

May 2015 Minutes
RAY AND JOAN KROC COMMUNITY CENTER
May 12, 2015



Following the close of entries to the Club Flower Show, Marilyn Sprague called the meeting to order at 10:45. In an unusual start, she cited an article provided by Ella Jackson on the spicy topic of “World Naked Gardening Day”!

Chair Cheryl Cheston and Hostesses Linda Anderson, Dixie Chapman, Karen Doyle and Maria Thompson were duly noted and thanked. Marilyn particularly thanked Cheryl for having suggested the Kroc Center as a venue, and for organizing the flower-arranging Workshop there, for clients of the Kroc Center, the day before.

The guests were introduced: Jackie Burke brought her mother, Delores; and Ellen Pemberton introduced artist Elaine Lisle, whose great-grand-mother-in-law (or thereabouts) was one of the Founding Weeders. Daryle Hanlon was also present.

There were no Minutes to approve, due in part to the Apple Store’s recall of the Secretarial Computer to replace the track-pad. Your Secretary begs forgiveness.

Lloyd Brown, our very own GCA Officer (!) announced that she, Marilyn, and Jackie Burke would be going the next week to Rochester N.Y., for the GCA Annual Meeting. (Ladies! The Website has a video about the many ways you can tie the brand new GCA scarf!)

Marilyn thanked Ellie Penniman for all the work she has put into refining the admissions process, and said that there would be an announcement of a new member very soon.

Beth Bartle was thanked for representing the Weeders in Fairmount Park’s “Rooms in Bloom,” where

various garden groups contributed arrangements for the park houses which are open to tour, May 16-23. Beth's arrangements will be on display in the oval parlor at Lemon Hill, where she collaborated with Margo Bennett, Four Counties Garden Club.

Wendy Bailey reported on the Ronald McDonald Workshop, where her cousin Alice joined Wendy, Alice Doering, Sonya Driscoll, Laura Mitchell and Marilyn in making flower arrangements in time for Mothers' Day for the Ronald McDonald House at St. Christopher's. Wendy gathered floral material, prepared oasis and containers, and delivered the arrangements to a grateful Ronald McDonald House at St. Christopher's Hospital.

Nancy Evans is searching out re-cycling centers we might visit, to complete our trio of trash trips, but is worried about the timing, given the already-scheduled trip to N.Y.C.'s High Line in October.

Jane Kline and Lesley Undercofler were thanked for attending the Zone V workshop for Garden History and Design. That committee is in process of documenting the garden of Inta Fromholtz for the GCA archives at the Smithsonian.

Diane McCallister and others will lead the effort to get the Weeders back into competition at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 2016, which will commemorate the Centennial of the National Park system. Diane will host an organizational meeting at her home on Sunday, May 31, at 4:00 P.M. There will be a party at some later date to celebrate our participation in the "Front Entry" competition. A sign-up sheet was circulated for those interested in joining the Philadelphia Flower Show efforts. Diane also provided digiplexis plants for Weeders to purchase, tend, and hopefully enter in the next Weeders' club flower show.

Regina, on behalf of herself and Sonya, had brochures about St. James' School, one of the many recipients of Fertilizer Fund money. She extolled the value of the various F.F. recipients, and again asked for suggestions as to how Weeders might divest themselves of our excessively large bank reserves. Ideas are welcome for either a one-time gift of \$10,000 or two \$5,000 ones. Sonya and Regina are pursuing ideas for worthy recipients of Weeder support.

The formal meeting ended with a short talk by Jeff Hewlings, the Operations Manager for the Kroc Center. The Center, financed by Joan Kroc in conjunction with the Salvation Army, has 8,000 dues-paying members, 12 ½ acres of land, a 10-lane competition pool, outdoor athletic fields, indoor exercise centers, dance, music, visual and performing arts programs, and constitutes one of the largest community centers on the East Coast. Kroc Centers are designed to reach underserved communities. Tours of building and gardens were offered.

Anne Rhoads then introduced our speaker, Jonathan Wright of Chanticleer, whose topic was "Its in the Details; a look at the ways little touches enhance our gardens." After a thoroughly entertaining slide-show romp through Chanticleer and a few other gardens, Weeders were treated, courtesy of the Kroc Center with financial support from our hostesses, to a wonderful lunch served by the Center's food staff. Hooray (and homage to the Krocs), for the excellent works that have sprung forth from the sale of a billion-plus hamburgers!

During lunch, the results of a most successful club flower show were announced. Several judges remarked that, in spite of few floral design entries (5), they would have been very sorry to miss it. Beth Bartle and Patricia Doolittle and their hardworking committee, who persevered through two days of set up, workshop, and hard work during the meeting, were thanked for their efforts, and Connie Carlson was congratulated for winning Best in Show.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Cadwalader, Your (now-up-to-date!) Secretary