



GARDEN GAZETTE

JANUARY 2017

Next planning and scheduling meeting is January 17, 2017 at the 4-H Meeting Room at the fairgrounds at 6:30pm. Speaker is John Orick from Purdue.

Minutes of November 15, 2016 Planning and scheduling meeting are as follows:

Educational time. We had no speaker, but Bob Archer announced that we had some fertilizer that members could use. This was followed by a discussion of fertilizer and its uses – when to use, etc. He also announced that Aaron Warner, a local blueberry grower and beekeeper hopes to establish a garden at South Vigo High School consisting of 3 small plots containing flowers and finger eating foods. He needs some volunteers to help with maintenance of the plots during the summer (weeding, watering, etc.). Persons interested in volunteering can contact him at the following address:

Yellow House Honey
Aaron T. Warner, Beekeeper
107 E. French Dr.
Terre Haute, IN 47802
812-870-9498 atw@vigoschools.org

Meeting called to order by President Bob Archer at 6:30pm

Minutes: Published in the Gazette – not available at this time.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Greg Fields was not present.

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

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

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields reported that four people were due to receive badges, but the order had not been placed yet. She reminded people that hours are due to be turned in.

COMMITTEES

Giving Garden: Greg Fields needs people to turn in the number of hours they volunteered for the Giving Garden. The only vegetables currently harvested have been 1,300 lbs of turnips. To date we have harvested and donated 102,000 lbs of produce (including 771 lbs of sweet corn). The garden was wet this year so we lost some vegetables. He noted that the produce from our garden amounts to 2/3 of the total reported by Purdue Master Gardeners for the state of Indiana.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt, Head Bedkeeper, reported that all of the gardens have been put to bed for the winter.

Fairgrounds: Bob Archer reported that he had spent \$74.00 on replacement lumber for these beds and all but 2 have been replaced.

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica Fields reported that this committee had a meeting early this morning (11/15/16). Speakers have not been confirmed yet. They plan to have one main speaker and some breakout sessions.

Website: Sam Ligget reported that he paid our fee to keep our domain name. He asked members to submit event dates for next year's calendar. He will see if we have a sign up sheet on the site for persons wishing to register for the Spring Intern Class.

Christmas in the Park: Charlene McKean reported that the weather has not been cooperative. If there is no rain on Saturday, 11/19, volunteers will be needed at our shelter at 10:00am. The wall is up already. On December 10th, Master Gardeners are scheduled to sell hot cocoa and tickets for the train rides from 6:00-8:00pm. Tickets for the train are \$1.00 per person.

OLD BUSINESS

We need to find a place for our meeting in April, 2017, due to a dog show scheduled at the fairgrounds on that date.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Spring 2017 Intern Class is scheduled to begin on February 13, 2017. Classes will cost \$85 and will meet from 6:00-9:00pm. Bob distributed flyers advertising the class and asked people to place them around the community. He noted that if interns complete the course

and go on to certify with 35 hours of volunteer time, we may give them a rebate for a portion of their class fees. He also noted that some scholarships are available. Discussion ensued about the suggested rebate. A motion was made to award a rebate of \$35.00 at the time of completion of volunteer hours. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote. Bob presented, for consideration, the proposed budget for 2017. He noted that it is the same budget that we adopted for 2016. He remarked that for the last two years we have spent about \$400.00 more than we take in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sam Ligget announced that he had placed some sheets out for committee sign up for 2017.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting January 5, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, December 20, 2016, Christmas party 6:00pm.
Members are asked to bring snacks to share.

The meeting was adjourned with 2 hours of volunteer time for the 26 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**PLANNING & SCHEDULING MEETING
December 20, 2016
4H Meeting Room, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds**

No educational time.

The meeting preceded by Christmas Party hosted by a committee consisting of Vicki Cochran, Carole Dreher, Barbara Fowler and Nancy Nation. Snacks were provided by members.

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields.

Minutes for November will be published in the January 2017 Gazette.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher sent around an attendance sheet prior to the meeting.

Purdue Educator: Dana Gadenken passed out some badges and certificates. She spoke about 2017 Spring Intern Class and said that she will be making an announcement about the class on WTHI-TV and later on the radio.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna said she had nothing to report.

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

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields stated some badges are ready to be distributed for September and December.

COMMITTEES

Giving Garden: Greg had nothing to report.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt had nothing to report.

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica reported that this event will be held at the fairgrounds on 3/18/17. There were problems with the Food Vendor at Ivy Tech indicating that we had to use theirs. The Exhibit Hall and the Floriculture Building will be free and open to the Public. We will make money from vendors. We already have a few vendors. We will need more people to set up. Recommendations for vendors or sponsors will be welcome.

Christmas in the Park: Beth Keyes said that volunteers will be needed to help take down our exhibit on 12/31/16 at 10:00am.

Website: Sam Ligget said that he needs event dates for the calendar on our website.

The meeting concluded with a couple of games conducted by the host committee. Prize awards were the poinsettia plants which had been purchased from Ivy Tech and used as table centerpieces.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting 1/5/17, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting 1/17/17.

The meeting was adjourned with zero hours of volunteer time for the 33 persons in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vigo County Library, Room 6, 6:00pm

January 5, 2017

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

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

Non Board member in attendance was Dana Gadeken – Purdue Extension.

Minutes of last Board meeting: No Board meeting in December. November meeting published in November Gazette.

Vice President: Charlene McKean stated that our speaker for January Planning and Scheduling session would be John Orick from Purdue.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel stated that we needed to review and update our authorized signers for the THSB bank account. After discussion, a notion was made and seconded to add President Greg Fields and Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel, to remove Pat Youman, and to retain Carl Trent, Sam Ligget and Verna Gaskin. Mary Beth will follow up with THSB. Mary Beth reported on the balance of our account as of 1/5/17. Discussion about our insurance policy followed. It will be reviewed and a copy will be kept on file. Mary Beth also stated that she will be unable to be at our Jan. 17 meeting due to prior commitment. Carl Trent, Assistant Treasurer, will take her place.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields stated hours are now due and are being turned in but slowly. Next badge order is due March 3rd. Some have still not turned in any hours from 2016. Form or volunteer and educational hours can be found on our website wvmga.org

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Giving Garden: Greg stated that there will be an organizational committee meeting on Tuesday, January 10 at 12:00 noon at the Floriculture Building at the fairgrounds. Those who want to be on this committee should attend this meeting.

Website Committee: Sam Ligget stated the website has been brought up to date.

Publicity Committee: Discussion about getting a committee re-established.

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica stated that the next committee meeting is on Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00am at the Floriculture Building at the fairgrounds. Turn out at the committee meetings are poor. She needs more help. The Seminar this year will be held at the fairgrounds and not at Ivy Tech. The date is March 18. Speakers will be in the Floriculture Building and will be free admission. Vendors will be in the Exhibit Hall with admission of \$1 or a canned good. Free parking. Vendor booths start at \$40 per space. There will be space for 80 vendors. Food can be obtained from the 4H JR. Leader Stand, a food vendor from the fairgrounds or you can go on your own to a fast-food restaurant outside the fairgrounds.

There was discussion about committee members wearing matching MG T-Shirts to be visible to answer questions and give directions. The public is encouraged to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Budget for 2017 to be voted on at Planning and Scheduling meeting on January 17.

Christmas in the Park: Charlene stated we received 6th place for our display and that the Park Dept. had trouble getting the train started. It made its first run at 7:45pm and was able to make four full runs. We made \$131.50.

NEW BUSINESS

Rose Hulman Wellness Fair March 16, 2017. Virginia Laycock will be contacted about this.

Committee sign-up sheets will be set out at our January meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Intern Class starts on Feb. 13, 2017 (a Monday). After that the class will meet on Tuesdays from 6pm to 9pm. They will meet at IVY Tech in room W 100. Cost is \$85 with scholarships available.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next meeting dates:

January 17, P & S meeting, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds, 4-H Meeting Room, 6:30pm

February 2, Board of Directors, Vigo County Public Library, room 6, 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour of volunteer time.

Submitted by Verna Gaskin, Corresponding Secretary for Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

Are you ready ruuuuummmmmble?!!!

I sure hope so, because I know the Master Gardeners are going to do great things this year.

Did you make any New Year's resolutions? Be more active, attend the Gardening Conference, be more supportive, make a change in the world. Well if any of those are on your list I KNOW that we have opportunities. All you have to do is utter the words "can I help?" It's a small step

but I can guarantee you will make a difference. Just by being a Master Gardener. You will make a change in your activities, the people around you, and here in Terre Haute. So speak up and make 2017 the year that you made a change, an impact.

