

The Clubs



KIWANIS OFFICERS - Pictured are the new officers of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at the recent installation of officers. Front row, from left, Rev. Harold Schwantes, second-vice-president; Ronnie Hawkins, president; David Neisler, treasurer; and Lt. Gov. Doug Moon of Hendersonville, the installing officer. Back row, Phil Bouchard, first vice-president, and Tom Potter, secretary.



DIRECTORS OF KIWANIS CLUB - Pictured are the newly-installed directors of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club. Front row, from left, Helen Hatch, Gene White and Dr. Jeff Mauney. Back row, Tim Miller, Doyle Campbell, Jerry DePew and Lt. Governor Doug Moon of Hendersonville, the installing officer.

Open Gate Garden Club meets

Fourteen members of the Open Gate Garden Club met at the Mauney Memorial Library October 11. Mrs. James Crawford and Mrs. Raymond Talbert served a delicious dessert with apple cider.

Mrs. Eugene McCarter opened the meeting and introduced Mrs. Paul McGinnis who gave the program, "Trees of the White House Grounds."

The White House grounds bloom with bits of American History from magnolia trees planted during Andrew Jackson's presidency to a Willow Oak, a Little Leaf Linden and an American Elm planted by President and Mrs. Bill Clinton.

McGinnis stated that Irvin Williams, the head gardener at the White House, has 44 years of memories of presidents and cherry blossoms on the White House grounds. He oversees a staff of 18 and eight other gardeners tend a greenhouse elsewhere in the city.

Thomas Jefferson planted the first landscaping. Now there are 400 trees and 4700 shrubs that cover 180 acres. Each year there are 100,000 spring bulbs planted which are donated. There are 8,000 bright red tulips. The magnolia blossoms drift softly over the grass near the Rose Garden.

In the Jacqueline Kennedy garden on the east side of the White House, topiary hollies frame springtime hyacinths, pansies and tulips.

McGinnis gave each member a map of the White House grounds which lists the trees planted and the location of each tree donated by the different Presidents. Plans for the Woman's Club fall festival on October 18 were discussed. The club is responsible for arrangements in three niches and a table. This year the arrangements will be judged and blue ribbons awarded.

Twelve members participated in the cleanup project. Five members plan to attend the District meeting October 24 at the Peninsula Club on Lake Norman.

Timely tips were given by Mrs. Eugene Roberts. Now is the time to plant poppies and separate Shasta daisies. Get your beds ready and make plans for the planting of spring bulbs.

A lovely flower arrangement was made by Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Talbert. It consisted of mixed garden flowers that included Dracena, holly, begonia, mock orange and caladium leaves.

Door prizes were won by Mrs. McGinnis and Mrs. Crawford.

KM Garden Club hears 'Tree-rific' program

The Kings Mountain Garden Club held its October meeting at the home of Mrs. Fran Sincx on Edgemont Drive Wednesday afternoon.

Entrances to the house were decorated with yellow mums, a friendly scarecrow and a wreath of dried fall leaves, straw and dried flowers. The dining room table was festive with a natural arrangement of orange and yellow lanterns. The breakfast room and den held special seasonal decorations that had belonged to Mrs. Sincx's mother, including papier-mache cat lanterns, a bright orange ceramic pumpkin and Halloween characters.

Upon arrival, the 14 members were served a delicious dessert plate of Italian cream cake, cheese biscuits, peach yogurt and cinnamon praline coffee. Rounding out the Halloween theme were jack-o-lantern napkins and Halloween candy.

Mrs. Emily Suber introduced the guest speaker, Suzanne Simmons from the Schiele Museum of Natural History in Gastonia. Simmons, who is involved with Environmental Education Studies at the Museum, presented a delightful and timely program for autumn entitled, "Tree-rific Adventures."

Simmons said trees are the oldest and largest living things in nature today. Although many people take them for granted, they provide oxygen, shelter, moisture, homes for wildlife, beauty, shade and an anchor for soil. In the N. C. Wildlife Magazine, Charles Wooten notes that "a gnarled old oak, which may have well over half a million leaves, can lose as much as 1,000 gallons of water a day to evaporation. That same old oak that pleases the eye and provides nuts for squirrels also produces the effect of more than a million BTU's or the cooling effect equal to a hundred or more air conditioners."

Simmons passed around wooden items for members to see as she described their uses, past and present. While living in houses made from the rounded bark of the tulip tree, native Americans utilized wooden bows, spears, domestic and garden tools and toys. They also used wood for fire, mortar, food and medicine.

Simmons said the early settlers used wood for log houses, fences, tools, dishes, toys, furniture, looms, spinning wheels, ornaments, charcoal, food sources, medicine and other things. Today, wood is used chiefly for homes, furniture, books, paper, rayon and food and medicinal sources.

Arrows made by native Americans were composed of the two woods. The shaft was made of river cane which grows only in the southeastern US and the point of the arrow was made of dogwood. Hickory, a very dense, strong wood, was used to make hatchet handles.

The knots of oak trees were used for bowls and cups, she said. Pecans are still a food source. Black walnut was used in older sewing kits and tulip bark, obtained in late May or early June, was used for buckets. White oak was used for baskets.

The garden clubbers enjoyed making an assortment of wood cookies from the basket of leaves they examined with a magnifying glass, determining the age of the wood by counting the rings. The oldest found was cedar wood with 58 rings.

Using the cross sections as examples, Simmons explained that the center is called the heart wood, which is somewhat of a misnomer, as it is actually dead but supplies structure and support.

Trees are enjoyed this time of year for the beauty and color of their leaves, she said. Cold nights produce the most intense leaf colors, with yellow being the first

See Garden Club, 7-B

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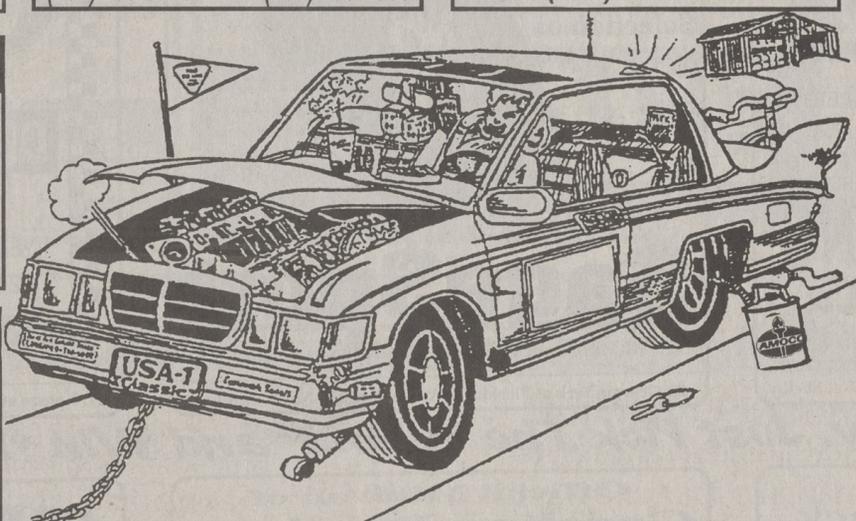
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