



Story County
Master Gardener
Association

[SCMGA Newsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com)

July 2020 Newsletter

**July 20, Program: Tour of Joan Peterson's gardens, 2289 – 240th, Ames,
6:30 pm, **Masks are required****

Annual Dues are now due

ADDRESS: SCMGA, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010

The President's Row

Is it August? I always thought August was the hottest month. No, it's still July. I've been watering my garden, especially my newly planted garden. I'm hoping for rain.

This month we will be touring Joan Peterson's garden. We'll get to see all her beautiful daylilies and see each other in person. Since we will be gathering together, masks will be required! Also, we are encouraged to physically distance as much as possible. Covid-19 is serious and even the healthiest person can become seriously ill.

Fall Symposium update: The SCMGA Board met over Zoom to discuss the Fall Symposium. We decided that we would probably do the symposium over Zoom. Our thoughts are that the symposium would occur on three different dates for approximately 1 hour each (two 30-minute sessions). The cost would be \$25. The symposium would be in October – November. We would like your input on dates and suggestions for presenters. Since the symposium will be on Zoom, it doesn't need to be on Saturdays. Please send your thoughts and suggestions to either Andrea Dorn or myself. We'll have a very short meeting at Joan's. Thanks.

Happy Gardening,

Darla Ewalt

2020 SCMGA President

Speaker

Speaker: Heidi Hohmann, Iowa State Parks, "100 years of Iowa State Parks" Heidi told us the fascinating story of "a century of Stewardship" that is the State Parks of Iowa. (1 hour CE credits)

SCMGA General meeting June 15, 2020

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 8 pm. President Darla Ewalt recognized our new member, Janeen Christy.

The minutes from our last meeting were approved with one correction: one line in the last section stated that “Joan said that if other members want to care for the hostas or other plants for sale it would count as volunteer hours.” Joan reported that she did not say that.

Treasurer Donald Lewis reported that with plant sales (Hostas and others), dues, and reimbursing Jackie Runyan for pots the current balance is \$9960.57. There was a discussion about the new budget. The amended budget was approved.

Darla asked if everyone had returned a signed photo release. Andrea mentioned that she had only received a couple of them. We need those signed releases on record so that photos taken at our monthly activities or the plant sale or other volunteering activities can be used in our newsletter. If we don't have them, we won't be able to include photos in our newsletters.

Plant sale: Darla asked if we could have a fall sale with the help of Reiman Gardens. Tom Jordan suggested that a fall sale would be difficult because of logistics and planting times, etc. Many plants will be past their prime in the fall.

Symposium: Darla asked if we intend to do a Fall Symposium this year. A discussion ensued about in-person vs. online, the pros and cons. It was agreed to look into doing an online symposium. Andrea Dorn mentioned that the way Siouxland did theirs worked well but we'd need to figure out how to monetize it. It was mentioned that sitting for 6 hours would be hard. Deborah Tootle said that people would be interested. Janeen asked if we would get participants from outside Story County. Andrea and Darla both said yes. Donald said that the board would come back next month with ideas. Darla will look into setting it up.

Darla reported that the summer programs are up in the air for now.

Darla reported that Susan Stocker's mother had died and asked if we should send a card. Andrea will do that.

The next meeting may be a tour of Joan Peterson's gardens at 6:30 pm on July 20th. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Dorn
2020 SCMGA Secretary

Please note that Terry Lewis' email has changed to terryalewis49@gmail.com



Late June scenes from the Cynthia Duff Garden/Plaza on southeast Main St in Ames. With Lisa Hein's guidance and coordination, SCMGA volunteers maintain this garden along with the main flower bed at Tom Evans Plaza during the summer.

SCMGA Board Meeting 6 July 2020

The meeting was held online via Zoom, hosted by Darla Ewalt and began at 6:30 pm. The board brainstormed ideas for the Fall Symposium using Donald Lewis's emailed suggestions:

1. Sue Jensen asked when we would hold it. Traditionally it has been on the first Saturday in November.
2. It was suggested that if we hold it online, we probably won't make \$1400 as we have in the past, but we wouldn't have the expense of providing food. Donald pointed out that without the plant sale we have no other source of income this year (except for some plant sales and dues). However, the one scholarship applicant we've had was not qualified so we won't have that expense and changing the budget helps.
3. If we had it in person, the Arboretum has allowed us to use their facility fee-free in the past. Our only expense would be the food and drinks.
4. If held online, breaks are essential
5. Someone asked how long it should be? Staring at the computer for 4 hours is hard.
6. Siouxland had theirs every Friday for one hour for a month or more. But theirs was free.
7. It was suggested that conversation would be difficult, but questions can be submitted via the chat room on Zoom. We might also be able to break out into groups online.
8. The question came up about whether we would use someone's private Zoom account or perhaps Iowa State's account. Donald and Darla will investigate.

