



Down the Garden Path

APRIL, 2023

Minutes of the Mountain Gardener's Meeting April 13 2023

The meeting was called to order by president Janet Ellison at 1.10 PM.

Janet extended a welcome to a guest member from the Waterbury Club.

She thanked coordinators Marilyn Parker, Sheila Ware, and Judy Reed for the refreshments and Wendy McDonough and Becky Starks for setting up the meeting.

MINUTES:- After a correction to the date of today's meeting (April 13), a motion was made to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion was made by Jane and seconded by Sheila. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:- Leslie is back from Utah. We have a bank balance of \$9.000.88.

REMINDERS:- Janet reminded members to sign in for meetings and also to take their yearbooks

PENNY PINES :- No report as Seddon is away.

SUNSHINE:- Bonnie sent a card to Ann Felderman.

FGCV Annual Meeting will be held on June 6, 2023 in Charlotte. Janet will be going, along with Judy and Wendy. She has the registration forms and would love a large group to attend.

PLANT SALE:- Jane reported that we have the permit. Julie Murray has sent out the potting schedule. We need someone to water the plants before the sale. Betsy volunteered.

Stephanie Venema asked how members should prepare their plants for potting to guard against the presence of jumping worms. We will barefoot plants and clean our tools with bleach. All pots will be bleached. We will use bagged potting soil.

JUNE LUNCHEON:- This will be held on June 13th at Robin Preuss's house. Coordinators are Leslie, Betsy, and Bonnie. A sign up sheet was passed around.

SUMMER WATERING SCHEDULE:- Judy Phelan has completed this and sent it out to members.

NEXT MEETING:- Our next meeting will be the plant sale luncheon at Robin Preuss's house on June 13th at noon.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Judy and seconded by Stephanie. The meeting was adjourned at 1.20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Hale

April Program:

THE ECOLOGY OF TICKS by PROFESSOR DAVID ALLEN

David is a Professor at Middlebury College. He and a group of dedicated students are studying the black-legged ticks. They are trying to find the determining factors that influence tick-borne diseases (Lyme Disease) in Vermont. Some members of the club shared their experiences with ticks and how serious Lyme Disease can be. Everyone should wear protection when outdoors this time of year. What's important about ticks that most

people don't know?

Allen: Ticks have three life stages: larva, nymph and adult. The second two life stages can transmit the Lyme disease bacteria. When most people think about ticks they picture the adult life stage. For the blacklegged tick this is about the size of a sesame seed. I think that most people don't have a good picture of what a nymphal tick looks like and how small it is. Nymphs are responsible for most transmission of Lyme disease to people, because they are so hard to see when they are feeding on you.

