



GARDENERS BY THE SEA

October 9, 2020

Zoom Meeting – 1 PM

Call to Order and Welcome: President Alva Hutchison

President Alva Hutchison welcomed all and thanked members for all the activities and projects still going on in spite of COVID.

Minutes: Recording Secretary, Ellen Dowling

The minutes of our September meeting were distributed by email and posted in the member section of our website. The corrected Minutes will be filed. (Karen Plis clarified her mentoring vs new member form on our web site see in member area below)

Introduction of New Members & Guests: Membership Chair, Karen Plis

Welcome to Susan Sitek and Lori Lentowski, who are in attendance for the first time. Also welcome to David and Kathy Green, Janet Sabo, Kathie Verse and Sara Carlson.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS – Happy Birthday to: Maggie Baker, Carolyn Clipp, Linda Eaton, Steve Zimmerman

Report of Officers:

President - Alva Hutchison

The Executive Board met via Zoom this week. The executive committee for Gardeners by the Sea is made up of current elected officers, appointed parliamentarian Bea Nelson and past presidents.

We decided it is important for all of us to establish a few timelines for decision-making.

- 1) A decision will be made by the 25th of the month regarding the following month's meeting (if our November meeting and future monthly meetings will be in person, or by Zoom.)
- 2) Confirmed that a decision would be made by March 1st if we are holding the Garden Tour – Language of Flowers Horticulture Specialty Show and Plant Sale. Please continue planning as if it is go but do not incur any expenses or donations until this decision is made.

The yearbook has been forwarded to DFGC Awards Judges. Any future additions to our membership will be added each Month as New Members join – thus you can print only the new members for your Yearbook. These will also be added on our website, including the Pictorial Directory.

Vice President - Maryanne Green – We are pleased to provide the monthly programs online. You can find them on our website in the Members Section.

Our GBTS October Speaker, Karen Gartley, Director, Soil Testing Program, Department of Plant and Social Sciences, is providing us a video program, "Why Test Soil?"

A soil test can determine the current fertility and health of your soil. A home gardener might have their soil tested intended way they will use their soil. Basic soil testing packages for both Agriculture, Landscaping and Home gardeners can be ordered by visiting the UD Cooperative Extension Service online or calling the Soil Testing Program office at 302-831-1392.

Attached is Director Gartley's information video below.

<https://drive.google.com/.../11wWzYR0WLBaix.../view>

The Delaware Botanic Garden tour has been cancelled due to restriction for our large group size. Only groups of 10 or less can have tours. You can schedule a tour for a small group or yourself at their website: <http://www.delawaregardens.org>.

Corresponding Secretary – Rosemarie Kistenmacher nothing to report.

Treasurers Report – Carolyn Clipp

September

starting balance \$11,716.74

Income NONE

Expenses \$ 101.62 President's pins, postage stamps, program

ending balance \$11, 615.12

Committee Reports:

Hospice Tree: Brenda Wimperis reported that the theme Judy Stuhl chose this year is "Home, Safe Home". It has a farm house feel and seemed pertinent since we are all pretty much at home these days. There are 16 members but 5 not participating this year. Kits have been put together and distributed to be completed by the team. They are due back November 4 to Brenda. Decorating will be at Milford, DE again this year. Trees will be given to safe houses, People Place, foster homes or at the Hospice Facility in Milford. Fundraising will be done on-line. Pictures to be sent to Cathy Bowen and Maggie Baker to post on Facebook & our web site.

Coastal Cleanup: Thea Chandross reported that five members (Donna Gray, Connie Ryan, Ann McKinney, Thea and Maggie Baker) who participated on the September 22th. Our area was South from McCabe's parking lot from York down to Sunset beach then crossing to the other side and going North. We covered about 2 miles and collected 35# of litter. Please remember to pick up trash on beach when you can.

OVHS: Maureen Eisenhart reported that we are in negotiations with Ocean View Historical Society to see what gardening ideas they have for their new "store". Martha Gallagher, Alva

Hutchison and Maureen will meet with an OVHS Board member on 10/22. The earliest this project will happen will be Spring, 2021.

