Friends of the Andersen Horticultural Library
Regular Meeting, October 22, 2018 1:00 pm.
Held at the Snyder Auditorium

In attendance: Christine Aho, Kathy Allen, Mary Bass, Joan Behrendt, Mike Behrendt, Lorraine Brasket, Elizabeth Brinkworth, Gretchen Burau, John Cheleen, Mary Cheleen, Karen Cherry, Sue Cornelius, Susan Cross, John Dougherty, Meric Dougherty, Marlys Engh, Phil Engh, Julie Friedman, Judy Galt, Gillian Hinson, Cynthia Kanner, George Klacan, Mary Klacan, Shirley Mah Kooyman, Kathy Koppes, Pamela Layton, Suzy Loquist, Susan Lundgren, Heather Mainella, Dick Miller, Sue Miller, Linda Orwoll, Amy Owen, Dorothy Roy, Paul Schlick, Judy Schlick, Barbara Spannaus, Monika Stumpf, Lucienne Taylor, Robert Torkelson, Dick VanWagner, Mary Becker, Pat Wolf, Barb Zins, Mike Zins.

Pres. Paul Schlick welcomed everyone, and asked the group about favorite fall activities. Some activities mentioned were catching leaves and planting spring bulbs.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved, though the phone number at the top of the minutes is wrong. Instead use the phone number on the newsletter.

Book Sale Report was given by Judy Schlick. This year’s book sale was a success. With the last bag sold on Sunday, it allowed us to earn $10,002. Judy thanked the many people who helped make it a success. Fewer books were donated, especially mystery and fiction. Additionally, a fair amount of books donated weren’t used in the sale, either because they were magazines, textbooks, or moldy/smelly books. All children’s books were sold. About 11,000 lbs of books were recycled, which included both discarded and unsold books. The recycled books are brought to a recycler in Maple Grove by Mike and Barb Zins. Visitors to the sale thanked FAHL for doing the sale and commented that it is well organized. Sale will be back to first weekend in October in 2019.

The Treasurer’s Report was given by Barb Spannaus. Balance at the time is $26,554.43. The Treasurer's report is available for review in the library. Paul announced that Lucie Taylor has volunteered to assume the role of Treasurer from Barb who wishes to retire. The Board will formally appoint her next spring.

Membership Report was given by Mike Behrendt. We have 116 active members, plus 6 complimentary members. 23 members did not renew their membership.

The Library Report was given by Kathy Allen.
a) Kathy began by introducing Julie Friedman, our newest library staff member. Julie started in June. Read more about her on page 4 of the most recent Friends newsletter. The library has recently gotten the go-ahead from campus to move the journal binding processes from campus to the library. The library will still be sending them to a bindery but we’ll have more control over the process. Julie will receive training in this very soon.

b) The Flora & Fauna Illustrata (FFI) project just put out a new call for fine art depicting prairie plants and animals that live at the Arboretum.

c) Last month Kathy gave a library session for a 3-part Nature Sketching class offered by Adult Education here at the Arboretum. She selected a few dozen books and a number of online resources of possible interest for artists, and turned pages of a few rare books on birds and plants. It was so successful this artist plans to have all her classes come to the library. The Arboretum Art Curator has also asked if the library could be a possible component of any future art classes offered. In addition to the Nature Sketchbook artists, Kathy recently gave library & rare book room tours for new Arboretum Foundation trustees and Leon Heritage Society members.

d) Kathy recently gave a presentation in St. Cloud for the Minnesota Libraries Association annual meeting. Titled Strengths-based Collaboration: The Cornerstone of AHL’s "New Garden Library." Kathy mentioned it was especially gratifying to share the hour with the MIA Librarian who spoke on collaboration being the cornerstone of the “new art library.”

e) Kathy is collaborating with a colleague on campus to produce a webinar (an internet based presentation) for MN Master Gardener Volunteers throughout the state. It will be broadcast in early December & they will talk about great resources for MGs to help them answer plant-related questions, including Plant Information Online.

f) There are several exhibits to check out, which will both be gone in early January! In the Library is the exhibit This is for the Birds: Celebrating the World of Birds and Birding through Art & Literature. Featured are some of the hundreds of books the library has on birds, including The Nest (on display at the meeting). Arboretum Naturalist Matt Schuth kindly loaned us several nests, eggs, and stuffed bird specimens for the display. The second exhibit, in the “Skyway Gallery,” is the 2nd Annual Flora & Fauna Illustrata (FFI) Exhibition. Twenty artworks are on display, featuring MN Hardy plants developed by the U of M at the Horticultural Research Center, as well as some of the works most recently juried into the collection. Another exhibit will open in both spaces – the skyway & the library in early January: Roots to Healing. Read more about it and the other exhibits on page 5 of the most recent Friends Newsletter.
Additionally, field trips were proposed at the last meeting and we are still looking for a coordinator.

Rack cards for memberships are available. Please help distribute to your friends.

The meeting adjourned.

The **Program** was introduced by Shirley Mah Kooyman. John and Jenny Thull’s presentation was titled “Growing Heirloom Pumpkins, Squash, and Gourds.” Both John and Jenny work at the Horticultural Research center with grape breeding and enology. Their main jobs are with grape research. Several years ago they began to experiment growing pumpkins and squash in a small space in the grape breeding area. 2018 is their 11th season and 100s of cucurbits have been trialed at the HRC. They mostly grow cucurbita and lagenaria. Jenny was inspired to begin this program after looking at the book *The Compleat Squash* by Amy Goldman. Jenny and John’s interest is in growing interesting squash to look at, as well as good items to cook with. Most of their seeds come from Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds and their catalog is called *The Whole Seed Catalog*. Seeds are sown directly in the ground by hand in May or June. Jenny noted many varieties that are attractive and varieties that are good for cooking, including the ‘Speckled Hound’ that is used for pumpkin pie. Jenny has about 15 recipes for squash and pumpkins that she can share.

After the program, the meeting concluded.