

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB  
MARCH 13, 2013

The Topsham Garden Club met on March 13, 2013, at the Topsham Public Library with 24 members and 1 guest present.

The guest speaker was Club member and horticultural therapist, Irene Brady Barber, whose topic was "Gardening for the Senses."

President Marie Neale called the meeting to order at 2:10.

After the pledges a moment of silence was observed in memory of two of our members who passed last week: Harrison Wakely and Margaret (Pinky) Karwowski.

It was reported that Hannah Vigue was at home and doing well.

Marie introduced our guest, JoAnn Turner.

Marie thanked today's hostesses: Vicky Marr, Betsy Marr, and Lucette Musica.  
Next month's hostesses are: Kathleen Filtranti, Jean Haycock and Carol Williams.

The Library flowers this month are from Fay Eldred and next month will be Mary Ann Douglas.

The Secretary's report was approved with the following corrections: (1) correct the spelling of Fay Eldred's name and (2) the addition of information regarding our 501(c) (3) status to indicate that we are a non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

The treasurer's report was accepted: Checking \$1165.78  
Savings \$2500.34

Committee reports:

Nominating committee

Carol Williams presented the following slate of officers for which there will be an election and installation at April's annual meeting:

President	Kathleen Filtranti
Vice President	Vicky Marr
Secretary	Kathleen Boynton
Treasurer	Alison Harris
Assistant Treasurer	Liz Volckening

Plant sale

Jane Scease—June 1 at Cosmic Stone, 9 to 1

Opportunities to volunteer Friday afternoon and Saturday  
Reminder to pot up your plants at least 2 weeks in advance  
Posters will be available at May meeting for members to distribute  
Alison, Jean, and Marie will have blind slats (for plant identification)  
at May meeting. Save boxes but not yogurt cups.

Marie Neale—will gather plant pots from Cosmic Stone to have at May meeting  
Mary Ann Douglas—discussion and final agreement on aprons with Barbara McHarg  
to do Topsham Garden Club name embroidery

#### Programs

Marsha Hilton-Kingdon has resigned from this committee. We are in need of a co-chairperson.

2013-2014 program schedule was presented by Vicky Marr.

#### Sunshine

Vivian Wixom requested updated address information.

#### Town gardens

Kathleen Filtranti and Sheryl Smith have planned a "Town Garden Cleanup Day" for April 23 at 10:00 am at the Topsham Municipal Building.

#### Budget Review

Jerry Hix gave his report, complimenting the Treasurer's records.

#### Ways and Means

Carole Flaherty reported the results of today's raffle was \$51 with an Easter decoration won by Betsy Marr and a floral arrangement won by Carole Flaherty.

#### Unfinished business

- Dues are payable by April 10 Annual Meeting.
- Hannah Vigue has been given her Honorary Membership Certificate for which she was pleased.
- The group reviewed the Hostess guidelines with discussion centering on the need for a Hostess Chairperson. We were reminded that the role of this person is a resource person and not a permanent sub. Regarding any purchases made, you may consider your purchases a donation to Topsham Garden Club, a tax deduction, or a source of reimbursement from Topsham Garden Club.
- Sign-ups for hostess and town gardens were again circulated. There is one hostess opening for October 9 Lead Hostess. There are many opportunities open on the town garden sign-up.
- Medomak Annual Meeting -- May 6 at Coastal Maine Botanical Garden. Alison will send one check and Registration Form for the entire club so your check should be to Topsham Garden Club and given to Alison by April 10.
- Kathleen Filtranti has reported to Medomak District that no one in the Topsham Garden Club is able to fulfill the role of Medomak Assistant Director.
- Regarding the September 24 invitation to Bath Garden Club's Standard Flower Show meeting, 12 members plus 2 today would like to attend with 5 showing interest in entering.
- Re the GCFM Convention June 18 to 20 at Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor, Marie provided an event schedule and registration forms. Possible member attendance and schedule for the 3 days of tending the Raffle and Silent Auction Tables were discussed.
- Committee reports for the Annual Meeting are oral and written.
- Alison will be submitting our web site by April 1 for GCFM awards.

#### New business:

- To complete our historical materials Marie is looking for past Blue Ribbons from the Topsham Fair along with any other historical items.
- The Topsham Public Library has invited us to join them in a Spring Garden Party to be

held either April 27 or May 4. We may have a table to promote the Garden Club and our activities as a way to recruit new members. Vicky Marr will represent us at a Library Garden Sub-committee planning meeting on Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 at the Library.

- It was voted to have Carole Flaherty and Mary Ann Douglas expend up to \$50 to purchase a Gardening book for the Lisbon Community Library in memory of Harrison Wakely.
- Committee chairperson openings: hostess, welcome/membership, and programs.
- It was voted to not work on the gardens at Spectrum Generations.
- VIP bus tours has trips this week to the Boston Flower Show for \$55.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Neale  
Secretary pro tem

Upcoming events:

March 26	CREA 6:30 Topsham Public Library Lincoln Canoe and Kayak of Freeport, Maine
April 10	Friends of Merrymeeting Bay 7:00 Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick Beauty and Tradition of the Birch bark Canoe
April 30	CREA 6:30 Topsham Public Library Bear Management
May 6	Medomak District Annual Meeting Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens \$30
June 1	Plant Sale Cosmic Stone 9 to 1
June 18-20	GCFM Annual Convention Spruce Point Inn, Boothbay Harbor