

1975 - 1976

GARDENER'S PRAYER

*Let us, O God, look to the tree and the flower
for the beauty and serenity of orderly living.*

*As each in its season, depending wholly upon
Thee for development, arrives at perfection—
so may each of us in simplicity and trust, work
out the divine pattern of her being. And help
us to achieve in living, O God, the same har-
mony and loveliness that we strive for in
gardening, exemplifying in both the beauty of
holiness.*

J. H. FILMORE

1975-1976

OFFICERS

President Kathryn Gray

Vice-President Laura Smith

Secretary Eloise Daughtridge

Treasurer Mary Margaret Hunter

Historian/Photographer Clara Bullard

MAY

1975

Wednesday, May 21, 1975 - THE BELMONT BANNER - Page 3

T&C Garden Club Meets

The Town and Country Garden Club met on Thursday May 15 at the First Presbyterian Church with Mrs. Marshall Rhyne and Mrs. J.O. Smith as hostesses.

In the absence of the President, Mrs. Dennis Gray, the Vice-President, Mrs. J.O. Smith, conducted the annual business meeting of the club. She presented a resume of the interesting programs planned for the coming months. Also a list of committees and committee members was read.

Mrs. George Hodges reported that the Mary Edna Dixon Memorial Garden is completed. The Garden is located at the Belmont Central Elementary School.



MARY EDNA DIXON MEMORIAL GARDEN

COMPLETED

IN

MAY, 1995



BELMONT

CENTRAL

ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL

JUNE

Wednesday, June 25, 1975 - THE BELMONT BANNER - Page 5

Garden Club Meets With Mrs. Rhyne

The Town and Country Garden Club held its June meeting at the home of Mrs. Marshall Rhyne, Sr., with Mrs. Dennis Gray as co-hostess.

After refreshments, the president, Mrs. Gray, called

the meeting to order and business matters of interest were discussed.

All members had been asked to bring flowers and the necessary supplies for making flower arrangements. When

this was completed, snap shots were made of the arrangements.

The meeting was then adjourned until next September since the club does not meet during the months of July and August.



ETHEL'S TABLE
FUN TIME!



MARGARET + KAT
AT WORK

WORK SHOP ARRANGEMENTS



↑
MILDRED
FORD

↑
SWE
HOWE

BEAUTY
ON
DISPLAY
IN
JUNE

AT
ETHEL'S



↑
KAT
GRAY

SEPTEMBER



NANCY, BOOTIE

KAT + ANN



- THE BELMONT BANNER - Wednesday, September 24, 1975

Mrs. Bullard Hosts Town And Country Garden Club

The Town and Country Garden Club met at the home of Mrs. Edgar Bullard, with Mrs. Marion Hunter as co-hostess, on September 18, 1975, at ten o'clock. After the meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Dennis Gray, the members were invited into the dining room for refreshments. The beautifully appointed table was quite appropriate for our program topic of birds. Coffee and toasted seeds of various kinds and delicious pound cake, which is a favorite of the Baltimore Oriole, were served.

After the refreshments Mrs. Robert Gordon of Gastonia presented a most interesting and informative program on birds, centering on music, mystery sheer magic. She also had bird pictures and books to illustrate her program. All enjoyed the program very much.

After a short business session the meeting was adjourned.

REFRESHMENT TABLE

Three Garden Clubs Hold Joint Meeting

OCTOBER

1975

A joint meeting of the Belmont Garden Club, Home and Garden Club and Town and Country Garden Club was held in the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church with Mrs. W. A. Dixon, Jr., Mrs. Ray Kaefer, Mrs. James Wasson and Mrs. Walter Lineberger as co-hostesses.

Mrs. J. K. Hall, Jr., Mrs. Dennis Gray and Mrs. W. M. Modisette, Jr., presidents of the three Garden Clubs, were responsible for plans and

activities of a most delightful afternoon.

