



*Gardens are not made by singing "Oh, how beautiful," and sitting in the shade.*

Rudyard Kipling

## **Wabash Valley Master Gardeners Gazette**

**February 2024**

**Next meeting February 20, 6:30 PM**

**Community Building, Vigo County Fairgrounds**

**Education: Kristen Witt from District 6 Market - Greenhouse growing and garden planning**

**February 1, 2024**

**WVMGA Board Meeting**

**6-7:15 pm**

**Board Members present:** Beth Lutz, Susie Thompson, Ruth Johnson, Debbie Lazzell, Angie Decker, Brenda Kirchner, Kathaleen Mann, Tabby Flinn

**President-** Beth presented information in the bylaws of MG and requested changes. She would like to have a committee formed to update the bylaws.

Spring break for the area schools will be March 25-29<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers to help clean the storage trailer located at the fairgrounds on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> with the time TBA.

**Vice President** – Angie has contacted Kristen Witt from District 6 Market to come to the February meeting. She will talk about greenhouse growing and garden planning.

For the March meeting she contacted Jeremiah Lemmons, the district forester with Purdue extension.

**Treasurer-** Susie will present the bank with the letterhead requested by the bank. The form will include Beth L., Barbara B., Vicki C., and Suzie T., with the ability to sign bank forms. Ruth moved to approve the people listed for bank signatures. Suzie seconded the motion. Motion carried with 7 of 7 voting members present.

An audit committee for the MG finances will include Brenda K., Suzie T., Beth L., and they will ask Paula to join the group.

To date there have been twenty-one people currently in good standing with dues paid for 2024. Members provided help to update the current membership list with Suzie.

Fundraising discussion included herb fair, CITP, working concession stands or taking tickets at events in Indianapolis, setting out a donation box at the fair make and takes, having a yard sale with gardening items, and Earth Day at St. Mary of the Woods.

Discussion included death of members donation to exclude the parents of the members. Further discussion and voting will be at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Service Coor.** The garden seminar, "April in Paris" Ruth would like to attend and ride with someone if they are going.

**Purdue Extension** Tabby reports special days available for education hours this spring include:  
“Garden Conference at the Beef House Restaurant” February 27<sup>th</sup> 11-2pm  
“Flower and Patio show” March 9 - 17  
“April in Paris” April 8-12pm Garden Seminar

Tabby will contact the parks department to let them know we will participate in CITP this year. Tabby and Erin Harmon are now the contact people to continue working with the MG website. They are making changes to the site and continue to update information. Tabby will contact Natasha to see if she is still interested in coordinating the garden beds. Tabby will provide names and dates for Debbie to add to the fence at 1<sup>st</sup> and Oak.

**January 23rd, 2024**  
**WVMGA Planning and Scheduling Meeting**  
**6:30-8:00 pm**

**Purdue Extension** -Tabby Flinn gave a presentation on “The Vigo County Extension Office and Your Role as a Master Gardener.” Educational information was for one hour.

Tabby reminded the group that individuals are to complete and sign the volunteer application every year and complete the “working with minors” training every two years online. People who are “Alumni” status do not have to complete the yearly requirements.

Tabby also announced the “Growing Together” grant for 2024 is effective.

The upcoming MG training will begin February 28 from 6-9pm. The group currently has fifteen people enrolled in the class.

The Garden Conference at the Beef house restaurant February 27 from 11-2pm.

Tabby has extra plants she ordered from Baker’s Creek and would like to donate them to any of the gardens available.

**President-** Beth submitted an agenda to follow for the meeting via email.

Old business- Beth thanked Linda for organizing the Christmas gathering for members.

She also thanked Beth K., Lo and Flo for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & Maple White Poinsettia display they did for the area.

Beth states the CITP money received and submitted to Suzie. CITP-Total proceeds net-\$2216.33.

There is no change to the December minutes. Motion to approve minutes by Ruth J. and seconded by Barbara B. Motion carried with eighteen members present in favor of the December minutes.

**Vice President-** Angie would like everyone to complete a “2024 Master Gardener Education Survey” to help understand what the group would like to have for educational topics this year.

For further information please contact her at [Colorgirl1989@gmail.com](mailto:Colorgirl1989@gmail.com)

**Treasurer-**Phil provided a handout with the budget Susie has for the upcoming year and fund raiser success for 2023. Ruth Johnson moved to approve the budget and Barbara Brugnaux seconded the motion. Motion carried with eighteen voting members present.

Phil also reminded the group that will accept dues that are due by March 1, 2024.

Discussion among members about money incoming, grants and outcome of finances discussed among the group.

**Service Coor.** Ruth will enter the volunteer/education hours for members in the WVMG website. She reminded everyone to please provide her with hours frequently instead of all the hours at one time.

**Corresponding secretary-** Barbara announced Earth Day will be April 20<sup>th</sup> at the White Violet Center. Mary Reilly is the contact person for the event.

Education hours: 1 hour

Volunteer hour: .5 hour

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

Board – March 7, 2024

S&P – Feb. 20, 2024

March 19, 2024

*2024 Board Members: Beth Lutz, president; Angie Decker, vice-president, Susie Thompson, treasurer, Kathaleen Mann, recording secretary; Barbara Brugnaux, corresponding secretary; Debbie Lazell, Vicki Cochran, Brenda Kirchner, members at large; Ruth Johnson, service coordinator*