

## Get Inspired Flower Show Chair Report

The planning for the flower show started almost two years before the show which was in April of 2025. In the fall of 2023, the first Flower Design workshop was given called Introduction to Flower Design to teach new members about flower show design classes. That year there was a workshop on Tray Table design and a club competition of Tray Tables. Diana Kazazis started working on the Flower Show schedule, it was decided to use Shady Rest as the venue and flower show committees and chairs were formed before September of 2024. After much discussion we decided not to charge admission, but to have the flower show as a service to the community, and to attract new members.

In the fall of 2024, there were more demonstrations about Flower Show classes and workshops for members to bring in Flower designs to be critiqued. We also had a daffodil bulb fundraiser for Veterans hoping that members would also buy bulbs and bring in the flowers for the Horticulture Division of the Flower Show. Throughout the year there were short educational talks about the Horticulture classes in the flower show. Two workshops on how to make Botanical Jewelry were given.

The Properties chair made many trips to Holly House to see the properties and check on what was available there. There was a concern that Shady Rest was not large enough and we could have used more space. The Juniors and Educational Exhibit could have used more space since they were in the same room as the luncheon. It might have been better not to have the luncheon, as the time, 1 pm to 5 pm was not that good for lunch. There were 100 lunches prepared, but only 50 sold, so we lost money on the lunch. There were also problems with Shady Rest. There was a mix-up with reserving the two days needed and we did not pay the deposit on time. We found out just a month before the show that all food had to be prepared on the premises and that we were not supposed to accept any cash there, so had to use the Square Reader for credit card charges. Am not sure what we will want to do for the next Deck the Halls Boutique because of the cash restriction. Even though we had been promised enough tables provided by the Rec department, in the end we found out there were not enough, so we had to rent tables.

Since it is hard to know how many horticulture entries there will be, and we really encouraged members to bring in horticulture, we ran out of ribbons and had to use old ribbons. I would recommend buying many more ribbons next time. I also did not plan well enough about making sure all the entries were photographed with their ribbons, especially the top

awards. The set-up day was a really long, hard day. Some of us were there from 12:30 in the afternoon til 11pm. The members were really great on clearing everything out that night when the show was over. Most people thought it was a good idea that we rented a truck from Home Depot to return the properties to Holly House on Sunday.

Day of the show, it took the judges longer than scheduled to finish judging. At 1 pm when the public was supposed to be let in, the judges had not finished. The judges had breakfast at a member's home then came to Shady Rest. We gave the judges gifts (wind-chimes and flower seeds) and provided a box lunch so they could eat there or leave with the lunch. Our publicity chair had the idea to have door prizes so we could get names and contact information of the people attending to see if anyone would like to join the club in the future. We also had greeters at the front table to give directions and count the number of attendees. Approximately 330 people attended.

Overall, I think the show was a success. We scored a 95+ from the judges and are applying for an Flower Show Award. Our newer members learned a lot and our more experienced members were able to be mentors and to have fun putting a flower show together again.

Flower Show  
Committee Sign-ups

**Clerks**

**Beth Siano Chair**

Maryfran Annese  
Betsy Chance  
Jane Christiani  
Sue Feldman  
Regina Kelley  
Kris Luka  
Eileen Morris  
Barbara Murphy  
Donna Sevchuk  
Carmen Skoletsky

**Docents**

**Richard Pelikan Chair**

Maryfran Annese  
Kay Cross  
Joe Da Rold  
Irene Greenstein  
Regina Kelley  
Linda Parker  
Jeanie Pelikan  
Betty Round  
Sharon Tittle  
Karen Troiano

**Horticulture**

**Inge Bossert Chair**

Joann Androconis  
Cheryl Rose Katz  
Diana Kazazis  
Regina Kelley  
Joan Kylish  
Gayle Lechner  
Linda Parker  
Betty Round  
Donna Sevchuk  
Barb Spellmeyer  
Karen Troiano  
Mabel Woloj

