President’s Letter

The Women’s Council year goes from June 1 through May 31st, so technically my year is over (sadness!). I have so enjoyed being your President for this year. I have learned a lot about how the Arboretum “works” by attending extra board meetings. We are truly lucky to have this “crown jewel” right here in Dallas. And with the opening of the Rory Meyers Children’s Garden in September, the garden will be an even more sought-after destination. I hope that you will bring all of your out of town visitors to the Arboretum as well as attend often yourself!

Now, to recap our year . . . what a great year it’s been for the Women’s Council of the Dallas Arboretum! We started out with a bang, presenting a beautiful yearbook to our members, a lovely general meeting at the Dallas Country Club followed by a wonderful Welcome Party and our Chihuly Night Garden Party. And that was just in September!

Just a few highlights of the year include a very informative Writer’s Garden Literary Series focusing on three authors, delightful garden trips, a trip to Pasadena, California where we worked on a Rose Parade float, and a wonderful January meeting including bestowing the Founder’s Award upon Shelby Marcus.

The rest of the year was capped off by the Winter Tea, the Mad Hatter’s Tea and Luncheon, and most recently the Annual Spring Meeting at the new George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum. All of this was in addition to volunteer opportunities at the Arboretum. My sincere thanks to all the chairs of these activities who really “made it happen.” The Women’s Council has many opportunities to get involved. I hope you will tell your friends about all these options and convince them to become active in our organization!

We are in great hands with our next president, Bettina Hennessy. I look forward to her leadership! Sue Ringle

Donor Naming Update

The Women's Council expresses sincere thanks to the following for their Donor Naming gifts to A Woman's Garden:

- **Barbara Lake** in naming The Genesis Garden
- **Anne and Tom Barton** in naming The Rockery
- **Alan Walne** for a stone bench on The Serpentine

Both Barbara Lake and Anne Barton are members of the Women's Council and we are especially grateful for these generous gifts.

For information regarding naming opportunities in A Woman’s Garden, please contact Patricia Cowlishaw: 972.239.1702, or via email: patriciacowlishaw@sbcglobal.net
Just days after the April 25th dedication ceremony attended by all five living U.S. Presidents (Barak Obama, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter) the Women’s Council was privileged to host a “SOLD OUT” Spring Meeting at the George W. Bush Presidential Center and Museum. Our thanks go to co-chairs, Susan Scullin and Jill Goldberg, who planned an outstanding Spring General Meeting, and to speaker Herb Sweeney, Senior Associate of Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates.
Women’s Council members and guests to this year’s 25th Mad Hatter’s Tea Party. This year’s Mad Hatter’s Tea Party, themed “Adventures in Time,” was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all! Special thanks to advisor, Carmaleta Whitely, Emcee Ron Corning and fashion show producer, Jan Strimple.
Linda Spina escorted attendees on a well-planned and thoroughly enjoyable tour of Dallas urban parks and private gardens in the May 1st Spring Trip. The tour began at Dallas’ recently opened 5.2 acre Klyde Warren Park situated atop the Woodall Rodgers Freeway. Previously known as the Woodall Rodgers Park, Dallas energy billionaire and chief executive of Energy Transfer Partners, Kelcy Warren’s donation secured park naming rights in honor of his 9-year-old son, Klyde Warren.

Celia Barshop, VP Business Affairs and Michael Gaffney, VP Operations conducted the park tour. They discussed details of how the park was created – from the utilization of a specially engineered organic soil and a vigorous growing Bermuda 419 grass, to the planting of Pond Cypress, Panache Red Oak, Burr Oak, Chinese Pistachio and Lace Bark Elm trees throughout the park and park utilization. Klyde Warren park has a partnership with Southern Botanical, which has generously made a three year pledge to donate seasonal plantings, color and maintenance for park flower beds and containers. The park is open daily from 6am to 11pm, has round the clock security and guest services personnel during the day to assist visitors. All park events are free and open to the public, in fulfillment of the educational/entertainment mission of the park.

Next on the day’s agenda was a visit and guided tour by Dave Forehand, Dallas Arboretum VP Gardens and Visitor Services, of the Belo Garden Park opened in 2011. Belo is one of two Dallas urban parks and part of a master plan for the creation of five urban parks. At mid-day the ladies enjoyed an outstanding luncheon at The Capital Grille followed by tours of two private gardens. Many thanks to the ever gracious Dave Forehand, for joining the group and offering his descriptions and insights into these private residential gardens.
From The Editor

The Women’s Council newsletter is published and archived on-line at our website: www.womenscouncildallasarboretum.org as well as mailed to those members who have requested paper copies as part of their membership subscription. Should you have newsletter submissions or questions, please contact me at: phone: (214) 533-7033 or my email address at: cheryl.buckles@att.net

A reminder to members and all those looking forward to the opening of the Rory Meyer’s Children’s Adventure Garden — construction and weather delays have resulted in a new opening date now set for September 21st.

When opened, the garden will have more than 150 exhibits devoted to botany and earth sciences, as well as a center with a 3-D theater, a wetlands area, interactive exhibits devoted to energy and a skywalk through the treetops.

Sympathy and Condolences

We close on a sad note as we extend sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Women’s Council members and their families who have suffered illness or lost loved ones in recent months. Our thoughts are with Barbara Bingham, who is fighting cancer; Judy Birchfield’s daughter, Belinda Birchfield who recently underwent surgery; Dixie Marshall who is fighting cancer; Kim Matthews who lost her husband Joe Matthews (son-in-law to member Claire Cunningham), Tincy Miller who lost her husband, Vance Miller; and Katherine Phillips who was recently hospitalized with pneumonia. To these members and others unmentioned, our thoughts and sympathy are with you and your family.