

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Minutes: October 9, 2019

Submitted by Vicky Marr

Attendance: 5 guests and 27 Members

Secretary: September 11 minutes will be approved at the November 13 meeting (**See attached**)

Treasurer:

President Report:

- Report of meeting of Medomak District of Garden Club Federation of Maine October 4, 2019. (**See attached**)
- Reminders:
 - Fall Meeting of the GCFM in Augusta---registration deadline October 15.
 - Donations for resale table (gently used items). Who is planning to go?
 - 2019 NEGC Annual Meeting---October 28-29 at Woodstock Inn, Woodstock VT (www.newenglandgc.org)
 - 2020 NEGC Meeting---Oct. 13-14, 2020 at Village by the Sea in Wells, hosted by GCFM
- Louise Burgess cannot serve as secretary because of declining health of her mother. Volunteer needed!!!! Job Description in handbook.

October Program:

Our program was given by Master Gardener Jean Potuchek, Jean's Garden, blog ("Invasive Plants and the Challenge of Ethical Gardening"). <https://jeansgarden.wordpress.com/>

October hostesses were Alison & Rosalind Harris, Jane Littlefield, Carla Rensenbrink & Jane Scease

November Program will present Nick Lund, Maine Audubon's Network and Outreach Manager, who loves talking about birds and birding in his home state. His nature and science writings have been published by the National Audubon Society, Washington Post, National Geographic, Slate.com, and other outlets.

November Hostesses: Vicky Marr, Joan McDuff, Patsy St. Pierre



Report from Jean Herlihy, Horticulture Chair discussed planting daffodils for honoring the 100th anniversary of the suffragette movement. She also discussed Fall Cleanup tentatively scheduled for November 2.

The name of the aggressive plant in the Town Gardens is Pearly Everlasting. All species, with the exception of *A. triplenervis* send out stolons that can overrun the garden.

gardening.cornell.edu/homegardening/scene67d1.html

New Business

- Meeting in January (January 8, 2020)!!
 - Normally we don't have a club meeting in January, but this is very special. Jeanne d'Arc Mayo has spoken to Barry Logan, professor and chair of the Biology Department at Bowdoin. He is available to speak to us on January 8, about studies conifer forests on Monhegan, --- this will be a synopsis of a presentation he gave elsewhere. (Barry says: "The National Science Foundation has funded a proposal of mine (with colleagues elsewhere). The work we proposed will involve studies of conifer forests from Alaska to the Florida panhandle and will involve setting up a number of sites"). They got the word of the successful grant on September 19.

Attachments: October 9, Treasurer's Report
October 4, Minutes Medomak District Meeting
Topsham Garden Club Fall 2019 Report to Medomak

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
October 9, 2019**

Checking Account Balance (as of October 9, 2019)	\$925.25
Bank for Raffles & Auctions at Meetings	30.00
Savings Account Balance (as of September 30, 2019)	\$5,518.67**

*** The Savings Account includes \$206.35 transferred from Norway Savings Bank in January 2010; \$1,500 for a "Rainy Day Fund;" and an operating surplus accumulated plus interest earned since 2012.*

Membership:

We currently have 46 members for the June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020 year. Marcia McGee rejoined at our September meeting.

Dues (new or renewing members), as adopted in the 2019 budget, remain \$20 for an individual or \$30 for two members of the same household. Members joining December 1 or later paid half price until the April Annual Meeting when all dues collected are applied to the following year.

Fiscal Activity since September 11, 2019 Treasurer's Report

- Income

20.00	Dues
\$20.00	Total Income

- Expenses

4.22	Acrylic frames for exhibits
18.95	Sheet protectors for archives
\$23.17	Total Expenses

- Savings Account Interest:

.47	September 2019 interest
\$0.47	Total Interest

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Treasurer

Medomak Board Meeting
October 4, 2019

Members Present: Judy Stallworth, Joan Toy, Pam LaJeunesse, Emily Adler, Beth Maxwell, Linda Redman, Linda Bonin

Unable to Attend: *Cecilia King, Vicky Marr, Karen Cease, Ann Williams,*

Secretary Report: The minutes from the May 6, 2019 meeting were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Beth reported a bank balance of \$9410.04. Report was filed.

