



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019

- Present:** Pamela MacLean, Vicki Willis, Dixie Cress, Kathy Harvie, Allison Magee, Elsie Locke, Sue Gilmour, Elizabeth Hill, Kathy d'Entremont, Susan Hazelwood, Debra Carey, Betty Anne Cameron, Bibiane Lessard, Deb Bowes-Lyon
- Regrets:** Valerie Despres, Sharon Bryson, Ann Jones, Jamie McLellan, Geoff MacDonald, James Skinner

Pamela called the meeting to order and apologized to those unable to attend due to the change in date.

There were the following changes to the agenda: Volunteers for the Financial Audit was moved to New Business; Rules for Room Bookings was added to New Business; Past President report was added to Reports Highlights.

### 1. Review Minutes of Board of Directors April 27 Meeting

- Deb pointed out that her last name does not have an "s" at the end.
- Moved by Vicki that the minutes be accepted with the correction. Seconded by Sue. Motion Carried.

### 2. Old Business

#### a. Convention 2019

- No report available.
- All agreed that it was an excellent convention. There were 199 in attendance.
- Sue noted that the workshops were a great idea. However, several people said that the food service was lacking. Debra had issues with the committee dealing with the food just prior to the convention.

#### b. Convention 2020

- Report is attached.
- Pamela asked the group if they felt that the 4 bedroom suites with 2 bathrooms would be appropriate and all agreed that they would.

#### c. Expansion of the Web Site History Section

- *Dixie* will contact James to see if the scanned files are in the appropriate format and ask that he post them on the web site.

#### d. Digital Garden Club

- Anne reported in an email: "I have investigated how this is done by the Rotary Clubs and found that it was very cumbersome and takes a special administrator to do it. I don't want to add this to my responsibilities so we might have to chuck this up to a good idea, but hard to implement. There were also issues of "dues" which I don't know how to resolve. If there is someone more techy than I am and would be interested in this, I can pass on to them what I have discovered".
- It was decided to not proceed further at this time.

#### e. Merchandise to Sell on Web Site

- Pamela has canvass bags from Fundy but they were not available at the meeting.
- Pamela recommended that we not get into the business of selling merchandise because of the work involved in stocking, maintaining and shipping.
- If we ask a supplier to set up our logo, the clubs could order merchandise from their web site.
- **Pamela** will get 3 quotes from suppliers on the cost of setting up the logo in the appropriate format.

**f. Access to Photo Presentation for Directors**

- Some Directors were unable to access the photos in the format sent by Betty Anne.
- **Pamela** will put them into a presentation format with names and club names attached to all photos and then the link will be sent to the Directors.

**g. Social Media Guidelines**

- Deb drafted guidelines and received feedback from Ann, Kathy H. and Susan.
- There are sections for an interactive web site and Instagram which we may have in the future.
- Deb, Kathy H., Ann and Debra will get the document into draft form and send to the Executive for comments.
- The NSAGC name is protected legally because we are registered with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies. This means the logo cannot be used by anyone other than NSAGC members because it has the organization's name in it.
- **Pamela** will write a letter to the Wilmot Club, encouraging them to rejoin NSAGC and letting them know that they cannot use the name or logo.

**h. Garden Centre Discounts**

- Pamela asked that the **Directors** visit garden centres in their areas to see if they will offer discounts to NSAGC members.
- **Directors** should send their lists to Susan prior to the April meeting,
- The goal is to have an updated list on the web site by the June convention.
- **Allison** will create a cheat sheet that Directors can use when speaking with the garden centre.

**i. New NSAGC Email Addresses**

- James has replaced personal email addresses with position titles on the web site. The emails are sent to the personal email addresses from the position links.
- Kathy d has received a lot of spam since the email addresses were replaced.

**j. Plants from Halifax Garden Festival**

- Vicki bought 50 plants for her club's plant sale. There are approximately 40 left.
- Debra asked if there is money owing from the plants and Pamela verified that we made a profit on them.
- Pamela moved that the plants be turned over to District 4 for use at the 2020 Convention. Sue seconded. Motion carried.

**3. From Special Director's Meeting November 17, 2018**

**a. Houseplant Club**

- It was agreed that there is no interest in pursuing this at this time.

#### **b. NSAGC Web Site**

- James has agreed to convert the web site to Word Press, more up to date software than the site is currently written in. It will be assessed after that to see if a web designer is needed.
- James has made many maintenance related changes to the site in a timely manner.
- Susan advised the 3 web designers that we spoke with that we are not designing a new site at this time.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **a. Volunteers for the 2019/2020 Financial Audit**

- Sue and Deb agreed to perform the financial audit for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. The audit will take place at Allison's home prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

##### **b. Rules for Room Bookings**

- Nether Pamela or Allison had rooms for Friday night.
- The new rules for room reservations are:
  - When Allison sends his email asking who requires rooms, please always reply Yes or No.
  - Allison will give the names to the hotel and if your name is not on the list you will not get a room under the NSAGC booking.
  - Everyone was asked to check their spam and/or junk email to make sure that Allison's emails go to in-boxes. His email address is [astek1@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:astek1@ns.sympatico.ca).
  - If anyone is staying at the Willowbend for more than one night, Allison will make the booking on their behalf.

