

**Venice Area Garden Club  
Members Meeting  
February 7, 2013**

President *Susan Mather* called the February members meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

*Susan Mather* shared the sad news that garden club member, *Marilyn Slocum*, passed away on Saturday and asked us to keep *Jean Pryor*, her mom, in our hearts.

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

Nineteen visitors and guests were introduced and welcomed.

*Althea Moloney*, a past president of VAGC (1985-87) was also introduced. She is re-joining VAGC. She is taking back her name, *Althea Bednarek*.

**President's Report:** (*Susan Mather*)

-*Susan Mather* has been busy working on the atriums at city hall and attending a floral design presentation by *Tony Todesco* at The Garden Club of St. Petersburg.

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

-Minutes of our last membership meeting on January 3, 2013 are posted on the website, approved and filed. A few copies are available at the welcome table.

**Treasurer's Report:** (*Susan DiNapoli*)

-It is a tradition of our club that when a member passes away we give a \$50 donation to the scholarship fund. *Dorothy Worick*, a longtime member of the garden club passed away, so we will be giving a donation in her honor; and a friend of hers also sent us a donation to the scholarship fund in her honor.

-We will also be donating to the scholarship fund in honor of *Sylvia Mathews* and *Marilyn Slocum*.

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

-*Shirley Smith* sent us a note. -A sympathy card was sent to the family of *Sylvia Mathews*.

-A sympathy card was sent to the family of *Ann Hawkins* and a note was sent to her husband to let him know that a donation was made to the scholarship fund in her honor.

-A get well card was sent to *Barbara Stanley*. -A get well card was sent to *Betty Luby* (she had recent surgery).

-*Betty Lawter* passed away; *Rose Fullerton* will send a card.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Adventure Tour:** (*Maxine Ginn*)

-*Maxine Ginn* announced that we will be going to 2 botanical gardens and end up on Amelia Island for the spring tour on April 16-17. Tuesday dinner and all meals on Wednesday and all tours and hotel are included. We are asked to bring our own brown bag lunch for eating at the garden on Tuesday. Next month we will have an itemized itinerary. The final payment of \$195 for members or \$220 for non-members is due, but can be mailed to *Maxine Ginn* or paid at the March members meeting.

-*Sally DeGrave* is helping this year and has agreed to take over in the future.

### **Civic Beautification:** (*Carol Sbabo*)

-VAGC has been involved in creating and maintaining 12 gardens in Venice over the years. We will have a garden tour tomorrow to see them; meet at the gazebo this Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

-There is a farmers market tomorrow, but we can still meet at the gazebo. We will see the atriums at city hall first.

### **Floral Design:** (*Sandy Walters*)

-*Sandy Walters* and *Bev Yaros* belong to a design class in Sarasota; *Bev Yaros* created a stabile design (not a mobile, but a design with implied motion) which *Sandy Walters* showed. Also, designs by participants in *Sandy Walters* floral design class were shown, created by *Susie Cochran*, *Linda Thivierge*, *Susan Mather*, *Carol Malott*, *Sally DeGrave*, *Tina Bird*, and *Jeff Parsons*.

### **Garden Shop:** (*Jan Durr*)

-*Jan Durr* reported that VAGC aprons will cost \$18.50 and she will have them available before the home tour.

-The Solo mister like the one *Lynn Berousek* sells at Pomello Park Nursery can be purchased for \$19 through garden shop, a considerable savings.

-*Sandy Walters* got pin straighteners; they are available for \$2.

-*Susan Mather* mentioned that garden shop also has great trimmers and clippers.

-Donations for garden-related things to sell for the home tour are welcome; also candles.

### **Gardening Study:** (*Maida Atkins*)

-*Joan Piper* reported that the last gardening study class will be March 13-14. Cost is \$45, or \$50 if testing. This includes continental breakfast and lunch both days. The first day will include garden pests and diseases, container gardening and vegetables, and an Earthbox demonstration. The second day will be with *Wayne Clifton*, an extension agent, and will be about new plants and how they are developed, lawns and turf, and rain gardens. It will be at Twin Lakes Park, off I-75 and Clark Rd. in Sarasota. *Joan Piper* recommends this class especially for new people to learn about local gardening. Sign up with *Rose Borton*.

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

-*Mary Lou Levy* announced that we have two major events our garden club asks every member to participate in---flower show and home tour. The tour is our major fundraiser for scholarship, civic beautification, and design classes. It is important that we all take part and sell 4 books at \$15 each. There are 5 homes, all different, a home to interest everyone. Tour cost averages only \$3 per home. The Musselman home will have a fine arts sale; he will give us 10% for any sales of art.

