

**District X Board Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER – at 10:05 AM by District Director Deborah Morris, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PRESENT – Deborah Morris, Betty Jessup, Carol Comando, Sally Cerny, Karen Heil, Linda Marino, Ann Bloom, Diane Kitson, Jane Madis, Andrea Hamburger, Karen Bowers, Cathy Garofalo, Pat Kind, Sue Trager, Ann Kinney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion by Karen Heil/Linda Marino to accept the minutes of October 5, 2023 as presented was approved.

TREASURER’S QUARTERLY REPORT-

Report prepared by Deborah Francis, Treasurer

On October 5, 2023, the 10th District facilitated their Fall Luncheon at Walkill Golf Club. A total of \$3446.00 was deposited as received from the attendees and vendors at the event. A total of \$3,097.28 was spent, leaving a balance of \$348.72.

First Federal Savings Account balance as of 12/29/23	\$5,872.27
First Federal Checking Account balance as of 12/29/23	\$2,014.72
First Federal Business Savings Account balance as of 12/29/23	<u>\$5,511.34</u>
Total in all accounts	\$13, 398.36

The report will be filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE – none

COMMITTEE REPORTS – (out of Agenda order)

World Gardening – Report prepared by Pat Kind was read by Deborah Morris.

Since the October report, one check was received from Garden Lovers of Middletown for \$75 for Water for South Sudan. It was submitted to Lucille Bauer, FGCNYS, Inc. World Gardening Chairperson. As per the change announced at our last meeting, the next date for club treasurers to submit checks for Water for South Sudan and/or Dig Deep is June 1, 2024.

Membership – Report by Linda Marino

Club	Active Members	Associate
Artful Gardeners	11	0
Clarkstown	23	1
Liberty	23	3
Pine Bush	25	0
Cornwall	42	18
Garden Lovers	34	8
Roscoe Rockland	25	2
Warwick Valley	53	25
Totals	238	58

Scholarship – Oral report by Jane Madis

Applications are due by February 1st. The NGC application is available online and should be forwarded to Jane.

Judges Council – Oral report by Jane Madis

Council will meet in February. Meetings are usually on Zoom. Clubs are getting back to doing flower shows.

Hospitality and Protocol – Report by Carol Comando

There were no changes to the report since October. April luncheon will be hosted by Cornwall GC. July Board meeting, if held in person, will be hosted by Roscoe Rockland GC.

Internet – Oral report by Sue Trager

All clubs have access to the FGCNYS, Inc. Zoom account. The www.fgcny.com website is being updated. Send any updates for your club to Sue at Susie.trager@gmail.com.

Publicity – no report.

Yearbooks – no report.

Parliamentarian – no report

CLUB PRESIDENTS QUARTERLY REPORTS

Artful Gardeners –

Report prepared by: Co-Presidents Susan Trager and Jane Madis, read by Susan Trager

Total Members: Active: 11

October's Meeting was held at one of our member's homes where holiday horticultural therapy projects were completed and delivered to St. Joseph's Home. President's Jane Madis and I, as well as Deborah Francis, attended the CAR-SGC conference in Corning, NY. The NGC schools Tri Refresher (Environmental, Landscape and Gardening Schools) offered great lectures and an amazing field trip to the Cornell Botanical Garden, Winery, and Organic Farm as well as the Taughannock Falls State Park.

November's Meeting was a hands on petite design program given by Sue Trager and assisted by Jane Madis. Members created petite designs with various dried and fresh materials and learned that "less is more" sometimes - when it comes to design.



December was our holiday luncheon at Limoncello at the Orange Inn in Goshen.

Clarkstown Garden Club – Report prepared by Co-President Helen Delargy, was read by Ann Kinney

Number of members: 24, Active 22, Associate 2

October – Due to poor weather conditions, the club chose not to participate in the Sustainability Walk at Congers Lake. Last year, we were able to attend and let the community know what we do as a club, and explain about the Blue Star Memorial at the park.

At our monthly meeting, one of our members did a presentation on Dutch Gardens in New City, which dates back to the Depression Era, utilizing bricks from the Haverstraw brick yards. Last year, the club planated tulips for the public enjoyment, also a throwback to the original design plan by Mary Mobray Clarke.

We lost a long-time member of our club, Mary Gardella, a member put together a lovely poster of remembrance, and we shared good memories.

November – A representative of Cooperative Extension did a fascinating demonstration on growing microgreens in our homes.

December – A holiday luncheon at a local restaurant was enjoyed by members and their guests. At this luncheon, members donated 115 pounds of food, which was donated to People to People, a local food pantry.