Upon arrival, each person was given, to wear, a tiny American flag tied with red, white and blue ribbon. Those present were invited into the church parlor for delicious refreshments. The decor used was red, white and blue commemorating the bicentennial occasion.

The meeting was called to order and members were welcomed by Mrs. Modisette who read the official collect of the Garden Clubs of North Carolina.

Mrs. Joe Moore, who had charge of the program, introduced the guest speaker, Tom Moore of Belmont. Moore, son of the late Dr. and Mrs. Oren Moore of Charlotte, is a graduate of North Carolina State University, Raleigh, and works for Burlington Industries. Tom has many interests - one of which is the review and study of history. This interest had led him to prepare the program on the American Revolution in North Carolina which he presented in a most interesting and informative manner.

Mrs. Gray presented a most appropriate gift to the speaker. A slate from the roof of the Thomas Polk Home, Charlotte, had been made into an attractive plaque bearing a copy of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of which Mr. Polk was a

signer.

Mrs. Gray, in closing, read a lovely poem entitled "Flowers of Liberty."



TOM MOORE,
SPEAKER

BICENTENNIAL



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 26, 1975 - THE BELMONT BANNER

Garden Club Hears Mr. Sprolls

The Town And Country Garden Club met at the home of Mrs. N.F. Dixon, Jr., with Mrs. Dennis Gray as co-hostess.

After delightful refreshments, Mrs. Gray opened the meeting with the reading of a most appropriate Thanksgiving prayer written by the late Peter Marshall.

She then introduced the speaker Mr. Herbert Sprolls who is with the Gaston County

Agriculture Department. He gave a most detailed study in the planting and care of plants and trees.

The program was followed by a brief business meeting.

Poinsettias will be sold again this year by the club.

Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Paul Ford and Mrs. Harold Dunnagan brought most attractive flower arrangements to the meeting.



MILDRED FORD

ARRANGEMENTS AT JEAN DIXON'S



KAT GRAY



ANN DUNNAGAN

DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 17, 1975

Garden Club Makes Wreath

The Town and Country Garden Club held its December meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church. Mrs. George Hodges and Mrs. Tom Brice were co-hostesses.

Several of the members made wreaths for the City Hall front doors while others fashioned wreath designs to be used in their own homes.

At noon the hostesses served delicious homemade vegetable soup and sandwiches.

This was also pick-up day for the annual poinsettia sale and one was taken to the Lynn Raye rest home as a gift from the club.



DECORATED FOR CHRISTMAS

BY

TOWN AND COUNTRY



JANUARY

Garden Club Meets

With Mrs. Dunnagan

The Town and Country Garden Club held its January meeting at the home of the hostess, Mrs. Harold Dunnagan.

Upon arrival the members were served delightful refreshments after which the President, Mrs. Dennis Gray, called the meeting to order. She opened the meeting with a reading by Rev. Cecil Heffner,

a former minister of First United Methodist Church.

Instead of having a program this month, the time was used to take care of and discuss several matters of business pertaining to the club, its activities and its interest.

The president appointed a nominating committee to select officers for the coming year.

REVIEWING ACTIVITIES



A PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENT

SPECIAL THANKS — ELOISE

FEBRUARY



ALAN STOUT, SPEAKER
SCHIELE MUSEUM DIRECTOR

ELDISE + JEAN

Club Hears Museum Director

The Town and Country Garden Club held its February meeting at the home of Mrs. J.E. Daughtridge with Mrs. J. Paul Ford as co-hostess.

In the absence of the President, Mrs. Dennis Gray, the meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Mrs. James O. Smith who called upon Mrs. Daughtridge to introduce the speaker, Mr. Richard Alan Stout, Director of the Schiele Museum of Gastonia. Stout presented a most interesting program of slides showing the activities taking place at the museum commemorating the bicentennial year.

The program was followed by a short business meeting at which time the annual lily sale was discussed.

Mrs. George Howe brought a most beautiful arrangement of spring blooming shrubs.



