12th Annual Writer’s Garden, A Passion for Gardens

12th Annual “A Writer’s Garden” Literary Symposium and Luncheon

The Women’s Council of the Dallas Arboretum 12th Annual “A Writer’s Garden” Literary Symposium and Luncheon A Passion for Gardens was held on November 14 in Rosine Hall at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. The stellar lineup for the 2018 program featured Carolyne Roehm, internationally recognized style icon and gardener extraordinaire, and Colta Ives, renowned art historian and landscape designer. It was sold out before the invitations were put in the mail. Over 300 guests attended and it is expected to raise a record amount.

Longtime supporter of the Dallas Arboretum and the Dallas community, Barbara Hunt Crow, was the Honorary Chairman. Michelle Mew was event chair and Linda Spina is the Women’s Council President.

The evening before the Symposium, Connie Rhoades chaired an Intimate Evening With the Authors reception for Sponsors and Patrons which was held in the Highland Park mansion of acclaimed interior designer Betty Lou Phillips.

“A Writer’s Garden” Literary Symposium is an annual Fall Fundraiser which has presented outstanding authors and speakers with extensive knowledge in the histories of garden design, architecture and art, and stories of extraordinary individuals and events.

Since 1986, the major goal of the Women’s Council has been the development and maintenance of “A Woman’s Garden,” the only public garden in the nation conceived by women, funded by the efforts of women, and dedicated to the spirit of women.

Founders Award Recipient

JoAnne McCullough was awarded the Founders Award on December 4th at the winter meeting and luncheon at Brook Hollow Golf Club. The luncheon was chaired by Susan Scullin and Vicki Petersen. Jo Anne has served the community as a volunteer for over 49 years. She has served as president of the Women’s Council of the DABG, President of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League, and the Women’s Board of the Dallas Opera, Texas Ballet Theatre, AWARE, and Crystal Charity Ball. She is married to Dr. Michael McCullough.
President’s Letter

We’ve had a busy and successful fall.
In late September, Sarah Andry, organized a Volunteer Day at the Dallas Arboretum for us to plant mums in A Woman’s Garden. Dorothea Meltzer provided Women’s Council T-shirts in mint green and the group enjoyed a dutch treat lunch at the DeGolyer Café. Our next Volunteer Day will be in the spring.

Nancy Connor led our group of 35 on a wonderful day trip to private gardens in Dallas. Jenny Wegley, Vice President of Horticulture Operations at the Arboretum, was able to join us. Despite the record-breaking 14 1/2 inches of rain Dallas received in October, we were only greeted with a little morning mist on October 25th. We toured the lovely grounds of Amy Warren’s home, enjoying the many water features that are throughout the property. Our next home featured an evergreen landscaped design, with climbing ivy on the home that was hand trimmed every few weeks. Lunch was at a new place in town, Sachet, and the group enjoyed family-style dining, allowing us to try several different entrees and sides. Connie Carreker’s home was our final stop, where her landscape designer Warren Johnson met us to lead us through her gardens. We thank Connie for her hospitality, even though she was on a trip to Japan.

Many thanks to all who made Writer’s Garden such a success, starting with Writer’s Garden Chair, Michelle Mew, and Program Chair, Dorothea Meltzer. Mary Ellen Winborn handled Reservations. Connie Rhoades served as the Patron Party Chair in Betty Lou Phillips’ home, as secured by Elle Cole. Giana DePaul and Julia Grace collected over $30,000 of items for our Silent Auction and Janet Sue Rush put together the décor, food and drink. Katherine Phillips and Cece Moore created beautiful centerpieces. Jessica Horn and Lisa Meyer handled our finances, including streamlining our checkout process. I can’t wait to see the financial results, but feel sure our profit will be in the high 5 figures.

The week following Thanksgiving, we gathered at TOOTSIES with Mad Hatter’s Co-Chairs Sharla Bush and Terry Irby to meet Honorary Chair Kristina Bush Whitcomb and to learn the theme will be “The Golden Age of Hollywood”. Hollywood from the 1930s through the mid-1960s will be the inspiration for our April 11th event. We can’t wait!

December 4th was a shimmering turquoise delight as Vicki Petersen and Susan Scullin’s vision of Seven Swans A-swimming transformed Brook Hollow into a glittery winter wonderland. Lisa Meyer joined Vicki and Susan to bring the vision to reality. A special treat was in store for us with a signature cocktail made with champagne poured over handmade cotton candy to produce the signature turquoise color. Patty Langdale secured the new Director of the Bush Museum and Presidential Library as our speaker. Congratulations to Jo Anne McCullough, the recipient of our Founders Award.

Linda Spina

Linda Spina, Women’s Council President 2018-2019

The Women’s Council of the Dallas Arboretum newsletter is printed
4 times per year by the WCDABG.
The deadlines are: March 1, 2019, May 1.
Please send articles and photographs to Sandy Secor, Editor; jwsecor@sbcglobal.net
News and Notes
Congratuations to **Dixie Marshall** on the birth of a granddaughter. Get well wishes to: **Susan Vaughan Bayley**. Condolences to the family of **Carolyn Rose Hunt**. Please send news to Care and Concern Chair **Carole Ann Brown**, 972-733-8833, or caroleannbrown@sbcglobal.net.

Mad Hatters 2019
The **Golden Age of Hollywood** will be celebrated at the 31st annual Mad Hatter’s Tea on April 11 at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. The WCDABG theme was unveiled Nov. 28 at Tootsies by **Sharla Bush** and **Terry Irby** co-chairs of Mad Hatters. **Kristina Bush Whitcomb** was introduced as this year’s Honorary Chair. Money raised from the event helps to grow and maintain A Woman’s Garden, a major garden at the Dallas Arboretum. Each year, more than 500 guests, plan their trips to Dallas not only to take part in the Mad Hatter’s Tea Party – many in wild and wonderful over-the-top hats – but also to view the glorious springtime azalea displays and flowers that grace the Dallas Arboretum. Since its inception in 1982, the Women’s Council has supported the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden overall and through the creation, development, and funding of the world renowned A Woman’s Garden and now, through funding the garden’s enhancements that will continue to draw visitors to our great city from all over the world.

Individual Patron tickets begin at $350 and are available through the website. A limited number of individual tickets at $250 each will be available in Spring of 2019 for a limited time. They will be listed on the website when they go on sale.

Save the Date
**Moonlit Masquerade**
**A Party in Disguise**
Saturday, March 9, 2019 - 7:00pm - 10:00pm
A Tasteful Place at the Dallas Arboretum

Cocktail Attire - masks are strongly encouraged (handheld or tied)
Prizes awarded for Most Beautiful, Most Creative and People’s Choice

Writer’s Garden
Winter Meeting
Calendar 2019

January
Thursday, January, 10th - Board Meeting
Thursday, January, 24th - Girls Night Out” at Draper James in Highland Park Village 6pm-8pm
   A portion all sales will benefit the Women’s Council

February
Tuesday, February 12th - Couples Cooking Class
February 24th, April 8th - Dallas Blooms

March
Thursday, March, 7th - Board Meeting
Saturday, March 9 - Moonlit Masquerade at the Arboretum

April
Thursday, April 11th - Mad Hatter’s Tea