**Judges Breakfast**

**Beth Hanscom Chair**

Liz Dwyer  
Gayle Lechner  
Nancy Smith

**Judges Lunch**

**Jeanie Pelikan Chair**

Joan Barna  
Alice Cowell  
Eileen Morris

**Photography**

**Margot Partridge Chair**

Joann Androconis  
Maryfran Annese  
Irene Greenstein  
Karen Troiano  
Mabel Woloj

**Properties**

**Carolyn Seracka Chair**

Jim Dukelow  
Regina Kelley  
Donna Sevchuk  
Nina Sylvester

**Staging**

**Carolyn Seracka Chair**

Joann Androconis  
Joan Barna  
Betsy Chance  
Alice Cowell  
Kay Cross  
Beth Hanscom  
Eileen Morris  
MaryLou Nolas  
Donna Sevchuk  
Karen Troiano

**Tea**

**Tracy Criscitello, Lee Perry  
Chair**

Joan Barna  
Alice Cowell  
Annie Dai  
Sue Feldman  
Cheryl Rose Katz  
Diana Kazazis  
Joyce Mullen  
Barbara Murphy  
MaryLou Nolas  
Martha Savage

## **Flower Show Committees**

Clerks Committee: Assists Judges on the morning of the Flower Show (8-10 people)

Docent Committee: Works during the flower show to answer questions from the public and make sure exhibits are not touched. Two shifts- early afternoon and late afternoon (6-8 people)

Horticulture Committee: Help with set-up and placement of horticulture entries the day before the show. Help identify and classify the plants

Judges Breakfast: Help with the Judges Breakfast the day of the show

Judges Lunch: Help with the Judges Lunch the day of the show

Photography Committee: Help with Photography set-up the day before the show

Properties Committee: Help with getting all the properties needed for the show and any prep work needed on them

Staging Committee: Help with all set-up for the Flower Show the day before (need many volunteers)

Tea Committee: Help with planning the tea and serving tea and food the day of the Flower show (need many volunteers)

We need a lot of help, so please sign up for more than one committee.

## 2025 Rake and Hoe Garden Club FLOWER SHOW

### Flower Show Expenses

Printing, paper supplies, Schedule	689.88
Properties, Supplies	620.99
Rent	1,545.00 (includes refund of 400.00 deposit)
Judge's gifts, postage, misc.	171.06
Truck and table rentals, tablecloths, misc.	539.65
Judge's lunches	352.55
Juniors flowers, misc.	<u>119.27</u>
TOTAL	4,038.40

### Luncheon Expenses

Food, paper goods, decorations, misc.	760.17
Flowers, paper goods, decorations	<u>364.69</u>
TOTAL	1,124.86

### Luncheon receipts

Meal Purchases (less fees)	851.70
Orchid Sales	115.00
Donation	<u>20.00</u>
TOTAL	967.70

## Awards Report

Order awards from the NGC store at their website. You can get entry cards, regular ribbons and topaward winning rosettes from them. One year, when there was no NGC photography award, I created a custom rosette with Rake and Hoe on it and then ordered all of my ribbons with Rake and Hoe on it. They were reasonable enough at the trophy shop in Rahway on St. Georges Ave. It helps to hold on to all the older ribbons as you could see this time around, they were needed because of all the Horticulture entries we had!

To determine the # of ribbons to order, look at the schedule. Order all of the top awards listed in the schedule. Next is more difficult because it's a guessing game somewhat.

All the classes that are limited to 4 ribbons only are easy. It's the other unlimited classes including horticulture that makes it difficult.

### Example

#### Ribbons

Design - 8 classes so 8 blues, 8 reds, 8 yellows and 8 whites

Botanical arts - get number of entries per class from chair

Youth - subdivide as many of the entries as possible so there are few whites and yellows in this division, count up entries

Horticulture - this is definitely the division that caused our problem in 2025. Prior flower show we had 78 entries, this one had 225 so my tally of ribbons was off but i knew that we had plenty of backup ribbons so i wasn't concerned and tried to save money.

Once you've "calculated" how many you need, tack on 20% more and you should be fine. ***Check the old stock before you order to be on the safe side.***

#### Cards

These are cheap so just buy a ton each time and have left overs. I feel like I had a few hundred leftovers from last show and I ordered a few more hundred. We had plenty.