-Dana Gadeken

Agricultural and Natural Resource Educator



Garden Gazette

February 2017

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEES:

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

NEXT MEETINGS:

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

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

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

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

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

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

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

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

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

Corresponding Secretary: Verna had nothing to report.

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements

Next meeting dates:

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

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

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour of volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

2017 PLANTS OF THE YEAR:

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

Herb of the year is Cilantro/Coriander

Hosta of the year is Brother Stefan

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

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

-Dana Gadeken

Agricultural and Natural Resource Educator

Master Gardener Coordinator



Next planning and scheduling session is March 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the 4-H Building at the Fairgrounds.

Educational time: .75 hours. Robyn Morton of the White Violet Center was introduced as our speaker. She said that she does a lot of jobs at the Center which is a ministry of the Sisters of Providence. They are carrying on the legacy of their founder, Saint Mother Theodore, caring for the forest and girls. They try to leave the soil better at the end of the season than it was at the beginning. They are certified organic with 5 acres of farm grounds and 2 acres of orchard. They have 43 alpacas, 3 of whom are babies. They have a flock of 40 chickens. They have 300 acres of forest and plan to hire a professional forester. They have 300 acres of organic row crops. They are changing some of their fields to a pollinator habitat. She said that the FSA has grants that are available to get wildflowers to plant which are good for bees and butterflies. They try to use natural mulches, some of which are green mulches such as rye, barley and hairy vetch and take some of their land out of rotation periodically. She noted that growing orchards is punishingly hard and that growing berries is easier. They are working on permaculture to simulate growing things without humans. They have CSA program, take things to the Terre Haute Farmers Market and donate to Charity. They are planning to start a farm store next to the White Violet Center. They cannot find organic chicken feed that they can afford so their eggs are not considered organic.

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields at 7:15pm.

MINUTES: were published in the Gazette. Greg called for additions or corrections. There were none. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher noted that she had passed around an attendance sheet.

VICE PRESIDENT: Charlene said that she is working on getting a speaker for the March meeting.

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

TREASURER: Mary Beth reported on income and expenses and stated the balance in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Jessica said that Judy Phillips and Flo Evinger are due to receive badges. The next badge order is due for March 3rd. She is working to move to the new on-line system.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg said that this committee had met and he had presented a plan for this year's garden.

Website: Sam Ligget said that the Gazette is available on the site and that he is working on the calendar.

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica reported that the Seminar will be held at the Vigo County Fairgrounds on March 18, 2017 from 9 – 4 (gates open at 5:30am). It is open to the public and admission will be \$1.00 (or canned goods to be donated to soup kitchens). Children under 12 will be admitted free. We have five speakers. We have 25 vendors committed – most have garden related wares or services. She asked that members bring old magazines and/or catalogs. Some of the educational topics will be Garden Decorating, Aquaponics, Pocket Pollinators, Dried Flower arranging and information on Beekeeping. We will set up on Friday, March 17 from 9:00 to 12:00noon. Volunteers can earn both volunteer and educational hours. There will be a meeting on February 28th (time to be decided later) in the Horticulture Building to put bags together.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt Head Bedkeeper – no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Matter in Motion: Sharon Polge said that this event will take place at Ivy Tech on April 8, 2017 from 9am – 2pm. Volunteers will be making peanut butter pinecone birdfeeders.

Valley Viewer: The Terre Haute Tribune Star has reserved a page in the Valley Viewer section of their Sunday, June 11th edition, for our organization. Phil Small will submit information for the page.

NEW BUSINESS:

Flower and Patio show (Master Gardener Booth): will be held on Monday, March 13 from 10am to 2:30pm. Greg said that we need some volunteers to work the Purdue Master Gardener Booth on that day.

Audit Committee Report: Sam Liggett reported that a committee consisting of him, Mary Beth Prickel, Carl Trent, Phil Small and Pat Youman met to examine the books for the year of 2016. They found no inaccuracies. He passed around a written report which states the beginning and balances, receipts and expenditures as well as the number (54) of deposits and (54) distributions. They recommended that the report be approved. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report which passed by a voice vote.

Volunteer T-Shirts: Mary Beth said that the Spring Seminar Committee had recommended that volunteers order shirts with the word “VOLUNTEER” written across the back so that persons in attendance could identify people who could help with questions or directions. She noted that the shirts could also be worn at other events. She said that the shirts will cost \$11.00 and presented a color chart with 4 different colors highlighted and asked members to choose one of those colors. A green shirt was chosen by a show of hands. She said that shirts must be worn by volunteers at the seminar. She said that, if people wanted to order a second shirt in a different color without the word volunteer on the back, they could do so. She said the orders at this time, but people could send her a check for their order to her address.

Introduction of 2017 Spring Intern Class: Dana Gadeken introduced several members of this class who had been invited to attend and get an idea about some of the things we work on.

J & J Nursery Plant Giveaway: Jessica asked members to save some boxes for this event which will take place on April 29th at the Fairgrounds.

Tablescapes: Carole Dreher reported that this committee had met and was working on a design featuring the Giving Garden. This event takes place at the Indiana Theatre in downtown Terre Haute from March 2nd through 4th. People who wish to check out the tables may do so from 10am to 4pm for a \$5.00 entry fee which allows them to vote on their favorite table.

Christmas in the Park: Greg said that Charlene McKean is stepping down as chairman of this committee so we are looking to see if someone else will be willing to volunteer for this position.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hamilton County Master Gardener Association will hold their annual plant sale on May 20th.

Verna Gaskin said that an Earth Day Celebration will take place at St. Mary of the Woods on April 22nd. We will have tomatoes, herbs and sunflowers. The Earth Day Committee will meet at Fazoli's on March 1st at 5:30pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board Meeting March 2, 2017, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling session, March 21, 2017, 4H meeting room, VigoCounty Fairgrounds, 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned with .75 hours of volunteer time for the 43 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 2, 2017
VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, ROOM 6**

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

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

Non Board Members in attendance: Bob Archer, Dana Gaden (Purdue Extension Educator)

Minutes of last Board Meeting: Carol stated minutes were published in February Gazette. Greg called for corrections or additions. None were offered. Minutes were approved as written.

Vice President: Charlene said that she is still searching for a speaker for March. A few suggestions were offered. Larry Agee spoke of a project in some schools where kids put untouched food like apples or bananas on a table where it can be donated to a food bank. He said that Allison from the Extension office has information about it.

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

Treasurer: Mary Beth passed out a written report to members. She listed expenses and income and reported the current balance in our account. She said that whenever she went over the membership list she observed that ten members who were active last year have not paid their dues this year.

Service Coordinator: Jessica said that 2 persons are due to receive badges. At this point there was discussion of the new on-line site for entry of hours and some difficulties with using the site. There was some discussion about persons who want to remain members, but feel unable to volunteer. It was noted that they might be able to obtain their educational hours by watching some of the Webinars on the Purdue website and perhaps we can identify some less strenuous activities that can count for volunteer hours.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg announced that there will be a planting day at Ivy Tech at 10:00am on Thursday, March 23. He said that he found a person who may be able to till the Giving Garden for us. He is a veteran that Greg knows through his classes at Ivy Tech.

Flowerbeds: Greg announced that Bill Hiatt wishes to resign the position of Head Bedkeeper, but Larry Agee has volunteered to serve in this position. Larry reported that he has met with the Park Department and there is no money for an increase in our budget. We discussed the possibility of planting some seeds to grow our own annuals to plant in some of the flower beds.

Website: Sam said that added committee information to the site, a photo of our Tablescape entry and information about our upcoming Spring Seminar 2017.

OLD BUSINESS:

Spring Seminar 2017: Jessica reported that we have 29 vendors and 21 sponsors, although we still have to collect money from some of them. Ivy Tech has agreed to print books for \$300. At this point was some discussion about insurance and liability. Jessica said that March 10 has already been set for the 2018 Spring Seminar. Mary Beth reported that volunteer t-shirts will be available early next week. Discussion took place about hours for set up. Jessica said 9:30am to 3:00pm on Friday the 17th. We need to have some volunteers available for the Master Gardener booth.

Tablescapes: Carole reported that our tablescapes has been set up and that our theme this year is based on the Giving Garden.

Matter in Motion: This event will take place on April 8 at Ivy Tech. Sharon Polge will be heading it up and has reported that she needs pinecones for the pinecone/peanut butter birdfeeders.

Earth Day at SMWC: Verna said that we have 288 sunflowers planted for this event to give away.