SUE HOWE'S
ARRANGEMENT

MARCH

T&C Garden Club Meets

The Town and Country Garden Club met in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church with Mrs. Marshall Rhyne, Sr., and Mrs. James O. Smith as co-hostess.

The refreshment table held a display of camellias from the Rhyne greenhouse and gardens.

Each member was invited to take home the flowers of her choice after the meeting was over.

Following refreshments, the nine members present went to the Mary Edna Dixon Memorial Garden and Cemetery Circle to take part in the annual March clean-up program.

Upon completion of this work, the meeting was adjourned.

CLEAN-UP TIME



JEAN + JEAN-O



JANE



MARY MARGARET

APRIL

***New Officer
Named By
Garden Club***

The last meeting of the current year for the Town and Country Garden Club was held at the home of Mrs. George Howe, Sr., with Mrs. Crawford Poag and Mrs. George Stowe, Jr., as co-hostesses. Each member had brought a salad for the salad luncheon which was a most enjoyable occasion for those present.

President Kathryn Gray opened the meeting with the reading of a beautiful poem which was most appropriate for springtime.

A business meeting followed with reports from committee chairmen.

The nominating committee presented a slate of new officers: President, Mrs. Arthur Rose; Vice-President, Mrs. T. Marion Hunter; Secretary, Mrs. J. Paul Ford; Treasurer, Mrs. E.W. Bullard; Historian-Photographer, Mrs. Harold Howe. The officers were elected unanimously.

SALAD LUNCHEON



KATHRYN STOWE'S
ARRANGEMENT

DINING ROOM TABLE AT SKE HOWE'S

MAY

BEAUTIFICATION
PROJECTS



T&C Garden

Club Holds

May Meeting

Mrs. Arthur Rose and Mrs. Harold Howe were hostesses for the May meeting of the Town and Country Garden Club on Thursday morning, May 20, at 10:00 o'clock at the Gaston Country Club.

Upon arrival members were invited to a beautiful tea table where delicious refreshments were served.

Mrs. Arthur Rose, club president, conducted the business session. She welcomed Mrs. Edward H. McGee, a new member, into the Club.

It was announced that Mrs. J. E. Daughtridge would serve as President of the Garden Council from the Town and Country Garden Club and that Mrs. Arthur Rose, Mrs. T. M. Hunter and Mrs. J. Paul Ford would also serve on the Garden Council.

The club is working on various beautification projects in Belmont and will place geraniums at the Belmont Public Library and hanging baskets of geraniums at the Southern Railroad depot. They will also donate plants to the newly opened Mental Health Center.

Mrs. T. M. Hunter, program chairman, discussed programs for the coming year. The Club decided for the June meeting to make a visit to the Kings Mountain Battleground and to take a picnic lunch.

1976-1977

Garden Club Members *June 17, 1976* Visit Kings Mountain

For their June meeting members of the Town and Country Garden Club chartered a bus, and invited their children, grandchildren and friends for an all day outing and picnic to Kings Mountain Battleground National Park.

Mrs. T. Marion Hunter, program chairman, was in charge of arrangements and Mrs. Marshall Rhyne and Mrs. Jamsa Wasson were hostesses.

Upon arrival at the Information Center they were shown a movie of the battle of Kings Mountain. They walked along the battle ground trail to see the historic monuments. Afterwards a picnic lunch was enjoyed by all.

...

Mealtime is when kids sit down to continue eating.

June 1976

Mr. William Craig Is Garden Club Speaker

Mrs. J. E. Daughtridge and Mrs. Ed Bullard were hostesses for the September 16 meeting of the Town and Country Garden Club, held at 10:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church.

The room was decorated with most attractive Bicentennial arrangements made by Mrs. Bullard.

Delicious refreshments were served upon arrival.

Mrs. T. Marion Hunter, program chairman, introduced the guest speaker, Mr. William Craig of Gastonia, who is chairman of the Gaston County Bicentennial Commission. Mr. Craig showed slides of historic sites in Gaston County from the period around 1700, up to World War I, and presented a most interesting and informative talk.

