

**The Virginia Beach Garden Club**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**September 16, 2015**  
**The Princess Anne Country Club**

President Lynda Strickler called the meeting to order at 10:30a.m.; the collect was then given by Ellen Sinclair. The President welcomed all, particularly new members Pam Pruden and Reilly Warlick, and the Junior Club rep. Tracy Horan to the first meeting of the year. Wanda Sellers and Weegee Mantz were thanked for the lovely arrangements for today's luncheon. The program turned to **Emily Mills, HGW** who announced the 2016 Historic Garden Week Tour with the theme, "Beach Living" and includes the homes of Tracy and Brian Horan, Emily Mills, Mariah and Mike Standing, Holli and Hans Wachtmeister, Reilly Warlick and the gardens of Steve and Mac Houfek. Bikes may be rented for touring and The "Painted Garden" art show and sale will again be held at Beach Gallery, this year featuring Ellen Sinclair. Emily encouraged members to recruit advertisers and sponsors as well as to sign up for hostessing and arranging.

**Officer Reports: Joan Lyons, Treasurer** - Joan reported that the balance of The General Fund stood at \$21,207.69; the balance of The Ways and Means Fund at \$34,778.36; the Small Flower Show Fund at \$1,500 and the Horticulture Speaker Fund also at \$1,500 for a total of \$58,986.05. **Molly III, Vice-President** – Molly referred members to their yearbooks for a full description of programming for the year.

**Committee Reports: Julie Mackinlay, Annual Fund** – Julie encouraged members to give to the annual VBGC Fund as it supports traveling expenses for the President and her delegate to GCA and GCV events. **Betsy Cromwell, Conservation** – A reminder was given to dispose of batteries properly. **Allison McDuffie, FFF** – Allison encouraged members to promote our fundraiser through social media to ensure a successful sales day. She then thanked Nancy Freeman for her assistance with the festival and Molly III for her work in establishing a page on the VBGC website for pre-sales. **Kay Shiflett, FFF** standing in for **Demaris Yearick**, asked the club to gather plants now for "Roots and Shoots" at the FFF. Kay also informed the club that there would be 25 bumblebee nest kits given away at the pollinator booth. **Susan Wynne, FFF** encouraged donations to Second Hand Rose. **Lucy Lee, Flower Shows** – The chair referred the club to p.23 of the yearbook, which names members to participation in the three GCV flower shows. She asked for full commitments to these assignments. Congratulations were given to associate members, Claire Cassada, Jean Hardy and Nani Finley for their beautiful entry in last week's GCV Rose Show. **Donna Haycox, Horticulture** – All members were asked to consider submitting horticulture to the GCA Zone VII Flower Show; she then recognized those who had brought horticulture to today's meeting. Together with Susan Husak and Kay Shiflett, Donna will be available to answer questions about how to display horticulture successfully. Asked about the Forsythe Pot division of the Flower Show, Donna explained this process of propagation. **Mary Denny and Martha Goodman, GCA Zone VII Meeting** – The co-chairs were pleased to announce that all was in place for the meeting September 28 - October 1 with 89 people, plus judges, registered. The agenda was detailed by events, speakers, places and times. Molly Rueger, Lynda Briggs and Ellen Sinclair were thanked, in advance, for their arrangements and room design for the awards banquet at the Princess Anne Country Club.. It was noted that the boutique, with 8 vendors, and the Flower Show would be open to the public during designated hours.

**New Business:** President Strickler thanked Ellen Sinclair for her arrangement at The Chrysler Museum's exhibition "The Artists Garden." Ann Wright was then asked to present the draft of a letter she authored on behalf of VBGC in opposition to offshore drilling. A motion was made, seconded and approved that a letter be sent to The General Assembly. Lynda Briggs was recognized for having her lovely home and garden published in "Country Gardens" magazine and Mac Houfek was congratulated for her beautiful publication, "Reflections on a Coastal Garden," with proceeds donated to The Norfolk Botanical Gardens. It was noted that there would be a presentation of nominated projects and a vote next month for the GCV Commonwealth Award.

A program on pressed flowers was then given by member, Lou Flowers after which the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 for lunch.

Lou Flowers, Recording Secretary