Rose-Hulman Wellness Clinic: Greg said that he has asked Virginia Laycock to represent us.

Tribune-Star Valley Viewer: Master Gardeners are to have a page in the Sunday, June 11th edition. Jessica said that she has passed on some information to Phil Small who will provide information to the paper for the page.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bedkeeper: Larry said that he would check with Park Board about flowers for the flower beds.

Flower and Patio Show: this event will take place on Monday, March 13th beginning at 10:00am. Greg said that he has tickets for the show to give to persons who have volunteered to help with the Master Gardener booth.

J & J NURSERY PLANT GIVEAWAY: (Jessica's event) Planting for this event is scheduled for March 9th at 10:00am. The Giveaway will take place on April 29. Jessica would appreciate it if people would save and donate boxes to be used at the Giveaway.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Hamilton County Master Gardeners are having plant sale on May 20, 2017.

We need to find a different place to meet in April due to another event scheduled for the 4-H Building.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on 4-2-17 at 6:00pm, in room 6.

Next Planning and Scheduling meeting will be at the Fairgrounds on March 21 in the 4-H meeting room at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

Mother Nature has certainly put us through our paces! As we all know the Gardeners Gathering is coming up soon. I am sure everything will go smoothly and the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners will hear nothing but praise for an impressive event. I am quite excited to hear what the speakers have to share and maybe grab a nick nack or two. Our Master Gardener Interns are also rapidly approaching the ½ way point for their course. Please keep them in mind and think of great ways they can get their intern hours accomplished. As per usual, the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners are doing great things!

-Dana Gadeken, ANR Educator, Master Gardener Coordinator



GARDEN GAZETTE APRIL 2017

Planning and scheduling meeting minutes of March 21, 2017, 4-H meeting room at Vigo County Fairgrounds.

Educational time: 1.5 hours. Vice President Charlene McKean introduced our speaker, Allison Finzel, who is Community Wellness Coordinator for the Purdue Extension Office. She spoke about Food Rescue Initiatives. Public Health is extremely slow to adopt them. Around 60 counties out of 92 around the state have a program. Vigo County is 71st and 91st of the counties in obesity and health. She has been trying to get a program into schools and was told that the Vigo County School Corporation is too large for such a program. St. Patrick School is doing it by having students place unwanted food on a table to be shared by others. Students have to take a fruit and a vegetable and some prefer not to eat them so a lot of food goes to waste. Second Helpings on the eastside of Indianapolis has a program and Catholic Charities is starting a culinary program by

preparing leftovers. One in six students throws away one or more food items. Forty percent of food is thrown away in trash creating methane gas. She showed a video featuring three different programs and noted that a lot of the waste is not always a food waste problem as much as a food distribution problem. Allison is helping to work on the Wabash Valley Food Rescue program. She commended the Master Gardeners for their work with the food kitchens.

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields at 7:40pm.

Minutes published in the Gazette. Greg called for additions or corrections. There were none. A motion was made and seconded that the minutes be accepted as published. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed an attendance sheet.

Vice President Charlene McKean said April's speaker will be Jason Cote.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin was not in attendance.

Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel reported on income and expenses and noted the balance in our account as of March 15, 2017.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields said she is working with the Extension Office to help work out bugs with the on-line reporting system.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg said a planting day for the Giving Garden will be held at Ivy Tech on March 23, 2017 at 10:00am.

Flower Beds: Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper said that he attended a meeting with the Parks Department and they have cut our budget.

Spring Seminar: Jessica reported that 200 adults attended this event. We had income of \$2,668.14. Next year's seminar will be held on March 10, 2018. We

already have 3 vendors for next year. The speaker sessions were well attended. Jessica commended her committee who were honored with applause.

Website: Sam noted that he had submitted payment for the domain name.

Matter in Motion: Sharon Polge reported that she has pinecones. She will call the persons who have volunteered to serve on this committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jessica's J&J Nursery will host their plant giveaway at the Fairgrounds on April 29th. She has around 8,000 plants. The event will begin at 8:00am. She asked members to save boxes for her. She emphasized that this is **not** a Master Gardener program, but members can claim volunteer hours by working on the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods will occur on April 22, 2017.

Hendricks County is hosting a Gardening Event on April 22nd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org for additional announcements.

Next Meetings:

- Board meeting April 6, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, room 6, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting April 18, 2017, at the Dobb's Park Native American Museum at 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned with .5 hours volunteer time for the 31 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 6, 2017

Vigo Co. Library, room 6

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

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

Non Board Members in attendance: Bob Archer.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Greg noted that they had been published in the March edition of the Gazette. He said that they had been approved at the Planning and scheduling meeting.

Vice President: Charlene said that the April speaker will be Jason Cote who will speak about organic gardening. There will be no speaker at the May meeting which will take place at Deming Park to honor the interns who completed the Spring Intern Class. There will be speaker at the June meeting which will take place at the completion of our annual Garden Tour.

Corresponding Secretary Verna stated she had nothing to report.

Treasurer Mary Beth presented printed reports of our account and of the recent Gardeners Gathering. She circulated the most recent bank statement for members to examine. She made some remarks about some of the items in the reports. She spoke about filing taxes for the organization. She initiated some changes in reporting by making it more generic. She set up a g-mail account called wvmgaa@gmail.com. This way communication can come to this account rather than to whoever is the current treasurer.

Service Coordinator Jessica reported that John Orick and Dana Gadenken are trying to determine how to make someone (her, likely) an administrator.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg said he has a student at Ivy Tech who will till the Garden.

Bob Archer reported that he has seed potatoes that need to be planted soon. He is hoping to have raised beds put in at the Happiness Bag facility. He has some

students who will help build the beds. The greenhouse is full. Plants look good. We have cut back on tomatoes this year.

Website: Sam said he has entered information about the April meeting and noted the fact that the May meeting will take place at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park.

Publicity: Greg asked if we needed to appoint someone to this committee. It was noted that we had some persons who volunteered for this committee last year – Jessica Fields and former member Greg Pies.

Matter in Motion: will take place at Ivy Tech on April 8 at 9:00am.

Bedkeeper report:

Fairgrounds: Bob Archer said that he needs around \$200 for landscaping around the Community Building.

OLD BUSINESS:

Earth Day at the Woods will take place on April 22. Greg and Verna repotted tomatoes. We have around 50 tomatoes. The herbs look good. Plants need to be picked up on Friday, April 21st at 5:00PM.

Sam Ligget is going to help four young men plant the courtyards at West Vigo. He said that we also need to follow up on a request to help maintain some gardens at Terre Haute South High School during the summer months.

Jessica's J&J Nursery will host a plant giveaway on April 29th for persons who might not be able to acquire them without help. She will need some volunteers on Friday, April 28th at 10:30am. She also needs donations of some boxes for carrying plants. She said that the event will not be advertised on the Marquee because it is not a public event. This is **NOT** a Master Gardener project, but members can earn volunteer hours by working on it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Herb Faire: This event will take place at the Vigo County Fairgrounds on May 13, 2017. Verna and Debbie will be shopping for plants. Set up will take place between 1:00 and 7:00pm on Friday, May 12th. Sam will see about locating racks that we use to display plants that we are selling.

Cobblestone Crossing needs some volunteers to help tend flower beds at their facility.

Signature Health Care Alzheimer's Unit needs help with planting some beds and advice on maintaining them after they are planted.

There was discussion about appointing an exploratory committee to determine if it would be feasible for our organization to conduct an annual WVMGA Plant Sale, perhaps to help fund some group and activity.

Catholic Charities needs help with their greenhouse. Patty Weaver has been working with them, but they have not been able to use it yet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Phil Small listed some upcoming events sponsored by Master Naturalists.
- Greg said that he is working to help develop an alternative energy class.
- Greg stated it is time to make a \$300 donation to Ivy Tech as a reimbursement for use of their greenhouse and some materials. We have a line item in our 2017 proposed budget for this donation.
- Greg said that he will not be able to schedule a meeting place at the Library for Board meetings until June.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next Board meeting May 4, 2017 at 6:00pm at the Public Library, room 6.

Next Planning and scheduling meeting will be at the Dobbs Park Native American Indian Museum on 4-18-17 at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour of volunteer time.

Ok, now it's Spring.

I think that I can say with a reasonable amount of confidence that we are glad to move forward into early morning, sunny days, and springtime showers. I am officially done with the cold weather. We have several big events coming up! Earth Day events around town and the end of the Spring 2017 Master Gardener Class to name a few. Get a few credit hours in working with the new Master Gardener interns, start a 4-H spark club, or preparing garden beds around town. There are so many ways to get out and about this gardening season! Well, I won't keep you. Go outside and breathe in the springtime air!

