

85th Annual Meeting of the RI Federation of Garden Clubs April 23, 2015 Minutes
Meeting was convened at 10:26am.

Sandi spoke giving recognition to projects/goals that have been achieved during her tenure of office. She complimented and thanked the membership on “Sowing the Seeds of Imagination” by achieving these objectives:

1. Eleven Habitat for Humanity Homes have been landscaped since 2007, five of them during the last 2 years.
2. There will be 9 Blue Star Memorials when Sogkonate and Gentian complete their dedications this summer.
3. Life Membership has given \$10,500 in scholarships.
4. NGC & NER goals, projects and programs have been fully supported.
5. Fall Education Day was launched successfully four years ago and will continue.
6. Holiday Luncheons have been celebrated at RW Casino with Bill Graham most recently.
7. Two Garden Calendars have been produced with another in the works for 2016.
8. Grants totaling \$2000.00 each year have been awarded to our RI Garden Clubs for community projects in 2014 and 2015.
9. The trip to Costa Rica 2015 celebrating the 85th anniversary of our Federation’s founding is providing the “seed” money for our Gala/Flower Show at Roger Williams Park this fall entitled “Art in Bloom”.
10. RIFGC received a National Award for “Hot Off the Press” chaired by Cathy Moore.
11. The Spirit of Adventure, our 2015 state flower show was co-chaired by 3 members for the first time: Vera Bowen, Sue Redden and Sandi Tinyk, and was warmly received by the public.

After this rousing summation of major accomplishments, Sandi introduced the awards committee: Vera Bowen, Sue Redden, Holly Lippert, Cathy Moore, and Sandi Tinyk. Sue Redden announced the award winners, thanking the membership for promoting growth. Awards were presented by Sandi Tinyk.

This year 50% of clubs competed for the Yearbook Award, 9 clubs received 20 of the awards and \$1,350.00 was awarded to these clubs in units of \$25-\$50.00 each award. The applications are only 3 pages long, available on the website and it is hoped that more clubs enter next year. The list of awards will be in the next NEWS produced in June. An awards brochure will be handed out to participants at the luncheon which follows this awards ceremony.

After a short recess, BJ Stephens installed the new officers of the Life Member Group:

Chairman	Sharon Gainey
Vice Chairman	De Feldman
Recording Secretary	Holly Lippert
Treasurer	Vera Bowen
Corresponding Secretary	Lisa Pollack
Membership	Marge DeAngelis

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

De Feldman, co-chairman with Emily Reade, called for everyone to be seated. Former presidents and members at the head table were introduced. Sandi Tinyk thanked the luncheon committee, and spoke about the many accomplishments of the Federation, thanking all who have worked so diligently during her presidency. Members were thanked for their support, contributions and help, and requested that Cathy Moore be helped in the same way.

Candace Morgenstern gave the invocation. Between courses, Sandi Tinyk presented the following commendations:

Bernie Larivee for his long-standing capacity as Raffle Chairman for the February flower show and his dedication to the financial well-being of the organization.

Blakely Szosz, for her willingness to take on the editorship of the News, which she approached with creativity and superb organization.

Vera Bowen, for her invaluable help, guidance, knowledge and support of her president, and for co-chairing “The Spirit of Adventure.”

Sue Redden, for her long-standing support, contributions, assistance and dedication.

Vera Bowen presented a Commendation, on behalf of the Federation, to *Sandi Tinyk*, as co-chair of the flower show with Vera and Sue, and for taking charge of the first Photography section for our state.

Sandi announced the following anniversaries:

- Gardeners of Westerly, 55 years
- Seaside Garden Club, 75 years
- Gentian Garden Club, 80 years
- Jamestown Garden Club, 80 years
- RIFGC, 85 years

A design program, “flowerflinging” by Susan Detjens, followed by a raffle was highly successful. The photos of the designs are available on this website <http://www.flowerflinging.com/rhode-island-flowerflingers>. The meeting concluded with installation of the officers for 2015-2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Marnie Sandham, Corresponding Secretary