**Lake of the Woods Garden Club**

**General Membership Meeting**

**March 11, 2019**

**Call to Order—**President Linda Ticomb called the meeting to order at 1 PM and Brenda Rogers gave the meditation for the day, “Flowers With Love” by Beverly Parkin. Brenda invited Club members to attend the LOW Women’s Guild on March 21st where she will be speaking about her recovery from her accident and the love and support she received from so many in the LOW community including the LOW Garden Club.

**Officers’ Reports—**

**President’s Report—**Linda Ticomb thanked the Guru Committee for its work on the May 11th fundraising event coming up and the Technology Committee for its work on the Facebook page and Website. She reminded Club members that the member dues renewal collection begins April 1st.

Linda also mentioned that she had been to the Philadelphia Flower Show and Longwood Gardens and encouraged members, if ever given the opportunity, to do the same. She said it was absolutely beautiful and that she had taken 436 pictures!

**Shellee Williams filled in for the 1st VP of Membership** and said we had 41 members in attendance at today’s meeting, therefore a quorum was present. Two new members joined; Karin Nielsen and Sean McGinnis. There were two visitors; Heike Albers and Vanna Klein.

Shellee also gave the report of the Corresponding Secretary and said she had sent a number of cards on behalf of the club. In December she sent cards to Joyce Haring on the passing of her daughter-in-law and Judy Flynn on the passing of her oldest brother. In January she sent a card to Kathy Merritt whose husband had passed away, Pat Logan on the passing of her brother, Brenda Rogers on her shoulder surgery, Jan Davis on her husband’s hospitalization, Marj Lohmann on her son-in-law’s illness, Nell Meador whose husband passed away and Helga Birdsong who had a hand injury.

**Treasurer’s Report**—Loretta LaTerra reported that the Valentine’s Wine and Cheese event raised $1140 but the expenses ran $90 over that amount. The Checking account has $4,428.67 and the CD is valued at $3,789.19. Loretta said that we have raised enough money to purchase another Penny Pines Plantation. Additionally, Loretta said that the $60 raised from the opportunity money at the last event will be going to the Shenandoah District Scholarship fund.

**2nd VP Programs**—Gaylen Smoak said that today’s program will be presented by “The Worm Lady” aka Donna Pienkowski and that May’s program will be the installation. The June program will feature Elizabeth Mizell who will be presenting the benefits of gardening with native plants.

Gaylen also reminded members that tonight would be the first evening meeting of the LOW Garden Club and that Linda Ticomb would be presenting a hands-on demonstration about rooting plants. The meeting will be from 6:30-8 PM in the game room of the Community Center and refreshments will be served.

**Nominating Committee**—Joy Poole presented the Nominating Committee’s report for the LOW Garden Club Board for 2019-2021 and she drew attention to the position of the nominating committee chair which has yet to be filled and a number of committees that are also looking for leadership and membership. The vote on the nominating committee’s slate will be held next month at the full club meeting and the installation of the new Board will occur at the May meeting.

**The report is as follows:**

**President:** Linda Ticomb

**1st Vice President**: Mary Sims

**2nd Vice President (Programs):** Debbie Hein

**Recording Secretary:** Gaylen Smoak

**Corresponding Secretary:** Shellee Williams

**Treasurer:** Deborah Kratzer

**Asst. Treasurer:** Susan Oldach

**Parliamentarian:** Jan Davis

**Nominations:**

**Ex-officio President:** Dan Greene

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Refreshments—**Janet Burrows, Helga Birdsong**,** Judy Flynn, Vassa Olson, Val Protiva and Chris \_\_\_\_No one gave this report but we should thank whoever brought food. I know that Helga did, not sure who else…anybody?

**Ongoing Business—**

**The Guru Committee—**Debbie Hein gave an update on The Garden Guru fundraising event to be held Saturday, May 11th from 1-3 PM in the Community Center. She said that The Market at Grelen and Grelen Nursery had graciously agreed to be the Patron for the event ($750) and that Redwood Realty Century 21 had agreed to be a sponsor ($500) and that there were several other entities that had been approached and were currently considering sponsorships. In addition, there are five other entities that have signed on to be vendors. Vendors will have tables set up in the game room of the Community Center. Tickets went on sale at the meeting today and are limited. Members are encouraged to purchase their tickets on line before they sell out. The Committee meets again on Monday, April 1st at 10:30 in the Community Center.

**The Technology Committee**—Teresa Gregson reported that the Committee had held its first meeting at Debbie Hein’s home and at that meeting had determined what needed to be posted on the website and the Facebook page. Teresa reported that the original Facebook page was in the process of being taken down (it’s a two-week process) and that the new one had been set up as a group page—enabling everyone to post directly to the page once they have been approved as members.

The Club’s website, LOWGardenClub.org is now up and operational and the online store is able to accept purchases for 2019 membership renewal and ticket sales (aka The Garden Guru event). In addition to the online store, other operational pages on the site include the Home page, the Contact Us page and the Calendar—which lists everything happening in the garden club (full meetings, board meetings, committee meetings as well as district and state meetings). Events will be deleted from the calendar once they are over. The next pages to come online will be: Our History, Committees, and Join Us. These pages will come online in April. The Committee meets again on Tuesday, April 2nd at 2:30 at Debbie Hein’s home.

**New Business—**

Emily Slunt gave a brief presentation on behalf of LOW Linc, a nonprofit 501 ©(3) charitable service organization founded in 2015. LOW Linc’s mission is to enable seniors at Lake of the Woods to remain safe and independent in their homes with meaningful connections to the community. Emily mentioned that the services provided to members include; transportation, friendly visits, check-in calls, errands, technology support, social activities, exercise class and light home maintenance. They have over 80 members right now and over 90 volunteers! If you are interested in learning more about LOW Linc check out their website at: https://lowlinc.clubexpress.com

**Announcements—**

**District Meeting**—Monday, March 18th at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton. The deadline to register is today (March 11th).

**The VA Federation of Garden Clubs Conference** will be held in Williamsburg from March 31-April 2nd. All those interested in going should contact Joy Poole.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Gregson

Recording Secretary