

GARDEN GAZETTE

JANUARY 2015

Next planning and scheduling meeting is January 20, 6:30pm at the 4-H meeting room at the fairgrounds. Dues of \$15 are due at this time (Fall Interns are exempt for one year) along with your volunteer and educational hours. Dues after February 28 are \$20. Dues may be sent to Pat Youman our treasurer at 2356 E. Glenview Dr., Terre Haute, Indiana 47802.

Education time at the January 20 meeting will be Sheryl Dell, Urban Forester for the City of Terre Haute.

Minutes of December 9 Planning and scheduling meeting.

No educational time earned.

Attendees enjoyed goodies provided by members prior to the meeting.

President Sam Liggett called the meeting to order and asked Greg Fields to offer a prayer. Jim Luzar asked new interns to introduce themselves and their guests and Sam asked members to introduce themselves and indicate what class they had been in. In a surprise move Jim Luzar introduced himself as the Parke County Coordinator and said that Purdue will hire a new young person for Vigo County.

Minutes: were published in the Gazette. Sam asked for changes or corrections. Minutes were approved as written.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Bob Archer announced that Sheryl Dell, City Forester, will be our January speaker and the featured speaker in February will be a Bonsai gardener.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin asked if the interns had been receiving emails and the Gazette.

Treasurer: Pat Youman reported the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator: Cyd Hunter noted the procedures for reporting hours and the names of persons who will be getting badges in January, 2015. All members should turn in their volunteer and educational hours each year. There were questions about how often hours should be turned in. Cyd said that regular members need to have at least 12 hours of volunteer time and 6 or more educational hours each year to maintain their certification as Purdue Master Gardeners. She and Pat Woods (Service Coordinator for 2015) need volunteer hours prior to the January meeting.

#### COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg Fields reported that we planted, harvested and donated 26,362 pounds of produce from the Giving Garden in 2014. He needs to receive a report of volunteer hours from members who participated in this project so he can put together a report of the number of hours volunteered by the members.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, reported that all of the beds have been put to sleep for the winter. Debbie Lazzell said that we no longer have a bed at the sewage plant. Sam listed all of the gardens we maintain for the benefit of the interns: 1<sup>st</sup> and Oak, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Maple, Patriotic and Butterfly gardens in Deming Park, Fairgrounds garden by the Floriculture building, and the labyrinth garden in Hawthorne Park. He said that interns and regular members are invited to sign up to help maintain any of these gardens.

Spring Seminar: Larry Agee reported that this event will take place on March 14<sup>th</sup> at Ivy Tech. There will be four speakers. We need to keep prices competitive and we also need ads and vendors. This committee will have a meeting in January, 2015.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Christmas in the Park: Beth Keyes showed the plan that they had created and worked from to create a display that won the first place prize of \$2000. They reused some materials but bought some new lights. Peggy Harlan invited members to volunteer to help take down the display on Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, and complimented Beth on her organizational skills. She noted that 19 volunteers had worked on the project at one time or the other. She said that we went over our budget of \$500 and needed approval for an additional \$97.40. Sam called for a motion which was made, seconded and passed by a voice vote. Charlene McKean reported that we took in \$140.50 for train tickets and concessions on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Miracle on 7<sup>th</sup> Street Tree: Carole Dreher reported that we received \$100 and a medallion for participating in this event on December 5<sup>th</sup>. There were 24 entries. She thanked Nancy Nation and her family for helping to plan and complete this project. She also thanked Sam Ligget, Connie Cooper and her family, Marty Thompson, Peggy Harlan, Pat Youman, Debbie and Chris Lazzell, Ruth Johnson, Sharon Polge and Bob Archer for either providing decorations, helping to decorate, being present with the tree and/or helping to undecorated the tree.

Fall Intern Class: Sam said he appreciated all the interns who attended the meeting and said that several of them have already volunteered on projects.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Sam reported some statistics from the Purdue Master Gardener Program Impact report. Noting that our club represented 2% of the membership, but accounted for 43% of the state product.

Nancy Nation requested materials related to the Butterfly Garden for the upcoming Arts Illiana Tablescares.

Jim Luzar congratulated Sam Ligget on his service to the organization as president over the past 2 years.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

##### Next meetings:

Board meeting Jan. 8, 2015, Vigo Co. Library, Room 6, 6:00pm.

Planning and scheduling meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Bldg., Vigo Co. Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour volunteer time for the 44 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS meeting January 8, 2015, 6:00pm

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

Members in attendance were Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget and Phil Small.

Non board members in attendance: none.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole Dreher said that minutes from the November 2014 Board meeting had been published in the December Gazette and approved at the December planning and scheduling meeting.

Vice President: Greg Fields mentioned some programs he was considering. President Bob Archer brought to his attention the fact that is entitled to present gift certificates for speakers worth up to \$25. He said sometimes the speakers prefer not to accept them, but many times they very much appreciate them.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin passed around a thank you card from Carol Swearingen whose husband passed away.

Treasurer: Pat Youman was late due to traffic delays experienced on her way from out of town. When she arrived she reported current balance.

#### COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Greg Fields said that a planning meeting for the 2015 Giving Garden is planned for 10:00am to 12:00noon on January 23. He said that we may plant some test plots containing plants we have not grown before. He has been in contact with Stacy at the Extension Office and a dietician who will provide some recipes for produce as it comes into season. He also noted that all materials for the greenhouse have arrived and we are waiting for better weather to install them.

GARDENS: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, was not present, but Bob Archer noted that all of the beds had been put to bed for the winter.

WEBSITE: Sam Ligget said that Steve Smith was looking to find some plug-ins. Sam said he is trying to keep the site up to date. Someone noted that we need to change the contact (Registered Agent) name from Pat Secrest to Jane Santucci.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE SIGN UP SHEETS: Sam had sign-up sheets for committees that had been provided at the December meeting. Carole Dreher had a computer generated spreadsheet for committee sign-up to be passed around at the next meeting.

SPRING SEMINAR 2015: Larry Agee reported on this noting that a contract has been signed with IVY Tech. Meals are arranged and will be the same as last year. Speakers are set. Tri-fold brochures featuring sign-up sheets have been printed and will be made available at the next Planning and scheduling meeting. The committee expects to address tri-folds at their next meeting.

Bob noted the fact that Jim Luzar is being reassigned to Parke County. Jim will help train his replacement in Vigo County. Larry Agee says that he serves on the board that will make recommendations for Jim's replacement.

A reminder was issued that volunteer and educational hours for 2014 and dues for 2015 are due.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

2015 Budget: Bob presented the proposed 2015 budget. Discussion about some of the items ensued. F After Pat Youman arrived she said that she had compared the budgeted figures for 2014 to actual figures and had some questions about the proposed budget. More discussion ensued.

Annual Purdue Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement: Bob presented each of the board Members with a copy of the "Purdue Master Gardener Volunteer Application and Agreement". Each member has completed and signed one of these after successful completion of the Purdue Master Gardener classes. Members are now asked to complete and sign a new one each year. This will be due by the end of February. Someone in the Extension Office will do a background check on each volunteer. It was noted that members are required to be responsible for any injuries they might sustain while doing volunteer work. Some discussion about the document followed.

Bob said that members of the board are invited to attend an Officers Retreat on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Rock Run Café in Coxville, Indiana which will begin at 10:00am and feature lunch at 11:45am.

There was some question about the date for the 2015 Matter in Motion event and who would be in charge of it.

Audit Committee: It was noted that the president is responsible for appointing this committee. Last year's committee members were Barbara Brugnaux, Pat Youman, Gene Jarvis and Sam Liggett.

Arts Illiana Tablescapes: This event will take place in Terre Haute at The Landing on February 26 through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Carole Dreher and Nancy Nation will lead the effort for this event for which they plan to feature the butterfly Garden in Deming Park. Volunteers to help them will be solicited at the January meeting.

#### Announcements:

Dates for the Vigo County Fair were announced.

There was discussion about Earth Day activities – where they would take place and what would be needed.

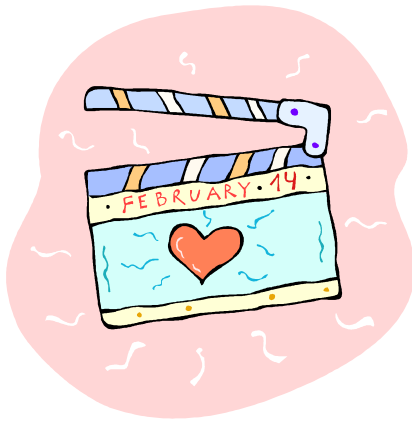
Larry Agee announced that the Herb Fair would be moving from Fairbanks Park to the Vigo County Fairgrounds.

2015 Schedule of presentation of certificates and badges was offered.

Next Board meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library, Room 6, on 2-5-15 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.5 hours of volunteer time.





## GARDEN GAZETTE      FEBRUARY 2015

Next planning and scheduling meeting is February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the 4-H Meeting Room at the Wabash Valley fairgrounds. Education time will be on Bonsai.

There is still time to pay your assessment of \$15 before February 28 at which time it will be \$20. Volunteer and education hours need to be turned in as they are now due. To be included in the new membership roster which will come out in March, you need to pay your assessment and turn your hours in. (Exception are the new interns)

You can still sign up for committees if you haven't already done so. We have several committees and lots of help is always needed.

### PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2015

Educational time earned was 1.0 hour. Bob Archer introduced our speaker, Sheryle Dell, Urban Forester for the City of Terre Haute. She spoke about things to consider when planting or caring for trees. She discussed the advantages and disadvantages of mulching, types of mulch to use and how much to use.

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order.

