

July 21, 1959

The regular meeting of the Upper Keys Garden Club was held at the delightfully cool home of Mrs. Francis Tracy in Tavernier. Coming from the hot, humid sun into the breezy oasis of her home was so refreshing that no one wanted to leave.

Florence Booth gave the thought for the day, which was followed by the Lord's Prayer.

President Gertrude Thompson opened the meeting. The minutes were read and approved. Nora Dickerson read the June and July treasurer's report. We have \$125.00 in our treasury and \$350. in the savings account earning a good rate of interest. It was moved by Mrs. Tracy and seconded by Florence Booth to add \$50. more to the savings account.

Pat Lett has been in Victoria Hospital and members plan on sending her get-well wishes. Various members thanked their secret pals for their nice gifts.

NEXT MEETING - Gertrude Thompson offered her house and Mary Easton, Jessie Boatwright, and Mary Perez are the co-hostesses.

Committee reports - SCHOOL - Susan Lund was away and so Mrs. Tracy reported that in Susan's absence, she trimmed the bouganvillea hedge, reported that it is in need of fertilizer, but that should wait until September. Also 4 more hibiscus should be planted, preferably red. Florence Booth offered some rooted cuttings of hibiscus.

Helen Brunton offered oleander and Florence Booth, royal poinciana to the Beach Committee for their plantings.

A letter was received from the Marathon Garden Club inviting our group to the annual Midsummers' Night Dream, a buffet, card party and dance to be held July 24 at the Shamrock Key Colony Beach. The secretary was instructed to write a thank you letter for their kind invitation.

Another letter received from the Florida State Road Department regarding our planned poinciana plantings on the highway. It recommended that we cooperate with the Key Largo Garden Club and agree on the overall plantings along the highway before making any definite plans with the state. It was recommended that we write the Road Department thanking them for their interest and asking L.K. Thompson, Landscape Engineer, to stop by to discuss this project, and until we hear further we will table this project for a couple of months.

A letter was written to the new editor of Tropical Living relative to our club and its projects, including the date of the Flower Show. President Thompson urged all members to subscribe to this very interesting magazine.

Gertrude reported that she still has not found hide nor hair, nor root of her plant and suspects a land crab as the culprit.

Nikki Beare requested that the Garden Club donate money to the Monroe County Library for a book or books on southern Florida gardening. It was moved by Florence Booth, seconded by Vivian Gross that we give \$10. to the Library now and will donate books from individual members when the Lady K's have the book drive. A suggestion was made to ask the library to purchase the new book on Palms by Dr. Ladin, who recently passed away.

Vivian Gross read from the Tropical Living magazine an article on the growth and characteristics of the horseradish tree. She asked members to share any interesting articles we find.



Susan Lund was introduced as the program speaker for the day. She presented a most interesting talk on "Flower Arrangements with Flowers"

There were delightful dried arrangements she had made especially for the program using palm fronds, snapped and shaped, painted green enamel, dried grasses, tinted pastel and red "bellache seeds".

Displaying the grasses and seed pods that she gathers and paints or leaves plain, whichever she desires for the proper effect, Susan explained the trials of gathering these materials and weeds over the formidable obstacle of her husband.

Various materials were shown, the ferns, grasses, seed pods, seeds from the knickerknack tree (the Indians used the seed for beads)

Most dried arrangements are made in flat dishes with a needlepoint holder (or frog) to securely hold the arrangement.

It was a most enjoyable program and we all learned a great deal and were amused by the tales Susan told about her gathering trips.

Next month's program will be Insecticides, by Ann Baldwin.

We have two new members, Mrs. Alan Miller, from Lower Matecumbe and Mrs. Donald Bain, of Tavernier has indicated that she wants to become a member. A cordial welcome is extended to you both.

Ann Baldwin introduced her guest, Grace Watson, of Tavernier.

The raffle was won by May Pryor and was presented with a beautiful episcia.

The meeting was adjourned and delicious refreshments were served by our hostess, Mrs. Tracy and May Pryor. - *Vivian Gross*

Respectfully submitted,

*Nikki Beane*

Acting Secretary