

**Four Seasons Garden Club**

Meeting Notes

**July 14, 2009, Annual Meeting-Induction of Officers**

Eastside Restaurant - Newport, VT

President Elizabeth Fletcher called the meeting to order at approximately 10:15 am welcoming members and our guests, Camilla Mead and Caroline Frey, Past State Garden Club President.

Minutes from last month's meeting were read and accepted with corrections (Edie accepted, Wendy 2<sup>nd</sup>). Eleanor gave the treasurer's report: Checking, \$2,496.17, Savings, \$1,177.75.

A discussion to donate to the Nat'l Gardening Assoc. was tabled until August meeting. Jean has audited the club's books and they are okay.

Committee Reports:

**Awards, Marge Masino**

--Jenn Hanlon, Past President's Award, and Marge Brown, Golden Trowel. In July, Anna Leland and Ginger Pierce will become State Life members.

**Club Historian-Bev May**

--Read by Rosemary Miller in Bev's absence. Described club's notebook which details club's history including news articles, photographs, and brochures for past year's activities.

**Conservation/Environment - Judy Kavanaugh**

--This year the club enjoyed three programs under this category. A VINS program on turkeys was presented at the Glover School in October with 60 teachers and students present. In January the club enjoyed a presentation by Paul Tomasi of NEKWMD on "Going Green and Reducing Waste" at the United Church of Derby. In April another VINS program on Moose was presented at the Coventry School. There were more than 90 students and teachers in attendance. It was an entertaining program and many of the students sent thank-you notes and drawings. Our luncheon was held at the North Country Career Center. There has been much discussion regarding continuation of the VINS programs due to the costs involved. The club is considering other options for the coming year. Over the past 25 years, 40 programs have been presented in the local schools.

**North Country Hospital Garden-Judy Kavanaugh**

--In the fall of 2008 spring bulbs were planted by committee members. In June members gathered for weeding, planting, dividing, and general garden maintenance with the help of the hospital's groundskeepers who wielded the shovel for some heavy digging. The garden along the main wall of the hospital was also included in these chores. A sign-up sheet is again being used for weekly watering/deadheading/weeding. The hospital contributed \$100 for this year's plants along with the club's contribution of bulbs.

**Flower Arrangement & Design- Phil Daigle, Anna Leland**

--Phil presented for both detailing the club's flower arrangement workshop held at the Barton Fairgrounds in August '08. An education and informational display was set up by Marge Brown and Anna Leland which included Carolyn Smith's butterflies and Sylvia's FSGC poster. Anna Leland received a Blue Ribbon for her dried flower arrangement. Looking forward to this year's fair. Our December green's workshop was held at the Orleans Federated Church under the direction of Anna Leland. Members made decorations for themselves and others were donated to Bel-Aire Nursing Home. Anna and Phil are looking for additional members to help critique monthly flower arrangements.

**Membership-Rosemary Miller**

--Beginning of 08-09 club had 46 members, currently there are 53 members. May Hanlon was accepted as a youth member at our June '09 meeting. Average attendance at meetings is 21, with Eleanor Willis and Lois Young having perfect attendance!

### **Old Stone House Museum-Sue Rhodes/Carol Bailey**

--Sue gave an overview of the cleanup days during May attended by various members to get the garden ready for our annual planting day in June. Raking, weeding, soil tilling, fertilizing (bone meal), separating and replanting were just some of the chores. Future plans include dealing with the barberry, updating paper copies of the current plantings, control of Bishop Weed, and reworking one bed per year. Thanks to all who helped.

### **Old Stone House Museum (cont'd)**

--After the plant sale Gail and Carol purchased the annuals for the OSH Cyrus Eaton Garden. Plants included Dianthus, Snapdragons, Zinnias, and Marigolds--175 plants in all. These were planted at our June 9 meeting during a heavy rain storm by Carol, Sue Lefevre, and Sue Best. In July, Fran Batchelder, Sue Lefevre, and Carol Bailey deadheaded and weeded again to tidy the garden for an upcoming wedding. Future plans include those addressed by Sue Rhodes along with reexamining plant choices, creating a chart, what to do with the grass paths.

### **Orleans County Fair Booth-Marge Brown**

--Members met at the fairgrounds with buckets of flowers to set up the display. We were allotted a larger space than before and approximately a dozen arrangements were made. Carolyn Smith's butterflies added to the lovely display.

### **Publicity & Photography-Rosemary Miller**

--Jenn Hanlon and Rosemary Miller covered 11 meetings and activities with photos and written reports. Details were submitted to the Newport Daily Express and the Chronicle. In the future, the Chronicle will only cover organizations once every three months. Elizabeth Fletcher submitted our annual summary to the FGCV Leaf spring edition. Jenn updates the FSGC website. News clippings and photos are passed along to Club Historian Bev May.

### **Ways and Means-Elizabeth Fletcher**

--We are a busy club including activities of tending to local gardens of the NC Hospital and the Old Stone House Museum. We also offer educational programs to local schools and other community projects. Our annual plant sale at the Elks Parking Lot offered members' plants for sale to the community. This year our sale included a raffle of donated items and netted the club \$1,516.00.

Elizabeth sent a thank-you note to the Elks Club for the use of their parking lot and for putting the club's sale notice on the marquee. A sign-up sheet was sent around for the upcoming Orleans County Fair. We will be using some of the Coventry School thank-you notes on the display. The incoming National President has three pet projects: Golden Days-planting daffodil bulbs throughout the country to honor club members who can no longer attend meetings, Blight-transform unused land into community gardens, and Planting Pink-sale of birdhouses with seeds, a portion of proceeds to Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Rosemary distributed the by-laws change proposal and discussed changes. Members to study and discuss at a future meeting.

Guest Caroline Frey (past State President) inducted new officers for the upcoming year: Gail Lynch/Arlene Bosco co-Presidents, Fran Batchelder 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Jenn Hanlon 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, co-treasurers Eleanor Willis (until Sept.) and Bev May, Sue Best, Secretary, with lovely flowers for all.

Elizabeth thanked current officers for their help this past year and turned the gavel over to Gail Lynch.

Gail distributed new program booklets and reminded members that our next meeting will be at the lavender farm in Canada. Attendees need passports or Enhanced Driving Licenses. Tour \$4/tax, Box Lunch \$14.95/tax. Gail needs a head count.

Phil Daigle described the history of the cover of our booklet. Members submitted pen and ink drawings. Betty Denning won, Phil painted two pictures, one of which was raffled. Current painting is on a CD for future club use. OSH to receive an original print. Judy also has one.

Gail mentioned that there will be no VINS program this year--Northwoods instead.  
Lois Young recovering from knee surgery.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am (Elizabeth, July 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Best