Community Garden Club of Liberty – Report prepared by Presidaent Margaret McLeod, was read by Deborah Morris.

Members: 27, Active 23, Associate 4

October – Our regular meeting was held at 1 PM at Sullivan County Extension Service Building. The program was Forcing Bulbs. They will be distributed to the Achieve Facility following the March meeting.

November – Meeting called to order at 1 PM at Presbyterian Hall. Members brought small styrofoam balls and greens to assemble Kissing Balls.

December – Holiday Luncheon held at the Pickled Owl in Hurleyville. Luncheon well attended. Dues collected and donations accepted for Water for South Sudan. As per our tradition, members previously decorated tree and Hanukkah display at the Sullivan County Museum.

Community GC of Liberty Officers 2024-2025 (as of March 2024)

Co-Presidents

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H: 845-794-1951

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Judy Bergstrom

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Vice President

Judy Brennan

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Recording Secretary

Petra Muccia

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Treasurer

Pat Allison

pat@allisondevore.com

C:845-866-4342

Corresponding Secretary

Ellen Jaffe

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845-292-5133

Community Garden Club of Pine Bush – Report by Betty Jessup

Total Members: 29: Active: 29, Associate: 0

During the past three months the club members have been very busy getting ready for fall and our Holiday Party.

October – The Town of Crawford Town Hall, Main Street and the Library were decorated for fall with hay bales, pumpkins, and cornstalks. A great time was had by members participating in our fall beautification project. At our October meeting members worked on their annual Pumpkin Project. Members carved their pumpkins to create a vase for creating floral centerpieces to take home with them. They were beautiful.

November - Our program “Care and selection of Holiday House Plants” Cornell Master Gardener unlocked the mysteries of these holiday houseplants, e.g. Poinsettia, Christmas Cactus.

December – The annual poinsettias were delivered to the Town Hall and Library by Diane Schlipfack. The Holiday Party took place at Jennifer Thiodeau’s house. They had so much fun it was almost 10 pm before everyone left. Thank you to Jennifer for hosting our holiday party at her beautiful home.

Cornwall Garden Club – no report.-

Garden Lovers Club – Report submitted by Co-Presidents Diane Kitson and Karen Heil, was read by Karen Heil. Members: 42, Active 34, Associate 8

On October 4th, members of the club toured Val-Kill Cottage, home of Eleanor Roosevelt, which became her permanent home in later years. She hosted famous people of the times and worked on her humanitarian, diplomatic, and political work. Her small, comfortable workspace was a special tour of the 79 room Golden Age Mills Mansion. We were allowed a special visit to the below stairs kitchen and dining area complete with cutouts of the Downton Abbey staff. It was great fun. We ended the day with a stop at the Eveready Diner.

Our program for the monthly business meeting was “What’s a GMO?” presented by Master Gardener Susan Ndiaye. Committee work included planning for the December Middletown Christmas Parade float. Junior Gardeners painted pumpkins, listened to a song and heard a story. Work continued on updating the bylaws. In November, the day after Thanksgiving, members participated in the Middletown Christmas Parade. Our theme was the red truck with the decorated Christmas tree, a stuffed bear and lots of toys and packages, wreaths on the front and back and Santas handing out candy canes for the children. We were able to carry our new club banner lit with white lights. It was super cold, surprisingly windy, and started an hour late. It was great with crowds four or five deep in places.

Our monthly program was “Gardening with Native Plants”, presented by two Master Gardener graduates just graduated from the program. Artistic Crafts gathered to make a Christmas swag, Garden Therapy created holiday arrangements for the community and delivered them all, and the chairman of the bylaws committee reviewed all the changes to be voted on. Changes were discussed and a motion was passed to create a scholarship committee and a mentoring committee.

December – the members met for the annual Holiday Tea and Ornament Exchange. A meeting was called to order in order to vote on the bylaw changes, dissolve the bylaws committee, and introduce new members. The bylaws were approved by a two thirds majority, much to the relief of the committee!

Roscoe Rockland Garden Club – Report prepared by Co-Presidents Karen Bowers and Sally Cerny was read by Karen Bowers. Members: 29, Active 23, Associate 4

October – Dr. Joyce Conroy, Town of Rockland Historian, gave an interesting talk on the history of Craig-E- a topic of interest in the area.

November – Debbie Hines, floral designer for Monticello Greenhouses, instructed us in creating hanging Christmas balls. Last year, we made Christmas skits with Debbie and enjoyed it so much we decided on a similar activity this year.

