

STORY COUNTY



April 2023

Newsletter

April 17 Program:

7 pm – Nancy Shaw, the City of Ames Recreation Director, Stretches and Strength Training for Gardeners
(At Reiman Gardens and via Zoom)

Remember to wear your name tag

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

Your 2023 dues are \$10 per member

ISU Extension - SCMGA, 2710 Northwood Drive, Ames, IA 50010

The President's Row

Today it feels like spring. I have a few daffodils in bloom and a few other early spring flowers blooming. I've even seen a few dandelions in bloom. What's blooming in your yard?

Fifty years ago, on April 8 - 10, 1973, Iowa had one of the worst spring blizzards! Some places received 20 inches of snow. I was a student at Iowa State at the time. I barely made it to my 8:00 AM class and then to my 9:00 AM class. The instructor for my 9:00 class didn't make it in. After returning to my dorm room, I decided that I was not going out again. All the schools including Drake University within a 50-mile radius of Ames were closed. Iowa State closed around 10:00 AM and was closed for several days. Roads were impassible. Just a little weather history.

The Plant Extravaganza is May 12 – 14. This is our big money maker for the year, so mark the dates on your calendar! Remember to record your hours as you work on the plant sale. They count toward your service hours. (the tent map is attached at the end)

Zoom connection:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84211860135>

Phone: 1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 842 1186 0135

Happy Gardening,

Darla

2023 SCMGA President

(from Andrea, I have hyacinths blooming in my yard!)

Speaker, March 20, 2023: Gabbie Edwards, the Ames City Forester, explained for us the organization she works for and the upcoming projects. She explained such things as the “tree preservation,” street right of ways, the city plan to continue removal of Ash Trees and memorial trees for community members. And she stressed that planting all of one type of tree in your yard is not advisable and to please don’t concentrate Maples on new lots. If you see trees around town in need of repair, contact SeeClickFix.com or call 515-239-5342

SCMGA General meeting March 20, 2023:

President Darla Ewalt called the meeting to order at 8:15 pm at Reiman Gardens and on Zoom

Minutes: After some discussion, Jamie Beyer made a motion to correct the amount of the bill for the Program Notebooks to \$230.69 to include taxes and Sue Jensen seconded the motion. After discussion it was decided to include it in this week’s minutes. The minutes were approved

The Treasurer’s report included the change in the Program Book bill and Donald Lewis reported that we have 40 paid members for 2023 and 2 for 2024 (those 2 accidentally paid dues twice in one year and have been notified). The report for April will be attached to the newsletter.

Donald also reported that the Iowa Arboretum Spring Fling will be held on April 15th from 10am to 3pm and 18 horticulture students have signed up. In the 2023 budget we have already pledged to donate enough money to cover 6 of those students. Since SCMGA members are also members of the Iowa Arboretum our individual registration for the Spring Fling would be \$55. If anyone would like to individually sponsor any number of students, they should send a corresponding check to the Iowa Arboretum

Plant Sale notes:

Andrea Dorn sent a note that we need to purchase some paint sticks and paint them with glossy paint so that we can use them in the holding area to label customers’ plant purchases for pick-up

Tom Jordan and Candy Bostrom will be going to DMF to choose plants for our sale. Members should start collecting boxes and cartons for the sale. Check stores such as Fareway, Hy-Vee, Lowe’s, etc.

Jackie Runyan asked if anyone had any mum-size pots

Joan Peterson said she will have Andrea send an announcement when it is time to have a “plant container” washing party at her residence (an inside joke, in case you were wondering)

Other notes:

No invasives

Nice looking condition

Use soilless mix as per directions to avoid jumping worm infestation

If you use more than 2 bags of potting mix you may request the SCMGA reimburse you for the rest that you use

Dig up and pot your plants AT LEAST 2 weeks before the sale so they are acclimated to the pots and look good. That means no later than April 26th

When labelling plants, Bronwyn Frame has pdfs for most common plants. If you need them, let her know and she will email a copy to you. If you don’t know the variety of the plant, at least put the color and size on the label. For instance, if you have a daylily but don’t know the name of it just call it a (color) daylily, (height) in inches. The same is especially true of bulbs

Tom brought in some seed catalogs to share, and Joan brought peanuts for planting

Andrea requested a volunteer, who attends the meetings in person, to help in taking minutes. She isn’t always able to catch who says what from Zoom. There was a short discussion about using microphones

Joan mentioned that it is time to spray fruit trees with dormant spray (it is also time to spray dormant spray on lilacs). Donald also suggested spraying copper fungicide. Andrea mentioned that copper is toxic to sheep, in case anyone had them on their property

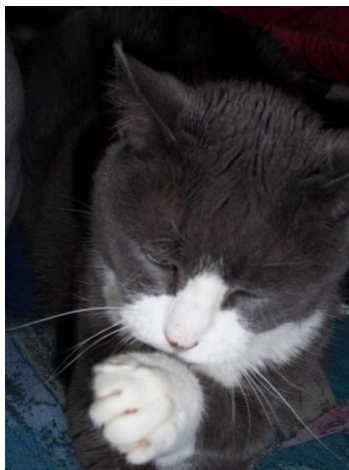
Lisa Hein said the speaker next month will be Nancy Shaw, Ames Recreation Director, who will talk about stretching and strengthening for gardeners. May is Jeri Neal, Ames Climate Action and July is Iowa State plant introduction farm. August is the Hayden Herbarium on campus with Deb Lewis