-Seven retail outlets will be selling books and we ask members to please take and sell 4 books. There is a lovely tribute to *Gladys Susek*, who started these tours in 1990. If you don't sell all the books you take, bring them to the next meeting. Also, all members need to hostess in the homes.

-*Lynnie Fromer* reported that 15 of our members haven't signed up to hostess. Also, we have 19 visitors here today; please sign up. *JoAnn Hren* is a new head hostess and needs help, and she has 3 places where hostesses can sit.

-Call *Bea Holt, Susan DiNapoli, or Susan Mather* who have more books if you run out.

**Horticulture:** (*Carol Mayer*)

-We still have some kalanchoe you can have for the taking.

-We will be selling caladiums, 3 kinds. White is best in shade, pink and red can take more sun and also shade. We are offering them at cost, 40 cents each, but we need 100 of each to order. See *Carol Mayer* after meeting.

-The home tour plant sale will be at the Musselman house, Bring plants to the next meeting, the day before the home tour.

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

-*Marianne Arlauskas* thanked head hostess, *Tina Bird*, and floral arranger, *Rosario Fredrickson*.

-There are 2 sign-up sheets for hospitality. We will need additional people for food next month, because we will have a larger group.

**Membership:** (*Dee Feeney*)

-Three new members were introduced, *Laurie Gibson, Evelyn Brown,* and *Rose Marie Van Doren*. Also, *Josette Aramini*, already a member who hadn't yet been introduced was welcomed.

**Scholarship:** (*Jan Fessler*)

-Scholarship recipients *Esther Mezhibovsky* and *Kelsey Mahoney* both sent Christmas cards, *Kelsey* also sent a picture. Last year we presented them both with \$ 3,500 scholarships, and *Esther Mezhibovsky* received a \$2,000 scholarship from Deep South.

-This year we will present \$8,000 in scholarships.

**Senior Garden Therapy:** (*Joann Crotty and Cheri Cetone*)

-*Joann Crotty* announced that the next meeting on March 12 will have a St. Patrick's Day theme. The senior center said they could have as many as 52 people; this is way too many to handle. The committee will have to decide what to do...

-*Cheri Cetone* is having knee surgery on March 7; more people will be needed for the March meeting.

-The May 21 meeting has been canceled.

**VABI Liaison:** (*Linda Kenfield*)

-Some of the community gardens and projects done by VAGC that will be on our tour on Saturday were done in collaboration with VABI. *Linda Kenfield* reported that VABI needs more support, and she passed out applications to join VABI.

**Old Business**

*Susan Mather* announced that next month's presenter will be *Maxine Ginn's* daughter, *Kymrie Zaslou*, floral designer from Connecticut. Her bio and picture are on the garden club board, also an invitation for non-members to come to our next meeting and see her presentation. Cost is \$10 for non-members. Please invite friends to this fun event; there will also be raffles. Next month we will have no business meeting, except information on the home tour.

*Susan Mather* cancelled the floral workshop on Wednesday, the day before the meeting because we will all see *Kymrie Zaslou* on that Thursday and we will all be preparing for the home tour on Friday and Saturday.

*Andye Healy* announced that there will be another potting day at her house on February 23 from 10 a.m. to noon.

**New Business**

The nominating committee came up with a slate of officers for the next 2 years, starting on 6/1/2013 and ending on 5/31/2015.

Nominations were also welcome from the floor.

Nominations were:

President \_\_\_\_\_ *Sandy Walters*, replacing *Susan Mather*

Vice President \_\_\_\_\_ *Tina Bird*, replacing *Bea Holt*

Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ *Joan Piper*, replacing *Carol Malott*

Corresponding Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ *Rose Fullerton*, continuing on

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ *Susan DiNapoli*, continuing on

Assistant Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ *Tracy Ivey*, replacing *Lynn Macedonio*

*Mary Lou Levy* made a motion to accept this slate; it was seconded, voted on, and approved.

*Tracy Ivey* announced that we had 2 bowls engraved for winners at our flower show on December 1. A bowl was presented to *Linda Thivierge* for Excellence in Horticulture for her *Pseudrhipsisalis*. A bowl was also presented to *Linda Kenfield*, winner of The Sweepstakes Award for the most blue ribbons in horticulture.

*Susan Mather* reported that The Budget Committee, to come up with the budget for next year, will be *Jan Fessler, Susan DiNapoli, Lynn Macedonio,* and *Tracy Ivey*.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. followed by the program.

Submitted by,  
*Carol Malott*  
Recording Secretary