

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

Date: February 8, 2017

President Vicky Marr called the meeting to order at 12:45, opening with the recitation of the Gardeners' Collect, the Conservation Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment was spent to recognize the passing of long time Topsham Garden Club member, Hannah Vigue, at the age of 102.

In attendance for the meeting, 19 members
for the program, 22 members and 5 guests

Hostesses

For this meeting: Claudia Knox, Lucette Musica, Carole Flaherty and Alison Harris
For next month: Marge Whipple, Dorothy Gardner, and Patsy St. Pierre

Library flowers

This month: Lucette Musica
Next month: Fay Eldred

Secretary's Report:

Corrections: The location of the Medomak District Meeting should indicate Sky-Hi Conference Center, "tentatively".
The date of the April Annual Meeting is April 5, not April 12, due to a conflict with the Topsham Public Library.

Moved by: Liz Volckening
Seconded by: Lucette Musica and Patsy St. Pierre

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking account : \$3525.38
- Savings account: \$2510.18
- January income: \$19.00 (snowdrops auction)
- Membership: 44 members
- Full report attached

President's report:

- Vicky provided details regarding the Medomak District Annual Meeting on May 1. Because of concerns with the tentative Sky-Hi site, the new location is the Unitarian Universalist Church in Brunswick, Maine with Union Street Bakery as caterer.
To address the parking concern, it was suggested that with the Call to Order we provide a downtown map indicating all-day parking spaces and that we

recommend carpooling.

Volunteer sign-up sheets were circulated and will be offered through e-mail.

- There is a new GCFM Newsletter available online.
- Officers/committee chairpersons. All positions expire in April. Those staying in their current positions are:
 - President Vicky Marr, if necessary, for one more year
 - Treasurer Alison Harris
 - Secretary Marie Neale
 - Civic Beautification Jean Herlihy
 - Hospitality Liz Volckening
 - Plant sale Fay Eldred with help from Izza Johnson, Jean Herlihy and Patsy St. Pierre
- Please contact Vicky with your interest in continuing in your current position and/or if you are interested in stepping into an open position.
- Our fundraising Plant Sale is June 3. Jean Herlihy will book/confirm this date with Pam Leduc at the Town Office.
- Sign-up sheets were distributed for Hostessing, Garden Tending, and Library Flowers. Contact Vicky to select your preferred dates to volunteer.

New Business:

Rosalind Harris was recognized for the Times Record article regarding her work at the State Department, with the United Nations, with the American Association of University Women and with many other organizations.

Doreen Wakely is currently at Bodwell Rehab.

Marie Neale reported on progress of the Medomak District Nominating Committee. A proposed slate of officers is in place except for one position on the GCFM Nominating Committee. Qualifications for this position are to have served on the District Board or to have served on the GCFM Board. In addition the candidate shall have attended two of the three preceding Annual Conventions and/or fall conferences.

Fay Eldred has provided information regarding a trip sponsored by Gardiner Adult Education to the Philadelphia Flower Show. Deadline to register is February 16. The contact telephone number is 207-582-3774. A detailed flyer is attached.

Announcements and important dates:

March 9	Topsham Garden Club meeting Program: "Hardy Succulents and Rock Garden Plants"
March 29-April 2	Maine Flower Show, Thompsons Point, Portland, Maine
March 30	Maine Flower Show: GCFM Exhibit and President's Talk
April 1	GCFM Awards deadline
April 5	Topsham Garden Club Annual meeting and installation of officers Program: Garden Records
May 1	Medomak District Annual Meeting
May	no regular Topsham Garden Club meeting
June 3	Plant Sale tentative date, June 3
June 19-21	GCFM 86 th Annual Convention Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport, Maine

Meeting adjourned at 1:15.

The Program was about Lyme disease. It was presented by Paula Jackson and Angele Rice, co-founders of Midcoast Lyme Disease Support and Education Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Neale
Secretary

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
February 8, 2017**

Checking Account Balance (as of February 8, 2017)	\$3,525.38
Savings Account Balance (as of January 31, 2017)	\$2,510.18**

*** The Savings Account balance includes \$1,500 for a "Rainy Day Fund," \$1,000 reserved for a capital gift for the Androscoggin Brunswick-Topsham Riverwalk, and interest earned.*

Membership: As of February 8, we have 44 members, having lost our honorary member, Hannah Vigue, on January 18, 2017, at the age of 102.

Dues (new or renewing members) for 2016-2017 are unchanged: \$20 for an individual or \$30 for two members of the same household. Members joining December 1 or later pay half price until the April Annual Meeting when all dues collected will be applied to the following year. According to our By-Laws, dues are due by June 15.

Activity:

- We earned \$19 from the auction of snowdrops at our January meeting.
- I will be making the remaining contributions approved in our annual budget later this month. That would be camperships for CREA and Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and an annual fund gift to Friends of Merrymeeting Bay. Our Friends of the Topsham Public Library renewal was paid last summer in time to sponsor the garden books table at the annual book sale.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Treasurer



Philadelphia Flower Show and More

Sponsored by Gardiner Adult Education -- 207-582-3774

\$759

[Register](#)

Welcome Spring in fine fashion this year with a visit to the City of Brotherly Love and the internationally renowned Philadelphia Flower Show. This year's show theme, HOLLAND: Flowering the World, will showcase the extraordinary plants, creativity and talent of this region's top horticulturists and designers along with award winning landscape and floral designers from the Netherlands.

From towering windmills, wooden shoes and delectable cheeses, to the whimsical bicycles, canals and vibrant tulip fields of the iconic Dutch landscape, the 2017 Flower Show is certain to be a must-see event. Highlights include competitive growers and horticulturists from around the world displaying their plants in bids for major honors, landscape displays, lectures, and hundreds of vendors, from all over the world selling plants, flowers, artwork, and garden-related crafts and supplies.

Our accommodations for the three nights are at the Courtyard by Marriott in downtown Philadelphia. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, guests will appreciate sophisticated décor, newly renovated, spacious rooms, modern amenities and an unbeatable city-center location. This location, a five-minute walk to the convention center, will make access to the flower show easy and convenient.

Our second full day in Philly features a guided tour of the National Constitution Center followed by a two-hour city tour via motor-coach. Our guide will entertain us with historical tales, cultural highlights and stories of the city's past and present. Several photo stops are planned as part of the tour which ends at the Italian Market just in time for lunch! The afternoon brings us to Independence National Historical Park, quite possibly America's most historic square mile. We'll visit Independence Hall, home to some of America's most important historical moments and best known as the place where the Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776.

Our evening activities include dinner on Thursday at City Tavern, a reconstructed Colonial tavern where servers in period dress deliver old-fashioned American fare and

dinner on Friday at Positano Coast featuring seafood and Italian specialties and an ambiance that will make you feel like you are on an Italian holiday.

A culinary tour of the city is on the docket for Saturday night. Flavors of Philly affords us classic Philly eats like cheese steaks, tomato pie, soft pretzels and much more as we make the rounds of places that the locals love and visitors rave about.

Registration includes: motor-coach transportation, three nights accommodations, three breakfasts, flower show tickets, museum tours, city tour, and three dinners.

Deadline to register is February 16. No refunds will be made after that date. Registration fee is based on double occupancy. Depart 6:15 am from Waterville (Elm Plaza) Return 8:45 pm Depart 7:00 am from Gardiner (Hannaford Parking Lot) Return 8:00 pm Depart 7:35 am from Topsham (Merrymeeting Adult Education 35 Republic Avenue) Return 7:15 pm.