

**Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania
Wyndham Garden State College
Boalsburg, PA
October 15, 2019
Board of Directors' Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Garden Club of Federation (GCFP) Board of Directors was called to order by **President Joyce Milberg** on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 9:08 a.m., at the Wyndham Garden State College Hotel, Boalsburg PA.

Present were:

Vivian Abel	Georgieann Dettinburn	Christine Leskosky	Judith Shaffer
Barbara Andrus	Sandy Eldridge	Joyce Milberg, President	Mary Jo Schlomann
Corinne Babson	Karen Faust	Grace Mitchell	Marjorie Stillwell Sears
Marilyn Backus	Jo Anne Fogelman	Paula Mohler	Susan Semple
Barbara Brand	Nancy Lambert Fulk	Linda Morrison	Lois Shuster
Sharon Brown	Judy Grunwaldt	Flossie Narducci	Betsy Smith
Iris Cisarik	Vivian Hall	Lori Pancione	Linda Southerling
Mary Lou Colussy	Sandra Hendricks	Linda Pinto	Deb Stumpf
Joyce Crider	Bonita Herman	Angela Raitano	Judy Warn
Kathryn Crossman	Mary Hetrick	Sharon Richardson	Haddie Weber
Sheila Croushore	Joyce Hoek	Rosemary Romboski	Barbara White
Jackie Davies	Eileen Hoover	Vina McLoed Rudolph	Betty Wist
Janice Davis	Jane Howe	Leeanna Ryba	Pat Wolanski
Maryann Desanto	Diane Hughes	Mary Schwab	Karen Wychock
	Lou Ann Lauger	Michael Serraino	Tonya Young

1st Vice President Sheila Croushore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Vina McLoed Rudolph presented the inspiration.

President Milberg introduced members of the Advisory Committee: Chris Leskosy, Sharon Brown, Betsy Smith, Angie Raitano, Dot Yard, Jackie Davies, and Lois Shuster. She declared a quorum was present.

Timekeepers were appointed: Claire Leichter and Lori Pancione. **President Milberg** announced that Linda Morrison and Nancy Fulk will review and approve the minutes. She reminded everyone that the Recording Secretary records the minutes.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President Milberg recounted the rigors of the Officers' Fall Road Trip, and reported that connecting with all the members at the annual meetings is so worthwhile; the officers greatly enjoyed the feedback and the warm hospitality. At the last meeting, she reported that NGC was studying eliminating the print copy of the National Gardner Magazine. No new subscriptions will be issued, but the date for the final printed issue is not determined. NGC has raised the quality of their newsletters, which everyone should receive. Please keep the flow of information going down to club presidents and club presidents to your members. She corrected the nationwide number of Blue Star Memorial Markers that was reported at our last meeting: there are now over 3,000 blue star markers in the US; and PA has installed 5 so far this fiscal year.

As announced at the annual meetings, NGC has set a goal to plant 153,000 trees in the next two years. She hopes that PA can plant 5,000 of those. Please spread the word to start counting the trees you plant both at the garden club level and individually at the member level. This statistic will be included in the next two presidents' reports that you fill out each February.

The \$26,000 dollars in the International Disaster Fund will be added to the National Disaster Fund. This is done on recommendation from our accountants, as it is too difficult to move money into the locations that need it. Monies from new

Life memberships will no longer go to scholarships but be split between the Permanent Home & Endowment Committee and Plant America grants. The amount available in Plant America grants has been increased to \$50,000.

She reminded everyone who presents a report to bring one copy to the meeting for the Recording Secretary, and also to send a copy via email to the Recording Secretary as well. She also reminded everyone to read carefully the Call which announces each Board Meeting.

Finally, she reported that attendance at the previous day's Leadership Workshop was 107; she thanked Kay John and Lee Ann for handling all the details.

1st Vice President Sheila Croushore reported her activities since the June Board meeting: she attended the dedication of two Blue Star Memorial Markers, worked on the Children's Peace Garden, and visited all the Districts at their annual meetings. At the District Directors' meeting that morning, they discussed several issues, including the costs of conventions and finding ways to raise funds to help with outlay. The Districts are active, organized and doing well.

