

**January 2023 Gazette**  
**Planning and Scheduling meeting**  
**January 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30 4H Bldg. Fairgrounds**  
**WVMGA Board Meeting Jan. 5, 2023**  
**Extension Office, 6-7:30 pm**

**Board Members present:** Era Nichols, Beth Lutz, Ruth Bohner, Vickie Cochran, Susie Thompson, Ruth Johnson, Verna Gaskin, Brenda Kirchner, Debbie Lazzell, Purdue Educator Tabby Flinn

**Reports:**

**Vice-Pres.** – Beth is seeking educational speakers for our monthly meetings, please send ideas and names her way.

**Recording Secretary** – No December reports other than we had our end-of-year Christmas Party on Weds. Dec. 7 at 6 pm in the fairground's Banquet Center.

**Corr. Secretary** – No report

**Treasurer**-Susie reported our bank balance to the board members. Susie will hand out a sheet showing fund raiser successes for 2022 at our S&P meeting. The 2023 budget will also be presented to the membership at the Jan. meeting with recommended changes from the board. WVMGA has its nursery license, received thank you notes from Ivy Tech and the Wabash Valley Community Foundation for our help. She will be investigating CD rates for 2023.

***Dues for 2023 are currently \$15/member, after Feb. they go to \$20/member.***

**Service Coor.** – Hours are entered for those who have submitted them. *Your 2022 Volunteer/Education hours need to be logged in early January. Please get them in if you have not yet done so.*

**Purdue Extension** – Tabby thanked the WVMGA members for their sympathy cards sent after her grandmother passed away. She plans to share heirloom beans at the next members' meeting (these beans have been passed down in her family since their immigration from Ireland).

**Christmas in the Park** – A big thank you to all who helped plan, build, put up and take down our display! It was great fun to see all the critters. We had one train ride night (the other 3 were frozen out). Leftovers (cookies, mittens, hats,...) were taken to 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut for their children and were very well received. A storage trailer cleanup/clean out date will be set for warm weather so things can be made ship-shape for next year.

**Bed Keepers** – The beds should be ready for the spring.

**Intern Class** – Tabby will hold it if there are 6 or more people. She is holding the cost at \$150/intern. WVMGA will be offering scholarship money to help individuals with class costs.

**Website** – Please give Sam Liggett any event dates that everyone should be aware of do he can post them on our site.

**Herb Faire** – Talk centered on getting plants for the event, members thinning their plants and also our growing tomatoes and flowers at the Ivy Tech greenhouse. Logistics on caring for seedling was discussed. Planning continues with Debbie taking the lead.

**Era Nichols** reported that Rural King will graciously allow us to hold 2 WVMGA S&P meetings at their garden facility. Once logistics are decided, we plan to spend our first educational time with Tabby learning about fruit trees, then hold a short business meeting.

February 2023 Gazette  
Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
**Next P & S meeting, Tuesday February 21, 2023**  
**4 H Bldg. Fairgrounds 6:30 PM**

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

**Vice President,** Beth Lutz-Education video on transplanting tomatoes ran into technical difficulties.

**Recording Secretary,** Ruth Bohner Nov. Minutes published. December was our Christmas Party and no minutes were taken.

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – WVMGA's bank account A. The 2023 proposed budget was presented and discussed. Additional funding for the Herb Faire and Gardeners Gathering events. Questions included how to implement \$50 scholarships being offered to make master gardener intern classes more affordable. (This is yet to be determined) Ruth Johnson and Bob Archer moved and seconded that the budget be accepted. It was approved.

Member dues for 2023 are \$15 until the end of Feb, then they are raised to \$20. **New interns do not pay dues for 2 years from the time they finish class.** Dues can be paid at a meeting or sent to:

WVMGA, P.O. Box 11532, Terre Haute, IN 47801.

**Corresponding Secretary,** Vicki Cochran- Please let Vicki know if you have any change of email etc. to be sure of receiving all news letters or other correspondence.

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – Will enter your hours if needed. As a Master Gardeners, everyone is required to volunteer at least 12 hours and have at least 6 hours of education time to remain in good standing with the program.

**Committee Reports:**

**Giving Garden,** Phil Small – Seeds will be planted at the Ivy Tech Greenhouse for use in the garden this year.

**Bed Keepers,** Vicki Cochran No report

**Website,** Sam Ligget – Please send any updated information on events or useful dates.

**Old Business:**

**CITP,** The committee will go back to being open to all members as CITP is a huge undertaking that benefits many, many members all pitching in to help with the fund raiser. **Right now open to a committee and ideas for 2023 display.** Mike McIntyre has volunteered to paint a multi-use WVMGA sign on lightweight material that can be used at all WVMGA events. Cost would be for materials . Mike is open to ideas and suggestions that should be included on this work of art.

