

Our April meeting was held in the lovely home of Kathy Zeringue. It began with a presentation by Mr. Benny Trahan on our very own LA irises. He provided us with a beautiful slide show of many gorgeous Iris specimens, and painted a very clear picture of his love for these native plants, as well as his determination to get them from the bayous and waterways of our state. He educated us on the way that nature allows occasional color variations of each species, and how he has hybridized his species to create all new ones. It was a very informative presentation, on a flower that is near and dear to our hearts.

After a short break for refreshments, Kathy Crochet called the meeting to order. We had a new guest, Debbie Abbott, who introduced herself to the group, and we are very happy to have her join us on our mission to make Lake Ramsey even more beautiful! Welcome, Debbie!

Susie Boutte told the group about our amazing trip to New Orleans for Art in Bloom at the NO Museum of Art, and outlined our plans to tour Bantings Nursery on April 17. We will plan on leaving from here around 8:00am to be there for a 9:00am tour. She suggested we may want to travel in smaller groups this time to allow for plant purchase, if desired. We hope to see many of you on this field trip. Susie has lots of ideas and plans for future field trips, and appreciates all of your input, as you may hear of something of interest. Please let her know.

Kathy Hymel advises there is no real news on the "Wow" wall concept, as we are still in need of David Guidry's written permission to place it on his land, and would then need approval from the HOA board. The small fountain is in place in the median by the guard house, and is a beautiful addition to our entrance area. We are working on a drip system to replace water as it evaporates, and hope to be planting around it to hide the electric and water source, as soon as we have a working irrigation system.

The treasurer reports a balance of \$682.12 at the current time. We also plan on purchasing bedding plants to enhance the entrance, pending completed irrigation.

Sandy Miller updated us on the flagpole project. She plans on purchasing one 20 foot pole, and two 16 foot poles complete with solar lighting. She has currently collected \$1043.00 towards this project. The Lake Ramsey flag contest is ongoing, and entries for submission must be submitted to Sandy, on a paper 8.5 x 11 inches, by 5/14/2015. She advises that Paul Barrios will donate the LA and American flags. Many thanks to Paul!

Our next meeting will be held on May 4th, at the beautiful new home of Nancy Hotard, 13549 Riverlake Dr at 6:30 pm. At this meeting we will have new officer installations, and our annual plant exchange. You are to bring a plant from your garden, or newly purchased, to exchange at this meeting. Food will be provided by the following people. Please let Susie Boutte know what you are bringing if you haven't already.

Paulette Hecker, Kathy Zeringue, Margaret Patterson, Claire Hayden, Ellen Clare Caldwell, Suzy Cochrane, Janelle Parker, Nancy Hotard, Ceanne Hirstius, Sandy Stella and Debbie Abbott.

Many thanks to Kathy Zeringue for her hospitality and graciousness, but especially for the delicious food and drink she provided. See you soon! Be thinking of new ideas to enhance our neighborhood, and be ready to sign up for next years committees at the May meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Hymel, recording secretary