Order way in advance as people will need the cards prior to the show date. If you order in advance, you still have time to order more if needed. Give all of the ribbons to the Clerks chair as she will be dividing them into the baskets of each panel of judges according to what they are judging.

That's it. A low key chair position that can be done way ahead of time. A good job for someone who is house bound too.

Diana

### **Division III – Botanical Arts Report**

There were 21 entries in this division.

Class I – Be Kind to Animals – A dried flower postcard

There were 6 entries. 5 from Rake and Hoe and one from outside the club.

Class II – Protecting Wildlife – A 3 Dimensional Animal

There were 4 entries from within the club.

Class III – Animal Elegance – Botanical Animal Jewelry

There were 11 entries in this category from Rake and Hoe Members. A variety of necklaces, bracelets, pins and earrings were on display.

This division was well represented in the show. As with other divisions, there was amazing talent and creativity on display in all entries.

## **R&H Get Inspired! Flower Show 4/26/25 Clerks Committee Summary**

Submitted by Beth Siano

### **What went right:**

Getting NGC flower show clerk duties to the clerks ahead of time was helpful.

Having clerks come 1.5 hours early gave plenty of time to give instructions.

Chair had prepared all clerks baskets with ribbons in advance. Had also set aside special ribbons.

Clerks did a good job and reported that they enjoyed the experience.

### **What to do better next time:**

Add two reserve clerks in case of illness.

Put in many extra ribbons as Horticulture can have many sub-divisions.

Apparently stick on dots for 90+ winners are available and should be ordered next time as the 90+ winners were not seen once the entry cards had been unfolded. This meant that it was difficult to record those winners and that the public did not easily see the 90+ awards.

Prearrange for three or four clerks to record top winners in each Division.

While we had forms to facilitate this process, it became difficult to get everything recorded, especially once the public had entered.

Note: There were five panels of three judges each. Two clerks were assigned to each panel of judges.

Basket with clerks supplies: ribbons, pencils, hole punch, measuring tape, stapler, small clipboard,



### **“Get Inspired!” Design Chair Report-**

The Flower Designing Committee held three workshops to introduce the design types that would appear in the flower show. Kay Cross, Margot Partridge and Nina Sylvester taught “Art in Bloom”, pedestal designs and miniatures. Participants had two opportunities to make designs and have them critiqued by judges.

We also demonstrated some examples of tray designs at a General Meeting. Beth Siano, Sharon Shiraga and Nina Sylvester made design examples. The next month we had members do their own tray designs for a friendly competition. Thirteen members competed.

By the time the show came, members had more confidence to enter all design categories. All entries were filled in house except for one. (Excluding the judges only category).

There was a nice selection of design types and entries.

One note is the 36 round tables take 96” tablecloths. This was not specified in the schedule.

**Submitted by Nina Sylvester 6/25**

## Docents Report

As Chairperson of the Docents, I was responsible for coordinating the time frames for all members who signed up for the committee. All docent activities went well with no problems; all volunteers knew their responsibilities beforehand and were eager to help. In fact, several Club members who came to view the show during the afternoon were acting as "de facto" docents by circulating among the visitors and keeping things in hand.

One important suggestion, which you originated, was to have one docent act as an entertaining and engaging "Greeter" at the entrance to set the tone of the show. The docent received all visitors in a warm and friendly manner. This was a first impression to all who came to the flower show "that all are welcomed." Many visitors left enjoying the show and all the exhibits. The Greeter also encouraged visitors to participate in the door prizes and if they wanted to enjoy the lunch that was being served.

On another note, in general, members that sign up for multiple committees need to be mindful that many committee activities are going to overlap and it's impossible to serve all at once. I know of some committees that lost volunteers because of that overlap.

That being said, the show was a success, and your calm and patient leadership made it happen along with Nina, all the other committees and all the other volunteers who worked so well together.

