



GARDEN GAZETTE, OCTOBER 2011

The October Planning and Scheduling meeting will be **October 25th, 6:30 PM** at the **Collett Park Shelter House**. Education time will be Stephanie Krull of ISU. At the September 27th meeting there were 33 members present. A carry-in dinner was first, followed by a business meeting, and lastly the plant and seed exchange. The business meeting was called to order by President Larry Agee at 6:40 PM.

Vice President: Sam stated that he had educators lined up for October and November. Anyone having ideas for educators for next year please contact him.

Recording Secretary: (Bob) Two corrections from the September Garden Gazette. From Beth Keyes – the date of the second group that went to the State Fair booth was Thursday, August 18th instead of August 17th. Also Pat Secrest noted that the Gazette was titled Vigo County Gardener Gazette instead of Wabash Valley Master Gardener Association Garden Gazette.

Corresponding Secretary: (Verna) Nothing to report.

Treasurer: (John) John gave the current balance. Received reimbursement checks for the Giving Garden and Chili Cook-Off registration.

Service Coordinator: (Cyd) Nancy Nation, Carol Dryer received their Certification and Teri Boland received her Advanced Certification.

Web Site: (Cyd) She recently posted new pictures of the Giving Garden and updated the calendar. Website is www.wvmga.org.

Giving Garden: (Phil) Harvested over 9,300 lbs. so far, and new this year – several fall crops have been planted. Last year at this time the garden was all but done. There will be a workday scheduled in the next couple of weeks for fall cleaning of the garden space.

Head Bed Keeper: (Roger) The Patriotic Garden, Butterfly Garden, and 3rd and Maple Gardens look good. The 1st and Oak Garden has had a persistent problem with a type of grass (believed to be quack grass) all summer. The items in the garden may need to be removed so that the grass can be killed and then replanted. Maybe relocating them to the Giving Garden temporarily until this is accomplished. The First Financial bed has similar problems.

Soil & Water Conservation Education: (Pat) Pat stated he had 1,400 students pass through his caterpillar presentation in three days at the Fairgrounds. Jim Luzar and Pat appreciated all the help they received from the association members.

Family Learning Days: (Beth Keyes for Sharon Polge) – Learning Days were at the Vigo County Public Library, September 24, 2011, 9:00am to noon. Master Gardeners in attendance were Peggy Harlan, Kathy Hutton, Beth Keyes, Virginia Laycock, Debbie Lazzell, Carol Swearingen, and Pat Youman. They planted bean seed in small plastic cups with drainage holes, sprinkled grass seeds on top of the dirt, placed a napkin on top with a rubber band and put the cup in a zipper sandwich bag. This year we had 205 children plant beans.

Altrusa Chili Cook-Off: (Debbie Lazzell/John Hilderbrand) – This was our first time to compete in the Altrusa Chili Cook-Off. We had two 5 gallon pots of chili, one recipe was mild, and the other was **HOT**. John was the chief chef of the Hot and Debbie was the chief chef of the mild. John's Hot Chili received first in the Commercial Group category. We spent a total of \$123.00 out of the \$150.00 budget. The "Green Thumbs" of the giving Garden had an enjoyable day, and made many community contacts.

Christmas In The Park: (Pat Secret/Beth Keyes) – Pat stated that the committee was working with a new theme this year, "Candy Land Holiday". Workdays will be announced and setup will be the Friday after Thanksgiving. Lights will be turned on December 5th and turned off on December 26th. We will have the train ride concession Saturday the 17th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. All the receipts of the ride and hot chocolate go to the association.

2012 Spring Seminar: (Teri Boland, Paula Wilson, Carol Swearingen) – March 10, 2012, at St. Mary of the Woods College. Tentative speakers and tentative subjects: Steven Swain speaking on alternative/handicap gardening; Jo Ellen Sharp – no subject selected yet; Marty Jones on photography and Jack Daniel speaking about cooking with herbs. Possibly one other presenter speaking on growing mushrooms. Admission fee this year will likely be \$40.00 which will include a continental breakfast and lunch.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fall intern class: Began September 8, 6:00pm – 9:00pm on Thursdays. 19 students in this class and Master Gardener Patty Weaver was the guest educator last week teaching about vegetables.

Ivy Tech 2011 Homecoming: Will include ribbon cutting ceremony for their Trail and Tree sponsors at 12:00 noon on Friday, October 21, 2011. We sponsored the White Oak.

Garden tour: Bill Hiatt wanted to verify who had not yet received their door prize from the garden tour.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of 2012 officers: Nomination committee- Kathy Hutton, Phil Small and Bob Archer. Larry Agee read the slate of nominees for 2012 officers. The election will be held during the October 25th Planning & Scheduling meeting at Collett Park.

President – Larry Agee

Vice President – Sam Liggett

Recording Secretary – Kathy Hutton

Corresponding Secretary – Verna Gaskin

Treasurer – John Hilderbrand

Service Coordinator – Cyd Hunter

Past Board of Directors (vote for two) – Paula Wilson, Debbie Lazzell, Bob Archer

Director-at-large – Bill Hiatt

Write in votes are allowed for any position and anyone wanting to vote absentee, please contact Bob Archer.

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:30pm. The plant and seed exchange followed the business meeting. $\frac{3}{4}$ hour volunteer time awarded for those present.

Next Board of Directors Meeting – October 13th, 6:00pm, Pie Company.