2nd Vice President Leeanna Ryba reported that Group Rooms Agreements with the Wyndham Garden have been signed for the next two Board meetings, whose dates are June 1 and 2, 2020 and October 12 and 13, 2020. The room rate will increase from \$103.00 to \$108.00 per night with the additional \$10.00 charge for two sharing a room, and will continue to include breakfast and free parking. She attended all but 2 of the District annual meetings.

Recording Secretary Barbara Brand reported that the minutes of the April 2019 Convention Board Meeting and the June 2019 State Board Meeting were approved and distributed electronically. There were minor or no corrections. The April 2019 Convention Board Meeting minutes are posted on the GCFP website under "President's Packet," and the June 2019 Board Meeting minutes are posted on the GCFP homepage. She thanked all those who sent their reports via email prior to this meeting, and asked those who had not done so to please do so as soon as possible.

Treasurer Joyce Crider presented the financial activity May 1 to September 30, 2019. She read a summary from the Financial Statement for this period. With income of \$72,586.27 and expenses of \$65,254.45, the balance is \$6,619.64. She clarified that the amount reported for monthly payroll preparation is the quarterly figure (3 months). The full financial statement will be filed with these minutes. She also had a message from the **Financial Advisor Cindy Layton**, reminding treasurers for councils, schools and symposia to send their report to Cindy by October each year.

Financial Secretary Nancy Lambert Fulk reported the following balance in the 1st National Bank checking account:

Beginning balance as of 06/01/2019	\$100
Receipts: Deposits from club dues	\$40,072.50
Disbursements::Transfer to Treasurer	<u>(\$40,072.50)</u>
Balance in checking account as of 10/01/2019	\$100

Corresponding Secretary Linda Morrison reported that she sent several get well cards this summer: in July, to Kitty Pottmeyer who had a minor stroke, and to Ruth Notestine who had a fall; in August, to Pat Ptasick who fell and broke her back and hip. President Milberg asked Linda to send a card to Barbara Campbell who recently was in a car accident.

Parliamentarian Angie Raitano reported that she is available by phone and email to assist members who have questions regarding Roberts Rules of Order or GCFP protocol pertaining to issues of concern in their clubs.

President Milberg asked the Recording Secretary to read the recommendations forwarded from the Executive Committee.

- The recommendation from the Executive Committee is to move scholarship funds in the amount of \$6,000 in memory of Mary Longacre to a CD account at Stifel. **Approved**
- The recommendation from the Executive Committee is to move funds in the amount of \$10,215.74 for Penny Pines into a 6 month CD account at Stifel **Approved**

President Milberg explained that since the Allegheny National Forest new management is reviewing their upcoming projects and does not need any funds from GCFP at this time.

- The recommendation from the Executive Committee is to authorize the 1st Vice President to investigate hosting the CAR-SGC Conference in Pennsylvania in either 2021 or 2022 **Approved**
- The recommendation from the Executive Committee is to authorize a \$100 petty cash fund for the Treasurer to cover costs of postage for mailing out past District Director pins **Approved**

President Milberg reported that she has assigned Joyce Crider to accompany Betsy Smith to a jeweler in Myerstown to get an estimate for ordering one or two new GCFP Past President's pins. They will report at the April Convention. She also explained that GCFP negotiated being released from the lease at the Camp Hill office; the landlord released us for the last year of the contract from November 2019.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Sharon Richardson, District I Director, reported that their Annual Meeting, hosted by Wayne Woods Garden Club, had an outstanding speaker, Coleen Burke, a three-time member of the White House Holiday Decorating Team. She has a goal of providing more educational opportunities for District members, so District I is hosting Gardening School and Environmental School. Their next District meeting will be held in the new, state-of-the-art John James Audubon Center, a \$16 million museum dedicated to learning about birds.