District Director Report: Judy reminded the group that her goal was to practice responsible gardening which included cutting back on plantings but not her interest in dahlias. As a result of research of the names of her dahlias, Judy was able to determine national classification of a number of her plants. She reminded the group that the Judge's Council provides flower arranging demonstration/instruction the first Wednesday of each month at St Mary's Center in Falmouth. She noted that this is open to all for a fee of \$10 session.

Judy encouraged members to register for the Fall Conference October 31st at the Civic Center in Augusta. Bath Garden Club will provide the two silent auction items while each club is responsible for bringing White Elephant items.

AND to make room reservations for the 2020 Annual Convention June 16-17 at the Atlantic Oceanside Resort in Bar Harbor.

Clubs are reminded that they should notify GCFM regarding deceased members.

Summary reports from club presidents:

Reports received from all clubs except for Topsham. Although Linda Cease President from Camden was absent at the meeting, she did send an electronic report. Judy does need these summaries for the Board meeting and Fall Conference.

Linda Redman suggested that clubs report their activity around scholarships and camperships awarded with the amount of money attached to each

Old Business:

Annual Medomak Meeting will be at the Coastal ME Botanical Garden on May 4th. Daniel Unger, new director, has agreed to waive the venue fee.

- Linda Bonin posed questions to the group regarding selection of the speaker, luncheon, registration fee, and how bills are paid.
- A spreadsheet denoting individual club responsibilities was reviewed. (These responsibilities will be included in these minutes.)
- Regarding finances, bills are paid by the Medomak treasurer including gift for state president.
- Each president is responsible for generating 2 Certificates of Appreciation to Judy by **March 1, 2020.**

- The Board will meet on March 6, 2020 at the Wiscasset 1st Congregational Church at 10m with snow date March 13 to review a draft of the May 4th meeting program.

Emily has developed an updated directory of club presidents which is attached below

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Toy, Secretary

MEDOMAK DISTRICT PRESIDENTS – 2019-2020

Bath Garden Club

- Pamela LaJeunesse

23 Sumac Drive

Brunswick, Maine 04011

207-725-5856

pamelalajeunesse@gmail.com

Boothbay Region Garden Club

- Linda Bonin

33 Pleasant View Lane

Boothbay, Maine 04537

518-281-3727

mommybonin@gmail.com

Camden Garden Club

- Karen Cease

PO Box 653

Camden, ME 04843

207-236-4665

kbcease@aol.com

Topsham Garden Club

- Ann Williams

178 Coburn Lane

Topsham, Me 04086

207-373-1930

akwilliams001@gmail.com

Cecilia (Ceil) King

PO Box 959

Camden, ME, 04843

207-230-2412

cecilia.king1@gmail.com

The Garden Club of Wiscasset

- Beth Maxwell

10 Union St

Wiscasset, ME 04578
207-882-6180
emaxwell@myfairpoint.net

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING INFORMATION 2020

Responsibilities of ALL clubs:

Bring something for the **White Elephant** Sale by 9 am and supply two **raffle items** of at least \$25 value

Collect the checks from everyone in your club and have your club Treasurer **send one check** to the Host Club's Registrar who records the registrants and she forwards checks and total registrants by Club to District Treasurer

Responsibilities of each Club President:

Notify your club Vice President or an alternate that they are part of the **Nominating Committee** for the District's new Slate of Officers.

Select two members in your club to be honored with a **Certificate of Appreciation** at the Annual District Meeting and have your write up of approximately 50 words to the Director by **March 1**.

Prepare for a **club report** of three minutes and a hard copy to the District Director by **April 1**.

