

State of the Weederdom 2012-13

Congratulations to all of you!!!! This has been an aberration of a Weeder year. However, everyone pulled together and we have finished in fine form. One hundred years ago, the Garden Club of America became a burgeoning association of national garden clubs in the small revival garden at Stenton. The Weeders was one of three Philadelphia area clubs in the garden on that fateful day. Now, there are over 200 clubs working in their own communities and together nationally on conservation, horticulture projects and issues. The Centennial meeting in Philadelphia was a success and The Weeders played a major part in making this event happen. Amy Freitag was a keynote speaker (you will hear her talk at Cheryl Cheston's this September, Alice Doering co-chaired all off-site activities while helping with the Conservation exhibit featuring Concourse Lake and Marilyn Sprague co-chaired the transportation of all attendees to gardens and dinners, and the list goes on. . Lois, Cheryl, Karen, Lloyd and Sandy all co-chaired aspects of the meeting. The remainder of us jumped in to help with dinners, fulfill shifts, or guide. I shall never tire of saying "thank you" to all.

As Weeders, we knew some of our own interests would be side-lined while preparing for the meeting. However, we managed to create several twists for the future. . .the Second Vice-President's position will no longer be a stepping stone in succession to the Presidency. This position, now held by Ellen Pemberton, is to be a cheerleader, mentor and help to the President, to all of us, and especially new Weeders. We took a second look at the concept of a website for The Weeders. Under Lorraine Wallace, a website was begun that is so user friendly and easy, it is a pleasure to look quickly for that telephone number, conservation's recycling list, check to see our on-going photo gallery and remind yourself of the year's program of meetings or Flower Show schedules. We have stepped up our "blasts" for instant information and that will always happen. We are mindful of those who prefer mail in lieu of email and we will continue to make certain all have the same information. The President's Commendation is a new concept this year. It will be given at the discretion of the Weeder President to an exemplary and outstanding Weeder, only from time to time, when there is a deserving candidate.

We shall miss two Weeders who gave us years of wisdom and talent, Anna Roberts and Cyrena Gouge.

Now, summer is upon us. Time to return to our own gardens, families and think to the future. New projects will happen and continuing projects will be maintained. Keep your eyes open to new ideas, think "outside the box" and one more thank you for your flexibility.

Happy Summer to all!

Linda

President's concluding remarks on June 11, 2013
Lynn Gibbon's home