The Club moved to donate \$100.00 to the Belmont Park and Recreation Department to be used for purchasing Azaleas for Davis Park.

The October program will be a Colonial party held at the home of Mrs. Neely Dixon on Thursday morning, October 21. Members will act as hostesses, wearing colonial costumes. Invited guests will

be former members, members of the other local garden clubs, and families of present members.



September 1976



*Bicentennial
Arrangements*

CHARA Bullard



October 1976
 Clean-Up Month
 "Winterizing our Belmont Beauty Spots"







The Town AND Country Garden Club

Invites you

to

A Colonial Party

Thursday, October 21st, 1976

208 Merewood Road

10:30 A. M. until 12 Noon

Regrets only
825-2283

Dixon Home Is Scene Of Colonial Party

The home of Mrs. Neely Dixon Jr. was the scene of a Colonial party given by members of the Town and Country Garden Club on Thursday morning, October 21, from 10:30 o'clock until 12 noon. The members, who acted as Hostesses were dressed in Colonial costumes.

The entrance was banked with pots of yellow chrysanthemums. Arrangements of seasonal flowers, appropriate for that period, were used throughout the rooms. All of the flower arrangements were made by members of the Garden Club.

Mrs. Dixon welcomed the guests. Receiving in the living room were Mrs. Marion Hunter, Mrs. George Stowe and Mrs. Dennis Gray. In the den were Mrs. Harold Howe and Mrs. Edward McGee.

Mrs. Paul Ford presided at the guest register. Mrs. Crawford Poag and Mrs. James Wasson invited the guests into the dining room.

The dining table was centered with a tiered arrangement of pineapple, red apples and greenery. Silver trays held tea cakes and gingerbread. Mrs. Arthur Rose, President of the Club, poured mulled apple juice. Assisting in the dining room were Mrs. Jed Daughtridge, Mrs. James Smith, Mrs. George Howe Mrs. Marshall Rhyne and Mrs. George Hodges,

Invited guests were former members of the Town and Country Garden Club, members of other local garden clubs and families of present members. A special guest was Mrs. Dixon's mother, Mrs. Harold Mercer of Gastonia.



COLONIAL PARTY - The Town and Country Garden Club held a Colonial Party at the home of Mrs. Neely Dixon Jr. on Thursday. Pictured in their colonial costumes are (l-r) Mrs. George Hodges, Mrs. Marshall Rhyne and Mrs. Arthur Rose.









Club Tours Local Historical Sites

Members of the Town and Country Garden Club toured several historical sites in the Belmont area on their meeting day, Thursday, November 18. Mrs. W. Price Hand, a member of the Gaston County Bicentennial Commission, conducted the tour.

The first place visited was the monument commemorating the site of the Dickey Hanks' home in the South Point area. Dickey Hanks was an uncle of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's mother. As a young girl she spent many summers in this home, according to tradition.

The next place visited was the site of Stowesville Factory, later known as Gaither's Mill, located on the South Fork River. This factory operated prior to the Civil war. A remnant of a stone wall is all that remains today.

At the Plantation House members were served tea and doughnuts by Mrs. Theodore Stowe. Mrs. Charles Connor spoke to the group, giving an interesting history of the Plantation House. It was built originally by the McLean family.

On the New Hope Road, the Club visited the Burwell Historical Chapel. Mrs. Harold Stowe, a member of

the New Hope Presbyterian Church, acted as hostess there. This chapel contains the original stained glass windows, Bibles, several pews, the organ, communion set, pictures of former pastors and other historical items from the original New Hope Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. T. Marion Hunter, program Chairman, was in charge of this program.

November 1976

Mrs. Mildred Ford Is 'Citizen Of The Year'

November 1976

Mrs. J. Paul (Mildred) Ford has been honored by the Belmont Chamber of Commerce as "Citizen of The Year."

