

**Minutes of RIFGC 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**April 24, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at the Event Center of Twin River Casino at 10:25 am by President Sandi Tinyk. Special guests were introduced at the Board meeting.

**President's Report:**

Since our last annual meeting, we have achieved much across our state and as a Federation. With the theme of "Sowing the Seeds of Imagination," we achieved wonders in every one of our projects, through all of the seasons. Beginning with our Habitat for Humanity landscaping of 4 homes last summer, we brought to 10 the number of such projects since its inception in 2007. We continued in our sense of civic responsibility and patriotism when, through the efforts of Portsmouth Garden Club, we added a Blue Star Memorial Marker in Portsmouth, also in summer.

Continuing our determination to "give back" to our members, we held our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual free Education Day in the fall; all speakers and presenters but one were our members who volunteered their time and talents. We got into the holiday spirit in early December with our holiday luncheon chaired by Cathy Moore. At that luncheon, we sold our first monthly garden calendar to boost our Habitat budget, which had been depleted. We financially supported clubs' projects through Community Project Awards of \$2,000, made donations to state organizations which support our goals, and contributed to the Massachusetts Federation's Marathon Daffodils effort by donating \$625.

Beginning last summer, plans began to be formulated for our highly successful and beautiful February flower show, "It's All About Time," chaired by Sue Redden and her tireless committee. And here we are again at our annual meeting, where we will be recognizing the talents and dedication of our club members.

As we look toward next year, we will continue our efforts in many of these projects; we have already learned that we will be adding two Blue Star markers in the coming year, working on another Habitat landscaping plan, developing photos for our next calendar, and making plans to celebrate our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary through a special flower show and an exciting trip. Stay tuned for many details and a few surprises in the coming months!

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support, encouragement, and help in making this a successful year and an especially rewarding one for me. I look forward to meeting with many more of the clubs in the coming year and to celebrating our special anniversary with you next spring. Thank you!

The 2014-2015 budget was presented by Vera Bowen, Finance Committee chair. After brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to accept next year's budget as presented. There being no opposing votes, the motion was passed, and the budget was accepted.

Awards were announced by Vera Bowen, arranged by Sue Redden and Holly Lippert, and presented by Sandi Tinyk. (See attached flyer for full details.) Thanks to Sandi, Vera, Sue, and Holly for serving on the Awards Committee.

Treasurer Bernie Larivee distributed raffle proceeds from the flower show to individual clubs.

The meeting was recessed for shopping and social time at 10:55, and then reconvened at 11:55 am in the ballroom.

Commendations were presented to:

Karen Kestenberg for her ongoing dedication to the Habitat for Humanity project.

Sue Redden for her outstanding leadership as chair of the Spring Flower Show, "It's All About Time."

De Feldman and Emily Reade for their organization and coordination of the RIFGC Annual Awards meeting and luncheon.

Vera Bowen for her support and help in making "It's All About Time" a success, and for her encouragement, assistance, and support of RIFGC's president.

Vicki Iannuccillo was this year's recipient of the Member of Honor Award.

Special Flower Show Award rosettes were presented to Cathy Moore and Vicki Iannuccillo for their outstanding hard work and continuous support of the RI State Flower Show.

(See attached flyer for full details.)

\$2000 was distributed for Community Project Awards:

Sogkonate Garden Club and Gentian Garden Club each received \$425 for Blue Star Memorial Markers

Cindy Wood received \$250 for a tree replacement project in Scituate

The following each received \$300 for Civic Beautification projects: Portsmouth, Hamemo and Governor Francis Farms

A delicious luncheon was served. Members of 18 clubs were present. Table arrangements were made by Ann Huntoon and her volunteers. Organized by De Feldman and Emily Reade, Annual Luncheon co-Chairs, with volunteer models from our membership, "Flora and Fashion" with designs by Chico's, White House/Black Market, and Soma was presented, followed by a raffle of the four magnificent stage designs and various basket items.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Pollack, Recording Secretary