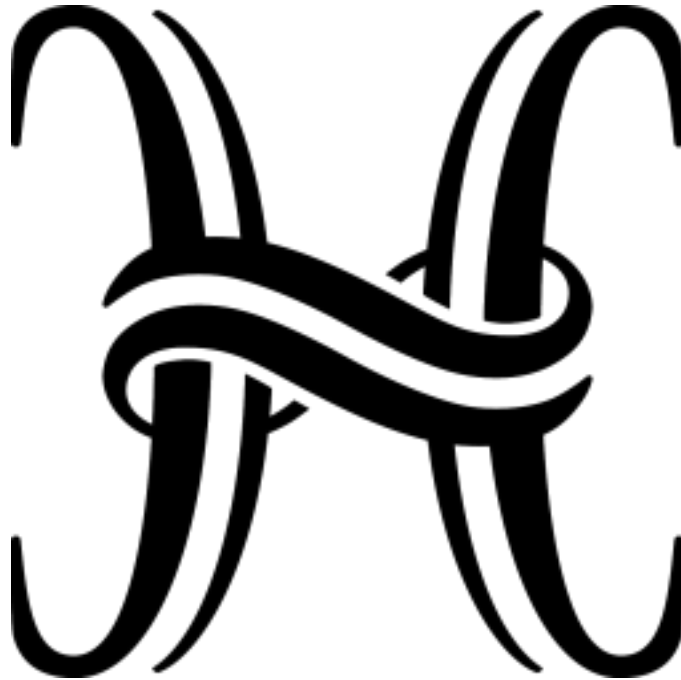


Handicraft Club Membership 2024-2025 Annual Report



**June 5, 2025
Annual Meeting
Squantum Association
Riverside, RI**

Handicraft Club 2024-2025 Annual Report

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Handicraft Club Annual Meeting

June 5, 2025

Agenda

Call to Order

Heather Rae Roberts, President
Determination of Quorum in Memorandum

Minutes of the 2023-2024 Annual Meeting

Carrie Elliott, Recording Secretary
Motion to Approve the Minutes

Financial Report

Laura Nordstrom, Finance Committee Member
2024 - 2025 Financial Report Highlights
2024 - 2025 Budget Highlights

President's Report

Heather Rae Roberts, President

Nominating Committee Report

Mitzi Berkelhammer, Nominating Committee Chair
Motion to Approve the 2025 - 2026 Club Year Slate

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Heather Rae Roberts, President

The Annual Meeting of The Handicraft Club
Thursday, June 13, 2024
The Squantum Club

Members Present: Allison Akers, Christina McCulloch, Barbara Baldwin, Kit Barnum, Joan Bartram, Angela Bay, Alice Beckwith, Julie Beitle, Patricia Blackburn, Willa Bodman, Anne Bright, Judith Brott, Elizabeth Bullock, Eletha Buote-Greig, Mary Chase, Carol Cimilluca, Barbara Colt, Arlene Crewdson, Patty Deal, Mary DiSandro, Deborah Drinker, Margaretta Edwards, Bev Ehrich, Kate Farrington, Caryl Freedman, Susan Froehlich, Gail Ginnetty, Amy Goldstein, Amy Green, Marie Hertenstein, Kathy LaRiviere, Patricia McLaughlin, Virginia Mead, Marianne Migliori, Nancy Moger, Katie Oakes, Joan Osowa, Patricia Philbin, Karen Pizzarello, Trish Poirrier, Donica Porter, Melissa Powers, Jenny Prull, Roberta Rea, Betty Sue Reed, Barbara Rosenbaum, Marilyn Shealey, Trina Sherer, Nancy Sherren, Kathy Sherry, Michelle Shevlin, Wileen Rosner Snow, Suzanne Swanson, Loretta Tharp, Alice Tingley, Ginny Walsh, Dory Wilson, Carla Queen-Cook and DeeDee Whitman.

Board Members Present: Amabel Allen, Mitzi Berkelhammer, Tamara Bolotow, Kathy Bourque, Sharleen Bowen, Sara Carcieri, Caroline Elliott, Stacy Emanuel, Frances Gammell-Roach, Anne Jackson, Corryn Langmuir, Liza McCahan, Emily Morgan, Susan Pakula, Mary Reineman, Heather Roberts, Kerry Sweeney and Susanne Toothaker.

Staff: Karen Weavill, Rebecca Siemering and Carissa Knickerbocker.

The 120th Annual Meeting of the Handicraft Club was called to order at 1:00PM.

There was a moment of silence for members who passed away this year: Sally DeSimone, Carol Eaton Kalberer, Barbara Link, Peg Rogers, a teacher, Louise D. Rymer, Lolly Swain, Judy Clagett McLennan and Hope Alswang.

Karen Weavill, Club Manager said a few words and let us know the flowers on each table went to the person who had a "thank you" sticker in their Annual Report.

Minutes from the 2022-2023 Annual Meeting were read and accepted by the membership.

Kathy Bourque, Treasurer highlighted some income and expenses in the budget. Our budget is in good shape, but a high percentage of expenses is dedicated to repairs, Truman's Trolley and teachers.

A motion was made and approved to put the treasurer's report on file for our audit.

The Co-Presidents, Liza and Stacy, acknowledged the supportive work by our great staff that holds the Club together. They also acknowledged, with gratitude, the dedicated Board and Executive Committee who worked so hard this year and supported the Club in many different ways.

"The Handicraft Club's past is historic and unique.
Its Present is exciting and vibrant"
The future is limitless".

Well wishes were made for Heather Roberts, our new president.

Nominating Chair, Mitzi Berkelhammer, presented the 2024/2025 slate of officers for approval:

President: Heather Roberts

Vice President: Mary Reineman

Vice President: Susanne Toothaker

Recording Secretary: Carrie Elliott

Treasurer: Emily Morgan

Assistant Treasurer: Sara Carcieri

Members Elected to the Finance Committee and Investment Committee:

Investment Committee: Fran Gammell-Roach

Finance Committee: Drew Moran

The slate was approved.

House Resource Committee: Kerry Sweeney, chair of the committee, acknowledged that everyone understands how emotional this challenge was for us. She then walked us through an executive summary of the rationale for the recommendation that was mailed to the members in May. The committee looked at access to the clubhouse and the desire for the Club to be around for the next generation. They looked at and collected data for:

1. Financial challenges
2. Accessibility
3. Parking

We have an incredibly bright future, but we have an obligation to provide a safe and accessible environment for our members and staff. This year we spent more money on repairs than we did on experiences for our members.