Rich Pelikan

## Hort Committee Notes for Flower Show 2025, 'Get Inspired!'

The Horticulture Division of our Flower Show included 7 Sections comprising a total of 29 classes:

- A. Herbaceous Flowering Perennials\*
- B. Flowering Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes
- C. Herbaceous Foliage Perennials
- D. Flowering Tree Branches
- E. Flowering Shrub Branches
- F. Container-grown Flowering or Fruited Plants
- G. Container-grown Foliage Plants

\*note: For future shows (depending on the time of year), it is suggested to change this category to, "Herbaceous Flowering *or Fruited* Perennials", in order to include plants with decorative seed pods, e.g. hellebores.

There were a total of 235 entries submitted by 30 members and 3 non-members. Many ribbons were awarded, reflecting much subdivision of classes.

Hort reflections on the Show .....

- Planning & preparation for entries should begin early, e.g. late summer/early fall for a spring show. This encourages members to plant for show entries. Workshops or fundraisers can help to encourage this.
- Tutorials on specimen prep and nomenclature were helpful – repetition is good!
- The most useful glassware for specimens was the 'Fevertree' bottles and large & medium test tubes, but not enough holders for the larger tubes. *Note: generally, these sizes also worked for the branches, since size was restricted by the schedule.*
- Instead of bubble wrap for securing specimens, Para-Film (a stretchy, wax-coated seal) or round, colorless glass beads in the test tubes were used preferentially.
- Planning for glassware needs was difficult since the number & types of entries was unknown beforehand. It is suggested for future shows that we follow other clubs and require a flexible pre-registration.
- For sub-division, it is emphasized that only gros-grain ribbon be used for both look and ease of use; the lighter weight ribbon used here did not lie flat and was easily displaced.

- Sufficient time for entry intake, processing, placement, and sub-division cannot be more emphasized. ALLOW AT LEAST 10 HRS. with sufficient helpers!
- Included here are, 1) the minutes of the Hort Committee for final planning prior to the show and, 2) final pointers to members on specimen prep.

Repectfully Sumitted,

Inge Bossert, Co-Chair.

## Minutes from final planning mtg of FS Hort Committee:

Thanks for attending the FS Hort meeting on Tuesday! There was lots of input and discussion, and I think we've developed a good plan for next Saturday's show. Below is a summary of my notes from the meeting. Pls. review and add any corrections or further comments.

Carolyn and Sharon, you are cc'd here to confirm items already discussed that Hort will need as early as possible on Friday – thanks for your help!

Flow for intake and placement of entries. Six (8) steps were established for processing:

Step 1. Plant ID (Barb & Inge). *Long table alongside kitchen wall.* Once plant is ID'd with correct spelling, entry card handed out and proceed to Step 2. (Have scrap paper available to write down names ID'd).

Step 2. Fill out cards (members). *Need clipboards and pencils; small card table & folding chairs optional.*

Step 3. Card Check (Barb & Inge). *Long table alongside kitchen wall.*

Step 4. Registration (Irene). *with long table alongside kitchen wall.* Entry # is assigned and specimen recorded on tally sheet.

Step 5. Specimen Prep (Adah & helpers). *In storage hallway next to kitchen.* Jugs used to transport water.

Carolyn – Pls. place glassware inventory here; also bubble wrap and clear glass beads.

Step 6. Specimen Placement (Kay & all available committee hands). *Staging area on closest round hort table (no tablecloth yet!).* KEEP ENTRY CARD WITH SPECIMENT AT ALL TIMES!!!

Step 7. Final Placement. (Kay, Inge & all available hands). Use tape for transport, if necessary, and carry only ONE specimen + card at a time when moving to its show location, e.g. Sections A-G. Use “dummy” place cards for positioning; replace with good signage cards after subdividing.

