

## DECEMBER 15, 2009 – MINUTES OF THE ANNISQUAM SEWING CIRCLE

President Sandy Andrew opened the meeting at 1:40 P.M. The Secretary's report was read and accepted as amended. Treasurer, Nancy Martin reported that the Christmas Fair net was \$500 ahead of last year.

Susan Harris reminded members to ask for applications for new members.

The Finance Committee met yesterday to make recommendations. Chairman, Mimi Emmons' report recommended \$7000 in disbursements for 2010, pending further explanation of need from the YMCA and Gloucester Education Foundation. \$5000 is being held in anticipation of scholarship awards in June. After spirited discussion, it was decided to amend the Finance Committee recommendations as follows:

Annisquam Village Hall: Change from \$2000 to \$1500

Annisquam Village Library: give \$1000 for mold treatment

If less is needed for scholarships than expected, an additional donation will go to the Gloucester Education Foundation. Mimi gave some history of our gifts to the Annisquam Village Church and the Cemetery. She emphasized that the focus of Circle giving has traditionally been Village needs.

Sandy thanked the Circle for the lovely orchid she received. A garden book for the library and a check for Essex County Greenbelt will be given in memory of Topy Bott.

Sandy Andrew read a letter from Dona Shea congratulating members on producing a much acclaimed Fair. This led to a suggestion that in the future, we bill ourselves as the Number 1 Fair in the area.

Sue Harris reported that 44 baskets were made, with only 8 left over. Melissa sold 5 of those at the Willow Rest and the remaining 3 will go to Pathways where the baby items will be much appreciated. It was suggested rethinking the themes for next year, i.e., adding chocolate, eliminating baby items. The net was \$944.

Connie Mason reported a net of \$1136 for the luncheon. In addition to those served in the Village Hall, there were lunches taken to shut-ins, and a number of casseroles sold. The chicken casserole is so popular that more will be made next year

Bonnie Angus suggested that next year we need five days of greens prep 9 – 2, and small bows and pine cone wiring should be done in the weeks ahead. Changes in location for the greens table were discussed. All greens were sold. She also suggested that special order wreaths should be sold at a higher price. Bonnie suggested starting the Fair at 8:30. She also thanked Nancy Martin for babysitting the amaryllis.

Mary Pope has assembled an album of photographs depicting craft items that worked well. She suggested that members contribute photos so that we may have a catalogue of the best ideas. Popular items were: knitwear, hats and Christmas cards. Members are expected to donate two items each year. Left over crafts will be saved or go to the Seacoast Nursing and Rehab Center.

Grabs are popular and more could be sold. Members will be asked to donate 6 next year. It was suggested that the price be increased from \$1 to \$2.

The Raffle brought \$153. Sandy suggested a silent auction, including services. Other suggestions included spending money to get more appealing items. There was a suggestion that the Raffle/Silent

Auction be moved to the Leonard Club area, perhaps adding coffee and pastry in that space also. In that case, there are matters of checkout to be considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55, and a Christmas Tea was provided by Maureen Quine and Patsy Whitlock.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hazel von Rosenvinge, Secretary