**FAIRBANKS GARDEN CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING OF 9-21-16**

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The first of the 2016-2017 Fairbanks Garden Club luncheon meeting and program was attended by 36 members.

A delicious lunch was presented and served by the September Hostess and Luncheon Committee.

Co-President Christine Page welcomed all and stressed our season is underway with a lot of work and fun ahead.

Christine stated at this time she, on behalf of the club, would like to recognized Sandra Siber and Saroj Joshi for the hard work they did as treasurers. Christine met Saroj at the plant sale. Saroj was doing the very important job of collecting the money. She greeted Christine in her usual warm and friendly manner and handed Christine a membership form and encouraged her to join. Saroj was co-treasurer for 4 years and handled this extremely detailed job with ease. Saroj is always ready to help out and volunteer wherever she can. The other half of the dynamic duo is Sandy. Sandy has this incredible ability to make every single person feel special. With her upbeat attitude and friendly demeanor you just feel better when talking to Sandy. Like Saroj, Sandy was co-treasurer for 4 years and made the co-treasurer’s job look easy. As co-treasurer, she along with Saroj, would work during the summer months preparing tax filings in preparation to FGC season. Sandy works very hard for the plant sale every year growing plants from seeds for sale. She also volunteers for many of the FGC jobs and activities. Both ladies were presented with lovely plants as a token of the FGC appreciation.

Christine went on with the business portion of the meeting and shared the plans that are set for review this year.

(1) Review of the club’s by-laws. (2) Issues regarding the homemade sandwiches-- are still unresolved.

(3) Year book is done and mailed out. A lot of work went in to it (Thank you Loretta). Please refer to it, but do not share with outside sources. Also go to the website it is beautiful and there is a lot of information there.

**Committees:**

**Tours**

Alice Ungethuem will share tour information at next meeting. Anne Heller interpreter at Arnold Arboretum mentioned that there will be a tour high-lighting trees, vines and shrubs at the Arboretum. A date of Oct. 19, 2016 was suggested. All to meet at Endicott Estate at 10am.

**Membership**

Mary Geary presented FGC new member Jeanette Evans with a plant.

Co-President Annette Eddy mentioned that as stated in the by-laws all members have to participate in the club’s activities and work. She said that the club offers so much to all such as friendship and learning and it is important to participate. Annette encouraged all to fill out the preference sheet that was passed out and to sign up for at least 1 thing. She mentioned the planter container for the Historical Society also the Fairbanks Family Reunion. Great places to start helping out. We will be having the committee chairs speak about their committee so that you will be familiar with what is needed and available. Annette asked all members what we would like to see presented in our programs. Christine asked if members liked/had any thoughts on the new format of having the business portion first.

Carol Dixon, Chair of garden therapy/horticulture/monuments, was introduced. Carol explained the workings of this committee and how rewarding it is to contribute to the beatification of the Fairbanks House gardens, the herb garden there and caring for the monuments that enhance several areas of the town and helps to bring to the forefront the FGC talents. In this committee there are many opportunities to volunteer throughout the growing season. People are always needed to weed the flower beds, tend the herb garden and care for the plantings at the monuments. The next clean up at the Fairbanks House will be on October 27, 2016. All are welcome all are needed. Also, next year we will be setting up weeding throughout the growing season, weeding can be done at any time and it is very helpful to have ongoing weeding. Under the care of Joan Hartzel, we plant flowers at the Golden Living Nursing Home. Lisa Brayton will be looking for help planting the Historical Society’s container and for the holiday season. Rose Favret, with the help of a FGC volunteers

will be preparing the lovely wreaths that are distributed throughout the town.
Carol’s committee has many opportunities for volunteer help please consider volunteering your talent and help. All dates can be found in the yearbook.

Loretta Larraga, website/yearbook committee was introduced. Loretta puts together and skillfully cares for our beautiful website. She is the committee and would gratefully appreciate help. She can always use proof-readers and people to help with any bulk mailings we might have. To keep our website fresh and relevant, Loretta can always use little helpful hints and tips about gardening and nature, pictures of flowers, plants, gardens, anything of interest to enhance the website. Loretta also puts together our yearbook, which needs updates and changes periodically.

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Loretta asks that if you have not gone to the website please do. It is very beautiful and has a lot of helpful information that can be found there. The luncheon minutes will be posted there. Please consider helping out Loretta with this fun committee.

 **FYI;**

Mary Geary was contacted by Home and Garden Magazine. They are looking for exceptional garden. Members discussed this and asked if we can possibly showcase the Fairbanks House or possibly the MIT House .Mary G. to further research.

 Ann Heller asked for volunteers for the tea cup brigade.

Marion Kirohn mentioned that Allin church is having a plant sale on Sunday 10/2/2016

Annette Eddy, Ways and Means, stated that we will be stopping the opportunities drawings for 1 year.

Charlotte Pollock brought some old fashioned irises and some Joe Pye seeds, please help yourself.

Judy Massey has 3 gardens that will be lost due to house construction please come and dig up and take whatever you might want.

Business meeting adjourned.

**Program:**

We then moved on to our program given by Kristin Green. Kristin was introduced and welcomed. She is interpretive horticulturalist, author and photographer. She is in charge of the Blithwold Mansion Garden and Arboretum, Bristol R.I. and principal author and photographer of Blithewold’s garden blog. Kristin is the author of Plantiful, start small, grow big with 150 plants that spread, self- sow, and over winter. Kristin’s topic was plant propagation methods.

Kristin spoke of her great love for plants, art and painting and unites all into her work at Blithwold. We learned how plants are spread throughout our gardens and how heavily invested plants are in their survival of the species and if we give them a chance we will be rewarded. Kristin demonstrated how we can propagate plants from plant tip cuttings and the use of a Forsyth pot, which proved to be amazing to see, and very easy to do. She shared a wealth of information with us and we could see the great love she has for her avocation. Kristin answered many, questions from our members who were very enthusiastic and interested in Kristin and her work and techniques.

It was a very interesting and informative program enjoyed by our members. Kristin’s book was available for purchase.

Program adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Favret, Secretary, Fairbanks Garden Club