

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
at the Topsham Public Library

Following a program during which members and guests enjoyed a fun and spirited show-and-tell of their favorite garden tools, followed by a luncheon with refreshments provided by Izza Johnson, Joan McDuff, and Patsy St. Pierre, Ann Williams called the business meeting to order.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Earth, the Conservation Pledge, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of April 10, 2019 were approved as submitted.

Announcements:

- **GCFM's 88 th Annual Convention:** Ann reminded attendees about the convention, "Bringing Communities Together Through Gardening" the following week on June 18 & 19, at *Village by the Sea Resort* in Wells.
- **"Plant America" bulbs:** Ann circulated information she had sent by e-mail about the National Garden Club's opportunity to purchase "Plant America" (NGC's theme) daffodil bulbs from Brent & Becky's. She offered to place a club order to reduce shipping costs. Members need to reimburse Ann for the cost of the bulbs they order (\$8.25 for 5 bulbs).
- **Garden Tending:**
 - Nancy Simboli circulated a list of volunteers for garden tending this summer and asked attendees to make any corrections and to sign up for weeks with no volunteers. The garden tending week runs from Sunday through Saturday. Nozzles, water keys, and instructions are in a plastic bag on Izza Johnson's back porch at 34 Elm Street, Topsham. Ann will circulate an updated list of volunteers so that all slots can be filled before the Yearbook is printed.
 - Joan McDuff suggested that tenders also water the Girl Scout garden at the front of the Library when watering the buckets. We are not expected to weed or deadhead that garden.
 - Liz Volckening noted that one of the Redbud trees we planted appeared to be dead; Ann thought that we may need to replace it.
- **Yearbook:** Alison Harris plans to produce a 2019-2021 Yearbooks for distribution at the July 10 club meeting. She will need all information for the Yearbook by July 1.

Treasurer's Report: Alison reported that we have \$3,673.25 in the checking account, \$5,516.83 in the savings account and a bank of \$30 in change for raffles and auctions at meetings.

Old Business:

- **Medomak District Annual Meeting:** Ann explained that each club in the district selected two candidates for Certificates of Appreciation issued at the May 6, 2019 meeting. She read the text of the certificates awarded to Anne "Vicky" Marr and Liz Volckening.

- Plant Sale: Ann thanked everyone who worked on the plant sale and said that despite the large number of plants available, very few were left by noon when it was decided to end the sale. Leftover plants were taken to the curb as “freebies.” Some people who came after 12:00 donated money for the “freebies” they took.
 - Alison announced that the club made \$1,690. With advertising expenses of \$70, the net income was \$1,620. She distributed a chart showing income and expenses for plant sales from 2007 through 2019. (*Note: after the meeting, we received another invoice for potting soiling and propane gas for \$105, so the net income is \$1,515.*)
 - It was agreed that next year, the plant sale will run from 9:00 to 12:00 not 9:00 to 1:00. Alison will arrange to have the lawn signs and sandwich boards corrected.

New Business:

- Riverwalk Bench: The members present voted to spend \$2,000 (\$1,000 reserved in the saving account and another \$1,000 accumulated surplus) to “buy” one of five granite benches available on the Topsham portion of the Androscoggin Riverwalk in honor of the club’s 85th anniversary. (Two are already spoken for.) Alison will submit the application and send a check.
- Topsham Fair: Marie Neale announced that the Topsham Fair will run from August 6 to 11. The theme is “Watching the Topsham Fair Grow.” It was agreed that the club’s exhibit will have the theme, “Watching Our Garden Club Grow: Celebrating our 85th Anniversary.” Marie will schedule a planning meeting at her house for anyone interested in volunteering. The booklet with judging categories and rules is not yet available; she will bring copies to the July 10 meeting. She encouraged members to consider entering items.
- Garden Signs: Alison will work on getting signs made for the Topsham Library, Town Hall (2 signs) and the “Welcome” sign. They will say that we maintain the gardens and include our website.
- July 10, 2020 meeting with a program on “Common Bees of Maine” by Master Gardener Jean Vose will be held at St. Charles Borromeo Church at 132 McKeen Street in Brunswick. (The Topsham Library’s meeting room will be occupied by their summer reading program.)
- Possible Trip/Formal Field Trip: Ann recommended an informal trip to Hummingbird Farm in North Turner in July when all the Clematis will be in bloom and available for sale at \$19.99 each. Perhaps it could be a formal field trip next July, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Acting Secretary

Attached:

- Treasurer’s Report
- Medomak Certificates of Appreciation
- Plant Sale Report for 2007 to 2019

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
June 12, 2019**

Checking Account Balance (as of June 10, 2019): **\$3,673.25**
Bank for Raffles & Auctions at Meetings : **\$30.00**
Savings Account Balance (as of May 31, 2019): **\$5,516.83****

*** 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 48 members, although that includes 19 who have not yet renewed for the 2019-2020 membership year, which coincides with the GCFM fiscal year (June 1-May 31.) According to our By-laws, the annual renewal deadline is June 15. The Yearbook to be published for our July 10, 2019 meeting will include contact information for all paid members.
- 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 April 10, 2019 Treasurer's Report

- **Income**

1,690.00	Plant Sale
540.00	Membership
540.00	Medomak Annual Meeting registrations (Medomak District)
45.00	April 10 raffles of pink flamingo & watering can
419.40	refund from GoDaddy for unused website hosting (2014-2019)
<u>\$3,234.40</u>	<u>Total Income</u>
- **Expenses**

69.99	Plant Sale advertising in The Times Record
20.00	Medomak District dues
600.00	Medomak Meeting registrations (includes \$60 collected in March)
30.82	labels for garden plant sale markers
22.12	bouquets for installation of officers
<u>\$742.93</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>
- **Savings Account Interest:**

0.48	April 2019 interest
0.44	May 2019 interest
<u>\$0.92</u>	<u>Total Interest</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Treasurer

2019 Medomak District Annual Meeting

Certificate of Appreciation for Anne (Vicky) Marr, Topsham Garden Club

Vicky, you have been a pillar of strength for the Topsham Garden Club. As vice president, president, program chair, publicity chair, and official representative to our umbrella organizations of the Garden Club Federation of Maine, New England Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Garden Club, your guidance has been invaluable. We therefore present you with this Certificate of Appreciation, with many thanks.

May 6, 2019

Certificate of Appreciation for Elizabeth (Liz) Volckening, Topsham Garden Club

Liz, as Hospitality Chair, Assistant Treasurer, and Treasurer before that, you have worked hard to move the Topsham Garden Club forward in its mission to promote the art and practices of gardening, education, beautification, preservation and conservation of the Topsham area. We therefore present you with this Certificate of Appreciation, with many thanks.

May 6, 2019

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB PUBLIC PLANT SALES

(Revised 06.13.2019)

	Cosmic Stone	Cosmic Stone	Cosmic Stone	Topsham Town Hall					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
INCOME									
Plant Sale Income		1,066.00	905.00	822.00	1,193.00	1,629.00	1,908.00	1,223.00	1,690.00
Donation - Cosmic Stone <i>(see notes)</i>		100.00	50.00						
Donation - Kay Sutton <i>(see notes)</i>				88.00					
Post-sale Donation Jar		25.00							
TOTAL INCOME	707.18	1,191.00	955.00	910.00	1,193.00	1,629.00	1,908.00	1,223.00	1,690.00
EXPENSES									
Signage - 10 lawn signs		150.00	150.00			179.35			
Signage - sandwich board <i>(2 sides + 2 "TODAY" stickers)</i>			76.00			143.48			
Signage - stickers for location change				111.00					
Flyers (Staples)			51.46	24.50					
Bookmarks <i>(see 2019 note)</i>							14.42	9.30	
Advertising <i>(Times Record)</i>									69.99
Aprons			63.92						
Miscellaneous <i>(see misc notes)</i>			50.00				55.99	30.44	105.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	0.00	150.00	391.38	135.50	0.00	322.83	70.41	39.74	174.99
NET INCOME	707.18	1,041.00	563.62	774.50	1,193.00	1,306.17	1,837.59	1,183.26	1,515.01

NOTES:

- In 2012, Cosmic Stone donated \$75 toward \$150 cost of lawn signs, plus another \$25
- In 2013, Cosmic Stone donated \$50 toward \$76 cost of sandwich board covers & "TODAY" signs
- In 2014, Kay Sutton donated \$88 from sale of notecards
- In 2014, 2015 & 2016, income included yard sale proceeds
- In 2019, bookmarks printed for Flower Show & Medomak Meeting also included programs so charged to "Publicity," not "Plant Sale"

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

- 2013 - \$50 donation to Bowdoinham Plant Sale
- 2017 - \$25.99 for wheatgrass + \$30 for coffee
- 2018 - \$11.55 for supply storage bins + \$18.89 for coffee
- 2019 - \$31 for potting soil & \$74 for propane gas