



AUGUST 2016

GARDEN GAZETTE

June meeting was our Garden Tour. The Garden Tour ended at Bill & Janice Hiatt's home with a delicious carry-in. The scavenger word hunt at Bill's was won by Beth Keyes and Jo Ligget. Both ladies received a \$10 gift card to Walmart. The hidden letters spelled out "Nasturtium" with a couple of extra letters thrown in to confuse everyone.

There was no Board of Directors meeting and no Planning and Scheduling meeting in July. Hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July. July was also fair time. We had a very successful week with Little Sprouts and our "make and takes".

Many ribbons were won by our Master Gardeners who exhibited items at the Fair. Several of our ladies exhibited in the King Arthur Flour baking contest featuring zucchini, and the Bakers Best baking contest featuring pumpkin.

Many thank you's to the Master Gardeners who came and helped with the "make and takes", brought extra flowers for flower arranging, and to the men who helped mix the concrete for the stepping stones. Lots of volunteer hours were earned and well deserved. We made 207 hypertufa rocks ahead of time and all of them were painted. On Wednesday 138 garden flags were painted. On Thursday 143 flower arrangements were made. On Friday 257 stepping stones were made.

Election of officers will be coming up before long. If you are interested in holding an office, please contact Peggy Harlan.

Prior to this meeting, members participated in a tour of four gardens:

1. Treva Cook's garden near Rosedale, IN. She and her husband shared their garden which featured several recycled building pieces, including doors and windows, in a peaceful rural setting.
2. Richard "Dick" Watson's garden in a Terre Haute subdivision. His yard was shaded by several wonderful large shade trees. He proudly pointed out his cherry trees and blueberry bush. Participants enjoyed sampling the sweet cherries and blueberries.
3. Betty Butler's garden in Seelyville. Her modest sized yard featured plants and yard art all around the fence and outbuildings. A large tree in the backyard was surrounded by plants, birdhouses and garden art.
4. Bill Hiatt's garden near Staunton, IN. Parking was available in a large mowed field next to the house and one of Bill's helpful grandsons helped people get around the

property in a golf cart. Bill's garden featured large garden statues, a pond, a swimming pool, and several plants, including a large clematis that almost completely covered a dead tree. Bill shared some bulbs of plants that he had divided.

No educational time was earned. The meeting was preceded by a carry in meal. It featured barbeque prepared by Bill's son who operates a restaurant. Bill's wife and family members kindly helped with preparations for the meal.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Archer. No attendance was taken but Bob estimated that around 30 people were present.

MINUTES: published in the summer Gazette. No corrections or additions were noted.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg was not present but Bob reminded members that there would not be a Board of Directors meeting or Planning & Scheduling meeting in July due to the time commitment and activities taking place at the Vigo County Fair.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna and Debbie Lazzell completed a game that was begun with placement of small signs in Bill Hiatt's gardens. The signs contained clues to the name of an attractive flower that could also be eaten. The answer turned out to be "Nasturtium". Winners were Beth Keyes and Jo Ligget.

TREASURER: No treasurer's report was given.

COMMITTEES: There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business was brought up.

NEW BUSINESS: Fair Committee: Bill Hiatt said that a few things are still needed for some of the planned projects – fancy items to be used for stepping stones and vases for flower arranging. He also said that volunteers would be meeting at the fairgrounds to make hypertufa rocks for the rock painting project on the following Monday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bob said that Master Gardeners had recently been honored by WTHI-TV with the "Make-A-Difference" award. Carol Swearingen said that volunteers are needed to water the Patriotic Garden in Deming Park.

NEXT MEETING:

Board Meeting August 4, 2016, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.

Planning and Scheduling Meeting, August 16, 2016, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room, Wabash Valley

Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with no volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 4, 2016, 6:00pm at the Vigo County Public Library, Meeting Room 6

PRESIDENT: Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Archer, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Carl Trent, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small.

NON BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dana Gadeken – Purdue Extension.

MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING: Carole said that no minutes had been published since May because there were no Board of Directors or Planning and scheduling meetings in July due to Fair activities. Minutes

from the June meeting, held at Bill Hiatt's house after the Garden tour will be published in the August Gazette along with the Board of Directors meeting minutes.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg was not present.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna had nothing to report.

TREASURER: Pat Youman passed around the latest bank statement for members to examine. She listed income, expenses and the current balance in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Jessica was not present but Bob said that she had some badges and certificates to award.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Phil Small reported that he and another volunteer helped deliver 2,000 ears of corn harvested from the plot located at Westminster Gardens which is a community effort involving several groups including Catholic Charities, IVY Tech, Ceres Solutions and a few others.