MINUTES: Bob noted that the minutes were published in the Gazette and asked if there were any additions or corrections. There was a motion and a second that the minutes be approved as written and the motion passed by a voice vote.

Recording secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg Fields said the February program would be about Bonsai. March will feature vermiculture (use of worms in agriculture).

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone, especially new interns, was receiving emails and the Gazette.

TREASURER: Pat Youman reported the balances in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Pat Woods the new coordinator reports that one person had sent in a report of their volunteer hours and education hours via email, *but the message was not saved and she does not know who sent them in. Persons who submitted hours via email in early January should check to see if she received their report.* Pat said she had heard from some persons that they had had difficulty contacting her. She said that her email address is [garry.woods@frontier.com](mailto:garry.woods@frontier.com) and her mailing address is 4670 North Creel Street, Terre Haute, IN, 47805.

GIVING GARDEN: Greg announced that the Giving Garden committee would have a meeting on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Floriculture Building from 10:00am to 12:00noon.

FLOWER BEDS: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, said that all was quiet with the beds at this time of year.

SPRING SEMINAR: Larry Agee reported that most of last year's sponsors have signed up again this year and said that if anyone knew of additional sponsors to contact the committee. He said they will have 4 speakers. Trifold brochures are ready to be mailed. Applications were passed out to members who were present so they could be filled out and submitted by persons wishing to do so. The Terre Haute Tourism and Convention Center gave the committee some items for attendees at the seminar. If any members are attending other seminars, they are encouraged to take brochures for our seminar with them. The committee is working on getting items to be used as door prizes. Food will be the same as last year. Larry encouraged members to bring gardening catalogs and magazines for persons attending to take home with them.

WEBSITE ([www.wvmga.org](http://www.wvmga.org)): Sam Ligget reported that he has updated the volunteer sheet on that site and put information about the Spring Seminar up front. Bob noted that Sam has done a lot of work on this and said that links to events sponsored by other organizations have been added.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Bob noted the committee sign-up sheets that were presented on one of the tables. The sign-up sheets are accompanied with a description sheet telling what tasks the committee takes care of.

Members were reminded that they must turn in their hours and pay their dues (\$15.00) by the end of February, 2015 to retain active status in the Association. Members are to have at least 12 volunteer hours and 6 educational hours each year. This does not include interns as they have their own requirements.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The proposed budget for 2015 was presented and discussed. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Copies of the Purdue Master Gardener Volunteer Application and Agreement were distributed and members are now asked to fill out and turn one in annually. Jim Luzar explained some of the items on the form that are new. Discussion followed.

TABLESCAPES: Carole Dreher and Nancy Nation reported the location for this event has changed. Instead of The Landing, it will take place at the Indiana Theater at 7<sup>th</sup> and Ohio. The dates of February 26 – 28 remain the same. Set-up will take place on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The general public can visit on the 27<sup>th</sup> and for a \$5.00 fee vote for their favorite tablescape. Our table will feature the Butterfly Garden which is located in Deming Park. So of course there will be butterflies and flowers.

MATTER IN MOTION: This event will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Sharon Polge reported that the project will be the making of peanut butter and pine cone bird feeders. If anyone has pine cones they can donate they would be appreciated. Cones from a white pine tree work best.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Sam Ligget will chair this committee and will appoint other members to serve with him.

Bob said that Master Gardeners will be featured in the Valley Viewer page in a February edition of the Sunday Terre Haute Tribune-Star. Material is due by February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Seven persons received new badges: Master Gardener - Bill Edwards; Advanced – Chuck Moseman, Lorraine Howald, Pat Woods and Lynne Van Etten; Bronze – Jessica Fields and Gene Jarvis.

Bob said that our club will help promote Purdue Master Gardeners at the Indianapolis Flower and Garden Show from 10:00am to 2:30pm. Up to 4 people can go to help out.

Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods will take place on April 18, 2015.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Herb Society will hold their Herb Faire on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

“A Winter Day in the Garden” will be held at Robinson, IL on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

“Once Upon a Garden” will be held at Princeton, In. in October 2015.

The Wit and the Wisdom held at Putnam County Fairgrounds Community Building in Greencastle on February 21<sup>st</sup>. (\$35)

Other events may listed on the WVMGA website

#### NEXT MEETINGS:

Board Meeting February 5, 2015, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm

Planning and Scheduling meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2015, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room on the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time for the 46 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF February 5, 2015

**President, Bob Archer** called the meeting to order shortly after 6:00pm.

**Members in attendance:** Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Carl Trent, Phil Small, Pat Woods.

**Non Board members in attendance:** none.

**Minutes of last board meeting:** **Carole Dreher** said that they had been published in the January edition of the Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none so the minutes were approved as written.

**Vice President: Greg Fields** said that the speaker for February would feature the topic of Bonsai. The topic for March will be Vermiculture by Candice Minister.

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

**Treasurer: Pat Youman** reported the current balance. She presented the membership list noting that we have 49 paid members. The group spent some time going through the list of members who have not yet paid and discussing how inactive members should be handled.

### COMMITTEES

**Giving Garden: Greg** reported that a meeting had been held and dates for planting have been set. They are February 13<sup>th</sup> for Earth Day and Herb Fair and March 27<sup>th</sup> for the Giving Garden. Verna reported that all seeds are here.

Greg said that Chuck Moseman is checking with soup kitchens to see what stuff they use the most of. Stacey Faith from the Extension Office will speak to them about recipes that they could be using. There was some discussion about whether or not we should donate to food pantries or only soup kitchens.

Greg noted that members had worked 1,400 volunteer hours for the Giving Garden in 2014.

**Website: Sam** reported that he has been working on keeping the site up to date and featuring current activities and keeping the calendar up to date. Steve Smith has been working on plug-ins.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Spring Seminar:** Since Larry Agee, Chair of this event, was not yet present at the time the topic first came up on the agenda, Sam Ligget reported that the committee had met recently and said that most things were up to date. Whenever Larry arrived he said that we still need more door prizes and may need to purchase some items. He hopes to be able to give 2 or 3 out after each of the four speakers are finished.

There was discussion about Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods. We are working with Candice Minister of the White Violet Center on this event.

We have 3 persons signed up so far to go to the Indy Flower and Patio show on March 18<sup>th</sup>. We have room for 4.

Sam sent 25 photos to Cyd Hunter for possible inclusion in the Terre Haute Tribune-Star's Valley Viewer page. Materials are due to be submitted by Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Audit Committee:** Sam said that this committee will meet on Saturday, Feb. 7 at 2:00pm in the MCL Cafeteria. The committee should include the treasurer and 3 other members. Barbara Brugnaux will be unable to serve on the committee this year.

**Herb Faire:** Bob noted that this event will take place at the Vigo County Fairgrounds this year on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Verna said that we have two 15 x 15 square booths assigned. Set-up time is either Friday night or 5:30am – 7:30am on Saturday morning. Saturday morning is what we are planning on. Hours for the event will be 8:00am to 3:00pm.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Treasurer Pat Youman reported that we do not have anybody in the organization bonded. We pay \$325.00 for liability. If we wish to have the treasurer bonded it will cost us an extra \$100.00. Greg Fields moved that we allocate \$100.00 for the Treasurer bond. Phil Small seconded the motion which passed by a voice vote.

Bob included a write-up on topics discussed at a recent Officers Retreat on the back of his meeting agenda. The retreat took place on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Rock Run Café. Goals for Purdue Master Gardeners are to pass on knowledge, provide public education and create public awareness. Goals for our organization include 1.) Public education to create skills and interest in order to feed individuals and maintain private landscapes. 2.) Priority on youth gardening. 3.) Leadership training and skills development. 4.) Public awareness of association and gardeners availability for community welfare. 5.) Retention and integration of interns into our committees. and 6.) Sharing of ideas with other Master Gardener groups. Discussion followed on how these goals could be accomplished and whether we had the talent and skills within our group and if not, how we might acquire them.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be a fruit tree pruning demonstration workshop on March 7, 2015 at St. Mary of the Woods under Patty Weaver's guidance. It will take 2 hours. Attendees should bring pruners and/or other tools. The event is free and requires no registration.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on March 5, 2015 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.75 hours volunteer time.

Jim Luzar  
Purdue University Extension-Ag/Natural Resource  
County Extension Director for Vigo & Parke Counties  
Partnership Coordinator  
IVY Tech College



GARDEN GAZETTE  
MARCH 2015

Educational time earned was .75 hour for our speaker Chris Leininger, LAC, who was introduced by Brenda Kirchner. His topic was The Art of Bonsai. He showed several slides, some of which illustrated the classic shapes of bonsai. He stressed that pots used for bonsai should be ceramic with good drainage. He showed some of the tools used and viewing stones which add to landscape of bonsai. He showed how the shapes can be attained.

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 7:20pm.

MINUTES: Bob said that minutes had been published in the Gazette and asked for additions or corrections. There were none. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published, seconded and passed by a voice vote.

RECORDING SECRETARY Carole passed around an attendance sheet.

VICE PRESIDENT Greg said that the March program would be on Vermiculture with a speaker from the White Violet Center. He also reported that he is currently teaching a class at Ivy Tech.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Verna checked to see if everyone, especially the new interns, was receiving emails, email attachments and the Gazette.

TREASURER: Pat Youman reported the balances in our account and noted that dues of \$15.00 were due by February 28<sup>th</sup>. If they are paid after that date they go up to \$20.00. So far 55 members have paid their dues.

SERVICE COORDINATOR Pat said that she had individual reports for members showing the volunteer and educational hours that they have reported. She passed them around so members in attendance could get them.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Greg reported that a planting date is scheduled for 9:00am on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Ivy Tech Greenhouse.

