

**Lakemoor Hills Garden Club**  
Thursday, February 18, 2021  
10:00 am  
*Webex Meeting*  
*16 members and one speaker present*

**Attendees:**

Kristin Bianconi, Suzan Bowman, John Bradley, Rosemary Burr, Tanya Copeland, Sharon Gerkin, Ann Graf, Linda Haynes, Kara Hudgens, Sue Humble, Randy Kerns, Kathy Proctor, Holli Rogers, Barbara Taylor, Fran Thomforde, Karen White

**Guest Speaker:**

Mary Beute-Glover, Plant Inspector, Division of Consumer and Industry Services,  
Tennessee Department of Agriculture.  
423-839-3960  
[Mary.Beute-Glover@tn.gov](mailto:Mary.Beute-Glover@tn.gov)

Holli Rogers called the meeting to order ONLINE.

**Program: Taking A Closer Look, the View from A Plant Inspector**

Presented by Mary Glover

A Lecture and Slide Presentation from her experiences as a plant inspector in the Consumer and Industry Services of the State of Tennessee.

- Anyone selling plants must be licensed, even nonprofits.
- Every State has their own plant regulations.
- Threats in our area: Fire Ants, Boxwood Blight: No Cure, Asian Longhorn Beetle and Laurel Wilt.

Questions were generated around transferring of firewood, hemlock disease, the Emerald Ash Borer, Boxwood Blight Preventative. Important information: When purchasing a plant, take out of containers and look at roots. Make sure plant is healthy. Make sure your landscaper knows about boxwood blight so that his or her tools have been cleaned to prevent contamination.

Suzan Bowman asked if our GC needed to secure a license for the Fall Plant Sale and her answer was YES, however, following a clean inspection, the non-profit license is free. If you have a plant disease/pest problem, you may text a photo to Mary's Cell Phone number above.

**Devotions:**

Kristin Bianconi presented a personally written devotional, entitled "Light in the Dark," A wondrous gift, in the world, in our hearts and in our February garden. This devotional has been sent by email to all members by Randy Kerns.

**Secretary and Treasurer's Report:**

Sharon Gerkin, Recording Secretary, reported that the January 21, 2021 Board minutes had been sent to all the Board members by email. This was accepted as sufficient by the attendees for notification.

Suzan Bowman, Treasurer, announced that the Board voted at the January meeting to suspend the collection of dues from 2020 members for 2021 in lieu of the Pandemic of 2020.

She reported a balance in the checking account on December 31, 2020 was \$17,068.74. She deposited \$408.00, cookbooks & pecans: both 2019 & 2020 crops; and a \$50.00 deposit from new member, Dawn Thomas. No checks were written. The balance in the checking account on January 31, 2021 is \$17,526.74.

Additionally, profits from the Plant Sale: \$2,402.51, the Pecan Sale: \$1,644.10, and the Mailbox Topper Sale: \$1,270.00 made a success in meeting financial and budget goals in spite of the pandemic.

Randy Kerns felt the fund raising events contributed significantly to the neighborhood camaraderie.

**Discussion: Spring Bows for Dogwood Festival Season:**

- Need many bow makers!! Seven attendees volunteered: Fran, Linda, Kathy, Ann, Barbara, Tanya, Holli and Sharon. More would be welcomed!
- Dogwood Trail will be rerouted with entry & exit on Maloney.
- Ann Graf will purchase ribbon.
- Neighborhood Cleanup will be Saturday, March 20, 2021
- There will be a variety of places to pick up bows

**Motion:** Barbara Taylor made a motion that 300 bows should be made with a box for donations. Motion was seconded. Discussion ensued. Following discussion, Barbara amended the motion: 200 bows should be made and cost \$1.00 each. Motion was seconded and carried. Linda Haynes suggested the phrase, "A Bow for A Buck."

**Programs:**

Program Chair, Kathy Proctor, reported that no other educational programs are currently planned. She suggested the possibility of having a workday at Legacy Park on the Garden Club's third Thursday meeting day, which would be March 18, 2021. Kristin Bianconi had a suggestion for a future program in March or April. She said that Herb Lewis, from Huntsville, Alabama, has a wonderful website called [creativebirding.com](https://creativebirding.com). Kathy will let us know.

Additionally, she urged us to visit the Garden Club Website on the LHHA Website, as it is fantastic due to the work of Kara Hudgens! Thank you, Kara! <https://lakemoor.org/lakemoor-hills-garden-club/>

**Legacy Park: Kristin Bianconi & John Bradley:**

John, Chairman of the Planting Plan Subcommittee, reported that the Planting Plan Subcommittee has been very busy. They have divided the garden into 8 sections and 4 sections have planting proposals. You may see and read all about the work in the Park on the Garden Club Website. The Committee is asking for Garden Club members to check their yard and gardens for plants that could be donated toward this planting goal. John has created a power point listing these plants, which will be blooming this spring and summer, a perfect time for selection. All of this information and more can be found on the garden club website.

Kristin, Chairman of the Legacy Park Committee, has requested the Garden Club Executive Committee create a Commissioning Statement, giving development guidelines to the Legacy Park Committee. The Committee is a large and open committee and invites all who are interested to be a part of its creative process.

**General Comments About the Garden Club's Civics Efforts:**

Kathy Proctor reported that four projects fall under the Garden Club's Civics Projects: They are Legacy Park, Bluff Point, Alcoa Highway Roundabouts and the Greenway. Not all are active at this time (i.e. Alcoa Hwy planting is scheduled in Fall 2021 and Greenway is seeking team members) There were a variety of comments:

Kathy has asked the Legacy Park Committee to develop a final plan that is in the works. They are also making plans to establish a Memorial component. They hope to also address habitat for wildlife, water sources, birding areas and educational outdoor classroom. The Park will continue to develop.

Alcoa Highway design project has been modified due to large areas of riprap where plantings were planned. Defining entrances to the neighborhood is in deep negotiations as TDOT does not ~~want~~ allow signage, etc., in their right of way. Gene Burr is our standard bearer, fighting for our cause!

The Greenway beautification is of interest to several in the Garden Club but, at present, there is no working group. This effort is seeking a leader and hopes to build a team of stakeholders living near the park.

**Announcements:**

- Linda Haynes invited members to Book Club on the second Monday of March via Zoom or in the Park.
- Fran Thomforde announced that adored GC Member, Helen Akard (103), is back home and would love a card and her brother and our neighbor, John Coleman, is at LifeCare Center in Blount County following a stroke.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon W. Gerkin,  
Recording Secretary