Linda Pinto, Assistant Director, read the report from **Barbara Campbell, District II-III Director**. At the District annual meeting one president highlighted the versatility of her club in three categories: Education, Service, and Fun. As District Director, she asked the presidents to prepare a poster or tri-fold to highlight an event or happening in their club. Some of the things shared by the presidents were gardens they maintain, interesting programs, garden tours, community projects and fund raisers, and she described several of these activities. South Schuylkill Garden Club was asked by NGC to prepare an article about their project, the Walborn Interactive Children's Garden in Orwigsburg. Their article is on pages 20-21 of The National Gardener Fall 2019 issue.

Georgieann Detinburn, District IV Director, reported that there are eleven clubs in the District, with 722 members. Two clubs are celebrating milestones as Federated Clubs: Biglerville Garden Club is celebrating 65 years & Penn-Cumberland Garden Club is celebrating 60 Years. Our clubs have participated in a wide variety of community service and horticultural therapy projects. Clubs also held several successful workshops for children and youth, and for the enrichment of their own members. Some programs offered included: Gentle Yoga for Gardeners, Thrifty Tips for the Gardener, Maximizing the Health of Trees, Shrubs & Plants, Amazing Violets & Their Care, Wild Edible Foraging, Floral Business / Current Trends, and much more. A number of interesting tours were taken, including the New York Botanical Gardens, and the National Arboretum.

Barbara Andrus, District V Director, shared a number of the District clubs' activities, such as flower shows and tours, but she also wanted to share a learning experience regarding garden clubs and community welcome boards (often seen at the entrance to towns and cities). Nine years ago, Heritage Garden Club added their name to an empty space on one of them, and were recently informed by PennDOT that they were in violation of PA Code 67, Chapter 445.6, requiring an annual permit. The violation included a \$500 per day fine if the illegal sign is not removed in 30 days. So, if your club wants to be included in a community club display along with the Lions Club and Rotary Club, contact PennDOT to obtain the paperwork for a permit!

Jan Davis, Assistant District Director, reported for **Marcy Cunkelman, District VI Director**, who reported that District IV has lost Glendale Garden Club – the District now has eight clubs. Due to a heat advisory, the District get-together was postponed from July to September. Two clubs held flower shows over the summer, while other clubs are planning fundraisers. This past year our clubs awarded \$8,900 in scholarships. Patton Garden Club will celebrate their 80th anniversary on November 25th with a special program by Jenny Rose Carey of PHS Meadowbrook Farm.

Marilyn Backus, Assistant District Director, reported for **Margaret Wolff, District VII Director**. She reported that the District has twelve clubs and one affiliate member. Ten clubs attended the Annual Meeting on September 11, 2019, where fifteen new garden club members received a tulip bulb to welcome them. Daffodil Awards and Laurels were given out to deserving club members. The District's Hummingbird Award was awarded to Judy Rhine of Pucketos Garden Club. Flower Shows were held by Murrysville Garden Club and The Garden Club of Forest Hills. The Greensburg Garden Center held a Garden Tour showcasing seven unique gardens. The McKeesport Garden Club held six Teas, one a month from May through October, and reservations are being booked for next year.

Mary Hetrick, District VIII Director, reported that District VIII continues to work on plans to place a Blue Star Memorial Marker at the Welcome Center on I-90 Westbound, crossing the state line from Ohio to PA. Our annual District meeting was held on Sept 12th with a unique program. They held a District-wide Horticulture Specialty Flower Show called "Sharing Our Gardens." It was a first in

many ways... the first flower show many members had ever seen, the first show they have ever entered, the first Horticulture specialty show our Erie Area Judges Council judges had ever judged, and the first District wide flower show! 56 Members entered their 223 horticulture specimens. They were judged by the Erie Area Judges Council.

Rose Romboski, District IX Director, reported that District IX continues to grow through community beautification, conservancy and education. Some knees and backs may be giving out... but members hearts are strong and don't miss a beat! One notable club project is turning an overgrown vacant property into a garden of flowers and recycled items. Leetsdale Garden Club members weeded, cleaned up and cultivated a beautiful eye-catching garden right on a main street in town. Southern Butler County Garden Club recently dedicated a Blue Star By-Way Marker in Cranberry Township, the first of its kind in the community. The marker is located in a community park garden, which affords the Club visibility in a high traffic area to educate the community on the Blue Star program. Ingomar Garden Club educates with their presence at a booth set up for their Community Days celebration. This is a great way to draw in new members as well.

