

**RHODE ISLAND FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
ROGER WILLIAMS PARK CASINO
DECEMBER 6, 2012**

Sandi Tinyk, President-Elect, welcomed all. Sandi also announced that the next meeting will be held on January 24 and that the February meeting has been cancelled due to the Flower Show. She encouraged clubs to purchase raffle tickets as 60 percent goes back to the club after expenses. Presidents should see Bernie Larrivee, who is in charge of the raffle.

Roll was called, and Sharon Culberson was recognized as the new president of Tiverton Garden Club.

Holly Lippert, corresponding secretary, read a letter from the Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island thanking us for our generous contribution.

Adelaide Clifford, treasurer, reported a checking account balance of \$8,652.04 and a balance in other accounts of \$99,756.65. Her report was filed for audit. Adelaide also thanked past presidents for their cooperation.

Cathy Moore, 2nd vice president, discussed the February Flower Show, "Hot off the Press." She noted that in the Horticulture Division combination planting and design classes are limited to 4 and need to be signed up ahead of time.

Sue Redden announced that there have been a few changes in the schedule, and these changes will be posted on the website. In the Design Division, Classes D101 and D102 have been switched, so the Tray is now D101 and the Buffet Table is D102. Entries are still needed in several categories including Tray, Op Art and Floor Design.

Pre-registration is required to Marj DeAngelis for Section H1000 Combination Plantings. There are only 4 entries in each class. The Terrarium and Dish Garden will be allotted a space of 15" square. The planters will receive a space 30" wide and 15" deep.

There will be a Horticulture workshop after the January meeting and all club members are invited to attend; presidents were asked to share this information with their members.

In the Artistic Crafts Division of Special Exhibits, the tennis racquet may be created by the exhibitor or be a pre-made one. The same is true for the golf hat. Ann Huntoon is looking for entries, and there is one opening for the golf hat and two openings for the Pawsox Ballfield.

In Youth Horticulture, the sweet potato has been replaced by a container grown herb pot (6") that has been in the possession of the entrant for 60 days. Butterflies are due at the January meeting.

Entries for Horticulture will be accepted on Tuesday, February 19, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Note earlier deadline so that the horticulture committee can complete placement in a timely fashion. Entry cards will be available at the January meeting. Arts and Crafts will be accepted

Tuesday, between 5 and 8 p.m. Design entries will be accepted on Wednesday, February 20, between 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Grace Klinger announced that hostesses will start working on Thursday. The last shift on Sunday is 6-8 p.m.

Marge Johnson is looking for clerks to work on Wednesday only. This is a good opportunity to learn what judges are looking for. Clerks are responsible for doing what judges ask and placing ribbons. If you are interested, please call Marge at 508.252.4528. Sandi will forward to Marge a list of clerks who worked last year and expressed interest in doing so again.

HELP is needed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday and the Monday after the show starting at 7 a.m. Anyone who has spare time can help with setup and cleanup.

The coping station will be staffed on Monday by members of Quononoquott Garden Club, on Tuesday by Bristol Garden Club and Wednesday by Portsmouth Garden Club. Information will go out to those clubs.

Vicki Iannuccillo announced that the Annual Meeting will be held on April 25 when awards will be presented and new officers will be installed. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. The speaker will be Ruth Loiseau, a past floral designer for the White House. Her topic will be "From the White House to Your House." Tickets are \$30, and the meeting will be held at Twin River Casino in Lincoln. There are 10 seats to a table. Tickets can be returned by the March meeting but by April 11 for refund.

The Awards Committee consists of 6—Vera, Sandi, Sue, Judy, Holly, and Kathy Mulkerin. The Publicity Press entries are due by January 24.

The Advanced Design Class for January 9 has been cancelled; however, the Judges Council will meet after the Beginner Design Class that day at the Amicable Church in Tiverton. The class will begin at 9:30 a.m. Candace Morgenstern will present Angular Design. Also, the deadline for photos for the Sylvia Street and Joan Pesola Awards is January 9th and should be sent to Doris or Sue.

Sue Redden congratulated Student Judge, Marjorie DeAngelis for passing FSS Course IV. She now must write a schedule before taking the Handbook exam. Sue also congratulated Accredited Life Judge Vicki Iannuccillo, who has passed her first refresher towards becoming a Master Judge, and Cathy Moore who also passed and is now an Accredited Life Judge. Master Judges—Priscilla DiMarco, De Feldman, Lynne Merrill, Candace Morgenstern, Cynthia O'Malley, Janice Panoff, Gisela Rodgers, and Doris Stephens—all refreshed at the Symposium and their 'good standing as judges' is now December 31, 2015. Judges' Council Chair Doris Stephens and Sue Redden will be attending the Instructor's and Flower Show Schools' Personnel Symposium being held in Tampa, FL, January 18-20.

Karen Kestenberg announced that Habitat for Humanity plantings have been put off until spring.

Gloria Westlake announced that the Life Member group had two fund raisers this year and were able to give \$6,000 in scholarships. She asked presidents to encourage members to join or give a gift to Life Members. The new board is going in in April.

Janice Panoff suggested presidents talk up the Life Member scholarships. They can be used at any school in the United States but the recipient must be a resident of Rhode Island or Massachusetts and a sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student. Doctoral candidates are not eligible. March 1 is the deadline, and all information is on the website. Janice also suggested that the information be sent to the Directors of Guidance at area high schools who might know of previous graduates who were good students and pursuing courses of study in the areas that are included.

Grace Klinger reported that Member Services of RIFGC has sold out of calendars, but they can be ordered.

Vera reported that the NEWS should be coming out shortly. The deadline for the next issue is February 1, and the president's article is due.

Rochelle Kieron reported that Youth posters, etc., are due by the January 24 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Candace Morgenstern reported that the NGC is selling scarves with state logos for \$35 and can be ordered on the NGC website. It was noted that Candace actually designed the scarf. She also announced new partnerships with Gardener's Supply which offers members a 20 percent discount when the code Roses is used; oasis from www.directfloral.com; Brent & Becky Blooming Bulbs; and Flower Magazine for only \$17.

Shirley Nicolai, president of NGC, would like photos of members' gardens sent to robin.P@juneau.com for use on www.FLICKR.com/group/members_gardens. There may also be a link from NGC.

Bernie Larrivee will be in charge of the Flower Show raffle and needs donations of prizes. He also has tickets.

Remember, the next meeting will be on January 24 at the Casino at 9:30 followed by the Horticulture workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. so that members could attend the Holiday Luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Gainey
Recording Secretary