

**Minutes of Friends of the Garden  
Annual Meeting  
January 13, 2011**

**Board Members Present:** George Deatz, Gail Wright, Kauleen Volentine, Don Akers, Patrick Byers, Bob Childress, Christine Chiu, Lee Coates, Dr. Stan Horsch, Kenny Knauer, Sharon Owings, Peggy Sauer, Mike Ward, Cindy Baird, Dorothy Brunskill, Bill Roston, Tom Lakowske, George Freeman, Jeanne Duffey

**Guests Present:** There were 18 guests in attendance.

**Minutes:** Gail distributed the December minutes by email. Bob Childress moved to accept; minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was deferred until next month.

**Guest Speaker:** Tom Lakowske, FOG board member and president of the Greater Ozarks Society spoke about the goals of the group, which are to promote the use and enjoyment of Hostas. They maintain and plant the Hosta Garden. Events planned for this year include planting annuals, a class about dividing Hostas, an Evening in the Garden in June, and a plant auction in late August. Events and information are posted on their website <http://www.gohs.org/>. Membership fees are 7.50 per year.

George D. introduced Barbara St. Clair as the new president of Master Gardeners of Greene County.

George also introduced the elected officers for FOG for 2011. President George Deatz, Vice President Christine Chiu, Treasurer Kauleen Volentine, Secretary Gail Wright. Bob Kipfer was appointed Parliamentarian.

**Development Committee;** Jeanne Duffey is the new chair for this committee; she is retired from the Library and was recruited by Bob Kipfer for the Board. The accomplishment for last year was the fund raising for the building. They are planning events for this year. Susan Boswell is organizing the dedication of the stained glass window and the library in April. Part of development is publicity. George Freeman publishes the Greene Magazine with the FOG newsletter included; the next issue will be out Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Jeanne does quality news releases. Kenny Knauer works with TV and radio. RJ Jacob is the new Webmaster for the FOG website. Lee Coates is chairman of the Speakers Bureau; let him know if you can speak to a group, as he is getting requests. FOG board members are urged to consider membership growth a prime board member responsibility.

**Garden Committee:** Bob Childress gave a summary of 2010.

Three new gardens were added in 2010. The native shrub garden was planted with 6 more natives to be added. The redbud garden was planted. The dwarf conifer garden with over 100 varieties was installed; irrigation is in and they are working on getting power for this garden.

The building was completed.

Guide by Cell was implemented.

The tram was scheduled on a regular basis and a solar tram will be added this year.

The Butterfly House was expanded.

A purple martin house was installed with the Audubon members involved.

14 gardens have been adopted. The grass garden and the redbud garden still need to be adopted.

More volunteers helped this year. Different groups that helped include school children from SPARC who helped plant annuals, volunteers from the Boys Ranch who helped for 5-6 weeks and the young Marines who helped with mulching. Dorothy Brunskill is the new volunteer coordinator.

The Azalea garden is laid out with the soil there to be spread.

The Winter Garden is being designed.

Katie is redesigning the entrance Garden.

A brick walk is planned for the Redbud Garden and the Butterfly House; these bricks can then be sold.

Paving and new steps were installed in the Hosta Garden with the cooperation of the Greater Ozarks Hosta Society.

Parks couldn't pay for the power to the Dwarf Conifer Garden, so FOG is paying all of the cost.

A 4-inch water line has been laid to the Azalea Garden for irrigation.

Power may be installed in the Hosta and Azalea Gardens later.

Increased use of battery power for irrigation is planned.

They are looking into installing cameras in some of the gardens.

Mike Shade from the Botany Shop has donated 6 16' elm trees and they will be planted when weather permits.

A garden caretaker is needed for the Grass Garden and other work. Bob Kipfer made a motion to hire an individual as contract labor for \$350 per month to assist in the Ornamental Grass Garden or any other garden as assigned. The motion was seconded and all approved.

Power for the Dwarf Conifer is needed; the cost could be covered from the wedding account fund that FOG shares 50/50 with the Parks Dept. Bob Kipfer made a motion that we approve the expenditure of \$4,500 out of the Parks Department Rental Account to supply electricity to the Dwarf Conifer Garden. The motion was seconded and all approved.

Peggy Sauer is working on a grant for the laser-engraving machine. Master Gardeners will share in the cost.

George Deatz recognized Bill Roston for designing the Redbud Garden and the Dwarf Garden.

**Butterfly Operations Group:** Scott Cunningham reported that he spoke to the Master Gardeners about helping with plants for the house and will speak to the Native Plant Society Rose A. is growing plants in her 50 ft greenhouse, Cindy Willis and Kauleen Volentine are having their first Butterfly Festival meeting on Jan. 29. The Butterfly

Operations Group will have their first meeting on Mar. 10. The meeting for new volunteers is April 27. They hope to be even more successful this year with more volunteers so the hours of operation can be expanded.

**Butterfly Festival:** The Festival is scheduled for July 16 and 17. Special events include a kite festival and Monarch tagging. There were 15,000 visitors last year. The house opens May 14.

**Bluegrass and Blossoms:** Kenny Knauer reported that this event is scheduled for June 18 from noon to 6 pm. There will be at least 2 bands maybe 3 and hope to attract a wider range of people. They are seeking more vendors, enthusiastic volunteers, and underwriting. Tram rides are scheduled.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kauleen reported that she is waiting is waiting on the tax in kind donations to come in before she can finish the report. Last year there were 337 members and this year there are 617 members. Kauleen needs help for membership and recommended hiring someone for 8 hrs per week. Bob Kipfer made a motion to hire an individual as contract labor for the Membership Accounting position for \$350 a month to provide membership accounting services. This contract would be on a month-to-month basis. The motion was seconded and all approved, this will be funded out of park contributions, not out of member dues.

George D. reported that the agenda for Board meetings is posted on the FOG blog and sent out to Board members. Goals for this year include securing donations to fund gardens and to increase membership. He pointed out that any FOG members could serve on a committee, not just board members.

George Freeman reported that 15,000 issues of Greene Magazine would be out at the end of the month; Let him know if anyone has an idea for future articles.

George D. brought up approving scholarships for FOG board members who would like to attend the Master Gardener training starting Jan 20. Bob Kipfer made a motion that we provide scholarships of \$135 apiece to provide Master Gardeners training for FOG board members who haven't had prior Master Gardeners training. The motion was seconded and all approved. Anyone wanting to attend the training let Patrick Byers know, as orientation is Jan 18.

**Lawn and Garden Show:** The event is scheduled for Feb 18,19, and 20. Jeanne Duffey brought a sign up sheet, as volunteers will be needed. Jeanne made a plea if anyone had an exotic plant for display. Bill Roston suggested forcing a tree such as the coral bark maple for display. FOG is partnering with the MGs this year.

The FOG logo is now in two locations- Missouri Embroidery 1307 S. Glenstone and Upward Embroidery 1237 E. Republic Rd.

Katie Steinhoff reported that 30 people signed up for the volunteer orientation meeting scheduled for Mar. 2. There will be opportunities for volunteers to be trail walkers, tour guides and to handle calls coming into the Botanical Center.

Bob Kipfer moved to adjourn: meeting adjourned 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Wright, Secretary