

LPGC Board Meeting, November 5, 2025

The meeting was held at the Lake Placid Masonic Lodge.

These members were present – Doris Rohner, Joyce Miles, Sue Rod, Laura Krumm, Donna Ferchen, Mary Greeley, Fran Bomberger, Sandy Rosch, Nick Price, Sally Kinsey, Robin Shear, Janet Earnshaw, Ray Adelman, Stephanie Moreo, Jan Vedernjak and Sharon Diaz.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by President Doris Rohner. Recording Secretary Joyce Miles confirmed a quorum was present.

Laura Krumm moved the meeting agenda be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

In her message, President Rohner talked about the October 21 District IX Fall Convention. She has been given raffle tickets for various prizes to be awarded at the 99th Annual FFGC Convention. Tickets are \$2 each; members are urged to buy and sell the tickets. Payment can be made to the FFGC.

Stephanie Moreo moved the October Board meeting minutes be accepted. There was a second after which the motion passed.

The Masonic Lodge has given the club 12 bricks to be engraved as decided by the club then placed in the proposed Masonic Lodge Rob Chatterton Memorial Garden walkway.

Treasurer Donna Ferchen delivered the Treasurer's report stating the club has

\$4376.60 in the checking account. \$40,280.27 in the Vanguard account (includes \$137.79 interest since October's meeting). \$200 in cash. Total assets \$43,280.82

President Rohner reported that the club is compliant with the IRS. The 990-N, Corporate Findings and 501c3 are renewed.

Corresponding Secretary Laura Krumm reported that the club received a note of thanks from "4Kids." 4Kids is the charity to which the club sent \$50 in memory of Jan Vedernjak's son.

The LPGC HH> has received an anonymous monetary gift of \$250. The HH> profit contributes to the scholarship and campership funds.

In Sunshine, members shared that member Mary Meisenheimer had been hospitalized and is now home.

Karen Denning reported for Little Acorns. Last month, volunteers weeded and started seeds.

Donna Ferchen reported for Civic Beautification. She and Mark Ponsler weeded and trimmed the American Legion Garden. They replaced one plant and have 3 left over. Those plants may be used in the Masonic Lodge gardens and/or the Opportunity Table.

For Manna Ministries, Nick Price reminded members that there will be a collection of non-perishable food and hygiene items at the November Meeting. His car will be by the door.

As Trips and Tours Chairman, Nice Price told members that the January 27, 2026 club bus trip destination will be Selby Gardens in Sarasota. As was the case last year, members fee of \$50 pays for the guided tour, for a catered lunch and for transportation by bus including the bus driver's tip. Signup will begin at the November meeting; payment must be made along with the reservation. Until January 14, only club members will be able to reserve a seat.

Stephanie Moreo reported for Youth Gardening. The October meeting had students making terrariums. The next meeting will be November 19 at 1:00 at the Crane Institute. The project will be paper flowers with students making their own flower and learning its different parts.

Mary Greeley reported as Lunch Coordinator. The November lunch will be a traditional Thanksgiving dinner supplied by the Legion. The cost remains \$12.

Several members have not yet ordered lunch. Discussion ensued over whether the club should still provide lunches to those who didn't respond or responded late. It will be made known that those ordering lunch will need to do so by the end of business on the day before the monthly Board meeting.

The benefit of knowing what the next month's lunch will be was discussed. Mary will try to determine this so the information can be posted at the welcome table.

The October meeting had many problems. Doris and Mary have made a chart of tables and will share that map with members so they will know where the various tables (such as the "free" table, Opportunity Table, Fuss and Brag) are located.

December's Hostess Committee would like a ham dinner. Mary and Doris will find out if the Legion can provide it or a caterer can be secured. Janet Earnshaw will inquire whether the Golden Corral or Hartzell's would be able to provide a Thanksgiving dinner.

The Legion has had trouble securing and keeping a cook. Doris and Mary talked to the Legion manager about problems with the October lunch. It was stressed that there were many complaints about the October lunch. The importance of improving the meal in November was emphasized.

The club has no contract with the Legion concerning food and could supply their own. In that case, drinks, cutlery and napkins would need to be provided by the club as well.

The Legion does not charge rent to the LPGC. They no longer serve lunch to the public.

Perhaps the club should return to giving "lunch tickets" so it might be clear who has paid for lunch.

By general consensus, it was agreed that members bringing their lunch are entitled to receive desert. Desert is provided by members but are reimbursed by the club.

Doris Rohner reported that the October 30 Plant Study, the movie “the Allure of Carnivorous Plants” was interesting and informative although poorly attended.

The next Plant Study, “Container Gardening,” will be held at Robbins Nursery, November 19. Carpooling will take place at the Subway parking lot at the Publix Plaza at 9:30.

Stephanie Moreo told members that Youth Gardening had many terrarium making supplies left over from Youth Gardening and proposed the club use them for a future Plant Study.

Holiday Home and Garden Tour Chairmen Robin Shear and Karen Denning shared updates.

Sue Peabody has raffle tickets for the \$100 bill. They will be available at the meeting.

All volunteers for the homes have been secured. Karen Denning has made a printout to remind members. She has also written an information sheet about the Pre-Tour.

The groundwork for newspaper and radio publicity is in place. Posters have been distributed.

New member Vera Irvin died before attending a meeting. Joyce Miles moved the club refund her application fee to the family. The motion was seconded and was defeated. Karen Denning moved the club donate a memorial gift of \$50 in Vera’s name to the American Lung Association, a charity designated by her family. There was a second to the motion which then carried.

President Rohner reported that she learned about State awards at the District IX Fall Convention and has determined that the LPGC should apply for some of those awards. Sue Rood will enter the club’s yearbook in one contest. Doris has identified 4 more areas in which the LPGC may excel - 1), our website, 2), the newsletter, 3), Youth Gardening and 4), the Blue Star Memorial Garden. There may be more areas, such as Garden Therapy, which may be worthy of an award. The deadline to enter is November 17. Doris will be acting as an FFGC judge to determine winners in the state contest.

The 12 bricks designated for the LPGC need to be engraved. A list of ideas submitted for the wording was passed. Members were asked to choose the 12 phrases they best liked. The Recording Secretary will tally the votes after the meeting adjourns.

Ag-Venture was mentioned. The club was too late to canvas members to be volunteers.

The LPGC By-Law changes, approved by the Board and presented to members at the October meeting, will be voted on by the membership at the November meeting. If passed, an addendum will be printed to be added to each yearbook.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13.

Joyce Miles, Recording Secretary