Kay Bair, District X Director: The District X Fundraising event this past June, "Wedding Fashions thru the Years" was a great success. Every one worked together as a "TEAM" to make it happen. All the clubs shared in putting the program together. Five garden clubs awarded scholarships this year, but the District also offers scholarships to our members to attend flower show school, environmental, landscape, and design schools. Scholarships are very important; as an example, Town and Country Garden Club gave its very first scholarship to a young student, Kevin Willis from Carmichaels Area High School (CAHS), in 1991. Kevin competed in the Envirothon International competition while still a student. He has been teaching chemistry and environmental sciences at CAHS for the past 22 years, and is now a Coach for the school's Envirothon Competition Team. Scholarships do make a difference!

Karen Wychock, District XI Director, stated that District XI's garden clubs are still growing together and Planting America in their community gardens, senior centers, nursing homes, libraries, schools, fire halls, train stations and all around town. Their Annual Meeting and Luncheon on September 25th brought together 90 members of District XI. The floral designer, Leona Swiacki, shared her talents in her program, "Mum's the Word," which was a delight to the eye and the senses. Many of their members are gearing up for the Philadelphia Flower Show, "Riviera Holiday," scheduled to open on February 29, 2020. Three clubs had flower shows this summer, and upcoming events include a Holiday House Tour and Tea in November. And several house tours in December.

President Milberg reminded all District Directors to have their clubs that have outstanding programs or projects to send articles and photographs to the KG Online editor, Marie Mueller, as well as to the Keystone Kalendar.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS

Awards, Marilyn Backus shared several tips for navigating the awards process. She outlined instructions for accessing the Awards documents on the GCFP website. She advised reading the new Application Guidance, which gives deadline dates, and adds information on the details of the award procedure. If you have a question, contact her at this specific email address for awards: gardenclubofmonroeville.org20@ymail.com. For information, in completing the NGC applications, the number of GCFP members is 4,958.

Blue Star Marker, Corinne Babson said that Blue Star Markers are still needed: District II/III (I-78 W, Easton; I-81 S, Great Bend; I-80 W, Delaware Water Gap), District IV (I-81 N, Franklin), District VI (I-70 W, Warfordsburg), District VIII (I-90 W, West Springfield, which is pending), District IX (I-70 E, West Middlesex, Mercer County), and District X (I-70E, Claysville). Since the June meeting, three markers have been dedicated: 1) Presque Isle Garden Club, By-Way Marker at Veterans' Park, Millcreek Township, June 7, 2019; 2) Lawrence Park Garden Club, Memorial Marker at Lawrence Park Veterans' War Memorial, Erie, August 20, 2019; 3) Southern Butler County Garden Club, By-Way Marker at Graham Park Community Garden, Cranberry Township, September 18, 2019. Cranberry Township donated the land, and the club received two grants to expand the project. The Welcome Centers total fourteen, we need eight and we have done six. This is a big project with PennDOT.

Book of Recognition, Ann Hulse, was not present, and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. Since the Board Meeting on June 3rd, one entry has been made into the Book of Recognition: a grant from the InFaith Community Foundation through the generosity and recommendation of the Alan and Cindy Zepp Fund. (\$250.00).

Civic Development and Seed Money, Marjorie Sears showed photos of some ways that Seed Money was used in Civic projects: Signs were placed in gardens maintained by the Burrellton Garden Club, and used rain barrels purchased by Old York Road Garden Club became colorful planters at a local train station. She received 2,000 packets of free flower seeds from George Ball, Chairman of Burpee Seeds, and brought them to this meeting for distribution. She alerted clubs with programs for youth – or interested in starting one – to the fact that Burpee has kits for 3rd and 4th graders that they will send out to teachers next spring. Seed Money applications are on the GCFP website under "President's Packet #23", and they are due on February 12, 2020.

