give so little time to the organization she felt she should not continue her membership.

Mrs. Price Magee, assisted by Mrs. Ed Peytral, Mrs. Ralph Guichard, and Mrs. V. J. Peytral, conducted a plant sale, which seemed to be enjoyed by the members, and which netted $11.60 for the club's project fund.

Mrs. Valois gave a humorous reading, "I Married a Flower Arranger," and Mrs. Bentz won the entrance prize.

Refreshments were served by the hostesses, Mrs. Bentz, Mrs. B. Hebert, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. W. G. Jones, Mrs. Katz, Miss Krause, Mrs. Koch, Mrs. Kentzel, Mrs. Lambert, and Mrs. Laurie Young.

MARCH 1952

Mrs. M. T. Benedict opened the regular monthly meeting of the Garden Club by calling for the secretary's minutes, which were approved.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of $146.52, after expenses of $70.80 had been approved.

Mrs. Hebert was called upon for a report on the library project and she read an interesting and detailed account of the entire work. A letter was read from Miss Willie D. Robbins, expressing the appreciation of the library staff to the Garden Club for the lovely results.

The President announced that the April meeting would be held at the home of Mrs. Mott and that in addition to a speaker, a flower hat contest would be held, each member to wear an original creation using fresh flowers, with whatever trimming was needed. The prizes to be awarded, one for the prettiest hat, and one for the most unusual.

New projects were discussed, among them the triangle on Claiborne Hill at the entrance to Covington, and the other the new cemetery. No action was taken, it being felt that the triangle situation should be investigated, and that the cemetery project would probably have to be done in cooperation with other civic groups.

Mrs. Valois won the entrance prize.

Mrs. O. J. Hebert, as chairman, introduced her committee of hostesses: Miss O. Lambert, Mrs. Larue, Mrs. Leche, Mrs. Loustalot, Mrs. LeBlanc, Mrs. Menetre, Mrs. W. J. Morgan, Mrs. Magee and Mrs. Benedict.

Mr. Jones, of Louisiana State University, was then introduced and he gave a most interesting talk on potted and house plants. He had many lovely and unusual specimens with him and told the club the best methods of rasiing, feeding, and caring for them.

After Mr. Jones' talk, and the presentation of a little gift from the club, the members enjoyed refreshments provided by the hostesses.

APRIL 1952

On Thursday, April 3 the lovely home of Mrs. Gerard Mott was a veritable spring garden with the members of the Covington Garden Club arrayed in their best efforts of home made, fresh flower, hats.

After much inspecting and admiring of each other's bonnets, Mrs. Benedict, President, finally got the meeting called to order for business. The Secretary's minutes were approved as read, and the Treasurer reported a balance on hand of $123.00.

The President reported the Library project completed and asked the members to make a point of going by to see it. She announced that a marker would be placed in the yard of the Library stating that the Garden Club has sponsored the project. The marker was to be of a permanent type that would be left at the library for a few months and then would be used on other projects. Miss Ottilie Lambert designed the marker, and in her absence Mrs. F. A. Lambert described it, saying it would be in the shape of a flower pot, with attractive lettering.

Mrs. Peytral announced that the club had been invited by Mrs. Leo Burthe of Bayou Liberty to visit her rose garden on Wednesday, April 9 at 2:00 in the afternoon. Mrs. Krause gave directions as to how to get to Mrs. Burthe's, and reported that it was a beautiful garden, well worth going to see.

Guests of members and Merritt, a new member were introduced.

Mrs. Heyer's timely hints talk was entitled "Know Your Iris," and in addition she gave an interesting way of drying flowers by covering them with builder's sand and putting them into a 200 degree oven for several hours. Mrs. Heyer said they would dry with their original colors.

The program chairman introduced the judges for the hat contest - all guests: Mrs. Lester, Miss Jahncke and Miss Acculeer.

Mrs. Moscovitz read an original poem written by Mrs. Nunez and dedicated to the Garden Club, which was received with much praise.

Mrs. L. L. Lester was the guest speaker and gave an interesting talk on gardening in general.

Miss Jahncke announced the winners of the hat contest. First prize for prettiest hat went to Mrs. Heyer, with Mrs. Magee receiving honorable mention. Mrs. O. J. Hebert was first with the most original hat, and Mrs. Landon received honorable mention in that class.