December – We gathered at Kasos Greek Restaurant for our holiday supper. Barbara Bonforte and Denise Steele are our yearly hosts for this event, and they always do a wonderful job. The food was delicious and we each received a treasure bag. Nancy Hajeski also gave a brief talk on princess pines.

We have not been able to find volunteers to take over the office of president or co-president, so our club has adopted a shared responsibilities approach for the coming year. We now have a Program Coordinator, a Meeting Coordinator, and a District X Contact Person. Our meetings will be chaired by different members through the year.

Roscoe Rockland GC Executive Committee 2024

District X Contact Person

Bowers, Karen Gent

(C) 914-799-2280

roscoerocklandgardenclub@gmail.com

Meeting Coordinators
Austin, Mary Johnson
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Cerny, Sally Parr
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Co-Recording Secretaries
Farrell, Vera
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Hajeski, Nancy
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Treasurer
Failla, Lisa
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Warwick Valley Gardeners – Report by Kristine Kent, President was read by Cathy Garofolo.

Number of Members: 78: Active 50, Associate 28

Seven members resigned from the club this quarter. Six joined the club.

The Nominating Committee announced candidates for the Executive Board for the 2024-2026 term. They were brought to the club for a vote and passed. The new Board will be sworn in at the March 2 Spring Officer Installation and Member Appreciation Lunch at the Landmark Inn in Warwick.

The new Board will be as follows:

President - Pat Reinhardt
Exec. VP - Laurie Unick
VP- Lisa Atkins
Rec. Sec. - Robin Sobiech
Cor. Sec. - Patti Leo

We held two membership meetings. The October meeting was our annual Membership Renewal Meeting held at the Buckbee Center and was an opportunity for club members to interact with Committee Chairpeople to gain knowledge and choose what committees to join for 2024-2025. The November meeting was held at

the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Members constructed a fall centerpiece with live flowers and greens. Our bi-annual Barn Sale was held the weekend of October 6-8. A Trex bench was raffled and there was a 50/50.

2 bat houses were donated to the club last quarter. One was hung at the Warwick Library and the other one at the Butterfly Garden in Pine Island.

The first Garden Therapy activity at Schervier Pavilion (new location) took place on Sat 10/21.

Two holiday projects workshops were held as well as a day of greens cutting in November, prior to installing the annual Holiday display at the Railroad Green. This year's decorative theme was Nutcrackers.

Three of our nine community gardens were changed to a winter theme.

Lighting of the Railroad Green was followed by a potluck party at the Buckbee Center on November 18.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

District Directory – The updated officer information provided by clubs will be added to the online District X Directory. Deborah Morris requested that any other clubs who have changed officers please submit those changes. A draft copy of the directory will be made available for last minute changes.

Fall District X Luncheon Report – The second Wednesday in October, as per the District X Bylaws, has not been confirmed, depending upon the availability of the venue and presenters. The event will be a fundraiser and fashion show, open to the public. Betty Jessup and Jane Madis are looking at venues to host the fashion show. The menu under consideration is small plates with cocktails and mocktails.

NGC/FGCNYS, Inc. News-

NGC National Gardener Magazine Free Subscriptions – Free subscriptions are available on the NGC website, <https://gardenclub.org/national-gardener> where you can sign up and/or view archived issues.

FGCNYS, INC. 100TH ANNIVERSARY/ANNUAL CONVENTION – MAY 6-7, 2024, Albany Desmond Hotel –an event honoring Jeanne Nelson will take place on the evening of the May 7th. A symposium will follow the convention.

Yearbook awards to Artful Gardeners, Clarkstown and Warwick Valley will be presented at the convention.

FGCNYS, Inc. Dues Increase – member dues has increased from \$7.50 to \$10.00 per member. There was discussion about increasing District X dues to \$5.00.

Club Recognition Form – Deborah Morris asked that clubs please fill out the Club Recognition Award form before March 1.

District X Spring Luncheon – April 10 – Hosted by Cornwall GC – Arlene DeSocio reported that the event will be held at the Stonyford Gold Club. Save-the-Date notices will be going out to all district members. The Director of Orange County Parks and Recreation will speak about the arboretum. Tickets are \$40 per person.

ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Zoom Class - Sue Trager announced that Artful Gardeners is planning on hosting an orchid class on Zoom, and asked if any district members would be interested in attending for a nominal fee.

District X Newsletter – Deborah Morris asked that any news to be included in the newsletter be sent to district.x.fgcny@gmail.com.

ADJOURNMENT – Deborah Morris thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

Minutes submitted by:

Carol Comando, Recording Secretary