

Club update from our president – January 2021

Hi Ladies,

Happy New Year to you and yours. May 2021 bring us all much more happiness, health, and peace of mind.

The Executive Board met in a zoom meeting on Thursday. We made some very important decisions, and I want to bring you up to speed.

1. April's meeting is canceled. We will inform you about the May meeting later this spring. So much depends on this virus, and the vaccines. Time will tell.
2. Garden Marketplace, which was planned to be part of HistWick's Garden Tour is canceled. Again..... this decision is caused by Covid. Given all the planning and work it would take while facing this virus and all of its restrictions, it would just be impossible to host a successful event.
3. The September Luncheon at the Dunes Club is postponed, again.... due to Covid. It will, hopefully, be scheduled for 2022.
4. After much thought and deliberation, the Board has decided that we need to raise our membership dues. Active members now pay \$35 annually. We are proposing that the new fee is \$50. Associate members will go from \$50 to \$60 annually. These changes require a membership vote. To keep things simple..... only contact me if you vote is NO, and it must be done by this Wednesday, January 27th. If I don't hear from you, I will submit a Yes for you.

By the end of next week, you will receive the forecasted budget from our 1st Vice President, Darlene Vincent. You will need to vote to accept that budget. Please follow the same procedure by only contacting me if you vote NO. If you have any questions regarding the budget, please direct them to Darlene.

5. Many thanks go out to Barbara Dawson and Sheila Skiffington for submitting the grant applications to the town of NK and the State Legislature. Fingers crossed! Those grants were a lifesaver this year!
6. In regards to all of our programs, such as Meals On Wheels and the Nursing Home Project, everything is on hold for now. The only exception is Brick Sales! We had a record breaking year selling bricks in 2020! Many thanks to the Communication Team for dedicating themselves to promoting brick sales.....WELL DONE! And many thanks to Jane Brockway, our Brick chairperson! She and her husband, Bob, and their little installation team, worked really hard this year! We appreciate you! Let's keep the momentum going into 2021.

I'd like to take a moment to reflect on 2020, and the Coronavirus. The first year of my Presidency was not at all what I expected or planned. The uncertainty and anxiety of this virus, combined with the political atmosphere, and the feelings of isolation and loneliness were so overwhelming at times for all of us. However, I witnessed such strength and fortitude in our ranks. And I must say that I have never been prouder of Plum Beach Garden Club. And I consider myself blessed to be your President during these difficult times. I also need to point out, once again, that we had a wonderful year with many exciting and positive things happening. And most important, the club came out of 2020 without having to dip into our savings. What a blessing! So..... I thank each and every one of you for your dedication to our little garden club. Small, but mighty! And lastly, I know it's early, but I'd like each of you to begin thinking about your role in the garden club in the future. And by future, I'm referring to our next slate of officers and committee chairs. We normally start thinking about this next September, but I'm asking that we start now. Let's get a jump on it! And to do that, please take some time to consider how you can help with the club's success during 2022 and 2023.



I leave you with Robert Frost's famous poem, one of my very favorites. □

"Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening"

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.