

**RHODE ISLAND FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
SEPTEMBER 22, 2011, BOARD MEETING
CASINO AT ROGER WILLIAMS PARK**

Judy Hager, president, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Roll was called, and new presidents introduced themselves. Ann Huntoon's title was the only change in the minutes, and they were approved as published.

Holly Lippert, corresponding secretary:

- Read a letter from the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs thanking us for our donation of \$464.50 to support the welcoming garden at Delaware Air Force Base.
- Announced that a series of informative flyers would be emailed to presidents on Thursday evening.

Adelaide Clifford, treasurer, reported:

- A checking account balance as of September 21, 2011, of \$13,318.87.
- A balance in other (restricted) accounts of \$99,070.82. Because these funds have been donated to RIFGC with stipulations that only the interest can be used, we don't have a lot of money to spend.
- Her report was filed for audit

Judy Hager, president, reported:

- The NGC Fall Board Meeting is presently being held in St. Louis, and several of our members are in attendance. Judy will be joining them today.
- The NER Fall Meeting will be held in Chelmsford, MA, October 17 and 18.
- Sixteen clubs were represented at the President's Luncheon on September 13.
- Many great suggestions and ideas came from the presidents including scaling down hospitality to beverages only.
- There will be a 30-minute president's forum immediately following the January meeting.
- She will chair the Flower Show in February for the third time; and if anyone would like to work with her to see how it is done, she would be happy to hear from you.
- The show will be held February 23-26, 2012, at the RI Convention Center. The national theme will be "Simple Pleasures." Our theme will be "Through the Eyes of a Child."
- Raffle tickets are now available. Bernie Larivee and Kathleen Damiani are in charge of the raffle and should be contacted for more tickets or to make donations.

- Youth Entry Pinwheels are available from Judy at jhager@cox.net.
- February's Board Meeting will be held at the Convention Center.
- Help is needed to get Design and Artistic Design entries in order.
- The Creative Garden was created by a Washington, DC, area club and is for sale for \$10. There are only 20 copies available.
- RIFGC has now aligned their awards with NGC. The website is <http://www.gardenclub.org/Awards/AwardsList.aspx>. More information will be provided at the October 27 meeting.
- www.rigardenclubs.org is available to members only. The password is violet.
- Club yearbooks are due at the October 27 meeting. No application is necessary.
- The NEWS deadline is October 30.
- The RIFGC calendar will be available online. Information for the calendar should be sent to Holly at hklip@cox.net.
- The RIFGC Annual Meeting will be held on April 26, 2012. More information will be forthcoming.

Sandi Tinyk, first vice president, reported:

- Education Day will be held on Friday, October 21, at the Roger Williams Park Botanical Center, at no cost to RIFG members. Club presidents will receive registration forms which should be distributed to their members and returned to Sandi. Boxed lunches will be available but must be ordered by October 15. The cost of the lunch is \$10.
- All club members are welcome at all meetings.

Cathy Moore, second vice president, reported:

- Help is needed from the Judges Council for the September 28 Beginner Design Study workshop which will be held at the North Scituate Community House. The theme will be "How Green is My Valley." Twenty-nine have signed up.
- On December 1 the Holiday Luncheon will take place at the Casino.
- There will be a Holiday Boutiques provided by Karen Calkins of Twice Told Tales in Pawtuxet Village, and all profits will go to RIFGC.
- Another part will be the sale of gently worn jewelry and handbags. Members are asked to bring them to the October 27 meeting.
- If there are questions, please contact Cathy Moore at CSimplymoore@cox.net or at her home at 348-8926.
- Tickets are \$25 and will be available at our next meeting. Checks should be made payable to RIFGC.

Awards:

- The award committee consists of Judy, Vera, Sandi, Sue, Holly and Kathie Mulkerin.
- Vera will be giving a complete update on the changes at the October meeting.
- Holly will be emailing out the revised NGC and RIFGC awards and applications. These will be available for download from the website very shortly.
- Please submit your yearbooks to Sandi Tinyk by the October meeting.

Blue Star Marker:

- Stephanie Parilla will be taking over for Nicki Greene.

Advanced Design Study:

- Holly will send out a flyer to presidents with further information.
- The first session will be held on October 28 at Mount Hope Farm, Bristol.
- De Feldman is in charge and can be contacted at defeldman6@gmail.com.

Finance:

- Vera will be scheduling a finance committee meeting in October.

Flower Shows/School:

- Sue Redden would like to remind everyone about the New England Region Symposium, October 18-20 in Chelmsford, MA. So far nine RIFGC members are attending. For more information, contact Sue at sueredden@verizon.net or call her at 245-8215.
- The Rehoboth Garden Club has postponed their flower show until next spring.

Habitat for Humanity:

- Karen Kestenberg discussed planting Ilex and Hinoki Cypress trees at two Providence homes.
- Plans are underway to also donate hoses and garden tools as well.

Judges Council – Doris Stevens reported:

- The next meeting will be held on October 3 at 9 a.m. at the Mathewson Church Hall, Washington Road, Barrington.
- Barbara May, past president of NGC, will lead the workshop in preparation for the symposium in 2012.

Life Member Group – Gloria Westlake reported:

- There will be a LMG meeting on October 5 to plan out dates, events, etc. for 2012.
- This year \$5,500 in scholarships was given out.
- \$600 was raised at the raffle.
- Contact Janice Panoff regarding scholarship applications.

Members Services:

- Contact Grace Klinger at ghfk@cox.net to order calendars or other gifts.

NEWS:

- Cheryl Heroux is in charge of the NEWS this year. She is now creating a black & white version that can be printed in ClicBook for members without a computer.
- Both the summer and fall issues of the NEWS are on the website, www.rigardenclubs.org in the member's only section. Password is violet.
- The next deadline is October 30.

Publicity/Public Relations:

- Susan Blicher has provided us a media list and press release template for clubs to use. Holly will send them out to club presidents.

Ways and Means:

- Karen Calkins asks that you bring gently worn jewelry and/or purses from club members to the October meeting so that she will have time to process and price them.

Youth:

- Rochelle Kieron announced that the Smokey the Bear poster contest information is available and is a great rainy-day project in schools.
- This year's theme for the poetry contest is Protecting our Aquatic Friends.

Other Business:

- Janice Marcello, president of Chatham Village Garden Club, announced that she has information regarding "Gardening for Women Cancer Patients."
- Janice can be reached at Tjcello98@aol.com for more information.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Gainey
Recording Secretary