



THE GARDEN GAZETTE

JANUARY 2020

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING  
November 19, 2019, 6:30pm 4-H Building, Vigo Co. Fairgrounds**

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

**EDUCATIONAL TIME:** Vice President Ruth Bohner introduced our speaker, Karen Staub, whose topic was "Some Edible Plants of West Central Indiana". It was also Karen's birthday so we sang Happy Birthday to her and ate birthday cake. Karen said that she learned a lot about her topic from her mother. She listed some plants and noted their characteristics. Some plants that she mentioned are: Morel Mushrooms, Blood Root, Wild Onion, Wild Garlic, Wild Strawberry, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Violets, Dandelion, Poke berries, Yarrow, Boneset, Black Walnuts, Butternuts, Blackberries, Raspberries, Wild Cherries, Hickory nuts (from Shagbark Hickory nut trees) and several other plants.

**MINUTES:** will be published in the November Gazette.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ruth Bohner said that there will be no speaker at the December meeting because that will be our Christmas Party.

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

**TREASURER:** Susie Thompson reported the balance in our checking account.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR:** Dana Gadeken reminded members that they need to have at least 12 volunteer hours and 6 education hours to maintain their active member status.

**COMMITTEES:**

**GIVING GARDEN:** Bob Archer said that we were able to harvest and donate over 10,000 pounds of produce from the garden this year.

**FLOWER BEDS:** Larry Agee, Head Bedkeeper, said that he had submitted our 2020 budget to the Parks Department. Seeds that were ordered have arrived.

**WEBSITE:** Sam Ligget reported that he paid the Domain fee. Next year we will have to pay the Host fee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK:** Some volunteers worked today (11/19) and will have another workday tomorrow. They have 2 weeks to get our display ready. We have three dates (12/02, 12/06 and 12/09) to sell tickets for the train rides. We will also need cookie donations for those dates. If it rains or snows on any of those dates, the train rides will be cancelled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dana requested \$50 to purchase a Jr. Master Gardener Curriculum for Middle school Students. A motion was made and seconded that we allocate the requested funds. There was some discussion and the motion passed by a voice vote.

Dana announced that the next Master Gardener training will take place on Monday's beginning on 02/10/20. Participants will meet from 9:00am to 12:00noon at the Vigo county Public Library (VCPL). The deadline for registration is 01/20/20. Please recommend the program to your friends.

Ruth reported on the bulb project that she initiated last year and is continuing this year. She will be using paper whites and sweet potatoes. Classes will observe the bulbs in their classrooms. One teacher requested an onion. Currently 27 teachers have asked to participate. She also had a request for a volunteer to help establish a garden at Terre Town Elementary School.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Sam Ligget said that he and Brenda Christianson had delivered donuts to Parks Department, Fairgrounds and Extension office personnel.
- Planning and scheduling meeting to be held in the Vigo County fairgrounds Banquet Center in November 2019 through March 2019.

- Fairgrounds people are working on the landscaping material around the Community Building. Master Gardeners are invited to help with design.
- Phil noted that members of the Board of Directors are preparing to work on the budget for 2020. If anyone needs to change a budget item from what it was last year, please let a member of the board know.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

- Board meeting January 2, 2020, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting 6:30pm, December 10, 2019, Banquet Center, Vigo County Fairgrounds. Snack carry-in precedes meeting at 6:00pm. Members are asked to bring a snack to share with other members.

The meeting was adjourned with 1.25 hours of volunteer time for the 32 members in attendance.  
Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING  
DECEMBER 10, 2019, 6:00pm, United Methodist Temple Church Fellowship Hall**

No education time.

This was a carry-in of our favorite holiday snack. After a moment of silence, everyone enjoyed the treats.

Meeting called to order by President Phil Small at 6:50pm.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher was not present. No attendance sheet was sent around.

Corresponding Secretary Verna had nothing to report but to watch for emails about workdays.

Treasurer Susie Thompson reported the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator Brenda Christianson was not present.

**COMMITTEES:**

**Website:** Sam Ligget reported problems with the website in trying to open the Garden Gazette for November and previous months. Discussion followed and it was decided to take a “wait and see what happens”.