The presentation was made last Thursday night at the Chamber's annual Meeting and Ladies Night Banquet, held at the Belmont Moose Lodge.

For the past 16 years the Chamber has honored a man of the community with the "Man of The Year" Award and for the past several years a second award - "Distinguished Citizen" - had also been presented. The winner of the latter award has always been an elderly male.

The committee decided that presenting one award and calling it "Citizen of The Year" Award would put more emphasis on the accomplishments of the one honored and would make the award appropriate for both

male or female.

"A number of citizens of the community were considered for the award, but it always came back to Mildred," a member of the committee said.

When the BCO is mentioned the name of Mrs. J. Paul Ford is always mentioned in the same breath.

Mrs. Ford has worked with the local charitable organization since it was organized in the early 1950s.

Prior to that the Child Welfare Committee of the Ladies Auxiliary to Auten-Stowe Post 144 of the American Legion carried on a program to meet the needs of the less fortunate in the community. Of course, Mrs. Ford was chairman of that committee.

Although Mrs. Ford is well-known for her work with the BCO, that is by no means the extent of her civic activities in the community.

She is president of the Town and Country Garden Club and a member of the Mayor's Beautification Committee as well as the Belmont Garden Council, and is still an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Mildred is a member of Queen of The Apostles Catholic Church where she plays the organ for 8 a.m. mass and is a member of the Catholic Daughters of America.

In 1962 Mrs. Ford was honored by the Belmont Business and Professional Woman's Club as "Woman of The Year".

Receiving awards for outstanding community service is a family affair with the Fords. Mr. Ford, executive vice president and trust officer of the Bank of Belmont, is a former recipient of the "Man of The Year" Award.

The Fords reside on South Central Avenue. They are the parents of J. Paul Ford Jr., with North Carolina National Bank in Greensboro; and Mrs. Richard Lee Whalen of Toledo, Ohio.

Ms. Angie Wheeler, who represents Sacred Heart College on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, had the honor of presenting Mrs. Ford with the "Citizen of The Year" Award.

Upon making the presentation, Ms. Wheeler said:

1976 is a most special year. We have celebrated the 200 birthday of our country. What great progress we have made in these 200 wonderful years.

Tonight, we gather together at this Chamber of Commerce Dinner as merchants and members of Belmont.

Each year, traditionally, the Chamber of Commerce honors special members of the Belmont Community. These people are "very special" ladies and gentlemen in that they have made outstanding contributions to the life and

(See MRS. FORD Page 4)



Photo By KEVIN RODDEN

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - Mrs. Mildred Ford was honored by the Chamber of Commerce as "Citizen of The Year" last Thursday at the annual Chamber Meeting and Ladies Night Banquet. Mrs. Ford is shown here with Nelson Hayes, outgoing Chamber president.



*December
1976*



Christmas Wreath

Workshop Held

A Christmas wreath workshop was held by the Town and Country Garden Club at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall on Thursday, December 9.