WEBSITE: Sam Ligget said that he now has the Gazette on the Website. A list of area seminars listed on our meeting agenda has also been placed on the website.

[www.wvmga.org](http://www.wvmga.org)

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Officers Retreat: Bob reported that an officers retreat was held in January. He passed out copies of a report of the topics covered at the meeting including; goals for Purdue Master Gardeners, Goals for the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners Association and Methods of implementation. Discussion followed.

Committee Sign-up: Bob asked if everyone had signed up for one or more committees and said that Carole Dreher had the sign-up sheets if anyone wished to add their name.

Spring Seminar: Larry Agee said most of the work is progressing on schedule. We will buy some potted plants to sell during the seminar. Preparation will take place on Friday, 3/13 from 11am to 5pm and Saturday morning from 6:30 to 8:00am. A reminder was made that the cost of the seminar is \$35.00 before February 28<sup>th</sup> and \$40.00 after that date.

Volunteer Application Agreement: Members were reminded that they need to complete and turn a Purdue Master Gardener Volunteer Application Agreement in to the Extension office if they have not already done so.

Tablescapes: Nancy Nation reported that our table design is based on the Butterfly Garden which Master Gardener volunteers maintain in Deming Park. She described activities that will occur during the three days of this event which takes place at the Indiana Theater. She said that there will be 27 tables this year.

Matter in Motion: This event takes place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Sharon Polge said we will be helping make peanut butter pinecone birdfeeders. Times are 11:00am to 2:30pm and help is welcome for all or part of the time.

Audit Committee: This committee met on February 7 at MCL Restaurant. Carl Trent, Sam Ligget, Pat Youman, Gene Jarvis and Phil Small were present. They reviewed the books and expressed the opinion of the committee that the financial records of our organization fairly represent its financial position and are sufficiently complete and auditable.

Earth Day sales at SMWC: Debi Gansz reported on this event which takes place on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Indy Flower & Patio Show: The date for this event has been changed to March 20. Volunteers will help provide information about Purdue Master Gardeners from 10:00am to 5:30pm.

Herb Fair: This event will take place at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds this year on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Brenda Kirchner said that she has the Master Gardener sign and Larry Agee said that he has 5

Master Gardener aprons. Verna said that she also has a banner. It was suggested that these items be returned to the president after being used so volunteers needing to use them will know where to go to find them.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Bob said that SMWC would like to have one or two speakers from Master Gardeners to do a demonstration style event at their Earth Day Celebration on April 18<sup>th</sup> and asked that anyone wishing to take on a task of this sort contact them.
- Patty Weaver will conduct a fruit tree pruning demonstration at SMWC orchards on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to noon. No registration is necessary. Participants should bring their own tools. Bring your friends and/or relatives.
- Master Gardeners have been invited to participate in a Wellness/Benefits Fair at Rose Hulman from 10:00am to 2:00pm on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Two volunteers are needed.
- Phil Small passed out skills/interest sheets to members asking them to fill out and return them to him so we can determine if we have the skills and interests among our membership to accomplish our stated goals.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- J & J (Jessica Fields) is planning a plant giveaway for low income persons on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Verna has recently issued an email describing the event. She will need some help to repot plants prior to that date. There will be a nutritionist on hand to help provide information about the plants. City busses will be available to bring people to the fairgrounds on that date.

#### NEXT MEETING:

- Board Meeting March 5, 2015, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, Tuesday, March 19, 2015, 6:30pm at the 4-H Meeting Room, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time for the 42 members in attendance.  
Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2015, 6:00pm, Vigo County Public Library

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

Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small, Pat Woods and Carl Trent.

Non Board Members in attendance: none

Minutes of last Board Meeting: Carol reported that they had been published in the February Gazette. President Bob Archer asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none.

Vice President: Greg said that the March speaker would be Candace Minster whose topic would be Vermiculture. He does not yet have a speaker for April.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna said she had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Pat reported on balance for our treasury and said that we have 64 paid memberships. She reported that she had received correspondence from State Farm stating that it would cost us an extra \$90 to bond the association's treasurer on top of the regular liability insurance's cost of \$325. This would cover up to \$15,000 with a deductible of \$250. Verna moved that we add this bond to our insurance coverage. Larry seconded the motion which passed by a voice vote. She said that she has already mailed in the entity report. She also said that she had arranged to have the club's computer cleaned up and found that it contained no viruses.

#### COMMITTEES:

Service Coordinator Pat reported that she had found the member who had turned in a report of volunteer hours without a name on the form. Pat asked if anyone had a schedule of the dates for when hours should be turned in for badges. Carole Dreher gave her a list.

Giving Garden: Greg said we have a loan of ½ acre that we can use for planting sweet corn for the garden. He said that Chuck Moseman, Phil Small and Debbie Lazzell had gone around to the various soup kitchens to which we donate produce to see what produce they use the most of, the least and which they might like more of. The two they would like more of include corn and green beans. Some prefer not to get things like Bok Choy or Okra. Greg said that he hopes to have his committee members stay after the Planning and scheduling meeting for short meeting. He also noted that there will be a planting day for the Giving Garden at the Ivy Tech Greenhouse at 9:00am on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Website: Sam said that he took some stuff off of the website and added information about Tablesapes and other current items of interest.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Bob said that we have been assigned an area at the ISU Community Gardens to create a raised garden bed.
- Herb Fair – Larry said that all of the covered booths have been taken. We have been assigned booth #2 &3. Trees, Inc. will be giving away trees.
- Skills Survey – Phil Small reported that he had received some completed surveys. He will offer them at the Planning and Scheduling meeting to persons who were not

present at the February meeting. He will have the results tabulated and report on them at a later meeting.

- Spring Seminar – Larry said registration numbers have been disappointing. Currently we have 84 registrants, 40 of whom are club members. We will take enrollees at the door, but may have to run out and get some lunches. Also the small amount of attendees may be a detriment to getting vendors for future seminars. Discussion about this followed with some members noting that there is now a lot of competition where several years ago there were only a few gardening seminars. Bob Archer said this is one reason that Princeton has moved theirs to the fall.
- Tablesapes – Carole Dreher passed around a photo of the Master Gardener table and said that though we had a lot of compliments we had not received one off the five prize awards.
- Matter In Motion – Bob said that Sharon Polge and her committee have this covered. It will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- May meeting location – Bob noted that this meeting is usually held in a shelter at Deming Park with a carry-in supper to honor persons who have completed a Spring Master Gardening class. He asked if we still want to have a carry-in dinner and meeting at the park since there is no Spring class this year. The Board indicated by a show of hands that they would like to have a carry-in dinner and meeting at the park, but decided that there would not be a speaker.
- Bob said that he had been contacted about the possibility of Master Gardeners being involved with a green theme for the downtown Terre Haute First Friday activities in April. This takes place from 5 to 7pm.
- A Chances and Services for Child and Adult Care Food Program will take place on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 1pm. They would like someone from Master Gardeners to discuss a topic such as planting potatoes.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A Fall Master Gardener training class will take place on Wednesdays at the Fairgrounds at 6 to 9pm from September 2<sup>nd</sup> to November 18<sup>th</sup>. It will cost \$85 per participant.
- Other announcements are available on the website. [www.wvmga.org](http://www.wvmga.org)

Next Board of Directors meeting April 2 at the Public Library, 6:00pm.

Meeting Adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary, Carole Dreher

An article in the March/April 2015 Indiana Gardening Magazine states “Emerald Ash Borer Hits Fringe Trees”. The short version of the article is that evidence is now being found that the EAB is starting to attack white forsythia, jasmine, lilac, privet and fringe tree as well as ash trees.

Jim Luzar  
Extension Educator-Ag/Natural Resources  
County Extension Director – Parke & Vigo Counties  
Partnership Coordinator  
IVY Tech College





GARDEN

## GAZETTE APRIL 2015

**NEXT MEETING:** April 21, 2015, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room at the Fairgrounds.  
**Speaker is Robyn Morton.**

Planning and scheduling session of March 17, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Meeting Room, Fairgrounds.

Educational time earned was .75 hours. Greg Fields introduced our speaker, Candace Minister, whose topic was vermiculture. She said that this method of composting is good for small spaces and is a good education project.

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**MINUTES:** published in the Gazette. Bob asked for additions or corrections. There were none. Minutes were approved as written by a voice vote.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Greg Fields said that he is still looking for an April speaker.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Verna checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and the Gazette.

**TREASURER:** Pat Youman reported the balances in our account.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR:** Pat Woods said that 2 people are due badges. It was emphasized that members should use the volunteer sheet available on the Master Gardener website to report their volunteer and educational hours.

### COMMITTEES:

**Giving Garden:** Greg announced that we would have a planting day at the IVY Tech greenhouse on March 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00am to plant seeds for the Giving Garden. He also asked members of the Giving Garden Committee to stay after this meeting for a short committee meeting.

**Flower Beds:** Bill Hiatt – Head Bedkeeper – said that he hopes to check plants at the various gardens that we maintain for winter damage.

**Spring Seminar:** Larry Agee said that we had just under 100 attendees. He said that he was pleased with the work of his committee members. We sold tulips at the Seminar. He still has 18 pots left out of the 50 that we started with and members are welcome to purchase them. Pat Youman reported what we took in and what our profit was.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Matter in Motion: Sharon Polge said that this event would take place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. She and other volunteers will be making Peanut Butter Pine Cone birdfeeders. She has purchased 5 additional aprons and would like to be reimbursed. A motion was made and seconded that she be reimbursed. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Earth Day at the Woods: Verna reported that everything is up and growing. Sharon Polge volunteered to help with a children's project, possibly a demo of repotting sunflowers and requested that persons willing to help to call her.