#### **5. Reports Highlights**

##### **a. Past President (Vicki)**

- Nominations for the 2020/2021 year are attached.
- It was suggested that we move the Awards duties to the Past President. We are not able to do that at this time because the by-laws stipulate that we have an Awards Committee. Instead, we agreed that the Past President would fill the role of Awards Chair until such time as the by-laws are revised.

##### **b. Treasurer (Allison)**

- The account balances are: chequing - \$6129.33; savings - \$10049.94. There have been around 6 transactions since April.
- Allison moved that the account balances be accepted. Bibiane seconded. Motion carried.

##### **c. Plant Giveaway (Geoff and Jamie)**

- Report was read by Susan and is attached.
- Pamela noted that the new method of getting plants gives us more selection and no mold.
- **Geoff and Jamie** are asked to put together instructions that will be distributed to the clubs for how to deal with the plugs.

##### **d. Web Manager (James)**

- No report available.

##### **e. Newsletter (Ann)**

- No report available.

**f. Facebook (Ann)**

- No report available.

**g. Tags and Seals (Valerie)**

- Report was read by Susan and is attached.

**h. Awards (Vicki)**

- Report is attached.

**i. Photo Contest (Betty Anne)**

- No report was available.
- There were approximately 300 entries.
- **Betty Anne** will send the rules for 2020 to Pamela by November 14 for inclusion in the December newsletter.
- Debra asked if a category could be added for House Plants. **Susan** will add this to the April Board meeting agenda for potential changes to the 2021 Photo Contest.

**j. Historian (Dixie)**

- Report is attached.

**k. District Directors**

- Reports are attached.
- It was noted that the District 4 Meeting had 167 in attendance this year with 17 clubs represented. Prospect sent a report on Friday.
- It was felt that it would be helpful for clubs to see other clubs' reports. The club reports are sent to Directors who send them to Dixie. Directors send a summary to Susan for the Board reporting.
- **Dixie** will send the club reports that she receives to James for posting on the web site.

**3. Correspondence**

- None.

**4. Other**

- Kathy d reported that the Communities in Bloom, hosted by the Town of Yarmouth, was a great success. The Yarmouth Garden Club make items for the gift bags. A basket was provided so that attendees could return gift bag items that they didn't want and pens and pamphlets were the items most returned. Ann gave a presentation at the event.

**5. Next Meeting – April 25, 2020**

**6. Adjournment**

- Debra moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

*Recorded by Susan Hazelwood*

## 2020 NSAGC Convention Report Hosted by District 4, Halifax

Theme: Working with Nature

So far we have had 3 meetings.

Our executive is: Chair: Kathy Harvie; Treasurer & Registrar: Susan Hazelwood; Secretary, Venue/Food : Pamela Maclean; Program and Speakers: Lawrence Spencer and Linda Derrick(Fall River) and Claudy Levy (St Marg Bay); Fundraising and Donations: All clubs; Publicity and Promotion: Dartmouth Horticultural Society; Vendors: Wendy Haley and Hammonds Plains GC; Entertainment: Lawrence Spencer; Floral Competition: Nancy MacCara and Seabreeze GC.

Our budget is set and is based on 200 registrations.

We will be holding the convention at Mount St Vincent University, as the overall costs are much more affordable. Rooms will be available in a 4 pod with each person having their own bedroom, a shared kitchen and living room. Single rooms with a shared bathroom will also be available and will be recommended for those with mobility issues.

The registration form is being finalized and will be submitted to be published in the December Scotia Gardener.

## NSAGC Nominations F Report 2020

### Executive

Chairperson	Kathy D'Entremont
Vice Chairperson	Vacant
Past Chairperson	Pamela Maclean
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Allison Magee

### District Directors

District 1- Cape Breton	Bibianne Lessard
District 2-Eastern	Sharon Bryson
District 3-Central North	Elsie Locke
District 3-Central South	Elizabeth Hill
District 4-Halifax	Kathy Harvie
District 5-Valley	Debra Carey
District 6-South Shore	Sue Gilmore
District 7-Western	Deb Bowes-Lyon

### Committee Chairpersons

Awards	Vacant
Historian	Dixie Cress
Newsletter Editor	Ann Jones
Tags and Seals	Valerie Despres
Web Site Manager	James Skinner
Photo Contest	Betty Anne Cameron
Plant Giveaway	Geoff MacDonald
	Jamie McLellan

Submitted by Vicki Willis Past Chair

**Plant Giveaway Committee Report**  
**Oct. 19, 2019 NSAGC Board of Directors Meeting**

While preparing for the 2020 Plant Giveaway and Plant Sale, the committee was faced with a new challenge. Our supplier, Balamore Farms Ltd. who had supplied the NSAGC with bare root perennials for years, opted to discontinue supplying or growing perennial plants as an element of their business as of May 1, 2019. We unfortunately received no notification of this until we reached out for this year's plant availability list. This left us scrambling to find a new distributor at the last minute. Luckily with the dedication and ingenuity of District Director Sue Gilmour, a new supplier was put forth, Jolly Farmer. Due diligence was completed, and it was decided to partner with Jolly Farmer to be our new supplier of plants for the annual plant giveaway and plant sale.