Her committee recommends a new "Relocation Committee" to be filled with lots of members that will pick up from where the House Resource Committee left off.

Opportunities were provided for members to speak for or against the motion to be voted on. A few members spoke up, but none 'against.'

A motion was presented and seconded that read:

1. "To approve the use of funds up to \$4.5 million or 50% of our rolling 12- quarter average balance (whichever is less) from the Handicraft Club Investment Fund to fund the relocation of the clubhouse (both expenses as well as purchase price of the new location) as approved and identified by the Board upon recommendation of the Relocation Committee; and
2. authorize the sale of the current location following the purchase of the new location with the net proceeds therefrom being placed in the Handicraft Club Investment Fund."

Jean Harrington, Esquire, Duffy and Sweeney counted the votes and reported 187 members voted; 90% voted in favor and 10% opposed. The motion was carried.

Liza and Stacy expressed their gratitude for our wonderful community and adjourned the meeting at 2:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanne Toothaker
Recording Secretary

Presidents Report 2024 - 2025

Heather Rae Roberts

It's wonderful to see so many familiar faces here today, along with some new members who've joined our Club this year.

As we gather for our 121st annual meeting, I'm reminded of what draws us all together — our shared love of creating beautiful crafts and the friendships we've built along the way. Whether you've been with us for decades or just joined recently, each of you has chosen to be part of something special.

Today, we will look back on a year filled with creativity and community. But first, let me say thank you — for your participation and your friendship and for making our club the welcoming place that it is.

And with that, let me start with some exciting news about our Club mission. This year, the board took a meaningful step forward by refining our mission to reflect who we are and what we stand for more clearly. With unanimous support, we adopted a new mission statement: **“Welcoming women to pursue, preserve, and share in the joy of creating fine handicrafts.”**

We are proud of our identity as a women's club, and this updated mission both honors our rich history and affirms our dedication to the future.

Our membership continues to flourish under the excellent leadership of Chair Amabel Allen, whose warmth, grace, and wit create a welcoming environment that has attracted 22 new full and provisional members this fiscal year. At our New Member Tea in April, we celebrated this significant growth: five provisional members from last year achieved full membership status, eight new members joined with provisional status (six of whom are already applying for full membership), and we welcomed back one reinstated member. This vibrant gathering highlighted the remarkable talent and diverse expertise of our expanding community, demonstrating how the enthusiasm of new members combines with the continued dedication of long-standing members to strengthen the bonds that make our organization thrive.

Our classes, programs, traditions, and committees continue to thrive.

- **Classes remain vibrant and full**, with 59% of members actively participating. Our classes have expanded, and we continue to offer a wide range of exciting options. This is the heart and soul of our club! Anne Jackson and her dedicated committee, comprising Pat Philbin and Julia Emlen, continue to raise the bar collectively with our Education Manager, Rebecca Siemering.
- **Lunch:** our lunch gatherings continue to bring members together in joyful camaraderie.
- **Communications** Chair Corryn Langmuir and Liza McCahan have transformed the way we deliver information to our members. After investing considerable time strategizing the most effective communication approach, they developed a streamlined system that has been enthusiastically received. The club now keeps members informed through two primary channels: "From the Clubhouse," our comprehensive monthly newsletter delivered to your inbox on the first of each month, and "The Bulletin Board," which provides timely updates throughout the month when vital information needs immediate

attention.

- **Personnel:** Mary Reineman and Sally Elliott continue to enhance our personnel committee to support our employees, members, and board. They've overseen staff operations, streamlined processes, and ensured smooth daily operations. We appreciate your dedication to our club and its employees, enhancing all our experiences.
- **Website:** We continue to evolve in the digital age with our website and management software. Like any transition, this process has had its successes and challenges, but we continue to learn patiently and persistently. Stacy Emmanuel has been instrumental in supporting this effort, and we sincerely appreciate her time and dedication.
- **Building and Grounds:** Thank you to our Co-Chairs, Sue Pakula and Barbara Rosenbaum, who are always ready when they receive the call! This year has been similar to years past, with a few notable issues, including leaks, mold remediation, loss of heat, and a crumbling outside wall, to name a few. Thankfully, they have dependable contractors that come quickly. And on a side note: Our work in assessing our house last year revealed deficiencies in our compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. I'm sure this doesn't come as a surprise to anyone, but to be on the safe side, our legal counsel has advised us to modify our guest policy. This is why we renamed our "Guests with Provisional Status" offering to "Temporary Members with Provisional Status." The good news is that we still have our open houses and holiday and preview parties, and we expect to be able to welcome guests as we move to a new property.
- **Events:** This year brought our beloved annual traditions to life once again, delivering the familiar excitement and joy our community has come to cherish. We also introduced some fantastic new additions to our calendar with the Gingerbread House decorating event and our Mahjong tournament. I want to extend special thanks to Tammy Bolotow and Judith Brott for their dedicated service and time on the board. Our Preview Show was an incredible showcase of member talent! The two-day open house gave the public a perfect glimpse into who we are and what we do, inspiring prospective members with our impressive display of artistry and creativity. Special thanks to Kathy LaRiviere, our Preview Show Chair, and Barbara Rosenbaum for their exceptional leadership and dedication. Their hard work made this memorable event possible for all of us to enjoy and share with our community.
- **Giving Societies:** Sharleen Bowen continues to lead the way and steer us towards our future, supporting our club for the next 100 years as an intricate part of continuing our founders' vision. In addition to honoring the generosity of members through our annual giving and the gratuity fund, we celebrate those who have created lasting opportunities through the Julia Lippitt Mauran Society, The Truman Beckwith Circle, The Tynietoy Heritage Fund, and The Jessie Knight Fund. These societies honor our traditions and those who came before us, while the gift from an anonymous member several years ago ensures we can continue our growth for future generations. Sharleen, we thank you for educating us on how to be good stewards for future generations, for continuing to support our club, and for honoring those who have contributed to the Club's long-term sustainability.
- **Nominating:** Mitzi Berkelhammer and her committee have committed to reaching out to our members to continue building future leadership. If you are interested in serving on a

committee, please don't hesitate to contact Mitzi. Thank you!