Dana Gadeken

Master Gardener Coordinator, Vigo County



May 2017

The Garden Gazette

The May planning and scheduling meeting, May 16, at **6:00pm** will be held at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park. The Ute Shelter is next to the Patriotic and Butterfly Garden and also the Herb Garden.

This will be a carry in with the new Intern Class being our guests. Those with last name beginning with A thru L please bring a vegetable or salad. Those with last name beginning with M thru Z please bring a fruit or dessert. Meat and drinks will be furnished by the association.

Era Nichols would like to thank all the volunteers who were able to help children plant a container on Wednesday, May 10, at Rural King. Era said the children had a blast.

Planning and scheduling meeting minutes of April 18, 2017 held at Dobbs Park Indian Museum. Educational time – 1 hour. Vice President Charlene introduced our speaker, Jason Cote, whose topic was “How Gardening Plugs into Farming”. Mr. Cote is from Clay County where he lives on a 200 acre dairy farm. He said that ecology can be defined as how organisms relate to their environment. He proceeded to introduce us to some new terminology related to ecology. Permaculture – This is a gardening/lifestyle that flows with the river instead of damming it up. Some permaculture plants include black currants, quince (similar to pears), Hazelnuts, elderberry, teaberry (provides Omega 3, 6, 9 and also 7), Asian pear, or Autumn Olive. Perennial Polyculture – He noted that annualized gardening is more difficult on the land and people. Instead of pasture, plant berries, nut and/or fruit trees or bushes and grasses. Restoration Agriculture – one method is called STUN (Sheer Total Utter Neglect). This occurs when you plant and leave alone. Keep the plants that do well and remove those that do not. Genetics generally operates under the law of 10, which means that one must generally plant 10 seeds/seedlings to get 1 good plant. Another way is to welcome animals such as Buffalo, Wildebeasts, Reindeer or Cows. They are grazers and stompers—always moving and laying down fertilizers (urine and manure). Chickens serve as a clean-up crew, the original sod-busters. They clean up and sanitize and provide protein for cheap.

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

Minutes: Greg noted that the minutes had been published in the Gazette which is late this month.

Recording Secretary Carole passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Charlene McKean – May meeting will take place in the Ute Shelter in Deming Park and will feature a carry-in meal prior to the meeting where Interns who have completed the Spring Intern classes will be honored.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna checked to see if everyone was receiving e-mails and The Gazette.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel reported on expenses and income and listed the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields – the next badge order will be placed on June 3rd. She has been trying to get a meeting with Dana Gadeken and John Orick to talk about the new on-line site.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg reported that one of his IVY Tech students has plowed the garden today (4-18-17). Potatoes have been planted. In about 10 days he hoped to plant cabbage and broccoli. Verna will send out an email listing the date and asking for volunteers. The greenhouse is full.

Flower beds: Larry Agee Head Bedkeeper said that the Parks board may approve our budget at their 2:30pm meeting tomorrow (4-19-17).

Website: Sam Ligget said that he had listed gatherings in Hendrix County, Putnam County and “April in Paris” on the website.

Fair Committee: Bill Hiatt said he planned to schedule a meeting of this committee soon. Verna will issue an email.

OLD BUSINESS:

Matter in Motion: Sharon Polge said that everything went well at this event and thanked members and her committee who helped 200 children make pinecone bird feeders.

Earth Day at SMWC: Verna said she was planning to pick up plants for this event on Friday, April 22nd.

J&J Nursery Giveaway: Jessica Fields noted that this event will take place on Saturday, April 29th. Even though this is not a Master Gardener event, members can get volunteer hours by

working on it. She plans to set up on Friday and will let some area 7 people come in on Friday because they have transportation on that day. She said that she has 8,000 – 10,000 plants available.

Rose-Hulman Wellness Event: Virginia Laycock represented Master Gardeners at this event and reported that it went well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Phil Small and Bob Archer have been working on landscaping at the Fairgrounds and said that they need \$200 to replace some rotted timbers. A motion was made to allocate this money. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Garden Tour in June: Bill Hiatt said that no action has yet been taken on this matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Master Gardeners will again participate in the sweet corn project at Westminster this year.
- The Hendrix County Garden Show will take place on April 22nd.
- The Putnam county Plant Auction will take place on May 13th.
- Era Nichols said that Rural King is planning an event to let children prepare a plant for themselves or their mothers on May 10th. She would be grateful for volunteer help.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting May 4, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, May 16, 2017, Ute Shelter at Deming Park, 6:00pm
Intern Graduation.

The meeting was adjourned with .5 hours of volunteer time for the 39 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

Board of Directors meeting
May 4, 2017
Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm, Room 6

President Greg called the meeting to order at 5:54pm.

Members in attendance were Greg Fields, Carlene McKean, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Sam Ligget, Jessica Fields, Carl Trent.

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

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carole said they had been published in the April Garden Gazette and approved at the April 18, 2017 Planning and scheduling meeting.

Vice President Charlene stated no speaker at the May Meeting. It will be held at Deming Park and will celebrate the completion of the Spring 2017 Intern Class.

Corresponding Secretary Verna had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel was absent but she sent a report. Assistant Treasurer, Carl Trent, commented on the report which had been made available to members in printed form. He noted income and expenses and the ending balance in our account.

Service Coordinator: Jessica still working on understanding the new on-line reporting system and how to use it. Dana hopes to have a session at the Library to help learn how to use it.

Jessica said that she would prefer not to have to transfer hours into the on-line system from hand printed/written forms submitted by members.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg reported that potatoes have been planted. With all of the recent rains, it will likely be mid-May before anything else can be planted. He hopes to have a planting day at the IVY Tech Greenhouse. The date is yet to be announced. He would like to add a raised bed for herbs. He is still working on getting materials to build a bed at the Happiness Bag facility.

Flower beds: Larry Agee was not present, but he sent a printed report to Greg who shared it with members of the board. Larry presented a budget to the Park Board which was approved by them.

Website: Sam Ligget.

Spring Seminar 2017/2018. Jessica said that she has spoken to a few potential vendors and one possible speaker. She has one person who will sharpen tools. She said that she had received a request for mileage from a speaker at the 2017 Gardeners Gathering. The request listed a 204 mile round trip at \$.535 per mile for a total of \$109.14. Discussion followed. Even though this had not been agreed on prior to the event, members agreed that it seemed reasonable. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a voice vote to pay her the requested amount.

OLD BUSINESS:

Earth Day wrap-up – Verna said that we sold out of tomatoes and most of the herbs.

Cobblestone Crossing had earlier asked for Master Gardeners to create some flower beds for them. After some discussion about their purpose and how the project would match our mission, it was decided that the request would be rejected.

Signature Inn (located by THN HS) had earlier requested the help of Master Gardeners in creating a vegetable garden for their Alzheimer Unit, a closed facility. They will care for them after they have been planted.

Edible Garden at TH South HS: Aaron Warner, a teacher at South, has requested volunteers to help care for a garden on the campus during the summer months while school is out. Sam Ligget will head up a project to do so.

Herb Faire: Verna said that she, Debbie Lazzell and Bob Archer had purchased plants for this event. Annuals will sell for \$4.00 and hanging baskets will go for \$15 each. Set up will take place on Friday, May 12 at 1:00pm. The Faire will take place on Saturday, May 12th at the Fairgrounds.

Garden Tour 2017: This will take place on June 24th. We are currently seeking gardens to tour. The June meeting will take place at Bill Hiatt's place which will be the final garden on the tour.

Intern Graduation Party: This will take place at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park. A brief meeting will take place following a carry-in meal. The organization will provide drinks and a main course. Members will be asked to provide other dishes. Verna will send out an email asking members whose last names begin with the letters A-L to bring vegetable dishes or salad and members whose last names begin with M-Z will be requested to bring fruit or other desserts.

NEW BUSINESS:

Farmers Market Information Booth: This will take place from 9:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday, the 6th. Sharon Polge will take care of this. She hopes to get 3 or 4 volunteers who will help children visiting the market make a peanut butter pine cone bird feeder.

Christmas in the Park: Greg said that we still haven't found anyone to volunteer to chair this event. Discussion followed. Some wondered if we should continue to participate. We were reminded that we are guaranteed a minimum amount of money to participate and that if we give up our place it would be difficult for us to get back in should we decide to participate in the future. Charlene who chaired the committee last year said that her husband would prefer that she not do so this year.

