

Topsham Garden Club Minutes
November 13, 2019

Program given by Nick Lund, from Maine Audubon. Title: 'Backyard Birding Basics'

Following the program and lunch, President Ann Williams called the meeting to order at 2:00.

Attendance: 19 members; 11 guests

Hostesses: Today's meeting: Betsy and Vicky Marr, Joan McDuff and Patsy St. Pierre

December Christmas Party: Penny Brouder, Ruth Johnson, Jeanne d'Arc Mayo, Liz Volckening, Marge Whipple, Ann Williams

January 8 Meeting: Fay Eldred, Jean Herlihy, Izza Johnson, Vickie Savoie

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept minutes from October 9 meeting made by Liz Volckening, seconded by Marie Neale. Accepted.

Treasurer's Report: (Attached)_Given by Liz Volckening in Alison Harris' absence

- *Alison requests that all outstanding chits for reimbursement by the TGC be given to her before the end of the year, so she can balance the books.
- Contributions over the last 5 years (below)

	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

Membership: 46. Two new members joined today (Penny Brouder and George Siatos). Neither has email.

Announcements and Important Dates:

- Alison sent information of the MidCoast Tree Festival in Brunswick (November 22-24, and November 29-Dec. 1). It will be held in the new St. John's Community Center. Raffle tickets are \$2.00. Raffle prizes are fully decorated artificial Christmas trees with packages underneath. Value of each is at least \$500.
- Jean Herlihy reported that the garden clean-up has been done at the town hall, the library, and the Topsham Welcome sign. She planted 100 daffodil bulbs to celebrate the centennial of the Suffragists' success in passing legislation to allow women to vote in the

state of Maine. Vicky or Ann will write an article for *The Forecaster* in the spring explaining the daffodil planting.

- The Christmas Party and pot-luck luncheon will be held on December 4 in the ballroom of the Holden-Frost House (The Highlands, Topsham). There will be an auction of new or gently used items. Details will follow.
- There will be a TGC meeting on January 8. Barry Jordan, Chair of Biology at Bowdoin College will speak on his work with conifer forests. He, with several colleagues, has recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study conifer forests from the Pacific Northwest to Florida. Thanks to Jeanne d'Arc May for arranging this special program. Fay Eldred, Jean Herlihy, Izza Johnson, Vickie Savoie will be hostesses.
- Marie Neale reported on upcoming conferences and events, including the Christmas Tea at Blair House on December 5, given by the Augusta Garden Club. (Note: The event is full; next year we should plan earlier!).
 - Maine Flower Show is March 26-29, 2020. Volunteers are needed to man the GCFM table.
 - GCFM convention is June 16-17, 2020 in Bar Harbor. Venue is Atlantic Oceanside Hotel, 119 Eden St. Roger Swain will be the keynote speaker.
 - At the Fall Conference of the Medomak District of the GCFM, Pam Allen of Bath was given a national award as Gardener of the Year! Pam's gardens cover 5 acres, and she uses no pesticides! Her gardens are open to the public, and perhaps we might schedule a field trip to visit them.

New Business:

- Maine Garden Day is March 14 at Lewiston High School. There was discussion as to whether the TGC would support it by buying a sponsorship, which start at \$250. General opinion was that this might better be something coming from the GCFM.
- The Annual Medomak District Meeting is May 4, and will be at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. The entrance fee will be waived for the day. The Topsham Garden Club is responsible for the White Elephant Table (involves setting up, pricing, selling, and getting the money to the district treasurer). We are also responsible for providing two raffle items, each worth at least \$25.00. **Fay Eldred** will man the White Elephant Table, and **Lucette Musica** will provide the raffle items.
- Two chrysanthemums were auctioned off, and each was won by a visitor! (Deborah Lidback and P.J. McCusker).

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30

Respectfully Submitted, Marjorie Whipple
Acting Secretary

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

Checking Account Balance (as of November 11, 2019)	\$839.61
Bank for Raffles & Auctions at Meetings	30.00
Savings Account Balance (as of October 31, 2019)	\$5,519.14**

*** 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 46 members for the June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020 year.

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 October 9, 2019 Treasurer's Report

- Income
 \$0.00 Total Income

- Expenses
 100.00 Program fees: "*Invasive Plants*" (Oct) & "*Backyard Birding*" (Nov)
 12.64 Mums for November raffle
 \$23.17 Total Expenses

- Savings Account Interest:
 .47 October 2019 interest
 \$0.47 Total Interest

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Treasurer