

Upper Keys Garden Club Meeting - December 15, 1959

Christmas decorations, Orchids and an abundance of food filled the home of Mrs. Florence Booth at the annual covered dish dinner meeting of the Upper Keys garden club December 15, 1959. Our Thanks to Mrs. Booth and her co-hostesses, Bobbie Pinder and Louise Wilson who so beautifully saw that we all got more than we wanted to eat! Needless to say all of the 45 present enjoyed the plant exchange, gifts from their secret pals and visiting with each other along with the thrill of tasting the especially delicious foods prepared for the occasion.

We were happy to welcome the guests, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Kirder and Mrs. Moe, as well as Mrs. Dizinski, Mrs. Vaughn.

Mrs. Emma Harris, Dolly Krider, Mrs. Dizinski and Mrs. Vaughn became members.

The meeting opened with the Lords Prayer, a thought for the day-- "Nothing this truth can dim--God gives the best who leaves their choices to Him" by Florence Booth, and the Poem "The Palm Christmas Tree" read by our President, Mrs. Thompson.

The minutes of the previous minutes were read by Mamie Glynn in the absence of secretary, Alida Tjader. They were corrected and accepted.

Treasurer's report was approved as read by our treasurer, Mrs. Dickerson.

On the sick list were Lottie Uhe and Mrs. North. We hope they will soon recover and be with us at our next meeting.

Florence Booth made a motion that the club purchase a box of get-well cards and have them signed by each member present at garden club meetings for those who are ill. Mrs. Gau seconded the motion which passed.

Mrs. Tracy reported that our Tropical Treasures meeting held at Coral Shores School was a huge success with 100 attendants enjoying the pictures and lecture by Mr. Whitman as well as the fabulous refreshments served by the committee. Our thanks to all who helped make this meeting a success and especially to Mrs. Pendergrast who gave so liberally of her time and experience in preparing the refreshments. Pat Futch moved that we send a letter of thanks to Mrs. Pendergrast, also to Mrs. Bob Allen and Mrs. McKinney for their lovely music which added so much to the program that evening. This motion was seconded by Florence Booth and accepted.

After hearing the comments Mr. Whitman made about the breadfruit trees, Mrs. Tracy reported that Mrs. Bramer has a nice one on her place on Lower Matecumbe Key, and suggested that more of us try to raise them. She suggested that they seem to do better if protected and weeds are growing around them!

President Thompson suggested that we follow Mr. Whitman's recommendation that we work for an experiment station here on the Keys. Since growing conditions are quite different here than south Florida, Lea Smith moved

that we sponsor this project for 1960, and that we start the project with writing the Experiment Station in Gainesville about the feasibility of establishing the experiment station here on the Keys and ask for suggestions and any assistance possible. Motion seconded and Passed. It is thought that possibly the State would donate land for this purpose.

Inasmuch as Lottie Uhg is ill, there was no report on the class for flower arrangements.

Mrs. Tracy reported that the Christmas Tree to be placed in front of the Tavernier Fire Department is being bought by the Auxiliary by Marie Price and Mary Easton. We are to pay half of the tree. Helen Brunton reported the tree was purchased at a cost of \$10.00. Mrs. Tracy reports that the live tree is ready to plant after the holidays. Mrs. Smith moved and Florence Booth seconded that we pay half the cost of the Christmas tree. Accepted and passed.

Flower Show report. Lea Smith says that Dwight Smith attended their meeting on December 13 and reported his plans for the decorations and everything ready. Mary Easton is to care for the woodwork. Mrs. Smith says volunteers will be needed February 11 to help get the place ready. She also asked for a link chain 20 feet long to hang the orchid plants on. They also need folding tables. They need palm fronds, sea grapes, iron wood, Australian pine and sapodilla for decorations. Patt Lett reported that it looks like we will have the food concession for the show as the Tavernier Lady Does don't particularly care for it.

Secret Pal.-- A lengthy discussion about continuing to have secret pals brought out the fact that while many enjoyed their secret pals very much, it didn't seem too successful as many others were forgotten. The thought was also brought out that inasmuch as our club is a service club that the secret pals are not necessary to make our club a success. Therefore Ann Baldwin moved, seconded by Patt Lett to abandon Secret Pals for this year. Motion Carried.

Notification of members concerning Club meeting. It was felt that we should go back to sending cards out to all members apprising them of date of the next meeting. Quite a number of people reported that they had either forgotten or missed the meetings because they were not notified. Therefore Mrs. Tracy moved that 1000 cards be mimeographed leaving space for places and dates to be filled in. Then at the next meeting each member be given 12 cards to address and return to the secretary for use this coming year. Motion seconded and passed.

Gertrude Thompson expressed her appreciation to each one for all the assistance and loyalty given in making her job a happy and satisfying one during the last year, and our continued success in the coming year.

Election of officers resulted in the following:

President, Mrs. Pat Futch
Vice President, Mrs. Helen Brunton
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Mamie Glynn

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Ann Baldwin
Treasurer, Mrs. Nora Dickerson

Committee-at-Large-: Gertrude Thompson, Ona Regan,
Vivian Gross and Marguerite Bond. The official board
consisting of the above mentioned new officers and committee
at large.

Roll Feeling the need of a Publicity agent for our club, it was
moved, seconded and passed that Mrs. Alma Miller serve in that capacity
for the coming year.

In appreciation for Mrs. Tracy, unanimous approval made her honorary
garden club member for life.

Deep appreciation for President Thompsons loyal devotion this two years
expressed by Pat Futch was happily seconded by all.

Our new President Pat Futch will hostess our first meeting of 1960
January 19, with co-hostesses Mesdames Glynn, Kirtley and Lea Smith.

Adjournmmnet by Pat Futch seconded by Peg Bond closed our last meeting
of 1959 after which we exchanged plants and raffled off a beautiful
potted mum and a driftwood arrangement. Eva Dizinski won the Mum with
Nora Dickerson getting the driftwood arrangement.

The plant raffle amounted to \$8.25.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nora Dickerson, Acting Sec'y