First Friday: Dana said that Master Gardeners have been asked to volunteer at a First Friday event on June 2nd at Barnes & Noble. We have been asked to furnish plants for children. The theme will be Sources of Food in Vigo County and how it can be made more accessible to the community. A core group coordinated by Jane Santucci includes Terre Foods. Purdue Master Gardeners are involved because of the Giving Garden.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Greg said that he received a thank you letter from IVY Tech for our donation of a \$500 scholarship to their IVY Tech Foundation. Some suggested that we might want to consider donating an additional \$500 scholarship.

Jessica Fields said that her J & J Nursery had given away 2500 plants to 200 people during her annual event to help low income people get started growing some of their own food.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next planning and scheduling meeting is at Deming Park Ute Shelter, May 16, 6:00pm. Carry-in meal will precede meeting and Intern Graduation.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on 6-1-17 at 6:00pm

Meeting adjourned after .75 hours of volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

Well I think we can successfully check off April showers, bring on the May flowers! Hope to see you out and about in the community. Find an intern to work with, tidy up your garden, work on a community garden.

Dana Gadeken

Master Gardener Coordinator, ANR Educator



JUNE 2017 GARDEN GAZETTE

Next meeting is our Garden Tour on June 24. There will be four gardens to tour ending at Bill and Janice Hiatt's home in Staunton with a carry-in. Meat and drinks furnished by association. Those with last name beginning with A thru L bring a fruit or dessert. Those with last name M thru Z bring vegetable or salad. As always there will be a scavenger word hunt so have a pencil and paper handy to write down the letters. Get the word right and win a prize. Directions and times will be sent in an email at a later date so watch your email.

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING
MAY 16, 2017, 6:00pm, UTE SHELTER, DEMING PARK

No Educational time. Meeting preceded by Intern Graduation Party with chicken and drinks provided by the organization and side dishes or desserts provided by members.

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Vice-President Charlene McKean.

Minutes: Recording Secretary Carole Dreher reported that the minutes have been published in the May Gazette and passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Charlene McKean announced that the June meeting would take place at Bill Hiatt's home following the annual garden tour. More information will be forthcoming about the garden tour.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin not in attendance.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel reported on income and expenses and listed the ending balance in our account as of April 30, 2017.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields sent word that the next badge order would be placed on June 2, 2017.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg Fields indicated in the agenda that there would be a planting date of May 22nd at the Giving garden for tomatoes, peppers and other plants.

Flower Beds: Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, stated that our budget had been approved.

Volunteers are welcome to work in the various beds but should check with Carol Swearingen prior to doing so.

Website: Sam Ligget said that he plans to place photos of the Herb Faire on the website.

Fair Committee: Ruth Johnson said that we have four projects scheduled; making paper posies, flower arranging (we will need vases and flowers for this project), painting rocks and making stepping stones (we need bling for this project). These projects will take place on the first four weekdays of the fair. Persons who volunteer at these sessions need to have completed their Minor Certification to work with children.

Garden Tour: Beth Keyes said that we usually try to have four gardens to tour and we are still working on getting people to volunteer to share their garden. The tour will take place on June 24th and will end at Bill Hiatt's garden with a carry-in meal and a short meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Herb Fair: Debbie reported that we sold everything that we offered at this event.

NEW BUSINESS:

Farmers Market: Sharon Polge will head up a booth at the opening day of the Market on Saturday, May 20th from 8:00am to 12:00 noon to provide information about Wabash Valley Master Gardeners. She also plans to offer children an opportunity to make peanut butter pine cone bird feeders. She said that she will need volunteers to help at the event.

Christmas in the Park: Charlene announced that we need someone to volunteer to head this committee if we wish to continue our participation. If anyone wishes to take this on, please contact Greg.

Dana Gadeken (Purdue Educator): Presented certificates to 15 interns who have completed the Spring class. They are as follow: Allison Collins, Andrew Collins, Anthony Adams, Diana Lynn Randolph, Gary Ellis, Hannah Taylor, Jen Wright, Mary Jane Drake, Melinda Leo, Nancy Bauer, Reinhard Groth, Sandy Wetzal, Shannon Giles, Stan Stevenson and William Dennison. She also presented badges to 4 members: White Badge : Flo Evinger, Bronze badges to Barbara Brugnaux and Jim Weaver and a Gold Badge to Bill Hiatt for 3,000+ hours. Dana listed some upcoming events that can provide members opportunities to earn volunteer hours. She said that she will be discussing some tree health issues on Thursday, May 18th in the Horticulture Building at the Fairgrounds. She is also planning to conduct a class on how to use the Master Gardener Manager website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

See www.wvmga.org for announcements.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting June 1, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, room 6, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting June 24, 2017, Bill Hiatt's house following garden tour and carry-in meal.

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

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Vigo County Public Library, room 6

Meeting called to Order by President Greg Fields at 6:00pm.

Members in attendance: Greg Fields, Verna Gaskin, Carl Trent, Jessica Fields, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small.

Non-Board Members in attendance: Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator.

Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Recording Secretary Carole Dreher not in attendance. Minutes published in the May Gazette.

Vice President: Charlene McKean not in attendance. No speaker for the June planning and scheduling meeting. No planning and scheduling meeting for July.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel not in attendance. Carl Trent, assistant treasurer, gave the report.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields stated the next badge order is due June 2nd. Three members are moving up.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: They are ready to put water in the Passive Solar greenhouse and will need about 3 or 4 guys to help. An email will be sent out on when this will happen. Still planting tomatoes. There is a groundhog eating some of the plants. Potatoes are looking good. There are extra tomato cages if anyone would like to get one. Contact Greg Fields. The cages are 2 ft. wide by 4 ft. tall.

Flower beds: Larry Agee, head bedkeeper, stated there may be some plants missing from 3rd & Maple. 1st & Oak is all planted. Patriotic Garden still needs more mulch. Butterfly Garden is about done except for the walk way.

Website: Sam Ligget had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Herb Faire wrap up: Had a great day. Everything sold.

Garden Tour Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Fair Committee: Little Sprouts will have Amber Slaughterbeck doing a program followed by a wagon ride and tour of the Giving Garden. All the make and takes have been set – Tuesday the 11th will be making paper posies, Wednesday the 12th will be paint a rock, Thursday the 13th will be flower arranging and Friday the 14th will be stepping stones. A need list for the make and takes includes buttons for the paper posies, paints for the paint a rock, lots of “real” flowers for flower arranging along with small neck vases and lots of bling for the stepping stones.

Tribune Star write up: The Master Gardeners will be featured on June 11th in the Valley Life section.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas in the Park: We now have Co-Chairmen for this committee: They are Ruth Bohner and Bob Archer.

First Friday: June 2nd from 5 to 7pm will be “plant a flower” with Dana Gadeken.

Downtown Terre Haute: Stephanie Pence has asked about the Master Gardeners helping plant some flowers in the concrete planters along Wabash Avenue. We did this previously but there were problems getting water to the plants. Will discuss this at the planning and scheduling meeting.

Fair Activities meeting June 6th at Purdue Extension Office.

Raised beds for Happiness Bag: 2 raised beds will be donated. The Master Gardeners have plants and will help plant. Need helpers for this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next meetings:

P & S meeting June 24th (Garden Tour)

No Board meeting in July

No P & S meeting in July.

Meeting adjourned after .75 hours of volunteer time.

I am excited to say that the County Fair is almost here. Please find a way to become active in one of the many fair day activities, help with getting the Giving Garden ready, or help with a program. We would love to have all the help we can. We will see you at fair!!!!

-Dana Gadeken

Master Gardener Coordinator



AUGUST 2017

GARDEN GAZETTE

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Vigo COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 6:00pm
JUNE 1, 2017**

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields at 6:00pm.

Officers in attendance: President Greg Fields, Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin, Assistant Treasurer Carl Trent, Corresponding Secretary Jessica Fields, Past Officers Larry Agee and Sam Ligget, Member-at-Large Phil Small.

Non-Board members in attendance: Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator. Dana stated that all board members will undergo Civil Rights and Diversity training in August.

Vice-President Charlene McKean was not in attendance. There will be no Board meeting in July or a Planning and Scheduling meeting.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin had nothing to report.

Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel was not in attendance. Assistant Treasurer Carl Trent gave the report and balance in our account.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields reported next badge order due June 2nd. Three people are moving up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Giving Garden: Planting more tomatoes on June 2. Groundhog is eating some of the plants. Have been hilling the potatoes. Everything is looking good. Have extra tomato cages if anyone is interested. Contact Greg. They are 2' wide by 4' tall.