Responsibility of the Camden Garden Club

Response at the Annual Meeting as the next host for the 2020 Annual Meeting

Bring White Elephant items and 2 Raffle items

Responsibility of the Topsham Garden Club

Responsible for the **White Elephant table**, setup, pricing, money to the District Treasurer

Lead the Pledge of Allegiance (President)

Bring White Elephant items and two Raffle items

Responsibility of the Garden Club of Wiscasset

Lead the Conservation Pledge (President)

Bring White Elephant items and two Raffle items

Responsibility of the Bath Garden Club

Lead the Gardener's Collect (President)

Bring White Elephant items and 2 Raffle items ^{L}_{SEP}

Responsibility of the Boothbay Region Garden Club (HOST CLUB) ^{L}_{SEP}

Give the Welcome at the Annual Meeting (President) ^{L}_{SEP}

Introduce the Speaker (Chair of the Annual Mtg.) ^{L}_{SEP}

Convene the Nominating Committee (Vice President) ^{L}_{SEP}

Bring White Elephant items and 2 Raffle items ^{L}_{SEP}

Fall Report, Topsham Garden Club 2019

Our club members continue to maintain the public gardens at the Municipal Buildings of Topsham on Main St., the little garden at the 'Welcome to Topsham' sign at the corner of Main St. and Elm, and at the Public Library on Foreside Rd. The gardens will be put to bed for the winter on November 2.

To commemorate our 85th anniversary of the founding of the Topsham Garden Club, the members voted at the June meeting to 'purchase' for \$2,000 one of 5 granite benches which will be installed, with a suitable plaque affixed, on the Topsham side of the newly-created Riverwalk along the banks of the Androscoggin River. Our application was submitted and approved by the Riverwalk Committee.

Our September meeting (September 11, 2019) was presented by Liz Volckening, a member of the TGC and recently-elected vice-president. The topic was *Making an Arrangement that Pleases the Arranger*. Liz attended the National Garden Club's School of Floral Design and became a certified judge. She shared some of principals of design that she learned, in a very informal presentation. Members brought their own vases, no higher than 8", and flowers from their gardens to share, and after a demonstration by Liz, we all had fun making our own arrangements which we used on our lunch tables and then took home.

Our October meeting (October 9, 2019) was given by Jean Potuchek, entitled *Invasive Plants and the Challenge of Ethical Gardening*. Jean is a retired college professor, and a certified Master Gardener Volunteer who earned a Certificate in Native Plants and Ecological Horticulture from the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. She is an avid gardener who lives in East Poland (Maine). Her gardening specialty is growing flowering perennials, enjoying them despite all the work of planning the garden, preparing the soil, weeding, and all the other tasks associated with gardening. She has learned to think of her garden as an ecological community in process rather than as a work of art. Jean gave an excellent program.

Our next meeting, scheduled for November 13, 2019, will be a program on *Backyard Birding Basics*, given by Nick Lund, from Maine Audubon, where he is Network and Outreach Manager. He loves talking about birds and birding in his home state. His nature and science writings have been published by the National Audubon Society, Washington Post, National Geographic, Slate.com, and other outlets.

Our December meeting will be our Holiday Pot-Luck, and will be held in the ballroom of the Holden-Frost House at The Highlands in Topsham. We will bring items to auction among ourselves and also display some of our historical records, since this is the 85th anniversary of the formation of the Topsham Garden Club! We have much to celebrate.

In January we will have the opportunity to hear a presentation by Barry Logan, Professor and Chair of Biology at Bowdoin College. He is a recent recipient, together with several colleagues,

of a prestigious National Science Foundation grant to study the conifer forests of the US from Alaska to the Florida panhandle. Barry has worked extensively on the conifer forests on Monhegan.

Upcoming programs:

13-Feb *Signs of the Seasons, A new England Phenology Program* presented by Beth Bisson

(def. of phenology: the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life.)

11-Mar *Ecology of a Garden or Building Healthy Soil* presented by Barbara Murphy and co-sponsored with the Topsham Public Library

In response to the suggestion made by Linda Redmond at the recent Medomak meeting, here is our record over the last few years of donations made to the groups which we support:

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Bryant Pond 4-H Camp day campership	\$230	\$230	\$230	\$225	\$225
Cathance River education alliance (CREA) campership	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$200	\$200
Friends of Merrymeeting Bay annual fund	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Friends of the Topsham Library business membership	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$100	\$100

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann K. Williams
President, Topsham Garden Club