Convention Coordinator, Judy Shafer really enjoys this job since she gets to travel all over the state. In August, she met with Sharon Richardson and Mary Ann Desanto, District I, to visit two potential sites for the 2022 Convention. She sent a detailed site report to the GCFP officers. She encountered a unique situation – at each site the Chamber of Commerce presented a monetary incentive to book with their location. She consulted with **President Milberg, Cindy Layton, Financial Advisor**, and our legal advisor. It was determined that since Chambers of Commerce are 501(c) 3 organizations, we could accept their “donations.” The GCFP officers visited the sites considered, and they selected the Desmond Doubletree Hotel in Malvern PA. A contract is being prepared for April 3, 4 and 5, 2022. She met with Joyce Crider, Chairman of the 2021 Convention, and Linda Hoppes, co-Vice Chairman, whose committee is actively planning their Convention at the Doubletree Hotel in Lancaster (Willow Street) PA. She will be participating in their committee meetings beginning next spring.

President Milberg confirmed that the money referred to in the report comes from the very high hotel taxes in the Philadelphia area. It will offset expenses for the 2022 Convention: Part will be used to cover the hotel deposit, and the rest will be used to offset the cost of the rooms at the hotel.

Convention 2020, Sue Semple reminded everyone that the winter Keystone Gardener will be arriving early in 2020 with all of the exciting information about the upcoming GCFP Convention. Make sure you have April 17-19, 2020 on your calendar so that you can come to the Doubletree Pittsburgh-Cranberry in Mars, PA and celebrate the GCFP's 90th Anniversary with us. We have great speakers, workshops, exhibits and vendors planned for you. The members of District IX are working hard to make sure you have a memorable time at the 2020 Convention. Come join us in "Celebrating Our Legacy-90 Years".

President Milberg asked Sue Semple to report on the **Trash to Treasure** Contest. There had been many requests that the Contest rules and guidelines be available earlier than the Winter issue of the KG. The KG Online will have the information. The theme is “Any Way You Slice It,” and the design should include a cake or piece of cake, the GCFP logo, and the color purple, which is the 90th anniversary color.

Environmental Schools, Nancy Lambert Fulk announced that Environmental School Series 6, Course 3, will take place March 9-10, 2020 in Exton PA. She also reported that the Fall issue of The National Gardener mentions the Pennsylvania Environmental School on page 32. She thanked Sharon Richardson for lining up the speakers for these schools.

Gardening School, Mary Jo Schlomann had no report, but announced the dates for the next school, March 11-12, 2020.

Landscape Design Schools, Vivian Abel reported that National Garden Clubs developed a common Handbook for Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Schools and made many changes. All three schools will now have open book/open note tests. Landscape Design School Course I is coming up at the Doubletree Resort by Hilton Lancaster on Friday and Saturday, November 1-2. This will be another change for our Landscape Design Schools which have previously started on Sunday and ended on Tuesday. So far 20 garden club members have registered. We have 13 students and 7 consultants refreshing. We are still receiving registrations.

Leadership Workshop, Kay John reported that there were 107 registrants for this conference, held the previous day. Income from registration totaled \$2,140, but there are still some outstanding bills.

Investment Committee, Judy Grunwaldt reported on investment activity as of 10/01/2019, which is summarized here: Account value, \$580,251.57; Funds available, \$26,530.40; estimated annual income, \$35,004.73; estimated yield, 6.03%.

Keystone Kalendar, Chris Leskoskey had no report, but she urged everyone to encourage club members to send in pictures.

Life Memberships, Nerita Brant was not present, and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. There is one new name to report: Karen Szoke, Gettysburg Garden Club, has become State Life Member #825. This has been reported to the Keystone Gardener and to the GCFP Secretary. There are no new CAR-SGC or NGC Life Members from Pennsylvania.

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl, Paula Mohler reported that it is easy to access the information about these contests. Go to the GCFP website, click on Education/Awards and click on the left hand side; next click N8- Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl. Scroll to the bottom of the page and all the information about the contest is listed under additional reference information and downloads. The posters need to be received by her by January 20, 2020. To ensure that she receives the posters, mail them to her Florida address 271 Pine Loop, Frostproof, Florida 33843 after December 26.

