



MARCH 2018

GARDEN GAZETTE

Next Planning and scheduling meeting is March 20, 2018 at 6:30pm in the 4H meeting room at the fairgrounds.

Vice President: Ruth states the Education speaker at the March meeting will be Ryan Wickens, zoning in the city-county as applies to bee keeping.

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2018, 6:30pm, 4-H MEETING ROOM, VIGO CO. FAIRGROUNDS**

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

**EDUCATIONAL TIME: 1.0 hours.** Vice President Ruth introduced our speaker, Dr. Mark Minster. He and some Rose Hulman students have been working on a program they call Ryves Up. The Ryves neighborhood is bounded by 13<sup>th</sup> street to the west; 25<sup>th</sup> street to the east; Wabash Avenue to the South and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the North. They help with a Pollinator Garden near Ryves Hall and the Rose/Herz Park. They are helping children learn sustaining respect for food. They have received a small grant from the Community Foundation. Their program is called "A Place To Grow". They work with students, teachers and parents from Ben Franklin School. They use the scientific method with raised beds. They have a three-sister butterfly garden. The students are scientists, who make observations; make predictions and perform experiments to test their hypotheses. The students learn about soil and root systems through hands-on exploration and art project. They have a compost bin and a worm farm. Persons who might be interested in volunteering to help with the project can contact him by email at [minster@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:minster@rose-hulman.edu) or by phone at 812-606-6313.

**MINUTES:** Recording Secretary, Carole, announced that the minutes from the January meeting had been published in the February 2018 Gazette. She also noted that an attendance sheet was being circulated. President Small called for additions or corrections to

the minutes. There were none. A motion was made that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ruth Bohner announced that the educational topic for March will be native orchids.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Verna said she had nothing to report and asked if everyone was receiving emails and the Gazette.

**TREASURER:** Brenda Christiansen reported the balance in our accounts and discussed some of the items. She said that dues of \$15.00 are to be paid by February 28<sup>th</sup>. After that date they become \$30.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR:** Jessica Fields said that she is planning to do her plant giveaway again this year. It will take place on the first weekend in May. She noted that this project is not a Purdue Master Gardener project and volunteering for it does not quality as volunteer hours, but volunteers would be welcome.

Jessica went on to say that she is resigning her position as Service Coordinator and as a member of the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners. She has been pursuing a degree and expects to graduate in May and her grandmother has been in poor health.

#### **COMMITTEES**

**GIVING GARDEN:** Bob Archer said that a planting day is planned at the IVY Tech greenhouse around March 13<sup>th</sup>. He said that IVY Tech is not using the greenhouse this spring so Master Gardeners will be responsible for material and plant care. Verna will notify committee members via email. A “bring your own chair” meeting will follow the planting activities.

**FLOWER BEDS:** Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, said that seeds have been planted at IVY Tech for the beds that we maintain.

**SPRING SEMINAR:** Phil Small said that this event will take place on March 10, 2018 at the Vigo County Fairgrounds. Speakers will include Amber Slaughterback, whose topic will be Invasive Species; Jeff Dukes, Director of Climate Change at Purdue and Emily Wood whose topic will be wildlife in the Backyard. Phil passed around sign-up sheets and asked members to consider volunteering to help with set up and preparation on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and help with activities on the day of the Seminar, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Gates will open between 9:00 and 9:30am. Lunch can be purchased between noon and 1:00pm. Shannon Giles, Publicity Committee, asked that members help advertise the event.

**WEBSITE:** Sam said that he has information about the seminar on the website.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** Sam reported on the Audit of our 2017 accounts and noted that the committee members had determined that the accounts fairly represented the position of the organization.

**EARTH DAY AT SMWC:** It was reported that this committee had conducted one meeting and was planning to have one more. They said that they need to have 2 tables for their activities.

**TABLESCAPES:** Carole Dreher reported that Tablescapes will take place at the Indiana Theater on March 1 through March 3. People can view the tablescapes during the day for a \$5.00 entry fee which will allow them to vote for their favorite table. The theme for the Master Gardener table this year will be "Art in the Garden" featuring art that may be practical, such as trellises, plant supports, pots, etc; whimsical items such as flags, gnomes, animal statues, painted rocks or stepping stones or item that pronounce things we enjoy, things we believe in or support (grandchildren, sayings, sports teams, etc.).

**WELLNESS DAY AT ROSE-HULMAN:** Virginia Laycock reported that this event will take place on March 22. She would like to have some seeds to give out.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Phil noted that there will be no Matter in Motion event this year.

