

**RHODE ISLAND FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS  
OCTOBER 27, 2011, BOARD MEETING  
CASINO AT ROGER WILLIAMS PARK**

The October meeting of the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Judy Hager, president. Roll was called, and new presidents introduced themselves. The word Memorial was added to the September minutes, and they were approved as published. A photo show of the NGC headquarters and grounds as well as the presidents' lunch, some of our attendees, and floral designs, played in the background.

Holly Lippert, corresponding secretary:

- Read a note from the president of the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs.
- Shared a short DVD of the May 31, 2011, dedication at Dover Air Force Base.
- The DVD is available to any club that would like to share it with their members.
- Announced that she would be forwarding other announcements and information as she receives it.

Adelaide Clifford, treasurer, reported:

- A checking account balance as of October 26, 2011, of \$10,751.33.
- A balance in other (restricted) accounts of \$99,210.50.
- Her report was filed for audit.

Judy Hager, president, reported:

- She and Vera attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Western Garden Club.
- Vera, De, Candace, Maureen and Judy attended the NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis and were able to purchase flower show award ribbons at a discount.
- She also secured a copy of *GOURDS from Vine to Design* for each club president.
- Barrington Garden Club received the Maureen Colton Award at the NER Fall Meeting and Symposium.
- Based on the feedback from the president's luncheon, there will be a 30-minute president's forum immediately following the January meeting to give the presidents an opportunity to give feedback, ask questions and chat with peers.
- An update on the February Flower Show. Set up is February 10-21 with judging and an evening preview party on February 22. The show will run from February 23-26.
- Raffle tickets have gone out to all of the clubs, and they will receive 60 percent of the net profits based on the number of tickets they sell.
- 155 pinwheels have been distributed for Youth Exhibits. Clubs are asked to return any pinwheels they aren't going to use.
- There will be a youth educational exhibit on wind power.
- There will also be a youth horticulture special exhibit. It will feature a succulent specimen. The container will be provided, and they will be displayed on a painter's palette. The class is limited to the first 30 entrants. To become an entrant, email [jhager@cox.net](mailto:jhager@cox.net), the entrant's name, club, age and succulent name.

- The pots will be given to you to give to the entrants. Plants must be in the entrant's possession by December 21 and can be brought in with the remaining horticulture entries on Tuesday, February 21. These will be youth entries—not horticulture. If anyone decides not to enter, please return the pot to Judy. Partially filled palettes will not be displayed.
- Help is needed for a club to volunteer to staff the Coping Station on Tuesday. Monday and Wednesday are staffed.
- Sandi will assist Judy; Cathy is chairing hort; Vera is writing the schedule and helping with design staging. Someone is needed to help with hort classification and with design passing/placement. Let Judy know if you can help out.
- Holly will be emailing a list of some unique items to be part of the overall theme staging that the committee is still trying to find.
- Holly and Gary have been helping with updates to the website, and their help is much appreciated. Updates to be included in the RIFGC calendar should be emailed to Holly.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Sandi Tinyk, reported:

- The Education Day was quite successful, and another is planned for next year.
- 55 members participated in the 4 presentations.
- The Education Day was Vera's idea.
- There are 6,000 garden clubs in the Nation.
- The NGC President's Projects include:
  - Plantings for Public & Special Places
  - Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems
  - Photo Archiving Accomplishments
- Sandi suggested that we send photos to newspapers and to *Natural Awakening Magazine* at [RINaturalAwakenings.com](http://RINaturalAwakenings.com).

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Cathy Moore, reported:

- She and Bernie Larivee are in charge of the Beginner Design Study Group.
- The next meeting is at Mt. Hope Farm on November 2 and Lynne Merrill will be the instructor.
- NGC President Shirley Nicolai and NER Director Joyce Kimball will be joining us for our board meeting and luncheon on December 1. Please encourage members to join us for lunch and shopping at our Holiday Boutique beginning at 11 a.m. They are also welcome to attend the Board Meeting if they so desire.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting:

- Vicki will chair the Annual Meeting, which will be held on April 26, 2012, at Twin Rivers Casino, where there will be a separate entrance from the Casino and free valet parking.
- Dancers from Johnson & Wales University will provide elegant entertainment; designers will provide floral arrangements that reflect the designers' interpretation of the dances.

- Beginner Design Study participants will make the table centerpieces.
- Tickets will be available from Priscilla at the December meeting and will cost \$30.

#### Awards:

- Vera announced that changes to the awards application procedure will go into effect shortly.
- The same form will be used for all awards applications with only the logo indicating if it is an RIFGC, NER or NGC application.
- Holly will email the changes.
- A parental consent form must be completed for any child pictured in an award BOE.
- Most books of evidence will be limited to 3 pages only.
- Flower show books are allowed 10 pages..
- There is no limit for the Publicity Press Book.
- State awards are due by February 15; Regional awards are due by August 15; and National awards are due by December 15.
- Publicity Press Book is due by January 15.
- All award information is available on the website.

#### Design Study Advanced Group:

- De reported that the first meeting will be October 28.

#### Environmental Awareness:

- Kathleen Damiani will be doing a presentation at the December meeting.

#### Finance Committee:

- Vera announced that there was a Finance Committee meeting on October 24, at which time it was decided to ask the Executive Board to approve donating \$10,000 toward the purchase of playground equipment for the family visitation area at the Men's Minimum Security Unit at the ACI. There will be additional funds from the ACI and other donors for the completion of the playground. The equipment will be used by the children of inmates when visiting their fathers.
- Our Advisory Board met before this meeting and voted to bring it to the membership for a vote.
- Annette Jarvis made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Advisory Board, and Grace Klinger seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
- Vicki announced that she thoroughly enjoyed teaching an Art class at the ACI.

#### Flower Shows/Schools:

- Sue Redden announced that Ann Huntoon passed her course.
- Eleven from RI attended the Symposium in October.
- RI will host the Symposium next year.

Life Members:

- Gloria reported that Life Member luncheons will be held on May 31, 2012, at the Rhode Island Country Club and on September 20, 2012, at the Dunes Club.

Life Member Scholarships:

- Janice Panoff announced that we provide scholarships for students who are residents of RI between sophomore year through a Master's degree.
- Students are eligible for more than one year.
- Between RIFGC and NGC up to \$8,500 is available.

Member Services:

- Grace has copies of *The Creative Garden* that were ordered.
- Calendars are \$5.50 and will be available at the December meeting.

NEWS:

- The deadline for information for the NEWS is October 31 and should be emailed to Cheryl by then.
- The fall issue of the NEWS is currently on the website, [www.rigardenclubs.org](http://www.rigardenclubs.org) in the member's only section. The password is violet.

Ways & Means:

- We are going to have a terrific shopping adventure on December 1. The shopping will begin at 11 a.m. followed by lunch with the National President, Shirley Nicolai, and Regional Director, Joyce Kimball.

Youth:

- Please bring Smokey the Bear/Woodsy Owl poster entries to the January 26<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Contestant information must be on the back of each entry.
- For further information, contact Rochelle Kieron at [RCKieron@msn.com](mailto:RCKieron@msn.com).

Announcements:

- On Tuesday, November 15, Barrington Garden Club will present Creative Arrangements for the Holidays led by Candace Morgenstern at Noon at the Barrington Library. Admission is \$8 and includes a light lunch.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:52.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Gainey  
Recording Secretary