Chances and Services for Child & Adult Care: In response to a request from these groups for Master Gardeners to help out, Phil Small and Bob Archer have volunteered to do a demonstration of potato planting at Hye Center.

Website: ([www.wvmga.org](http://www.wvmga.org)) Sam reported that he has updated the content on the site.

First Friday: Master Gardeners have been asked to have one or more volunteers to represent our organization at this event on April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00pm. Bob asked if anyone were willing to do this. Era Nichols volunteered.

Rose-Hulman: Debi Gansz and Virginia Laycock have volunteered to represent Master Gardeners at an event on the campus.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Luzar introduced Abby Sweet, a new member of the staff at the Extension Office. She will be doing horticultural outreach and teaching at IVY Tech.

He said that we may go to Ditzler Orchard for future pruning demonstrations since we have pretty much trimmed all the trees at SMWC that need trimming.

Jim also reminded members that they need to complete and turn in a Volunteer Agreement.

Sam Liggitt moved that we donate \$300 to IVY Tech, but no action was taken at this time and it was decided that the matter could be taken up at the Board of Directors meeting.

#### Announcements:

- Abby Sweet said she had heard from 2 organizations who have projects they would like to have help with and asked anyone who might be willing to help to call her at the Extension Office.
- Jessica Fields is planning a plant giveaway on April 25<sup>th</sup> and would appreciate help on that date. She is planning to repot several plants on March 28<sup>th</sup> and could use help on that day also.

#### Next Meetings:

- Board meeting April 2, 2015, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm, room 6.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting Tuesday April 21, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H meeting room at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

## Extension Office Update

Spring has sprung and the busy gardening season is upon us. Abby Sweet is serving as the agriculture educator for Vigo County and will be assisting Wabash Valley Master Gardeners with questions and contacts. I am still serving as county Extension director for Vigo County and will be supporting Abby and membership. This is a new configuration for the staff and we appreciate your support and patience!

The next Purdue Master Gardener intern program will begin September 2, 2015. Program fee is \$85 per person and we are looking for good contacts to populate the class. Thanks for your assistance in recruiting!

A final note, the monthly business meetings are very important and help communicate organization plans and needs. When the gavel sounds at the upcoming meeting, please be respectful of the officers as they conduct business. Members are concerned there are too many side conversations, too much noise, and too much confusion. I have to admit I have been as guilty as anyone about meeting protocol! Let's tighten up the business meeting atmosphere and have a great April meeting!

Sincerely,

***Jim***

Jim Luzar  
Vigo County Extension Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 2, 2015, 6:00pm, room 6

Vigo County Public Library

President, Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and introduced all those present and described their position on the board to Abby Sweet, a new employee of the Extension Office.

Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small, Pat Woods and Carl Trent.

Non board members in attendance: Abby Sweet.

Minutes of last board meeting: Carole Dreher said they were published in the March Gazette.

Vice President: Greg Fields said that Robyn Morton, Assistant Director of the White Violet Center will be our speaker in April. There will be no speaker at the May meeting due to the fact that it will be a carry-in at Deming Park nor will there be one at the June meeting because that will be our garden tour.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna said she had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Pat Youman reported our current balance and described her activities during the past month.

Service Coordinator: Pat Woods said that she plans to get a new email address and is shopping around for possibilities.

### COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg reported that volunteers had planted 100 flats on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. He has 150 pounds of seed potatoes to be planted whenever the weather is right. Cabbage will be planted in between the rows of potatoes.

Gardens: Bob said that he, Carol Swearingen and Carl Trent were planning to plant tulips at the Patriotic Garden. A question was raised about when a garden budget had been submitted to the Park Board. Bob said we need to check on this.

Pat Youman reported that there was damage to the obelisk structure in the Butterfly Garden and that several rocks located in the garden had been scattered around. She showed photos that she had taken with her ipad to demonstrate the damage.

Web Site: Sam says it is difficult to keep the site up to date. He said that Greg Pies and Jessica Fields said they would like to help with a publicity committee. It was pointed out that we have such a committee with Verna as the chairman and currently the only member and she said she would be happy to have them as members.

Fair Committee: Bob suggested that we might want to skip our July meeting due to our scheduled activities at the Vigo County Fair. Discussion followed. Pat Youman moved that we skip the July meeting. Greg Fields seconded the motion which passed by a voice vote.

Earth Day at SMWC 4/18: Verna asked Greg if she and Larry Agee would be allowed to pick things up from the IVY Tech greenhouse at 5:00pm on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Skills Survey: Phil Small reported that he had received 35 responses to this survey. He presented a report showing the results of the survey. It was suggested that Greg might want to consider the topics that members had indicated they were interested in learning more about as possibilities for speakers at our meetings.

Spring Seminar 2015: Larry Agee reported the net income from the seminar. He recommended that a chairman for the 2016 seminar be appointed soon. Larry said that he prefers not to do it again. There was discussion about the dates, attendance and what is the trend for other Master Gardening groups hosting seminars. Larry said it would be helpful to set a date early for the next seminar. It was agreed that we would like to keep it on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of March. Larry said that IVY Tech staff were very helpful.

Rose Hulman Benefit/Wellness Fair: Virginia Laycock helped at this event and said that they had a lot of traffic at their table.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion about whether we should consider making an additional donation to IVY Tech and if we were to do so should we specify where we want it to go. Larry Agee moved that we recommend to the organization at the next Planning and Scheduling meeting that we donate an additional \$400.00 to their FFA group in appreciation for using IVY Tech facility for the Spring Seminar.

First Friday (April 3<sup>rd</sup>): Era Nichols and Peggy Harlan will volunteer at this event. They will be located at the Vigo County School Corporation Administration building at 7<sup>th</sup> and Wabash.

Chances and Services for Child and Adult Care food program (May 2): Bob Archer and Phil Small will do a demonstration of planting and growing your own potatoes at this event.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Greg Fields said that Jessica Fields is doing a plant give away to low-income persons on April 25<sup>th</sup> and she would be grateful for additional volunteer help.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be in meeting room 6 at the Vigo County Public Library on May 7, 2015 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.5 hours of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**NOTE:** Bill Hiatt has some Peony plants he would like to get rid of (Pink). If you are interested in them contact him at [hiattw@yahoo.com](mailto:hiattw@yahoo.com)



## GARDEN GAZETTE MAY 2015

May Planning and scheduling meeting is May 19, at **6:00pm** at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park next to the Patriotic Garden, Butterfly Garden and the Herb Garden. This will be a carry-in with the meat and drinks being furnished by the Association. Those with last name beginning with A thru L bring vegetable or salad; those with last name beginning M through Z bring fruit or dessert.

Planning and scheduling meeting April 21, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Building, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds. Educational time earned was 1 hour. Our speaker was Robyn Morton, Associate

Director of the White Violet Center and Alpaca Ministry of the Sisters of Providence. She said that the main purpose of the center is to serve as an educational ministry. The center was founded in 1996. They have 7 acres of organic gardens, a 40 alpaca herd, beehives, a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) and a bluebird trail. The Sisters of Providence attempt to practice Permaculture. Under this premise the Sisters believe that God created Nature and they are trying to set up systems that emulate as much as possible the way of Nature. They use the "chop and drop" method of farming. The Alpacas provide both fertilizer and fiber. They are planning to set up a self-guided tour. They have also recently been granted an Organic certification.

Meeting was called to order by President Bob Archer.

MINUTES: Bob noted that minutes had been published in the Gazette and called for additions or corrections. There were none and the minutes were approved as written.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg Fields noted there will be no speaker at the May meeting which will be a carry-in dinner at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park. The program for June will be a garden tour.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and The Gazette. She also noted that she had a few corrections to be made to the mailing list and said that Pat Woods is getting a new email address.

TREASURER: Pat Youman reported the balance in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Pat Woods was not present at the meeting.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Greg Fields said that volunteers planted over 100 flats on March 27<sup>th</sup>. He said he will ask for volunteers to plant potatoes in early May. He also said some panels which had been donated to the Garden were stolen.

FLOWER BEDS: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, reported that several thousand dollars worth of tools had been stolen from the Park Board. Most of them had been stored at the Dobbs Park and Fairground facilities. Our budget has been approved with a \$200 reduction.

Butterfly Garden: Bill said that we need a chairperson for this garden. A workday is planned for Monday, April 29 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes and trimmers. Verna will send out an email requesting help. The Park asked if we could get it cleaned up before the following weekend as a wedding is planned for that location.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

A raised garden is planned for the Community Gardens at ISU. Wood is needed. We also need approval to allocate \$75 for expenses to support the creation of the raised garden at the ISU gardens.

EARTH DAY AT SMWC: Verna said that Debi Gansz said they had one of their best days. It was a beautiful day and plenty of volunteers were on hand.

HERB FAIR: Larry Agee reported that this will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

C.H.A.N.C.E.S.: Bob Archer and Phil Small will do a potato planting demonstration.

