

# January Minutes

## Men's Garden Club, Penn Valley

### January 13, 2015



The meeting was held at 56 Fairview Road in Penn Valley in a charming building that housed the Penn Valley Garden Club, and now is the meeting place of the Men's Garden Club of Philadelphia. Thirty-eight Weeders attended.

Marilyn Sprague, President, opened the meeting by thanking Linda Anderson, Chair, Hostesses Laura Mitchell and Ellen Pemberton, as well as Presenters Diane McCallister, Ellen Pemberton, and Sally Wood. Maria Thompson and Cindy Peirce introduced their guest, Monica Church, who lives in the house of late Weeder Cyrena Gouge, and whose husband sings with Mike Thompson in the Orpheus Club.

The presence of baby Elena Rose Bullitt was duly noted, as was that of our only male, 33 month-old Lawrence Minga, your Secretary's special little pal. (Said pal's squirminess made taking notes difficult, and many thanks go to Wendy Calhoun and Polly Garnett for filling in.)

The Minutes of the December meeting were approved, and the Treasurer reported that the Christmas sale had raised \$2,746.50.

Donations to The Weeders under \$250 may be claimed as tax deductions; those over \$250 will require documentation.

**Admissions.** Isabel Wister, head of the Committee, introduced Michele Bolton (sponsored by Julie DeVuono, seconded by Linda Anderson, Alice Doering and Marilyn Sprague) as our newest member. Ellie Penniman presented Michele with the ever-popular Weeders' book, and presto!: a fully-fledged new

Weeder; welcome, Michele.! Ellie will be working with the Admissions Committee to help stream-line and document procedures.

**Christmas Sale.** Biddie Edwards reported that the total of \$2,747.50 amounts to 2 ½ times more than any previous sale. Many thanks to Chair Becky Caldwell and her stalwart gang of helpers: Biddie, Nancy Evans, and Ellie Penniman, whose extraordinary coordination as program chair was duly noted. Weeders who bought “services” were reminded to call their providers, as most would not know who had bought them.

**Awards.** Jackie Burke will host a meeting.

**GCA** Lloyd Brown, GCA Director, said that there are leadership positions available at both GCA and PCGCA, and that estimable Weeders such as Alice Doering, Maria Thompson, Nancy Evans, and Phoebe Driscoll had held such roles in the past. And speaking of estimable Weeders, Phoebe Driscoll was presented with a GCA Certificate honoring her for over 50 years of service. Hooray, Phoebe!!!!!!

**Conservation.** Marilyn announced that Yours Truly will be attending GCA's National Affairs and Legislation meeting in Washington D.C., Feb. 23rd through 26th. There is Weeder \$\$\$\$ available to defray the (considerable) expenses.

**Fireside Chat.** Lorraine Wallace has once again organized her popular evening potluck, on January 21st at 6pm. Please all come, bring wine and food, and a guest, if you like.

**Horticulture.** Alice and Diane reminded Weeders to keep their bulbs cozy, and that firm is good, squishy means “gonzo”. Alice had seen a photo of Peggy Bowditch's refrigerator, featuring one milk carton and hundreds of bulbs! Those entering their challenge plants in the Flower Show may register on line or by mail. If you have a challenge plant, please tell Alice.

**Fertilizer Fund.** Sonya once **again** reminded wayward Weeders who have not yet contributed to the Fund, to fork up, please! Weeders are generous in amounts given, but more Weeders need to join this worthy effort to support great horticultural projects in Philadelphia.

**Photography.** Melissa reminded members of the Show in March; the deadline is on the Website. There are 3 fun classes for 8 x10 photos, and mats are provided; call her with any questions.

**Scholarship Committee.** Regina Wagner and Sonya Driscoll are hard at work and hopeful of presenting candidates for scholarships.

**For the good of the order:**

Weezie Johnston's husband Barney is fighting pancreatic cancer, and we send him our love; Polly Garnett's husband is facing a hip replacement--courage!  
Grandbaby boy Jack for Anne Rhoads, wow!

**Program.** Julie and Karen introduced our wizard Presenters to demonstrate Dinner Party Centerpieces. We were treated to fabulous creations; Diane making hers “from the garden”; Sally W.'s “from the grocery store”; and Ellen, from “things around the house.” Many thanks!

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Cadwalader