**T-Shirts**, Paula Wilson – The shirts were distributed to members.

**Bulbs in the Classroom**, Ruth Bohner, Approximately 20 teachers have reported on bulb performance. Most have delighted kids excited about the bulbs growing and blooming. Some report the bulbs are still waiting to grow. The program will be expanded this spring to encourage teachers to start sweet potato slips which the kids can then plant at home.

**New Business:**

**Sign-up Sheets for 2023 Committees**, Vicki – There is still time to sign up for committees you are interested in serving in 2023.

**Herb Faire**: Debbie Lazzell will organize a tomato/flower/seed planting day in the near future. All members are encouraged to donate plants from their gardens to be sold at the faire. Contact Debbie if you have questions.

**Education Opportunities**, Rural King has offered their outside garden center space to host an April tree education class taught by Tabby Flinn.

Mr. Brentlinger has invited WVMGA to visit his naturalized daffodils. This most likely will be combined with an S & P meeting.

There is a Education Committee sign up sheet to help develop education hours for member meetings, Please sign up or contact Beth Lutz -VP with ideas or questions.

**Girl Scout Troop**, Jen Berry asked if WVMGA would be willing to work with her scout troop on a garden project. Members were agreeable but want more information about the project.

**Fairbanks Riverscape Project**, Sharon Polge is in need of help with design and planting of the garden. She is willing to be a co-chair on the project. The garden will be planted on May 17<sup>th</sup> and plant costs of \$500 are covered and should be ordered through Anderson's Nursery.

**Announcements:**

Phil Small brought 10 shopping bags of free seeds donated by Rural King , left over seeds will be donated to Make and Takes for the kids to make seed bombs during the summer fair.

Tabby Flinn thanked members for their cards and thoughts after the passing of her grandmother. She shared heritage bean seeds that were originally brought with her ancestors from Ireland. The beans are very prolific according to Tabby.

**Next Meetings:**

**Planning and Scheduling meeting Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30 PM 4H Bldg.**

**Board Meeting March 2<sup>nd</sup> TBA**



March 2023 Gazette  
Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
**Next P & S Meeting March 21<sup>st</sup>. 5 PM**  
**PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE OF MEETING!!**  
**See below for Information**

**Educational Speaker:** Beth Lutz introduced Sara Espinosa, USDA. She spoke on Soil Conservation.

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

**Recording Secretary,** Ruth Bohner – Jan. minutes were published in the Gazette and emailed to the membership on 2/15/23.

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – WVMGA's bank account balance was reported. She reminded members that 2023 dues of \$15 are now due. They go up to \$20 on March 1. An audit of WVMGA finances was led by Sam Liggett on Feb. 10. Fellow Audit Committee members were Mindy Leo, Brenda Kirchner, Paula Wilson and Susie Thompson. They checked beginning and ending balances and spot checked 12 receipts for completeness and correctness. The committee reported that all was in order for the 2022 fiscal year and the completed audit form has been filed in the Purdue Extension Office. The membership discussed moving some of the Association's money into certificates of deposit (CD's). A motion was presented by Susie Thompson, seconded by Reinhard Groth and approved by the members present to:

Allow the purchasing or cashing out of CD's, based on membership approval, with the signature of two WVMGA leaders holding any of the following offices: President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary or Board Director with signature power.

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – To receive credit for your educational and volunteer hours, you must include the date, what you did, and the amount of time involved. She has entered everyone's hours where she had complete information.

**Committee Reports:**

**Giving Garden,** Phil Small reported that seeds are being planted in the Ivy Tech Greenhouse and a pruning party workday will be announced soon for trimming blackberries and fruit trees. He announced a new Giving Garden project is being spearheaded by Angie Decker to start an educational Heirloom & Demonstration Garden located within the Giving Garden. She is hoping members will donate their own favorite heirloom seeds and is needing volunteers to help

with the new garden. All produce grown in the Giving Garden will go to local food banks.

**Herb Faire**, Debbie Lazzell reported that the tomatoes are planted and the week of March 6 they will be planting flowers. She asked that members look around at what they might donate from their own landscapes for sale at the Herb Faire which will be held May 13, 2023.