Jolly Farmer, located in the Saint John River Valley of New Brunswick, has been in operation since 1967. They currently operate a 13-acre greenhouse, servicing customers in both the US and Canada. Jolly Farmer has been considered in the Top 20 Young Plant Growers of North America since 2013 and have a selection of more than 3000 varieties of young plants. They have been proven to be very amicable to work with and have a dedicated Nova Scotia Sales Representative. They also offer multiple discount options based on criteria we were able to meet, as well as Jolly Farmer opting to bend the rules in this regard to our benefit. One of the great benefits we were able to capitalize on this year was free shipping based on our order volume.

By partnering with Jolly Farmer, our historical purchase of bare root perennials was no longer an option, instead, our plant would be purchased in the form of a young plant plug. Jolly Farmer's catalogue is vast, so the board of directors was asked to weigh in on hardy plant varieties for consideration in the annual plant variety vote. The three selections for this year's vote include Clematis "Radar Love", Platycodon "Fairy Snow" and Sidalcea "Party Girl". Platycodon "Fairy Snow" commonly called Balloon Flower won the popular vote. After significant communication with the board of directors and the sales representatives of Jolly Farmer, the decision was made to purchase plant plugs in 144 count trays providing young plants in the 2" size range. An added benefit to partnering with Jolly Farmer, is the ability to purchase and provide to members coordinated plant tags at a nominal fee, it was agreed upon by popular vote to include plant tags in this year's order, adding additional value to the plant giveaway and plant sale.

After multiple communications with the board of directors and the Jolly Farmer Sales Representatives, it was decided to purchase 22 trays of 144 count plugs. Jolly Farmer will only guarantee 140 plugs per tray which equates to the original majority vote of 3080 plugs, with the potential for 88 additional plants to survive and be available for sale. This provides us with the approximate 1800 plants reserved for the giveaway and between approximately 1280 and 1368 plants available for sale. By selling 1164 additional plants at \$2 each we will cover the cost of the plant purchase from Jolly Farmer. Last year 1665 additional plants were purchased by clubs with the potential to have sold several hundred more.

Preparation and transportation of plants will be done similar to last year with the generous help of Hants North Late Bloomers Garden Club volunteering their time to assist in the sorting, allocation and packaging of the plants, with District Director Liz Hill offering Salter's Head Gardens as a sorting station. In similar fashion to previous years, the plants will be transported to the annual board meeting in April for distribution to district directors for dispersal to clubs. To aid in the viability of safely and efficiently

transporting these young plants, a minor extra step will be implemented for the district directors and individual garden clubs this year, this will be elaborated on closer to April as the kinks in this new endeavor continue to be tweaked to create a form of best practice.

We anticipate doing a survey with all clubs in the summer of 2020 on their satisfaction and survival rate of the young plant plugs. While an individual's gardening skill level would play a factor in the results it will still help us garner the viability of continuing this route in preceding years.

We would like to close by thanking all board members who actively participated in voting on plant variety, tag inclusion and order quantity, especially those direct, efficient responses. While everyone was able to vote on the variety of plant selected for this year's offering, we did not receive the same level of participation with tag inclusion and order quantity, it is our hope that this can improve going forward as all opinions matter and everyone should exercise their right to vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie McLellan & Geoff MacDonald  
NSAGC Plant Giveaway Committee Co-Chairmen



NSAGC TAGS & SEALS AS OF OCTOBER 17, 2019

Since May 2019 I have received 5 orders for tags and seals and only one order was mailed to the club.

Items sold were:

450 entry tags

270 - 1<sup>st</sup> place seals

270 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place seals

265 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place seals

31 best in show seals

Income = \$128.60 which was mailed to the treasurer

Inventory as of October 17, 2019:

Entry tags = 4,616

1<sup>st</sup> place seals = 721

2<sup>nd</sup> place seals = 727

3<sup>rd</sup> place seals = 892

Honorable Mention seals = 1,012

Best in show seals = 4,244

Total items = 12,212

Inventory value @ .10 each = \$1,221.20

Respectfully submitted

Valerie Despres

## **NSAGC AWARDS Presented at 2019 Convention**

### **Retiring Board Members**

**Paul Despres**

**Kathy d'Entremont**

**Joanne Ford**

**Janet Simpson**

**Eileen Pease**

### **2019 Award Presented**

**Arthur Haskins (felt he received one)**

### **2018 Award Presented**

**Patsy MacKenzie**

Historian Report, October 19, 2019 Meeting

There is not much to report since the last meeting.

I have not yet followed up with Paul Despres about getting the missing histories put on the website. This will be done shortly.

I still need to contact the Nova Scotia Archives to see if they are interested in receiving any of the histories and other NSAGC materials to add to their collections. This will be done before the spring meeting.

Club reports for District 1 were received from Bibiane Lessard.

Work will be done over the winter to complete the history for the 5 year period of 2015 to 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Dixie Cress, Historian

## District 1 Report-April to September 2019

District 1 has 5 Clubs with approx. 150 members. They are the Inverness Garden Club, the Isle Madame Garden Club, the Autumn Joy Garden Club, the North Sydney Garden Club & the Westmount Garden Club with the bulk of the members in the Isle Madame Garden Club with 42 members. All clubs meet on a regular basis once a month. Attendance at meetings is good, 10 to 15 in général. Several Clubs did not meet in August as many of the members were away. I have not met with the Clubs yet but hope to do so in the near future. I know that several clubs are having difficulty with finding members who are willing to serve on the executive. Here is a brief overview of what is happening in each Club. All but one Club submitted their biannual report.