Mrs. Percy won the entrance prize.

The tea table was lovely with pink sweet peas and roses flanked by pink tapers in elaborate silver candlabra on a maderia cloth. Two of the guests, Miss Acculeer and Miss Jahncke served sherbert punch, and cakes and mints were enjoyed during the social hour.

Hostesses with Mrs. Mott were Mrs. Magruder, Mrs. Mayfield, Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Muller, Mrs. Mugnier, Mrs. Mott, Mrs. Nunez, Mrs. P. Ogden, Mrs. Garland Ogden and Mrs. Usina.

MAY 1952

Mrs. M. T. Benedict, President of the Covington Garden Club opened the meeting on May 1, 1952, in the Colonial Room of the Southern Hotel. Mrs. Henry L. Muller, of New Orleans, was the guest speaker, and since she had to return to the city early, she presented her program before the business meeting.

Working with an assistant, Mrs. Muller made beautiful corsages from many different kinds of flowers, sometimes using only one bloom to fashion a lovely design. She explained the materials needed and demonstrated how to use them. Each part was passed around the room to the members so they could inspect the work closely. At the close of her demonstration, Mrs. Muller was presented with a gift, and then she asked to be excused.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and the Treasurer gave her report. It was suggested and the club approved, that a small advertisement in the name of the club be taken in the catalogue as the club's contribution to the St. Tammany Fair Association, and the Treasurer was authorized to pay $7.50 for this.

At the conclusion of business, Mesdames Kenney, Odenheimer, Perez, Pittman, Planche, Poole, Percy, Pedneau, and Valois served refreshments and a social hour followed.

JUNE 1952

The Covington Garden Club held its monthly meeton on June 5, 1952 in the lovely patio of the Southern Hotel.

The treasurer reported for the year with a balance of $79.72.

The nominating committee made the following recomendations, which were unanimously adopted:

Mrs. M. T. Benedict, President

Mrs. H. C. Bentz, 1st Vice President

Mrs. W. D. Simmons, 2nd Vice President

Mrs. LeRoy Dunn, Recording Secretary

Mrs. Ed Peytral, Corresponding Secretary

Executive Board -

Mrs. A. L. Magruder

Mrs. H. P. Kenney

Mrs. V. J. Peytral

Mrs. E. W. Woodruff

Plans for the fair were discussed. Mrs. Benedict, chairman of the flower division, asked that all bring exhibits and help to make the fair bigger and better.

Perfect attendance for the year was achieved by Mrs. V. J. Peytral, Mrs. O. J. Hebert, Mrs. J. A. Hawley, Mrs. H. C. Bentz, Mrs. M. T. Benedict, and Mrs. B. B. Warren. Mrs. Warren drew the lucky number and won the prize, a book on flower arrangement.

Each lady wore a corsage of her own making. Mrs. S. L. Guynn and Mrs. S. Dunning were the judges. Mrs. Dunn won the prize, a book on corsage making.

The meeting adjourned and a lovely social hour was enjoyed.

Hostesses for the day were Mrs. Guichard, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. W.D. Simmons, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Talley, Mrs. Thomas, and Mrs.

Oct 1952

The first meeting of the 1952-53 season of the Covington Garden Club was held on Thursday, October 2. ~~The~~ It was a lovely Indian summer day, and the members enjoyed sitting under the trees in the garden of Mrs. Jay Moskovitz. The re-elected President, Mrs. M. T. Benedict opened the meeting by welcoming the group to the new season.

Because our speaker had to travel back to New Orleans, the program was presented before the business session, and Mrs. Warner introduced Mrs. O J Tomassi, who spoke on flower arrangements, with several different types on dsiplay to illustrate her remarks. Mrs. Tomassi stated that flower arranging could not be learned in the short time she had to give, but suggested that members who were interested obtain other instruction and help from qualified people or literature.

She told us that in arrangments to remember the four points of importance - balance, emphasis, rhythem, and proportion.

Another interesting item in her talk was how to preserve magnolia leaves, and which is repeated here in case you have forgotten the method. Crush stems of leaves and put in large heavy container holding two parts of water to one part of glycerine. Leave six weeks and they will be stiff and leathery and will last indefinitely. Mrs. Tomassi said not to worry about spots on leaves appearing during the six weeks - they will turn brown eventually.