The First Friday event scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> was rained out.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Abby Sweet said that her office phone number is 812-462-3371 and her cell phone number is 812-798-5614 and her email is [asweet@purdue.edu](mailto:asweet@purdue.edu). She also said that some volunteer help is needed at Lost Creek elementary school to help with a garden and deer fencing.
- There was discussion about making an additional donation to IVTC because of their help to us for the Spring Seminar and the use of their greenhouse. Sam Ligget moved that we donate \$500 to Ivy Tech's FFA. Patti Weaver seconded the motion which passed by a voice vote.
- Bob announced that he had appointed a standing Publicity Committee with Greg Pies, Jessica Fields and Jane Santucci as members.
- Our meeting in June will take place at Bill Hiatt's place after our annual garden tour which is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>. Currently we have one volunteer garden but like to have 4 – 5. Persons who are willing to volunteer their garden for a tour should volunteer either to Bill Hiatt or Verna Gaskin.
- The Extension has a Master Gardener brochure which we hope to have available at meet and greet activities.
- The Wabash Valley Fair will take place on July 12<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday we will have our Little Sprouts activity and make and take "paint a rock", Wednesday will feature paint a banner, Thursday's activity will be flower arranging and Friday's feature will be our popular stepping stone creations. Ruth Johnson said that she has several flags cut out and has distributed them to several volunteers to be sewn up. Verna said that volunteers will meet at Bill Hiatt's house on June 15 at 10:00am to make hypertufa rocks.
- Bob asked if the group wanted to continue participating in the Altrusa Chili Cook-Off. A show of hands revealed 4 persons in favor of continued participation and more were opposed.
- The May meeting will take place at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park and will be preceded by a carry-in dinner. Verna will send out an email with details and assignments.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- J & J Nursery (Jessica Fields) is planning a plant giveaway of plants to low-income people on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Fairgrounds. Any help from Master Gardeners to help with giving out the plants would be helpful, especially in explaining how to plant and care for them. The event will take place from 9:00am to 12:00noon.
- Bob announced that Jessica Fields has agreed to serve as chair for the 2016 Spring Seminar.
- Larry Agee said that the Herb Society is sponsoring a tour south of Columbus, IN on June 6.

#### NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting May 7, 2015, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting Tuesday, May 19, 6:00pm, Ute Shelter in Deming Park.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time for the 39 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF MAY 7, 2015, 6:00pm**

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

Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget and Phil Small.

Non Board members: none

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole Dreher – published in the April Gazette. There were no additions or corrections.

Vice President: Greg did not have anything to report.

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

Treasurer: Pat reported the balance of our funds. She presented a current bank statement for Board members to examine. She also noted that necessary tax forms have been filed.

Service Coordinator: Pat was not present.

### **COMMITTEES:**

Giving Garden: Greg said that 150 pounds of potatoes have been planted. If it is not raining on Monday (May 11<sup>th</sup>), volunteers will be doing some planting beginning at 8:00am. He said that he is getting a price on polycarbonate panels to replace the missing ones. Money to pay for them will come out of the Giving Garden budget. Some sweet corn seed has been donated to Abby Sweet. John Rosene will arrange to have it planted on some property that belongs to Westminster Village. In return for use of the land, Westminster would like to have donated for their use.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gardens: Butterfly: Sue Polifroni and her husband will get some annuals to plant in this garden. The garden looks pretty good after some clean-up work. We will however need to get some more mulch. When asked if he had found a chair for this garden, Bill said that Cindy Little is a kind of chair.

Patriotic: Bill and Carol have got this garden into shape.

Hawthorne: Bob said that some of the roses that appeared to be dead are trying to come up from their roots. They will need to be fertilized. He talked to park chairman about the garden. We may want to add something here to fill gaps. Some plants like daylilies might help fill in the gaps.

Raised Garden at ISU: Annette Benefil helped work on this. It is 3 blocks high and about 3 feet wide. ISU will fill it in with dirt. Bob showed member a photo of the bed. Annette will buy plants and tend to them during the summer months. Plans are to have herbs that people can pinch off to use in their food preparation

First and Oak: The City would like to have this bed cleaned out by the time of the Wabash Valley Festival. Verna said that they had planned to use zinnias in this bed again this year but had been unable to find any plants to purchase. Some other suggestions were offered.

Website: Sam reported that though Greg Pies had volunteered to help, so far they have been unable to get him logged on to the site as a user who can make changes.

Fairgrounds beds: We need a workday to help get these beds cleaned up and ready for the fair.

Herb Fair: We need to locate a key for the storage trailer at the fairgrounds to get our table out to use at this event.

Extra IVTech Gift: John Rosene will email the name of a contact person to Bob Archer.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Master Gardener Brochure: We want to have some of the printed and paste labels on them with the name of the contact person, Abby Sweet, along with her contact information printed on them.

### **Announcements:**

- Fall Intern Class: We would like to have mentors available to work with students. The class will begin in September so we will need to conduct mentor classes during the summer. Carol Swearingen will continue to get volunteers to serve as facilitators and some other person would take care of scheduling mentoring.

- Greg Fields passed on a thank you from Jessica Fields to all of the volunteers who helped with the plant give away at her J & J Nursery on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The May planning and scheduling meeting will take place in the Ute Shelter in Deming Park. Since there will be a carry-in prior to the meeting, activities will begin at **6:00pm**. Carol Swearingen is planning to purchase meat for the meal. Persons whose last name begins with A – L will be asked to bring a vegetable or a salad. Persons whose last name begins with M – Z will be asked to bring a fruit dish or dessert.

Next planning and scheduling meeting – Deming Park Ute Shelter May 19 at 6:00pm with a carry-in meal preceding the meeting.

Next Board meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library, Meeting Room 6, June 4 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole E. Dreher, Recording Secretary

Dear Wabash Valley Master Gardeners:

The weather has not been the greatest so far with respect to getting plants growing. Here is to some warmer, dry weather to get summer rolling!

Kudos! WVMGA for plant sale at the Herb Faire last Saturday! Moving to the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds was a huge success and it looks like the event will return to the fairgrounds in 2016.

The Purdue Extension-Vigo County Office has several projects underway and Camp RAVE is another garden site this year. We would love to have a volunteer or two help with the garden on Monday afternoons. Contact Abby Sweet at the Vigo office if you would be able to help and thanks in advance. She can be reached Monday – Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at 812-462-3371.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to great things from the Giving Garden and other WVMGA projects.

*Jim*

Jim Luzar  
 Extension Educator/Ag Natural Resources  
 County Extension Director Parke & Vigo Counties  
 Purdue University  
 Partnership Coordinator  
 IVY Tech College

*Abby*

Abby Sweet  
 Extension Development Educator

\*\*Watch for Pond Management Program information at a later date!!!





## GARDEN GAZETTE JUNE 2015

Planning and scheduling minutes of May 19, 2015, Deming Park Ute Shelter.

No educational time was earned. The meeting was preceded by a carry-in dinner. Some members brought guests to enjoy the meal.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Archer at 6:30pm. Bob thanked Carol Swearingen and her committee for getting meat for the meal and organizing the meeting/dining area.

MINUTES: Bob said that the minutes have been written and submitted for publication in the Gazette which has not yet been issued to members.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President Greg Fields said there will be speaker at the June meeting which will take place after a garden tour and carry-in meal at Bill Hiatt's home. There will be no July meeting because of the fair.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone was receiving e-mails and The Gazette. At least one person who had been receiving the Gazette through the post office said that they are no longer receiving it.

Treasurer Pat Youman reported the balance in our account.

### COMMITTEES:

Service Coordinator Pat Woods said that Emma Harlan has earned a bronze badge, Peggy Harlan a silver, Carl Trent a silver and Debbie Lazzell a Gold 2000. Bob noted that Pat's husband has had health problems.

Giving Garden Greg Fields said there was a work day on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers have planted 696 tomato plants, 812 green beans and 212 pounds of potatoes. Cabbage will be planted between the rows of potatoes. No corn will be planted in the Giving Garden. It has been planted in another 1/3 acre area. Greg thanked all volunteers who have worked on Giving Garden tasks.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt Head Bedkeeper reported that all of the beds have now been cleaned out. Patriotic Garden: Money is available to purchase annuals to plant in this garden. Butterfly Garden: The obelisk was damaged over the winter, but has now been repaired. Third and Maple: Bill said he had received reports that this bed looked good. Two persons said that it does look good, but the trees located in the bed now have bagworms which are unsightly and affect the leaves.

Raised bed at ISU Community Gardens: Bob Archer said that he has worked on this project and Annette Benefiel has been helping him.

Bob Said that we have a reminder from Purdue that we should make certain when we order seeds from on-line sources that the seeds are from the U.S. and not from overseas.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Larry Agee said that the Herb Society is planning a bus trip to tour the Stream Cliff Herb Farm. He passed around a brochure describing the event which will take place on Saturday, June 6. The trip cost \$40 per person plus \$18.60 for brunch. He said that Master Gardeners were welcome to join them on the tour, but he needed the money after the meeting if possible.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Fall Intern Class: This will be held September 2<sup>nd</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds from 6 to 9pm. It will cost \$85 per person. Abby Sweet has been promoting this.
- Vigo County Fair will take place from July 12<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Other announcements are available on the Master Gardener Website ([www.wvmga.org](http://www.wvmga.org)).

#### NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board Meeting Thursday, June 4, 2015, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling Meeting, Garden Tour/Carry-in followed by carry-in meal and meeting at Bill Hiatt's home, Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 (Details to be furnished by Verna via e-mail).

The meeting was adjourned with .5 hours of volunteer time for the 38 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

#### Board of Directors meeting June 4, 2015, Vigo County Public Library, Meeting Room6

Vice President Greg Fields opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Members in attendance: Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small, Pat Woods and Carl Trent.

Non Board members in attendance: None.

Minutes of last board meeting: Carol Dreher said that they were published in the May Gazette. Greg asked if there were any corrections or additions. There were none so the minutes were approved as published.

Vice President Greg reported that he is still looking for a speaker for August.

Corresponding Secretary Verna said that she had nothing to report.

Treasurer Pat passed around the latest bank statement for inspection. She noted deposits and expenditures and reported the final balance.

#### COMMITTEES:

Service Coordinator Pat Woods said that she has some questions about how the program used to record hours deals with decisions reporting about when someone is due to get a badge and when they actually have received the badge.