Step 8. Subdividing (Diana & Kay). Time for the experts! 😊

### Things needed:

- Card table (Adah?)
- 2 temporary, long tables along wall by kitchen (Carolyn)
- Folding chairs (Carolyn)
- Bubble wrap & clear glass pebbles (Carolyn)
- Gross-grain ribbon (Carolyn – many yds!)
- Blue tape (Barb)
- Gallon jugs (Diana & Kay)
- Pruner & scissors (Inge)

Markers (Inge)  
Plant reference/encyclopedia (Inge); iPhones will be primary source.  
Dust pan & broom (Inge)  
Mini-whisk broom for tables (?)  
Funnels (Kay & Barb)  
Paper towels (Inge)  
Pencils & clip board (Irene)  
Clipboards (Kay, Barb, Adah)  
Ruler (Inge) & Yardstick (Kay)  
Buckets (Inge & ??)  
“Step” signs (Barb)

What did I miss??! Thanks to all again for your help & efforts – let’s make this the best hort display ever 😊

-Inge

### **Hort Tips for Our Upcoming Flower Show, 'Get Inspired!**

Rake & Hoe's Standard Flower Show is only 1 week away! If you haven't already, take a stroll outside and inventory of your plants – house plants, too! We are heading into a hot weekend, so look for blooms not fully open, or just beginning to bud; also plants with healthy, clean foliage if the schedule requires. Water if necessary. *For our newer members, Kay has kindly offered to come to your garden and help you select good candidates to enter.*

Check the FS schedule to see which of your blooms (foliage, plants) fit the described Sections in the Horticulture Division. Note that each Section lists a catch-all Class that can be used to enter unlisted, but conforming specimens. Also, you can enter multiple specimens in a given Class, provided they are unique, i.e. different color, species or cultivar, etc. Our goal is to 'Get Inspired!' and create a beautiful, informative display for the public. *To this end, we encourage variety and many entries! Two Club Hort awards will be given to members with, 1) the most Hort entries and 2) the most Hort ribbons!*

Cut specimens should be 'conditioned' overnight and kept in water for transport to the show. Below is a page from the Flower Show handbook that Margot shares which explains some of the steps in preparing samples for a show. *Tip: keep cut daffodils in a separate container of water – their stems exude a 'sap' that can affect other cut stems.*

Intake of specimens will be on Friday, as soon as we gain access to the Shady Rest facility. Each specimen will receive its own entry card, including binomial name, to be filled out on site. Remember to bring address labels. The FS Hort Committee has set up a flow to process the entries and will be there to help you along the way – follow the signs. Any questions? Pls. call or text.

A final reminder..... Enjoy! And Have Fun!

-Inge Bossert

**Plant Suggestions for ‘Get Inspired!’ Flower Show**  
*It's not too late to plant for Spring 2025!*

Listed below are examples of plants that fit the schedule categories, and can be entered in our spring show.

- A. Herbaceous Flowering Perennials
  - Columbine (*Aquilegia*)
  - Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra*)
  - Primrose (*Primula*)
  - Lily-of-the-Valley (*Convallaria*)
  - Barrenwort (*Epimedium*)
  - Lungwort (*Pulmonaria*)
  - Siberian Bugloss (*Brunnera*)
  - Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum*)
  - ...any other from your garden.
  
- B. Herbaceous Foliage Perennials (flower spikes may be included)
  - Coral Bells (*Heuchera*)
  - Foam Flower (*Tiarella*)
  - Ferns (many genera)
  - Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla*)
  - Wild Ginger (*Asarum*)
  - Bugleweed (*Ajuga*)
  - ... any other from your garden
  
- C. Flowering Branches (these may be forced)
  - Dogwood (*Cornus*)
  - Magnolia (*Magnolia*)
  - Crab Apple (*Malus*)
  - Cherry (*Prunus*)
  - ... any other from your garden
  
- D. Flowering Shrubs (these may be forced)
  - Azalea (*Rhododendron*)
  - Rhododendron (*Rhododendron*)
  - Viburnum (*Viburnum*)
  - Deutzia (*Deutzia*)
  - Witchhazel (*Hamamelis*)
  - Serviceberry (*Amelanchior*)
  - Lilac (*Syringa*)
  - Flowering Quince (*Chaenomeles*)
  - ... any other from your garden



E. Bulbs, Corms, and Rhizomes

Iris (*Iris*)

Tulip (*Tulipa*)

Daffodil (*Narcissus*)

Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus*)

....any other from your garden

F. Container-grown Flowering or Fruited Plants. One plant per container, with pot not exceeding 10" diameter unless pre-registered. Plant must be in the exhibitor's possession for more than 90 days.