Darla adjourned the meeting at 9 pm

**Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Dorn
2023 Secretary**

Announcements

- 🌻 Just a reminder: the Friday night plant sale is open to our members
- 🌻 From Andrea: I'd like to start a **co-secretary** position for SCMGA. This would include having someone who is at the meetings in-person to take minutes for me, especially including who is speaking at various times. I would also take minutes as I can from Zoom and I will combine the two versions for the official minutes presented in the newsletter. This is not unprecedented, many years ago I was a co-secretary with another member so we were able to get all activities accomplished for the office. That's all you'd have to do, so it is an easy job. Please contact me ASAP and remember, these are **service credits!**
- 🌻 I'd love to have a Master Gardener attend Radio shows with our office staff to share some of the things you have done being a volunteer. This will count toward hours! (*Katherine Mackenzie at katmack@IASTATE.EDU*)
- 🌻 Also, if you are interested in hosting education programs, we can put things together library talks, school talks, whatever comes to mind we can give it a try! (*Katherine*)
- 🌻 From Andrea: If you have any garden-related photos please send them to me. You might see them in a future newsletter! *If you don't send me any, I may have to start pasting in cat photos like this:*



Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- ☀ Remember to record your hours on the Extension Volunteer website:
<https://mastergardenerhours.hort.iastate.edu/>
- ☀ Volunteer to give a **presentation** at the SCMGA meetings

Education SCMGA 2023-24 Program Calendar

- ☀ April 17 – 7 pm, at Reiman Gardens, Nancy Shaw, the City of Ames Recreation Director, stretches and strength training for gardeners
- ☀ May 15 – 7 pm, at Reiman Gardens, Jeri Neal, Ames Climate Action
- ☀ June 19 – 6 pm, **Field Trip**, TBA
- ☀ July 17 – 6 pm, **Field Trip**, Laura Marek, Iowa State University Plant Introduction Farm, 1320 State St.
- ☀ August 21 – 6 pm, **Field Trip**, Hayden Herbarium (on campus) with Deb Lewis
- ☀ ISU Extension and outreach hosted a webinar series. You can find past webinars at the link. Webinar Series: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/webinar-series>
- ☀ Illinois Winter Webinars: Eat What You Grow, <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2023-03-16-eat-what-you-grow>

Please contact your 2023 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

President	Darla Ewalt	515-232-4716	gsjoey69@hotmail.com
Vice President	Lisa Hein	515-249-3182	ldsage@msn.com
Secretary	Andrea Dorn	515-382-5604	SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Donald Lewis	515-460-0542	drlewis@iastate.edu
Directors-at-Large	Lynette Spicer	515-233-2314	hollysprings50010@yahoo.com
	Terry Lewis	515-290-0103	terryalewis49@gmail.com
	Jackie Runyan	515-232-5599	jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com

2023 STORY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
MEMBERSHIP LIST INFORMATION

If you would like to update or add your personal information to the membership list in the 2023 Master Gardener yearbook, please complete the questionnaire below and return the information to me no later than December 10, 2022. Please remember that your information will only be included in the program book if your dues are paid for 2023 and given to Donald Lewis, our SCMGA Treasurer. These \$10 dues are due no later than January 1st! (except for new interns whose first year dues are complimentary). Payment address is SCMGA, 2710 Northwood Drive, Ames, IA 50010.

Name and Address:

Phone and Email address:

Home:

Cell:

Email:

Year you became a Master Gardener:

County where you became a Master Gardener:

Previous or Present committees/offices you have held as a Master Gardener:

List up to three areas of interest and/or knowledge about gardening subjects:
(and if there is other information you would like us to know)

Thank you!