**Riverscape**, Sharon Polge reported garden design and flowers have been chosen. They need additional volunteers on May 19-20 to plant the garden.

**Bed Keepers**, Era Nichols reported for Vicki Cochran – Reminder to get flowers ordered if you haven't yet done so for all the flower beds. (*Actually, plants were ordered in October*).

**Website**, Sam Ligget – Education opportunities are posted. Please send him information on any useful dates and events that he should post on the website.

**Purdue Extension:** Tabby Flinn has 7 people currently signed up for the intern class to be held at the Meadows Learning Lab from 5-8 pm starting on March 23 and asked that members help recruit more people. The Vigo County School Corporation has received a grant for using aquaponics as an educational tool and is seeking volunteers to train in aquaponics. Those volunteers will then help implement the program in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes around the county. Interested members should contact Tabby.

**Old Business: Era updated members on the following items.**

**Trip to Hybel Greenhouse**, Era reported renting a bus (\$5000) was out of the question. The trip would involve an overnight stay to allow time for driving 5-6 hours and viewing the 40 acres of greenhouses. Interested members should talk to Era about forming a carpool for an early April road trip.

**Rural King** has graciously offered to let WVMGA use their outdoor garden area for tree buying training offered by Tabby Flinn. The April S&P meeting will probably be tied in with this training.

**Let's Get Dirty**, where kindergarteners come to Rural King to pet live animals, play in a potting soil "sandbox" and plant a flower to take home as well as learn about herbs is happening again this year. There will be 10 morning fieldtrip times offered (first-come-first-served basis) during the last two weeks of April and the first two weeks of May from 9:30-10:30 am and 11:00-12:00 noon. WVMGA members were asked to vote on participating in this program (as they have in past years) and members approved the event. Volunteer hours will count.

**New Business:**

**Terre Haute Living magazine** is going to feature WVMGA in its spring edition. The freelance writer, Leah Singer, will be gathering information on our community activities and programs through observation and interviews. This will be a good way to get into front of the public and possibly recruit new members.

**Deming Park**, Era reported that WVMGA has been asked to help with two programs at Deming Park. The first will have kindergarteners and first graders making clay pots one weekend and then planting flowers for mom the next weekend. The second, a 2-hour nature program for elementary students is a one-time deal for a summer camp offered at Deming. More information will be forthcoming on these events.

### **Announcements:**

The following people have advanced in their Master Gardener placements:

Bobby Shipman – Advanced, Michael Powell – Certified, Lynda Miller – Advanced, Kathleen Man – pending Certified, Sara Donker – Certified, Angie Decker - Certified, Amanda Decker – Certified, Margaret Berry – Certified, Jennifer Berry - Certified

### **Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, Meadow Learning Lab March (cancelled)

**Next Planning and Scheduling meeting March 21<sup>st</sup> 5:00 p.m. . Meet at Brentlinger's 1051 Gannon Rd. West Terre Haute. Feel free to call for more information.**

**Adjourn**

April 2023 Gazette  
Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
**Next P & S Meeting April 11th. 5 PM**  
**Rural King Nursery**  
**How to pick and buy a tree**  
**PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE and PLACE OF MEETING!!**  
**See below for Information**

**We met at David Brentlingers home to view his property and gardens.  
We did not have a formal meeting so no minutes were taken.  
Era briefly spoke on some upcoming events. Please see the notes below on  
dates and events that will be happening in the next few months. Not  
everything is listed. We would appreciate members input as to other  
things that are not listed.**

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

**Vice President,** Beth Lutz, No Report

**Recording Secretary,** Ruth Bohner – No Report

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – All tax returns for the Master Gardeners have  
been filed for 2022

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – No Report

**Corresponding Secretary,** Vicki Cochran-No Report

**Committee Reports:**

**Giving Garden, Phil Small,** Tree pruning demonstration Sat. April 1<sup>st</sup> 10-  
11:30. Tabby Flinn meet at community bldg.

**Herb Faire,** Debbie Lazzell Tenative date to dig Lilac bushes Tuesday  
April 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am. Deming Park Butterfly Garden. Watch for email to confirm.

**Riverscape,** Sharon Polge reported garden design and flowers have been  
chosen. They need additional volunteers on May 19-20 to plant the garden.

**Bed Keepers,** Vicki Cochran, Will hand out flower order list to chair  
persons for each garden. They will coordinate with Brenda Anderson on pickup  
times and dates.

