

Virginia Beach Garden Club  
General Membership Meeting  
Princess Anne Country Club  
October 18, 2017

Attendance: Active Members: 59 Associates: 8 Luncheon: 57

President Molly III called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. She welcomed everyone and was excited to announce that the **VBGC** is celebrating its **80<sup>th</sup> Birthday**. The club was organized in March of 1937. The collect was given by Claire Cassada. Following one correction, the September meeting minutes stood approved. Molly thanked Audrey Parrott and Meredith Rutter for the wonderful job they did on the FFF. It was a tremendous success. Audrey and Meredith expressed their deep appreciation to all of the committee chairmen and their committees for an outstanding job. Demaris Yearick will be collecting pots for recycling.

#### **Officer Reports:**

**Lou Flowers, Vice President** reviewed upcoming programs. She noted that the joint **GCV** Meeting will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the PACC. The speaker will be **Nina Mustard, President of GCV**. The **Holiday Social** will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Dee Oliver and Boyd Melchor. **Ann Crenshaw, Treasurer** announced that financial reports are available on Jane's Booth. All community project checks have been distributed excluding a few for Camp Grom. General funds: \$23,833.40; Ways and Means: \$16,294.94; Small Flower Show Fund: \$1,500 for a total balance of \$40,162.01 (\$13,640.30). **Joan Stumborg, HGW** entertained the club with a "**Life on the Lynnhaven**" presentation. Plans are going well for the April event. **Demaris Yearick, Council of Garden Club** representative, noted that a fundraiser will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Central Library. The **VBGC** received a **Certificate of Recognition** from the Council of Garden Clubs. Many thanks to **Demaris Yearick** whose efforts made this possible. **Cheryl Jordan, VBGC Fund** was excited to report that the donations from members from May to the present were a generous \$3,575. The balance stands at \$98,218.00. Cheryl reminded members that this fund supports travel expenses for the president and delegates to attend **GCA** and **GCV** meetings. **Allison McDuffie, Conservation** reports that Farm Fresh will continue to recycle plastic bags at their front desk. All members are encouraged to attend the Watts Conservation Speaker at the Aquarium on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The **GCV Conservation Forum** (Fracking in Virginia) will be held October 27<sup>th</sup>. **Nancy Freeman, Horticulture** thanked everyone for their horticulture entries and announced the ribbon winners. **Kay Shiflett** told some wonderful stories about the **GCA Shirley Meniece Conference** she recently attended in Omaha. **Mac Houfek** welcomed **Laura Kraus JVBGC** representative to the meeting. **Aquarium** weeding sign-ups are located on Jane's Booth.

#### **New Business:**

Ballots for a proposed bylaw change were distributed. **Mary Denny** presented the motion and **Mac Houfek** seconded it. Mary Denny moved that the VBGC amend the bylaws, Article IX and X, concerning the election of admissions officers. The proposed change would allow the Nominating Committee to present a single slate of four rather than a double slate of eight. **Molly III** noted that the Board recommended the amendment be approved. For the proposal to pass, it needs an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the active members present. There was some discussion, the motion was repeated and a vote was taken. **Betty Miles** and the **Nominating Committee** counted the vote. The **amendment passed**. The **Nominating Committee** will present the slate for the new **Admissions Committee** in December. Interest forms were distributed. The **GCV Common Wealth Award** 1<sup>st</sup> place of \$10,000 was given to the **Fauquier Loudoun Garden Club** for their entry, "**The Healing Grove at Boulder Crest Retreat**." The **Petersburg Garden Club's "Lee Park Wildflower and Bird Sanctuary"** received the \$6,000 second place award. **Jane Booth, Nancy Freeman** and **Donna Haycox** attended the **GCV Fall Symposium** in Richmond. The **GCV** is looking for nominations for **GCV committees**.

#### **Announcements:**

**Sara Ann Hammond**, member since 1985, passed away. **Lou Flowers** welcomed a new granddaughter. **Jane Booth** is selling Amaryllis bulbs on Jane's Booth. Checks for **Dana Parker's** flower arranging workshop are due. **Jean Marie Randolph** noted that a speaker on "**Improving Your Water Quality**" (**VB Beautification Commission**) will be held at the Central Library.

Lou Flowers introduced our program speaker, VBGC member **Meg French**, Professional Landscape Designer and Horticulturist. Meg presented a wonderful program, "Wildlife Habitat in the Winter Garden."

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m. for lunch.  
Weege Mantz, Recording Secretary