



GARDEN GAZETTE SEPTEMBER 2018

NEXT MEETING: September 18, 2018 at Dobb's Park Nature Center, 6:30pm. NO seed exchange or carry-in. Carissa Lovett will speak on bats and gardening.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Here are the nominees for 2019 officers to be voted on at our October meeting and to take office on January 1, 2019.

PRESIDENT: Phil Small

VICE PRESIDENT: Ruth Bohner

RECORDING SECRETARY: Carole Dreher

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna Gaskin

TREASURER: Susie Thompson

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Brenda Christianson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2 past officers – Larry Agee

Sam Liggett

1 member at large – Bob Archer

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING

August 21, 2018, 4-H meeting room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds

EDUCATIONAL TIME: .75 hours. Vice President Ruth Bohner introduced our speaker Verna Gaskin, one of our Master gardeners. Her topic was "What judges look for when judging

floral exhibits at the Vigo County Fair". Verna has been Co-Superintendent of the Floral Department of the Fair since 2005. Fellow Master Gardeners, Beth Keyes and Connie Cooper are Assistant Superintendents. Verna said that she has not judged exhibits at the Vigo County Fair, but has judged exhibits at the Sullivan and Parke County Fairs. She said that persons who wish to exhibit flowers or foliage at the 2019 fair (7/7 – 7:18/19) should get a copy of the Open Class Fair Book at the Purdue Extension Office in Terre Haute or consult a copy on line. The book tells what classes are available, specifications for each class, and when and where to submit entries. Each exhibitor should get an exhibitors number at the Extension Office or at the Fair whenever the exhibit is entered. A label should accompany each exhibit and be as thorough as possible because the judges may use the information to determine which exhibit is awarded a higher class if all else seems equal. Store labels should be removed from pots. Flowers should be as fresh as possible. A person may exhibit a purchased plant as long as it has been in their possession for at least 2 months. Roses should not be in full bloom. Flowers on stalks should have 1/3 of blooms in full bloom, 1/3 ready to open and 1/3 closed. The stalk should be straight. Flowers should be in clear glass container and no leaves should be below water line. Plants should be entered into the correct category. Culinary plants such as basil may have flowers, but other foliage plants may not. Exhibitors in open class do not have to live in Vigo County and can be any age. First, Second and Third prize ribbons are awarded, but no money.

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm by President Phil Small.

MINUTES: were published in the August 2018 Gazette. Phil asked for additions or corrections. None were offered so the minutes were accepted as presented.

VICE PRESIDENT: Ruth Bohner announced that the September Planning and Scheduling meeting will be held at Dobbs Park at 6:30pm. September is when we usually have a carry in meal and seed exchange but this year we will NOT do either one.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna Gaskin said she had nothing to report.

TREASURER: Brenda Christiansen reported the balance in our account. She noted that we had previously approved \$100 to purchase plants for a project at the Housing Authority, but when the bill came in it was \$114.00. She asked for approval to pay the additional \$14.00. A motion was made, seconded and approved by a voice vote to approve the additional expenditure.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Susie Thompson was absent.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Phil Small and/or Bob Archer reported that 9,000 pounds of produce have been harvested and donated to area soup kitchens. Yield amount is starting to slow down. Bob noted that the garden has been very successful this year. We still have critters, especially rabbits and groundhogs, who cannot resist raiding the garden despite the work on the fence. Corn from Ivy Tech's test plot was shucked at the fairgrounds and has been frozen and sent to soup kitchens. The Extension Office has worked with ISU to use the Family Consumer Science Department's facilities to preserve frozen green peppers and tomatoes. Phil and Bob thanked all of the members who have volunteered in the Garden. They estimated that approximately 1/3 of the members have volunteered and were joined by Extension Office employees and ISU students on Donaghy Day. Bob suggested whenever interns show up to volunteer at any of our gardens that members introduce themselves and show them what needs to be done.

WEBSITE: Sam Ligget said he had nothing to report.

FLOWER BEDS: Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, said a workday was coming up for the Patriotic Garden. First and Oak and Third and Maple. Larry said that whenever he is working at First and Oak, he frequently has people stop by and tell how much they appreciate the garden.

FAIR COMMITTEE: Verna Gaskin reported on Master Gardener projects at the 2018 Vigo County Fair.

- Twelve children participated in the Little Sprouts program.
- We had 300 wooden spoons to be decorated as garden stakes. This was enough for the participants to make up to 2 apiece. There were 288 markers created with 12 spoons left over.
- On Wednesday fairgoers painted garden flags. We had 173 flags available. We ran out and then gave out the 12 remaining spoon markers for people to paint. When those also ran out people painted paper plates. People who wanted to paint a flag were disappointed when we ran out, but it is sometimes difficult to estimate what we will need for those projects.
- On Thursday, our project was flower arranging. We had 219 vases available. We owe a big thank you to Larry Agee, Kroger South and members who donated flowers for the project. Verna said that she would send a thank you card to the Kroger store.
- On Friday, people made 368 stepping stones. Volunteers used 18 bags of cement.

Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator, reminded members to enter their volunteer and educational hours on line or send a report of them to the Extension Office to be entered on-line.

Dana presented badges and certificates to the following members: Mary-Beth Prickel – Silver, Sharon Polge – Silver, Ralph Dale – Bronze, Emma Harlan – Bronze, Cheryl Palmer – Bronze, Judy Philips – Certified, and Kevin Brown – Certified.