Schools Coordinator, Vivian Hall was not present and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. She announced the dates for upcoming NGC Schools: Gardening School, Course I, October 17-18, 2019; Landscape Design School., Course I, November 1-2, 2019; and Gardening School, Course II, March 11-12, 2020. These are all the dates she has at present.

Webmaster, Cindy Layton, was not present and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. The average number of visitors per year is 92,083. The Office Secretary and GCFP President together coordinate what information is published on the web, and subsequently submitted to the Webmaster. All Newsletters and items for the Events Calendar should still be emailed to gcfpweb@gmail.com. There have been questions regarding viewing the password protected documents on Smart phones/iPads. This Chair has discovered that the documents are downloaded to the iCloud drive on newer devices. Instructions on how to view these documents will be posted on the website in the near future.

Youth Activities, Barb Oswald and Chris Hawthorne, were not present, and their report was read by the Recording Secretary. The deadline for all Youth Contests is December 1, 2019. The Youth Sculpture entry can be anything made out of recycled materials. Send only the pictures with the required entry form that is on the GCFP website. The Poetry Contest theme for 2019-2020 is "Adventures in the Garden." The theme should NOT be the poem's title, or points will be deducted. The High School Essay Contest theme for 2019-2020 is "Challenges in Preserving our Natural Habitats."

Scholarships, Sandra Hendricks reported that updated scholarships information is on the GCFP website. Application and Financial needs forms are in fillable form PDF format. She gave District Directors packets with current updated information and GCPF and NGC forms, as well as a letter to be given to club scholarship chairmen in their Districts. She read a thank-you letter sent by a recipient of the Constance H. Smith Scholarship, telling how her scholarship made it possible for her to accept an internship in New York, working with landscape architects and contractors on the High Line, the 9/11 "Glade" Memorial and Washington Square Park.

Scholarship Donations, Linda Southerling reported that scholarship donations are sluggish. Please consider supporting the GCFP Scholarship Fund. We heard from District Directors how the investment in students is paid back to all of us by what some recipients do in their future careers. Look at the website form and consider including emails to save on postage.

501-c-3, Mary Jo Gardill was not present and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. She reported with great relief that the forms for all but one garden club have been filed successfully. New clubs have been filed, but no verification has been received yet. The importance of timely annual filing by clubs in May cannot be stressed enough – please pass this along to your clubs.

President Milberg deviated from the usual order of business, and skipped ahead to New Business, asking **Susan Semple, Organizational Studies**, to present proposed changes to the GCFP By-Laws and Standing Rules.

She explained that the copies of the proposed By-Law changes that were distributed at this meeting follow the same format used by NGC. She read the existing and proposed wording for each article affected. Proposal #5, Article VII, Section 7/A/1, was amended in a motion by Lois Shuster and the amendment was approved. With that amendment, all of the proposed changes to the By-Laws were approved.

The proposed changes to the Standing Rules were then presented. After discussion prompted by a question from Lois Shuster, Proposal #3, Rule 3 "c", was amended in a motion by Susan Semple and approved.

President Milberg interrupted the report on changes to the Standing Rules in order to recess for lunch at 11:59 a.m.

President Milberg reconvened the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Grace Mitchell, New Cultivars for Food Gardening, announced that she brought seeds to share – hyacinth beans and castor beans. **President Milberg** reminded everyone to take home some of the Burpee "Sow a Smile" seeds.

Returning to the matter of Standing Rules changes, the remaining proposals were approved. The proposed changes will be published in the Keystone Gardener Online Newsletter and presented for final approval at the 2020 April Convention.

Advisory Council, Christine Leskosky, read a motion from the Advisory Council relating to the expenditures for officers and Board members not exceeding \$100 over the budgeted amount without approval of the Finance and Executive Committees. There was considerable discussion with several questions; the Advisory Council agreed to readdress the issue, and the motion was postponed.

Central Area Judges Council, Eileen Hoover, announced that the Central Area Judges Council will meet on October 31, 2019, at the Harrisburg Area Civic Garden Center. Members are asked to wear a Halloween hat, created in accordance with the Botanical Arts Exploration Freedom of Style Design, page 94 of the Flower Show Handbook.