- **Relocation:** As you know, relocation efforts have been a significant area of focus this year. With 90% voting in favor at last year's annual meeting, our membership approved a resolution to invest in our future by authorizing the purchase of a new property and the sale of 42 College Street. The vote authorized the use of a portion of our endowment, which we expect will yield about 3.9 million toward our purchase. The House Relocation Committee was formed in the fall and is chaired by Kerry Sweeney. We are fortunate to have many members with diverse strengths and talents who have volunteered with enthusiasm. We appreciate that many of you took part in field trips, attended input sessions, met with our architects, and shared your hopes and dreams for a new Clubhouse. The committee has hired commercial and residential buyer's agents and has started looking at properties — nothing newsworthy just yet! — and they're helping to ensure that our Club finds a new home for the next 100 years.
- **Media Recognition:** Last but not least, we were honored to be featured in a PBS special highlighting the Handicraft Club's Tynietoy collection. The segment was beautifully produced, and Past President Margaret Lederer did a magnificent job of representing our club and its history.

As we move into our 122nd year, the Handicraft Club continues to build upon its rich legacy with a clear and vibrant vision for the future. Our strategic priorities for 2025–2026 reflect our enduring values, our commitment to growth, and our passion for creativity, connection, and community. Our relocation stands as our most critical priority, requiring dedicated effort from every board member, staff member, and as many club members as possible to ensure its success.

Strategic Priorities for 2025–2026

1. Enhance Educational Programming

- Expand our class offerings to meet the evolving interests and skill levels of our members.
- Highlight traditional and emerging handicrafts, integrating master instructors and guest artisans.
- Support educational excellence through thoughtful planning, member feedback, and continued investment in our programming and teachers.

2. Broadening Member Engagement and Outreach

- Create more opportunities for members to connect outside of classes — through shared interest groups and social events at the Club.
- Continue to communicate and maintain transparency to ensure that all members feel informed and valued.
- Carry on with a welcoming spirit that defines our Club culture.

3. Strengthen and Grow Our Membership

- Actively engage prospective members through targeted outreach, events, and word-of-mouth.
- Foster intergenerational member connections to ensure continuity and mentorship within

- our community.
- Celebrate the unique talents and perspectives that each member brings to the Club.

4. Navigate Our Technology

- Continue to adopt and improve digital tools that streamline our operations and communication.
- Provide ongoing training to our staff to support members comfortably navigating systems.
- Enhance the Club's website and online platforms

5. Relocation

- We are through the easiest part of the relocation. Most of us know what it's like to move from a home; think about the fact that we've been at 42 College for 100 years.
- It will take many hands to complete our inventory and, eventually, get us ready to move and to move IN.
- Please be on the lookout for volunteer opportunities in the fall.

5. Reintroduce Our Giving Societies

- Relaunch our legacy, giving initiatives to honor those who support the Club's long-term sustainability. Create opportunities for members to invest in the Club's future in meaningful and visible ways.

6. Honor Our History, Shape Our Future

- Continue exploring and sharing our rich Club history through programs, archives, and storytelling.
- Integrate our legacy into new initiatives — ensuring our past informs and enriches our future.
- Celebrate the women who shaped the Club and ensure their spirit remains present in all we do

A Personal Note

As I approach the end of my first year as President, I reflect with a heart full of gratitude. While I had served on the Executive Committee for two years prior, I quickly learned that being President is a unique and humbling journey. I probably only understood about 60% of the role at the outset — and, wow, what a year of learning the other 40%! Many of you, including members, board members, and past presidents, have shared much with me; I appreciate your wisdom.

Thank you to Liza McCahan and Stacy Emanuel for showing me the ropes, helping me in my new role, and participating in the early status meetings with me. They also established written protocols and processes to help ease the transition for the new board and our employees.

I'm most proud of **you**, the members, and the teachers. When you had questions, concerns, or ideas, you brought them forward, and we worked together to find solutions or to enhance our club. That's the essence of this club: mutual respect in a collective process.

Your Board, comprising 17 dedicated members, has worked tirelessly. We've had heartfelt

discussions and made thoughtful decisions—always with our club, members, teachers, and staff in mind. Recently, during a challenging conversation, everyone remained kind, positive, and constructive. Afterward, Sue Pakula hugged me and said, “What a great group of kind women on our board.” That moment meant so much. It perfectly captures this club's leadership spirit — and I encourage you to consider joining a committee or serving on the board. It is both a joy and a privilege.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Executive Committee members — Mary, Susanne, Emily, Sara, Carrie, Kerry, and Fran — who have been my compass, sounding board, and support system. Your collective guidance has been invaluable in navigating both challenges and opportunities.

Special recognition goes to Susanne, whose exceptional wisdom and steadfast commitment have benefited not only my leadership but our entire membership and staff. Your dedication has been fundamental to our growth.

This year brought unexpected challenges when our beloved Treasurer, Emily — known for her brilliant financial stewardship, generous heart, and infectious joy — was involved in a serious accident. In the face of uncertainty, our community instinctively came together, offering prayers, quiet moments of support, and heartfelt encouragement.

What emerged during those difficult weeks was something special: the very essence of our community. Members stepped forward as an extended family, offering care and compassion not only to Emily and her loved ones but also to one another as we collectively navigate the unknown.

Today, we are deeply grateful to share that Emily's recovery has exceeded even our most hopeful expectations. Her strength and resilience have inspired us all. As we look to the future, we eagerly anticipate her return — knowing that her unique blend of expertise and warmth will once again grace and strengthen our community.

In the immediate aftermath of Emily's accident, our Executive Committee responded with swift and unwavering commitment. Sara and Fran graciously assumed additional responsibilities, ensuring all financial operations continued without interruption. This allowed Emily the space and peace of mind necessary for her recovery. Their quick thinking, compassion, and dependability during this challenging period deserve our appreciation. Sara and Fran's dedication to our club is unwavering, and on behalf of all of us, thank you for being there for us once again.

Finally, on behalf of our membership, teachers, board, and myself, I would like to extend our gratitude to our **excellent staff**. You are the heart of our daily operations. Your dedication ensures that our Club runs smoothly and remains a place of creativity, learning, and friendship.

We have honored our past, embraced our present, and begun building our future. We are preserving a legacy of craft, community, and care that will continue to inspire future generations of women.