After the speaker the business meeting was held, with

Mrs. Saal acting as secretary in the absence of Mrs. Dunn. Mrs. Hebert reported the bank balance was the same as in June, and referring to the minutes this amount was $79.72.

Mrs. Benedict reported on the Parish Fair and thanked the comittee, Mrs. Blossman, Mrs. Bentz, ~~Mrs.~~ Mrs. Magee, Mrs. Hebert, and Mrs. Moskovitz for their work. Many compliments were expressed on the flower division of the fair, and Mrs. Benedict reported that Mr. Casadaban had done the planting for the division and that he had been thanked by letter.

~~Mrs.~~ With regard to project, Mrs. Angle had talked about a roadside park to be sponsored by the Club with possible aid from the Highway Department. It was stated that about a half acre of ground would be needed, and a possible located at Chinchuba, at junction of highway 190 and 34 was suggested.

Mrs. Hebert reported on the Park and stated that Mr. Richardson was delighted to know someone was interested. He suggested that we contact Mr. Willie W. Wells, state Park Commissioner.

Mrs. Lambert spoke on the table arrangements at Maison Blache the week before and suggested that Mrs. Tomassi, or someone notify the various garden clubs when displays were to be held. She stated that they were well worth a trip in to see them.

Mrs. Benedict announced a tung festivalin March, with further plans to be discussed latter. There was much discussion and general approval of the idea.

Mrs. Benedict announced that dues were payable now and delinquent after the December meeting.

The charming home of Mrs. George Mire at Madisonville was the setting for the November 6 meeting of the Covington Garden Club. Mrs. M. T. Benedict presided, and Mrs. Saal acted as secretary in the absence of Mrs. Dunn.

The minutes were approved as read, and the Treasurer's report, showing a balance of $139.32, was accepted.

The following guests were introduced: Mrs. Bernadine Rice, Mrs. Ben Johnson, Mrs, Theo Dendinger, Mrs. Louis Larryson, Mrs. Dudley Koepp xxx Mrs. Elmo Rhodes, and Mrs. G. E. Buddecke.

Mrs. Katherine Stone, Mrs. Bessie Capers, Mrs. Sidney Blossman, Mrs. Henry Blanks, Mrs. Warren Smith, and Mrs. L. L. Landon, ~~Jr.~~, were welcomed as new members.

Mrs. Benedict reminded the club that Mrs. Heyer was our personal correspondence secretary, and asked that she be ~~xxxifiedx~~ informed of illness or any other event among members for which the club would like to express sympathy or congratulations. The President also asked that Mrs. LeBlanc be sent the names of any persons desiring to become members so they could be added to our waiting list.

It was agreed that flower arrangements brought to meetings be sent to ill members or shut-ins, and Mrs. Hagerty offered to take one to Mrs. Crabbe in Abita Springs after this meeting.

Mrs. Hawley suggested that a flower arrangement be placed on the memorial shaft before the Court House on Armistice Day

Mrs. Warren gave timely hints on fall preparations for gardens.

Mrs. Nunez, club poet read a charming little poem for October.

The President announced that the club would sponsor the Christmas decorations project again this year, to include doorway and yard arrangements with more prizes to be offered and stated that the details of the contest would be left in the hands of the committee, which would be asked for a report in November.

There was no other business, and the members moved into the house where ~~xxxx~~ refreshments were served by the two charming daughters of Mrs. Moskovitz from the porch and dining room.

in the name of the Club. Mrs. LeBlanc was appointed to see that this was done.

Mrs. Benedict announced a new project, one in which the yard adjudged best kept in Covington during each month would be makred with an appropriate marker reading "Garden of the Month."

Mrs. Meyer discussed Mrs. Lester's garden article running weekly in the Farmer and the efforts of interested persons to have it continued. She stated that she had written to the editor on behalf of the Club, but that she was informed her letter was considered as one single request, rather than representing the sentiments of the hundred club members. She asked that all those who could possibly do so write to the editor, and in addition, signatures would be secured from those present to be attached to another letter.

Announcement was made of the Camellia Show to be held according to the rules and regulations of the American Camellia Society by the Christ Church Auxilliary on January 17and 18.