### **Inverness Garden Club-pres.Betty Ann Cameron- members**

- ordered 100 extra plants from plant give away for annual plant sale in June
- received Federal grant to continue maintaining 55 hanging baskets which were hung up in early July along Main St.
- Receives a 50/50 grant from the municipality of Inverness for the 50 barrels which the members prepared themselves along Main St.
- 2 people were hired to do the watering
- 1 member attended Convention
- visited local nurseries in June
- Neville MacKay -guest speaker-75 people attended
- participated in the Inverness Gathering Parade
- high winds & hurricane Dorian forced the Club to remove their hanging baskets & the barrels were also damaged or lost.
- plan to have one more get together before many snowbirds leave for the winter

### **Isle Madame Garden Club-pres.Claire Doyle-42 members**

With its 42 members Isle Madame members have been very productive from a Mad Hatter Tea Party” in July to a Fall harvest auction for charity as well as garden tour visits over the summer they are succeeding in maintaining interest in their Club.

- Two summer students were hired to maintain the club gardens and grounds at the Rocky Bay Irish Club.
- daffodil trail along roadway-planted 500 bulbs last year, sold 1000 this year for community to plant-goal 10 000 in next 5 years.
- the Rocky Bay Irish Club has been a strong supporter of the Club’s ideas providing them access to their hall and use of their land.

### **North Sydney Garden Club-pres. Cathy Balah-30 members**

- project- Field of Hope-near NS hospital
- held annual plant sale in June

- plant sale –May 30
- 3 of their members attended the Convention
- excursion to Mabou Market in June to mark Prov. Gardening Wk
- flower show in July
- pool party in July
- CB Farmer's Exhibition
- corn boil at the home of the president in Sept.

**Westmount Garden Club-pres. Bibiane Lessard-29 members**

Much of our efforts these last 6 months were concentrated on the upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of our Club.

-in May we participated in the "Spring Fling" at the Farmer's Coop with a gift basket & draw for a free consult with our Master Gardeners

-we used our Master Gardener's as guest speakers:topics-Amaryllis, late winter, early spring pruning & a presentation on floral arranging from one of our lifetime members

-a new banner was completed for our 60<sup>th</sup> by two quilters in our Club

-our community project at the Skyway Sr. Citizens has many perennials to which we added columbines, Shasta daisies & maltese cross. Plan to add more this fall to help cut down on weeding.

-we decided to combine the District meeting with our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September at 1 pm. The District meeting took place from 1 to 2:30 after which the general public was invited. We were pleased to welcome Pamela to our gathering.

It was a great success with over 100 people in attendance. A beautiful displays of specimens, arrangements & of a zodiac floral

were a great attraction. Door prizes and a light lunch made for a welcoming time for all. We had hoped to have more members from the District 1 Clubs for our District meeting.

**Autumn Joy Garden Club-pres. Carol Ann Organ- members**

One of our Clubs did not attend or submit a report.

## **District #2 Director Report for Oct. 19, 2019 Board Meeting**

submitted by Sharon Bryson

I had made contact via email and telephone with the Presidents and Secretaries (communication persons) on several occasions to convey information regarding District Fall Rally, deadlines for various events plus NSAGC Convention info and to request a small synopsis of the clubs activities for my information and for this report. Due to my late husband's health, I made relatively few in person visits. The exception was the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Garden Party for the Pictou and Area Club.

### **Guysborough and District Garden Club**

The Guysborough Club has had quite a revival in 2019. A bit more formal slate of officers was initiated. They also have a Facebook page.

I have been receiving a copy of their Club minutes and notices.

In 2019, The Guysborough and Area Garden Club started meeting twice monthly over the summer, hosting monthly guest speaker evenings that were open to the public. We managed five gardens in the community of Guysborough.

Our big accomplishment this year was partnering with Home Hardware in their annual Tree Plant supported by Tree Canada. We got a grant of \$2,800 to start a community orchard, and we planted 40 edible trees behind the Chedabucto Lifestyle Complex on September 25, including native hazelnuts, serviceberries, and aronia.

We're planning on continuing to meet over the winter to work on plans for our own, as well as the community's gardens, and we're hoping to get funding in place to expand our orchard or start a community vegetable garden next year.

### **St. Mary's District Garden Club**

Great efforts have been made to increase membership and thus vitality in the club. Our club, with 31 members, has been very active and engaged with multiple community endeavors, participating in various learning opportunities and enjoying numerous tours/educational outings.

- Construction and completion of two raised beds for Sherbrooke Senior's Apt.
- Link up with local Community Health board to promote and educate importance of local food security and initiate food gardens in near future.
- several local garden tours
- Purchase of hanging Flower baskets, along Main Street, Sherbrooke.
- Clean-up of local library raised beds and planting of new material along with hosting a Children's garden experience this spring.

## **Lismore & Area Garden Club**

The Lismore & District Garden club meets on the second Monday of the month. There are ~38 members in the club.

The vegetarian supper and Christmas social where we each make a craft of the season are perennial favourites.

- February event this year Arthur Haskins shared his experiences of participating in the American Dahlia Show.

We enjoyed two tours. One was to the Antigonish area to view a private garden as well as a vegetable growing operation. The second was to the Truro area where we toured a dahlia farm as well as two greenhouses.

There are three public gardens in the community which we look after, striving to enhance the beauty of the area.