This is **our** Handicraft Club, ladies!

With gratitude and joy,
Heather

Vice President's Annual Report 2024-2025

Susanne Toothaker

The Vice President assists the President or Co-Presidents in any capacity that is needed. She is a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

This year, I have acted as a sounding board for the President and helped be a liaison between staff, technical support and the Club as we develop our website. I also sit on the Finance Committee and assisted with the 2025-2026 Annual Operating Budget.

Respectively submitted,
Susanne Toothaker, Vice President

Treasurer's Annual Report 2024-2025

Sara Carcieri

Financial Report for fiscal year July 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025

Financial Overview

The past year has been extremely busy at the Handicraft Club with the Board actively working to provide members with an assortment of new and favorite classes while maintaining a strong financial position. In addition, under the leadership of Kerry Sweeney, the Board has continually moved the clubhouse relocation process forward.

Total Dues & Membership Fees are 1% over budget and 15% ahead of last year as a result of the needed increase in annual dues implemented for fiscal 2024/2025. In addition, the fees paid by our 15 MPS members (Temporary Members with Provisional Status) add to our income. Membership stands at 250 as of March 31 and we currently have 17 MPS. Class Income has exceeded budget by 3% as of March 31, 2025. We have received \$775 in donations to club operations and \$5,308 in member donations, bequests and giving societies which were added to the Investment Fund. The generosity of our members continued in December 2024 when our employees received a healthy holiday bonus.

On the expense side, we have spent \$60,000 on house repairs and improvements which include mold removal and reconstruction (and continued remediation), plumbing and heating repairs, window replacement, back fence replacement, and a new security system. In addition, we have funded website improvements and architect fees for the relocation Programming Phase. These were all paid out of the General Fund. Insurance costs continue to rise 10-15% annually.

Our largest expenses continue to be salaries and Truman's Trolley. The total cost of Truman's Trolley for this fiscal year is projected at \$103,000, with members paying \$12,000 and the \$91,000 balance being subsidized by our Investment Draw. Website and Technology support is a growing and necessary expense of our club operations.

As of March 31, 2025

BOA Checking \$12,065

BOA Savings \$ 883

General Fund and Investment Fund

General Fund \$ 476,695

Investment Fund \$8,120,600

RI Foundation \$ 159,518

2025-2026 Operating Budget

Next year's budget, included in the packet, was developed assuming a full year at 42 College Street.

The 2025-2026 budget required the use of \$298,000 out of a permissible draw of \$308,272. Truman's Trolley will cost \$110,000 next year, which is unsustainable. The Finance Committee met to review all costs associated with operating the club and voted to increase member trolley payments to \$200 (10 weeks) and \$160 (8weeks). The fees also include the makeup week. Single passes will increase to \$25. Class fees will also increase next year with a 10 week class costing \$250 and an 8 week class, \$200. Both of these will add necessary income to the operating budget. As we look to the future, both annual dues and initiation fees will need to increase to sustain our strong financial position and reduce reliance on our Investment Funds for the operating budget. Growing our membership continues to be a high priority and a new clubhouse with onsite parking will help this effort.

This year has been challenging with wonderful Treasurer Emily Morgan's devastating accident in January 2025. Thankfully, she continues on her road to recovery! I stepped up in January to the Treasurer's role with the incredible support of Fran Gammell-Roach. Fran is a Quickbooks expert and has worked with Karen to sync our financial reporting with Quickbooks. A special thank you to Karen Weavill, our Club Manager, for her support and diligent work this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Carcieri
Assistant Treasurer

Treasurer's Report, continued

	A	B	T	U	Y
1	HANDICRAFT CLUB • TREASURER'S REPORT				
	OPERATING BUDGET 2025 - 2026				
2	CATEGORY	BUDGET '24- '25	Last YTD June 23 March 24	MARCH YTD ACTUAL	BUDGET '25 - '26
3					
4	INCOME				
5					
6	Annual Dues	\$ 81,650	\$ 67,850	\$ 76,378	\$ 76,000
7	Initiation Fees: New Members	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,100	\$ 5,050	\$ 5,000
8	MPS Fees		\$ 3,600	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250
9	Guest Fees		\$ 175	\$ 225	\$ -
10	Leave of Absence Fees			\$ 50	\$ 100
11	Reinstatement Fees		\$ 250	\$ 550	\$ 200
12	Total Dues & Membership Fees	\$ 86,550	\$ 75,975	\$ 87,503	\$ 86,550
13	Donations				
14	Jesse Knight Fund			\$ 250	\$ 150
15	Operating Fund	\$ 2,500	\$ 300	\$ 525	\$ 500
20	Donations - Gratuities		\$ 8,920	\$ 9,620	\$ 10,000
21	Total Donations	\$ 3,500	\$ 9,220	\$ 10,395	\$ 10,650
22					
23	Class Income	\$ 85,000	\$ 90,677	\$ 87,235	\$ 90,000
24					
30	Total Events/Programs/Board	\$ 6,750	\$ 2,259	\$ 3,400	\$ 10,500
32					
33	Catered Lunch (Soup & Bread)		\$ 2,570	\$ 3,120	\$ 4,000
34	Kitchen Income (Snacks)		\$ 200	\$ 345	\$ 400
35	Total Lunch & Kitchen	\$ 3,150	\$ 2,770	\$ 3,465	\$ 4,400
36					
37	TT Fees for Riding Members	\$ 16,900	\$ 11,744	\$ 11,640	\$ 15,000
38	TT Investment Draw	\$ 67,100	\$ 100,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 95,000
39	Total Truman Trolley	\$ 84,000	\$ 111,744	\$ 86,640	\$ 110,000
40					
42	Investment Income (The Draw)	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 203,000
43					
44	TOTAL INCOME	\$468,950	\$392,645	\$ 453,639	\$ 515,100

