

THE GARDEN GAZETTE

The January Planning and Scheduling meeting will be **January 25th, 6:30 PM** at the **Torner Center in Deming Park**. Education time will be a presentation on last years (2010) garden project by the Giving Garden Committee.

REMINDER: Volunteer and Educational hours for 2010 are due at this meeting. Assessment of \$15 are also due at this time.

Our annual Christmas Gathering and Intern Graduation was held December 6 at 6:00 PM in the 4-H meeting room at the Vigo County Fairgrounds. No Education time and no meeting called to order so no volunteer hours can be claimed. Jim Luzar stated that the Interns all passed their test. The new Interns were introduced. Jim then handed out certificates to newly certified Master Gardeners. The new officers for 2011 were also introduced. Beth Keyes gave a report on the decorations at our Christmas in the Park Shelter. There have been some items stolen from the Shelter. They are: lighted reindeer, an elf, two rocking horses and a small decorated tree. The Park was notified and a Police report was made.

The Giving Garden had a committee meeting December 9, in room C at the Public Library. There were 11 members and Jim Luzar present. Bob Archer and Phil Small are co-chairmen of the Committee. The containers, potting soil, tags, and fertilizer will be obtained by Jim Luzar and John Rosene thru the Purdue Extension Office and John Hancewicz. Phil Small reported on the Lighthouse Mission Soup Kitchen and Booker T. Washington Soup Kitchen and what they would like to have in the way of produce this summer. Ralph Dale reported on 14th and Chestnut Soup Kitchen and what they would like to receive. Bob Archer reported on St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen and what they could use in the way of produce. They would all like to see more corn and green beans, greens for salads, potatoes, larger tomatoes and even green tomatoes, onions, and carrots. Everything that was taken to the kitchens was used and was really appreciated. Produce was also taken to Freebirds Organization. Other items discussed were an irrigation system, and an experimental plot. Also discussed were a need for sturdier tomato cages, and signs to identify everything. A journal will be kept on all plantings of any problems that

come up due to pests, diseases, and how much that vegetable produced, etc. Several smaller committees were formed such as a communication committee, a seed selection committee, a plotting map committee, a labor organizing committee and a plant nomenclature committee. All agreed the ground should be prepared by mid April to be ready to plant cold season crops and so that potatoes could be planted on Good Friday. If anyone has any extra garden tools such as rakes, hoes, etc. that they are not using and would like to donate to the Giving Garden, they would be greatly appreciated. Also boxes, crates, etc. will be needed to pick produce in and to distribute the produce. After the meeting Jim purchased 4 - 150 ft. rolls of wire to make tomato cages. John Rosene purchased enough supplies to plant 2,000 seeds. Case is loaning a tractor and bucket so Jim can work on the sawdust piles. The Giving Garden goal for 2011 is to reach 10,000 pounds of produce. The next Giving Garden Committee meeting is January 20, 2011 at 10:00 AM at the Extension Office.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Master Gardener display at the Ozok Shelter for Christmas in the Park placed 4th overall. The Committee and helpers did a fantastic job. Hope you all went out to see the many great displays.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: **January 29**, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM at Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Illinois entitled "A Winter Day in the Garden". Price is \$35.00. For more information go to <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/crawford> or call 618/546-1549.

February 19 (Saturday), "Once Upon A Garden". Princeton Community High School, Princeton, Indiana. Cost is \$40 (\$45 after Feb.10th). Flyers will be available at our January 25th meeting. Can earn 5 Educational hours. Or can call 812-385-3491.

March 5 (Saturday), Advanced Master Gardener Training. Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds, Alexandria, Indiana. Contact John Orick, Extension Educator at 765-641-9514 at least 3 weeks prior to event. Cost is \$35. Flyers will be available at our January 25th meeting.