Dana asked for volunteers to man a booth on First Friday, September 7, 2018, in honor of the Space Tree (grown from a seed carried into space) beside the Extension Office. She said 3 volunteers would be nice.

OLD BUSINESS:

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK: A chairperson is needed for this project. Ruth Bohner said she might be willing to co-chair it with Bob Archer. Shannon Giles said they could work at her house again this year. There will be an organizational meeting for this event on September 14th in Deming Park at the Torner Center.

SPRING SEMINAR: Phil said we need a chair for this event. He headed it up last year, but does not feel that he can do it this year. If anyone has an interest in chairing this event, please let him know.

STATE FAIR MG BOOTH REPORT: Larry Agee reported that they had contact with around 60 visitors. They mostly had various landscaping and weed questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bob Archer will see about a memorial plaque for deceased member, Robert “Bob” Jenkins at the 1st & Oak Garden. It will have his name plus the years he was a member 2013 -2018. In addition a donation was made to the New Goshen Fire Department as requested in his obituary by the family. This was made in lieu of flowers which we usually send.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Vigo County 5th Grade Conservation Days will be held September 11-13, 2018. Bob Archer and Phil Small will head this up.
- A Tri-County Master Naturalist Workshop will begin on August 23rd and will take place in various locations.
- There will be a Canning class at the White Violet Center on August 24th at 5:00pm.
- The Vigo County Public Library (VCPL) will have their Learning Days on Saturday, September 29th from 9:00am – 12noon. Volunteers should arrive at 8:30am. Sharon Polge will chair this event.

- Member Connie Cooper who is also an Herb Society member thanked Master Gardeners who accompanied members of the Herb Society on their trip to Southern Indiana.
- It was announced that the first ever Boke Bottle Festival will take place on September 22, 2018 and that an activities booth for children (similar to what we do at the Farmers Market) would be appreciated.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board Meeting September 6, 2018, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting, September 18, 2018 at 6:30pm, in the Nature Center at Dobb's Park.

The meeting was adjourned with 1.25 of volunteer time for the 31 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 6, 2018, VCPL, Room 6**

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

Members in Attendance: Phil Small, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Brenda Christianson, Susie Thompson, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Bob Archer.

Non Board Member in attendance: None.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole Dreher said they had been published in the August Gazette.

Vice President: Ruth Bohner was absent. She did, however, send an email to Phil saying that the after school project, Ryves UP, is starting again for the fall on Tuesday and Thursday and they could use some volunteer help with weeding and watering.

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

Treasurer: Brenda Christianson said that she was waiting to discuss reports with Mary Beth Prickel before presenting them. She did share a report of expenses for the Make and Take

projects at the 2018 Fair showing expenditures of \$354.22. She also asked if we had received reimbursement from the Parks Department for seed that we had provided. Larry Agee said that we had not and that he would check on it.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Sue Thompson said that people need to report their hours on the Purdue Master Gardener site.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Bob Archer said that we have harvested and donated 11,227 pounds of produce to date. We still have sweet potatoes and peppers. Broccoli, cabbage and turnips have been planted for fall harvesting. Master Gardeners delivered 2,544 ears of corn that IVY Tech had harvested from their test plot. Harvest from the plot is winding down.

WEBSITE: Sam Ligget said that he expects to get bills from the website so we can keep our domain name.

SPRING SEMINAR 2019: Phil said that he still does not have a volunteer to head up this project. He may see if he can get two volunteers to act as co-chairs.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK: Bob Archer said that he plans to attend the 9/14/18 meeting at the Torner Center in Deming Park about this event. If Ruth Bohner is unavailable to attend with him, he may see if Shannon Giles is willing to accompany him.

SPACE TREE ON FIRST FRIDAY: Phil asked if we had volunteers to help Dana Gadeken with this. No one knew anything about it. One person said they thought they read something in the newspaper about it.

OLD BUSINESS:

SPRING SEMINAR 2019: There was discussion about vendors and speakers. Members also talked about other seminars that they attended this year and what they liked about them. It was suggested that we like to leave a little more time between speakers to allow attendees time to browse vendor booths.

FLOWERBEDS: Larry Agee said that Carol Swearingen would like to have some mums for some of the beds. Members discussed the purchase of mulch and 12-12-12 fertilizer for next year. It was also noted that we are out of Round-Up.

Larry said that we had saved the city money by planting seeds instead of purchasing plants.

NEW BUSINESS:

Phil displayed a print-out of an invitation for Board Members to attend a Master Gardeners Roundtable which will take place in Terre Haute this year at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds Banquet Center. Each County is asked to furnish 2 desserts for a dessert pitch in. This event will take place on Monday, September 17, 2018 from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Dana has asked for RSVP by 9/10/18.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next planning and scheduling meeting – Dobbs Park, 6:30pm, Nature Center on 9/18/18.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at VCPL on 10-4-18 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.0 hours volunteer time.

And just like that, it's here. Cooler weather, thoughts of pumpkin spice lattes, and plans for putting the garden to bed. Enjoy that last warm summer night and say adios to mosquitoes. Go to a seminar, enter your hours into MG Manager and don't forget to keep an eye out for ways to help the WVMGA. Thank a friend who worked in a WVMGA garden around town, or visited a soup kitchen with produce. I would like to say thank you to all the Master Gardeners who worked the Soil and Water Conservation Days recently. Many long hours telling every 5th grader in Vigo County about pollination. In all our gardens and outreach events, the kids, parents and organizations remember what we teach them and who we are.

*Dana Gadeken
Master Gardener Coordinator*