	A	B	T	U	Y
45					
46	EXPENSE				
47					
48	Membership/Outreach	\$ 3,000	\$ 269	\$ -	\$ 1,500
49	Communication Expense	\$ 3,000	\$ 875	\$ -	\$ 1,500
50	Class Expense	\$ 3,000	\$ 211	\$ 2,715	\$ 5,100
51	Charitable Contributions	\$ 1,000	\$ 975	\$ -	\$ -
52	Giving Societies	\$ 1,000	\$ 13	\$ -	\$ 1,000
61	Total Events/Programs/Board	\$ 24,500	\$ 8,345	\$ 13,137	\$ 27,000
65	Total House Maintenance & Security	\$ 9,500	\$ 6,428	\$ 11,911	\$ 10,500
67	Garden Maintenance	\$ 6,050	\$ 3,090	\$ 5,614	\$ 6,500
68	Operating Repairs (non-capital)	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,180	\$ 4,033	\$ 5,000
69	House Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,803	\$ 3,637	\$ 1,500
71	Employee: Salaries & Benefits	\$ 155,793	\$ 98,959	\$ 119,018	\$ 165,000
72	Independent Contractors: Handy & Ac	\$ 12,800	\$ 9,891	\$ 20,186	\$ 16,000
73	Teachers	\$ 85,000	\$ 61,588	\$ 60,355	\$ 85,000
75	Legal/Accounting	\$ 6,100	\$ 564	\$ -	\$ 6,100
81	Total Insurance	\$ 21,850	\$ 9,800	\$ 17,273	\$ 20,000
82	Card Processing Fee	\$ 1,000	\$ 499	\$ 2,292	\$ 4,000
83	Office Expense	\$ 17,500	\$ 8,374	\$ 11,284	\$ 5,500
84	Utilities	\$ 16,500	\$ 10,027	\$ 14,757	\$ 18,000
85	Bank Service Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (330)	\$ (120)
87	Catered Lunch	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,736	\$ 3,298	\$ 4,000
88	Kitchen Other	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,379	\$ 3,246	\$ 4,000
89	Total Kitchen & Catering	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,115	\$ 6,544	\$ 8,000
91	Website/Technology	\$ 1,600	\$ 2,047	\$ 906	\$ 18,000
93	Truman Trolley Expense	\$ 84,000	\$ 47,763	\$ 71,283	\$ 110,000
95	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 468,193	\$ 277,816	\$ 364,616	\$ 515,080
96					
97	NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$ 757	\$ 114,829	\$ 89,023	\$ 20
98					
99	Total Income minus Investmnt draw	\$ 201,850	\$ 192,645	\$ 203,639	\$ 217,100

Relocation Committee

Kerry Sweeney

Annual Report Summary 2024-2025

Prepared by Kerry Sweeney, Relocation Chair (as of May 21, 2025)

OUR MISSION & VISION

Secure a new property for our Club that significantly enhances accessibility, functionality and comfort for our members, teachers and staff, ensuring it fully supports and advances our mission to foster the practice of a wide variety of handicrafts and takes us into the future.

Build for the next 100 years: After a century in our current home, we are thoughtfully planning for a Club that preserves our unique character while creating new possibilities for generations to come.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Developed a clear picture of our Club's space needs

- Completed comprehensive programming requirements with DBVW Architects, specifying:
 - 10-11,000 square foot facility needs
 - Parking for 30-40 vehicles
 - Ample social and studio spaces with accessible storage throughout
- Gathered input from our Club community multiple ways, with class feedback sessions, all-Club meeting with architects, focused discussions on dining, social spaces, outdoor needs and more.
- Learned from those outside our community: Field Trip Team visited nearly a dozen regional arts organizations to gather insights and inspiration: Barbara Crouchley, Beth Bullock, Sharleen Bowen, Judith Brott, Carol Cimilluca, Carla Cook, Arlene Crewdson, Margie Edwards, Gail Ginnetty, Izzy Goff, Kathy LaRiviere, Ginny Mead, Laura Nordstrom, Sue Pakula, Trish Poirrier, Melissa Powers, Wileen Snow, Susanne Toothaker

Established property search process and team:

- Interviewed multiple realtors and selected Jonathan Kaufman and Rebecca Mayer, both of Compass to represent us as we search for a new property. Together, they bring expertise in both commercial and residential realty, ensuring that we have the broadest range in our search.
- Formed a property search team, including Beth Bullock, Kathy Bourque, Sally Elliott, Liza McCahan and Kerry Sweeney; and we have started to look at properties.
- Met with the real estate teams from Brown and RISD Universities to let the know, as good neighbors, that we are going to be moving and to explore if they have any available properties.

Made strong progress in inventorying the contents of our Clubhouse:

- Modernized archiving work done by previous members
- Wave 1 of our inventory is complete with all rooms being photographed and all major items documented thanks to the great work of Kit Barnum, Bev Ehrich, Gail Ginnetty, Amy Green, Carissa Knickerbocker, Margaret Lederer, Maureen Taylor, and Loretta Tharp. And Wave 2 is now underway to capture details (size, condition) for more specialized teams to help us determine what to take with us when we move.

Along the way, established important governance & transparency policies and processes •

- Established clear policies & structured processes for selecting professional services •
- Ensured coordination with Club budget through Executive Committee oversight •
- Provided ongoing member updates via multiple channels (Zoom meetings, newsletters, web site, & Clubhouse bulletin board)

WORK AHEAD

- Continue our property search with both commercial and residential realtors
- Complete Wave 2 of house inventory with detailed recommendations for each item •
- Provide timely updates and full transparency to our process and continue to solicit feedback from our membership, teachers and staff

THANK YOU

None of this progress would have been possible without the enthusiastic support of so many volunteers and without the ideas and feedback that so many of our members and teachers have provided along the way. *Amabel Allen, Chris Ardente, Lisa Ardente, Amy Barrett, Angela Bay, Alice Beckwith, Kit Barnum, Patsy Blackburn, Kathy Bourque, Judith Brott, Beth Bullock, Sharleen Bowen, Sara Carcieri, Carol Cimilluca, Carla Cook, Barbara Crouchley, Arlene Crewdson, Margie Edwards, Carrie Elliott, Sally Elliott, Stacy Emanuel, Bev Ehrich, Robin Engle, Caryl Freedman, Fran Gammell-Roach, Gail Ginnetty, Izzy Goff, Amy Green, Anne Jackson, Carissa Knickerbocker, Corryn Langmuir, Kathy Lariviere, Margaret Lederer, Virginia Mead, Emily Morgan, Laura Nordstrom, Sue Pakula, Karen Pizzarello, Trish Poirrier, Melissa Powers, Marsha Prindiville, Mary Reineman, Heather Roberts, Barbara Rosenbaum, Robin Schuldt, Wileen Rosner Snow, Rebecca Siemering, Susan Tash, Maureen Taylor, Loretta Tharp, Susanne Toothaker, Judy Wilson*

Class Committee Annual Report 2024-2025

Anne Jackson

REPORT FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Greetings from the Class Committee!

