

Club update from our president – February 2021

Hello to all of you!

Mother Nature has been working her magic this month, and I hope, for those of you who are here in RI, you have been enjoying it. What a beautiful, old fashioned winter.....reminds me of when I was a girl.

The purpose of this email is to bring you up to date on what's happening in our club, but first.....a poem

Valentine's Day

If I could be the postman
For just one single time,
I'd choose to carry Valentines
So lovely and so fine.
I would not mind the heavy load,
Or mind my tired feet,
If I could scatter happiness
All up and down the street. Author Unknown

1. The increase in dues passed overwhelmingly.

Active Members.....\$50.00

Associate Members..\$60.00

Dues need to be sent to Barbara Dawson during the month of April. Please mark your April calendars. Checks are to be made out to Plum Beach Garden Club.

2. Due to these unusual circumstances, the Board has decided not to print the yearbook for 2021. You will be receiving an addendum, via email, that you can then print, and tuck it into your yearbook, just like last year.

3. Programs

As you know, we will not be having an April meeting. However, we are hoping to have subsequent meetings. The May and June meetings will definitely be held outdoors.....details will follow later this spring.

4. In 2019, the membership was informed that the RI Federation of Garden Clubs was giving us a tree. That tree is now planted in the field at Wickford Middle School. There was a discussion at the time about us dedicating it to Al Southwick, the former Recreation Director for NK who died in June of 2019. The Board has decided to go ahead with that idea. The Communication Team is working on that dedication, and we are hoping we will be able to do it this spring.

5. Special Projects

The club currently has two small projects going on, both with Board approval.

One is a tree planting project spearheaded by HistWick. It is a collaboration between HistWick, Donna Hutchinson from the Conservation Commission, the town's Planning and Public Works Depts, PBGC, and local residents. It entails the removal of 6 stumps on Main Street, and replacing them with new trees. Our role will be twofold..... expertise and PR. There will be no cost to the club. Arbor Day is the target date for the planting of the new trees.

Will King, Marsha's husband, contacted me a while back. He requested that PBGC get involved with the Never Forget Garden that is being proposed for the village. This November marks the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One of the ways it's being celebrated is by installing small gardens all around America. Each garden will hold a small "Never Forget" tablet with a tribute to our Veterans. Our town manager has responded favorably to Will regarding this project. Our role will be to help choose the site and the plant material for this garden. There may be some expense, but I don't expect it to be exorbitant.

More details forthcoming on both of these civic minded projects.

6. We will be continuing with our Brick Sales Promotion through the spring. The Communication Team(Gail Stokes, Kathy Barrette, Sue Colby, Linda Hughes and Andrea Sarrasin) would like to take some photos of member's bricks in Old Library Park for use in promoting brick sales on Facebook, and possibly in the local newspapers. We would like to get your permission first. If you have a brick, or bricks in the park, and don't mind us using them for promotion, please let me know. Thank you!

7. And lastly, I have been making some little inspirational books. I call them Art Journals. I started making them to maintain my sanity during this Pandemic, but also to sell at our Garden Marketplace. Now that we have canceled the Marketplace, I needed a place to sell them. So, with Board approval, I took them to Beauty and the Bath. Lori Lyons loves our club, and she has agreed to sell them for us. Not only will she sell them, but ALL the proceeds will go back to the club! How wonderful is that!? So, if you're in the village, please stop at her shop and thank her! And check out the journals.... perfect little gift for a friend.

That's it for now. Stay safe, and be well. ksr  