

The 2014 RIFGC Standard Flower Show –*It's All About Time*, is over! From all accounts this was a wonderful show and I am so grateful for the support I received from our federation members who were there from start to finish. Of the **twenty-seven** clubs that make up our federation **twenty- four** participated in some way. They chaired committees, helped 'man' the Comfort Suite, painted, cleaned and generally prepared the staging for the show, worked on computers, hosted, sold raffle tickets, judged, exhibited, clerked, created signage, 'passed' exhibits, and more! It was a great effort to create a memorable show. The schedule is, of course, 'the law of the show' and Cathy Moore did an amazing job of tying it in with the overall show theme, *Vintage Gardens*, and she added some interesting information about each title throughout the schedule. So we were off to a good start!

We had a lot to contend with this year, mainly the dust from the mulch, I can't tell you how many times we cleaned the tops of the pedestals. This dust was everywhere!! The weather was difficult too, especially on the Horticulture entry day, but that did not put people off from coming in with their plants or cut branches. We had **one hundred and ninety-eight** entries. Wow!! We only just got it sorted and ready in time for judging!! The designs were amazing, especially as we had **thirteen** novices, most of whom attended the Beginners' Design Workshops. The Artistic Crafts were fabulous too. The patience and hours of work that go into those exhibits are mind boggling. The three Educational Exhibits were interesting and informative. Over **seventy** people filled out a form for those interested in joining a garden club. The **ninety-three** clocks in the Youth Section were much admired by the public, and it was nice to see so many of these young people at the show. There were **fifteen** needled evergreen branches in Youth Horticulture.

This year too, we invited four designers to create a special design to be placed beside a rare antique car on the fifth floor. We are most grateful to those talented ladies. Our raffle also hit a 'high,' thanks to Bernie Larivee, the best ticket seller in RI!

We were grateful, too, for the help we received from the Convention Center employees who hung the cables for the rings, prepared the lighting, and cleaned the floor each day. Many thanks to Chuck Carberry, the garden designer for the RI Spring Flower and Garden Show, who was such a help to me. To Chuck's brother Steve, for allowing two of his men, who have worked with us for several years, to help us again. We could not have done this show without them.

I have chaired several flower shows over the years, but this one was special as it involved our whole federation. I got to meet and know many of you. It was such a pleasure to see the show evolve in just a few days, although much work took place beforehand in preparation for the show.

Many thanks to all of you who worked on *It's All About Time*; you made a difference. Your support and encouragement was much appreciated and made it possible for us to present a beautiful show of which we can be proud.

Fondly,

Sue

Sue Redden, Chairman 2014 RIFGC Flower Show