

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

President *Sandra Walters* called the October members meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- Betty Ann Parry* led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the USA.
- The president declared a quorum present.
- Former VAGC President, current VAGC Officers and guest were introduced.
- President, *Sandra Walters*, appointed a Committee of *Mary Lou Levy* and *Jan Fessler* to approve the minutes.

Recording Secretary's Report: (*Joan Piper*)

Minutes of our last membership meeting on June 6, 2013 are posted on the website, approved and filed.

Treasurer's Report: (*Susan DiNapoli*)

Treasurers report was presented and placed on file.

Recommendations from the Board of Directors presented by Recording Secretary Joan Piper:

- I. Three members: *Elaine Gerber*, *Thelma Greider* and *Yolanda Babcock* should be given Emeritus Status. The vote passed.
- II. The budget was amended in the amount of \$500 for the Boutique Committee.
- III. Mentoring Committee will meet at 9:30 am before the regular membership meeting to acquaint new members with the activities our club offers.
- IV. On alternate months the donation bucket will be passed for Penney Pines and the Coral Reef Restoration Project.
- V. A small ad will be purchased to run in the 2014 Convention Program. Motion made by *Joanna Cook* to cap the cost of the ad at \$50. Motion carried.
- VI. A committee will be formed to study the honoring of our experienced members and will be chaired by *Dee Feeney* Membership Chairman. The other members will be *Elaine Hudon* and *Althea Bednarak*. This may result in an addition to our Standing Rules.

Officer's Reports

President: (*Sandra Walters*)

- She attended a workshop in Sarasota on "Manipulation of Plant Matter" and a FFGC Board Meeting.
- Donna Amatucci* has resigned as Award Chairman therefore a new Chair is needed.
- The tree dedication for past president *Susan Mather* will be held at 1pm on October 31st in Centennial Park. The tree is located on Nokomis Avenue across from Horse and Chaise Rentals.

Vice President: (*Tina Bird*)

Tina Bird introduced *Judy Brisco*, from the Florida Gourd Society. She will be presenting the program "Fun with Gourds."

Corresponding Secretary/Sunshine: (*Rose Fullerton*)

- 7/1 Get Well card sent to *Maxine Ginn* - knee Surgery
- 7/15 Received Thank You Card from family of *Lucille Picagli* for Sympathy Card and donation to Scholarship Fund in her honor.
- 7/6 Thinking of You Card to *Susan Mather* - death of a relative
- 8/30 Sympathy Card sent to family of *Betty Boese* with note of our contribution to Scholarship Fund in her honor.
- 9/10, 10/2 Thank You cards were sent to the following for contributions made to the Scholarship fund in honor of *Betty Boese*: *Pat Markland*, *Marilyn Shute*, *Charles Pontius* (neighbor), *Mrs. Elizabeth Weinert*, *Mrs. Wanda Carper*, *Sandy Moe Millan*, *Curt & Nancy Crowell*, *Mrs. Rena Buckley*, *Sandy Walters*.

-9/21 Sympathy Card sent to Family of *Norma Jean Pryor* with note for our contribution to Scholarship fund in her honor.

-9/21 Received thank you note from *Beth Gehring, Betty Boese's* daughter, for Sympathy Card and donation to Scholarship Fund in her honor.

-10/2 Sympathy Cards sent to *Lynn Macedonio* death of *Jeanne Stafford* (member/cousin) and to the family of *Jeanne Stafford* with a note of our contribution made to the Scholarship Fund in her honor.

-5/20/13 Rec'd Note from City of Venice - thank you for generous donation as well as support.

-6/13 Rec'd letter from Audubon Society - than you for donation and support.

-6/26 Rec'd letter from FFGC - thanking for donation. It was used to assist two students in attending Camp Wekieva.

Committee Reports

Boutique: (*Linda Thivierge, Elaine Hudon*)

Bette Ann Parry reported that she has a sign-up sheet for interested members. The first meeting is October 17 at the Audubon Building. Samples of crafts are on the table in the back.