**Christmas in the Park:** Ruth stated that we received 6<sup>th</sup> place and \$700. Shannon stated thanks to all who brought cookies and came to help with the train rides and also to the committee for all their hard

work. Take down of display will take place any time after Christmas and an email will be sent out to members for help and transporting items to the trailer. They also stated that the "Grinch" showed up and was a big hit with everyone.

**Purdue Extension:** Dana stated there is to be a Master Gardener Intern Training Class starting February 10, 2020 thru May 18, 2020. This will be on Monday mornings from 9am to 12noon at the Vigo County Public Library. The cost is \$130.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Committee sign-up sheets were available to those wishing to sign-up at this time and they will be available at the January meeting also.

Dues are \$15 and payable to Susie Thompson our treasurer. It goes to \$20 at the end of February.

Spring Seminar 2020 is coming up and anyone wanting to help with this can contact Shannon Giles.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

All P & S meetings from January 2020 through March 2020 will be held at the Fairgrounds Banquet Center.

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

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

- Board of Directors, Vigo Co. Public Library, 6:00pm, room 6, January 2, 2020.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, Fairgrounds Banquet Center, January 21, 2020, 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned with 1 hour of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Verna Gaskin Corresponding Secretary

**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2020**

President Ruth Bohner; Vice President Stan Stevenson; Recording Secretary Carole Dreher; Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin; Treasurer Susie Thompson; Service Coordinator Brenda Christianson; Directors, Phil Small, Sam Ligget and Bob Archer.

Purdue Extension Educator – Dana Gaden



FEBRUARY 2020

GARDEN GAZETTE

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JANUARY 7, 2020, 6:00pm, Vigo Co. Public Library, Room 6**

**President, Ruth Bohner called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.**

**Members in attendance: Ruth Bohner, Stan Stevenson, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Susie Thompson, Brenda Christianson, Phil Small, Sam Ligget and Bob Archer.**

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

**Minutes of last Board Meeting: Carole Dreher said there was no December Board of Directors meeting in December so no minutes.**

**Vice President: Stan Stevenson said that the topic for education at the January Planning and scheduling meeting would be Stratification. Carole Dreher told him that she and another member are interested in the topic of recycling with an emphasis on micro plastics in the soil.**

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

**Treasurer: Sue Thompson presented a written report for the past year. Some topics were discussed. She noted that we need to apply for a Nursery Dealer's license prior to Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods and the Herb Faire at the Fairgrounds. Bob Archer moved that she submit an application for this license. Verna seconded the application which passed by a voice vote. Susie also said that she has the bill for the fidelity bond.**

**Service Coordinator: Brenda Christianson said that she is working on reported hours.**

**COMMITTEES:**

**Giving Garden:** Bob Archer noted that Area Planning is concerned about the foundation of the greenhouse at the garden. Phil Small said that John Rosene has retired from Ivy Tech. He has been replaced by a woman. Phil said that they need to meet with her to see about continuing use of their greenhouse. Last year we planted seeds on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Website:** Sam Ligget noted that some people have said that they were unable to log on to Purdue's Master Gardener website via the link on our wvmga.org website. He said that Purdue had a new server, but was unsure if this could be the problem. He said that he would continue checking on this situation.

**Flowerbeds:** Vicki Cochran – no report.

**Spring Seminar 2020:** This event will take place on March 28, 2020 at the Banquet Center at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds. A planning meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the Methodist Temple Church on Highway 41 sound of Terre Haute.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Bulb planting in Elementary Schools:** Ruth reported that 10 schools have indicated that they would like to participate in this project. She wants to create a committee for this project. This year they will be planting Paper Whites and Sweet Potatoes in glass jars.

**Committee sign-ups:** Sam said that he will place sign-up sheets out for members to sign-up for committees of their choice at the January Planning and scheduling meeting. Afterwards they will be given to Verna so she can create a report of committees.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Audit Committee:** Sam said that this committee will meet and report later, perhaps in February.

