

**Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteers Association**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 12, 2018**  
**Eau Claire County Extension Office**

**In attendance:** Ellen Terwilliger, Dick Lienhardt, Paula Bonnin, Jerry Richards, Nina Logan, Ede Strand, Carla Pelzl

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Vice President Dick Lienhardt.

**WIMGA Update:** Ellen Terwilliger

Ellen gave us an update and brief review of the restructured WIMGA website. There are numerous helpful resources linked to the site, including the Upper Midwest Conference at the Minneapolis Arboretum, the National Master Gardener Conference, and the 2018 Wisconsin Master Gardener State Conference which will be held in Eau Claire in September. There is also a place for local master gardener organizations to list upcoming events, a listing of grants that local associations can apply for, a Speakers Bureau that MG groups can draw on for their educational events, and a picture gallery that gives site visitors a look at the many ways in which master gardener volunteers are involved in providing horticultural education in their communities.

Planning for the State Conference is proceeding well. Twenty-four people have registered to date.

**Plant Sale update:** from chairperson Mary Jane Griffin

- The sale committee held its first meeting March 20, 2018. Sale date is Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at Phoenix Park. Hours are 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
- Publicity: Susan Merten has flyers and posters ready. Judy Wibel has put an ad on Facebook and encourages our MG volunteers to send it to their friends.
- There is a need for tables. Members are encouraged to contact the committee if they have tables to loan. All tables will be labeled with the donor's name and will be protected with a covering.
- Volunteers are needed.
- Plants will be priced the same as at last year's sale.
- Susan has prepared information about jumping worms for customers.
- MGV's are asked to save small boxes to bring; larger boxes are being collected from Sam's Club.
- Garden-related items in good condition will be accepted. Magazine donations will be free. No books will be accepted.

The next meeting of the Sale Committee is Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 3:00 PM at Yankee Jack's on Clairemont Avenue. MGV's interested in helping with the sale are welcome to attend the meeting.

**Secretary's report:** The minutes of March 8, 2018 were reviewed. Paula Bonnin moved that the minutes be accepted as written; the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ede Strand

The books show a January 1, 2018 beginning balance of \$11,515.63. There were a number of checks written during February and March for the "Ready, Set, Go" seminar for supplies, advertising, food, and speaker fees. The current book balance is \$8,953.69.

**Education Committee Report:** Nina Logan

There was a good turnout for Mari Jackson's presentation on Permaculture at the March meeting.

**(Education Committee Report cont.)**

- The April 16<sup>th</sup> education meeting will feature a Chef LaLaine Gunem who will introduce us to edible plants used in Asian cuisine. There will be samples offered along with recipes.
- May 21st – Wild Edibles – Jim Schwiebert from Beaver Creek Reserve
- June – The Nature of Bears – David Schmitt of Haycreek Outfitters
- July – Garden Tours – dates TBA
- July – Aquatic Invasive Species – A.J. Leiden of Beaver Creek Reserve
- August – TBA
- September – State Master Gardener Conference in Eau Claire

The annual Native Plant Sale will be May 12<sup>th</sup> at Beaver Creek Reserve. There will be plants that need to be potted up for the sale.

The Education committee has a good start on planning the “Ready, Set, Go” seminar for 2019. Some of the speakers and topics include a presentation by Jerry Clark, horticulture educator for Chippewa County; Chef LaLaine Gunem talking about life and gardening in the Philippines, where she grew up; Larry Bennett speaking about raptors; Carol Cox presenting ideas for using art in the garden; a presentation on Monarch butterflies; and a presentation by a Menomonie master gardener volunteer who works on a vegetable gardening project with participants from the Dunn County Huber program.

**Other Upcoming Events and/or Volunteer Opportunities :**

- The Horticulture Training Workshop for Master Gardener Volunteers is April 17<sup>th</sup> in Menomonie
- Chippewa Valley Growers garden center has invited the members of the Master Gardener Volunteers and the Eau Claire Garden Club to a presentation on New Plants for 2018
- The Eau Claire Garden Club Stroll is July 14<sup>th</sup>
- The Classics would like help with developing a garden in the area behind their assisted living apartments. More information would be needed to determine if this request would fit the guidelines for master gardener volunteer projects.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM. The next meeting is Thursday, May 10th at 1:00 PM at the County Extension Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Pelzl, Secretary

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