HARDY GARDEN Club

May 17, 2016

Nancy Hudson’s Home

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Kurz, Bliss McCord, Emily Fearey, Gretchen Carroll, Carroll Warner, Joan Moore, Joan Miller, Donna Reid, Nancy Powell, Joan Hammond, Jane Hammann, Dee Baker, Ann Turner Berger, Barbara Stone, Pat Ghinger, Gail Petersen, Allene Pierson, Maureen Flynn, Holly Faus, Beth Purvis, Leslie Aronson, Kate Groom, Nancy Hudson, Marcie Watts, Mary Jo Wagenaut, Ann Boyce, Maria Eagan, Jane Love, Sue Perry, Ann Donnell Smith, Mariana Bacon, Gina Dowgiewicz

Guests - Martha Gardner (Halten GC and Vice President of Zone VI), Louise Sunde

REPORTS:

BARBARA GOULD - A brief report from each committee chair will be expected at the June meeting. Today we will hear about GCA committees. Ann Boyce (Scholarship). GCA has funded more than 1,300 scholarships. There is an opportunity for Hardy to get more involved which would be a great thing. Beth Purvis (Visiting Gardens) educated GCA garden clubs about Hort and the environment. If you go to a different zone or city you may contact Beth and she will set up a visit to gardens in that area. Also, check out the Visiting Gardens tab on the GCA website for upcoming events.

Thank you to Allison and Bliss for planting the planters at Pickersgill! They invited us to take this project on as a yearly event.

Martha - thank you for allowing me to be a guest today with Hardy. Make it a habit to go to the GCA website and become familiar with Visiting Gardens. It is a privilege for us to take advantage of this.

ALLENE PIERSON - Ways and Means - Follow up on the project to generate some income for the club. Gail Petersen is heading up the committee to turn some of our photographs into notecards to sell. June meeting - bring your plants to sell to each other.

JOAN MOORE - Only two people are left to pay their dues.

JOAN MILLER and GINA **DOWGIEWICZ**

 We need to bring pollinators back! We need to plant native pants to encourage pollinators. Plant in clumps. Be sure to deadhead and keep your garden blooming. Provide a small amount of freestanding water in your garden. Two things you can do this summer to help - you can register your garden (with GCA Website) for the Million Dollar Pollinator Garden. The Sunflower Project encourages you to grow Lemon Queen Sunflower and then take 15 minutes to count the bees. You can register here - [www.thegardendiaries.com](http://www.thegardendiaries.com)

The Queen’s Garden - a great movie, recommended by Kate Groom. You can find it on You Tube. Kate to write a piece on natural repellents for the Hardy website.

CAROL WARNER - PROGRAM ON PEONIES

 Peonies - one of the best perennials. A few good suggestions if you want to grow some - Coral Charm - grows very well and blooms for a long time with one bloom per stalk, Raspberry Charm, semi double peony. Red Charm is not out yet, but available in our area and well known. Herbaceous peonies - peonies that die down each year. Then cut them down. Peonies are transplantable in the fall. Adelmans and Hollingworth are great place to buy them. Swenson Peony Garden - check it out online.

Tree peonies - very woody. Do not prune to the ground each year. Godaishu is a tree peony that has large semi-double pure white flowers with fringed petals that bloom in late spring.

Storing Peonies - You can cut the bud when its soft (showing it’s color), like a marshmallow and put it in your refrigerator. It will last a very long time and only takes a few hours out of the fridge before it will bloom.

Bartzella - an ITOH an intersection hybrid the best peony, if you can get it, buy it and plant it.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Fearey