Flowerbed report: Larry Agee stated 1st & Oak is done. Some flowers are missing from 3rd & Maple. Patriotic garden still needs more mulch put down. Butterfly Garden is pretty much done except for the walk-way.

Website Committee: Sam Ligget had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Herb Fair wrap up: Was able to get rid of all plants and baskets.

Garden Tour: Committee is working on obtaining gardens to tour and directions.

Fair Committee: Little Sprouts will be with Amber Slaughterbeck doing a program on turtles followed by a wagon ride to the Giving Garden and tour of the garden. Make & takes are all set.

Tribune Star write-up will be in the June 11th paper in the Valley Viewer section.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas in the Park: Co-Chairmen will be Ruth Bohner and Bob Archer.

First Friday: Dana will have a table set up at Barnes & Noble and will be planting a flower. This is on June 2 from 5 – 7pm.

Downtown Terre Haute: Stephanie Pence has asked the Master Gardeners if they would help in planting and watering the concrete planters along Wabash Avenue. Discussion followed. Tabled at this time.

Fair Activities meeting is June 6 at 3pm at Purdue Extension Office.

Raised beds for Happiness Bag: As a thank you to the Happiness bag people who came over to the Giving garden and helped in picking produce, we the Master Gardeners, would like to build them two raised beds. We would supply the boards, soil and plants and build them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

NEXT MEETINGS:

P & S meeting, June 24th, which is the Garden Tour and carry-in.

Board members received .75 hours of volunteer time.

Submitted by Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin for Recording Secretary, Carole Dreher

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING
GARDEN TOUR
JUNE 24, 2017**

Meeting called to order by President Greg Fields after a delicious carry-in at the home of Bill and Janice Hiatt. Gardens toured were St. Mary of the Woods White Violet Center, Holly

Arboretum, Patriotic garden, The Pickery on Margaret Avenue and the gardens of Bill & Janice Hiatt. A scavenger word hunt was held at the Hiatt's. Wooden spoons with letters painted on them to spell out a word pertaining to gardening were placed all around the gardens. The hidden word was "organic". Jo Ligget won the prize by guessing the word correctly.

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

Vice President not in attendance.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna had nothing to report other than everyone try to read emails often as workdays are scheduled at a moment's notice.

Treasurer: Mary Beth gave the balance in our account. She stated she had one t-shirt left to sell.

Service Coordinator: Jessica not in attendance. Next badge order is due September 1st.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Giving Garden: Greg said there is a problem with a groundhog eating cabbage. He stated there were some new interns helping and thanks to all volunteers who are helping. 350 tomato plants have been planted.

Website Committee: Sam had nothing to report.

Flowerbed reports: Nothing to report.

Fair Committee: Chairman Bill Hiatt stated a company in Greencastle will furnish all the cement for the stepping stones. Sam will help in picking up the cement. Pie pans have been ordered for the stones. Larry Agee will see about getting some flowers from a local florist delivery company. Still in need of trinkets.

OLD BUSINESS:

Raised beds for Happiness Bag: They came over and helped pick produce and as a thank you we would like to build them two raised beds. A motion was made and seconded with all in favor to spend \$75 on material and soil.

Flower beds at South Vigo High School (Aaron Warner): They will need someone to water and weed in the courtyard once a week through the summer while school is out.

NEW BUSINESS:

Farmers Market Booth (Kids Day) – July 22 at 8am to noon. Possibly make birdfeeders. Will check with Sharon Polge.

Ivy Tech Scholarship: Possibly do a second scholarship. Motion made and seconded with all in favor to do a second scholarship of \$500.

Christmas in the Park: Ruth Bohner and Bob Archer to co-chair the event.

Indiana State Fair Master Gardener Booth August 10 from 2 – 7pm and August 13 from 9am to 2pm. Need volunteers to work the booth on both days.

Conservation Field Days Sept. 12, 13, 14 from 9am to 2 pm. Bob Archer and Phil Small are co-chairmen of this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- **Board meeting August 3, 6:00pm Vigo County Library, room 6**
- **P & S meeting August 15, 4H meeting room at the Fairgrounds, 6:30pm**

Members received 1 hour volunteer time.

Submitted by Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin for Recording Secretary, Carole Dreher

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, ROOM 6
AUGUST 3, 2017**

President Greg Fields called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and introduced Purdue Educators Dana Gadenken and Kristi Whitaker who present a program for Extension Volunteers on Civil Rights and Diversity. The module concluded with a few questions over what had been covered and a discussion about public prayer at meetings.

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

Non Board members in attendance: Purdue Educators: Dana Gadenken & Kristi Whitaker.

Minutes of last Board meeting: Carol Dreher – there were none because we did not have a meeting in July.

Vice President: Charlene McKean was not present but Greg indicated that Sam Ligget will be the speaker for the August meeting. Sam said that he needs a laptop computer and a projector for his presentation.

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

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel passed out some reports and went on to discuss income and expenses and noted the ending balance as of 8/2/17. She said that she was trying to update the membership list, but was missing telephone numbers and addresses for some of the new interns.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields said that the next badge order is due to be submitted on 9/1/17.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg reported that 9,090 pounds of produce (including sweet corn from Westminster Village) has been harvested and distributed from the garden. The last corn harvest will take place on Tuesday, August 8, at 7:00am. The tomatoes are slow and the sweet potatoes are not doing well. Employees from the Extension Office are trying to volunteer at least one day during the summer to help with harvesting produce from the garden.

Flowerbeds: Larry Agee reported.

Carole Dreher reported that the bed at 3rd & Maple looks fantastic.

Larry said that he has been spraying the walkways in Deming Park and Bob Archer has mulched the Butterfly Garden.

Larry thinks we need to have a fall meeting with the Parks Department if we want them to plant anything for us next year. Also need to meet with Verna about ordering seeds to be planted for the beds.

Website: Sam said he had nothing to report on the website. He did remark that he recently went to Deming Park and saw several people visiting the Patriotic Garden and Butterfly Garden.

Spring Seminar 2018: Jessica said that she is working on getting speakers. There was some discussion about the food vendors. Last year's cold weather was a problem for the vendors who had trailers located outside.

OLD BUSINESS:

Farmers Market Kids Day – July 22, 2017 – Verna reported that several children made paper posies at our booth.

Fair Committee wrap-up – Verna reported that we assisted fair goers in making 200 paper posies, 173 painted rocks, 183 flower arrangements and 339 stepping stones.

Happiness Bag Raised Beds – Greg said that we made two raised beds for them at a cost of around \$75.

Soil Conservation Field Days - 9/12, 9/13, 9/14 – 9am to 2pm. Greg said that Bob Archer, Phil Small and Sam Ligget have volunteered to take on this project.

Indiana State Fair Master Gardener Booth – Thursday, August 10, 2pm – 7pm and Sunday, August 13, 9am – 2pm. Dana said that she has tickets to the fair for volunteers. She has one volunteer who will need a ride, but still needs more volunteers. Verna will issue an e-mail.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas in the Park: Bob Archer and Ruth Bohner have agreed to head up this project.

Greg noted that Westminster Village has scheduled an event on August 18th from 11am to 2pm. They intend to recognize Ivy-Tech, Master Gardeners and others. Greg said that he will attend to represent Master Gardeners.

Nominating committee – Greg said that he believes that he is scheduled to appoint a chairperson for this committee at the August meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org for additional announcements.

Next Planning and scheduling meeting is August 15, 6:30pm, 4H meeting room, Fairgrounds.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Public Library on 9-7-17 at 6:00pm, room 6.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Submitted by Recording Secretary Carole Dreher

It's an exciting time! County fair with Make-and-takes and horticulture submissions is done, and "Plant Info to Go" booth at the State fair is here at last. These are prime opportunities to show our family and friends what we love doing. How gardening and taking care of our community allow us to be part of something bigger. Get out and about, make something beautiful!

-Dana Gadeken

Master Gardener Coordinator and ANR Educator Vigo County



SEPTEMBER 2017

GARDEN GAZETTE

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
Planning and Scheduling Meeting
August 15, 2017, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room
Vigo County Fairgrounds

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Greg Fields.
Charlene McKean introduced member Sam Liggett who spoke about how to access our Master Gardener website, www.wvmga.org and noted that members can navigate to the Purdue Master Gardener website from there. He spoke about how to log hours on that site. There was discussion. Dana Gadenken helped Sam field questions from members. One question was how to count contacts. Do we count other members or only other people we come in contact with? What hours count as volunteer hours? Sam noted that our site has announcements on a calendar. Members can also link to Purdue publications or other local sites related to gardening. Some forms are available on our site such as an expense form. A form for keeping track of hours is available for persons who prefer to keep track of their hours in this way. Educational time is .75 hours or 45 minutes.

