

Northern Plains  
Botanic Garden Society

2014

Annual Report

# A Message from the President

The year ahead will present some new challenges for the Northern Plains Botanic Garden Society, along with some great opportunities. Our land issues have stagnated our growth over the past couple of years, while we try and reorganize for the future ahead. With this slowdown, we have lost some members while refocusing our attention on new prospective sights. This situation has limited our ability to applying for grant opportunities and receiving various donations until the issue is resolved. Even though we are limited in select areas, we have been focusing our attention and energy on securing land and soliciting our river corridor design concept to both Fargo and Moorhead. As with any challenges, finances come to the forefront along our journey and we are trying to develop new and resourceful events to generate productive energy and enthusiasm for our current members along with new and prospective individuals to get involved. We are thankful for our partners, such as the West Acres team, that believe and support us both financially and publicly in our vision and we encourage new partners to become involved with the same passion and intensity.

Some of our goals in the coming year is to strengthen and fill the positions on our Board of Directors with specialized individuals that display enthusiasm for the project, skills in presenting to the public, along with specific talents in fundraising. Once we secure land in Moorhead with a long-term agreement, the Board can begin to function with the goals and objects that need to be achieved. We will develop a Capital Campaign Committee to set goals and establish a method of pursuing prospective donors. We would like to encourage our membership to continue to promote our Society to their friends and neighbors to allow our organization to grow in order to support our founding father's mission.

We have been presented with the opportunity to offer the Fargo-Moorhead area a one-of-a-kind Botanic Garden and Conservatory to be an integral piece of our downtown area between these two dynamic cities. This will be the responsibility of our Board of Directors and members to achieve this project and enhance the greater image of the Fargo-Moorhead downtown region. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Jim Anderson, NPBGS President

## Income & Expense Statement 01/01/14 – 12/31/14

### Ordinary Income/Expenses

#### Income

##### 43400 – Direct Public Support

43420 – Foundation Contributions	6,000.00
43450 – Individ, Business Contributions	4,668.00
43460 – Annual Pledges	1,910.00
43470 – Annual Membership Dues	4,605.00
43480 – Memorials	1,995.00

Total 43400 – Direct Public Support 19,178.00

##### 45000 – Investments

45030 – Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	38.44
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Total 45000 – Investments 38.44

##### 46400 – Other Types of Income

46430 – Miscellaneous Revenue	48.28
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Total 46400 – Other Types of Income 48.28

##### 47200 – Program Income

47240 – Program Service Fees	0.00
47250 – Garden and Indoor Plant Design	4,930.87
47260 – West Acres Contract	20,000.00
47270 – Workshop Tuition	705.00
47300 – Events – Ticket Sales	5,225.00
47310 – Events – Revenue	5,639.00
47320 – Events – Sponsorships	2,800.00
47330 – Events – Donations	85.00

Total 47200 – Program Income 39,384.87

Total Income 58,649.59

**Gross Profit 58,649.59**

#### Expense

##### 60900 – Business Expenses

60920 – Business Registration Fees	20.00
60950 – Dues & Subscriptions	1,064.00

Total 60900 – Business Expenses 1,084.00

62100 – Contract Services	
62140 – Legal Fees	975.00
62150 – Outside Contract Services	6,000.00
62160 – Consulting Fees- Executive Director	24,000.00
 Total 62100 – Contract Services	 30,975.00
62800 – Facilities and Equipment	
62840 – Equipment Rental and Maintenance	495.00
62870 – Property Insurance	2,089.89
62880 – Repairs and Maintenance	149.60
62890 – Rent, Parking, Utilities	809.71
 Total 62800 – Facilities and Equipment	 3,544.28
63000 – Information Technology	
63100 – Giftworks Web Subscription	1,075.00
63200 – Pay Pal Fees	82.80
63300 – Website	432.50
63400 – Hardware/Software	722.93
63500 – Merchant Service Fee	164.87
 Total 63000 – Information Technology	 2,478.10
64000 – Program Expenses	
64100 – Events – Supplies	2,866.71
64200 – Events – Food	4,874.21
64300 – Public Relations Expenses	12,125.48
 Total 64000 – Program Expenses	 19,866.40
65000 – Operations	
65020 – Postage, Mailing Service	207.83
65030 – Printing and Copying	1,807.10
65040 – Supplies	5,935.48
65050 – Telephone, Telecommunications	269.78
65060 – Bank Service Charges	60.00
 Total – Operations	 8,280.19

65100 – Other Types of Expenses	
65160 – Other Costs	250.00
Total 65100 – Other Types of Expenses	250.00
68300 – Travel and Meetings	
68320 – Travel	154.44
68300 – Travel and Meetings Other	150.05
Total 68300 – Travel and Meetings	304.49
Total Expense	66,782.46
Net Ordinary Income	-8,132.87
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-8,132.87</b>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
11100 – Bell State Checking	7,277.69
11200 – Bell State Money Market Savings	
11210 – Savings Unrestricted	4,745.16
11220 – Japanese Garden Fund	7,062.50
11230 – Building Fund – Japanese Garden Only	3,519.00
11240 – Memorial for Alma T Tucker	225.00
11250 – Iris Garden – Irene Rust Memorial	1,164.00
11260 – Reserved for Executive Director Fees	16,857.00
Total 11200 – Bell State Money Market Savings	35,572.66
11300 – Alerus Financial CD	4,145.46
Total Checking/Savings	44,995.81
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>44,995.81</b>
Liabilities and Equity	
Equity	
32000 – Unrestricted Net Assets	53,128.68
Net Income	-8,132.87

Total Equity	44,995.81
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>44,995.81</b>

## Building Committee Report

The Building Committee will have a full plate this spring. Once we have a long-term agreement with Moorhead, MN to develop the "Power Plant site", we can begin to develop the 3.8 acres of land. Some of the construction will be less exciting over other aspects, but important none the less. We will need to have civil engineering to design access to the required infrastructure utilities and then the installation of those utilities can begin, with the site needing water, sewer, and electrical. Upon completion of the utilities, the final grading can be achieved.

