

NEWS LEAF

Club de Jardinera de San Miguel de Allende

October 2010

September Meeting



The beautiful ranch of Bob and Jennifer Haas in Atotonilco was the setting of the September 28, 2010 meeting of the Garden Club. The event included a guided tour of the five acres of landscaped gardens and the remarkable collection of Folkart at the Jennifer Haas Folkart Museum.

President Frannie Benner called the meeting to order on the verandah of the Haas home and asked for Board and committee reports. Secretary Carolyn Grant reported the minutes of the last meeting which included details of our annual Herb Lunch, chaired by Lisa Thomas and held at her home in El Mirador. Lisa reported that about 95 people, including Garden

Club members, their guests, and the winning photographers for the Calendar, attended the luncheon. A round of applause was given to Lisa and her committee which included Carolyn Gratton, Barbara Hardin, Ricky Arce and Sally Richman.





Treasurer Jeanne Humphrey reported on the total cash and expenditures of the Club for the prior month. Hospitality chair Mallory Nelson reminded members and provisional members to check with her regarding their obligations to bring refreshments to meetings: Members are required to contribute refreshments twice a year, and provisional members are required to supply refreshments three times during the year.

Mallory also reported on the success of the Gardeners' Class in Spanish. She said that the next meeting would be in late

November and would be held at the Hacienda de las Flores, courtesy of member Alicia Franyutti de Cornish. It was also noted that arrangements are underway to promote the hiring by members and their friends of those gardeners attending the classes who would like more work.



Ways and Means chair Donne Geck announced that the unsold calendars for 2010 had been donated to an organization of teachers in the campo who would be using the photographs as teaching aids. This donation was accomplished through Karen Livingston, who was present at the meeting as the guest of Joy Price.

President Frannie announced that a new committee was being formed to re-vitalize the Garden Club Cookbook project. She also asked for Committee chairs to be mindful of compiling year-end summaries of their responsibilities for inclusion in a notebook for future Garden Club Board and Committee members.

The President reported, on behalf of Jeannie Schnakenberg, Tree Fund chair, that plans for the Community

center garden in Francisco Villa were well underway.

Joy Price, chair of the 2010 Christmas Party, announced that the party will be held on December 5 at Hotel Puertacita.

Under new business it was noted that Carol Vella has left San Miguel and is now living in Massachusetts. Barbara Hardin asked that telephone and/or address updates be included in each issue of News Leaf. Communications chair Judy McKay said she would include the year's updates previously published in the News Leaf, and asked that all members with changes, please bring that information to the November meeting so that they will be available to the person compiling the new 2011 Directory.

Linda Whyman announced that Richard Cretcher's reprinted Wildflower Book has been offered at 50 p. each to Garden Club and Audubon members and that perhaps members would like to purchase copies to use as gifts.

President Frannie announced that she and Barbara Flynn are pursuing new ideas for Garden Club participation in community activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. and Program Chair Suzanne Maurer introduced host and speaker Bob Haas. Bob stated that the main house was built on the property in 1993, and planting of the many large cactus gardens was begun at that time. He pointed out the tall willow trees, which he had planted along his property line at the edge of the Rio Laja, as well as the acres of other trees, native plants, flower and vegetable gardens dotted across the five acre property.

In his capacity of Charco Ingenio Board Member Bob then brought up the fact that the Garden Club had donated money for three greenhouses some years ago, and that now the greenhouse UV plastic coverings

needed replacement. He asked the Club to consider replacement which would amount to \$28,000 pesos, including materials and



labor. President Frannie said the Board would take the matter under advisement.

Bob then invited members and guests to join him on a tour of the property and also introduced his special guest, Helene Kahn, who, in Jennifer's absence, would guide the tour of the Folkart Museum.



