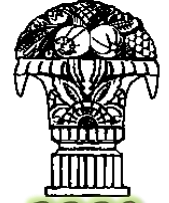


SUMMER

WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF THE DALLAS ARBORETUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN



2009

President's Letter



Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President. We've had a good year, with fun and fellowship, and we've raised funds to maintain and expand *A Woman's Garden*. Our successful year was made possible by the support of the entire membership. Thank you all! Elsewhere in this newsletter is individual recognition of our hardworking members. It is time to turn over the reins to Kathy Cothrum and her incoming Board. I know that they will do an outstanding job. I plan to enjoy the programs next year and I hope all of you will join me. See you then! *Sarah Seddelmeyer*

2009 Founders' Award Celebration – Wednesday, May 13th

Co-chairs **Anne Martin** and **Jo Anne McCullough** and guests enjoyed a seated cocktail buffet dinner on the Loggia of the Dallas Arboretum's DeGolyer House in honor of the 2009 recipient of the Women's Council Founders' Award, **Mary Anne Cree**. Mary Anne's generous gift of Rosine Hall at the Trammell Crow Visitor and Education Pavilion was made to The Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden in memory of her mother, **Rosine Smith Sammons**. The Women's Council awarded a gift, a *Boehm Yellow Rose of Texas* porcelain, to honor and recognize **Mary Anne Cree** as an individual whose dedication and volunteer contributions have made a monumental impact on the growth and prominence of The Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden.

Margaret McDermott, co-founder of the Women's Council, graciously hosted a private dinner in her home to celebrate Mary Anne Cree's receiving the 2009 Founders' Award. Guests were **Mary Anne** and **Richard Cree**, **Mary Brinegar**, **Anne** and **John Martin**, **Jo Anne** and **Michael McCullough**, and **Sarah** and **John Seddelmeyer**. (Photography available at: www.hollykuper.com)
Photo collage (L to R) **1**) Anne Martin, Sarah Seddelmeyer (2008 /2009 WC President), Mary Anne Cree, Jo Anne McCullough, Margaret McDermott (seated). **2**) Mary Anne & Richard Cree, **3**) and sons, **4**) Mary Brinegar (DABS President), **5**) Stephen Coker (Chairman, 2009 DABS Board) and wife, Cheryl, **6**) Linda Spina, Marsha & David Dowler, **7**) Joyce & Tom McClellan, **8**) Kathy Cothrum (2009/2010 WC President), **9**) David & Sara Martineau.



Spring Volunteer Day – Thursday, March 26th

Volunteer Day co-chairs, **Mary Lysaught** and **Michelle Stone** (pictured below, left to right) and volunteers met at the DeGolyer House to provide docent duties for hundreds of visitors despite the day's rainy weather. The Spring Volunteer Day coincided with the 25th Anniversary of **Dallas Blooms** when The Arboretum was planted with over 450,000 spring bulbs and 3,000 azaleas. It was busy and beautiful!



Mad Hatter's Tea: Wednesday, April 22nd

Congratulations to Mad Hatter's chairwomen, **Jewel Williams** and **Connie Rhoades**, and their committee members for a fabulous event. Entering the Arboretum under a floral arbor bedecked in pink cherry blossoms guests were welcomed by **Jaclyn Braddy**, **Jill Goldberg** and their committee members. Passing through the Japanese garden designed by **John Powell**, guests were served champagne and wine courtesy of **Consolidated Restaurant Operations**. Every aspect of the day harmonized with this year's Asian theme – *Under The Cherry Blossoms*: the soft notes of the Japanese Koto; the demonstration of a Japanese Tea Ceremony, Japanese calligraphy, and the Ikebana Japanese style of floral arrangement .

WFAA-TV news anchor, **Gloria Campos**, formally opened the event, with special recognition given to the honorary chair, **Mrs. Margaret Crow**. Dallas fashion event producer, **Jan Strimple**, wowed the audience with a runway fashion show featuring the fashions of **Highland Park Village** boutiques: **St. John/SoCa**, **Tory Burch** and **Anne Fontaine**. The fashion show began with several arias from Madame Butterfly, performed by Stephen Dubberly's University of North Texas opera theatre students.