Minutes: published in the August 2017 Gazette.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin was not present.

Treasurer Mary Beth Prickel discussed income and expenses and reported our balance.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields will place a badge order on 9/1/17. She listed some of the people who are due to get badges including Muriel Spitler, Yvonne Russell (Silver) and Verna Gaskin (Gold 3000).

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg Fields reported that volunteers have harvested and donated 10,000 + pounds of produce. He has not entered corn which has already been picked. He expressed thanks to volunteers. Two new places have received donations of produce. We received a thank you note from a group in Montezuma who received 150 pounds. They were amazed that people in Vigo County would think of them.

Spring Seminar 2018: Jessica Fields reported that the date for this event is set for March 10, 2018.

Website: Sam Ligget said that he had received a phony notice about keeping our web name.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fair Committee: Bill Hiatt provided follow-up saying that he and Sam Ligget had gone to get several bags of cement. He said that we had a lot of volunteers and participants. Carole Dreher noted that the Gazette had a report from Verna that fair goers made 200 paper posies, 173 painted rocks, 183 flower arrangements and 339 stepping stones.

Greg noted that our organization has given a second \$500 scholarship to IVY Tech bringing our total scholarship support to \$1,000 for 2017.

Greg stated that we have spent around \$75.00 for material to build 2 raised beds for the Happiness Bag group.

Phil Small and Bob Archer will represent Master Gardeners at the Soil and Water Conservation Field Days which take place from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on September 12, 13, 14.

Five or six people volunteered to work in the Master Gardener Booth at the Indiana State Fair (four on a weekday and three on Sunday).

Sharon Polge said that several children visited our booth at the Farmers Market on July 22nd. She and other volunteers helped them make paper posies to take home.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas in the Park 2017: Ruth Bohner, co-chair of this committee, reported that tentative plans for this year's display include a large snowman, a Christmas tree and lights. A meeting is planned soon. Verna will be asked to send out an email.

Giving Garden: Greg said that we would like to add two new hydrants. We have permission from the Fair Board for the installation.

Nominating Committee: Greg said that he hopes to name a nomination committee at our next Planning and Scheduling meeting.

Diversity Training: Greg reported that the Board of Directors had participated in a diversity training session offered by the Purdue Extension Office. One matter he mentioned was that we will no longer offer a public prayer prior to a carry-in meal or other event, but will instead ask for a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Garden Tour: Debbie Lazzell suggested that we may want to consider whether we still want to continue having a garden tour. Turn out for this year's tour was low and it is getting difficult to find gardens to tour.

Bill Hiatt said that the Arboretum is renting a shed and may have some items that we can use.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting September 7, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00 pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, September 19, 2017, 4-H meeting room, Vigo County Fairgrounds preceded by seed & plant exchange and carry-in meal.

The meeting was adjourned with .75 hours (45 minutes) of volunteer time for the 37 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 7, 2017
Vigo County Library, room 6

President Greg Fields called the meeting to order at 5:55 pm.

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

Non Board member in attendance: Bob Archer and Dana Gaden, Purdue Educator.

Vice President: Charlene McKean says that she does not have a speaker for October yet.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin said that she has nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel distributed printed reports of the current status of the budget, discussed some items and listed the current balance as of September 7, 2017.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields was not present because she was teaching a class.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg Fields described activity at the Giving Garden. He said that activity is currently winding down until they are ready to harvest Gene Jarvis' turnips.

Flowerbeds: Larry Agee said that John shoemaker has been watering the Butterfly Garden. Bob Archer has been watering the garden at 1st and Oak. Larry noted that the garden at 3rd and Maple still looks good. There was some discussion about a few dead rose bushes at Deming and at 1st and Oak (1 each).

Website: Sam Ligget said he had nothing to report.

Spring Seminar 2017/2018: Dana Gaden said she has some suggestions for speakers or presenters.

Christmas in the Park: Bob Archer reported that this committee had a meeting with several people present and that plans are proceeding well.

OLD BUSINESS:

Soil and Water Conservation days are coming up on Sept. 12, 13, 14, 2017. Bob Archer said that they have someone who is bringing in bees for the event.

Nominating committee: Greg said that he has not had any success in finding someone to chair this committee. He, Charlene and Mary Beth all said they do not plan to run again.

There was discussion about jobs that can be claimed as volunteer hours.

NEW BUSINESS:

Verna said that the Women's Home Ec. Clubs had had a display and that she was asked if the Master Gardeners could create a display that would illustrate what the Master Gardeners do. Carole Dreher suggested that perhaps some of the displays that we have used at the Arts Illiana Tablescapes could be adapted for a display of this sort. Another person said we might be able to use information on the sheets that we use to recruit members for different committees could be useful.

Master Gardeners Roundtable: Board members have been invited to attend this event at Greencastle on 9/12/17. There was discussion about attendance. Five people announced plans to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next planning and scheduling meeting is 9/19/17, **6:00 pm**, carry-in meal and a seed and plant exchange will precede meeting. Verna will send out an email indicating details. A thru M bring vegetable or salad and N thru Z bring fruit or dessert.

Next Board meeting will be October 5 at 6:00 pm at Vigo County Library, room 6.

Meeting adjourned after .75 hours (45 minutes) of volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher Recording Secretary.

On a side note the Herb Garden at the Fairgrounds is a Certified University of Illinois "Pocket Pollinator" garden. Paper work has been filed and the plaque is in place in the garden. Congratulations to Debbie Lazzell (chairman of the gardens at the fairgrounds) and her committee.

Something to remember for next year:

- Hosta of the year for 2018 is "World Cup"
- Perennial of the year for 2018 is Allium "Millennium"
- Herb of the year for 2018 is HOPS (Humulus ssp)



OCTOBER 2017

GARDEN GAZETTE

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

President: Phil Small

Vice President: Ruth Bohner

Recording Secretary: Carole Dreher

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin

Treasurer: Brenda Christianson

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields

Board of Directors: Two past officers: Larry Agee

Sam Liggett

Member at large: Bob Archer

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

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

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

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

Education time earned was .75 hours.

Meeting called to order by Vice President Charlene McKean.

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

Sign-up sheet was passed around.

Corresponding Secretary had nothing to report.

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

Service Coordinator was absent.

COMMITTEES:

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

Flower beds – Larry Agee stated they were winding up.

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

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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

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

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

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

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

Meeting adjourned with .50 hours of volunteer time.

Minutes submitted by Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEES:

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

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

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

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

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

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary



NOVEMBER 2017 GARDEN GAZETTE

Next Planning and scheduling meeting is November 21, 2017, 6:30pm in the 4-H meeting room at the Fairgrounds. Education time is Dana Gadeken speaking on “What Counts”.

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2017, 6:30pm
4-H Meeting Room, Vigo County Fairgrounds**

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Vice President Charlene McKean.

Educational time: Charlene introduced our speaker, Tabby Carroll, whose topic was Ants. Tabby is an Entomologist at Purdue. She did her Masters’ Thesis on “Ants of Indiana”. She showed slides naming and describing some of the ants that one might find in Indiana. Ant colonies are organized with queens, workers, larvae and winged reproductive. Educational time earned was .5 hours (30 minutes).

Minutes: Published in the October 2017 Gazette.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Charlene did not name a speaker for November.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and the Gazette. She said that she would make a copy of Tabby's ant sheet and forward it upon request from members via mail.

Treasurer: Mary Beth reported the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator: Jessica was not present but Phil Small noted that Yvonne Russell would be receiving her Silver Badge and Verna will be receiving the Gold 3000 Badge.

COMMITTEES:

Giving garden: Greg was not present. Gene Jarvis requested that members bring bagged leaves to the garden to spread on various areas. Bags should NOT contain Walnut leaves.

Flower Beds: Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, reported that all of the beds have been put to rest.

Learning Days at the Library: Debbie Lazzell reported that volunteers helped several children make posies. She noted that Sharon Polge had headed up this project.

Website: Sam Ligget said that he had nothing to report.