Begonia (*Begonia*)

Orchid (*Orchidaceae*)

African Violet (*Saintpaulia*)

... any other

G. Container-grown Foliage Plants. One plant per container, with pot not exceeding 10" diameter unless pre-registered. Plant must be in the exhibitor's possession for more than 90 days.

Weeping Fig (*Ficus*)

Peace Lily (*Spathiphyllum*)

Spider Plant (*Chlorophyllum*)

Rex Begonia (*Begonia*)

Snake Plant (*Dracaena*)

Prayer Plant (*Maranta*)

Cycads (*Cycadaceae*)

... any other

## RAKE AND HOE GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW, MAY 2025

### KAY CROSS, JUDGES CHAIR

- Decide how many judges required based upon classes
- Contact GCNJ judges Credentials Chair to see if any student judges or judges that need credit
- Inquire of members if they have any judges they would like to judge our show.
  
- Invite judges via phone call.
- Follow up with text or email.
  
- 1 month before show: send out schedule, judging panel assignments, directions, breakfast/lunch details.
  
- Show date: greet judges.
- Have available: the following numbers: club members, active participants, horticulture entries, total entries.
- Have a gift available containing a thank you note.
  
- After show: send thank you text or email.

RAKE AND HOE GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW: "GET INSPIRED" APRIL 26, 2025
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JUDGE	PANEL	DESIGN CLASSES	DESIGN AWARDS *	HORTICULTURE CLASSES	TOP HORTICULTURE AWARDS *	OTHER CLASSES	OTHER TOP AWARDS
Teddie Falcone Helga Fontus Debbie Moran	1	1 and 2	Design Excellence Designer's Choice	Section A - All Section B - 5&6	Horticulture Excellence Section A Award of Merit Section B Award of Merit	YOUTH Section B - Botanical Arts - All	YOUTH TOP AWARDS
Alice Dickson Cecelia Millea Teri Torsney	2	3 and 4	Design Excellence Designer's Choice	Section B - 7,8,9 Section C - All	Horticulture Excellence Section B Award of Merit Section C Award of Merit	YOUTH Section C - Horticulture - All Education - Exhibit 1	YOUTH TOP AWARDS  EDUCATION AWARD OF APPRECIATION
Terry Blake Florence Leyssene Linda Williams	3	5 and 6	Design Excellence Table Artistry Award	Section D - All Section E - All	Horticulture Excellence Arboreal Award	BOTANICAL ARTS: Section A - All	BOTANICAL ARTS ARTISTIC CRAFT AWARD
Gail Bassolino Jane Bersch Louise Davis	4	7 and 8	Design Excellence Table Artistry Award	Section F - All Section G - All	Horticulture Excellence Grower's Choice Award	YOUTH Section A - Design - All	YOUTH TOP AWARDS
Amy Richardson Rosemary Shirer Elena Sisti	5	BOTANICAL ARTS Section B -PHOTOGRAPHY Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7					BOTAICAL ARTS PHOTOGRAHY AWARD
I. ALL Four Panels will choose the recipient of the AWARD OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE							
II.. ALL Four Panels will choose the recipient of the AWARD OF HORTICULTURAL EXCELLENCE							
* III. Panels 1 and 2 and 3 will choose the recipient of the DESIGNER'S CHOICE AWARD							
* IV Panels 3 and 4 will choose the recipient of the TABLE ARTISTRY AWARD							
* V. Panels 1 and 2 will choose the recipient of the AWARD OF MERIT for HORTICULTURE Section B							
VI. In Club Special AWARDS of : NANCY WALLACE, JUDY KAMPE and KAY CROSS will be designated by a Member Committee							

## **Rake and Hoe Juniors' Flower Show Report**

From September 2024-April 2025, the Juniors' activities centered around preparation for the Spring Flower Show on April 26. They included: dried plant material butterfly flutter art, floral design, plant material decorated bird houses, and plant care.