He also pointed out that Sam had laid out committee sign-up sheets again for people to sign-up for committee activities.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator, announced that the Spring Intern Class has 19 students. She reminded members that they need to turn in their volunteer hours.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Indiana Flower and Patio Show will take place on March 10<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Check [wvmga.org](http://wvmga.org) for additional information and announcements.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

- Board Meeting March 1, 2018, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm, room 6.

- Planning and scheduling meeting, March 20, 2018, 4-H meeting room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with .75 hours of volunteer time for the 32 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MARCH 1, 2018, 6:30PM, VIGO CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY, ROOM 6**

**PRESIDENT, Phil called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Phil Small, Ruth Bohner, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Brenda Christianson, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, and Bob Archer.**

**NON BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: none.**

**MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING: Carole said that they had been published in the February Gazette. President Small called for additions or corrections. There were none.**

**VICE PRESIDENT: Ruth said that the speaker for March would be Ryan Wickens who would talk about zoning in Terre Haute and what residents are allowed to grow or keep on their property. In April Dr. Coppinger of Rose-Hulman will talk about orchids of Indiana.**

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna said that she is preparing to send out a membership roster and a committee listing to members soon.**

**TREASURER: Brenda passed out some Treasurer's reports. She discussed some items and noted the balance as of March 2, 2018.**

**SERVICE COORDINATOR: No report since the Service Coordinator has resigned. President Small noted that it would be the responsibility of the Board to appoint someone to take this position for the remainder of the term. There was some discussion about persons who might be good in the position, but it was agreed that the appointment would not take place before the April meeting to give Phil a chance to talk to our Purdue Educator, Dana Gadeken, about the matter.**

**GIVING GARDEN:** Phil said that there may possibly be a planting day on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the IVY Tech greenhouse. Verna will send an email to committee members. Bob is working on the garden fence in an attempt to discourage critters and to repair some holes in the fence.

**FLOWERBEDS:** Larry said that a bill has been submitted to the Parks Department for seeds and supplies purchased to grow plants to plant in the gardens we maintain.

**WEBSITE:** Sam said that there is a copy of a form to submit a written copy of volunteer/education hours on the site. There is a copy of the Gardeners Gathering brochure on the site. He has also added some photos of the Master Gardeners Tablescape at the Indiana Theater in Terre Haute.

**SPRING SEMINAR 2018:** Phil said that more volunteers are needed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

It was agreed that persons who have volunteered to serve on the Garden Tour committee should determine whether we should continue to offer the Garden Tour, modify it or abandon this activity.

- Only one person volunteered to serve on the plant exchange committee so that activity may have to be abandoned.
- At the February Board of Directors meeting, a question was raised about a rebate that had been agreed to by the board. Phil said that he had found the rebate recorded in the 01/2017 Board of Directors meeting minutes. It was agreed that interns should receive a rebate of one half of their class fee whenever they have completed their 35 hours of volunteer time and promoted to regular members.
- Carole Dreher passed around some photos of the Master Gardener table at Arts Illiana's Tablescapes which is currently in progress at the Indiana Theater in Terre Haute.

**BED KEEPER REPORTS:**

1<sup>st</sup> & Oak – This bed is 90% clean.

3<sup>rd</sup> & Maple – This bed needs to have the Pampas grass cut. Bob Archer said that he will do that with a chain saw.

Butterfly – This bed is also 90% clean.

Patriotic – This bed needs to have mulch placed around the flagpole.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** There was discussion about scholarships and/or other cash award possibilities – 4-H, schools, etc. We will check with the Extension Office for possibilities.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Indiana Flower and Patio Show will take place on March 10 through the 18<sup>th</sup> at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.
- Registration for the 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference is now open.
- Persons volunteering for activities that involve work with children should complete a minor certification form which can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/PUminorcert>

Check [wvmga.org](http://wvmga.org) website for additional announcements.

Next Planning and scheduling meeting – 4-H meeting room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30pm on March 20, 2018.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo Co. Public Library, 4-5-2018 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.15 hours volunteer time.

*Spring has almost sprung! I am looking forward to seeing all the beautiful gardens tended by Master Gardeners around town, attending events, and interacting with many of you over our “busy season”. There are many ways that we can increase our association’s visibility and have those teachable moments with those around us. I really enjoy knowing that all the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners have a niche, a passion, an garden bed in which to grow. Have fun and come back dirty!*

*Dana Gadeken*

*Master Gardener Coordinator*