There is a Bi-State Master Gardener Conference on **January 27** at the Beef House Restaurant outside Covington, Ind. Registration begins at 5:30 PM followed by an appetizer bar at 6:00 PM with program beginning at 6:30 PM. Program topic is "Currents, Grapes & Community Gardens". You can earn two hours of education time with this program. Fee is \$20.00 per person which includes the appetizer bar dinner, payable at the door. Pre-registration is encouraged either by calling Amanda Smith, Purdue Extension Fountain County at (765)793-2297 or online at www.extension.uiuc.edu/edgar by January 21st. Space is limited.

There will be a new Intern Class starting February 4, 2011 (Fridays) through April 29 from 9 AM to 12 noon.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: The Board of Directors met on January 13, 6:00 PM at the Pie Co. Officers in attendance were Larry Agee, Marilyn Miller, Bob Archer, Verna Gaskin, John Hildebrand, Carl Trent, Cyd Hunter, Paula Wilson, Debbie Lazzell, Bill Hiatt and Association member Beth Keyes. Meeting called to order by President Larry Agee. **Vice President-** Marilyn reported on speakers for the next three meetings. If anyone has a topic they would like some educational time on please get in touch with Marilyn at mhm51@aol.com Marilyn also suggested giving the presenters a small gift. There is a budget for speakers and up to \$25.00 does not need prior approval. No report from Recording Secretary or Corresponding Secretary. **Treasurer** - John reported we received our refund of \$100 back from Turner Coach Tours for the cancelled trip. Beth reported on **Christmas in the Park**. Judging took place Dec. 13. Beth, Pat and Paula were present at the time of judging. Master Gardeners received 4th place and a check for \$900. M.G.'S were not able to sell tickets to train ride or hot chocolate due to weather. We will decorate the Ozok Shelter again next year. When the judges go around to the different shelters they ask what the money might be spent on. There was some discussion of where the profits from CIP could be utilized. She did not have a final expense report.

Scholarship - Cyd. Cyd passed out a draft scholarship application for members to review. After discussion, a motion was made and passed that the scholarship would be awarded to an Ivy Tech agriculture or horticulture student from one of the surrounding counties (Vigo, Clay and Sullivan). Ivy Tech student financial aids department could administer the scholarship with our final approval, initially to an incoming freshman or fulltime undergraduate college student.

Cyd also reported on the **Search for Excellence Award**. Pat's is done and has been forwarded to Jim Luzar. Bob Archer is working on the one for the Giving Garden. Bill Hiatt, Debbie Lazzell, Beth Keyes, Phyllis DeBord and Verna Gaskin are working on the one for the Fair and Bill Hiatt and Carol Swearingen are working on the one for the Patriotic Garden. Deadline for submission in Feb. 1.

New Website- Cyd. It has been submitted to Jim Luzar for approval. A motion was made and passed that if the website was approved then Cyd would go ahead and launch the website. The link for the new website will

be www.wvmga.org Cyd will notify Board members when it goes active.

NOTE: As of January 15 the website has been approved and is active. Go check it out.

The Garden Gazette will be sent out on the 16th of every month. If anyone has an article to submit please get it to Verna at vernajean1962@juno.com by the 15th of each month. You can claim volunteer hours working on an article.

Board of Director meetings have been set up at the Pie Co. thru June starting at 6:00 PM.

John reported on the **Spring Seminar**. The applications are being printed now. Speakers are all line up. Some sponsors have been acquired. Vendors are signing up. The seminar will be held at St. Mary of the Woods on March 12. Application will be on our website, and also the Apple House website.

Giving Garden - Bob. John Rosene and the Ivy Tech Agriculture class are volunteering to do the ground prep work this spring. Seeds will be grown in the Ivy Tech greenhouse and be taken care of by one of the horticulture classes. Need to put Ivy Tech's name on the sign at the Giving Garden. Would like a \$300 budget from the Association to fund purchase of seeds and other materials for the Giving Garden.

Earth Day - will check to see if Sharon will be chairman again. We will be selling Early Girl and Better Bush tomato plants.

Herb Fair - John. We will sell 80 Early Girl and Better Bush tomatoes. Hanging Baskets to be purchased at the auction.

Gardens - Hawthorn Park - Will monitor the Knockout Roses in early March so they can be trimmed. A work day will be scheduled then.