WEBSITE: Sam said he needs to add some information.

PUBLICITY: No report.

SPRING SEMINAR 2017: No report.

FAIR COMMITTEE WRAP-UP: Verna reported that one of our members, Ruth Johnson, had entered more than 40 exhibits at the Fair and received ribbons on all of them. We need to send a thank you note to the Bucci Company in Greencastle who donated 14 bags of Lone Star Cement for our stepping stone project at the fair.

OLD BUSINESS:

BED KEEPERS REPORTS:

- 1st & Oak – Bob said that this bed looks pretty good except for the fact that some critters (possibly moles or bunnies) have caused some damage.
- 3rd & Maple – Bob said that the annual in this bed have died and the spot seems to be a little bit weedy.
- Butterfly – Some volunteers were working on this bed today.
- Patriotic – This flower bed along with the herb bed tended by the Herb Society received some damage from recent storms.
- Hawthorne – no report
- Fairgrounds – These beds received some attention prior to the fair in early July.
- Raised bed at ISU Community Gardens – no report.

MEMORIAL FENCE: Bob said the tags are ready to attach to the fence as soon as he and/or Larry Agee have time to get some fasteners and attach them.

FALL 2016 INTERN CLASS: Dana Gaden said the fall class is due to start in September 6th. It will meet on Tuesdays 9:00am to 12:00noon into November. Currently only three people are signed up for the sessions. We really need to have at least 2 – 3 more people for the class. Members are urged to promote the class. Cost of the class is \$85.00.

Dana said that Cathy Cook is preparing for the Indiana Extension Homemakers Fall District Meetings. She is looking for someone to give a brief talk on September 14th about lawn care and gardening to a group during the SWCD field days. Someone suggested that Jessica Fields would be a good person to do this.

Dana presented a letter that she had received from the Altrusa Club inviting the Master Gardeners to participate in their Annual Chili Cook-Off as we have done in the past. This had been one of the late John Hilderbrand's project. Members agreed that it was a worthy project but decided that there was no interest in participating in the event this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

2016 Election Committee: Bob said that Peggy Harlan's committee is having some difficulty in getting members to agree to run for some of the offices. The most critical one lacking a candidate is that of Vice-President. The person who occupies this office, in addition to chairing a meeting whenever the President is unable to attend, is responsible for securing a speaker to present educational or informative materials at out Planning & scheduling meetings. It was suggested that perhaps Verna could send out an e-mail asking members to consider volunteering to run for an office.

Seed/plant exchange: This activity will take place at the September 20th Planning & Scheduling meeting at the 4H Building at the fairgrounds and will be preceded by a carry-in meal. More information about this will be forthcoming. Members may bring a guest if they wish to do so.

Bob said that volunteers are needed to help staff the STATE FAIR MASTER GARDENERS' BOOTH on Wednesday, August 10 and Friday, August 19 from 9am to 2pm (volunteers are asked to watch a video or read a pdf titled Plant info-to-go). Bob said he and some volunteers already. Discussion about what is expected of volunteers and transportation to and from the location.

Sam passed around two thank you notes. One was from Connor Center thanking us for the donation of fresh produce which helps them provide more diversity in the meals offered to their clients. The other was from the family of Wilma Harlan (Peggy Harlan's mother) for the memorial flowers we sent upon learning of her death.

Vigo SWCD field days, September 13-15: Bob Archer and Phil Small will offer information about Pollination and Vegetable ID.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SWCD Women's Learning Circle, August 11, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, Community Center 8:30am to 3:00pm. Verna issues an email about this event.

Check wvmga.org website for additional information.

Next P & S meeting, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 4H Meeting Room, 6:30pm on 8-16-16.

Next Board meeting at Vigo Co. Public Library, Room 6 on 9-1-16 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Hello Master Gardeners,

The presence of WVMGA at the 2016 Vigo County Fair was extremely impressive. There were daily questions from fair goer's about "make and takes", how the giving garden was doing, and the Master Gardener's activity. You are all part of an educational, community changing association that regularly makes Vigo County better than the day before. Thank you for all the volunteers. Those of you chatted with visitors to the Floriculture Building, guided flower arranging, and poured stepping stones in 90 °heat. The community noticed these gesture, large and small, and know that you are a Wabash Valley Master Gardener.

Sincerely,

Dana Gadeken

Extension Educator

AGricultral and Natural Resource Educator