**2020 Calendar of Events:** Verna said she has prepared a calendar which she will publish later. Carole Dreher asked if Board of Directors' meetings would revert to first Thursdays or if they will continue to be held on first Tuesdays. This month's meeting was moved to Tuesday to accommodate Vice President Stan Stevenson's work schedule. He said that he would be unavailable on Thursdays until at least May. If we move the meetings to Tuesday we will have to see about changing the dates that we have reserved at the Library.

**2020 Budget:** Susie passed out a report showing last year's budget figures versus our actual expenditures. Members examined the report line by line. Discussion of several items took place. Currently several officers have allocations for supplies, such as paper, ink, etc. It was decided that a single supplies item should be sufficient and it could be used by all officer/members. There were questions about the amount budgeted for "4-H Scholarships". There was discussion about this item, but no action was taken. Susie said that she would prepare a document showing proposed items and amounts prior to the next planning and scheduling meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

Next planning and scheduling meeting: At the Banquet Center at the Vigo Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30pm on 01/21/2020.

Board of Directors meeting is currently scheduled to be at the Public Library on Thursday, 02/06/2020 at 6:00pm, but may be moved to Tuesday, 02/04/2020 depending on available space at the Library.

Meeting adjourned after 1.75 hours of volunteer time.

Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2020, 6:30pm, Wabash Valley Fairground Banquet Center**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ruth Bohner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. She noted that in the future meeting agendas will be emailed to members and then displayed on a screen.

She then invited Dana Gadeken to speak. Dana talked about how seeds are germinated. There are two methods. One is stratification. This occurs based on the depth of the seed in or on the ground. The other is scarification. This required a seed to be abraded before it can germinate.

Dana talked about the "Space Tree" which grows beside the Extension Office in Terre Haute. In 1988 several seeds were taken into space with an astronaut. After returning to earth, the seeds were planted and each county in Indiana received a seedling. Ours is a tulip poplar.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Recording Secretary:** Carole Dreher reported that minutes from the December Planning and scheduling meeting were published in the January Gazette. One correction was noted. Master Gardeners received 7<sup>th</sup> Place in the Christmas in the Park event, not 6<sup>th</sup> Place as stated in the minutes.

**Vice President:** Stan Stevenson asked for suggestions for educational topics and/or speakers.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Verna said she had nothing to report but asked members to check their emails for announcements about planting seeds and Earth Day events.

**Treasurer:** Susie reported the balance in our checking account and in our CD's. She noted that it is time to pay dues. They are \$15.00 through February and \$20.00 after that. She said that she acquired a Nursery License for the organization so we can sell perennials, shrubs or trees.

**Service Coordinator:** Brenda said that two people had given her their hours for her to enter onto the Master Gardener website.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Giving Garden:** Bob Archer said that there is a new person in charge of the Ivy Tech greenhouse. He is waiting for a meeting with her to learn what the current rules are for use of the greenhouse. After that he would like to schedule a meeting of the Giving Garden committee.

**Website:** Sam noted that sheets were available for members to sign up for committees they would like to serve on. He said that he has placed a schedule of events on the website.

**Spring Seminar:** Phil Small said that this event will take place on March 28, 2020 in the Banquet Center at the fairgrounds. The committee hopes to have three speakers. They have one already whose topic will be Orchids. If any member knows of a business that might like to advertise in the Seminar Booklet, please invite them to do so and let Shannon Giles know. Same with Vendors. He said that a committee meeting is planned for Thursday, January 23, 2020 at the Methodist Temple Church where the December planning and scheduling meeting was held.

**Tablescapes:** Carole Dreher and Nancy Nation who have chaired this committee said that they no longer wish to be taken on this project. Ruth said that there is a sign up sheet for the event if anybody else wants to sign up for it, please do so otherwise we will not participate in this community wide event.

**Purdue Extension:** Dana Gadeken said the Spring Intern Class would be meeting on Mondays. She needs to have at least 10 people to sign up for the class.

Dana also said that all members need to sign the annual agreement.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Committee Sign -up sheets:** Sam noted that they were displayed on one of the tables in the room.