Erie Area Judges Council, Mary Hetrick, reported that this Council currently has 14 Master Judges, 6 Accredited judges, 2 Emeritus Judges, and 1 Student Judge. The Council held its annual flower show, "Wings over Lake Erie, Birds, Bees and Butterflies," in Edinboro on August 29th. The Council also assisted in a Horticulture Specialty Show, at the District VIII Annual Meeting on September 12th. Their October meeting will focus on Abstract Design, reviewing techniques and practicing writing comments for this design type.

Laurel Highlands Design Council, Mary Jo Gardill was not present and her report was read by Deb Stumpf. She reported that the Council took a well-deserved break after the convention in Altoona. On October 2, they participated in a Standard Flower Show, "Autumn Creations," at the Greensburg Garden Center. The Council will host next year's joint show on August 19, 2020. She was pleased to announce that they have one student judge taking her handbook exam in October, and three others taking it next spring.

Philadelphia Area Judges Council, Lori Pancione, reported that the Council's fall meeting will feature a colorful Horticulture Specialty Flower Show, "Autumn Splendor" as well as a program by Dan Mummett, an entertaining speaker, who will speak about "Periled Birds of Prey." At this meeting they will say farewell to Cheryl Avery, our area's long serving Schedule Advisor, who will be moving to West Virginia. Fortunately, Liz Snowdon will take over Cheryl's job. In March 2020, the Council will stage a Small Standard Flower Show, and judges will participate in the Philadelphia Flower Show and an upcoming District XI Small Standard Flower Show. In May, they plan to join District XI for a field trip to Eleanor Tickner's Peony Farm for her spectacular peony "power bloom" time.

Flower Show Symposium, Tonya Young, reported that a Symposium was held at the Nittany Lion Inn on June 4-6, 2019. There were 65 attendees: 28 judges tested (all passed), and 23 judges audited. Seven states were represented. A financial summary has been sent to Cindy Layton, Financial Advisor, and the proceeds of \$1,097.77 will be shared between Central Area Judges Council and GCFP.

Flower Show Judges Credentials, Nancy Hannum was not present; and her report was read by the Recording Secretary. Currently there are 113 Accredited FS Judges in Pennsylvania: 28 Accredited Judges, 17 Life Judges, and 68 Master Judges. There are currently 42 Emeritus Judges. At the symposium in State College, PA, 35 judges got credit, 20 Master judges got audit credit, and six judges advanced to another level: Tom Huston advanced to Life Judge, and Susan Aspinall, Rosemary Ebersole, Carol Hite, Eileen Hoover, and Pat Wolanski advanced to Master Judge. Nancy Wismer advanced to Master Judge at the Kentucky symposium in June, 2019. In addition, 19 members attended or will attend symposia in other states. Jan Warshauer is the newly appointed NGC Flower Show School chairman. Recommendations from the NGC 2019-2021 Executive Committee took effect July 1, 2019 (See *The National Gardener Summer 2019*, pp 33-34). She reminded judges to make sure that their information in the KG Directory issue for this administration is correct;; contact her if there are any changes..

Judges Council, Pat Wolanski, reported that she sent congratulation letters to the judges advancing to Master level at the June Symposium and elsewhere. In recent months, she has gotten questions relating to Botanical Arts, American flags, Fairy Gardens, and staging. She attended the NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, where she received information about Handbook recommendations and changes, Flower Show Schools changes, and judges' credentials. The recommendations were approved and took effect July 1, 2019. The Council's April 2020 luncheon speaker will be Maryann Christmas from Massachusetts, an NGC Master Flower Show Judge, and has many other credentials and awards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Milberg asked attendees who are attending the CAR Conference later this month, and who are not members of the CAR Board to be sure to get a voting card from the Credentials Chairman when you arrive. She announced that the next meeting of this organization will be at the GCFP Convention, April 17-19, 2020.

Chaplain Vina McLoed Rudolph gave the inspiration.

President Milberg adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m., October 15, 2019

Barbara A. Brand

Recording Secretary