

Cape Cod Hydrangea Society

Fall Meeting September 28, 2019

CCHS held the fall meeting on September 28, 2019 at the Harwich Community Center. The meeting was opened at 10:04AM by Co-President Peter Berrien. He thanked the Social Affairs Committee for supplying refreshments.

Co-Vice President, Pat Vigliorolo introduced the speaker, Lorraine Ballato, who spoke about "The Magic of Re-blooming Hydrangeas". This was followed by a short Q and A session and then a break for members to enjoy the refreshments and do some "shopping".

At 11:22AM, Co-President Judy Berrien called the meeting back to order for the business part of the meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Treasurer's Report: Rick Murray said we have a current cash balance of \$28,000. During this year we have realized \$3300 from Membership, \$800 from book sales, \$4500 from Hydrangea University (half of that from sponsorships). \$4500 from our garden tours, Our expenses have been \$3300.

Hydrangea Festival:

Hydrangea University: Joan Brazeau reported that Hydrangea U was a great success. It was sold out this year; 34 books were sold there; and we had 17 sponsors this year. Joan Harrison was the emcee. C.L. Fornari, Mike Duvall and Sandra Jonas were the speakers. Joan B. thanked all that helped to make that day such a success. Heritage also did a great job. The date for next year's HU is July 9th 2020. Joan B has three sign up sheets: one for HU helpers for next year, one for the Holiday Party Committee, and one to form a Hydrangea Research Committee to find new varieties of hydrangeas for our garden. We need bud hardy plants.

Member Gardens: Mary Kay Condon recognized the seven people who opened their gardens for us to conduct tours. There were 11 tour days and we welcomed 977 visitors. This generated \$4885 for the Society. She sent out a request for members to sign up as docents for next years tour.

Docents; Cathy Sampson said that we had 17 sponsors this year – the most ever – thanks to the diligent work of her committee. She asked those in the audience to think of who can be asked to sponsor next year. They will send letters in February to potential sponsors. She also asked for volunteers for her committee for 2020.

This year the docents worked 16 half day shifts in our garden at Heritage. Everyone is welcome to become a docent; there are seated jobs for those who are not mobile. She encouraged members to sign up as docents for both member gardens and our garden at Heritage.

Membership: Emily Woudenberg announced that we now have 188 members (of which 63 are family memberships, 15 are off-Cape, and 33 are new members since June of 2019.) Two people at this meeting joined; they are from Pasadena, California.

Website: Judy Bartha said that the website is up to date. If a member has info to put on the site send it to our CCHS website, info@thecapecodhydrangeasociety.org.

Social Affairs: Joyce Halpert thanked her committee for the successful social summer. 60 people attended the Garden Party at the Condons'. The Pot Luck Dinner, though not as well attended as last year was a congenial evening. She needs people to e-mail her if they are planning to attend the Annual Dinner at Encore on October 23 and include their choice of entrée. December 11 is the date of the Christmas Party at Joan and Bob Brazeaus'.

Propagation: Tom and Judy Bartha brought 5 unknown hydrangeas to raffle. Selling off hydrangeas was not successful this year so they will stop offering them at open gardens during Hydrangea Festival. The plants will still be available for sale at their home by appointment. There will be no propagation workshops per se next year. If members want to learn more about propagation of hydrangeas, they should send an e-mail to info@thecapecodhydrangeasociety.org or call Tom at 774-368-0011. A special session will be arranged convenient for both parties. They will be ready and willing to propagate any plant dear to a member. More on this in the spring.

Moving On: Co-Presidents Judy and Peter Berrien spoke of their past two years as co-presidents. They mentioned that the committees drive the society which is not a formal garden club, but rather an association of friendly gardeners. They have met a lot of new people.

Vote:

Formal Nomination: Joan Harrison nominated Linda Coven and Pat Vigliorolo as the new Co-Presidents. This was seconded and affirmed by an oral vote of the membership.

New Co-Presidents Linda and Pat presented outgoing Co-Presidents Judy and Peter with a lovely pastel painting of their garden done by Wendi Smith (who also finds the artists for our gardens tours).

The Co-Presidents mentioned that the Lunch Bunch was recently revised at Linda's garden a few weeks ago with 26 people attending. Other new ideas include: 1. A Hydrangea book club, 2. A CCHS Calendar – showing what to do each month in the garden as well as a list of CCHS activities. 3..Instituting a Q and A Session after each membership meeting. 4. Adding an informal third membership meeting in February. This would be a short meeting, fueled by member speakers. There is more to come....

The meeting concluded at 12:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Weiss, Secretary

