



Garden Gazette

February 2017

January 17, 2017 Planning and Scheduling meeting minutes, 6:00pm, 4-H Meeting Room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds.

Educational time was 1 hour. President Greg Fields introduced our speaker, John Orick. Mr. Orick is the Purdue Master Gardener State Coordinator. He is in the Horticulture and Gardening Architecture Department. He said that he had spent some time in the golf course industry. He presented some statistics about Master Gardeners in Indiana by comparing the year 2012 to 2015:

Year	Volunteer Hours	\$ Value	Interns	Active Members
2012	196,147	3.6 mil	683	3,075
2015	159,692	3.7mil	445	2,783

Statewide in 2015 volunteers harvested 62,920 lbs. of produce and awarded \$53,750 in scholarships. On average Master Gardeners remain active 1-10 years. Nationally there are 83,389 Master Gardeners in 38 states. The Purdue Master Gardener Manual has been revised. It now appears with a coil binding and features color pages. This second edition can be purchased through the Extension Office for \$55.00. He introduced members to a new public online site and said it was created because they needed a better way to communicate with members. They are also on Facebook and Twitter. Purdue MG Manager to be used for reporting volunteer and educational hours. He showed how to use and said that registration information is required. At this point there was discussion about how to use the site and what features are currently available. Persons who do not use on-line media can turn in hard copies. An email will be forthcoming on how to use the site. One can Google "Extension

Master Gardener” to find the site or enter <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/> On the first screen you may click on a message at the top of the page that says: Report Volunteer/Education Hours.

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields at 7:30pm.

Minutes: Recording Secretary Carole Dreher said that minutes for the December meeting had been published in the Gazette along with minutes from the January Board of Directors meeting. She also passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Charlene asked members to give her suggestions for speakers at coming meetings.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and the Gazette.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel was absent so Assistant Treasurer, Carl Trent, reported on income and expenses and noted what the balance was in our account as of 1/5/17

Service Coordinator: Jessica said that she has been entering hours and plans to send reports out to people.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg said that this committee had held a meeting where a plan was presented. He noted that they plan to cut back on tomatoes. He thanked people who volunteered last year.

Website: Sam said that the 2016 volunteer form will be removed from the website.

Spring Seminar: Jessica said that this event will take place on March 18, 2017, at the Vigo County Fairgrounds and a lot of volunteers will be needed. We also need a lot of sponsors and vendors. Some speakers have been confirmed but we are waiting on others. The meeting will be open to the public. Vendors will have booths in the exhibit hall. Master Gardeners will have one of their own where people can plant sunflower seeds to be taken home. A committee meeting is scheduled for 1/31/17 at 10:00am. Discussion ensued. She said that flyers are being prepared.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The 2017 budget was presented. Discussion followed. A motion was made to approve the budget as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by a voice vote.
- A Bi-state Indiana/Illinois Gardening Conference will be held at the Beef House Restaurant on January 24th. It will cost \$20.00
- Greg said he plans to ask Virginia Laycock to represent us at the Rose-Hulman Wellness Fair on March 16th.
- Sharon Polge will head up the Matter in Motion committee. This event will take place at Ivy Tech on April 8th. They will offer students an opportunity to make peanut butter covered pinecone birdfeeders. She will need 5 – 6 volunteers to help at the event.
- Greg offered flyers describing the Hamilton County Master Gardener Association Plant Sale which will take place on May 20, 2017.
- Master Gardeners will be featured in the Terre Haute Tribune Star's Valley Viewer on 6-11-2017. We will need a write-up. Greg noted that this is good publicity for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- It is time to pay dues for the year. Dues are \$15.00 until the end of February. After that date they become \$20.00.
- Dana Gadeken said that so far we only have 3 people signed up for the Spring Intern Class which is scheduled to begin on Monday, 2-13-17 from 6-9pm at Ivy Tech, Room W100. For the following 12 weeks they will meet on Tuesdays from 6-9pm in the same location. The course costs \$85.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting Feb. 2, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, room 6 at 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting, Feb. 21, 2017, 4-H meeting room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned with .75 hours of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Vigo Co. Public Library, 6:00pm, room 6
February 2, 2017

President Greg Fields called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members in attendance: Greg Fields, Charlene McKean, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Mary Beth Prickel, Jessica Fields, Larry Agee, Phil Small, Sam Ligget, Carl. Trent.

Non board members in attendance: Dana Gadenken – Purdue Extension.

Minutes of last Board meeting: January meeting minutes were published in the January Gazette.

Vice President Charlene stated that our speaker for the February Planning and scheduling session would be Robin Morton from the White Violet Center. Her topic will be on how to get stuff ready for market.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth passed around the most recent bank statement for members perusal and handed out a Treasurer's report dated 1-20-17 showing our latest balance.

Service Coordinator: Jessica said she is still getting hours reports. Dana and Jessica talked about the new on-line reporting system. One member said that he had entered hours successfully and another reported that he has been having problems.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Website Committee: Sam said that he has been checking to see if he can get some help with the site from someone at ISU, possibly a student.

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica stated that this committee had a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 30. They have 15 vendors signed up. Two vendors will also be speakers. They expect to have up to 30 vendors. The food is squared away. We have some outside vendors. The Marquee has been spoken for. Jessica said she feels pretty good about their progress. Jessica showed some seed catalogs for children provided by Baker's Creek. They also donated some seeds. We will ask for a \$1.00 admission fee for each adult or they can provide a can of food to be donated to Catholic Charities. All Speakers are confirmed. The Gourd Lady will be there. One speaker will speak on choosing flowers to use for drying. Another topic will speak on Pocket Gardens for Pollinators.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion about the upcoming Intern Class which will begin on February 13th. Larry Agee said that the Herb Society had not yet received fees from the Master Gardeners for a booth at the Herb Fair. Verna said that it has recently been sent in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Spring Intern Class starts on Feb. 13th (a Monday). After that the class will meet on Tuesdays from 6-9pm. They will meet at Ivy Tech in room W100. Cost is \$85 with scholarships available. Greg announced that there will be a planting day on 2/9/17 at Ivy Tech Greenhouse at 10:00am.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements

Next meeting dates:

Feb. 21, 2017 P & S meeting, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds, 4H meeting room, 6:30pm

Mar. 2, 2017 Board of Directors, Vigo Co. Library, room 6, 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour of volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

2017 PLANTS OF THE YEAR:

Perennial plant of the year is *Asclepias Tuberosa* or "Butterfly Weed"

Herb of the year is Cilantro/Coriander

Hosta of the year is Brother Stefan

"NO MATTER HOW LONG THE WINTER, SPRING IS SURE TO FOLLOW"

I am sure we can all see little glimpses of spring with all these changes in the weather. Snow one day, 60deg and rain the next. If anything, it gives us a gentle reminder that it's bound to warm up sometime. Remember, the Master Gardener Intern Class will be starting any day now. We have several new interns that are looking for opportunities to collect hours. Share what you love about the project you are involved in with an intern. A lesson you learned or one you are excited to teach. There are so many opportunities to get involved, it can be daunting. Offer a helping hand or a unique experience to a new intern. We all need a little opportunity and inspiration to grow.

-Dana Gadeken

Agricultural and Natural Resource Educator

Master Gardener Coordinator