



APRIL 2018

GARDEN GAZETTE

Next meeting is April 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the 4H meeting room at the Vigo County Fairgrounds. Fair Committee and Garden Tour Committee's will be meeting at 5:00 before our planning and scheduling meeting.

Please, everyone, check your email frequently as it is getting time for workdays to be scheduled. I will send notices out as soon as I am notified.

**PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING
WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
March 20, 2018, 6:30pm, 4-H meeting Room
Vigo County Fairgrounds**

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by President Phil Small.

EDUCATIONAL TIME – 1.25 hours. Vice-President Ruth Bohner introduced our speakers, Ryan Wickens of the Vigo County Department of Area Planning and Len Mullins, Wabash Valley Bee Club who discussed zoning policies for Bee keeping in Vigo County. They spoke about set backs (number of feet hive should be set back from roads and property). They said that there should only be two hives per acre and it is important to have a water source for the bees.

They demonstrated some of the elements of a hive. They noted that bees are pests for some people and farm animals for others. There are a lot of government coverage standards (zoning) for agriculture. Len Mullins said that there is a bee hive on top of the Terre Haute Children's Museum and more at St. Mary of the Woods. He noted that pollinators are very important in the production of food. At the end of his comments, he asked if we had heard of the bee that went to the dermatologist. It was because he had hives. HaHa!

Minutes: Published in the March 2018 Gazette. Two corrections were noted.

Recording Secretary: Carole passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Ruth said that the speaker for March would discuss native orchids and noted that there will be no speaker at the May meeting because it will be a picnic (carry-in) to celebrate the Intern Graduation.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna said that he had recently sent out an updated membership roster and a list of committee members.

Treasurer: Brenda said that she had changed the address for receiving mail for the treasurer from Mary Beth Prickel's address to the Master Gardener's Post Office Box address. She gave the Parks Board our tax exempt code. She said that we had made about \$1,000 on the Gardeners Gathering. She said that she and Mary Beth had met recently and sent an updated roster to Verna. They checked with some people who have not yet paid their dues. She sent thank you cards to Gardeners Gathering sponsors.

Service Coordinator: this office is vacant.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Phil said there will be a planting at IVY Tech at 9:00am on Thursday, March 22nd. Bob Archer requested an extra \$500 for the fence and

irrigation system. A motion was made to provide this money. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Flower Beds:

Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper said that a bill for \$50 for planting material had been sent to the Parks Department.

Spring Seminar: Phil expressed thanks to all the members who spent a lot of time working on this event. Ninety people attended 1 or more events. The vendors needed more support. We need to promote the fact that the Gathering is for the community, not just Master Gardeners. The date for next year's event is set for March 9, 2019. At this time a few people shared their experience attending the recent seminar at Putnam County.

Website: Sam reported that everything is fine.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Carole Dreher passed around photos from Arts Illiana Table Scapes and thanked the committee that worked with her on this event – Nancy Nation, Mary Beth Prickel and Sharon Polge. She also thanked members that attended and voted for our table.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ruth Bohner and Shannon Giles have been working with some of the schools on “After School Gardeners” projects. These clubs usually meet from 4:00 – 4:30pm. Some of the schools involved are Sarah Scott MS, and Ouabache, Devaney, Sugar Creek Elementary Schools. Volunteers are welcome (would need to be Minor Certified).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Registration for the Master Gardener State Conference. Check with Phil if interested.

- Era Nichols is working on an event at Rural King, where she is employed, for kindergarteners where they can plant a plant.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board Meeting April 5, 2018, Vigo Co. Public Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, April 17, 2018, 4-H meeting room Vigo County Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with .75 hrs. of volunteer time for the 33 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
April 5, 2018, Vigo Co. Public Library, room 6**

President Phil Small called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members in attendance: Phil Small, Ruth Bohner, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Brenda Christianson, Sam Ligget and Bob Archer.

Non Board members in attendance: None.

Minutes of last Board Meeting: Carole said they had been published in the March Gazette.

Vice President Ruth said that the speaker for the April Planning and scheduling meeting will be Peter Coppinger whose topic will be "Native Orchids". There will be no educational speaker at the May meeting which will be a picnic (carry-in) to celebrate the graduation of the current interns.

At this point there was discussion about the decline in 4H participation at the Vigo County Fair and how it affects attendance and support of our projects.

Corresponding Secretary Verna said she had nothing to report.

Treasurer Brenda presented copies of a printed year-to-date Treasurer's report showing the current balance of our account. There was some discussion about the budgeted amounts for the Giving Garden and the Ivy Tech Greenhouse.

Service Coordinator – This office is vacant.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden – Bob Archer said that he has been working on the fence and has 2 sides completed. Ivy Tech is planning to do 2 plantings of sweet corn this summer. We can have 2 rows, but we may want to plant some corn in our garden as well.

Flowerbeds – Larry was not present, but he sent a report to Phil to share.

Website – Sam said that he had viewed a webinar about herb gardens on the Purdue site and wondered about using them for educational time.

Earth Day – Verna reported that this committee will meet at Fuddruckers on 4-16-18 at 11:30am. We will need people to pick up plants at the Ivy Tech Greenhouse on 4-17 at 5:00pm, keep them overnight and then deliver them to St. Mary of the Woods for Earth Day on 4-18. They should plan to bring them there between 8:00 and 8:30am.

Herb Fair: Verna said she, Debbie Lazzell and Bob Archer plan to go to Rockville on 4-25 for a plant auction to get plants to sell at this event. The Herb Fair takes place on 5-12 from 8:00am to 3:00pm at the Fairgrounds.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was some discussion about appointing someone to the office of Service Coordinator to complete the 2018 term of office. Phil will discuss with Dana Gadenken.

NEW BUSINESS:

- We would like to have a photo of volunteers working at the greenhouse. Verna will send an email to members of the Giving Garden committee to invite them to come down there on a future date.
- Phil said that two persons have expressed an interest in attending the State Conference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check with wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next planning and scheduling meeting – 4-H meeting room at Vigo Co. Fairgrounds on April 17.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo Co. Public Library on 5-3-18 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.5 hrs. of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

It is with much anticipation that we await for actual spring. Every day it seems just around the corner. Soon it will be here and we will be hurled into bright mornings and warm, long afternoons. Remember that feeling of “should I grab a jacket?”

*Take this opportunity to think about ways that you could join a Master Gardener Project, interact with people at an event, or join a committee to make our Master Gardener events happen. There are numerous ways to get involved. On **Saturday May 5th, from 2-3pm** at the Vigo County Public I will have a training for MG Manager. If you have questions, or are daunted by the idea of logging into*

an online portal, this is a space where are questions are welcomed and encouraged. We will also take 5min to fill our Annual Agreements online (if it has not yet been completed for 2018).

*On **Friday May 11th** our new Master Gardener Intern class will be at the Margret Avenue Terre Haute Housing Authority location joining in with their Beatification Day. This is their intern project and an amazing opportunity to mentor new gardeners and welcome them into the association. If you are interested in helping at the event, call the Extension Office for more details.*