



Story County
Master Gardener
Association

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

February 2019 Newsletter

February 18, 7pm Program: Tim Youngquist, Iowa State University, Prairie Strips Program (at Reiman Gardens)
Hospitality: Bronwyn Frame, Sue Draper, Jackie Runyon

NOTE: Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

Your dues of \$10 are now due. You may bring them to our next meeting or send them to SCMGA, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010

The President's Row

Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus . . . and spring will be coming soon, I hope. We skated through December without harsh weather and now that we are finally getting kicked in the *you know what*, I can't say I am giddy or even slightly amused.

The -55 degree wind chill got me stranded, in a warm place no doubt, but unable to travel when I wanted to leave. Maybe I just thought I needed to go somewhere(?). I am very thankful no one else was put in harm's way as all the towing services were denying calls because of the harsh temperatures. I should have enjoyed being stranded at home, with the attitude of "it's a snow day," like when in grade school but I was focused on my narrow agenda and grumbling.

After my boyfriend took half of the day off and diagnosed the truck as needing the block heater plugged in, I made it to eastern Iowa. I plugged in the vehicle, as instructed, to keep it warm and ensure starting the next day. The next day the truck wouldn't start because it was -22 degree wind chill and I was stranded in Eastern Iowa! What part of this didn't I get?

Long story short, I borrowed another vehicle, made it back to Des Moines for my work commitments, traveled back to eastern Iowa to retrieve the truck, drove through pea soup fog the night of the Super Bowl, and arrived home safe.

Was my narrow focus and agenda worth all that? Hindsight is 20/20.

Blessings,
Susan Stocker
2019 SCMGA President

SCMGA General meeting January 21, 2019

Our speaker, introduced by Vice President Lisa Hein, was Tracy Blackmer owner and operator of Iowa Gardening for Good located just south of Slater, IA. It is a 501c3 business whose mission is to organize volunteers to plant, grow and harvest fresh produce for pick up or delivery to food pantries served by the Iowa Food Bank.

The goodies for our socializing time after Mr. Blackmer's talk were provided by Judy Coverdale and Candy Bostrom. Eighteen MG's attended the meeting.

The business meeting was brought to order and chaired by Lisa Hein, beginning at 8PM and adjourning at 8:25PM

1. Sign up sheets for plant sale volunteers were circulated and will be updated from now until the sale. Shifts are: Friday, May 10th: 2:30-5 and 5-7:30; Saturday 8-11:30, 11:30-3 and 3-6:30; and Sunday 1-4 (this day is fluid as MG expected to show up only for take down and DMF accounting). There will also be a set up on Thursday afternoon before the sale for MG and DMF set up.
2. Lisa Bates, a new MG intern was introduced.
3. Minutes from the last meeting were accepted as submitted
4. Sue Draper, our new treasurer, reported that \$10 dues are due for 2019 and that as of 12/29/18, we have 11,414.16 in the bank. We are about to send the Iowa Arboretum a patron membership fee of \$250, and reimburse Madonna Feeney for booklet printing costs. Audit of our books is underway by the three at-large board members.
5. Madonna Feeney brought the newly minted 2019 membership booklets that contain all kinds of helpful info like member contact information and 2018 annual reports. Please be sure to pick one up at the next meeting if you haven't yet.
6. March 18 meeting will also be our graduation celebration. Lisa asked about preferred format for the program. Feed back was that the awards ceremony will start at 6PM, followed by a short speaker/program at 7PM, followed by our usual monthly business meeting (especially so that Plant Sale info can be discussed). SCMG folks assigned to March meeting snacks will provide sweets for the gathering and Story County extension will provide the rest. Gathering will be in the garden room at RG, not in Nevada.
7. Lisa asked whether we would like to donate to Iowa Gardening for Good. Jackie Runyan motioned that we donate \$250.00 to IGforG, seconded by Sharon Wilson. Unanimously in favor.
8. Erin Greazel (greazele@iastate.edu) can order a replacement MG nametag for you for \$6
9. Tom Jordan is soon ready to order onion starts - contact him if you want to join in the order - the marginal cost per bunch decreases with each additional buyer! His email is tjdljordan@yahoo.com
9. Our next meeting is **February 18th**. Our speaker will be **Tim Youngquist** who will speak about the **Prairie STRIP program**. Snacks will be provided by Jackie Runyan, Sue Draper and Bronwyn Frame.
10. Lisa Hein asked if we may be interested in volunteering together at Iowa Gardeners for Good over the summer. Folks were in favor of this idea

10. Under old business:

a. Donation destination to Reiman Gardens was decided. Our \$2500 will go to RG summer internships.

b. Plant Sale: Tom Jordan spoke to the group about the 2019 spring Plant Sale Extravaganza sale over Mother's Day weekend in May. He updated us on the first sale planning meeting with RG that he attended on behalf of SCMGA, Lisa Schainker may be able to help with labels (the board will check with her), and Jackie Runyan, Bronwyn Frame, and hopefully Jaclyn Hill and Don Sievers, will make up the digging, potting, babysitting sub committee again this year. Pots available from bronwyn.rf@gmail.com. Question as to who any left over plants should go to this year? In the past we have given them to various places, including the Gardening Club. Tom emphasized what a great opportunity this is to get volunteer hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Bronwyn Frame
(substituting for Andrea Dorn)

Announcements

Some of our members were recognized for the number of hours they volunteered at Reiman Gardens. We want to recognize them as well. I apologize if I may have left anyone out.

- 🌻 100+ hours: Dee Draper, Don Draper
- 🌻 200+ hours: Sarah Binder

Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- 🌻 **Volunteer to be on the plant sale committee. We need all positions filled**
- 🌻 Volunteer to give a **presentation** at the SCMGA meetings (did you notice that four of our members gave talks this fall?)

Education

SCMGA 2019 Program Calendar

- 🌻 February 18 – Tim Youngquist, Iowa State University, Prairie Strips Program
- 🌻 March 18 – Master Gardener Graduation & Awards;

Winter Webinars (held in Christy Hall, Story County Extension Offices)

Managing Vegetable Pests, presented by Dan Fillius (60 min)

Tues Feb. 19th 7pm

Tues Feb 12th (noon)

Engaging New Audiences, presented by Elin Filbey (30 min)

Tue March 12th (noon)

Limited Space Gardening, presented by Ed Lyon

Tues March 26th (noon)

Tues March 26th 7pm

Participants are requested to RSVP to Erin, on the Monday before, by calling the Story County Extension at 382 6551 or at greazele@iastate.edu. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch and join us over the noon hour (We can provide coffee for those that want it). A light snack will be provided for any evening showings.

Please contact your 2019 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

President	Susan Stocker	515-401-2349	sestocker2@yahoo.com
Vice President	Lisa Hein	515-249-3182	ldsage@msn.com
Secretary	Andrea Dorn	515-382-5604	SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Draper	515- 520-4098	suedraper8@gmail.com
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	Darla Ewalt	515-232-4716	gsjoey@hotmail.com
	Jackie Runyon	515-232-5599	jackierunyon.ames@gmail.com

Master Gardener Graduation & Awards Ceremony

March 18th 6-8pm
with dinner and guest
speaker Dr Adam Janke

Reiman Gardens-
Garden Room

**The evening will
begin at 6 with
dinner, followed
by a short program
with guest speaker
Adam, and then
will close with the
SCMGA monthly
meeting