A letter from the Ozone Camellia Club was read, asking the Covington Club to send entries. Mrs. Hickey was asked to be in charge of arrangements.

The President reported that projects were still being worked on. Mrs. Hebert said that she had not reached Mr. Deano, but that Mr. Wells had been written and that no answer had been received as yet. Plans are still being made for a tung festival.

Miss Otillie Lambert spoke on tentative plans for a tea or reception for the authors of "Dear Dorothy Dix," ~~and the~~

Minutes of December Meeting - 1952

The Covington Garden Club was called to order by the President, Mrs M.T.Benedict, at 2:30 P.M. Thursday December 4th in the Colonial Room of the Southern Hotel.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Mrs W.D.Simmons, chairman of hostess committee for the afternoon, introduced the hostesses. Three new members were introduced, Medames Angelo, Gomez and Dunning.

The President announced a correction on the March program. The Club Luncheon will precede the meeting, the luncheon to be at one P.M. She also announced that absence of a hostess does not excuse her from meeting her part of the entertainment bill.

The two pending projects of landscaping the Cemetery and the Tung Festival will have dates and more information given out later.

The Garden-of-the-Month placque was placed in garden of Mrs Oliver Hebert because of the attractiveness of side and rear gardens. Only gardens in city limits will be eligible to compete and the judges to be kept a secret by the committee of Garden Club members. The judges to be a business man, a non-member and a club member.

Mrs Fred Blossman, chairman of Christmas committee, said they decided to have a real live Santa on balcony of Court House for the week preceding Christmas day and that he would play Christmas records and greet people. On Christmas eve he would give gifts to all children coming there.

Mrs Walker Percy offered to lend a Santa Claus suit for his use.

The Club decided to buy a small tree to be planted at Library and lighted. Mrs Percy, Misses Krause and Lambert offered to lend lights for its decoration.

The January meeting was postponed from the 1st to 8th.

The members were reminded that Monday December 22nd is "the dead line" for entries in the Christmas decoration contest. There will be three first and three second prizes, to be given for the best outdoor decoration, the best door decoration and for the best window decoration.

The christmas spirit was brought out in the program, consisting of an original poem, entitled "Holly", by Mrs L.J.Nunez; a story, "ASheperd" by Heyward Braun, read by Mrs W.Valois.

Mrs Thomas Sloan was the guest speaker. She told of the age old customs of Christmas decorations and demonstrated the simplicity with which many lovely and unusual arrangements can be made, and urged everyone to show the spirit of the saeson, if only by a swag at the door.

Gifts, that had previously been put on a table in rear of room by the members, were given to all present. During that period Mrs Jonette Dunning played Christmas carols.

The hostesses served refreshments significant of the season to 59 members and 4 guests.

Jessie Dunn, Sec.

Dec. 22 Deadline For Garden Club Christmas Contest

Monday, Dec. 22, is the deadline for entries in the second annual Chirstmas decoration contest sponsored by the Covington Garedn Club ,it has been announced.

The contest is open to any resident of Covington, and the only requirement is that entrants register with Mrs. W. T. Kentzel at 211 New Hampshire Street.

Mrs. A. R. Blossman, chairman, advises that there will be first and second place awards for the best outdoor decoration, best door decoration and the best window decoration.

DECEMBER 12, 1952

GARDEN CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR GUESTS, VISITORS

The Covington Garden Club entertained its members and guests at their annual Christmas program and tea in the Colonial Room of the Southern Hotel last Thursday. Receiving with the president, Mrs. M. T. Benedict, were the hostesses, Mrs. W. D. Simmons, chairman; Mrs. F. A. Lambert, Mrs. R. H. Moore, Mrs. Albert Perez, Mrs. Louis Ross, Mrs. Raymond Saal, Mrs. E. Talley, Mrs. W. Valois, Mrs. J. H. Warner, Miss Ottilie Lambert and Miss Winnie Magee.

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Items For This Depart

As a project for month it was decided that the club plant a tree and decorate it as a Christmas tree on the library grounds.

Chosen as having the Garden of the Month, Mrs. Oliver Hebert received the Garden Plaque for her rear yard and garden.

The party gained momentum as the afternoon rolled merrily along, with the members and guest being entertained by Mrs. W. Valois, reading a Christmas story entitled "A Shepherd," by