

Programs 2017-2018:

Our most appreciated meeting was our first--a garden tour at two homes and luncheon at Margie Ankeny's (Kathy Coward had agreed to do this prior to arranging our programs). This was a lovely way to begin our year and was welcomed by our members. It was also a tremendous amount of work in that we arranged transportation and/or parking at three homes, provided a luncheon for 80+ people, arranged for docents and drinks at the various stops, and gathered and printed historical information to accompany the tours. We enlisted the help of several additional volunteers to handle the work. Although we charged members \$25, the cost of this event used half our budget for the year and caused us to exceed our annual budget. This was a fantastic way to begin our year--but it was like having an additional Annual Meeting.

We had a special treat with our meeting at Heidi's GrowHaus--she has done a remarkable job with her nursery and was such a wonderful speaker.

As usual, the meeting at the Arboretum was a great success as was our annual holiday demonstration at Woodhill. Our speaker, John Thull, at the vineyards at the Arboretum could not have been better--a contact from Kathy Coward. And Bonnie Keller, our speaker at Woodhill, was entertaining and informative--a suggestion from Melissa Johnson.

Our speakers throughout the year were fantastic--we were very lucky. Heather Holm was a contact from Kathy Jones and she spoke in a mesmerizing way about bees. Drake Hamilton was also fantastic talking about our environment--arranged by Libby Andrus.

And members had a ball with the flower hat show at Betsy Massie's--what a great idea from Cindy Pratt! A last minute change in venue did add an unexpected expense to our budget for valet parking, but it was so much fun!

It was a very successful year and we are tremendously grateful to everyone who contributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Emmie Hester