

# TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

Date: March 13, 2019

President Vicky Marr called the meeting to order at 2:00 opening with recitation of the Conservation Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance:** 24 members  
34+ guests

## **Hostesses**

For this meeting: Fay Eldred, Izza Johnson, Jane Scease and Vivian Wixom

For April 10 meeting: Jean Haycock, Joyce LaGasse and Mary Ann Lamont

## **Topsham Public Library Display**

March: Izza Johnson

April: Jane Donelon

May: Patsy St. Pierre

## **Introduction of guest**

Marie Neale introduced guest Marcia McGee who is a former member.

## **Secretary's Report**

No corrections

## **Treasurer's Report**

- Checking account: \$1809.92
- Savings account : \$5515.44
- See attached
  
- Membership: as of March 13, 44 members  
Three recent members are Vicky Savoie, Susan Thorner and Laura Arnold
  
- Yearly dues are payable April 10 through June 15, 2019.

## **President's Report**

- Sign-up sheets for hostesses, library flowers and garden tenders were circulated.
- The April 10 meeting is the club's annual meeting. Members are to bring Potluck dishes being aware that there is no way to heat/cook items at the Library.
- This meeting is the election and installation of officers.

President	Ann Williams
Vice President	open
Secretary	open
Treasurer	Alison Harris
Assistant Treasurer	Liz Volckening
- Vicky will send an email outlining the responsibilities of the vice-president and secretary as these positions are open. The vice-president, in addition to

assisting/filling in for the president is responsible for programming and introduction of speakers. Vicky has this scheduling done through 2020. The secretarial position involves attendance at most meetings and writing/emailing/mailling the minutes.

Please consider volunteering to serve in one of these capacities.

- The Medomak District (the following clubs: Bath, Boothbay Harbor, Camden, Topsham and Wiscasset) will hold its annual meeting on Monday, May 6, 2019 at the Maine Maritime Museum, 243 Washington Street, Bath, ME. This meeting is a wonderful opportunity to socialize and network with these other club members. Registration begins at 9:30 followed by the business meeting and luncheon of soups, haddock chowder, wraps, blueberry cake and beverages provided by Sarah's Café. Kerry Mendez will speak at 1:00 on "Inspired Garden Design Lessons from Magnificent Gardens."

The fee is \$30 for members and \$35 for guests/late registration. Included with this registration is a self-guided tour of the Maine Maritime Museum until 5:00. This process is a group registration which Alison Harris will submit prior to April 15. Therefore payment is due to her by April 10. For everyone's convenience one check for this registration plus dues can be given to her at our April 10 meeting. There will be raffle items and vintage items. Please bring items for the vintage table.

- The GCFM (Garden Club Federation of Maine) state convention is June 18 and 19 in Wells, ME. The Registration Form and Schedule of Events are available on line at [www.maineclubfederation.org](http://www.maineclubfederation.org). (case sensitive login is Member and password pinecone).
- The Maine Flower Show, "A Walk in Maine," is March 27-31 at Thompson's Point, Portland, ME. There will be a GCFM booth at which a new interactive map will be introduced to locate all Maine garden clubs by town. Alison Harris is creating a "take with" bookmark highlighting our club's activities.
- Vicky applauded Alison Harris for the work she does on our website. Through the website we were contacted by Bella, a student in Ohio, to ask us to post her "Kids Guide to Planting a Garden" which Alison has done.
- Our May meeting will be the third Wednesday, May 15, and it is a field trip to Shady Glen Nursery in Freeport. Details to follow.

### **New Business**

- We are ready to create plant tags for the plants at the gardens that we tend. Jean Herlihy has plant stakes and a list of all plants at the Topsham Public Library and Town Hall. Vicky Marr has a label maker. Jane Donelon will make the plant labels. Marie Neale will check the format of plant tags at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens as to common name and Latin name.
- Nancy Simboli mentioned that Laura Arnold became a member today.
- Ann Williams mentioned that our annual plant sale will be June 8. We should be starting seeds now.
- New yearbook inserts are available with updated program and new member information.

## **Announcements and important dates**

April 10--Potluck Social and Annual Meeting

May 6--Medomak District Meeting at the Maine Maritime Museum

May 15--Shady Glen Field Trip (Freeport)

June 2- 8--National Gardening Week

June 8--TGC Plant Sale—Topsham Town Hall

June 15—Yearbook Deadline

June 18-19-- Garden Club Federation of Maine Annual Meeting, Wells

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35.

Today's speaker was Kerry Ann Mendez of Kennebunk, Maine. She presented a dynamic program titled, "High Impact, Low Maintenance Perennials, Flowering Shrubs and Annuals" highlighting some of her favorite plants that are native to North America and are what she considers Super Hero plants. These plants have an extended season of color, are drought tolerant, are disease and insect resistant, benefit wildlife and pollinators, require less fertilizer and are deer resistant.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Neale  
Secretary

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
March 13, 2019**

Checking Account Balance (as of March 13, 2019)	<b>\$1,809.92</b>
Savings Account Balance (as of February 28, 2019)	<b>\$5,515.44**</b>

*\*\* The Savings Account balance includes \$206.35 transferred from Norway Savings Bank in January 2010, \$1,500 for a "Rainy Day Fund," \$1,000 reserved for a capital gift for the Androscoggin Brunswick-Topsham Riverwalk, \$3,000 operating surplus transferred from checking in February 2019, plus interest earned since 2012.*

**Membership:**

We currently have 43 members, including two new members, Susan Thorner from The Highlands and Vicky Savoie from Bowdoinham. According to our By-laws – both former and those amended on September 12, 2018 - dues for the June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020 membership year will be payable in full by June 15, 2019.

Dues (new or renewing members) are \$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 February 20, 2019 Treasurer's Report**

- On February 21, 2019, I transferred \$3,000 of our accumulated surplus from checking to savings to earn a wee bit more interest.
- Income (\$427.64):
  - \$38 from the raffle of the February table bouquet (donated by Carole Flaherty)
  - \$30 in membership dues (\$10 of which is pre-pay for 2019-2020)
  - \$359.64 refund from GoDaddy for 3 years of unneeded website hosting (can be hosted in my personal account at no cost to the Garden Club)
- Expenses:
  - \$8 GCFM membership dues
- Savings Account Interest:
  - 26¢ for February 2019

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Harris, Treasurer