

**Venice Area Garden Club
Members Meeting
January 3, 2013**

President *Susan Mather* called the January members meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Joan Piper led the invocation followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the USA led by *Susan Mather*.

Visitors and guests were introduced and welcomed.

President's Report: (*Susan Mather*)

-*Susan Mather* has been busy with family and Christmas, but has chosen a nominating committee. Members are *Dee Feeney, Carol Malott, Jan Durr, Glory McAneny, and Rose Rodriguez*.

Recording Secretary's Report: (*Carol Malott*)

-Minutes of the last membership meeting, our holiday luncheon on December 6, 2012 are posted on the website, approved and filed. A few paper copies are available at the welcome table.

Treasurer's Report: (*Susan DiNapoli*)

-*Susan DiNapoli* presented the Treasurer's Report. The flower show and holiday luncheon are paid for. The bank accounts are good.

-The Penny Pines bucket was passed.

Vice President's Report: (*Bea Holt*)

-Our program today will be *Lynn Berousek* of Pomello Park Nursery, speaking about orchids and bromeliads. *Susan Mather* reported that *Lynn* has offered to let us tour her greenhouse.

-Next month we will have *Walter Bisselle* from the hibiscus society.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: (*Rose Fullerton*)

-We received 2 nice replies from judges of our flower show, and a thank you from The Audubon Society for the stamps we collected that help raise money for injured birds at the wildlife center. (*Shirley Hoffman* collects the stamps).

-*Susan Mather* also mentioned that we collect Campbells soup labels for money for Wekiva Youth Camp.

-*Rose Fullerton* sent thinking of you cards to *Ann Hawkins, Mary Baker, and Marilyn Shute*.

-A card was sent to *Bev Yaros* thanking her for her donation to the scholarship fund in remembrance of *Gladys Susek*.

-A card was sent to *John Susek* acknowledging the donation made by *Bev Yaros*.

-A get well card was sent to *John Susek*.

-A sympathy card was sent to the family of *Florence Paul*.

-A thinking of you card was sent to *Jean Pryer* and her daughter, *Marilyn Slocum*.

-*Rosario Fredrickson* announced that *Sylvia Matthews* passed away last month; *Rose Fullerton* will send a card.

Committee Reports

Adventure Tour: (*Maxine Ginn*)

-*Maxine Ginn* has flyers and a clipboard to sign up for the trip on April 16-17. The \$50 deposit is due by January 5. We will be going to 2 botanical gardens on the east coast, and then be staying on Amelia Island, with a boat cruise up to Georgia and free time to see the island. Members and guests are welcome; guests pay a little more.

Civic Beautification: (*Carol Sbabo*)

-We need volunteers on January 17 at 9:00 a.m. to work on the atrium at city hall.

Floral Design: (*Sandy Walters*)

-We will meet next month (Feb. 5). If you would like to, you can bring the design you did for the flower show along with the entry card, and do what the card says.

-*Bev Yaros* did today's table design. *Bev Yaros* and *Sandy Walters* belong to a design group, and their latest assignment was 'Construction', which this design illustrates.

Garden Shop: (*Jan Durr*)

-We have some new items, including blossom cards with flower arrangers inside. We also have new pruners, scissors, and gloves.

-*Jan Durr* will take new orders.

-Also, *Jan Durr* has a pin straightener. If you have a pin [floral pin frog, kenzan] that has bent pins, bring it to a meeting and she will straighten the pins.

Garden Therapy: (*Joann Crotty & Cheri Cetone*)

-*Joann Crotty* has some pictures of the December 11 meeting.

-The next meeting will be March 12, at 12:30 p.m. and more volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Sometimes there are more men than women, as there are now veterans involved. There are up to 40 people, too much for the room size and our budget. We'll have to go over our budget.

Gardening Study: (*Maida Atkins*)

-*Rose Borton* reported that the final gardening studies class will be March 13-14 at Twin Lakes Park. Cost is \$45, \$50 if testing. Topics will include diseases and pests, container gardening, growing vegetables, development and evaluation of new plants and rain gardens.

-*Joan Piper* announced that we hope to have a gentleman from Ellington who has earth boxes.

Holiday Decorations: (*Rose Rodriguez*)

-On January 4 at 9:30 a.m. we will take down the Christmas tree at the library on the island. Come in the back door, as the library doesn't open until 10:00 a.m.