Guests enjoyed gourmet chocolates provided by **J. Dorian Chocolatier** as well as a tented luncheon served by **Gil's Elegant Catering**. Table centerpieces were sponsored by **Nancy Connor**, decorations chairwoman, and favors were organized by **Judy Birchfield**, **Sue Prather**, and **Faye Swindell**. The lovely azalea topiaries were designed by **Alyson Watson** of **Designs by Alyson**.

Flighty or flirtatious, flowered or feathered, the myriad millinery creations were a high point of the day. **Jill Rowlett** and **Yvonne Crum** chaired the hat judging committee, which selected the category winners who received a **Thompson Fine Arts** tea set: **Grace Dean** (creative), **Carole Ann Brown** (elegant/ vintage), **D'Andra Simmons** (thematic), **Lori Bush** (whimsical) and **Carmaleta Whiteley** (winners circle).

Linda Betancourt and **Giana dePaul** did a fantastic job of soliciting items for a very successful silent auction. **Katherine Phillips** was an enthusiastic chairwoman of this year's Mad Hatter's Tea raffle, which included an exciting array of gifts and a getaway. The lucky winners of the raffle gift certificates were: **Marsha Dowler** (**NOBLE Boutique**), **Lori Routh** (**Southwest Airlines/CordeValle**), **Carolyn Rogers** (**Highland Park Village**), **Jan Harbour** (**Ann Cushing Gantz** painting), **Kim Whitford** (**Caroline Herrera Boutique**) and **Teresa Smith** (**St. John Boutique**). All in all, it was a lovely day.

Annual Meeting / Spring Luncheon – Wednesday, May 6th

Past Women's Council Presidents **Claire Cunningham**, **Nancy Murphy** and **Liz Respass** united to host our annual meeting and spring luncheon at the Dallas Woman's Club on May 6th. Current officers and committee chairmen received special recognition. **Nancy Connor**, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented the 2009 – 2010 slate of officers for approval by the general membership. **Linda Spina**, Assistant Treasurer for one year and Treasurer for three years, was the recipient of the Leadership Award. **Carole Boss**, was the recipient of the Service Award. Carole has managed bulb sales for ten years and is continuing next year! Linda and Carole were presented with engraved Tiffany crystal bowls. **Harriett Gibbs'** program featured **John Powell** with an interesting PowerPoint presentation on *Zen and Zen-Inspired Gardens*. The meeting and talk were followed by a delicious luncheon enjoyed by all.

MAD HATTERS TEA UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS



ST. JOHN ANNE FONTAINE TORY BURCH



Connie Rhoades, Jewel Williams



Sarah Seddelmeyer
Margaret Crow





From The Editor The Women's Council Newsletter is a quarterly publication, published in late August, November, February and May of each year and forwarded to our Women's Council members. Should you have submissions, questions or comments, please contact me as follows: **(214) 533-7033** or **cherylbuckles@tx.rr.com**

Spring Trip to Gardens in Dallas – Thursday, May 7th



Nancy Rothacker, Service and Education Chairwoman, organized the Spring Trip, which included a lovely lunch at the Dallas County Club. Accompanying the group was noted landscape architect of *A Woman's Garden*, **Warren Johnson**, who guided the tour of three of his recent and stylistically diverse gardens. Thanks also to the homeowners who greeted and escorted the tour. **Connie Carreker's** magnificent new garden and home addition included a tower with wine and banquet rooms, all blending seamlessly with the existing southwestern mission style property. **Jan Hegi's** multi-level woodland fairy garden featured meandering streams and bubbling fountains. The tour concluded at **Betsy Fijolik's** beautiful restoration of the former (Texas oil wildcatter) Clint Murchison estate and included a tour of the home and leisurely stroll through the formal gardens.



(L to R) Jan Hegi with Warren Johnson and Ruth Barnard; two photos of Connie Carreker home/landscape; Patricia Cowlshaw and Warren Johnson)

(www.womenscouncildallasarboretum.org

Newsletters posted & archived on website.)



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