Christmas in the Park: Ruth Bohner said that this committee has had multiple work days and feels that they are progressing well. Bob Archer said he would need some volunteers to help put up walls on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Master Gardeners will serve refreshments on Sunday, December 10th from 6-8pm. Verna will send out an email requesting volunteers prior to the date assigned to us. It was noted that 3 or 4 of the exhibits will be provided by commercial businesses.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: Vicki Cochran named the nominees for each office. She and her committee passed out ballots and collected them after members cast their votes. Officers for 2018 are as follows: President – Phil Small, Vice-President – Ruth Bohner, Recording Secretary – Carole Dreher, Corresponding Secretary – Verna Gaskin, Treasurer – Brenda Christianson, Service Coordinator – Jessica Fields, Board of Directors (3) – two past officers – Sam Ligget and Larry Agee and one at-large member – Bob Archer.

Sam Ligget will see ab out taking Donuts to personnel at the City and County Parks, at the Fairgrounds and the Extension Office. This is a project we do each year as a gesture of appreciation for the help they provide for us during the year.

Announcements:

Mary Beth Prickel read a thank you letter sent to us from St. Benedict's Soup Kitchen expressing their appreciation for our donation of fresh vegetables.

Ruth Bohner described a request for help with an after school project at one of the local elementary schools.

Next Meeting:

- Board Meeting November 2, 2017, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, November 21, 2017, 4-H meeting room, Vigo County Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with .5 hours of volunteer time for the 28 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 2, 2017
Vigo Co, Public Library, Room 6**

Vice President Charlene McKean called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Members in attendance: Charlene McKean, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Mary Beth Prickel, Larry Agee, Sam Ligget, Phil Small and Carl Trent. President Greg Fields joined the meeting later but did not preside.

Non Board Members in attendance: Dana Gadenken, Purdue Educator.

Minutes of last board Meeting: published in the October Gazette.

Vice President: Charlene said that Dana Gadeken will be the speaker at the November meeting and will discuss what activities count for volunteer hours.

Corresponding secretary: Verna said she had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Mary Beth reported the balance in our account and discussed some items. She said she is updating the membership list with a few addresses and phone numbers. She noted that she has created a Google email account for the Treasurer (WVMGAA@gmail.com) to be used to contact the current treasurer without having to use someone's personal email account. Mary Beth said she plans to meet with the new Treasurer, Brenda Christianson.

Mary Beth stated that new signature cards needed to be signed and that Terre Haute Savings bank needed papers showing who was being removed from cards and who was being added as of January 3, 2018. We will be adding President Philip A. Small and Treasurer Brenda Christianson. We will be removing Greg Fields as outgoing President and Mary Beth Prickel as outgoing Treasurer and retaining Carl Trent, Sam Ligget and Verna Gaskin. Balance in our account was given as of November 1.

On January 3, 2018 names will also have to be changed on our insurance policy. It should be reviewed and a copy will be kept on file.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields was not present.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden – Phil Small said that the garden was done except for a few remaining turnips. Phil said he didn't know the exact amount of produce that had been harvested and donated but it was over 14,000 pounds.

Flowerbeds – Larry Agee said that he is working with Verna to see about seeds for next year.

Website – Sam Ligget said that he had paid for the domain renewal and said that the price had increased from 414.98 for 2017 to \$18.99 for 2018.

Spring Seminar 2018: Dana Gadeken said she knows a person from Purdue, Lindsey Purcell, that she would like to ask to talk about Forestry at the Gardeners Gathering next spring.

Christmas in the Park: Phil said that Bob Archer had reported to him that this committee was having a work meeting tonight 11-2-17. Sam Ligget said another meeting is set for Monday 11-7-17.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sam Ligget reported that he and Brenda Christianson delivered donuts today to the Fairgrounds, the Extension Office, Dobbs Park personnel, Deming Park personnel, City Parks employees and County Parks employees.

NEW BUSINESS:

President-elect Phil small said that he will check on scheduling a meeting room at the Vigo County Library for Board of Directors meetings.

Dana Gadeken will arrange meeting space at the 4-H building for Planning and scheduling meetings.

Phil said he would like to have someone create a master calendar for meetings, special events, etc. Verna volunteered to work on this, but Dana suggested this might be a volunteer opportunity for a new member. There was also discussion about committees, their duties and how to get people to volunteer to work on them. Verna had a list like this 2-3 years ago. She will update it prior to the January meeting.

Dana said that she would like to do a leadership training course for board members. It would consist of four 2 hour sessions. There was discussion about this.

There was discussion about when to begin work on a budget for 2018 to be presented to the January Board meeting and the January Planning and Scheduling meeting. Mary Beth will work on a first draft.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dana is planning on intern class for Spring 2018. She has at least 3 people interested. The class will meet on Thursdays from 6-9pm from February 8th – May 3r 2018 at Ivy Tech.

Mary Beth said that she has some items that can be used for prizes, perhaps at the Christmas meeting.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next Planning and scheduling meeting – 4-H meeting room at the Vigo County Fairgrounds, 6:30pm on 11-21-17.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on 01-02-18 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned after 1.25 hours of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

It seems like things are winding down. Thank goodness! Master Gardeners have been everywhere! Whether it is working diligently in the parks and gardens around town, make and takes, being a familiar face at events in Terra Haute, or feeding the hungry through the giving garden. This group really is everywhere, and it's inspiring.

-Dana Gadeken, Master Gardener Coordinator

Merry Christmas



DECEMBER 2017

GARDEN GAZETTE

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING**

November 23, 2017, 6:30pm

4-H Meeting room, Vigo County Fairgrounds

Next planning and scheduling meeting is December 19 at 6:00pm at the 4-H meeting room at the fairgrounds. This is a carry in of our favorite holiday snack. Spouses or significant other are also invited.

**Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Vice President Charlene McKean
Education time .50 hours. Charlene introduced our speaker, Purdue Educator Dana Gaden, who talked about what kind of activities count as volunteer hours.**

Minutes: published in the November 2017 Gazette. Larry Agee pointed out three corrections.

Recording Secretary: Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President: Charlene said there would be no education time next month due to the fact that it will be our Christmas Party where members are asked to bring their favorite snack food to share. There will be a short business meeting after sharing of snacks.

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

Treasurer: Mary Beth Prickel reported the balance in our account as of 11/2/17. She discussed some of the items of income and expenses.

Service Coordinator: Jessica Fields was not present but Phil Small noted that 2 awards remained to be distributed.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Phil Small said that the garden still needs some clean up and that they plan to do it on Friday, November 24 at 1:00pm.

Flower Beds: Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, reported that Verna has a seed order ready. We will be planting at Ivy Tech next year.

Spring Seminar 2018: Jessica Fields has resigned as chair of the committee of this event so there is currently no chair. Phil Small said that this event is scheduled to be held on March 10, 2018 at the Vigo County Fairgrounds. It will be a similar format to last year's event. If anyone is willing to volunteer as chair of the event, please call Phil small to let him know.

Website: Sam Ligget said he had nothing to report.

Christmas in the Park: Ruth Bohner stated that they had met recently and had two more work days planned. There was discussion about the work days and the days that Master Gardeners are to serve hot chocolate (12-10 and 12/15).

Christmas Gathering Committee: Carole Dreher said that this committee will be meeting in early December. Will send out an email as soon as a date is decided on. Guests are welcome at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

NEW BUSINESS:

President-elect Phil Small said that there will be Committee sign-up sheets displayed at the December meeting for people to sign up to serve on during 2018. He would like committee chairs to prepare a description of what duties their committee is responsible for.

Spring 2018 Intern Class: Dana said that a class is planned for 6-9pm from 2/8/18 thru 5/3/18. They will meet at Ivy Tech. She has 3 people signed up. Members are asked to help publicize the event and volunteer to serve as facilitators.

Announcements:

- **Bi-State Gardening Seminar at Beef House Restaurant on January 25, 2018 at 6:00pm.**
- **Indiana Home and Garden Show at Indianapolis Convention Center – Feb. 9th thru the 11th.**
- **Check wvmga.org for additional announcements.**

Next meetings:

- **Board meeting January 4, 2018, 6:00pm, Public Library, room 6.**
- **Planning and scheduling meeting, December 19, 2017 at 6:00pm, 4-H meeting room at the fairgrounds. Please bring your favorite holiday snack to share with others. Drinks are provided.**

The meeting was adjourned with .50 hours of volunteer time for the 30 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

We are already at the end of the year. How did that happen?! We have had a wonderful year, spanning from an inspiring Spring Seminar to Christmas in the Park. By the way, round of applause for the team rallying around a truly stunning display at Deming Park. Thank you for manning the train, pouring in countless hours, and bringing your creative juices out on chilly evenings. Way to go team! Please remember to spread the word about the upcoming Master Gardener Class and am still actively looking for mentors to provide a supportive framework to our new interns. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Holiday Party!

Cheers!!!

Dana Gadeken, Vigo County Master Gardener Coordinator