Habitat for Humanity: Eileen Quigley has selected October 21, 2020 at 4pm to present a planter with fall flowers to a new homeowner dedication in Ellendale.

Flower Show: The schedule will need to be updated and sent to Dottie Howett by Jan.1, 2021. Ellen will get updates to Lisa. We still need a publicity person. Anyone interested please contact Ellen or Judy. There are still opportunities to join the Clerk group (1 position contact Kathy Lesperance) and perhaps the Placement group (contact Nancy Hoffman.)

The Garden and Art Tour chairs and the Ways and Means chairs have been working on publication options for the tour and ideas for fundraising. To date there are 5 gardens, Ocean View Historical Society Village, 3 Art Galleries and Plein Air Artists for a couple of gardens complementary of Gallery One.

Fundraising activities: Pre-plant and jewelry sale for Advanced Ticket holders (11:30-1PM), Chinese auction, Raffles, Joost Waffles for Sale, and Water sales.

Membership: Karen Plis stated we have 41 members with 4 more after this meeting. Karen has been in touch with several others that have shown an interest. Clarification of Guest/Join tab on website home page. This does NOT have to do with the Mentoring program. It is for any guests/potential members. If you have someone interested have them fill out the form on the home page, then email it back to Karen. It needs to be done on a PC (not tablet or phone) or can be printed out and mailed back.

Mentoring program: We have 41 members, soon to be 45. There are 8 members on the membership committee, who have one or more mentees each. We are going to be welcoming more members in the future, hopefully reaching our maximum of 55.

Currently we have a lot of seasoned, knowledgeable members who would have a lot to offer new ones- sharing knowledge of GBTS, and learning the individuals interests and talents, and how best to incorporate those in our club. If you would agree to be a mentor, you would be part of the membership committee only in the capacity of mentoring. The procedure for mentoring is self- explanatory. And we would periodically have discussions as to how things progress with our mentees. Alva has agreed to be a mentor. If there are current members who would be interested, please contact Karen Plis.

Ways and Means: Ria Carraro and Laura Martin Laura Martin is a new member and also co-chair of the committee. They would like each member of GBTS to rise to the occasion of participating in the Flower Show's plant sale. With being at home it is a good time to use your creativity and find/make garden items, as well as plants that can be purchased at the plant sale. Please let Ria or Laura know what you can contribute. This is a great way for new members to get involved!

Website: Cathy Bowen went through a tutorial of our website and how to navigate to various

areas of interest. There is a new BUZZ letter posted quarterly. The pictorial directory has a button which will show a flower if no photo available. You can still submit a photo to Cathy. This was helpful for easy navigating through our GBTS website. The guest area is “members only” and Cathy shared how to enter and what you can find there.

Yearbook: Maureen Ryan nothing to report

Youth – Pat Drizd Program is on hold but will meet as a group and see if there is something we can offer the kids. (examples were Smokey Bear posters, recycled objects as art)

Horticulture Moment: Pat Drizd Glorious Gourds Design Challenge

Gourds are grown on a vine and prefer full sun and regular water. They can grow up to 15’ and can be ornamental with various shapes, sizes and colors. Some are pumpkins, squash, melons and those of various shapes.

The challenge to the members is to make a floral design with a gourd. The gourd can be the vessel in which the design is placed or can be part of an overall design. Place your design next to you at our next meeting (Zoom or in person) so we can view everyone’s creativity.

Announcements: CAR-SGC Blooming-Zoom Festival – Mary Williford

Mary shared how each state hopes to have a minimum of 14 people participate in the on- line presentations. She hopes that more from Delaware sign up as only have 5 registered. One of the benefits of being a Federated Garden Club is to be a part of the bigger national organization...and that includes Regions of States. Delaware is part of the Central Atlantic region – which includes Maryland, National Capital Area, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania – and Delaware. The Region is unable to hold the annual conference which DFGC was scheduled to host at Dover Downs, but you have an opportunity to still enjoy the agenda on- line. There is a form and information regarding the presentations on our web site. Please consider signing up. It is \$25 for each session or \$75 for all of them.

If anyone wants to have a committee meeting on- line you can use Alva’s Zoom account. Please contact her for assistance.

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Dowling, Secretary