**Bulbs in the Classroom:** Ruth Bohner said that they would be using Paper Whites and Sweet Potatoes for this project. So far around 40 teachers are interested. Some principals and secretaries are also interested. So far Dixie Bee has shown the most interest (16).

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2020 Calendar of Events:** This document was sent out electronically.

**2020 Proposed Spending Budget:** Treasurer Susie Thompson presented some printed copies of the proposed for 2020. It had 2 columns comparing the 2019 budgeted amounts to the actual 2020 amounts and then a third column showing the proposed 2020 budget amounts. There was discussion about some of the items. A motion was made to accept the proposed budget. The motion was seconded and the motion passed by a voice vote with no dissensions.

**Vigo Public Library Groundskeeper's request for help: A meeting will be scheduled for interested Master Gardeners to meet the Library's groundskeeper to determine what he hopes to accomplish with our participation.**

**Fairgrounds Community Building Renovation Update: Dana and Debbie Lazzell met to discuss the layout for the Community Building Landscaping. They are considering making a rain garden and using native plants. Dana showed a proposed layout using stuff we already have and donations like native plants. She suggested that we might be able to use this as an educational subject.**

**Dana presented several members, Flo Evinger, Vicki Cochran Charlene McKean and Phil Small with achievement certificates.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Bi-State Annual Gardening Conference: January 23, 5:30 – 8:45pm, Beef House, Covington, Indiana. There will be 2 speakers.**

**2020 Home & Outdoor Living Expo: February 22-23, 10am – 7pm and 11am – 5pm at Vigo Fairgrounds. Master Gardeners may have a booth. Checking our insurance to see if allowed.**

**Bill Hiatt thanked members for concerns for him and his family on the death of his wife, Janice Hiatt.**

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

**Next Meetings:**

- **Board of Directors, Vigo Co. Public Library, room 6, Feb. 6, 6:--pm.**
- **Planning and scheduling meeting, February 18, 6:30pm, Fairgrounds Banquet Center.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm with .5 hour education with 1.0 hour volunteer time.**

**Submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary**

**WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Vigo CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020, 6:00pm, room 6**

**Meeting called to order by President Ruth Bohner.**

**Members in attendance: Ruth Bohner, Verna Gaskin, Sue Thompson, Brenda Christianson, Sam Ligget, Bob Archer, and Phil Small.**

**Non Board member in attendance: none**

**Vice-President: Stan Stevenson was absent. February education time will be Scott Monroe speaking on Food Safety from a home gardener's perspective.**

**Recording Secretary:** Carole Dreher was absent.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Verna had nothing to report. Will sent out Committee sign-up listings to everyone.

**Treasurer:** Sue reported balance in checking account and stated one of our CD's was rolled over with interest being deposited in our checking account.

**Service Coordinator:** Brenda stated several have not turned in their hours which are now due for 2019.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Giving Garden:** Bob Archer had meeting at the garden with Area Planning at the greenhouse.

**Foundation** passed examination. He and Phil Small had a meeting with the new Ag. Instructor at Ivy Tech concerning use of the greenhouse.

**Bed Keepers:** No report

**Website:** Sam stated the calendar on the first page has been taken off because of problem with dates and times.

**Spring Seminar 2020:** Phil stated two speakers have been locked in and waiting on the third speaker to confirm.

**PURDUE EXTENSION:** Dana Gadenken absent.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Bulbs in the Classroom wrap-up:** All bulbs have been delivered.

**Committee Sign-ups completed:** We will no longer be doing Tablescares.

**Vigo Co. Public Library Groundskeeper's request for help:** Bob Archer had a meeting with the groundskeeper and will consult with him about the landscaping around the building.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Valley Viewer** reserved for May 17. Subject suggestions were on education and community involvement of the Master Gardeners.

**Skills and Interest survey** to be done at the February Planning and scheduling meeting.

**Audit Report:** The committee met and went over the books and found no problems.

**ISU Earth day** on April 22, 2020, 11am to 2pm. To be discussed at our planning and scheduling meeting.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

- Planning and scheduling meeting , Banquet Center at Fairgrounds on 02/18/20, 6:30pm.
- Board of Directors meeting, Public Library, room 6, March 5, 6pm.