The Juniors did very well with their entries, receiving many red and blue ribbons, plus ten Youth Award Ribbons. Their projects were displayed artistically, and the space allotted to them worked well. The girls received many complimentary comments from visitors, with the bird houses being a favorite.

The ribbons were awarded on Wednesday, May 21, at the Juniors' final meeting for the season, and the girls were very pleased. Ten girls plan on returning to Juniors in the Fall.

Joan Barna

5/23/25

## Lunches for Judges

As Committe Chairperson I prepared in total 19 Judges' Lunchboxes, 15 which consisted of several types of sandwiches. I also prepared 4 Gluten Free lunchboxes for the Judges who had special dietary restrictions. Included in the lunchboxes were Gluten Free tuna salads, along with crackers. Each box lunchbox contained a sandwich, water and desserts (cookies, health bars, piece of fruit, potato chips), napkin and plastic cutlery. They were all packed in a gable box for their convenience to be carried (see photo.)

Jeanie Pelikan

Chairperson, Judges' Lunchbox

Rake and Hoe Flower Show April 2025

## **Flower Show Luncheon Report**

The title of the luncheon was A Taste of the South

The menu is as follows

Spinach and pea soup

Tossed salad with fig vinaigrette

Southern biscuit with ham

Peach crisp

Ice tea

The members of this committee did all the shopping and cooking with the exception of the biscuits which we purchased from Addams Tavern. We bought and cooked enough food for 100 people,

I believe we served only 49 people. I can't give you any financials as to what we spent and how much we brought in as I don't have that information.

My recommendation if we do this again is to only plan for 50 guests. I thought the menu was very good and fairly easy to prepare.

We had a committee of 11 people but only had 8 people participate.

The charge for the luncheon was \$20.00,

## **Photography at the Show.**

Four classes were available for members to enter photography in at our Flower Show "Get Inspired". A sign up sheet for entering was available at the previous board and general meetings. 27 members signed up to enter a photo. Participants were asked to drop off an 8 by 10 photo in an 11 by 14 white frame mat at Margot Partridge's front door by April 21st. 25 members actually dropped off their photo. The Photography consultant filled out the entry cards, arranged the photos in sub groups if needed, and brought the photos to Shady Rest to be hung on the wall the day before the show.

Judging Photography in a NGC Flower Show does not require NGC Flower Show Judges ; Photography enthusiasts are preferred. Two of our Photography judges were from the GCA organization. The GCA organization has program for training Photography Judges. The names were given by Beverly Kazickas. The Judges' names are Amy Richardson and Elena Sisti. The third judge was a Photography, Fine Arts enthusiast from the Westfield Garden Club, Rosemary Shire.

Photography was displayed on the walls in the hallway to the bathrooms. This wall usually historical pictures hanging from picture rail hangers. The original pictures were taken down and stored for the show. Our photos were hung on the picture rail hangers with 3M double sided tape. This was a great place to display the Photos. The lighting was already in place to shine on the historical pictures.

The Clerks, Carmen and Donna, did a great job helping the judges and writing the numerous comments.

Photography had numerous workshops during the year to prepare support member who entered the show.

My only concern about the placement of the Photography is the road block that happened when people were waiting in line for lunch. The popular vote box may have been missed by many members of the public. I was recently at a Flower Show and this was mentioned.

Photography Consultant  
Margot Partridge

Other comments:

I think our constant scheduling of workshops and tutorials were grueling but really paid off. Members have made comments that these workshops helped them get a better feel for what was going to happen. There was a lot of work to make the Flower Show happen. It is an event that brings the community together and instills confidence to the individuals who participated. As a club we need to figure out how we can further develop the skills before our next Flower Show in a fun way. As we get new members, we need to educate them.

Should we explore a new place to hold our next Flower Show. Yes, it did work out but a little more space would be nice. And it seems as if we ran into a lot of stumbling blocks along the way. I thought the renting of the truck to transport the properties was an excellent idea and should be in the budget from the start next time.

Classification of the horticulture was not an easy process for our members. There was horticulture that should not have been entered. Such a hard job