We are grateful to the Lismore Hall for letting us hold our regular meetings there. Their kitchen was recently renovated and we were pleased to make a financial donation towards that cause.

The club is selling allium bulbs and a special fertilizer for high bush blueberries as fundraisers.

## **Pictou Garden Club**

2019 has been a busy year for the **Pictou and Area Garden Club**. Early in the year it was unanimously decided that the name should be changed from Pictou Garden Club to reflect the wider area in which many members reside. We hold 7 meetings a year with 2 potlucks and 2 garden tours.

The main focus has been the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the club.

In April a workshop was held to create a hypertufa frog ornament, plus there was a seed and bulb exchange.

Our yearly plant sale raised \$1120.00. A portion of these proceeds was donated to the town of Pictou for the purchase of beautiful hanging baskets lining the main street.

In June a workshop on Arranging Cut Flowers was held with one of our own gals, Anne Tokaruk as the instructor.

Also in June, as part of the Jr Gardener Program, nasturtium seeds were passed out to interested Grs2-5 students at McCulloch Education Center in Pictou.

The Jr. Gardener Program has been an active part of our club for 54 years. With that in mind a float was created for the Pictou Lobster Carnival which won the Best non-commercial float award.

To celebrate Canada Day, July 1st we planted a Linden tree at the McCulloch House in recognition of 2 lifetime members, Ruth Sterling and Sylvia MacDonald.

To top off our celebrations of 80 years of gardening an old- fashioned Garden Party was held at Anne Gratton's home.

At that time the municipality presented the Club with a certificate in recognition of 80 years dedicated to providing the community with flora for all to enjoy.

Members of PAGC also submitted several entries in various categories at the PNC Exhibition.

An Interpretive panel sponsored by the PAGC has been placed near the Gazebo in Market Square in Pictou. It highlights the history of the Market Square area in pictures and words for those who visit the town.

We are hosting the 2019 Fall Rally for the 7 clubs in Eastern District #2 on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Antigonish Garden Club**

The Antigonish Garden Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at The John Paul Center in Antigonish. There are presently ~thirty members.

We do not hold regular meetings in January and February, but always attend the February gathering in Lismore. This year Arthur Haskins was the guest and gave a great presentation on his visit to the American Dahlia Soc. Show.

March- Sharon Bryson gave a presentation called "Getting to Know Azaleas".

April - Sharon Bryson gave a presentation on Growing Vegetables and Herbs in Containers. This was a last minute "fill in" from the planned speaker.



May - We had a question and answer forum with many questions being handled by Pat, Yvonne and Sharon. A member to member plant exchange was also held. May was a bit unusual because we had chosen not to have our annual plant sale.

June - Our annual Potluck gathering was hosted by Yvonne Maas. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Several members attended the Provincial Convention in new Minas.

Several Garden tours were held through the summer.

The H.M. MacDonald School garden was beautifully maintained this season.

Fall meetings resumed in September. Our guest speaker was member Kristen Swaren on “Growing Great Garlic”.

October- Members created a fall/winter decorative container to place on their front porches from seasonal greenery and accents.

Members are planning to attend the District Rally in Pictou.

## **New Glasgow and Area Highland Garden Club**

The Highland Garden Club meets, at Glen Haven Manor, the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Late 2018 was highlighted by a talk by Bob Parker, a wreath making workshop and a Christmas dinner gathering.

Regular meetings are suspended during the winter.

Spring activities included a visit to the NSCC Campus to view their living wall, a seed exchange, a Plant exchange in May, the Plant Sale in June was used to inform patrons about the Garden Club.

Two members attended the Annual Convention in New Minas, highlights of which were presented to members in September.

October plans are to make “stitching cards” ,and attend the Fall Rally in Pictou.

## **The Westville and Area Garden Club**

Founded in 1974 and currently has 17 members with new outreach for growth.

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month excluding July and August.

Goals: enhance quality of life of members and others and add beauty to our area, promote good gardening techniques, create a social network and learning environment, and to be good and active members of NSAGC.

2018-19 Guest Speakers included: Michael Wilson on the work of the Chedabucto Education Centre Green Team, Julie Wynands on forcing bulbs and caring for Christmas season plants, internal workshops lead by Margie Beck and Mary K. MacKinnon, Harvey Ford on forestry and Frank Parsonage of Frank's Crazy Critters.

Other Events: Annual Christmas Party, closing Banquet at Swiss Chalet, best ever Spring Plant and Bake Sale, planting day at 8 sites in Town of Westville, work on plants at a Riverview Residential Centre site and at the Aberdeen Health Authority.

This is the report from garden clubs in Central District 3 North. This includes Parrsboro, Hilden, Great Village, Cobequid, Bible Hill and Brookfield. These clubs have approximately 177 gardeners.

Christmas was a great time of celebration – eating, decorating, wreaths, swags and gift giving. Most club are involved in decorating in their areas.

Speakers in our area included:

Gary Higgings on worm farming

Charlie Baird, The Tree Guy

Mitch Jamieson, Colchester Tree Services

Cliff Sandeson on photography

Allan Banks, Harbour Breeze daylilies and Irises

Heather Casely on gall midge in daylilies

Art Haskins on Dahlias

Lloyd Maplebeck on ediable gardens

Darwin Carr on the Dal Campus

Members Presentations were on bats and bathhouses in Nova Scotia and the history of cotton.