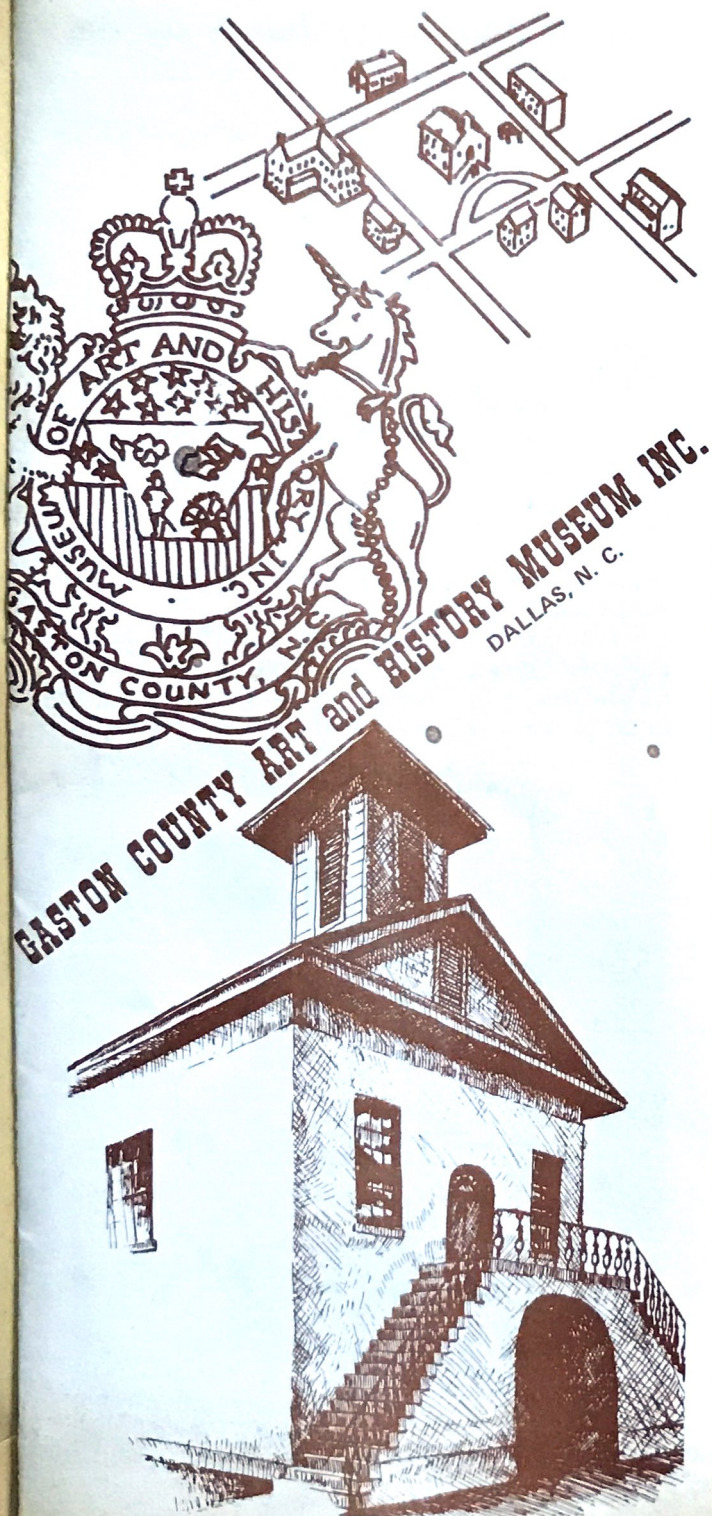
Mrs. Arthur Rose, Club president, presided at the meeting.

Members made Christmas wreaths for the Belmont City Hall doors and for the Mental Health Clinic door.

Afterwards, a delicious lunch was served by the hostesses, Mrs. Crawford Poag and Mrs. George Hodges.



February 1977



Garden Club Tours Sites In County

On Thursday, February 17, members of the Town and Country Garden Club toured several historic sites in Gaston County, beginning the tour with Goshen Cemetery in North Belmont. During the days of the pioneers, Goshen Presbyterian Church was the first church west of Mecklenburg County.

The next tour stop was in Dallas at the Gaston County Museum of Art and History. The Museum Director, Alan D. Wauflle, pointed out historic homes in Dallas, and gave an interesting history of the Dallas Courthouse and the Museum plans for the future. On exhibit at the museum were paintings by Carolina artists, a part of the D. E. McConnell collection.

After the Museum tour, a short business meeting was held.

Mrs. T. Marion Hunter, program chairman, was in charge of the program.

Garden Club Meets At Home Of Mrs. Ford

The Town and Country Garden Club met on Thursday morning at the home of Mrs. J. Paul Ford. Mrs. Edward McGee and Mrs. James O. Smith were co-hostesses. Club members were invited into the dining room upon arrival, where Mrs. Arthur Rose, president, poured coffee and sweets were served.

