PKS Garden Club

DEDICATION OF THE HERETH MEMORIAL AND 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PINE KNOLL SHORES GARDEN CLUB

Wistful reminiscences and fond memories dominated the Hereth Memorial Dedication and Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club on May 21st at Town Hall.

Former Mayor of Pine Knoll Shores Ken Hanan, now of Brevard, related many touching and even humorous incidents that occurred during his long association with Lee and Peg Hereth, stressing above all their constant support of every undertaking of the then fledgling town of Pine Knoll Shores.

Joan Smith pensively recalled many of the experiences that she shared with the Hereths, especially Peg, and, more often than not, Garden Club connected. Peg was a loyal member of the club for many years and brought to every position she held competence and a special verve. Joan stressed Peg's marvelous sense of humor, which lightened and brightened every situation encountered.

Mayor Reese Musgrave added remembrances of the Hearth's dedication to Pine Knoll Shores and expressed appreciation of the memorial garden in front of Town Hall.

The wall of the memorial garden bears a plaque noting the Garden Club's dedication to the Hearths in appreciation of their magnanimous loyalty and support.

The Silver Jubilee Celebration immediately following the dedication combined a sumptuous repast prepared by a dozen club members with a history of myriad town beautification projects undertaken by the Garden Club.

Vivian MacDonald, Master Judge Emeritus, was the first raconteur, recalling how a handful of avid gardeners started the club in 1974, first meeting in the original town hall, a one room building on Yaupon Road, graduating to the then newly built present Town Hall. These early members were instrumental in erecting the town flag pole, culminating with a ceremonial presentation of the flag to the town on July 4, 1975. Medians at Mimosa Boulevard and Oakleaf Drive were constructed and planted. Green Bag Day, Arbor Day ceremonies and Christmas Eve luminaria were set in place.

Lois Jean O'Keefe next recollected the club history from 1985 to the present. Highlights included the sale of geraniums in 1989, funding the purchase and planting of 5 Bradford pears and 8 crepe myrtles at Roosevelt and Pine Knoll Boulevards. The geranium sale of 100 plants was the start of the current annual plant sale. In 11 years 22,000 plants have been sold, the proceeds of which make possible town beautification. Other projects include Christmas bimonthly trash pickup, decorating of Town Hall, installation of the Christmas tree at the library and yearly Big Sweep.

Three charter members, Newell Haller Cade, Martha Flynn and Vivian MacDonald were special honored guests.

Nine former presidents attended - Vivian MacDonald 1977-78 and 1985-86, Becky Moore 1979-81, Marty Hare 1981-82, Irene Doremus 1983-84, Lois Jean O'Keefe 1984-85 and 1995-96, Joan Dawson 1991-92, Marge Sellers 1992-93, Clare Winslow 1996-97, Mary Heim 1997-98 as well as the current president, Judy Poit.

The combination of misty reflection and joyful remembrances of the past made this a banner day of memories.