Giving Garden Chair Greg reported that volunteers have planted 696 tomato plants and made some additional cages for them. They have worked cucumbers. Verna and Debbie planted some flowers. They are working to get a used trailer situated to store equipment in. They have a new tiller which was purchased by the Purdue Extension. It is larger than our other tiller. They hope to plant sweet potatoes and more green beans. They have plans to construct raised beds for herbs. Onions, lettuce, cabbage and broccoli have been planted between the potatoes.

Flowerbeds Chair Bill Hiatt was not present but Pat Youman reported on the Butterfly Garden saying that she had heard from Peggy Harlan who said that Cindy was purchasing plants which she hoped to plant this weekend (June 6-7).

Larry Agee was asked if we have decided on new plants for the labyrinth area in Hawthorn Park. We have not.

Someone asked about the First National Bed on south hwy. 41. Verna said that volunteers have been working on it.

Website: Sam Ligget hopes to put some Giving Garden photos on it soon.

Spring Seminar 2016: Greg reported that Jessica Fields had sent a signed contract to IVY Tech for this event which will be held on March 12, 2016.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Garden Tour: Greg said that Bill Hiatt reported that he has confirmation for four gardens to be toured on June 13, 2015. Verna will put out an email with a map and other information. After the tour members will participate in a carry-in meal at Bill Hiatt's home. The meal will be followed by a short business meeting. Bill and his wife will provide the meat and members whose last name begins with A-L will be asked to bring a vegetable dish or salad and members whose last name begins with letter M-Z will be asked to bring fruit or a dessert. Verna will add this information to her email with the map.

Fair: One member asked about the expenditures for plants at the Fairgrounds. It was noted that there is a budgeted amount for this purpose.

Raised Bed at ISU Community Gardens: These are ready to be planted.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Greg reminded members that there will be no planning and scheduling meeting in July due to Fair activities. There will, however, still be a Board of Directors meeting.

We need someone to coordinate the plant and seed exchange which will take place at the September planning and scheduling meeting.

Greg asked if anyone had information about the \$500 scholarship which Master Gardeners donates to IVY Tech in the fall of the 2015-2016 school year. Pat Youman said she thought that IVY Tech takes care of this and she sends them a check.

Sam Ligget said that President Bob Archer should be reminded that it is time for him to appoint a nominating committee to help select officers for 2016.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Fall Intern Class: This will take place from 9-2-15 through 11-18-15 at the fairgrounds from 6 to 9pm. The cost will be \$85. Someone said they had heard that 4 persons have already signed up.
- Reminder – no July planning and scheduling meeting.
- Volunteers will be planting stuff at the Arboretum in Deming Park at 10:00am on Saturday, June 6, 2015.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on July 2, 2015 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after .75 hours of volunteer time.

#### HAS THIS HAPPENED TO YOU???

1. You purchase a new plant shortly before it goes on sale!
2. When you are waiting for a bloom to open it falls off the plant!



OCTOBER 2015

GARDEN GAZETTE

PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015, 4-H MEETING ROOM,  
WABASH VALLEY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS – MINUTES

No Educational time was earned. Meeting was preceded by a carry-in meal and a seed and plant exchange.

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 6:45pm and thanked Peggy Harlan and Pat Youman for helping put the meal together.

Minutes were published in the Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none and the minutes were approved as written.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President Greg Fields said he was working on two possibilities for speakers but had no confirmations yet.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and The Gazette. She said she had sent 2 fliers and other items via email.

Treasurer Pat Youman listed income and expenses and reported the balance in our account.

#### COMMITTEES:

Service Coordinator: Bob announced that Pat Woods had resigned her position as Service Coordinator effective on Sunday, 9/13/2015. He said that he would like to nominate Jessica Fields to serve out the remainder of Pat's term through December 2015 and asked for a show

of hands to approve. There were no opposing votes. Persons wishing to submit volunteer hours should email them to Jessica at [wvmga@yahoo.com](mailto:wvmga@yahoo.com) Hours reported previously are being checked to see if they are up to date.

Giving Garden: Greg Fields thanked volunteers and reported that 25,709 pounds of produce have been harvested and donated so far this year. We are still harvesting sweet potatoes, turnips and zucchini. They will be picking on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00am. Greg said that he would also like to thank persons who provided boxes in which to place the produce.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, said that he was grateful for the recent rain.

Patriotic Garden – Bill said he had sprayed mulch paths to keep down weeds. He also did some pruning of the roses and bushes. Bill talked about the possibility of replacing roses with burning bushes. Some members expressed concern that burning bushes might be considered as invasive plants. Someone suggested red twig dogwood which is native to Indiana.

Hawthorne Park – The Park Department plans to plant a wildflower garden to replace the dead roses.

Third and Maple – Beth Keyes said there were some suckers in the bed from the crabapple trees.

Fairgrounds – volunteers are working to clean and spruce up these beds prior to a multi-county leadership conference on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

ISU Community Gardens raised bed is overgrown. Will be pulling annuals soon.

Christmas in the Park: We will decorate for this event on November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Some volunteers will need to meet at the trailer at 9:00am to pick up decorations and more volunteers are asked to meet at the park at 10:00am to help decorate. Lights will be turned on the first of December. Judging will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Decorations will be taken down after Christmas.

Spring Seminar: Jessica Fields reported that her committee is working on speakers. They have confirmed Dr. Coppinger from Rose-Hulman whose topic will be GMO's. They will also have a person from a Winery Vineyard.

Fall Intern Class: This class is underway having begun on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. It meets on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9pm at the Fairgrounds. It will continue through November 18<sup>th</sup>. Carol Swearingen needs help due to illness in families.

## OLD BUSINESS

Volunteers helped in the Extension Booth at the State Fair on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Mary Howard-Hamilton said they talked to approximately 120 people. Various other persons who had volunteered commented on their experience.

Vigo County Learning Days will take place for 9am – 12noon on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Sharon Polge will be leading volunteers at the Vigo County Public Library for this event.

Clay County Nature Day – Carol Swearingen and Mary Ellen Hlatko had the wheel from the Extension Office. They talked to children and handed out coloring materials to them.

Attendance was down but overall it was a good day.

Board members are scheduled to attend an Area Leadership Day at the Vigo County Fairgrounds on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm.

The topic for the Vigo County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was Bees and Butterflies. Ruth Johnson, Bob Archer and Phil Small volunteered for this event.

Peggy Harlan reported for the nominating committee that the candidates are as follows: President – Bob Archer, Vice President – Greg Fields, Recording Secretary – Carole Dreher, Corresponding Secretary – Verna Gaskin, Treasurer – Pat Youman, Service Coordinator – Jessica Fields & Patti Weaver. Board of Directors – Larry Agee, Sam Ligget and Phil Small.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The proposed memorial garden/bench at the Fairgrounds is on hold.

We have promised Jennifer Book of the Fair Board that we will take care of several issues that they have with our organization by September 24<sup>th</sup>. These items include: completion of the greenhouse and high tunnel, elimination of a debris pile and cleaning up the beds in front of the 4-H Building and around the Floriculture Building. There was some discussion about why it is our responsibility to take on these tasks. The answer is apparently because we have always done it. Greg Fields knows someone with railroad ties who may be able to let us have some to use around these beds. Patti Weaver said we might be able to get some ISU students to help. Greg said that he needs some volunteers (especially men) to help install panels on the greenhouse.

Bob noted that the Board had approved a scholarship of \$42.50 for intern, Rose Newton, in the Fall Intern Class.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The 2016 State Master Gardener Conference is scheduled to take place June 16-18 at West Lafayette.

Please check [wvmga.org](http://wvmga.org) (our website) for additional announcements.

#### NEXT MEETINGS

- Board meeting Oct. 1, 2015, Vigo Co. Library, 6pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Building.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time for the 39 members in attendance.  
Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, OCTOBER 1, 2015, 6:00pm, Vigo Co. Public Library, Rm. 6

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order. He discussed some work items that are being worked on at the Fairgrounds. Some of the items included sprucing up the beds in front of the 4H Building and around the Floriculture building. Volunteers have been working on the greenhouse. Some people were also working on clearing out a debris pile, but their equipment broke down.

Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget and Phil Small.

Non Board members in attendance: Abby Sweet attended as a representative from the Extension Office.

Minutes of the last Board meeting: Carole Dreher said that they had been published in the September Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none so the minutes stand approved as written.

Vice President Greg Fields says he has a speaker from India as our speaker in October and a nutritionist in November.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin says he has a new email address. It is [vernaJean1962@gmail.com](mailto:vernaJean1962@gmail.com)

Treasurer Pat Youman reported that there has been only a small amount of activity with our accounts during the past month and noted the ending balance. She passed around the latest bank statement for perusal by members of the board. A printout of actual expenditures was provided and discussion ensued about how they compared to amounts budgeted for 2015.

## COMMITTEES

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields was not present but Bob said that she has physical files to compare to computer files. Jim Luzar sent an email stating that he has badges for two persons. Giving Garden – Greg said that we are still getting vegetables but are now only picking one day a week (Monday). He reported that we have harvested and donated 26,132 pounds to date.

Website – Sam said that Jessica Fields had been added to contact list and identified as the Service Coordinator. He also changed the contact name on the Volunteer Hours template.

Spring Seminar 2016 – Jessica Fields sent a written report on the work of this committee.

- They have agreed not to charge vendors for their first table. If they want/need additional tables, we will charge them \$15 per extra table. If a vendor wants a meal we will charge them an additional \$17.
- We will not serve breakfast, but will serve morning beverages.
- We have two confirmed speakers – Peter Coppinger of Rose Hulman (GMOs) and Justin McLain from Windy Ridge Winery. They are in contact with two other speakers.