Sadafumi Uchiyama will be asked to design our garden. We have sent him pictures of the new location and he is quite excited with the view overlooking the Red River.

With the proper channels, we are hopeful to have the funding available to drill a well at the site for irrigation and a water supply for the proposed ponds.

## Membership Committee Report

This past year had its challenges for our committee and due to restructuring and land issues, our membership has dropped to approximately 200 members. A new process has been implemented to have all members renew in the month of January of each year to keep better records of our current members and to make it easier for our members to remember when dues are payable. Reminder notices will be sent out the month prior to our annual renewal month. With the help of our members and new land acquisitions for our projects, we are very optimistic our membership base will increase significantly.

# Gardens Committee Report

The NPBGS Garden Committee led off another successful year with the annual Plant Sale at the greenhouse. Many volunteers helped by donating perennial divisions and annual seedlings, by organizing and inventorying plants and by assisting at the greenhouse on sale day.

The committee decided to feature our front greenhouse gardens with outstanding displays of annuals, by changing color schemes each year. The color for 2014 was pink in various shades. These two flower beds can help visitors with inspiration for their own flower gardens.

Some flower beds had lost their theme focus, so time was spent reorganizing to regain the themes. The Chrysanthemum bed was improved, edged, and weeded to assure a dramatic display during late summer and fall. The Rain Garden had new plants added and existing ones trimmed and thinned to keep it looking its best. The Alerus Butterfly Garden's colorful display attracted many butterflies again this year and served as a nursery for caterpillars. The Stump Garden and gardens by the bridge continued to attract families for photo shoots.

The cutting from the 100-year old grapevine became well established last year and began to cover the pergola with greenery. It will provide a cool, shady space for volunteers to take a break or to gather for socializing in coming years.

As usual, the Fairy Garden, within the Woodland Garden, was a popular focal point for visitors. Some secret admirers either added to the miniature pieces or rearranged existing ones more to their liking. It is definitely an interactive garden!

Several volunteers built a "living fence" between the Chrysanthemum Garden and the animal shelter next door. The arbor-like structure with attached bench will support many vines to create a living screen. This will help define our gardens while making our presence less threatening to the dogs next door.

Many volunteers attended Saturday work days or worked on other days to help keep the gardens weeded, watered, and deadheaded. The committee fed them well each time with feasts of barbeque, grilled goodies, or pizza, with all the fixings, of course.

The Gardens Committee looks forward to another successful and colorful year in the gardens “up north”. We hope you will visit as they grow through the seasons. We also welcome volunteers, both veteran and new!

## Program Report

### MARCH

**Build your own Fairy Garden Furniture Workshop:** Participants learned the process of creating furniture and exercised their “artist habits of mind” in a 2-day workshop. During the second session, participants learned how to finish off their pieces through a process of glazing their art pieces.

### APRIL

**Garden Design and Water Elements Seminar:** A group gathered to learn about landscape design and the introduction of adding water features into the garden for personal enjoyment.

**Sensational Seeds Workshop:** This workshop was designed for children to introduce them into the world of plants and giving hands-on instruction in planting seeds.

### JULY

**Garden Program for Children:** This program allowed children and their families to come through the on-site gardens and learn about plant life through various interactive activities.

### NOVEMBER

**Holiday Greenery Workshop:** Participants learned how to create a tree top container for a great start to the holiday season.

# NPBGS 16th Annual Meeting Minutes

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 7:00 p.m.

Rourke Art Gallery

President Jim Anderson welcomed guests and members attending. The Rourke's Executive Director thanked the Northern Plains Botanic Garden Society for choosing their site for the *Hina Matsuri: Japanese Girls' Festival*. Jackie Williams, Executive Director of the NPBGS, reviewed the history of the *Hina* Acquisition.

## Business Meeting

Jim Anderson, President, called the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to order. He introduced Jackie Williams, Executive Director, and members of the Board of Directors. Only members are permitted to take action on NPBGS business matters.

## Approval of 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

## Treasurer's Report

The 2013 Income and Expense Statement was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the report. The motion was seconded and carried.

## Board and Committee Reports

Jim presented the 2013 Annual Report, including the President's Message and Committee reports of Society activities during the year.

## **New Business**

### Awards and Recognitions

Ruth Morton, past NPBGs Treasurer and Gardens volunteer, was voted 2013 Volunteer of the Year. A recognition plaque and gift of appreciation were presented from NPBGs.

## **Other Business**

Cynthia Herfindahl, Events Coordinator, announced the Spring Botanic Luncheon and Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. She had flyers and tickets available. The annual plant sale will be held Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the NPBGs Greenhouse.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned. All present were invited to enjoy refreshments available.

# **Board of Directors**

Jim Anderson – President

John Zvirovski – Vice President

Elly Heinz – Secretary

Bill Fradet – Treasurer

Cathi Tiedeman

Paula Grimestad

Tim Kennedy