**Called to order at 10:00**

**Attendees**: - Anderson, Barnes, Butler, DeVries, D’Ignazio, D’Orio, Floyd, Garnett, Hayden (C), Kropac, Larson, Lee, Leonard, Merz, Noto, O’Donnell, Pirtle, Russell, Sass, Standish, Staples, Surrick, Thomas, Thorbahn, Ullman (Mic), Ullman (Min), Wilson, Yost, Ziegenfus

**Quote: - “**The garden is impossible without two things, nature and humans working together. From this we get the most important definition of a garden, as a place where nature and culture are blended.”
 Peter Forbes, New England Director of the Trust for Public Lands

**Acknowledgements:** - Thank you to Jane Standish and Sue Staples for arranging the luncheon including the lovely floral table decorations. A special thank you to Plush Mills Senior Living for our luncheon. Susie L. will send a thank you note to Plush Mills from the club for hosting our April meeting and providing the luncheon. Members are encouraged to send a personal thank you note to Plush Mills to acknowledge its contribution.

**Minutes of March 13, 2019**, as amended, were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** - Liz Ziegenfus collected club dues. You may also mail your annual dues check for $130 to Jan F.

**Corresponding Secretary:** - Susie L. shared thank you notes: 1) from Angela Hewitt, president of Leiper House; 2) from Kelly Caulfield, president of Rose Valley Gardeners, for PGC hosting the March meeting.

**PGC Extended Family:** – We extend our sympathies to Mary Murray on the recent passing of her father-in-law.

**Old Business**: -

1. Fertilizer Fund – Wendie R. reported that we earned 4th place for most contributions ($4315) and 5th place for member participation at 89 %. Great year in 2018 will allow an increase in 2019 projects to 19 with about $43,000 to be distributed.
2. Plant Sale –Sallie A. reported on a generous offer of plants from Jean O’Neal’s Glenn Mills home. Club members will visit on Sunday afternoon to dig. Sallie encouraged other contributions, but urged us to go light on varigated Solomon seal, yellow sedum, and to avoid invasives. Check with Sallie in advance if you have questions. Jeanne L. supplied pre-sale flyers and Plant Sale flyers to hand out. Minnie redistributed the Potting Up schedule.
3. Trough Workshop – Carolyn H. reported that, despite the cold day, the group produced approximately 25 troughs and smaller table top containers. Thank you to Liz Garnett for hosting the workshop.
4. Soil Orders – Sallie A. announced that soil will be delivered today to Pat S.’s house. Please pick up promptly. Please do not take the unmarked biodegradable bags and do take the type that you ordered.
5. Flower Arranging Workshop – Susie L. reported on the group that attended this workshop at the Valley Forge Florists. The instructor used our flower show classes to structure the workshop.
6. Leiper House -- Wendie R. reported on the excellent turnout that prepared Leiper House for the season. Next clean up: 10:00 am May 7th. Bring gloves, rakes.

**New Business:**

**GCA**:

1. The Garden Club of America will receive the Rachel Carson Women in Conservation Award from the National Audubon Society in May 2019. This award recognizes exceptional women who advance horticulture.
2. Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference will be held in Denver, Co., September 10-13, 2019. Registration opens today, anyone interested please see Minnie for details
3. A new Conservation Study Conference (formerly limited to Conservation/NAL committee members) is open to clubs in September 2019. Fifty places will be available in the first year for an exciting in-depth exploration of conservation issues. September 24-26, 2019 in Louisville, KY., anyone interested, please see Minnie.
4. “GCA on the Road” will visit Stenton, Philadelphia, the “birthplace” of GCA. Thursday May 9, 2019 from 10am-2 pm. There is a maximum of only 25, so if interested, please register asap.

**PGC:**

1. PGC’s Organizational Membership with PHS brought us an invitation to send 3 club members to their Garden Club Annual Party, Thursday, May 23, 2019, from 4-6 pm, wine and cheese served. Location at Stoneleigh. Please let MInnie know if you are interested.
2. Single Use Plastics (SUP) Project – Sallie A. reported on the meeting she and Minnie had with John McBlain of DelCo Council who referred the issue to the County solicitor. DelCo is challenged to deal with recyclables now that China has begun to refuse poor quality materials. Sallie also met with State Rep. Leanne Kreuger to discuss statewide measures and the heavy lobbying efforts of the oil industry to prohibit these measures or the ability of local municipalities to curtail the use of SUP. Alleghany Garden Club is working hard on this and creating a coalition to work on this.
3. An article on PGC’s first place entry in the 2019 Philadelphia Flower Show appeared in The Swarthmorean. Thank you to Jeanne L. for arranging this publicity.
4. Digitalizing Records – We are beginning to digitalize our procedures and protocols for Committee Chairs. Kelly H. will be working over the summer to post them on the club website for future reference. A huge thank you to Kelly for tackling this job. Minnie still needs two copies of your end of the year report by the June club meeting.
5. A Plant Buying Trip for members is being planned for May 14, 2019.

Meet at the Wallingford Presbyterian Church parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

By private car we will visit at least 3 favorite plant sources, stop for lunch, and return home between 3-4 p.m.

1. Plant Swap has been suggested by board members for those perennials not above ground in time for potting up. Please drop off your unwanted or excess plants Monday, May 20, from 10-6 at Minnie’s house, 199 Harvard Avenue, Swarthmore. Please label with your name (for making memories), plant name, growing site recommendations (sun/shade). You may select plants from garden friends’ gardens on May 21 from 10-6. Honor System of an even swap of one donated plant for one plant chosen.

**Recork** – Winner for the month of March is Linda Butler (444). Thank you to everyone supporting this project. We will ship six boxes after our June meeting.

**Heritage Moment**: Minnie shared photos from Kathy Porter of the 1990 Philadelphia Flower Show First Prize PGC Entry. “Themed Table Setting” entitled “Point-to-Point Picnic -Pickering Hunt”.

**Conservation Tip** - The GCA Healthy Yard Pledge – “I pledge to take care of my yard without synthetic pesticides, weed killers and fertilizers except on rare occasions to resolve an infestation or to improve habitat for native plants and wildlife. I also pledge not to throw pharmaceuticals or chemicals down my drains or toilets.”

PGC is looking for members to sign up on line to gauge the reach of this effort. Click to access [GCA Healthy Yard Pledge](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9fdGo2ZS9Zhhx1gQ7R5oq8WK2-E656T6F7OZOEV8UKg543Q/viewform).

Eco-Friendly Weed Killer: “Recipes” were distributed by Minnie.

Horticultural Handout – A handout on “Problematic Pesticides” was distributed by Minnie.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57.

Respectfully submitted,
Lin Axamethy Floyd, Interim Recording Secretary

Today’s program on botanical illustration and nature journaling was presented by Heather Rinehart.

Our club photography and flower shows were held in the lobby of Plush Mills and were open for viewing by residents and the public.

 Results of the Flower Show:

Class I: An impressionist painting for the spring floral design inspiration.
1st Susie Leonard (6); 2nd Liz Garnett (5)

Class II: A spring, holiday centerpiece viewed from four sides.

1st Liz Garnett (6)

2nd Lin Floyd (5)

3rd Jane Standish (4)

HM Ann Merz (3)

HM Sue Staples (3)

Class III: A napkin ring using fresh flowers. The club was commended by the judges for this creative class.

1st Anne DeVries (6); 2nd Liz Garnett (5); 3rd Katie D’Iorio (4)