

## REIMAN GARDENS COHORTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2004

President Chelon Stanzel called the regular February Board meeting to order at 9:30 AM In the Speer Room at Reiman Gardens.

Present: Carole Bunde, Ardie Roehr, Teresa McLaughlin, Carol Patterson, Jenny Martin, Maureen & Ken Walter, Pat Kunz, Charlie Yoerger, Mary Harris, Lisa Harmison, Mary Pickett, Lisa Orgler, Megan Keene, Jonnie Pasley, Chelon Stanzel, Marge Ricketts, Beth Cheville and Jean Digmann

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the January Board meeting were corrected under Director Update to read: "Admission from non members has dropped this winter and 1/3 of the membership from November and December has not yet renewed." The minutes were approved as corrected

**Treasurer's Report:** Mary Atherly was not present, so there was no report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Education:** Ken & Maureen Walter stated that a change in the Brown Bag Lunch schedule is, for the month of September, Barbara Sylvester, representing the Iowa State Horticulture Society and James Romer, the Master Gardeners, will present the program: "Adding to Your Garden Skills". The Brown Bag Lunch for this month will be "Bee My Valentine" with Don Lewis. Refreshments and sufficient help have been arranged.

**Garden Guides:** Mary Pickett and Pat Kunz reported that to this date, there are 12 Youth Group tours scheduled, with 325 students and 20 guides. The Camp Reiman sessions for March 8<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> are filled. The Banana Slug Street Band has 95 participants registered. There are 24 tours, with 955 adults and 47 guides already scheduled this year. From now on, only 1 hour tours will be offered. A "What's New? Sheet is going to be hung in the vestibule of the butterfly wing. The response from volunteers has been overwhelming for the 5:00 AM Van & Bonnie Radio Event this Friday.

**Horticulture Volunteers:** Charlie Yoerger said that there has been 1 day for transplanting so far, another is scheduled for the end of the month and it is filled.

**Membership:** Beth Cheville reported for the committee. 230 reminder cards were sent to members who did not respond to their first renewal requests from last year. The number of renewals being sent out in February will be 141 and for March 172. The response from December to February, from the yellow post-it note attached to their letter asking for an extra donation, is \$806. Membership and Events brochures have been placed in various places around Ames and the Des Moines area. Cohort Board members were asked to take brochures to places they think would be beneficial.

**Plant Sale:** Chelon has checked with the ISU athletic department for their schedule. A tentative date for the plant sale is Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Historian:** Jonnie said she would be attending the Brown Bag lunch this month to take pictures.

**News Reporter:** Donna was not present, but Chelon reminded everyone that all information must be turned in by February 20<sup>th</sup> for the May-August Newsletter. This issue will include a story on the restoration of the Scarecrow in the Children's Garden, a story on Mary Pickett and the Hort Display in the Conservatory.

**Past president:** Marge Ricketts has been working on the Jazz in July event. It will be held July 9<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 9, with the Ames Jazz Quartet playing. The Scooter Store has offered \$2500 towards the event and in return would like to display 6 scooters on the grounds. For every one that is sold, they will give a \$100 rebate to the CoHorts.

Chelon passed out a revised calendar and staff list.

Chelon announced that Mary Atherly, Jenny Martin and herself would be on the Budget Committee. She appointed Jenny Martin, Marge Ricketts, Beth Cheville and Jonnie Pasley to the Nominating Committee.

**New Business:** The care of the Historian Book was discussed. Teresa said that Tanya Zanish-Belker from the University is willing to look at it, catalog it and store it at the University Library. She will scan the books that the CoHorts have created. The original will be kept in the archives and the scanned one will be available for public viewing. Chelon asked Jenny Martin to chair a committee to look into the possibilities for placing the books. Jonnie Pasley and Carol Patterson will help her. It was mentioned that next year we will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and it would be good to have all of our history on display.

Carol Patterson and Barb Gohman will chair the Photography Contest this year. It will be held in conjunction with George Washington Carver Day, which will be August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Director's Update:** Teresa announced that our new mission statement would be: "To educate and enchant" and it would start appearing on all logos. She has met with University personnel and staff and will start working in earnest this year on planning for the future. Rodney Robertson, the landscape architect who designed the master plan for the Gardens, will be here this summer for a workshop. The Valentine post card that was sent to members stating that they can bring an unlimited number of guests to lunch at Hazel's Kitchen, has had a lot of good response. Teresa is reviewing the membership structure and may increase the price for an upgrade. It is currently \$30.00.

**Garden Update:** Nick was not present today.

**Staff Updates:** Lisa Orgler thanked everyone for all their help. 8 more Youth Tour guides were trained this month. The Volunteer Continuing Education, conducted by Ed Moran in the Conservatory, had approximately 10 participants. The "Creating Tabletop Fountains" program and Valentines Day Dinners are sold out. The Internship Program has expanded to include Communications and Entomology.

Megan Keene reminded everyone of the contest to name the new "Newsletter". She stated that during the Radio Show with Van and Bonnie this coming Friday, Teresa and Dan Saftig will be interviewed. The minutes for the CoHorts Board meetings are now on our website.

Mary Harris has launched a "Love Is In the Air" theme in the Butterfly Wing, using interpretations and comparisons. There is an opportunity for a 2<sup>nd</sup> intern to work in Entomology, but there is a need for funding. The Women in Science Engineering will fund half of the program but another \$1500 is needed. She asked for input from the board on how to go about fundraising. She and Linda Naeve are holding an "Intriguing Insects" conference for kids on August 13<sup>th</sup>. The Ames Park and Summer Recreation Dept. is including it in their summer brochure.

Chelon announced that there would be a birthday party on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM for Paul Jones and Al Stemple.

**The next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM in the Speer Room at Reiman Gardens.**

Jean Digmann  
Secretary