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

Meeting adjourned with 1.5 hours volunteer time.

Submitted by Corresponding Secretary Verna Gaskin for Recording Secretary Carole Dreher



## March Wind

March wind is a jolly fellow;  
He likes to joke and play.  
He turns umbrellas inside out  
And blows men's hats away.

He calls the pussy willows  
And whispers in each ear,  
"Wake up you lazy little seeds;  
Don't you know that spring is here?"



THE GARDEN GAZETTE

MARCH 2020

Next Planning and scheduling meeting is Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Banquet Center at the Fairgrounds. Speaker for the Education time is John Rosene. Topic is on soil.

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING AND SCHEDULING MEETING  
February 18, 2020, 6:30pm, Banquet Center, Vigo co. fairgrounds

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Ruth Bohner. She noted that copies of a Member Skills and Interests Survey had been distributed asking members to identify their skills and interests. She asked that members fill them out and turn them in.

Educational time: Vice-President Stan Stevenson introduced our speaker, Scott Monroe, who presented information on "food safety from a home gardener's perspective". He said that the CDC estimates that 48 million Americans get sick from food borne illnesses each year. There are 128,000 hospitalizations and 3,000 deaths. To be counted one must go to a doctor. Some reasons for the increased number of illnesses reported are that Americans are buying more produce and we have better detections and reporting systems. Some microbial causes of these illnesses are: Bacteria, parasites, viruses, salmonella, e-coli and listeria. Some of the most common sources are: water, wildlife, and waste. Surface water is a high risk. Collected rainwater should only be used for ornamental. Well water is a moderate risk and municipal water is the least risk. Safe Produce Indiana ([www.SafeProduceIN.com](http://www.SafeProduceIN.com)) serves fruit and vegetable growers and consumers in the state by educating them about the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization.

**Recording Secretary:** Carole Dreher said that the January minutes had been published in the February 2020 Gazette. She also passed around an attendance sheet.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Verna Gaskin checked to see if everyone was receiving e-mails and The Gazette. She said that she had a recent message from Ruth Johnson. Her recovery from knee surgery is not going as well as planned and she will probably have to have a third surgery. She sent her thanks to everyone for their cards and prayers.

**Treasurer:** Susie Thompson was not present but she sent a report listing the balance in our accounts.

**Service Coordinator:** Brenda Christianson reminded members that 2020 dues are due and 2019 hours should be reported.

#### COMMITTEES

**Giving Garden:** Phil Small said that this committee is waiting for a meeting with a representative from IVY Tech about using their greenhouse.

**Website:** Sam Ligget reported that the Audit committee has approved our accounts and did not find any discrepancies.

**Spring Seminar 2020:** Shannon Giles passed around some sign-up sheets for volunteers for this event which will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2020. She talked about several items. We will have three speakers. Members are encouraged to bring breakfast food items for attendees. She passed out some signs for members to put up in the community to let the public know about the event. She also asked that members think about people/organizations who might like to place an ad in the booklet that we offer to attendees.

**Fair Committee 2020:** Verna Gaskin reported that set up for the Fair will take place on July 6. Volunteers will be needed on July 14, 15, 16, and 17. She said we will have 2 new “make and take” projects. One project will require at least 200 salt dough ornaments for participants to paint. She called for volunteers to make these ornaments. She said that recipes and supplies would be furnished.

**Purdue Extension Educator:** Dana Gadeken said that the Spring 2020 Intern Class has been cancelled because we did not get enough applicants.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Vigo County Public Library Groundskeeper:** Susie Thompson and Bob Archer met with Drew, the VCPL groundskeeper, to discuss his needs. His previous experience was with a golf course in Florida. The Library mainly has grass and erosion problems, and pedestrians through the property. They have people, they just need some help for the education part. Bob and Susie made a few recommendations.

**Fairgrounds Community Building Renovation:** There was no news on this project.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Earth Day and Herb Fair:** Debi Gansz said that a meeting for the Earth Day committee was planned for February 25 at 11:00am. Nothing to report on Herb Fair.