Clubs went on tours to:

Other members gardens

Chester area

Gardens of Norm and Heather Patton

Wicked Hops

Cecil Dunlops, Pheasant Gardens

Jane Blackburn, Woodland Gardens

Brookfield Compost

Lavender gardens

Frank Cochran's Family Farms

Clubs did garden crafts – concrete hands and Christmas wreaths, centerpieces and swags.

Flowers were planted in all areas. Brookfield Garden Club put a float in the Come Home To Brookfield Parade. Pre-schoolers learned about gardens and were given seeds and flowers to plant.

In all it was a busy year that went by too quickly. We look forward to our winter rest and look forward to next Spring.

Elsie Locke, Director, Central 3 North

# CENTRAL DISTRICT 3 SOUTH REPORT

For

Provincial Board Meeting Saturday October the 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- Central District 3 South has six clubs. All six clubs seem to be very active with special meetings, guest speakers and/or workshops inviting other clubs to their events. Clubs visit other club member's gardens, go on day trips to exciting and interesting places. Clubs have other club members as guest speakers within their own clubs.
- Some of the clubs have increased their membership this past year.
- I, as a director have passed on information from the provincial board to the clubs, been the liaison between the clubs and the provincial board and also passed on information between clubs in our district.
- I have mentored Jamie McLellan and Geoff MacDonald, chairs of the plant giveaway committee, giving them advice and encouragement when they were feeling discouraged and defeated.
- We have just had our District Council meeting and District 3 South will hold the District Fall Rally next year in 2020.
- District 3 will also hold the annual convention in 2021, we have already picked a bare bones committee to start planning. Our first meeting will be Wednesday November the 13<sup>th</sup> in Truro.
- All yearly club reports have been collected and will be given to the historian.
- I will continue to do my best as a director and hope to attend more meetings of the individual clubs in the coming months.

Elizabeth Hill, Director  
Central District 3 South

## NSAGC District 4 Report Oct 2019

As director I had hoped to attend more of the summer events, but work kept me extremely busy all summer. I attended the Lower Sackville club meeting in September. Lower Sackville club has been struggling and they are currently without a president. Since changing the name from Mayflower to Lower Sackville, they have attracted some new members and they appear to be some younger people too. I believe part of the problem in this club is the lack of a welcoming committee. Small groups of 3 or 4 people chatting during the social time, but not chatting between the groups. The newer members did seem to pay close attention when I talked about the convention in 2020, hopefully some of them will become more involved in the club.

Some of the clubs have been busier than others over the summer.

Bedford Horticultural Society had a successful plant sale in May and also made some flower arrangements for the closing dinner. In July members made floral arrangements for the public to view and vote for their favorite at Scott Manor House. Members attended garden tours in July and August. In September, members participated in a tree planting ceremony at Northwood-Live More Home in Bedford. This was to honor Neville MacKay for his time and delightful presentation at the district meeting held in April. A Magnolia 'Sunsation' was the chosen tree.

Lower Sackville Garden Club had a plant sale in late June, and any remaining plants were donated to the garden behind Acadia Hall.

Eastern Shore Garden Club had a busy summer too. They toured Halls Road Rhododendron gardens, Donna Evers, Harbour Breeze Daylilies and 2 private gardens in the Jeddore area, and 3 members garden tours. They also had a stepping stone workshop and a summer potluck at the Seaforth Community Hall. Volunteers look after the gardens at the Cenotaph in Porters Lake and the Birches Senior residence in Musquodobit Harbour.

Fall River Garden Club cleaned up and planted new perennials and some annuals in 2 gardens they maintain for the town of Fall River. They had a successful plant sale in June. In July, they hosted a 'Walk on the Wild Side' at Jamieson Park. This was open to the public and included refreshments, scavenger hunts for kids and adults, and a bag of goodies for anyone finding leaves from a list of trees.

St Margarets Bay Garden Club hosted a community plant sale that sold out within an hour. They continue to maintain the Crossroads Garden. Members attended a summer BBQ at the Hubbard's Barn.

Seabreeze Garden Club had a quiet summer. They did get together at a local restaurant at the end of July and they had a meeting and tour of a member's garden in September, post Dorian.

Hammonds Plains Garden Club also had a quiet summer. They had a spring plant sale.

Dartmouth Horticultural Society and Prospect Garden Club did not submit a report.

## District 5, NSAGC Report for October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting

Since last April's board meeting, the provincial annual convention was held in June which all clubs in District 5 were busy with helping in one way or another. Clubs serving on the planning committee were Charing Cross GC, Nicholasville GC, Valley GC, and the AVAVS. Charing Cross GC organized and oversaw the plant draw during the AGM and Haliburton GC organized and oversaw the silent auction which brought in \$535. All of the clubs made the table arrangements which were then used as game winnings. The number of hours and the millions of details could never be counted; many thanks for the volunteers in District 5.

As Director, I have been very busy with the convention and the after business. The board voted to distribute to the clubs equally left over prizes of rubberized work gloves; 9 per club. Mark Cullen generously gave our district signed books enough for each club. Plus the committee gave each club \$100 from the remaining money unused for the convention. I made certain each club received these items.

I met up with the Haliburton Club two times since April's board meeting; once to their annual BBQ and once while they were on tour at Gary Drew's gardens in Melvern Square. I also went to New Ross Days in August to see Charing Cross' flower show. I also attended the Valley GC flower show in August. Enjoyed each event and was warmly welcomed by members.

