

MINUTES OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Meeting of October 4, 2018
Jan Lefler, Interim Secretary

Convened: 6:30 p.m.
PRESENT: 85 Members

Adjourned: 7:05 p.m.

President Judy Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A motion was made and seconded and a majority vote of "yes" was to approve the minutes from the September 2018 WCMG Meeting available on Website www.wcmgar.org. and by Mailchimp e-mail. A motion was made and seconded and a majority vote of "yes" was to approve the August 31, 2018 Treasurer's Report available on Website and by Mailchimp e-mail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

November 6, 2018 WCMG Program. President Judy Smith announced the November 6, 2018 WCMG program "Hydroponics 101" presented by Dr. Val Eylands, co-owner (with wife Jana) of Ozark All Seasons Farm in Winslow, which specializes in hydroponic production of lettuce, salad greens, and microgreens.

2019 WCMG Membership Dues. Collection of 2019 WCMG membership dues started tonight and may be collected again at the November 2018 WCMG meeting. After December 1, 2018, the 2019 WCMG annual dues will increase to \$25. If you will not be able to attend the November meeting and need to pay your 2019 dues, you may drop off your check or mail it to Washington County Extension Office, 2536 North McConnell, Fayetteville, AR 72704.

Moss Mountain Bus Trip. The WCMG Bus trip to P. Allan's Moss Mountain Farm, scheduled for Saturday, October 13, will depart from the Washington County Extension Office at 7 a.m. Those who are driving their own vehicles are encouraged to carpool when possible due to parking limitations.

Master Gardener Hours Entry - Timelines. President Judy Smith reminded WCMG members and trainees to please record their volunteer hours. If questions, please contact **Annette Pinalto at pianacjp@cox.net or 479-361-2007**. WCMG trainees' deadline for recording hours is November 1, 2018. WCMG members' deadline for recording hours is December 15, 2018.

2019 WCMG Proposed Budget. The Finance Committee, chaired by Karen Jech, will present the proposed 2019 budget at the November WCMG meeting. The Executive Committee will review it at the October board meeting and WCMG membership shall have a vote for approval at the November WCMG meeting.

Evergreen Cemetery Project Update. There will be a sign dedication on Friday, October 5 at 10 a.m. at Evergreen Cemetery. WCMGs helped this one-time landscaping project as part of Community Outreach. Chris Bell, Ginny Wiseman, and Marilyn Heifner were leaders for the project.

Garden Thyme Newsletter Contributors. President Judy Smith thanked WCMG members La Deana Mullinex, Chandana Becker, Pam Johnson, and Mike Standrod for their recent articles, photos, and poetry in the October GT Newsletter. Other WCMGs are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter. Contact Terry Smyers and Jan Lefler for more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards Committee. President Judy Smith reminded WCMG members that nominations for the annual awards for Master Gardener of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Friend of Master Gardeners (individual and organization), Project of the Year, Excellence in Education, Mentor of the Year, and "Yes, I Can" are coming up. The deadline for turning in nominations is Thursday, November 15, 2018. Nomination forms are located in your WCMG Volunteer Workbook and on website www.wcmgar.org.

2019 New MG Training. President Judy Smith reported the training is scheduled during daytime hours starting Monday, January 28 thru Saturday, February 2, 2019. Another option will soon be Online WCMG Training. More details are coming.

Website Committee. Website Committee chairperson Kitty Sanders reported on the status of the WCMG Photo Contest. The August theme was ***Shade Garden/Plants***. There were entries from first-time contestants and three of them were winners! The first-place photo, *Double Take*, was submitted by Lucretia Little. Second place was awarded to Jane Bryant for her photo entitled *Serenity*. Coming in third was Ruth Cohoon with her photo entitled *Caladiums and Impatiens*. The September Photo Contest's theme was ***Water Scenes in the Garden***. The one entry was *Garden Water Feature Respite* submitted by Mary McCully. The October Photo Contest theme is ***Native Plants***, the November theme is ***Texture in the Garden***, and the December theme is ***Fun in the Garden***.

Remember, you can see lots of member photos by visiting the Washington County Master Gardener website at <http://wcmgar.org>. Use the *News and Events* tab. You can click on *Photo of the Month* or hover over it to see two galleries of pictures from the past year. If you're having trouble participating, please contact us as wcmgphotos@gmail.com. The Website Committee is recruiting additional members who have website experience, especially in GoDaddy and Word Press programs. The committee is also asking for ideas for the 2019 Photo Contest themes. If interested, contact Kitty Sanders.

NEW BUSINESS:

Endowment Fund. Endowment Committee chairperson Dolores Stamps reported on the current status of the WCMG Endowment Fund. This fund was created approximately 9 years ago to support scholarships and other Master Gardener horticultural interests. The fund is managed by the U of A Division of Agriculture, with oversight by Washington County Master Gardeners. Donations are made to the Endowment Fund from the WCMG general account at the death of a WCMG or close family member (child, spouse, or life partner). Other donations may be made by Master Gardeners and the general public. The current Endowment fund total is \$5429; it is accruing an average interest rate of 2.7 percent. Bundling the fund with the U of A Division of Agriculture helps with interest rates. The Endowment Committee shall develop long-term goals and guidelines for fund allocation. More information will be coming.

OLD BUSINESS: None

SANCTIONED PROJECT REPORTS:

Elkins Community Center. Project co-chair Floy Griggs reported on the project accomplishments in 2018. Jan Judy also co-chairs the project. WCMG volunteers garden in multiple areas in Elkins including the library, community center and schools. They have recently had a new irrigation system installed at the community center and added new beds and garden features.

Lincoln Community Garden. Project chairperson Jim Sposato reported on Lincoln's community vegetable garden's successes in 2018. Lincoln students and community volunteers help in this project to provide fresh vegetables to the food-insecure community in Lincoln. Grace Place, Lincoln Senior Center and other local community members benefit from the many pounds of fresh vegetables. Lincoln schools' students also are provided an educational experience in vegetable gardening.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

PROGRAM: WCMG Judie Branson, who is current president of the National Daylily Society, presented the program entitled "Siloam Daylilies, in Memory of Pauline Henry".

Program Committee chairperson Susan Young did the monthly drawing for door prizes and included some of Judie Branson's daylilies.

Jan Lefler,
Interim Secretary

Reviewed, corrected, and approved by President Judy Smith, Dolores Stamps, and Kitty Sanders on 10/10/18.