Fall 2024, Winter 2025 and Spring 2025 sessions have shown to be quite busy with new workshops, repeat workshops and, as always, our favorite classes had high enrollment. The feedback from our teachers and students has been overwhelmingly positive. Class Committee has added two new members for the 2024-2025 year; Julia Emlen and Pat Philbin. Julia has proven to be invaluable with her vast knowledge of the English language and literary proficiency, along with Pat's expertise in data management.

QuickBooks totals for 2024-2025

Class Revenue = \$91,330.76

Class Expenses = \$2,715.75

Below is a listing of the classes and workshops that ran this year.

PAINTING

Watercolor Studio with Anne P. Wert

Painting in Acrylics with Ida Schmulowitz

Drawing and Painting the Portrait with Kate Huntington

DRAWING

Drawing: Think You Can't Draw? Think Again! with Ida Schmulowitz

PRINTMAKING

Linoleum Block Printing with Kathrine Lovell

Print Lab with Kathrine Lovell

White Line Woodblock Printing with Kathrine Lovell

Mixed Media Monoprints with Kirsten Sorensen

NEEDLE ARTS

Temari: Japanese Thread Balls with Anne Huntington

Machine Sewing Basics/Guided Personal Projects with Caroline Silverman

Tuesday and Thursday, Needlepoint with Caryl Freedman

Monday and Wednesday, Knitting with Katherine Mehls

Basic Embroidery Stitches with Elsie Collins

Spencerian Script with Elsie Collins

WEAVING

Multilevel Weaving Studio with Suzi Ballenger

DECORATIVE ARTS

Kintsugi: The Japanese Art of Celebrating Flaws with Alice Tingley

Early American Decorative Painting with Karen Graves

Temari: Japanese Thread Balls with Anne Huntington

Decoupage with Virginia Mead
Chair Caning with Steve Emma

BASKETS

Nantucket Baskets with Michelle Shevlin
Nantucket Baskets

GAMES

Intermediate Mah Jongg with Carol Desforges
Learning Mah Jongg with Carol Desforges

JEWELRY

Bead Stringing with Torin Mathieu

WORKSHOPS

Nantucket Cuff Workshop with Michelle Shevlin
Nantucket Bangle Workshop with Michelle Shevlin
Sailor's Valentine Ornament with Joanne Gregory
The Art of Painting with Alcohol Inks with Mary Wojciechowski
Painterly Monoprint Cards with Kirsten Sorenson
Block Printing Napkins with Cathy Wilkerson
Beginning Brushes with Rebecca Siemering
Needlepoint Finishing: Beginner Round Ornament with Kelly Starke
Introduction to Ding Bu Chuan Workshop with Ida Schmulowitz
Early American Decorative Floorcloths with Nancy Sherren
Charm Workshop with Torin Mathieu
Holiday Votives or Ornaments with Virginia Mead

OFF-SITE WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Giant Paper Blooms with Alyn Carlson
Felt Animals with Cynthia Treen
Natural Dyeing at ProChem with Suzi Ballenger

DROP IN/OPEN STUDIO

Open Play Mah Jongg
Nantucket Basket Open Studio

Communications Committee Annual Report 2024-2025 Corryn Langmuir

After receiving final approval from the Providence Historic District Commission for our design, a sign was painted on the front of the house on the beam above the front door identifying 42 College Street as The Handicraft Club. The intent was to create signage that would have a large impact with minimal disruption to the house that also felt appropriate for the building. Thank you to those who helped in this process.

With the new club website up and running, we worked to ensure that all communications, electronic and printed, would be consistent with the website's style and themes. As a result we developed a plan with a new format and layout for sending out club emails, and developed new visual and content guidelines. We also created a new schedule for sending our communications to help with workflow and manage the volume of information sent to members.

Moving forward, we are expanding our use of social media to promote the club and its teachers more effectively. We have developed a monthly program to feature our teachers on Instagram and in our newsletters, and have started an image library with approved photography for use in our communications with an associated email that members can send photos they would allow us to use.

Respectfully submitted,
Corryn Langmuir
Communications Chair

Giving Societies Committee 2024-2025

Sharleen Bowen

The following gifts have been given to the Handicraft Club from June 2024 until May of 2025. Gifts received with the 2025-26 dues have not been included. All gifts under \$500 will be placed in the Operating Budget unless otherwise specified. Gifts over \$500 are placed in the Investment Fund. Thank you to all the members who have given to the Club.

Julia Lippitt Mauran Society: This society recognizes those who have remembered the Handicraft Club in their estate plans. We have no new members of this society this year. However legacy gifts were received by Frances Demopoulos's estate , a former Treasurer and Ann Brooke Mason's estate. Ann Brooke and Loulie Mauran Groton created this society.

Truman Beckwith Circle: This donor group is comprised of members who make a contribution of \$1500 or more to the Club. These donations are added to the Handicraft Club Investment Fund unless otherwise specified.

Kerry Sweeney is a new member of the Truman Beckwith Society.

We received several additional gifts from members of the Circle, Sandy Dimeo and Sharleen Bowen.

Annual Giving for the Operating Budget: The Board and Finance Committee have done a good job of maintaining our finances, however additional funds are always welcome to offset the Operating Budget. Thank you to our members for their generosity : Barbara "Bobby" Binder, Miriam "Mitzi" Berkelhammer, gift in memory of Sally DeSimone, Sharleen Bowen, Heather Campbell, Nancy Moger, Laura Nordstrom, Maureen Taylor

The Jessie Knight Fund: Gifts to this fund are used to help ensure the affordability of classes and enhance class experience. Gifts were received by Barbara Crouchley, Fran Gammell - Roach, Virginia Mead and Karen Pizzarello.

Tynietoy Mansion Heritage Fund: Donations of both Tynietoy miniatures as well as monetary contributions will allow the Club's Tynietoy collection to be maintained and enhanced. No gifts were given this year.

Holiday Gratuity for Employees: Many thanks to members who donated to the Gratuity Fund this holiday season. Sara Carcieri, Assistant Treasurer noted 35% of the membership contributed to this effort. The holiday gratuity was truly appreciated by our employees.