Floral arrangements made from flowers from the hostesses' gardens were used throughout the rooms.

Mrs. Arthur Rose presided at the business meeting.

Mrs. Paul Ford, co-chairman of the Beautification Committee, reported on the Club's beautification projects. She expressed

appreciation to Mr. John Hamrick of the City of Belmont for the help given on the projects.

Mrs. George Hodges, chairman of the Project Committee, reminded members that orders for the Easter flower sale were due. The proceeds from this sale go towards the Club's beautification program. The sale is held each year just prior to Easter, and Easter lilies, Geraniums and chrysanthemums were offered for sale this year.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, members worked on one of the circles at the Greenwood Cemetery.

March 1977



Salad Luncheon
April 1977

First Presbyterian Church



May 1977

Country Club Is Scene Of Club Meeting

The Town and Country Garden Club held its May meeting on Thursday, at the Gaston Country Club.

Hostesses were Mrs. T. Marion Hunter and Mrs. Arthur M. Rose. Upon arrival, the members were served coffee and sweet rolls.

Mrs. T. Marion Hunter, President, opened the meeting with the Gardener's Prayer.

Committees were named for the coming year, after which Mrs. James O. Smith, chairman of the Program Committee, discussed the program theme for 1977-78.

The meeting was ended with a discussion of the June meeting which will be a bus trip to Reynolds and Old Salem.

Town And Country Garden Club Meets In Winston-Salem

June
1977

The Town and Country Garden Club held its June meeting in Winston-Salem. Members and their guests travelled by bus to two historical places.

During the morning, the

group visited Reynolds House, home of the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Reynolds.

After a mid-day picnic on the grounds of Olde Salem, the group toured various areas of Olde Salem.



Material from trip to Winston Salem
June 1977



Garden Clubs Are Working Hard To Beautify The City

The Belmont Council of Garden Clubs is hard at work beautifying the city.

The council consists of members from the Belmont Garden Club, the Home and Garden Garden Club, the Town and Country Garden Club, and the Sow and Grow Garden Club.

The most familiar of the spots beautified by the council of garden clubs is the triangle at the corners of Main and Central Street.

The flower gardens in front of Central Elementary School and the flowerbed at the old railroad station building were planted and are maintained by the Town and Country club.

The Council of Garden Clubs planted the bed beside the Stowe Mills Office building two years ago and is now planting three more beds at the site of the old depot. Last year the council helped finance the planting of two azalea beds at Davis Park. Since that time vandals have pulled up three of the plants and left them lying there.

The Council also landscaped

the area behind the J. P. Ford Recreation building.

The Sow and Grow Garden Club has landscaped the entire grounds of City Hall. The club has been adding more shrubbery each year, and this fall will show the completion of the project.

The three circles at Greenwood Cemetery is landscaped by the garden clubs.

Mrs. George McClellan is president of the Belmont Council of Garden Clubs.

"These beauty areas cost a lot of money, they take a lot of time and energy - please take care of them," Mrs. McClellan said.

The garden clubs are helped out by Mrs. John Hamrick who is the head of the city crew.

Mayor Billy Joye, city manager Carl Howie, and recreation department director, Ron Alexander, give their encouragement to the garden clubs and hope that they will continue to do their wonderful job of beautifying the city of Belmont.



BEAUTY SPOTS - The Belmont Council of Garden Clubs are planting beauty spots on Main Street near the Southern Railway crossing. Mrs. George McClellan, president of the Garden Council, is shown here with

Ronnie Tidwell of L&R Greenhouse as he prepares the beds for planting. Tidwell, who supplied the soil and plants, said that the beauty spots should be brightening up the downtown area within a week or 10 days.

*Sissie McClellan - Member of Town and Country Garden Club - a great contributor to our club and the community -
June 1977*

Negatives - 1976-1977