**Website,** Sam Ligget – No Report

**Purdue Extension:** Tabby Flinn classes have begun for new interns. Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> Community Bldg. Fairgrounds

**Era updated members on the following items.**

**Let's Get Dirty**, where kindergarteners come to Rural King to pet live animals, play in a potting soil "sandbox" and plant a flower to take home as well as learn about herbs is happening again this year. There will be 10 morning fieldtrip times offered (first-come-first-served basis) during the last two weeks of April and the first two weeks of May from 9:30-10:30 am and 11:00-12:00 noon. WVMGA members were asked to vote on participating in this program (as they have in past years) and members approved the event. Volunteer hours will count.

**Set times/days:**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 Consolidated school, 91 Kindergarten children.**

**May 5<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 Fuqua school ? # of children**

**May 7<sup>th</sup> 9-2 ??**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 Farrington Grove 80 children**

**Deming Park**, Era reported that WVMGA has been asked to help with two programs at Deming Park. The first will have kindergarteners and first graders making clay pots one weekend and then planting flowers for mom the next weekend. The second, a 2-hour nature program for elementary students is a one-time deal for a summer camp offered at Deming. More information will be forthcoming on these events.

**Deming Day Camp Nature Week June 21, 9-11am More info to come**

**Sweet Week : August 7, 9-11am More info to come**

**Announcements:**

\*Ruth Bohner reports that Sara Donkers donated sweet potatoes to 28 teachers for Bulbs in The Classroom-spring session. Hopefully they will be able to have their students try their hands at growing sweet potatoes in home or school gardens.

\*Brenda Kirchner wishes to remind everyone about the Heirloom Garden Project ( Angie Decker Chair person) also, there are many youtube videos that can be watched and used towards education hours.

Bob Bruner has several webinar programs that Vicki has forwarded to members.

\*Vicki Cochran announces that Devaney Elementary school has asked for help on April 14<sup>th</sup> 6 to 8 pm to help with grasshead cups. We have 6 volunteers.

**Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, April 6<sup>th</sup> Time and place TBA

**Next Planning and Scheduling meeting April 11<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. . Meet at Rural King Garden Center to learn more about choosing the best tree. Tabby Flinn instructor.**

May 2023 Gazette  
Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
**Next P & S Meeting May 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM**  
**Community Bldg, Fairgrounds**

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

Met at Rural King on how to pick fruit trees. Tabby was the instructor

**Vice President,** Beth Lutz, No Report

**Recording Secretary,** Ruth Bohner – No Report

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – No Report

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – No Report

**Corresponding Secretary,** Vicki Cochran-No Report

**Committee Reports:**

**Giving Garden, Phil Small, Planting has begun at the giving Garden**  
**Work days will be announced**

**Herb Faire,** Debbie Lazzell Sale scheduled for May 13th

**Riverscape,** Sharon Polge reported garden design and flowers have been chosen. They need additional volunteers on May 19-20 to plant the garden.

**Bed Keepers,** Vicki Cochran, Clean up and planting has been done on all 4 gardens.

**Website,** Sam Ligget – No Report

**Purdue Extension:** Tabby Flinn classes have begun for new interns.

**Era updated members on the following items.**

**Let's Get Dirty,** where kindergarteners come to Rural King to pet live animals, play in a potting soil "sandbox" and plant a flower to take home as well as learn about herbs is happening again this year. There will be 10 morning fieldtrip times offered (first-come-first-served basis) during the last two weeks of April and the first two weeks of May from 9:30-10:30 am and 11:00-12:00 noon. WVMGA members were asked to vote on participating in this program (as they have in past years) and members approved the event. Volunteer hours will count.

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**Deming Day Camp Nature Week June 21, 9-11am More info to come**

**Sweet Week : August 7, 9-11am More info to come**

**Announcements:**

**Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, June 1<sup>st</sup> Meadows School 6 PM

**Next Planning and Scheduling meeting May 16<sup>th</sup> Community Bldg  
Fairgrounds 6:30 PM Education: Planting for Butterflies.**

## Gazette

Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
Planning and scheduling meeting, May 16, 2023  
Fairground Community Bldg ¾ hr. Ed , ¾ Vol

**Next meeting:  
Planning and Scheduling Meeting, June 24, 2023  
Garden Tour and Intern Picnic  
Information Below!!**

**Educational Speaker:** Beth Lutz introduced Brenda Alabaugh, Park County MG - Butterflies

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

**Recording Secretary,** No Report (Gazette minutes sent out 5/11/23)

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – WVMGA's bank account balance was reported. She has put \$8000 into a 4-month CD at 4% interest. The Herb Faire netted more than \$1500.