Floral Design: (*Sandra Walters*)

Design Study Units begin on October 15, 9am, at the Audubon Building. Cost is \$60 for Units 1-6 or \$20 per unit. See *Bette Ann Parry* to register. We still have openings. Supplies: Bring 10" round or rectangular container (ie: baking dish), tools to do design and a plastic bag to cover table and take trash home.

Flower Show: (*Linda Thivierge-Maxine Ginn Advisor*)

Maxine Ginn will relieve *Linda Thivierge* of some of her responsibilities due to a family illness. *Bev Yaros* will assist. There will be a meeting at *Maxine Ginn's* house following the November membership meeting for those interested in helping with the Jan 2015 Flower Show.

Garden Therapy: (*Maida Atkins and Cheri Cetone*)

There are two new projects: Butterfly Garden at the Summit of Venice and Loveland Center Memorial Garden. *Cheri Cetone* will take the names of helpers for the Loveland Center as plants have arrived unexpectedly.

Holiday Decorations: (*Rose Rodriguez*)

Dates have been set for the holiday decorations: 11/19/2013, 9:30am to decorate the gazebo and 11/22, 9:30am to decorate the tree in the Venice Library. The library tree will be decorated in a patriotic theme. *Sandra Walters* suggested the Laurel Community Center for an additional tree decorated with the shell ornaments.

Holiday Luncheon Program: (*Alice DeSomma*)

Sandra Walters reported the tickets are on sale. Cost is \$25. The luncheon will held at the Ramada Inn and the program is Holi-Daze.

Home Tour: Home Tour: (*Mary Lou Levy*)

She thanked her committee for their hard work this summer. This is the 25th anniversary of the VAGC Home Tour. There will be 5 homes and 1 garden on the tour:

1. Interesting architecture on the Island.
2. Modern traditional design on the Island.
3. Historic home, largest on the Island.
4. French Country design in Nokomis.
5. Contemporary design in Nokomis.
6. Tropical garden with metal sculptures on the Island.

Donations will be accepted, starting with November meeting. *Mary Kopp* will be in charge of advertising. *Jean Smith* will be doing the gift baskets. Donations will be accepted, starting with November meeting. *Mary Kopp* will be in charge of advertising. Ticket cost is \$20.

Hospitality: ((*Karen O'Brien, Susie Cochran*))

The hostesses and hospitality Committee were thanked for their work on today's luncheon. *Jeff Parsons* was responsible for the beautiful design over the serving table.

Library: (*Peggy Schmidt*)

An additional copy of *Leaf Manipulation* has been ordered.

Scholarship: (*Jan Fessler*)

At the Spring Luncheon \$8,000 in Scholarships were awarded to:

Kelsey Mahoney, Florida Gulf Coast University, Environmental Engineering

Esther Mezhibovsky, UCF "Burnett Honors College," Microbiology Research

Jarrett Quinn, University of Oklahoma, Metrology

In the past 30 years, over \$100,000 has been awarded to Venice High School students.

Esther Mezhibovsky has also been awarded \$3,500 from FFGC and \$3,500 from the NGC.

A letter was read from Jarrett Quinn.

Stamps: Shirley Hoffman

Stamps are still being collected. They are donated to the Audubon Society.

Yearbook: (*Susan DiNapoli*)

Changes or corrections should be reported as soon as you are aware them.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

-Flower Show School: Lemon Bay Garden Club schedule did not permit it to do this until sometime in late 2014 but Naples is holding a course in November 2014. A pole of members was taken. A motion was made by *Bev Yaros* to rescind the plans for the Flower Show School. Motion carried.

-Landscape Design School: A vote was taken to see if members had an interest in Landscape Design Classes. There was a good response. A motion was made by *Karen O'Brien* to allow *Maida Adkins* to go ahead with planning the Landscape Design Classes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

-VAGC has been invited and will be responsible for the luncheon centerpieces for the National Presidents' Luncheon at the state convention on April 14, 2014. We need hands to place 50 centerpieces on tables. VAGC should be represented at the state convention. We are honored to be included in this manner.

-Three *Books of Information* have been ordered for VAGC.

-Announcements were made. *Tina Bird* will send them as an email to members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Piper

Recording Secretary