Annual Giving: \$2,307.51

Julia Lippitt Mauran Society: \$2000

Truman Beckwith Circle: \$2,250

The Jessie Knight Fund: \$400

Respectfully submitted,
Sharleen Bowen

Building and Grounds Annual Report 2024-2025

Sue Pakula

This year the focus of the committee has been to maintain the safety and integrity of the building and grounds of the Handicraft Club. We have not had any large beautification projects.

1. The fence in the back grounds was replaced due to severe damage.
2. The windows in the art room were removed, repaired, repainted, and replaced.
3. A plumbing leak in the old kitchen required that some of the cupboards were rebuilt.
4. Continued mold testing revealed multiple areas of mold in the old kitchen. The mold was remediated and measures were taken to decrease the humidity and aeration in that area.
5. Significant water damage and mold in Rebecca's office, also required remediation and prevention of moisture incursion into that area. The office was also repainted.
6. The basement oil tank and all of its oil were removed in the fall of 2024.
7. A sensor problem with our gas boiler caused a heating loss for several days this winter. Phillips Plumbing was able to find the cause of the problem and repair it. Two other gas leaks occurred in the basement this winter. The repairs again were conducted by Phillips plumbing.
8. The dogwood trees in the front of our building were removed because they were dying.
9. We continue to have regular mold evaluations throughout the house. And our most recent evaluation showed some mold in the closet in Rebecca's office. This issue will be dealt with within the next month.

There are several other projects that need to be completed in the coming year.

1. The sewing and basket room have water damage around the chimneys and these areas will require repainting. The chimneys were sealed last year and since there has been no more water incursion, the painting can now be done.
2. The drywall on the ceiling of the attic is crumbling and estimates to get it repaired are out of the reach of what we can afford at this point. There is no evidence of leaking, but the attic space is unsafe for people to use. The plan is to empty the attic over the summer and to store offsite any of the important objects that are currently stored there.
3. If we remain in the building for much longer, it is likely we will have to invest in a new roof and gutters for the carriage house.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Pakula

Investment Committee Annual Report 2024-2025

Frances Gammell Roach, Chair

The Handicraft Club has 3 funds which the committee oversees. The Investment Fund is invested with FL Putnam and the 4% annual draw is used for Club operations, repairs with any remainder transferring to the General Fund. The General Fund is a smaller fund also invested with FL Putnam and those monies are set aside for major unforeseen emergencies. The Club also has a Flexible Endowment Fund at the RI Foundation.

FL Putnam

The Investment Committee meets with Stephen Violin of FL Putnam semi-annually either in person or via Zoom. Violin presents a market review, asset allocation, performance results and a review of the Club's investment policy. After last year's annual meeting and the vote to move, the committee met with Stephen and decided to move \$2 million from equities to US Treasury notes to prepare for relocation cash needs. The committee recently met again with Stephen and reviewed the current asset allocation. With the current market uncertainty, it was decided to give Stephen discretion to shift more assets into cash and US Treasury.

Asset Allocation

Investment Fund @ FL Putnam

The balance of the account as of March 31, 2025, was \$8,120,600 with 42% in cash, 12% in fixed income, 41% in equities and 5% in alternatives.

General Fund @ FL Putnam

The balance of the account as of March 31, 2025, was \$476,695 with 4.4% in cash, 65% in fixed income and 31% in equities which consist of Ishares, not individual stocks.

RI Foundation Flexible Fund

The balance of the account at the RI Foundation as of March 31, 2025, was \$156,530. Our initial investment was \$100,000 in July 2019 and as of last March the balance was \$149,695.

The RI foundation enables the club to provide another option for donors who may prefer to contribute to the Handicraft Club through the RI Foundation. Our investment is part of a \$1.4 billion pool fund. Over the last 20 years the Fund has generated stable, long-term returns at an annualized rate over the last 10 years of 7.9%. The 1 year return as of March 31st was 5.5% with a YTD return of -0.1%. The club is currently reinvesting all dividends to grow this fund.

Membership Annual Report 2023-2024

Amabel Allen

We had a good RISD CRAFT FAIR sidewalk event on October 19. Our table around the corner from Benefit Street seems to be a good draw.

The following Saturday was the Club's Open House. The timing is always perfect, we let the people stopping by during the RISD FAIR know that the Club will be open the next week since many asked if they could see the inside of the house.

April 28 we had our now annual Cream Tea to welcome the new members. We had 30 attendees, both the new members and their sponsors and several board members as well. We had delicious refreshments and tea. After breaking up conversations to have the guests sit down, we had welcomes from our President Heather Roberts and Vice President Susanne Toothaker. It was deemed a success.

Thank you to all those who have participated in proposing and seconding their friends and acquaintances for membership to the Club. Please continue to do so. And thank you to Karen who continues to answer questions and brings members in as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Amabel Allen

Nominating Committee Annual Report 2024-2025

Mitzi Berkelhammer

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate
for the 2025-2026 year:

President: Heather Roberts
Vice President: Mary Reineman
Vice President: Susanne Toothaker
Recording Secretary: Carrie Elliott
Treasurer: Sara Carcieri
Assistant Treasurer: Laura Nordstrom

Members elected to the Finance Committee and Investment Committee:
Investment Committee: Fran Gammell-Roach
Finance Committee: Marsha Prindiville

Respectfully Submitted, Nominating Committee
Mitzi Berkelhammer, Chair
Amy Goldstein
Paula Keavy
Dee Dee Witman
Mary DiSandro

Bios of Proposed Slate of Officers

2025-2026 Club Year Executive Committee Bios

President Heather Roberts

Heather has been a dedicated member of the Handicraft Club for over a decade. During her time at the Club, Heather has enjoyed needlepoint and weaving Nantucket Baskets, and has gained more than a few grey hairs attempting to knit. She is a recent student in decoupage and loves it! Heather has served on the Executive Committee for the last three years. She has also served on the Nominating Committee for the last six years, including four years as Nominating Chair. Heather cherishes the friendships and camaraderie she shares with her fellow members!

Heather's professional career centered on her passion for figure skating. Heather started her career instructing beginners through competitors. She later served as Program Director and then General Manager of the Fleet Skating Center. In her roles, Heather choreographed the opening ceremonies of the Fleet Skating Center and coordinated numerous events. Heather is most proud of her time spent teaching figure skating in partnership with the Massachusetts Special Olympics.

