

Master Gardener Monthly Meeting

April 3, 2018

Attendance: Members - 115

Prior to the meeting, there was a sign-up for Farm Friends, Pick up of pre-ordered t-shirts, handout of workbooks, seeds provided by Lincoln Community Garden, and sign up to volunteer to help with FGNS Garden Tour.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

Master Gardener 30th Anniversary Event

The 30th anniversary event is scheduled for October 13th. The cost of the bus to Moss Mountain will be between \$40-50 depending on the number of people participating. The cost for the anniversary day event with lunch will be \$30. This event is limited to Master Gardeners only. Additional information on registration for the event will be sent through Constant Contact.

Monthly Meeting Reports

The March 6th minutes was presented for approval as published on website. Jane Scroggs moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Dolores Stamps seconded. The membership approved the minutes as presented.

The treasurer's reports for January and February were presented for approval. Dolores Stamps moved for approval, Mary McCully seconded. The membership approved both the January and February treasurer's reports.

Old Business

Evergreen cemetery

Chris Bell and Ginny Wiseman, Community Outreach chairs, have met with Marilyn Heifner, Cemetery Board Member. The committee is working with a landscape architect on entrance garden design, preparing a suggested plant list, having trees removed at entrance, and planning backhoe work. Chris and Ginny report that there is a \$2K budget for the project. A meeting will be planned for MG volunteers to organize activities.

County Endowment Committee

Two committees are needed for endowments: one for the county-level program and another for the state program. The committee focused on the county-level endowment would be charged with presenting a recommendation to the Board for the use of the endowment funds, specifically whether it should continue to be used for county objectives or redirected to the state endowment. This committee will also address fundraising opportunities if the county endowment continues to support our local needs. The County Endowment committee will be comprised of Mariette Spidel, Ruthanne Hill, Ginger Candrilli, Dolores Stamps (chair), and Bob Lambert.

The state endowment committee will focus on generating a local donor list and approaching potential donors for contributions to the state endowment. This committee will not be responsible for traditional fundraiser activities. This committee has not been seated at this time.

Fayetteville Farmer's Market

Master Gardeners will be at the Fayetteville Farmer's Market on 4/14 and 4/28 to man a booth to promote our program and recruit future trainees.

New Business

Farm Friends

Farm Friends will be held on 4/26 with the Master Gardener volunteer participation with soil detectives and herb demonstration. MGs are asked to make cornbread and sign-up sheet is available this evening. Volunteers are needed for the day shift working with school children, serving cornbread in the evening, and manning booths in the evening hours. Anyone interested in volunteering either for the day or evening hours should contact Geri Alvis.

Photo contest

The winners of the March contest were announced. First place was Spring Bee on Crocus by Bill Ross; second place was Tulip: Inner Beauty by Patsy Louk, and third place by Arkansas Native Spider Lilies by Joyce Mendenhall. Thanks were given to everyone that submitted photos. This month's submissions were an increase from previous.

Photo of the Year as voted by the Master Gardener membership was Carolyn Miller's Ozark Autumn.

April's theme for the photo contest is Flowering Trees and Blooms, Close-ups of the Blooms and Viewing the Specimens in the Landscape.

Lawn Mower Tune-Ups

There will be a lawn mower tune-up event on April 6 at a cost of \$35. Call 479-575-2035 for more info. This program is sponsored by Uof A ACT and Ag Mechanics Clubs.

BGO Plant Sale

The annual plant sale at the Botanical Gardens is scheduled for April 27, 5:00-8:00 for members and 4/28 8:00 to noon for the public.

Madison County Plant Sale

There will be a Madison County Plant Sale on May 12th at the Kingston Square.

MailChimp Update

Jan Lefler can send Mail Chimp during Joyce's absence. Please contact Jan if you need to send a notice to the Master Gardener membership.

Tee Shirt Update

Tees and polo ordered in February available at the back table.

Advanced Training Class

Washington County Master Gardeners will offer an advanced training class on heirloom plants. Additional information will be announced soon.

Plant Exchange

Susan Young announced the May Plant Exchange. The exchange will be in parking lot of Don Tyson Center for Agricultural Sciences. In preparation for the event, please dig plants in advance, label plants, and any specific growing instruction. Please bring only non-invasive and pest-free plants. Garden art tools in good condition are welcome.

Announcements

Jan Judy announced that the water system for irrigation at the Elkins Community Center will be completed this Thursday and could use some help.

Project Highlight

Arkansas-Missouri Railroad Depot

Mary McCully and the project team have worked with Brenda Rouse from the railroad have worked together to plant a monarch waystation, containers at entrance and at the platform. Linda MacLean, and Martha Sparkman have planted a garden at the railroad entrance. Debbie Gilmore planted containers at the boarding area, Kathryn Birkhead and Debbie Gilmore worked with diseased knockout roses. Mary Ann Bardwell, Jim MacLean, and Jack Bardwell have worked and advised on butterfly gardening. Workday are on Thursdays and orientation is scheduled for 4/11 at 10am.

West Fork Gardens

Paula Dutton presented for the Gardens. The library is under construction so gardens are being altered and plants are being relocated. Project began in 2007 after a grant from AR Flower and Garden Show and Friends of the Library. A highlight of the project is the rain garden. The project was renamed in 2017 from West Fork Library to West Fork Gardens. The work days are the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

Washington County Fair Planters

There are five planters housed at the extension office dedicated for the county fair. At the March meeting, it was asked that projects were needed to plant and maintain planters for the fair. To date, three planters have been claimed but two planters still need attention. Any project wanting to participate is asked to contact Berni Kurz.

Presentation

Hang Them Out to Dry: Xeriscaping Basics

Presented by: Minnie Shelor Garvan, Woodland Gardens Garden Manager

After the meeting, Steve Brizzi met with VA volunteers.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.