- The lunch plan calls for a box lunch.
- There are three confirmed vendors and Vicki is looking for more.
- They are also working on finding sponsors.

Christmas in the Park – Pat Youman reported that this committee has a planned workday scheduled for Oct 2 at Beth Keyes house. They will be cutting and painting decorations.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Bed Keeper reports: 1<sup>st</sup> & Oak, Maple, First Financial, Butterfly, Patriotic, Hawthorne and Fairgrounds – various people reported that these all look good.

Raised Bed at ISU Community Gardens – It was proposed that we plant some extra herbs for this bed whenever we plant for Earth Day next year. There were reports about the celebration of Annette Benefiel's life which was held at the USU Community Gardens. Some Board members who attended the event spoke of it and some people noted that an excellent article has been published in the Tribune Star.

2016 Nominating Committee – the election will take place at the October meeting. Verna will publish the slate in an email.

Area Master Gardener Organization meeting wrap-up (9/24 at Fairgrounds) – there was discussion about this meeting and items discussed. Some attendees reported on how useful they felt the meeting was. Attendees from other counties were somewhat amazed by the number of men that we have who belong to and actively participate in the activities of our organization.

Susan Laitas memorial – we are still working on this and are waiting to hear from the park board about putting one there. The family would still like to have something that would help at 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut. Phil Small will contact them and see if there is something that can be done. It was noted that Susan had been a leader for Junior Master Gardeners.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Election – see committee report

Donuts for Fairgrounds, Hawthorne Park, TH City Parks and Extension Office People – Bob Archer and Sam Ligget will take care of this item and Larry Agee will advise them on what has been done in the past.

Budget for 2016 – Pat is going to do more work on actual figures versus those budgeted for 2015.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gibson County is having a seminar on 10/17/15. If we provide them information about our 2016 Spring Seminar they will help promote it for us.

Abby Sweet reported that there will be a program titled “Composting and/or Cover Crops” at the Community (Floriculture) Building on 10/19/15 from 6 – 7:30pm. It will count as education time. The extension office will also have a webinar about state funding for highways.

Bob Archer said that members could claim 2 hours of education time for attending the Leadership Conference.

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

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on 11/05/15 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.5 hours volunteer time.

Seasons: Three-month segments marked by obsessive thoughts and compulsive behaviors among all gardeners. More specifically:

- Spring: The season when gardeners rush the growing season by planting annuals when the temperature first hits 65 degrees, even though it’s four weeks before the last frost.
- Summer: The season when gardeners spend money on water, fertilizer, tomato cages, bamboo stakes, and topsoil: and time on weeding, spreading mulch, killing insects, chasing groundhogs, and harvesting enough vegetables to make one salad.
- Fall: The season when gardeners come back from vacation to discover that their garden has become a humiliating, irreparable mess.
- Winter: The season when gardener’s power bills reach astronomical levels because of the electric lights needed to keep indoor plants growing when they should be dormant.

That’s all for this month, see you at the planning and scheduling meeting on Oct. 20.

*Jim*

Jim Luzar

Extension Educator

County Director for Parke & Vigo Counties

Partnership Coordinator

IVY Tech College



NOVEMBER 2015

GARDEN GAZETTE

Minutes of Planning and Scheduling meeting of October 20, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Meeting Room at Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

Educational time earned was 1 hour. Speaker Shikha Bhattacharyya (Bot-ah-Char-e-ah) was introduced by Jim Luzar. She said that she was originally from India and is a pharmacist. She has a garden at the ISU Community gardens. She is taking Health & Science classes at ISU and doing a research project on gardening at 14<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut. She has a Community Foundation grant to do a project with children.

PRESIDENT Bob Archer called to order at 6:33pm.

MINUTES: from the September Planning and Scheduling meeting and the October 1<sup>st</sup> Board of Directors meeting were published in the October Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none and they were approved as written by a voice vote.

RECORDING SECRETARY Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone was receiving the emails and Gazette.

TREASURER Pat Youman reported the balance in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR Jessica Fields is reviewing records of volunteer and educational hours. She had reports for individual members and said they would be available for them to pick up and check to make sure that all hours recorded match their personal records.

#### COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN Greg Fields said that the lack of rain has been a problem. So far volunteers have harvested and donated 27,130 pounds of produce. The greenhouse is waiting for electricity and water in the barrels. Plants have been started in the greenhouse at IVY Tech.

WEBSITE Sam Ligget said that the website has been updated and noted that it uses military time.

FLOWER BEDS Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, reported that the beds look okay. He said that he drove around checking them. He is cleaning up stuff that the frost took down.

SPRING SEMINAR Jessica Fields said that her committee has three people confirmed as speakers. They are still looking for vendors and sponsors. A committee meeting is planned for 11/6/15 at 10:00am.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK Beth Keyes reported that they have had work days and got a lot accomplished. She passed around a sheet for members to volunteer to work in the refreshment stand during the time allocated to our organization. They plan to set up on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Displays will be lit on December 1. Judging will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Our display will be judged at 7:00pm.

2016 ELECTION Nomination Committee members, Peggy Harlan, Mary Beth Prickel and Vicki Cochran distributed ballots.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

MEMORIAL GARDEN This project is still being worked on.

VCPL LEARNING DAYS Sharon Polge said that they had a good day and had several children and their families who participated. There was some discussion about the benefits of having children exposed to gardening and how the experience generally helps them appreciate the experience and more likely to do some gardening activities later in their life.

AREA MASTER GARDENER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MEETING ON 9/24/15 some persons who attended this meeting at the Vigo County Fairgrounds reported on this field. They said that one organization had reported having one successful project where they sold milkweed plants and made quite a bit of money. Several attendees from other groups were impressed by the number of men who belong to our group and actively participate. Retention of members was a concern of several groups. After the reports a discussion was held about how we might raise and sell milkweed plants since this is a project that many members are interested in.

EMERGENCY ISSUES reported in last month's meeting have been resolved and Jennifer Cook of the Fair Board is okay with us.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Bob asked for volunteers to take donuts to the Parks, Fairgrounds and Extension Office personnel.

Bob distributed copies of proposed expenses for our organization for 2016.

The Nomination/Election committee reported that they had counted the ballots. Only one position was contested and that was for Service Coordinator. Officers for 2016 will be as follows:

PRESIDENT: Bob Archer

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg Fields

RECORDING SECRETARY: Carole Dreher.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna Gaskin

TREASURER: Pat Youman

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Jessica Fields

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Past Officers – Larry Agee, Sam Ligget (Two Past Officers)  
Member at Large – Phil Small

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

#### NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting November 5, 2015, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm, Rm. 6.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 6:30pm, 4H Meeting Room, Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time for the 31 members in attendance. Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors meeting Nov. 5, 2015, 6:00pm, VCPL, Rm. 6.

President Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 5:55pm.

Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Greg Fields, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Pat Youman, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small, Jessica Fields, Carl Trent.

Non Board member in attendance: Abby Sweet represented the Extension Office.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole said that they had been published in the October edition of the Garden Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none so the minutes stand approved as written.

Vice President: Greg announced that Kathy & Jason Cote will be November speakers and their topic will be organic gardening.

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

Treasurer: Pat reported on financial activity for the month and reported the balance in our account. She also passed around the latest bank statement for member perusal.

Service Coordinator: Jessica said that Mary Beth Prickel is ready for a badge whenever the next badge order is turned in after December 4<sup>th</sup>. She also said that the member records have been reviewed and are almost up to date.

Giving Garden: Greg said they are still harvesting and donated so far this year 27,230 pounds.

Flowerbeds: Bill was not present to report on these.

Website: Sam reported that we received a bill from the web hosting company for our website in the amount of \$209.40 for a 5 year agreement along with another charge for \$14.95 for the domain renewal. There was discussion about putting these items in our budget. It was agreed that we should add an amount of \$42.00 per year (due on 11-22-2020) for the web host and \$15.00 for the domain name.

2016 Proposed Expenses: Discussion ensued about whether we should add line items to the budget for bereavement and memorial expense. It was finally decided that we would add a line item of \$200.00 for bereavement expense with the specification that \$50.00 be allocated for flowers to be sent to the funeral of a member and a member's spouse, child or parent. In the case of an out of town death, memorial flowers would be sent to the members home.

Spring Seminar 2016: Jessica reported on the work of this committee. She said that one speaker, Art Davidson from Baker's Creek, has requested that, in addition to a speaker's fee, he be reimbursed for one night's lodging and mileage (estimated by Jessica at \$324 based on \$.45 per mile). His topic will be Seed Saving from the Garden. There was discussion at this point about how to handle income and expenses for the seminar in the budget since we hope to have any expenses covered by the income and hopefully, make a profit. Currently this expense line item is set at \$0.00 in anticipation of being offset by income from the event. Jessica also said that we have a speaker from Rose-Hulman who will talk about GMO's. We expect to have 4 speakers and a panel. Some solicitation letters have been sent to potential sponsors.

Discussion arose about publication of sponsor's names and/or business information. Some persons spoke about how other groups have handled this matter at similar events that they have attended. Some have put them into booklets as we have; some have put them on printed sheets in a packet; some have put up signs and others have projected them on a screen.

Christmas in the Park: Bob said that set up will be at 10:00am on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in Deming Park. Some volunteers will be needed to pick up some items from the Master Gardeners trailer at the Fairgrounds at 9:00am. Pat Youman said that she would need someone to pick up a large item from her garage also.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### Bed keeper reports:

- 1<sup>st</sup> and Oak – Bob said that he had pulled some weeds from this bed and noted that there had been some damage from either chipmunks or voles.
- Hawthorne – Larry Agee said he hopes to check with Amber Slaughterback to see if the spraying that she planned had been done yet.
- Fairgrounds – Greg said that he and Jim Luzar will take care of the debris pile at this location.

