

**RHODE ISLAND FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS  
MARCH 22, 2012 BOARD MEETING  
CASINO AT ROGER WILLIAMS PARK**

The March meeting of the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs was called to order at 10:05 by Judy Hager, President. There were no guests, and there was no correspondence. Roll was called. There were no additions or corrections to the February minutes so they stand approved as published.

Adelaide Clifford, treasurer, reported:

- A checking account balance as of March 21, 2012, of \$9,777.16
- A balance in other accounts of \$98,790.48
- The report was filed for audit.

Judy Hager, president, reported:

- That the Flower Show was a great success because there was such a great team working on it
- Profuse thanks to everyone who participated in any way
- Cindy Wood Garden Club is missing one pinwheel
- Calendar updates should be emailed to Holly so they can get on the website
- That clubs celebrating a special anniversary should let her know ASAP. So far, she has only heard from Plum Beach, Chatham Village, Angle Tree and Governor Francis Farms
- The RIFGC Community Project Award applications need to be emailed to her prior to the April 26 annual meeting. Previous winners are not eligible.
- At the February board meeting, it was voted to combine the May and June board meetings into a single meeting that will be held on June 7. Please mark your calendars.
- The 6-Year Plan was shared and described in detail:
  - Increase number of clubs and affiliates by one per year
  - Maintain all existing clubs within RIFGC for the next 6 years
  - Increase membership in existing clubs by 3 per year from 2011 through 2016
  - Increase visibility of RIFGC within the state
- RIFGC will have a float in the Bristol 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade
- Home Depot will allow Apple Blossom Garden Club to display hypertufas in front of their Smithfield store

In 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Sandi Tinyk's absence, Vera Bowen made a motion to accept the resignation of the Ye Kingstown Garden Club. Betty Ann Taylor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to accept it.

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

- The next Design Study Beginner Group will meet at the Watch Hill Fire Station on April 13 at 9:30 a.m. with Priscilla DiMarco as the instructor. The Advanced Group will meet that afternoon in the same place

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### Annual Meeting:

- Vicki reported that the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon will be held on April 26 at the Twin River conference center in Lincoln. The awards ceremony and annual meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with shopping and cocktails at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch and our program, ***Dance and Design***, at Noon. Tickets are \$30

### Awards:

- The awards committee met on March 1 and judged the award applications
- The committee also discussed the recommendations from the January President's Forum regarding the silver, rosettes, certificates of achievement and monetary awards
- The committee unanimously made recommendations to go to the finance committee, which has now also unanimously supported the motion to accept the recommendations.
- At a special meeting of the advisory board, the motion to accept the recommendations was also approved.
- The proposed RIFGC award revisions are as follows:
  - A monetary award and a certificate of achievement be given instead of a silver/pewter/crystal bowl/plaque or tray and/or a rosette. The exception would be the Comprehensive Horticulture Award where a book donated by Sybil Simon is given
  - The monetary award would be \$25 for all awards, with the exception of the Ruth F. Anderson Flower Show Award (currently \$50), the Edith Fricker Award and Haffenreffer Award, both of which would be \$50
  - All donated silver/pewter/crystal, etc. should be returned to the club or family of the person honored in the award's name with an explanation that the award continues and the person named will always be honored for the award
  - The awards ceremony will be made special by scanning in photographs from the award applications and creating a PowerPoint Presentation of the winners with the photos of their accomplishments. It will be shown during the pre-luncheon event so that the number of members seeing it is maximized
- A motion was made by Vera Bowen and seconded by Betty Ann Taylor to accept the revisions

### Blue Star Memorial Marker:

- Leonora announced that Tiverton will be dedicating a Blue Star Byway Marker on Memorial Day.
- Lynne Merrill is the NER Blue Star chairman and has put together a nice description of the program. Holly will email it to presidents to share with the clubs

### Flower Shows/Schools:

- Hametho is having an in-house Small Standard Flower Show in May.
- Rehoboth Garden Club is having their Small Standard Show on Saturday, September 22

### Life Members:

- The Life Member Luncheon will be held at Rhode Island Country Club on May 31. Tickets are \$35

Life Member Scholarships:

- Janice announced that two highly-qualified students will be awarded scholarships in September

NEWS:

- Cheryl was thanked for another wonderful issue of the NEWS

Ways and Means:

- We will have gently used handbags and jewelry for sale at the annual luncheon.

Youth:

- Rochelle acknowledged the poster, poetry, and sculpture contest entrants and distributed a list of the contest winners

## NEW BUSINESS

- Gentian Garden Club is having a tour of Gentian's Gems on Saturday, June 2. Tickets are \$25 with lunch or \$20 without lunch.
- A number of clubs will be having plant sales on May 19. Please see the RIFGC calendar for locations
- Party for the Planet at the Roger Williams Park Zoo will be held from April 16-22. Please let Judy know if your club is willing to participate
- The Compass School, North Kingstown, invited RIFGC to participate on May 19 from 11-2 at their Eco-Fair. Again, please let Judy know if you would like to participate.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Gainey, Recording Secretary