

## ANNISQUAM SEWING CIRCLE MEETING

September 13, 2016

Deb Bird, Co-President, opened the meeting with a welcome to all, and introduced new member Perry McIntosh. Perry tends her own beehives, joining other member beekeepers Suzanne Brown and Germaine Fritz. Deb presented new Board member Vice President Kate Meader, new Committee Chairs: Annie Sinkinson, Membership; Dottie Roeske, Hospitality; Deborah Michel, Publicity; Carolyn Rogers, Scholarship; and Nominating Committee members Lee Cunningham, Sue Harris, Ann Mannle, and Donna Shea.

Deb then asked for remembrances of Marcia Norton, Ann Roewer, and Fran Tromblay, a former President and Vice President.

The Co-President gave special thanks to Sue and Steve Harris for all their work in fixing the hiccups in generating the new Directory.

Treasurer Nancy Martin distributed the Annual Report, noting that the Christmas Fair was the best ever financially, and that the Plant Sale also did very well. She suggested that moving the date of the Plant Sale to an earlier time might have contributed to its success. The balance of the Circle account on September 1, 2016, was \$9,742.35. The members present approved the Treasurers Report.

No notes were available for the Secretary's Report for the previous meeting.

Judy Gustin, Sunshine Chair, reported that only one friendship card was sent out during the summer. A suggestion was made to send a card to Grace Murray.

Membership Chair Annie Sinkinson reported that there are currently only 52 Active members, leaving 3 openings, and 24 Associate members, leaving 1 opening. Associate members have to have been active for 10 years, are required to help out at the Fair and Plant Sale, and are assessed \$10 per year.

Dottie Roeske distributed a Hospitality sign up sheet for the coming meetings and also for the workshop days before the Fair.

Mimi Emmons reported that over \$10,000 was given to 12 recipients last year, and that the Finance Committee is looking for recipients for the coming year.

Three Scholarships were given last year. Carolyn Rogers mentioned that she had received an application over the summer and was unsure whether or not there was a deadline for accepting applications. Members approved unanimously to award a scholarship to Teigen Severance, who is now a freshman at The University of New Hampshire. Teigen has volunteered for several activities and is interested in becoming a veterinarian.

Suzanne Brown reports that a new format for the website will provide all the same information it has in the past. Steve Harris received more thanks for his help with this reformatting project, and members voted to give a gift to Steve in appreciation. New members should contact Pam Saylor who will photograph them for inclusion in the website list of members. The address "annisquamsewingcircle.org" is for members only, whereas "annisquamsewingcircle.net" is open to the public. The members only password is "circle".

Deb Bird mentioned a new feature the Presidents will include at meetings, entitled "Close To Home", which is an opportunity to share what is happening in Annisquam and nearby.

Linnette French announced the Annisquam Exchange Furniture Sale on this upcoming Saturday, September 17th, 9am to 12pm. Furniture should be delivered to the Exchange between 7 and 9:30 am and collected by 3pm if not sold, at which time a "free" sign will be attached. The return to the seller is 70% of sales price and 30% to the Exchange and Village Hall.

Stevie Neal reported on the Arts and Crafts Fair to be held October 7<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Friday will feature a Preview Party from 7 to 9pm, with admission of \$25 collected by Lee Cunningham prior to the event, or \$30 collected at the door. The Saturday and Sunday hours for the Fair are 10am to 5pm, with lunch available in the tent on Saturday midday. Contact Stevie if you would like to be involved and if you haven't received the festive invitation created by J.P. Ware.

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the date of the Christmas Fair. Stevie or Bonnie Angus will take custom orders for the beautiful wreaths, which can be delivered upon request.

Ellen Stone mentioned that the History Discussion group will meet this coming Friday at 7:30 in the Library. The Group will present an interview with the late Anna Crouse Murch, wife of the late playwright Russell Crouse, and mother of Lindsay Crouse and Timothy Crouse, who will both be attending. Anna was an actress who was very involved in both Broadway and our village, and was a big supporter of the Annisquam Village Players. The Crouses' residence in Annisquam was the place where the Sound of Music was written and is now owned by Kerri Kempter and her husband.

Before the tea at the Library on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, Good Neighbors will be sponsoring a talk about preventing falls. The presentation will begin at 2 o'clock, followed by tea at 3 o'clock. Speak with Giggs Cunningham if you have any questions.

The village Hall Association is very grateful for the Circle's contribution for refurbishing the upstairs bathroom, according to Donna Caselden, who is the Circle's representative at the Association meetings. She reports that "annisquamvillage.org" is a website in its infancy, but is a good source of emergency information and links to other Village groups.

Under other Business, Sandy Andrew shared a 1993 “Roster” of the Circle, which mentioned that any member working on a project not benefiting the mission of the Circle would be subject to a forfeit of \$1.

There will be a fundraiser for Vicky Dangelmayer on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Bass Rocks Golf Club. Information can be found at “bassrocks.org.”

If anyone has collected some concord grapes Suzanne Brown will be happy to help preserve them.

The key mission of the Circle, according to Deb Bird’s research, is “the furtherance of friendship and congeniality, and acts of benevolence”. In that light, the Presidents hope to promote several things;

1. Conversations among members, which could include sharing of books read, restaurants, health tips, or anything that might be of interest to members.

2. Formation of groups, hosted by members, to discuss possibilities for adding to the Fair.

3. Presentation of speakers who can educate or inspire us, such as Amy Esborn, a Personal Trainer, discussing stretching and balance exercises.

4. “Mystery History” activity in which each member writes down one interesting fact about herself, challenging members to guess the person’s identity. This activity was a great success and provided a lot of interesting surprises and knowledge about our fellow members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 and members encouraged to enjoy a delicious tea hosted by the Board and Committee heads.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ebeling