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Hotel Real de Minas on Tuesday, October 19 at 11 a.m.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Membership Meeting will be held at the ranch of Suzanne Mir and Robert Ruzicka off the highway to Queretaro on October 26, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

Directions: Take the Highway to Queretaro for 11 km from the Real de Conde glorieta (just past the Liverpool; complex). Turn left on the road to Corral de Piedras for 6km. Turn left on the dirt road to Loma de Purisma and proceed straight to the top of the hill for 4km. There, you will see the iron gates which are at the entrance to the property.

Note: Garden Club signs will be posted at the Corral de Piedras turn, the Loma de Purisma turn and at the gates to the property.

The program will feature a presentation by Linda Speer Luck and Markus Luck, expert landscape designers, on their plan for the Community Center, which will be partially funded by our Tree Fund. They have worked together under their landscape design company Sozo, L.L.C. for eight years here, in NYC and upper New York state. They are now living here full time and are currently completing a dramatic design program for the Hotel Matilda. Linda and Markus are donating their services for our project which will be a variation of the courtyard garden.

CHRISTMAS PARTY NEWS:

Mark your calendars, it will be here before we know it!! Sunday, December 5, 2010 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. is the date for our annual Holiday Party, this year to be held at The Puertacita Hotel, according to Chair Joy Price. Tickets are \$30 USD for members and \$35 USD for guests. More holly-jolly information at the next meeting!!

REMINDER:

If you are proposing a candidate for new membership for 2011, the letters are due to Leslie von Jaeger by Tuesday, Oct. 26th. ctmjaeger@mac.com

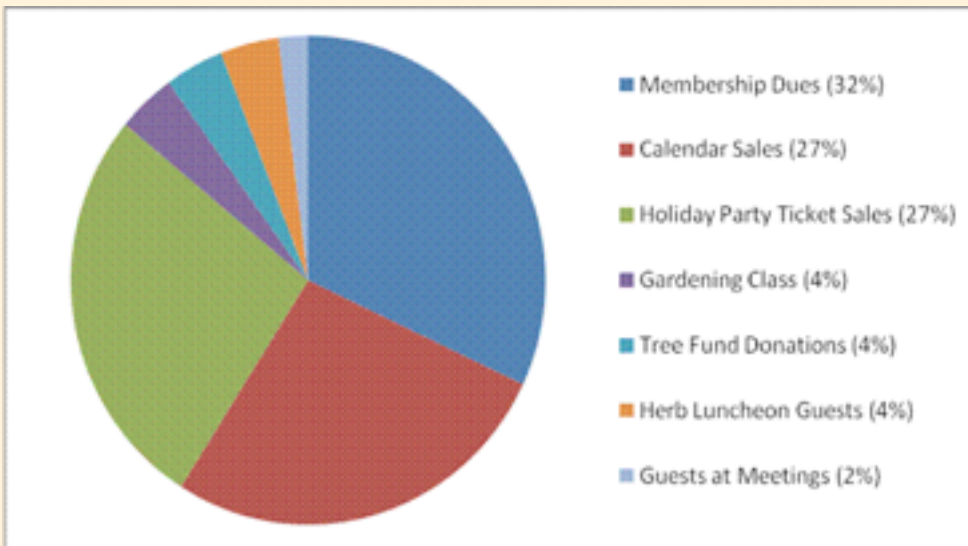
The Admissions Committee wants to be certain all proposal letters have been received by them. They are asking that any member who has already sent in a letter to please confirm that by resending an e-mail to Leslie with **the name only of the person** they are sponsoring for new membership. Thanks!!

Our Garden Club Money: Where it comes from and where it goes...

If you've ever wondered about where our Garden Club money comes from -- and where it goes -- we've got some answers for you. Below you can see our cash flow for one year: October 1, 2009 to October 1, 2010.

Regarding income, our three largest sources of revenue were our annual membership dues (32%), our calendar sales (27%) and our holiday party ticket sales (27%).