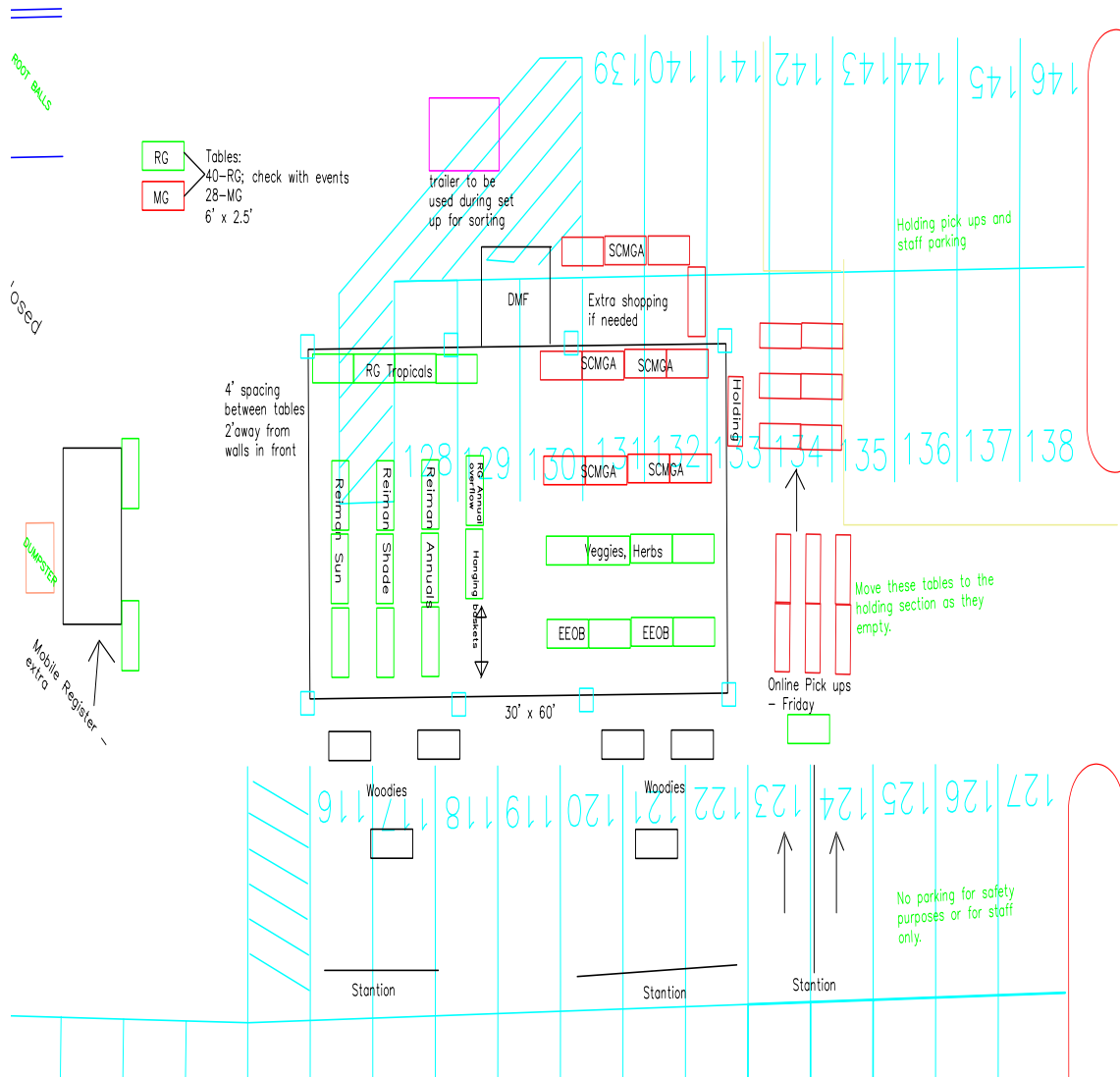
Sharon Wilson

515-290-5727

Email: sawilson04@gmail.com

25344 U.S. Highway 65

Colo, Iowa 50056



Note: this side is the north side

Plant Sale Extravaganza Procedure Online and In-Person

April 3rd

- Online plant descriptions due
- Debbie will work on getting these descriptions entered into ECWID

April 28th – May 4th

- Online sale opens at noon
- Sale closes at noon on the 4th

May 4th

- Jessie will sort through the orders
- A spreadsheet will be sent out to all partners with the orders
 - Your group will be highlighted a certain color
 - This will indicate which items need to be accounted for before the in-person sale

May 5th – end of the day

- Each group will need to report back to Jessie/Kara if there are orders that can't be filled
 - Crop failure, more orders than plants, changes to be made, etc.
 - Please email Jessie and CC Kara so that we can help respond to customers in a timely matter

May 10th Wednesday

- Tent set up is noon
- Reiman will start set-up/cleaning/moving items

May 11th Thursday

- All groups start moving in plants to Reiman Maintenance lot
- Pushing to be set up/sorted by the end of the day. RG employees will be leaving by 5pm
- Some notes on bringing in materials for online items
 - We will have green carts, filled with ALL orders. Each group will need to look through each order and see which of their items need to be added. We may have volunteers working on color coding to help quickly find your orders.

May 12th Friday (In-person sale and pick-up orders)

- Roll out carts for pick-ups (starting at 11 am) Jessie will supervise with volunteers
 - We have a short time Friday morning for groups to organize and make any updates to the orders
 - In-person sale: 3pm -7pm

Story County Master Gardener Association

2710 Northwood Drive Ames IA 50010

Treasurer's Report			
January 1, 2022 through April 17, 2023			
Amount Brought Forward from 2022			
			\$7,279.71
Income 2023			
	Membership Dues	\$240.00	\$240.00
Expenses 2023			
	Hospitality supplies (Corry Bertelsen)	(\$68.07)	
	Yearbook Printing (Sharon Wilson)	(\$230.69)	(\$298.76)
Balance January 16, 2023			
			\$7,220.95

Notes: Yearbook printing amount corrected from \$215.60 to \$230.69 (after tax)

Number of paid members for 2023 = 42

Number of paid members for 2024 = 2