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – Continue to send her your volunteer hours list if you want help logging them in the Purdue Master Gardener system.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Giving Garden,** Phil Small – the garden is quickly being planted. Volunteers are needed! The regular workdays are Monday and Thursday, beginning at 9 am, however, if you can work at other times please contact Phil to arrange a suitable schedule. There are now two beehives located in the Giving Garden with the hope that the bees help improve produce yields.

**Heirloom & Demonstration Garden,** Angie Decker – This educational garden is part of the Giving Garden. She also needs help with planting and maintenance. Workdays are the same for both gardens.

**Herb Faire,** Debbie Lazzell – the sale went quite well, and made \$1500 plus for the Association after expenses. There are some left over plants, that will be sold or used in other community gardens.

**Riverscape,** Sharon Polge – volunteers are needed on the mornings of May 19-20 to plant the 500 some plants in the design developed for our WVMGA garden.

**Bed Keepers,** Vicki Cochran – All the flower beds are planted. Third and Maple bed is still having some water issues which are being/have been reported to the appropriate authorities.

**Website,** Sam Ligget – He is having issues with his internet. Brent Poole, a new intern, will be taking on our WVMGA website updates and design.

**Purdue Extension:** Tabby Flinn is holding the intern class at the Meadows Learning Lab from 5-8 pm.

### **Old Business:**

**Master Gardener signs,** Mike McIntyre will be costing out and starting on the signs once the Association decides on what is needed.

**Let's Get Dirty,** more than 280 kindergarteners came to Rural King over four days to pet live animals, play in a potting soil "sandbox" and plant a flower to take home. They kept the WVMGA volunteers busy; 80 plus children doing all those activities in 1 ½ hours meant things were moving. The children had fun and hopefully learned that plants and "dirt" are enjoyable.

**Culvers Groundbreaking,** Thank you to the WVMGA volunteers who helped children plant seeds in Culvers' cups during the groundbreaking festivities. Having a fast food restaurant on the fairgrounds will certainly help stave off hunger pangs during Giving Garden workdays. ;)

**Fairgrounds "Office" Garden,** Phil Small has offered to provide his excess vegetable plant starts for the new 10'x20' raised bed near the fair office. Three volunteers were recruited after the meeting to get the garden started, though more volunteers will be sought to help as needed. *This is a good, small garden project to jump into for any new intern wanting to earn volunteer hours!* Watering will be done by the fair staff.

**Devaney Grassheads,** Fun was had by all children cycling through the WVMGA booth to make a grasshead during Devaney Elementary School's Spring Carnival. Volunteers were kept extremely busy the entire evening resupplying cup decorations or helping kids plant their grass seeds.

### **New Business:**

**Rio Grande Garden Club,** (report added after the meeting) The Rio Grande garden club is concluding the school year with the children receiving their end-of-club certificates. Three Master Gardeners have volunteered to go cheer the kiddos on and encourage summer gardening.

**Deming Park,** WVMGA has been asked to help with two programs at Deming Park. On June 21, from 9-11 am, Master Gardeners have been asked to do a plant project with elementary age students. More information will be forthcoming concerning these programs.

**Garden Tour on June 24,** Tour will start at Treva Cook's garden in Rosedale, then travels to Patti Weaver's and on to Era's place. We will finish at

Deming Park with a carry-in/intern welcome dinner. A map and directions for gardens and food will be forthcoming.

**Vigo County Fair Make and Takes**, Debbie Lazzell is looking for ideas for Wednesday's activity.

**Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, Meadow Learning Lab June 1 at 6 p.m.

Next Planning and Scheduling meeting, Deming Park June 24 Time TBA

**Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:**

**Our semi\_ annual Garden Tour and Intern Picnic will be Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>  
This is in place of our monthly meeting!!**

**Carry-In picnic Ute Shelter after the Garden Tour approximately 2 PM.  
Please feel free to bring a guest! New Interns should invite their family!!**

**We will tour Treva Cooks TLC pick your own flower garden beginning at 10 am then move on to the garden of Master Gardeners Patti and Jim Weaver then to Era's**

**I am attaching directions to all gardens along with their addresses.**

**For the carry-in:** Members with names A through K please bring sides and salads members with names L through Z please bring desserts and/or fruit salads. Main course, drinks and cake will be provided by the club. **New interns do not bring any dishes to share !**

**DIRECTIONS:**

**To Treva's TLC Flower Farm: 10 AM**

From 41:

> Take 41N to Parke/Vigo county line. Turn right(East) on Lambert Avenue. Travel 3 miles and turn left(North) on Rukes Road. Travel about 1.4 miles. T.L.C. flowers on the left.