Heather lives in East Greenwich with her husband, Jon. She enjoys spending time with her four children and her pup Ellie, and is a proud grandparent to four babies!

Vice President Mary Reineman

Mary has been a member of the Handicraft Club since 2014 and has served on the Board and the Executive Committee as the Assistant Treasurer and the Chair of the Investment Committee. Mary has been a Vice President for the past three years and chairs the Personnel Committee. She has enjoyed taking needlepoint classes and learning to play Mah Jongg at the Handicraft Club for the past ten years.

Mary spent her career in the Financial Services Industry after graduating from Colby College. She began her career at Fleet Bank in Providence and transitioned into a 15-year career at Merrill Lynch. Mary is on the Board of Directors of the RI Philharmonic and on the Board of Governors at Bradley Hospital. She enjoys volunteering at Bradley Hospital with her therapy dog, Beazie, playing tennis and golf and traveling. Mary lives on the East Side of Providence with her husband, Paul Kappel.

Vice President Susanne Toothaker

I have been a member of the Handicraft Club for 11 years. I became interested when I retired from teaching, after 40 years, and felt there was a creativity piece missing from my life. I was lucky enough to be able to do some painting with Margaret Owen and learned the skill of Nantucket Basket making from Donele Monte. More recently, I've so enjoyed learning about Whiteline Printing from Kitty Lovell and delving into watercolor painting with Anne Wert. I've also dabbled in glass design and a little weaving and paper making with Suzy Ballenger. They are all such wonderful teachers! I also enjoyed a spectacular workshop creating a giant paper tulip with Alyn Carlson.

As far as helping out at the Club, I've served as Vice President this past year. I have also served on the Finance Committee and was Class Chair for two years, working closely with Rebecca Siemering, the Education Manager. I have also been the Recording Secretary for 2 years, serving on the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, as well as taking part in the Committee searching for a new General Manager. Most recently, I have been very involved in all our work to find a new home for the Club that suits everyone's needs.

All these opportunities have helped me to have a deeper understanding of the workings of the Club, and offered opportunities to meet many members. So, I look forward to continuing on the Executive Committee and the Board and supporting the Club.

Treasurer Sara Carcieri

Sara Carcieri is completing her ninth year on the Board, serving as Assistant Treasurer, and most recently stepping up to once again take on the role of Treasurer. She was previously on the Membership Committee and had served as Treasurer for four years, followed by four years as Vice President. She spent her career in the fine tableware and gift business after graduating from Purdue University. An Asst. Buying job at Marshall Field's in Chicago led to a sales and marketing job with Gorham Silver which brought her to Rhode Island as VP of Product Development. After transitioning Gorham through new ownership, she began an 18-year career at Reed and Barton, retiring as VP of Marketing. A member of the Handicraft Club since 2013, she has enjoyed classes in needlepoint, weaving, oriental rugs, Mahjong and decorative painting.

Assistant Treasurer Laura Nordstrom

Laura Nordstrom has been a member of the Handicraft Club since 2022. She's always loved making things with her hands - she was the nerdy kid in the neighborhood who started a knitting club at the age of 10 and worked in a needlepoint shop at the age of 18. Graduating from Colby college with a major in economics, she worked in the financial services industry, marketing business life insurance plans for New England Life, earning her CLU designation. Subsequently, she earned a Master's Degree in Taxation from Bentley University and became a CPA, working at a small regional accounting firm in the Worcester, MA area. After many years working in finance she started a home staging and interior redecorating business. When she moved to Providence in 2017, she took courses in Interior Design, as well as bookmaking, paper marbling and collage. She's looking forward to serving the Club in whatever way she can.

Recording Secretary Carrie Elliott

Carrie joined the Handicraft Club in 2010. During her time at the club, she has enjoyed taking classes in needlepoint, knitting and Nantucket Baskets. After twenty years in Barrington, Carrie recently moved to Jamestown, RI. She retired in 2021 from a legal career in estate planning, most recently working as an attorney at Howland Evangelista Kohlenberg, LLP in Providence.

Club Manager's Report 2024-2025

Karen Weavill

My second full year at the Club has kept me busy. We started the fiscal year by coordinating several contractors for work around the property, including mold remediation and reconstruction, chimney sealing, window refinishing, deep cleaning, fence repair and painting, tree removal, and reconstruction of the kitchen area. We continued reworking the lunch options offered, and have been able to shift that program from one that lost money to one that breaks even, with far less food wasted. The year brought a few more surprises with two gas leaks, one furnace repair project, and one roof leak to be managed.

Over the course of this year, I have had the privilege of working with hard-working and committed board members and committee volunteers, without whom this Club would not be able to run as smoothly as it does. I am extremely grateful for Heather and Susanne and our work together, as well as the other board members and committee chairs.

Speaking of gratitude, I am filled with gratitude for the Handicraft Club and its members, staff, and teachers. It is wonderful to work in a building filled with such creativity and positive energy. I have especially enjoyed working with prospective members and helping them get to know the Club and become new members. I also participated in a workshop myself this year, allowing me to get to know some of our members better, as well as feeding my own need for creativity and handicrafting.

Finally, I'd like to thank Rebecca, Carissa, and Henry. I could not ask for a better team to work with me in supporting the mission and day-to-day operations of the Handicraft Club.

Board of Directors and Staff 2024-2025

Executive Board

President, Heather Rae Roberts

Vice President, Susanne Toothaker

Vice President, Mary Reineman

Recording Secretary, Carrie Elliott

Treasurer, Emily Morgan, Succeeded by Sara Carcieri

Relocation Chair, Kerry Sweeney

Committee Chairs

Class, Anne Jackson, Chair

Communications, Corryn Langmuir, Chair

Events, Tammy Bolotow, Judith Brott, Co-Chairs

Finance, Sara Carcieri, Chair

Giving Societies, Sharleen Bowen, Chair

Building & Grounds, Sue Pakula, Barbara Rosenbaum, Co-Chairs

Investments, Fran Gammell-Roach, Chair

Membership, Amabel Allen, Chair

Nominating, Mitzi Berkelhammer, Chair

Personnel, Sally Elliott, Mary Reineman, Co-Chairs

Club Manager

Karen Weavill

Education Manager

Rebecca Siemering

Administrative Assistant

Carissa Knickerbocker

Maintenance

Henrique Leite