Donuts for Fairgrounds, Hawthorne Park, TH City Parks and Extension Office people – Sam Ligget reported that he and Brenda Christianson had delivered these and that everyone was appreciative.

Susan Laitas memorial – Phil Small said that he felt that the October speaker was critical of the enter at 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut. Whenever Phil spoke to the director at that facility he reported that they had had an unsatisfactory experience at the ISU Garden. If we are to specify their facility for a donation in memory of Susan, they would like to have it used for a scholarship for a summer intern.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Meeting calendar for 2016 – Bob presented a proposed meeting schedule for 2016 for members approval. There was discussion and few changes were made. It was also determined that the December 2015 meeting would take place on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Bob asked if there was any preference to return the meeting time of the Planning and scheduling meeting to 6:00pm instead of 6:30pm as they had been at one time. No preference was stated.

State 2016 MG Conference sponsorship – We had received a request to help sponsor this event in the amount of \$250.00 or more. It was generally agreed that we did not really want to do that, but there was discussion about what they would do with the money if we would agree to be a sponsor. Do they make a profit? If they do, what would they do with it. It was agreed that we should do some research before a final decision on this. We need to check with Mr. Oreck. It was generally agreed that if they usually have a loss we should probably help but if they have made a profit we would prefer to pass.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A website called Native Plants Unlimited was mentioned. It is a site where milkweed seeds could be obtained and perhaps be planted and made available at the Earth Day event and the Herb Faire. Some wondered if that would be too early but Jessica and Greg said that they had offered some at the Spring Seminar last March. At this point some discussion occurred about what constitutes a conflict of interest between organization and its membership or other members of the community.

Fall intern classes – Jim Luzar had sent an email stating that all 25 participants of this class are on track for completion.

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

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the VCPL on 1/7/16 at 6:00pm. (No Board meeting in December).

Meeting adjourned after 1.25 hours of volunteer time.

“The flowers of all tomorrows are the seeds of today”

## EXTENSION EDUCATOR UPDATE

Hello Master Gardeners,

Since the beginning of March I have had the opportunity to get to know most of you and work alongside many on various programs and activities. It has been an awesome experience working with this group, however, starting November 30<sup>th</sup> I will be starting my new position in Purdue Extension as the 4-H Youth Development Educator in Montgomery County. I have truly enjoyed working with the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners and have learned so much with this position. Thank you for all of your hard work and assistance on various programs and activities and for helping make my time here with the Vigo County Extension office memorable!

*Abby Sweet*

Abby Sweet  
Extension Educator

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Hi Master Gardeners,

I want to publicly thank Abby Sweet for her efforts with the organization since March. Abby will be a super 4-H Youth Educator in Montgomery County and will actually sit in my old chair in Crawfordsville☺

Plan now for the intern class graduation on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. We have 25 interns currently and I am expecting all of them to complete. Thanks to the program facilitators.

I am very thankful for your patience and grace over the past year. It has been a challenging year for me and I am grateful for all of your support.

*Jim Luzar*

Jim Luzar  
Extension Educator, Ag/NR  
County Extension Director for Parke & Vigo Counties  
Partnership Coordinator  
IVY Tech College



*DECEMBER 2015*  
*GARDEN GAZETTE*

CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER, December 15 at 6:00pm, 4-H Meeting Room at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds. The Fall 2015 Intern Class will be our guests. This is a carry-in of your favorite Holiday snacks.

Drinks will be provided. Spouses or significant other are welcome. There will be door prizes. We will also start signing up for committees for next year.

Planning and scheduling minutes of November 17, 2015, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

Educational time earned was 1.25 hours. Greg fields introduced our speaker, Jason cote who was accompanied by his wife Kathy Cote. The Cotes are from Clay city where they live on a 200 acre dairy farm they call Earth Boy Organics Farm. They have a large garden where they raise a variety of vegetables. Top soil is a concern of Jason's and to help enrich their own topsoil they have compost piles everywhere. In addition to raising vegetables they keep bees, grow mushrooms, make soap and experiment with fermentation. Jason's motto is a quote from Rudolph Steiner, "If you don't eat right, you won't think right and you won't act right." The Cotes also brought along some of their products for members to view and purchase if they wished to do so.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Archer

Minutes: published in the Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none and the minutes were approved as written.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President Greg Fields said he had nothing to report.

Treasurer Pat Youman reported on financial transactions and the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields asked for hours to be submitted. Some members reported having problems getting the forms to report with.

#### COMMITTEES:

**Giving Garden:** Greg Fields said that they are still harvesting turnips and have harvested and donated 27,440 pounds of produce this year. His committee has a meeting scheduled for 11/22/16 in the Floriculture Building. He said that the greenhouse now has electricity and lights.

**Flower Beds:** Bill Hiatt – Head Bedkeeper – said that the city parks now have their own greenhouse and we will now get our plants from them. They would like to have orders in by Christmas. Bill asked that bedkeepers prepare a plan by then. He said they have a catalog that bedkeepers can look at to see what will be available and choose what they wish to order. Bill will contact Pam LeMay to get more information. There was discussion about mulch. Patti Weaver said that the ISU Community Gardens get some from Duke Energy.

**Spring Seminar:** Jessica Fields announced that March 12, 2016 is the date for the seminar. They have four speakers confirmed. Flyers will be going out to organizations who have similar events. Their next meeting will be on 12-11-2015 at the Floriculture Building.

**Website:** Sam Ligget said that we have a bill of \$209.40 to keep our domain name for another 5 years. We also have to pay \$15.00 to keep the name. He asked for approval to pay this bill and proposed that we budget \$45.00 yearly to accrue the next 5 year payment and pay the yearly amount. There were some questions and discussion. A motion was made and seconded that we approve the payment. Motion was approved by a voice vote.

**Christmas in the Park:** Beth Keyes asked that volunteers meet at the Fairgrounds at 9:00am on Saturday, November 21 to pick up items to take to Deming Park where set up will take place at 10:00am and other volunteers may join at that time to help with this project. The display will be up until December 30, 2015 when they will need volunteers to help disassemble it. It was noted that the Library has chosen the same name as ours for their display.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Memorial Garden –** Bob presented a proposal for a memorial consisting of wrought iron fencing with plaques attached. We have six names to be attached to the memorial. Grasses would be planted behind the fencing. The park board has approved the memorial to be placed in the bed we maintain at First and Oak at the entrance to Fairbanks Park. Research is now taking place to determine the design and cost.

Susan Laitas husband and family will donate \$500 in her memory and has approved the money to go to help fund a summer intern to work at the 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut center.

Donuts to Park Boards, Fairground workers and Extension Office – Sam Ligget and Brenda Christianson delivered the donuts. Sam said that we received a thank you from the Extension Office.

Proposed Expenses for 2016 were presented. This was not a budget but an estimate. A motion was made, seconded and approved by voice vote to accept the proposal. Larry Agee suggested that one person be designated as a contact to send a plant to members who have lost a parent, child or spouse. Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin said that she will take care of this. A basket to be taken home by the member will be sent for funerals which take place locally. In the case of an out-of-town death, flowers will be sent to the home of a member.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

2016 Meeting Calendar – Bob distributed copies of the proposed dates for the Board of Directors meetings and Planning and Scheduling meetings. Planning and scheduling meetings are at 6:30pm unless otherwise stated.

State 2016 MG Conference – John Orick is asking for sponsors for the 2016 State Master Gardener Conference. The minimum sponsorship amount is \$250.00. This matter will be considered further. Also persons who have never attended the Conference before are eligible to receive \$100 off their fee. This offer is good for up to 3 persons. If there is less than three members who have never attended accepting this offer, then 1 to 3 members who have attended previously may apply for this assistance. Mentor program for interns – Peggy Harlan said that she thinks a mentoring program for new interns would be a good idea and passed around a sign-up sheet so members could volunteer if they would be willing to serve as a mentor to an intern.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Abby Sweet is leaving for a new position. She said she has learned a lot working in the local Extension office.

Bob Archer suggested that persons wishing to contact him by phone should use his cell phone number (812)239-6864.

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

#### Next Meetings:

- Board meeting January 7, 2016, Vigo County Library, 6:00pm, Room 6.
- Planning and scheduling meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2015, **6:00pm**, 4-H Meeting Room at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1.25 hours of volunteer time for the 35 members in attendance. Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

The following is a list of meeting dates for 2016 for our Planning and scheduling meetings.

They will start at 6:30pm unless otherwise noted. We will meet in the 4-H Meeting Room unless otherwise noted.

January 19

February 16

March 15

April 19

May 17, 6:00pm, Ute Shelter-Deming Park, Carry In, Graduating Interns will be our guests

June TBA – Garden tour with carry in

July – no meeting

August 16

September 20, 6:00pm, Seed and plant exchange and carry-in

October 18

November 15

December 13, 6:00pm, carry in of favorite Holiday snack, Graduating Interns will be our guests

The following is a list of meeting dates for 2016 for the Board of Directors meetings. They will be at the Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm, Room 6.

January 7

February 4

March 3

April 7

May 5

June 2

July 2

August 4

September 1

October 6

November 3

December – no Board meeting

Shirts, jackets, tote bags, etc. with our logo may be purchased at Embroidery Express located behind the mall. Items may be purchased there or you may take in your own item and get our logo embroidered on it. They have our Wabash Valley Master Gardener logo on file.

As winter weather approaches, please check your email often as cancellation of meetings will be sent out as early as possible.