**Terre Town Elementary School Garden:** Ruth said this project mainly involves the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. Basically they would like to plant some plants around the school in containers (last year the containers had fake flowers). They would like to have some volunteers to help the students with this task.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Homebuilders Association 2020 Home & Outdoor Living Expo – Sat. and Sun. February 22 & 23. Phil Small called for volunteers. He said we already have some, but will need more. Volunteers will have seeds and brochures to hand out.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2020 Purdue Master Gardener State Tour. Information about the tour is available on the Master Gardener website.

Valley Viewer Cover Page is reserved for May 17, 2020. We will focus on education and community activities. Photographs of our projects and/or activities will be welcome to use for this.

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

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

- Board meeting March 5, 2020, Vigo Co. Library, 6:00pm.
- Planning and scheduling meeting, March 17, 2020, Banquet Center, Fairgrounds

The meeting was adjourned with 1 hour of education time and 1 hour volunteer time for the 30 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, March 5, 2020  
Vigo County Public Library, room 6

**Call to order:** President Ruth Bohner called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**Recording Secretary:** Carole Dreher said the minutes had been published in the Garden Gazette.

**Vice President:** Stan Stevenson was not present. Ruth announced that John Rosene will be speaking on soil at the March meeting.

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

**Treasurer:** Susie Thompson presented a printed report. She said that Terre Haute Savings Bank has requested that authorized signatures and addresses be updated. We had used the Master Gardener PO Box address so Susie changed it to the Extension Office.

**Service Coordinator:** Brenda Christianson said we still have members who have not entered 2019 hours, entered an insufficient amount of hours or failed to pay their dues. After some discussion it was decided that we would prepare a letter to notify members who need to bring their status up to date. Since some people do not use a computer it was suggested that a copy of the printed form for recording hours accompany the letter for the recipient to record their hours and submit them to Dana Gadeken or Brenda Christianson so they can enter them into the Purdue Master Gardener.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Earth day:** Verna Gaskin, Bob Archer and Phil Small requested copies of Master Gardener publications to be handed out on Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods and at the Herb Faire.

**Giving Garden:** Bob Archer said there would be a seed planting session next Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00am. Vicki Cochran provided seeds for the Herb Garden which they will be planting.

**Bed Keepers:** Ruth reported that Vicki had shared needs for the Patriotic Garden. Gary Ellis has planted seeds for the Herb Garden.

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

**2020 Spring Seminar:** Phil and Ruth said that we have 3 speakers for this event. We still need to have brochures printed to be provided to participants. We need a few more vendors and it would be good to have some more sponsors. Ads are \$50 each.

**Purdue Extension:** Dana Gadeken said that she was considering offering a 4-H Spark Club to potential members. She was considering Good Friday or a different day during Spring Break. She asked if Master Gardeners might consider providing some money for this effort to be used for materials and supplies. She was reminded that we already have a line item in our budget to promote membership in 4-H and that some of it could be used for this activity.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Audit Report/Bank CDs wrap-up:** Sam presented a printed report from the Audit Committee which stated that it was their opinion that the financial records of the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners, Inc., fairly represented the financial position of the organization for a period from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 and that they were sufficiently complete and auditable. The document was signed by all members of the Audit Committee and a copy was presented to the Recording Secretary.

**Valley Viewer Photo Ops in May 17, 2020 edition of the Terre Haute Tribune-Star:** Ruth asked that members provide photos that they might have of activities and/or events.

**Skills and Interest survey results:** Ruth said that she had loaded the results of the survey in to a computer spreadsheet. She said that the document might be something that Stan could use to identify topics of interest to the members as well as members that might be able to present an educational presentation.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Meadows Elementary School garden money request:** Mike McIntyre is the contact there. They hope to put plants into pots here.

**Terre Town Elementary School garden:** They hope to plant a garden here and would like help in determining what plants to plant and how to plant them.