Our district has been invited to District 7's District Meeting being held October 26<sup>th</sup> in Bridgetown which I am planning to attend.

Respectfully submitted by  
Debra Carey  
District 5 Director

## District 6 Report

It was another busy gardening summer for the District.

Mahone Bay Garden Society. I attended their AGM in February. It was very well run with their president Jenny Sandison also giving a wonderful talk on her travels in Turkey including speaking on their wild flowers, birds and archaeology. The executive which is voted in meet monthly to decide on programs, etc forming committees when required. More information about their meetings will be sent via the club report after their last meeting.

I do not get a report from Basin Gardeners Association but they continue to pay their dues. They have no executive but Myra Knight collects their plants from me when I go thru the area on the way home. Most of them do belong to the Chester Garden Club as well. I checked out their Blog but nothing was updated since 2018. A few of the members did attend our District meeting.

Lunenburg Garden Club meets every month except January. The president, Kathie Kirkpatrick and the secretary Cheryl Lamerson still run the whole operation but they do ask for help when needed it and get the help. Their club ran the District Meeting this year. It was held at the Lunenburg United Church Hall and was well attended. They had numerous door prizes and David Veniot speaking on his favorite trees. JoMcgee gave a talk on how to make teacup arrangements and provided lots of flowers and teacups to make our own arrangements. It was lots of fun. A lovely luncheon followed with 3 gardens open for display afterwards. The weather warmed up some for the garden viewing which was great. The club is on Facebook so I can write most of the report. February they had David Maxwell speaking on historic apple types and their uses. March they had a Sea Glass Workshop with Shelley's Sea Glass Creations. April they had Brad Toms from the Mersey Tobeatic Research speaking on "Species at Risk". They had their plant sale on May 25th. In early July they had a bus tour to Annapolis Royal visiting the Historic Gardens and three private gardens. Later in July they had a nice stroll thru my gardens.

Chester Garden Club is very well run. The president of the CGC, Jayne Campbell always has her reports in to me in a day.

The club has monthly board meetings and eight monthly meetings with programs. They have a social in December and one in August with no meeting.

The first meeting in March had low attendance. Many members in Chester are summer residents. In March. David Adams, program coordinator, felt that the first program should be a planning

session outlining the many activities as well as encouraging the members to be more involved as well as seeking new memberships.

It is nice when the members get involved by working on the programs. There is a great deal to learn from one another and often you do not have to leave your own garden community.



Having said that it is still difficult to come up with creative ways to make money to keep things going. CGC has the Gardeners Plant Sale again this year on May 25 at The Chester Train Station 9-12. And the annual Flower Show and Tea to plan.

They have added a private garden tour this year for another NS garden club which will include a supper as a fundraiser. I did attend this tour, the club had a bus load of people from the Truro Garden Club and it was all all day function. They arrived by 11:00 and we toured 4 gardens including a shopping visit to Oceanview Nursery. The club had tour guides at every location and the supper at the Legion was a wonderful cold buffet with ummy desserts as well.

For another fundraiser this year a beautiful painting was donated to the club by Maria Kuttner from St Margaret's. All proceeds go to the upkeep of our community garden at The Cove.

It is difficult for the club to get executive members. There appears to be a great deal of recycling in many organizations these days. They all to pull together when things need to be done.

The community gardens take a great deal of work to maintain but every year the members are diligent in preparing The Cove Garden and The Parade Square. This year the priority is to refurbish the Parade Square. This garden has been the focal point in the community for more than 40 years. Lots of weeding and replenishing of plants and shrubs still required after the cleanup in the fall.

Club members like the NSAGC website. They like to be informed on what is going on around the province. Chester Garden Club maintains a blog. Many connections are also made on Facebook which is also helpful to spread news to gardeners concerning a great number of topics. More of their gardening year will be sent via their report after their last meeting.

Queen's Garden Club president, Karin Allen has stepped down due to health concerns and the club has elected Mary Lou White as the new president. Karin and Deb Noble, the secretary will still be handling the administration/communication for the club, she just can't attend meetings. Karin wrote her club's report, great co-operation with each other. They still meet at the Thomas Randal Library on the 3rd Thurs evenings at 6:00 pm. January and February the club didn't meet. The club now has several committees, one to work on our plant sale and second to look after the library garden. In March after the reorganization the members were asked to bring in or tell about their favorite garden tool. They also had a small seed exchange. For the April they discussed more on the club's reorganization plus the NSAGC annual meeting. The speaker was David Maxwell speaking on Apple Propagation. More of their gardening year will be sent after their last meeting this year.

The Bridgewater Garden Club currently has 41 members, and meets in the St Paul's Lutheran Church, lower level, on the second Tuesday of each month, March through November, with a Christmas dinner in December.

This is the 70th anniversary of Bridgewater Garden Club, having formed in March of 1949. They had a special celebration on June 9th, featuring a Waffle Brunch, and special guest Neville MacKay doing floral displays for us. It was well attended with 160 people, a great fund raiser for the club.

In March Emily Liot presented a talk on Vermi-Composting using red worm wigglers, in April speaker Robert Howard from Annapolis Royal, represented the Atlantic Rhododendron &

Horticultural Society. He presented Rhododendron 101, and also brought a sample, to show how to prune, and what to look for on a shrub. In May, Myra Knight did a presentation on Floral Arranging from a Judge's Perspective.