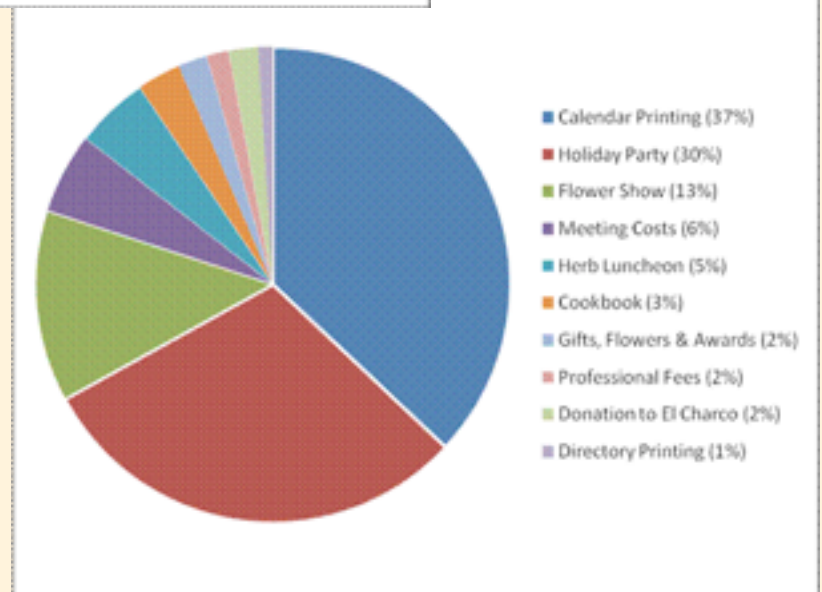
Regarding expenses, our three largest costs were the cost of printing our calendar (37%), our holiday party (30%), and our bi-annual flower show (13%).



We thought you'd like to know...

Garden Club Income

October 1, 2009 - October 1, 2010



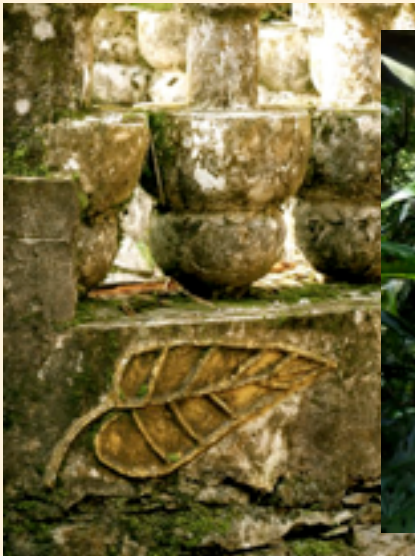
Garden Club Expenses

October 1, 2009 - October 1, 2010

Gardens from Around the World

Edward James Los Pozas
Xilitla, Mexico

Put this on your Bucket List!



The Garden Nut By Carol Lundmark-Hendricks

“More Than A Garden Journal”



Have you ever created a garden journal? Many garden books suggest that a garden journal is a good idea, a way to keep track of what you need to do and when, just in case you forget from year to year that the best time to control those little greasy black army worms on dahlias is late August, for example. I have never kept a journal but rely on my memory. Consequently, my dahlias were almost completely eaten overnight by those ugly worms which have no known redeeming features. Please don't tell me they become copper butterflies because what renewed my interest in a garden journal was not the worms, but the fading wings on the fallen bodies of the lovely copper butterflies that were in the garden in such profusion last month. Later, it was surprising to see so many of them dead, but their demise was an undeniable reality as my contortions to find army worms underneath dahlia leaves brought my face close to the ground. Beautiful, useful and fragile creatures (the butterflies, not the worms). So enjoyable to watch as they fluttered gracefully from bloom to bloom, but in such a brief time they were gone, their ab-