> From Fruitridge:

> Take Fruitridge north to Park Avenue. Turn right and follow past Mill Dam. Road becomes "Rosedale Road". Travel about 7 miles to Lambert Road. Turn right(East) and follow road( jog left) about 1 mile to

Center Street in Rosedale. Turn left(west) about 1 mile to Rukes Road. Turn left to T.L.C. flowers on the right.

>

## **From Treva's to Patti's: arrive around 12:00**

Head north from Treva's. Turn right(East) and follow the road(Central st) about 1 mile into Rosedale. Turn right(south) onto Main Street. Follow the road past the American Legion about 2 1/4 mile. At the T, turn right onto Lambert and jog left onto Rosedale Road. Follow Rosedale road about 6 mile through Sandcut crossing Mill Dam onto Park Avenue. At the light, turn left(south) onto Fruitridge Avenue. Take Fruitridge south to Wabash Avenue. Turn left(East) at the light. Travel US40(Wabash) to IN46. Turn right(south) at the light. Travel IN46 to IN42 and turn Left(East). Follow IN42 past the airport(about 3.5 mile from IN46). At the first road(Palmer St.) after the roundabout, turn right(south). Travel south on Palmer about 1 mile to the first crossroad(Sugar Grove) and turn left(East). Travel about 1/4 mile. Patti's is on the right(south side of the road). 9341 E. Sugar Grove rd,

## **From Patti's to Era's : arrive around 1 pm**

Head west on E. Sugar Grove Dr, towards S. Palmer St. turn right onto S. Palmer St. turn left onto IN-42/State Rt 42 at the roundabout , take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit Road name changes to E. Poplar Dr. Turn left onto S. Fruitridge Ave, turn right onto College Ave, turn right onto S.34<sup>th</sup> St. 801 S. 34<sup>th</sup> St.

## **See you all at the Ute Shelter near the gardens around 2 PM**

**Sept. 2023 Gazette**  
**Planning and Scheduling meeting**  
**Sept 19, 2023**  
**Community Bldg Fairgrounds 6:30**

**Board Members present:** Era Nichols, Beth Lutz, Ruth Bohner, Vicki Cochran, Susie Thompson, Ruth Johnson, Verna Gaskin, Brenda Kirchner, Debbie Lazzell, Purdue Educator Tabby Flinn

**Reports:**

**Vice-Pres.** – Beth Lutz, Education was at the Giving Garden tour.

**Recording Secretary** – No Report , substitute minutes published

**Corr. Secretary** – No report

**Treasurer**-Susie reported our bank balance to the board members. Also spoke about new CD's

**Service Coor.** – Hours are entered for those who have submitted them.

**Purdue Extension** – No Report

**Christmas in the Park** – A idea for the display is in the works and the first meeting with the park to discuss the display and choose train dates is Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 4:30 Ozak shelter.

**Bed Keepers** – The beds look great and clean up will start in the next few months. Order for flowers will be placed in October. A change in the head bedkeeper will take place in the spring.

**Intern Class** – Next class will be in the spring.

**Website** Changes coming in the near future. Updates will be announced as they happen.

**Old Business:**

\*Sweet Day was held at Deming Park Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to everyone who helped with this event.

\*Mike McIntyre completed the sandwich board sign and is working on a larger sign that will provide multi uses in the future.

\*Patti Weaver made a donation in the amount of \$100 to WVMG.

**New Business: Upcoming events**

\*Fall Gardener's Gathering to be Saturday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Fairgrounds Community Bldg. 9-1pm.

\*Conservation Days are Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> thru the 14<sup>th</sup>. Contact Phil Small for information

\*Learning Days at the Library will be Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers please arrive 9 AM crafts take place 10-1PM. Contact Sharon Polge for information

\*Election of officers for 2024 will be held in October. Sample Ballot attached. All members are eligible to place their name on the ballot. Notify Sharon Polge. Write in names accepted during the election.

President Beth Lutz

Vice President Era Nichols

Treasurer Susie Thompson

Recording Secretary Kathleen Mann

Corresponding Secretary Barbara Brugnaux

Service coordinator Ruth Johnson

Directors, Vicki Cochran, Debbie Lazelle

At Large, Brenda Kirchner, Charlene McKean

Gazette  
November 2023

**Next Meeting Christmas Gathering Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 6 PM  
Place to Be Announced**

Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
Planning and Scheduling Meeting, Oct. 17, 2023  
Fairground Community Building. 6:30 pm, 1 hr. Education, 1 hr. Volunteer Hours

**Educational Speaker:** Beth Lutz introduced Mr. Phil Cox who spoke about the Ouabache Land Conservancy, what it does, where its properties are and how the public can help preserve natural habitats for future generations.