They had a workshop in late May, with members doing either a Fairy Garden container, Succulent Garden, or Herb Garden container. These creations will also be featured at our Annual Flower Show to be held on August 13th. The Flower Show was a success with many more people attending the function this year at our old location in the Anglican Church. They had their annual Plant Sale scheduled for May 25th at the Irving Station in Wileville from 8:30 – 12 as a fund raiser.

Bridgewater Garden Club currently maintains the Bridgewater Veterans Park. More of their monthly meetings to be included in their report sent after the last meeting.

The Shelburne County Garden Club has 25 members. Since the new president, Marilyn Johnston took over last year, the club has run smoothly. They meet the 3rd Mon of the month April-December. They meet at the McKay Memorial Library. They have plant sales as fund raisers including selling plants from the Atlantic Rhododendron Society and Coral's Kincaid Daylilies who donates to them for their sale. They get together for a potting up party two weeks before and they have their sale the 3rd Saturday of May at the Shelburne Community Centre. They donated \$200 to the Rosedale Manor for a new tree for the residents to enjoy.

Short and Long Road trips for the year were as follows:

Sherry Hill Farms in Sandy Point, Shelburne County to learn about growing lavender and propagating boxwood on June 18.

To Bridgewater to visit garden centers, Lunenburg County Winery and Nova Scotia Daylilies. Coral Kincaid and her husband are always great hosts.

Rick Bower's High Bush Blueberry Field in Lower Ohio and 3 of our member's gardens in that area.

Members Henry & Heide Schwind to learn about his grapes and to sample some of his homemade wine that he makes from the grapes. He also treated them to freshly made homemade bread from his outdoor oven.

They continue to maintain the Alma Chetwynd Garden. They weed, fertilize and mulch. They also plant one bed of annuals during June to celebrate Gardening Week in Nova Scotia. More of their gardening events to be included in their President's Annual Report.

All in all it was a great summer with lots of events in each of the gardening clubs. Respectively submitted.

Sue Gilmour  
District 6

# **Nova Scotia Association of Garden Clubs**

## **Western District 7**

### **Report to the Board**

#### **October 19, 2019**

#### **Bridgetown Area Garden Club**

Bridgetown Area Garden Club has had a busy and productive year to date. Our membership is healthy, approaching 60. We meet all year and have had a full slate of speakers and hands-on workshops. The Club is involved in several Community projects and has received many compliments therefrom. We have been working towards diversifying club membership and increasing the number of scheduled youth activities.

Our Club will be hosting the District 7 meeting October 26, 2019.

We are looking forward to the renewal of the NSAGC website to the benefit of both members and business activities.

#### **Champlain Garden Club**

Champlain Garden club has monthly programs from March - December on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. in the lower level of St George and St Andrew United Church in Annapolis Royal. In addition we have a plant sale fundraiser in the spring, a flower show in mid summer, a bus tour in mid August, and pot luck meetings in the summer and for our December meetings. Our club has financially supported the planting of gardens at the Annapolis Post Office, Amphitheatre, Health Care Centre, and King's Theatre and members maintain these gardens throughout the season. In November we help seniors create seasonal arrangements at the Annapolis Nursing Home and members decorate the O'Dell House Museum for a Victorian Christmas.

There are no issues with the NSAGC at this time. A suggestion as to how the NSAGC can help our club would be to compile and share a list of programs/topics with the corresponding speaker and include contact information. In the past our program committee or members of our club have suggested topics but we have been unable to find someone to present that program. Since travel time also has to be considered, it might be practical to have this list broken down into the various districts.

#### **Clements Garden Club**

No report.

#### **Pubnico and Area**

This year we had several guest speakers. We invited the Yarmouth Garden Club to come and hear Jill Coleville from Bunchberry Nursery speak on promoting the rare and unusual plant sale which took place in Annapolis in May. She showed a slide show, showing off plants from many different nurseries. Very interesting.

Tim Doucette from Deep Sky Eye observatory in Quinan came and displayed a slide show and discussed how lighting affects the environment, and lighting for your garden.

Tickets were sold on a bench and cookies/fudge sale as fundraisers. The annual clean-up at the Musée gardens was held. Flower of the month contest continues.

Some members attended the Yarmouth garden symposium in early spring.

During the summer months the club took a day trip down the south shore stops at Crosby's nursery in Liverpool, Spencers nursery in Shelburne. Did some garden tours in the Yarmouth area. Wienie roast at one members home.

Talked on how to control weeds and what it means about your soil where certain weeds grow.

Some members were involved with the International Community in Bloom in Yarmouth in September.

This fall, we have a hands on night on how to plant bulbs in planters.

We will be ending the year with our Christmas party, in a greenhouse with our ugly sweaters.

## **Rooted in Clare**

No report.

## **Weymouth Garden Society**

At the present time the Weymouth Garden Club has 33 members.

In the summer we hold a mini flower show and tea at the Historical building.

Planters are placed at the Medical Center and at the Historical Building in the summer and members keep up the garden at the " Triangle " in Weymouth.

In November the "Festival of Trees" event is held at Sissiboo Landing in Weymouth. Our group enters a tree in this event.

In the summer our group is privileged to enjoy some afternoons visiting members gardens.

## **Yarmouth Garden Club**

No report.