sence unnoticed, like that violet by the mossy stone. Although we realize that as we hurtle 1.3 million miles per hour on a collision course with another galaxy our life may be as insignificant as those of the copper butterflies, in the cosmic scheme of things, do we -also have to be so insignificant in Earthling time? What a scary thought that we could be soon forgotten. The lives of even my great grandparents is a mystery to me. The few surviving photos of those stiffly posed individuals show people who are strangers to me. My mother can't remember them. What were they like? Wouldn't you love to know more about the lives of those predecessors whose DNA is now yours? The Internet gives some information, of course, but quite inadequate. Obsessive delving into family history, which requires trekking to foreign climes such as Salt Lake City, Utah, home of the largest annual convention of genealogical researchers in the world, can unearth information, but very little of the detailed personal variety that could be so fascinating. Which leads to the idea of the garden journal as a per-



sonal record of one's life to pass on to interested parties, such as grandchildren and/or other family. The concept: use the journal to put insightful comments and bright ideas about one's own absolutely fascinating personal life and life in general into written form, interspersed with photos of the garden and drawings, for veracity, pets and of oneself in a sparkling and memorable permanent biography to be absolutely treasured by ones successors. Isn't that just a fabulous idea? A literary and artistic personal alternative to a video, DVD or other technology-oriented device that may be outdated shortly after completion. Heaven forbid that one's grandchildren, great grandchildren, GGG and so on

should have to rely on Blue-ray for their

remembrance of dear Gran Ma Mere, especially after Blue-ray becomes as obsolete as great grandma's mannikin-like black and white image. A garden journal invites respect and reverence; it allows us to distill

our-
tiful essence of our own
we can be remembered by those who follow us. The computer allows us to convert our unintelligible scribbles to fine art, with the help of spelling and grammar checkers. We have the ability to integrate photos and page decoration into our journal and if we use archival paper and protective covers, there is no reason why our journal cannot be a long-lasting record of our life that can be passed on and on. My dear sister, who is one of those dedicated souls who attend the Salt Lake City research-athon, told me that written ancestral records hundreds of years old still exist in their original form. Those records are not on archival paper. Using those records as a comparison, your journal will probably last a very long time if it receives some R.E.S.P.E.C.T., which it will with any planning on your part. Keep in

mind that Vita Sackville-West's all white garden or outrageous behavior probably would not be remembered today if she had not written it down! Perhaps you will be the next V. S-W, sans outrageous behavior, of course, if you do write it all down.

Here in my daughter's home in San Diego, surrounded by my three young grandchildren and awaiting the imminent birth of the fourth, I would like them all to know something of my life after I am gone and they are grown. Research tells us that our grandchildren, nieces and nephews likely will not remember us at all until they are interacting with us after they are at least five years old. It is suddenly terribly important to me that my grandchildren remember me and know something about my life when they are old enough to care about such things, and hope that my great grandchildren, GGG and so on would be curious about me, also. I want to be more to them than an old lady in a photo. If you feel the same way, think about creating a garden journal that will be your own personal record and legacy. Be sure that it gets passed on down the line, along with Mama's silver. By the way, you should add actual garden notes if at all possible, especially if your dahlias get those awful worms. Then it will be very useful to you until your own wings fade.

The Nut wishes you: "Happy Gardening!"



CONTACTS

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lundmark02@aol.com

Tree Fund: Jeannie Schnakenberg –
equussanmiguel@gmail.com .

BULLETIN BOARD

The following are the address, telephone or email changes noted since the beginning of our Garden Club calendar year. Please add these changes to your GC Directory and be sure to report any additional updates to News Leaf at smamckay@yahoo.com no later than the November meeting

Grant, Carolyn - 152-4664 Fresno 1

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Pyfrom, Barbara barbarapyfrom@mac.com

The editorial staff is responsible for all content and any questions or comments should be addressed them.

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Lay-out & Design: Linda Whynman

Web Master: Cameron Giezendanner

Feature Article Writer and Meeting Review: Carol Lundmark-Hendricks

Proof Reader and Editorial Assistance: Ann Mauze

All submissions are welcome and subject to editing. All Leaf submissions should be mailed to Judy no later than the third of each month. Please direct all photos to Linda Whynman and copy to Judy McKay

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