



Twenty-seven brave members bundled up on a brisk winter day to attend our first P.E.O. meeting of the year at Attic Angel Place, chaired by Mary Lou Hogan, Judy Moriarty, Jean Rennebohm and Sarah Rose.



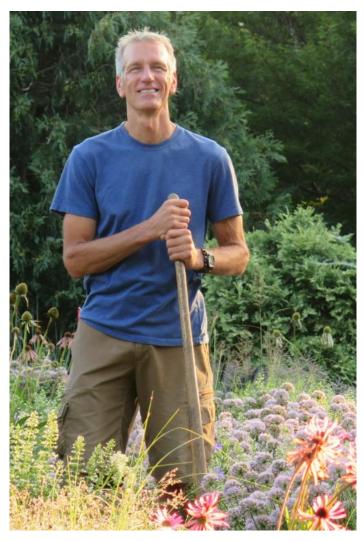






Our delicious lunch featured a veggie/ potato/cheese pie followed by a nutty fudge sundae.

Jeff Epping, Chief Horticulturist at Olbrich Gardens presented **Inspirations from English Gardens.** His photo show beautifully documented last year's Olbrich sponsored trip to the Chelsea Garden Show and several National Trust Gardens in England. Jeff acted as guide to Leeds & Sissinghurst Castle gardens and Chartwell Manor, once home to Sir Winston Churchill. Carolyn White was a participant.







Two displays at the 2018 annual Chelsea Garden Show above

BL in Touch January 9, 2019







Sissinghurst Castle and Gardens above, Leeds Castle and Gardens below







Chartwell Manor and gardens, former home to Sir Winston Churchill

Following Jeff's presentation, President Carol Kussow led our business meeting. Chaplain Judy Kalan read Luke 2:20 and Luke 4:18-19 and a poem The Mood of Christmas by Howard Thurman.

Our correspondence included greetings from Susan Teteak, a Christmas card from non-resident member Sharon Baker, and greetings from non-resident member Trudy Bangsberg.

Judy Christenson reported on the Educational Loan Fund that has been offered for 111 years. Loans are \$12,000, \$15,000 (MA) \$20,00 (Phd) and are payable at \$2% and are payable on an 8 year or 10 year payback basis.

Linda Graebner reported that the Project for Continuing Education is a need based grant program for a student returning to school who has had 24 months as a non-student and is within 24 months of completing her program. Last year was the first year in many that BL didn't have a student to recommend for the program.

Sara Lee Hinckley reported that we gave away 500 books at the holiday book give-away and thanked Jean Nordlund for her efforts organizing this event.

Virginia Francis reported that the next meeting our book club would be February 4 at the home of Sarah Rose. The book is **Underground Railway** by Colson Whitehead.

LaVonne McCrill reported that Cottey College has a 4-5 day program for PEO members. Nancy Ross reported that she has participated and that classes range from art, garden, piano, women's study, etc. More information will be available about next summer's program online.

The president announced that Judy Moriarty will chair the Nominating Committee. Jean Nordlund volunteered to serve with Judy Moriarty. They will be looking for candidates for vice president, chaplain, delegate and alternate delegate to the convention.

Jean Nordlund reported that the Social Committee will again be organizing small group lunches during Restaurant Week to the Tin Fox, The Statehouse, and to Osterio Papavera January 22-24.

Ann Nelson presented Carolyn White with a beautiful vase for her daughter in honor of her recent wedding.

Our next meeting will be February 13th meeting at the home of Nancy Hertel. Carolyn White reported that the PEO Scholars will attend.