**Making educational signs for our current gardens:** There was discussion here about how we might describe the plants in our gardens to share with the public, especially the Herb Garden. Some suggestions were a map listing the plants and showing their location in the beds and rocks or signs painted with names and information.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

Planning and Scheduling meeting, Banquet Center, March 17, 6:30pm

Board of Directors meeting, Vigo Co. Public Library, room 6, April 2, 6pm

**Adjourn:** Ruth announced the adjournment of the meeting with 1.33 hours of volunteer time.

Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary Carole Dreher





APRIL 2020

THE GARDEN GAZETTE

WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

VIA CONFERENCE CALL

MARCH 24, 2020

Since all of our regular meeting places were shut down due to restrictions of gatherings because of the COVID 19 pandemic, Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator, arranged an online meeting via ZOOM for the Board of Directors to discuss some club business that has arisen as a result of several of the closures and the uncertain near future.

Four people (Ruth Bohner, Carole Dreher, Dana Gadeken and Verna Gaskin) joined the meeting via computer and five people (Bob Archer, Brenda Christianson, Sam Ligget, Phil Small and Susie Thompson) joined via telephone.

**CALL TO ORDER:** President, Ruth Bohner, called the meeting to order at 6:16pm.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Carole Dreher said that minutes for the February Planning and Scheduling and March Board of Directors meetings had been published in the March 2020 Garden Gazette. She noted that Ruth had asked for clarification of some items. A motion was made and seconded that these changes be made. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Stan Stevenson was not present. Ruth said there was no need for an educational topic at this time.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Verna Gaskin said that she has had some requests for a membership roster and asked if anyone was working on one. Susie said that she was preparing one. Brenda asked if we had heard from members who were notified via mail that they needed to log volunteer and/or education hours or pay dues and if we have received no response from someone, should they be omitted from the list or marked as “pending”.

**TREASURER:** Susie Thompson reported the balance in our accounts. She said that she had refunded some money to people who had paid for an ad in the now cancelled 2020 Spring Seminar. She also paid for our insurance. Sam said that he had information about the insurance that we had received in the Master Gardener mail box.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR:** Brenda Christianson said that she and Dana had worked on the letters to notify a few members that they needed to log 2019 volunteer and/or education hours or pay dues. They were given until 04/01/2020 to respond.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**GIVING GARDEN:** Bob Archer said that several plants had been planted in the IVY Tech Greenhouse for Earth Day (which has been cancelled), the Herb Faire and the Giving Garden. However we had been notified that they needed to be removed due to IVY Tech closing buildings during this time. Phil Small stated the plants are safe and currently stored in several of his family members greenhouses. He asked if we will be able to plant the ones for the Giving Garden at the Vigo County Fairgrounds which is currently locked down. It was decided that we would see about getting into the Fairgrounds to till the garden plot on April 10<sup>th</sup> and then request volunteers to plant the cool weather plants such as cabbage, broccoli and onions. They will need to follow Purdue’s guidelines for planting in this time by using their own tools and observing social distancing. A document will be prepared whenever we know a schedule.

**BED KEEPERS:** Bob said that he had heard from Vicki Cochran that the plants she had planted for Deming Park are currently in the greenhouse at Dobbs Park. If they close that down she will need to move them to another location.

**WEBSITE:** Sam Ligget said that he had put up a notice for the cancellation of the Spring Seminar.

**SPRING SEMINAR CLOSEOUT:** Money has been refunded to persons who paid for ads. Todd Brinza of State Farm donated his money. It was suggested that we need to send thank you notes to people who had been willing to contribute to the seminar.

**VIGO FAIR:** Verna said that she had people working on salt dough ornaments for the Make and Takes. Someone asked if the Fair would still take place or if there was a chance that it could be postponed or cancelled. Bob said that there had been some discussion, but no action.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:**

**BULB PROJECT:** Ruth said this project is complete and that she had received positive feedback.

**MEADOWS AND TERRE TOWN:** Ruth said that these schools had hoped to have help from Master Gardeners in planning and planting plants. Brenda and Susie volunteered to help at Meadows School. (Brenda lives close to the school). Educational signs for the gardens.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:** Hoosier Prairie stepping stones: This project is postponed until Fall at an appropriate time.

**VEGETABLE TRAYS** have been started – what do we do with them and how do we work our maintained gardens? See Giving Garden and Bed Keepers discussions for information on these projects.