9. Then there was a discussion about the format. We could have a half-day session or three to five one-hour sessions. We are required to have 10 hours of education per year, so we'd want to offer a decent number of hours. Another format presented was to have two 30-minute presentations every week for three or four weeks. If we did that what day of the week would we have it. Normally our symposium is held on Saturday, but some people are busy on Saturdays. It was suggested that our sessions could be recorded and archived so people could watch them in their own time, but these would have to be accessed using a password in some way. We will ask the membership for their preference.
10. Donald asked how much we should charge. Someone suggested \$25 paid far enough in advance so that we can then send the proper link ahead of the class. Could we use credit cards (Donald will look into this)? Checks will go to the box office then have to be taken to Extension to be deposited.
11. The following ideas were put forth:
 - a. How to identify prairie (or native) plants
 - b. A discussion of local prairie plants (Tom Rossberg?)
 - c. Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation – who they are and what they do
 - d. DOT roadside program (Troy Siefert?)
 - e. “Guide to Iowa Native Thistles” (Sara Nizzi?)
 - f. Design related topics (Landscape Architecture program?)
 - g. “That Tree” (Mark Hirsch?)
 - h. Karen Strobein
 - i. P. Allen Smith
 - j. Gardening around agriculture
 - k. Sustainable/organic gardening
 - l. Vegetable gardening (haven't had this in a while)
 - m. Aaron Steele
 - n. Hosta care (Don Draper)
12. It was decided to have a virtual symposium, charge a fee with a deadline for payment, using Zoom. It would be two 30-minute programs every week for 3 weeks, synchronous, and recorded with topics to be determined.

Other business:

Lisa Hein asked that we put in the newsletter that masks will be required for the tour of Joan Peterson's gardens.

Lisa also reported that we could have the Tedesco tour in September because it is much easier to spread out there (she will check into this). October and November speakers are TBD. Some topics could be Iowa Guide to Bumble Bees (Xirces, Susan Nizzy). One could be for our meeting and one could be for the symposium.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Dorn
2020 SCMGA Secretary

Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- ☀ Volunteer at the Beloit garden in Ames, contact Michaela Van De Berg at mvandb@iastate.edu
- ☀ Volunteer to give a **presentation** at the SCMGA meetings or the Fall Symposium
- ☀ Volunteer to help with the downtown SCMGA gardens Ldsage@msn.com

Education

- ☀ The Siouxland Garden Show has been cancelled so they are offering their educational sessions virtually and FREE. The sessions, offered online, will count toward continuing education hours. Visit www.sioxlandgardenshow.org/speakers to explore the recorded digital sessions.
- ☀ Fall Symposium, topics TBD, dates TBD (discuss at next meeting)

SCMGA 2020 Program Calendar

- ☀ July 20: Tour of Joan Peterson's gardens, 2289 – 240th, Ames, 6:30 pm
- ☀ August 17: TBD

Please contact your 2020 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	Susan Jensen	815-978-7624	rhubarbdanish@gmail.com
	Terry Lewis	515-290-0103	terryalewis49@gmail.com
	Jackie Runyan	515-232-5599	jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com

Dues Payment Form

ISU Extension – SCMGA, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010
Annual Dues = \$10

Payment Method

Please return this form with your annual dues at a monthly meeting or mail with a check made out to **ISU Extension-SCMGA** to the address above before December 31.

Member Information

Name:	
Address (if changed):	
Preferred Phone (if changed): Preferred email:	
Present SCMGA Committees and Offices:	
Interests:	

Office Use. Check # _____ Amount _____ Date _____

Photo/Recording Release

In consideration for my participation in the event described as:

Story County Master Gardeners Association

I hereby agree and authorize that Iowa State University, on behalf of Extension and Outreach, and their officers, employees, and agents (RELEASEES), may, without any restriction, use, reuse, publish, and republish my name, photograph, image, or likeness, and/or a recording of my voice or the event in whole or in part. This authorization is provided whether used individually or in conjunction with other photographs or recordings from the event or other events, in any manner or form, in any medium whether now known or developed in the future, and at any time or place so desired by the RELEASEES.

Further, I hereby agree to:

- RELEASE AND DISCHARGE the RELEASEES from any liability or claim that arises out of or is related to any use or alteration that may occur in the marketing and editing of the event or use of my image or voice.
- INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS the RELEASEES from any liability or claim arising out of or related to the use or dissemination of my image, voice, performance, or anything I may have said or communicated during the event described above.
- WAIVE any right to inspect, approve, or otherwise restrict the use of my image, voice, or musical recordings now or in the future;

I agree that I am to receive no further consideration other than that already received for any further or future uses by RELEASEES. I intend for this agreement to be binding on my heirs, successors, and assigns, and it represents the entire agreement between RELEASEES and me regarding matters herein agreed.

I affirm that I am 18 years of age or older and I am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing and I fully understand the contents, meaning and impact of this release.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Signature of parent/guardian if under 18 years of age: _____

Project: _____

Location: _____

ISU Extension and Outreach Employee: _____