**Call to Order:** Vice President Beth Lutz

**Recording Secretary,** Ruth Bohner – Minutes were sent out in the Gazette. We are trying out a new format of posting a separate listing of Upcoming Events so that members can easily see what will be happening in the next several months.

**Treasurer,** Susie Thompson – WVMGA's bank account balance and spending was reported. We will be getting a check for \$400 from Fairbanks Park for our winning first place for the garden planted by Sharon Polge and her committee volunteers. We will also be updating our members list, please get any changes of addresses or names to either Susie or Corresponding Secretary Vicki Cochran.

**Service Coordinator,** Ruth Johnson – Continue to send her your volunteer hours list if you want help logging them in the Purdue Master Gardener system.

**Committee Reports:**

**Flower Beds,** The beds are being cleaned up and compost and Preen were bought. The Parks Department will have the plant orders Nov. 1. Dr. Dick Reed and his wife have volunteered to head up the Butterfly Garden Committee. A big thank you to them!

**Giving Garden,** Angie Decker – thanked all who helped with the Giving Garden's Heritage Garden this year. She brought seeds from the garden to give to those wanting plants for next year.

**Bulbs in the Classroom,** Ruth Bohner reported 143 teachers have signed up, representing 17 different elementary schools in Vigo County. Some teachers said their students are already asking when the bulbs will be coming. A brief discussion on the types of jars needed and the role this project is filling in helping students learn about growing plants took place. She asked for volunteers to help

assembly and delivery the grow kits. Timing will depend on when the bulbs are available but hopefully kits will be delivered in early Nov.

**Library Learning Days**, Sharon Polge reported a great success with 200+ children and people participating. They put seeds and wet cotton balls into the fingers of plastic gloves then took them home to watch them grow. One of the members reported that her grandchildren showed her a glove full of grass and a glove with only bean sprouts, demonstrating that the kids were able to watch the seeds sprouting.

**Christmas in the Park (CITP)**, Help is needed for putting up our display starting on Friday, Nov. 24. Our Star-Spangled Christmas theme will run from the Veterans Day display in the Patriotic Gardens to our shelter.

Jan Ribolla and Pat Woods volunteered to coordinate the Train Ride (WVMGA fund raising) event. Days are Dec. 2, 15, 21 from 6-8 pm. Please plan to bake cookies and collect sock, mittens and hats for the children riding the train.

**WVMGA Officers Elected for 2024**, the following members were voted in:

President – Beth Lutz

Vice President – Angie Decker

Recording Secretary – Kathaleen Mann

Corresponding Secretary – Barbara Brunaeux

Treasurer – Susie Thompson

Service Coordinator – Ruth Johnson

Directors – Vicki Cochran, Debbie Lazzell, At Large Directors – Brenda Kirchner

### **Old Business:**

**Fair Make and Take**, Debbie Lazzell brought a bag full of thank you letters written by children who participated in the fair Make and Takes. They were available for members to read.

### **New Business:**

**Fright Night at the Fairgrounds**, WVMGA was asked by the fairgrounds to participate in this fairground fundraiser coming Oct. 28. Proceeds will be used to help renovate one of their buildings. Members voted to have WVMGA participate and approved a budget of \$50 for the event. Members donating materials will cost the bulk of the display. Jen Berry and Ruth Bohner will head up volunteers for this fast approaching event.

**Christmas Gathering**, Linda Miller volunteered to lead the preparations for our last event of the year. The date is Dec. 5, the location TBA.

**Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, TBA,

Next Planning and Scheduling/Christmas Gathering meeting, Location TBA

Dec. 5 at 6:00 pm

**Adjourn**

## Gazette Part 2

Wabash Valley Master Gardeners' Association  
Next meeting  
Planning and Scheduling Meeting, Oct 17, 2023  
Fairground Community Building. 6:30 pm

**Educational Speaker:** Beth Lutz introduced Dr. James Speer, Professor of Geography and Geology, ISU. He talked about his research on pollinator and plant species and diversity in our local area over 6 years. He and his students are using an app called iNaturalist to catalog pictures which he likes and encouraged us to check out. His take-away message was plant diversity leads to organism diversity too. (**Education time 1 hour**)

**Catherine Swaner**, an IVY Tech student recipient of one of our scholarships personally thanked WVMGA for helping her with her education expenses.

