

# January Newsletter



We are about three quarters of the way through January! I've been doing my best to spend it hibernating, and hoping that I will miraculously shed those holiday pounds. I've been better at hibernating than shedding. January does have its merits; I have narcissus sprouting by a window, and beautiful grocery store tulips in a vase, and it's a great month for getting some household tasks and organization done. When we put away the holiday decorations, we took it a step further and tore up carpeting and refreshed the hidden wood floors: the rooms look like they can breathe again.

There is no January board meeting, or general meeting, but a group of us did meet with an accountant/CPA, Cindy Waterman, to navigate and review our finances in regard to IRS and State requirements to be in compliance with regulations, with particular emphasis on better understanding the benefits and responsibilities of now being a charitable 501c3 organization. Topics discussed included accounting practices, FYE reports, Tax Returns, Letterhead with our designation, Grants received and paid out, restricted funds, sponsorships, raffles and auctions. It was a very productive session, and we are most appreciative of Cindy's advice and time.

Regarding our new 501(c)(3) status: if you are going to make any purchases on behalf of the club, please make certain that you first get a copy of the 501(c)(3) form to take with you in order to avoid paying sales tax. If you do not do this, we will be asking you to personally be responsible for the tax. Thank you.

The Science Fair will be held on Wednesday, January 29th. All are welcome to attend! Terri H and her husband will be representing the Garden Club as judges for the event. Thank you! And this coming weekend, a trio of stalwart members is planning to take on organizing our storage space...May the force be with them!

Believe it or not, preparations have begun for this year's plant sale. Look for messages from Diana in the coming weeks.

Next up: our next meeting will be held on February 12, at the library, AT NOON. A member of the Warren Community Garden Project will speak briefly about their project and how our members can become involved. Then, our highlighted speaker will be our own MasterJudge, Vera B, who will "demystify the world of horticultural and floral design shows and the art of

creating ribbon-worthy entries”. Two great reasons to get out of the house on a winter’s day!  
Remember: NOON.

Last year, we had an online Sees Candy fundraiser for Valentines Day; we are lacking someone to oversee this. If you are interested in being the point person, please reach out to me ASAP so people can get submit orders in time for valentines delivery. It’s an easy job that does not require much time. And... chocolate is involved...

I’m looking forward to seeing everyone next month! Meanwhile, stay warm, read a few good books and daydream about spring flowers.

Gail