Next Planning and Scheduling Meeting – October 25th at Collett Park.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

October 13, 2011, 6:00pm; Pie Company

Board members present: Sam Liggett, Bob Archer, Verna Gaskin, John Hilderbrand, Carl Trent, Cyd Hunter, Paula Wilson, Debbie Lazzell

Vice President: Sam Liggett called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Vice President: Sam stated that Stephanie Krull will be the educator for the October planning and scheduling meeting.

Recording Secretary: Bob Archer read parts of last month's board minutes.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin – nothing to report.

Treasurer Report: John Hilderbrand gave the balance as of the board meeting.

Service Coordinator: Cyd Hunter – Cyd said she had received hours from 5 members and that she had ordered new badges for 6 individuals. Barbara Brugnaux had sent Cyd a question of where could she get education hours. There was general discussion that individuals could sit in on the intern classes and receive credit for education time.

Giving Garden: Bob Archer reported that 9,973 lbs. had been picked so far, and that Monday, October 17th would probably be the last harvest day. Just received an email from Jim Luzar stating that Pioneer Seed Company was offering a grant to middle school classes for seeds, etc., in conjunction with Ivy Tech, and Pioneer Seed Company, the seeds and greenhouse use will be covered next spring for the Giving Garden. There will be a post season meeting and a cleanup day. Both are TBA.

Gardens: Verna Gaskin led a general discussion about problems and possible solutions for the 1st and Oak Garden. All season there had been a problem keeping grass (quack grass??) from taking over the garden.

Christmas in the Park: No one present with any new information. At present, decoration is to start November 25th and tear down beginning December 27th. Saturday December 17th will be the train concession.

Spring Seminar: March 10, 2012 at St. Mary of the Woods campus – Paula Wilson stated that 4 speakers were confirmed so far.

Old Business: A question was asked if anyone knew the schedule/date of subjects that were going to be taught classes at the intern classes. No one present had a schedule.

Need to confirm dates and meeting place for the November planning and scheduling meeting and the December carry-in meeting. The November meeting will be November 15th at 6:30pm at Deming Park. The December carry-in meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th. The meeting place still needs confirmed.

New Business: Election of officers/board members – Bob Archer stated that Kathy Hutton would provide ballot sheets at the October meeting and that he had not received any requests for absentee voting to date. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Recording Secretary 7 calendar days prior to the October 25th planning and scheduling meeting.

Verna Gaskin asked about establishing a budget for WVMGA seed packets for earth day activities next year. There was general discussion concerning this subject. No recommendation at this time.

Announcements: Ribbon cutting for the Trail of Trees at Ivy Tech is Friday, October 21, 2011 at 12:00 noon.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm. ½ hour volunteer time.

Next Planning and Scheduling meeting: October 25th at 6:30pm/ Collett Park Shelter.

Next Board of Directors meeting: November 10th at 6:30pm at the Pie Company.

FROM THE SERVICE COORDINATORS DESK:

Congratulations to the following members who have advanced in their Master Gardener status:

Certified Master Gardener: Dawn Chapman
Vern Chapman
Denise Frey

Advanced Master Gardener: Pat Youman
Virginia Laycock

Bronze Master Gardener: Phil Small

Other members submitting hours in September were Larry Agee, Robert Archer, Terri Boland, Debi Gansz and Kathy Keelen. Hours that are submitted by the end of the month will be recorded and new badges will be ordered if needed. You may submit your hours through email or snail mail. Volunteer hour forms are available at the meetings or on the website in the member's corner- "Forms."

NOTE: Congratulations go to the pickers of the Giving Garden; as of Monday, October 17th the total produce picked is now over 10,000 lbs. Goal has been met and surpassed!

Thank you for your patience while my computer has been down. I now have a new computer and will soon be online again.

That is all for this month. See you at the planning session on the 25th of October.

VIGO COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE UPDATE:

Welcome new Educator Katarina Yackley.

Please help me welcome Katarina Yackley as our new Health and Human Sciences Extension Educator. Katarina assumed the duties of the position vacated by Deanna Franklin. Katarina has educational background in human nutrition and will be glad to provide educational content for one of your upcoming monthly meetings. Please help us welcome Katarina to Vigo County!

Welcome New Office Assistant Jennifer Kennedy.

Another new face in our office is that of Jennifer Kennedy, who assumed duties of the position vacated by Lorie Larr. Jennifer works "up front" with Kathy and Wendy and we are happy to have her services. Please wish her well when you drop by the office.

Next MG Class Training

The next Purdue Master Gardener training series will take place March through May of 2012. Classes will be held from 9 am until noon at the Ivy Tech Workforce Development. The current class is now over half way to completion, with 19 adults participating. I appreciate Patti Weaver, Sister Terry Boland, and Pat Secrest providing class instruction, the class has enjoyed their passion and knowledge. Class fee will be the same old \$75 per head.

Thanks to all members who facilitate and Carol for her organization of facilitation.

Jim's Random Thoughts

- We need to use compostable table service for our events and put that stuff in the Giving Garden compost.
- John's chili was really HOT!
- Bob Archer and Phil Small have been GREAT co-chairs of the Giving Garden...and all who have helped this summer.
- We had great help and good fun with the Vigo County 5th graders at Conservation Days.
- I am finding out education hours are needed by some....do we need to offer some local trainings?

Thanks for all you do to make this organization VIBRANT, CARING, AND ENJOYABLE!