**Call to Order:** President Era Nichols

**Recording Secretary**, Ruth Bohner Minutes are being compiled and will be sent out when finished.

**Treasurer**, Susie Thompson – WVMGA's bank account balance and spending was reported. We had a \$100 check donated by Patti Weaver for use in our gardens. Thank you, Patti, the money will be put to good use. Susie also passed around a letter from a 4-H'er thanking us for sponsoring fair 4-H awards.

**Service Coordinator**, Ruth Johnson – Continue to send her your volunteer hours list if you want help logging them in the Purdue Master Gardener system.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Fall Seminar**, The Fall Seminar had four very interesting speakers talking about Asian Lantern Flies, Jumping Worms, Monarch Butterflies, Maple Syrup Production and Native Plants and Paw Paw trees. Approximately 30 people attended and most walked away with a door prize of plants or pumpkins.

**Giving Garden**, Phil Small – the garden is coming to a close. We harvested more than 8000 pounds of produce (a dry summer didn't help yields). Phil thanked Angie for her hard work in starting the Heritage Garden and noted the addition of two beehives to garden operations this year. Fall clean up continues on Monday mornings (9-11 am) for those wanting to gain some volunteer hours. He will also be calling a meeting for all those interested in participating in the Giving Garden to discuss how things go forward in its future.

**Soil and Conservation Days**, Phil thanked the volunteers who helped talk to over 1000 5<sup>th</sup> graders about pollinators and the vegetables we eat. The new event planners stationed WVMGA under the grandstand, which worked out nicely.

**Bulbs in the Classroom**, Ruth Bohner reported that this project starts with flyers handed out at the Soil and Conservation Days. Teachers can ask for a grow kit consisting of a jar, pebbles and a Paperwhite Narcissus bulb that they can grow in the classroom. Please save your unused heavy glass jars such as quart-sized canning jars for this project. She asked for volunteers to help compile teacher names, assemble kits and deliver them.

**Website**, Brent continues to work on our website as he has time.

**Purdue Extension:** The fall intern class has been cancelled due to not enough people having officially completing registration through the Purdue website. The Purdue Extension office requires 15 registrants to run a Master Gardener class.

### **Old Business:**

**Master Gardener signs**, Barb Brugnaux made, Patti Weaver seconded, and the WVMGA members passed a motion to give Mike McIntyre up to \$150 to buy materials for painting a large 4'x6' reusable sign made of aluminum and plastic. We will use it at multiple WVMGA functions. This will replace our very heavy board sign which is currently used only at the CITP display.

**Christmas in the Park (CITP)**, Era reported that the Parks Dept. has given us permission to decorate the Patriotic Garden flagpole for Veterans Day and we can leave the decorations up through the CITP event. These decorations will be incorporated into our CITP display which will be titled "A Star-Spangled Christmas." A large banner including all the names of veterans from Vigo County from all wars has been donated to WVMGA for this project.

Train Ride (fund raising) days are Dec. 2, 15, 21 from 6-8 pm. Please plan to bake cookies and collect sock, mittens and hats for the children riding the train.

**Learning Days**, Sharon Polge asks that volunteers arrive at the library by 9 am to set up for the event. Children will be working on making clear glove seed starters from 10 am – 1 pm.

### **New Business:**

**Election of Officers**, the following list are the candidates for our 2024 WVMGA officers. Anyone can add their name to the list, let Sharon Polge know if you want to be added. Voting will be at the October S&P meeting.

President – Beth Lutz

Vice President – Era Nichols

Recording Secretary – Kathaleen Mann

Corresponding Secretary – Barbara Brunaeux

Treasurer – Susie Thompson

Service Coordinator – Ruth Johnson

Directors – Vicki Cochran, Debbie Lazzell, At Large Directors, Patti Weaver, Brenda Kirchner

**Christmas Gathering**, Volunteers are needed to help plan our last meeting of the year. This is a party meeting and generally falls earlier in the month to avoid the holiday rush. A date will be announced once the location is secured.

**Next Meetings:**

Board of Directors Meeting, Meadow Learning Lab Oct. 5 at 6 p.m.

Next Planning and Scheduling meeting, Fairgrounds Oct. 17 at 6:30 pm

**Adjourn**

**1/2 hour volunteer time**

**1 hour education time**