



OCTOBER 2017

GARDEN GAZETTE

We will be voting for officers at our October 17 Planning and scheduling meeting. New officers will take office on January 1, 2018. The following is the slate of nominees:

President: Phil Small

Vice President: Ruth Bohner

Recording Secretary: Carole Dreher

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin

Treasurer: Brenda Christianson

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields

Board of Directors: Two past officers: Larry Agee

Sam Liggett

Member at large: Bob Archer

In order to vote, any person, upon meeting the membership requirements per Article III of the By-Laws and upon payment of any required assessments as provided in the By-Laws will be entitled to vote at any business meeting.

**Planning and Scheduling Meeting
Wabash Valley Master Gardener Association
September 19, 2017
4-H meeting room, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds**

A moment of silence was held at 6:00pm followed by a carry-in meal of pulled pork and sloppy joes supplied by Master Gardeners.

Speaker for education time was Dana Gadeken. Over 7 days Dana toured 13 to 15 small farms in upper New York State and Canada. The trip consisted of diversified food and farming systems and was funded thru USDA grant. A farmer was paired with an Extension Agent. Farms toured were Stone Barn farm, Soul Fire farm, Hawthorn Valley farm, Roxbury farm, Neversink Farm, Lucky Dog Food Hub, Cornell Organic Research Farm, McDaniel's Nut Grove and Mushroom farm, Elderberry Restaurant Farm, Cross Island Farms all in New York State and Jean Martin Farm & Gardens in Canada.

Education time earned was .75 hours.

Meeting called to order by Vice President Charlene McKean.

October speaker will be Tabitha Carroll, Extension educator, speaking on "Ants".

Sign-up sheet was passed around.

Corresponding Secretary had nothing to report.

Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel was absent and Assistant Treasurer Carl Trent reported expenses and ending balance as of 9-19-17.

Service Coordinator was absent.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden – Gene Jarvis stated garden was about done for the year. The tomatoes were being processed by ISU kitchens. Just getting started on picking turnips. Not sure about planting cold weather crops.

Flower beds – Larry Agee stated they were winding up.

Soil and Water Conservation Days – Bob Archer stated about 1,215 5th graders went through in 2 ½ days. Jen Wright brought 2000 bees in a glass case for the children to see. They also had caterpillars for them to look at.

Learning Days at the Public Library is this Saturday, September 23 from 9am to noon. Sharon Polge stated they would be making paper posies.'

Christmas in the Park – Ruth Bohner stated there is a meeting on Thursday, September 21 at 2:00pm at a member’s garage. They will be painting different items.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sam said it is about time to deliver doughnuts to Park employees and Fairgrounds employees and Extension Office.

John Orick has changed part of the format on reporting hours.

Larry Agee reported on Master Gardener Roundtable held in Putnam County.

Nomination of Officers: President Greg Fields, Vice President Charlene McKean and Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel do not wish to retain their office position.

There will be officer training after the 1st of the year by Dana Gadeken.

Meeting adjourned with .50 hours of volunteer time.

Minutes submitted by Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 5, 2017, 6:00pm
Vigo County Public Library, room 6**

In the absence of President Greg Fields and Vice-President Charlene McKean, Recording Secretary Carole Dreher presided, calling the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members in attendance: Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small and Carl Trent.

Non Board Member in attendance: Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole Dreher reported that minutes had been published in the September Garden Gazette. She asked if anyone had questions or comments. There were none.

Vice-President: Since Charlene McKean was absent, it was noted that the speaker for the October planning and scheduling meeting will be Tabby Carroll whose topic will be “Ants”. Dana stated that Tabby did her Master’s Thesis on the topic of “Ants in Indiana”.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna said that she had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel was also absent so Assistant Treasurer Carl Trent reported for her and noted that the only activity for the month of October was the receipt of a small amount of interest.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields was absent. Dana reported that two Vigo County Schools (Franklin Elementary and Sarah Scott Middle School) had asked Community Coordinator, Allison, if Master Gardeners could help them with gardening projects. Discussion followed. It was finally determined that more information is needed about the kind of help they think they need. It was generally agreed that we need to determine what kind of assistance, if any, that our volunteers could provide to schools or other organizations asking for volunteer help for their gardens (planning, help with planting or maintenance, etc.??)

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Phil Small said that they are mostly done except for harvesting turnips. He said he thought that total amount of produce harvested and donated was between 13,000 and 14,000 pounds. Sam read a letter received in the Master gardener P.O. Box and addressed to Greg in which they thanked Master Gardeners for the food donations and said that their clients really appreciated the addition of fresh vegetables to their meals. There was discussion about food use, donations and, sometimes, waste.

Flowerbeds – Larry Agee said that he and Bob Archer had decided not to add mulch to the paths between the gardens in Deming Park. He said that the 3rd and Maple garden still looked good and that Carol Swearingen had been doing a good job keeping the gardens in Deming Park watered with the help of volunteers.

Website – Sam Ligget said that the only stuff added to the website this month had been some photos taken at the Library during the recent Learning Days.

Spring Seminar 2018 – Sam said that he had forwarded some emails to Jessica which were received on the wvmga.org site from persons hoping to be vendors at the 2018 Spring Seminar Gardeners Gathering.

Christmas in the Park – Sam said that this committee had a work day earlier today, October 5th, at which they worked on Christmas trees. He said that he feels they are making progress and that they have one more work day planned. Dana Gadeken said she would try to find out when our organization is scheduled to serve hot chocolate.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: Vicki Cochran has stepped up and agreed to chair this committee. She has contacted some members to see if they would be willing to run for one of the offices, especially the ones where the incumbent does not wish to serve again. She hopes to present a full slate to be published in the October Gazette. Dana said that she can arrange to have ballots prepared if we wish her to do so.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donuts for the Extension Office and Park Boards: Sam said that he will take care of this project that we usually do once a year to express our appreciation for the help they give our organization.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Larry Agee shared information about a Purdue Seminar concerning City Parks and planning. It is to be held Monday, October 23rd from 12:00noon to 5:00pm in the Girl Scout Building (1100 Girl Scout Lane) in Fairbanks Park, Terre Haute. Registration takes place at 11:30am.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next planning and scheduling meeting October 17, 2017, 6:30pm, 4-H meeting room, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on November 2, 2017 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