Fair Committee - Bill. Still working on plans for this year. Will request \$500 in operating funds.

Old Business:

Merom Chautauqua June 4 & 5. They were asking if we might be interested in having an information booth for children. Discussion ended with no recommendation other than this would be brought up at the planning meeting.

Our membership meetings will be at the Torner Center at Deming Park thru June except for May when it will be at the Ute Shelter for the Intern Graduation Party and carry in.

Insurance - John. No response from the insurance agent about extra coverage question. John to check.

New Business:

Putnam County Master Gardeners will have an advanced training seminar on

February 26 at the Putnam County Fairgrounds Community Building. You can receive six (6) hours of educational time. Breakfast and lunch are included in the fee of \$35. Applications will be available at our meeting or contact Linda Lampson (812)442-5312) or email at:

jimlumsdon@yahoo.com or Karen Martello (765-653-0460). Topics are Edible and Medicinal Plants, Scented Geraniums and Propagation, The Importance of Bees, Garden Ponds and Constructing Greenhouses.

FOTHA - Bill. Will have John Rosene as speaker on the 17th of January (Monday) at 6:30 PM at the Torner Center in Deming Park. Can earn educational hours for this. They hope to have speakers for all their meetings this year.

Bill Hiatt had a question about the Expense forms. John stated that one form is for expense authorization from the committee chairperson and the other form is used for reimbursement. There was a discussion about who is eligible to receive the Gazette. The Gazette will be published on both the Extension Website and our WVMGA web site which will be available to everyone. The mailing list of the Gazette will be based on the organization's membership list. There was a discussion about the membership list - about updating the active list and the possibility of honorary members was to be extended to February's Board meeting. Next Board of Directors meeting is Feb. 10, at 6:00 PM at the Pie Co. Motion made to adjourn and seconded. Meeting adjourned with 2 hours volunteer time for the board members.

FROM THE SERVICE COORDINATOR'S DESK by Cyd Hunter. It's That Time of The Year - The holidays are over and as the new year begins, it's time to submit your 2010 hours. Many members have turned in their 2010 volunteer and education hours periodically. Some members have submitted their hours in the past few weeks. Your efforts are appreciated. However, if you haven't submitted your hours, it is time to do so. **All 2010 hours are to be submitted no later than February 1, 2011. They may be mailed to Cyd at 2689 E. Eaton Dr., Terre Haute, Ind. 47802 or e-mail: cydhunter@frontier.com** The following members have not submitted any 2010 hours: Robert Artis, Pam Bowden, Linda Brown, Jane Buchanan, Barb Davis, Phyllis Debord, Judy Eckert, Debbi Gansz, Emma Harlan, Janice Heleine, John Hensley, John Hildebrand, Margaret Hogget, Kathy Hutton, Maryanne Kelley, Beth Keyes, Susan Laitas, Jerry Lankford, Debbie Lazzell, Pam Lemay, Sam Ligget, Robert Love, Ronetta Love, Cheryl Palmer, Penny Phelps, Thomas Pirtle, Sharon Polge, Guy Riggs, Bob Rosch, Charles Secrest, Marsha Spencer, Roger Tonsfield, Sally Whalen, Patricia

Wilkinson, and Paula Wilson. As a reminder, the 2010 Intern Class also needs to submit their hours within a year of their class to become a Certified Master Gardener.

The following is a poem submitted by Mary Jo Slater. The author and title are unknown.

In winter's cold and sparkling snow,
The Garden in my mind does grow,
I look outside to blinding white,
And see my tulips blooming bright.
And over there a sweet carnation,
Softly scents my imagination.
On this cold and freezing day,
The Russian Sage does gently sway.
And miniature roses perfume the air,
I can see them blooming there.
Though days are short, my vision's clear,
And through the snow the buds appear.

In my mind, clematis climbs,
And morning glories do entwine.
Woodland Phlox and scarlet pinks,
Replace the frost, if I just blink.
My inner eye sees past the snow,
And in my mind, my garden grows.

That's all for this month. Keep those shovels handy. See you at the January 25 meeting.