

## TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MEETING

**Minutes: March 11, 2020**

Submitted by Vicky Savoie

Attendance: 21 guests, 19 members

Ann opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Earth and the Pledge of Allegiance

### Minutes

- February minutes were emailed to everyone and were accepted. New members received hard copies.
- All of our minutes from past meetings are on our website.

### New Members:

- Welcome! Ann officially introduced five (!) new members: Ann Swanson, Ellie Asherman and Dominique Raasch hail from Brunswick; Deb Lidback and Pam McCusker are from Bowdoin.

### New Business/ Announcements

- Plant Sale – We are 12 weeks away from the day of our plant sale. Check on the back of the seedling package for when to start them in order to have them robust for the sale. Today's speaker, Barbara Murphy said that the ideal temperature for seedlings to germinate and grow is 70 degrees. To achieve this, an inexpensive heat mat can be purchased. Last year customers wanted house plants. Ann asked that anyone who has houseplants to pot some cuttings.
- Garden Tending: Nancy Simboli needs volunteers to tend our gardens. Please contact her to sign up. Assignments are for one week at a time. Gardens are: the circle in front of the library, the garden at the Topsham Municipal Buildings, the small garden at the Welcome to Topsham sign at the corner of Main St. and Elm St. Also, she has info about the Wild Seed Project. There is a link for the Wild Seed Project on our website.
- Maine Garden Day is this coming Saturday, March 14. Registration is closed—there are no 'walk-ins'.
- Medomak District Annual meeting will be held at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay on May 4th. Sign up with Alison. Cost is \$30 per member. Check must be given to Alison before the April meeting. Make checks out to Topsham Garden Club which covers the cost to attend the meeting and admission to the Gardens. The Medomak meeting is a 'meet and greet' which is comprised of 5 clubs: Camden, Boothbay, Wiscasset, Bath and Topsham. Please bring items for the White Elephant table. Lucette Musica has bought two magnificent items for the raffle. Andy Brand, Curator at the Botanical Gardens will speak at

the meeting. Carpool will leave from Home Depot in Topsham. More info about the carpool will be given at the April meeting.

- The Maine Garden show will be held March 26-29. The premiere will be held March 25. Information about the show is online <https://maineflowershow.com> and on our website [topshamgardenclub.com](http://topshamgardenclub.com).
- Award: The Topsham Garden Club won the Suzanne Bushnell Website Award A given by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Alison Harris is our webmaster, and manages our website. 1st prize! [topshamgardenclub.com](http://topshamgardenclub.com). Thanks to Alison for doing a great job. Members are encouraged to use it, as she has all sorts of valuable information on it.

#### **Treasurer's Report** - Currently 54 members

- Budget is attached. We used some of our funds (\$2,000, which had been earmarked for this) to purchase a bench for the Riverwalk.
- Membership renewals (\$20.00) are due by June 15.
- The barrels in front of the Topsham Library will be replaced this season as they are falling apart. The money for those planters is in our budget. The type to be purchased will be determined soon.

Thanks to the Topsham Library for co-sponsoring today's program.

Ann will keep us posted if our meetings are cancelled because of COVID-19.

Meeting adjourned.

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
March 6, 2020  
(for March 11, 2020 meeting)**

Checking Account Balance (as of March 6, 2020)	<b>\$495.16</b>
Bank for Raffles & Auctions at Meetings	<b>30.00</b>
Savings Account Balance (as of February 28, 2020)	<b>\$5,520.95**</b>

*\*\* 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 since 2012 plus interest earned.*

**Membership:**

We currently have 49 members for the June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020 year. One member joined in February: Deborah ("Debbie") Miller from Topsham. Welcome, Debbie!

At the Annual Meeting on April 8, we will begin collecting dues for the 2020-2021 membership year, which coincides with the GCFM and NGC year and so begins on June 1. June 15, 2020, is the renewal deadline to be included in the summer Yearbook insert

Dues (new or renewing members), as adopted in the 2020 budget, remain \$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 are applied to the following year.

**Fiscal Activity since February 12, 2020 Treasurer's Report**

- Income
 

<u>20.00</u>	Dues
<b>20.00</b>	<b>Total Income</b>
  
- Expenses
 

4.00	GCFM dues for new member
50.00	Program fee for " <i>Signs of the Seasons</i> " (Feb)
200.00	Program fee for " <i>Ecology of a Garden</i> " (March)
<u>48.45</u>	<u>240 bookmarks for Maine Garden Day, Flower Show, and Medomak</u>
<b>\$302.45</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>

**Note:** The March program is co-sponsored with the Topsham Public Library. They will reimburse us 50% of the \$200 fee.

- Savings Account Interest:
 

<u>.42</u>	<u>February 2020 interest</u>
<b>\$0.42</b>	<b>Total Interest</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Harris, Treasurer