## **IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO HELP THE COMMUNITY AT THIS TIME?**

Dana Gadeken said that she is doing some educational stuff online and that perhaps some Master Gardeners can come up with some information or

materials to help with this. Maybe we can go through the survey sheets to see if some people have reported skills and or interests that can be turned into a presentation.

There was discussion about **WHAT MEMBERS CAN DO FOR VOLUNTEER AND EDUCATION TIME** since so many planned events have been cancelled. It was noted that education time can be earned by viewing videos on different topics on the Purdue Master Gardener website.

**CHECK [wvmga.org](http://wvmga.org) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

**Planning and Scheduling Meeting – This will be decided at a later date depending on recommendations from Purdue**

**Board of Directors Meeting – This will be decided at a later date depending on recommendations from Purdue**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm for 1.35 hours of volunteer time for the participants.**

**Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary**



GARDEN GAZETTE      AUGUST 2020  
WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JULY 21, 2020  
FAIRGROUNDS WABASH VALLEY BANQUET CENTER, 7:30pm

CALL TO ORDER: President Ruth Bohner called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Archer, Ruth Bohner, Brenda Christianson, Carole Dreher. Sam Ligget, Stan Stevenson, Susie Thompson and Dana Gadeken, Purdue Educator.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Recording Secretary, Carole Dreher said that she had nothing to report.

Vice-President, Stan Stevenson said that he had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin not present but it stated that she had sent a get well card to Sam Ligget.

Treasurer, Susie Thompson said she had renewed one of our CDs at 0.5% rate. IVY Tech is accepting applications for our scholarship. One check is still outstanding. Otherwise accounts are balanced.

Service Coordinator, Brenda Christianson said that she had nothing to report.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Giving Garden, Phil Small reported that the garden is doing well. We have harvested around 1,300 lbs. of produce. This amount is behind that of last year's harvest at the same time of year. Our tomatoes are not quite ready to harvest. At this point there was discussion about canning and/or freezing the produce. Bob Archer said that he will check on the well pump. County Commissioner, Brendan Kearns called to ask for information on the pump so he could see about a grant from United Way. Information about the pump should be available from Rankin on 11<sup>th</sup> Street in Terre Haute.

Bed Keepers, Ruth shared photos of plant labels in Deming Park Gardens.

#### PURDUE EXTENSION:

Dana Gadenken said that she had several people assemble kits for Make and Takes. Verna helped her make a video to demonstrate how to assemble the items in the kits. Kits will be distributed to several groups including Camp Navigate, 14<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut and Boys & Girls Club. Dana said that she had advertised a virtual Master Gardener Class for fall 2020. The class will take place online from 6:30pm to 8:30pm on Tuesday nights beginning on August 24 to November 21 and they will have in person meetings (virtual option will be available). The series will cost \$175.00 with Wabash Valley Master Gardeners donating \$25.00. So far she has one person signed up.

#### BUSINESS ISSUES:

There was discussion about resuming regular Board of Directors and Planning and Scheduling meetings. It was decided by a show of hands to resume regular meetings in person for the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will request social distancing and the wearing of masks. We might do a recorded presentation for the educational portion of the meeting.

The fifth grade Conservation Days has been cancelled. No visitors or volunteers are allowed in the schools. It was asked if we could perhaps do something virtual for the students. Dana said that she would check.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

Touching base with members.'

Hawthorn Park roses – Adam Grossman of the Parks Department said that he would be happy to present a program about the roses.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

#### NEXT MEETINGS:

**Next Planning and scheduling meeting** will take place at 6:30pm on **August 18, 2020, at the Conference Center at the Vigo County Fairgrounds.**

**Next Board of Directors meeting** will take place at 6:00pm on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, likely at the Vigo County Fairgrounds Conference Center.

Adjourned with 1.0 volunteer hour.

#### Board of Directors for 2020

President, Ruth Bohner; Vice-President, Stan Stevenson; Recording Secretary, Carole Dreher; Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin; Treasurer, Susie Thompson; Service Coordinator, Brenda Christianson; Director, Sam Ligget; Director, Bob Archer; Director, Phil Small.