-On January 8 at 1:00 p.m. we will take down the decorations at the gazebo. Decorations will be put into storage for next year.

Home Tour: (*Mary Lou Levy, Coordinator, & Pat Markland, Co-coordinator*)

-*Mary Lou Levy* announced that the paintings have been completed, stories written, and the ads for the book are ready for proof-reading. We will have ticket books and flyers at the next members meeting. Please pick up flyers and distribute them. We have 5 homes, 3 on the island, and 2 in Mission Valley, Nokomis. *Pat Markland* did the map.

-This year, we will only have 10, or 12 at the most, baskets to raffle off, each with a specific theme. We have 3 baskets almost done. The themes are Barbecue, Italian, Beach, Wine, Golf, Garden, Spa, Coffee & Tea, Trader Joe's, and Picnic. Please bring items that could fit these themes to our next meeting. We also need large baskets. *Tina Bird* and *Tracy Ivey* will make cards listing items in each basket.

-The patron list was passed around, a \$5 donation will list you as a patron in the book.

-The price of the ticket book is \$15 until the day before the home tour, then \$20 the day of the home tour. Remember, the home tour is the largest moneymaker our club has. It is up to everyone to sell 4 books or more and work one day of the tour.

-*Lynn Fromer* reported that we are not sure how many hostesses we will need for each home, but we need everyone to participate.

-*Carol Mayer* reported that we also need help for Horticulture.

-*Rose Fullerton* has hardcopies of write-ups of the homes for head hostesses.

-*Susan DiNapoli* reported that the third page of the book is a lovely tribute to *Gladys Susek*, written by *Rose Fullerton*. The photo is by *Mary Lou Levy*.

Horticulture: (*Carol Mayer*)

-*Carol Mayer* asked members to look at your plants and think about what you can divide and share.

-*Susan Mather* reminded us that we made over \$900 on plants at the home tour last year.

-*Andy Healy* will be having a potting party a week from Saturday at her home. We'll have plants, pots, and soil. You can also bring plants, and potting help will be available. Please come, anytime between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

Hospitality: (*Marianne Arlauskas & Karen O'Brien*)

-*Marianne Arlauskas* thanked today's hostesses and floral designer.

Library: (*Peggy Schmidt*)

-We have 10 new books, 2 on flower arranging that are wonderful.

Membership: (*Dee Feeney*)

-*Tina Bird* announced that if you can't open your email with corrections to the yearbook, she has hardcopy page of corrections. Also, Dee has 20 books still not picked up by members.

-*Dee Feeney* welcomed new member, *Lorrie Gibson*.

-Please tell *Dee Feeney* today, if you are planning on coming to the new members tea.

-*Susan DiNapoli* announced an unusual problem--she has a dove sitting on a nest with eggs, in her foyer next to the front door. The new members tea will be at her home, a week from today. So the dove won't be disturbed, she may ask people to come in through the garage.

Old Business

Susan Mather reported that the holiday luncheon went well; we had a very outstanding speaker (floral designer, *Ena McGrattan*).

Alice DeSomma added that everyone enjoyed the luncheon and the speaker had good Irish humor.

Susan Mather announced that we made \$500, less than last year, but enough to send someone to *Wekiva*. Last year we donated over \$1,000 to *Wekiva*. This club is important in horticulture and design, but also donating to our community and our state.

Susan DiNapoli reported that each time a member or spouse dies we donate \$50 to the scholarship fund. Last year, we donated an extra \$2,000, along with *Gladys Susek's* garage sale contributions.

Announcements

Susan Mather announced that some of us will be going to St. Petersburg on January 22 to see floral designer, *Tony Todesco*. Cost, including lunch, is \$25, or \$50 if you want to sit real close. A few tickets are available; sign up on the list at the back table. *Barbara Rao*, in Sarasota, is taking care of it. By email, we need to pick a place to meet to carpool.

On February 23-24 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Selby Gardens will be having their 38th annual Plant and Garden Festival.

Tomorrow, Selby Gardens will be selling bromeliads that were decorating their Christmas tree. The sale is between 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and the plants will be sold for \$6 each.

FFGC raffle tickets are being passed around for \$2 each; prizes include some wonderful items.

Sandy Walters announced that the Deep South Regional Convention will be in Savannah, Georgia on March 25, 26, and 27. *Sandy* will be driving; see her if you're interested. They will have 3 really good tours and vendors.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m. followed by the program.

Submitted by,
Carol Malott
Recording Secretary