February 2016 Newsletter
7 pm – Rosalie Owens: *Growing Aronia Berries*
Hospitality: Brenda Kruse, Jackie Runyon, Judy Coverdale

SCMGA Dues are due. Please send $10 to Brenda Kruse, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010 or bring to the next meeting

**NOTE:** Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

---

**The President’s Row**

As I look out the window at all the white, I am thinking I sure hope that groundhog is right. Being indoors this time of year does give me more time to read. Recently I came across an article by Jan Riggenbach entitled “The Root to Happiness: Trowel and Error.” Here is her Top Ten list of why gardening is fun.

1. Does not require a remote control.
2. You can bury your mistakes in the compost pile.
3. Does not require fluency in Latin.
4. Allows you to turn your junk into art objects.
5. Right to bare arms—and bare legs.
6. Legal to exterminate your enemies.
7. Looks enough like work to ensure solitude.
8. You can blame the weather for anything that goes wrong.
9. Has nothing to do with politics.
10. You won’t be arrested for ignoring “the rules.”

She added this note to number three: I’ve killed a lot of plants over the years, but not one because I mispronounced its Latin name.

Expressions of gratitude go out to Michelle Boswell for agreeing to serve on the board of directors this year. Michelle along with Lisa Hein and Ann Wilbur are the new members of the board. The results of the election of officers will be announced at this month’s meeting.

Rosalie Owens will present a program on growing aronia berries. There are many benefits of these easy to grow berries.

Tom Jordan
SCMGA Meeting – January 11, 2016
The association was treated to a wonderful slide show of two Maine Gardens by member Joan Peterson: the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and the Acadia Gardens. (45 minutes of CE credits)

General meeting:
The meeting was called to order at 8:10 pm by President Tom Jordan.
1. The minutes from the December meeting were approved as published
2. Treasurer Brenda Kruse reported that the bank balance was $7426.49 not including the dues collected at the meeting and the expense for the annual notebooks. She also passed around a card from Aaron Steil (Reiman Gardens)
3. Bronwyn Frame reported that the first meeting of the Plant sale committee will be January 26th at 5 pm at her house. The members of the committee all stood for recognition. Sign-up sheets were passed around so members could list any plants that they know they will be bringing to the sale. Jackie Runyon mentioned that the 2017 Hosta of the Year will be the Hosta Brother Stefan. The sale hours for Saturday may be extended over last year’s
4. It was decided that we could elect another board member at this meeting so that someone could be elected as VP by the board at our next meeting. Michelle Boswell was approved as the new board member and Lisa Hein indicated her interest in becoming VP
5. Betty Toot discussed her upcoming garden trips starting in April. The first will be April 23rd day trip to Prairie Pedlar in Odebolt and Thistledown Nursery in Lakeview. Another trip will be on July 23rd to Clearlake Art Festival, Central Gardens and maybe 2 private gardens. The flyers will be attached to our newsletter. **Sign up ASAP because the buses must be reserved well in advance.** For more information contact Betty at 515-450-1380 or btoot@iastate.edu

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Dorn
SCMGA Secretary

---

Announcements
SCMGA Dues are due. Please send $10 to Brenda Kruse, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010 or bring to the next meeting

Publicity
(Please let me know if you or any other SCMGA’ers are mentioned in the media so we can inform the rest of the association. It’s always good to know when the public learns about the great work our members do - Andrea)

Opportunities for Service and Education

Service
Volunteer to give a presentation at the SCMGA meetings
As you might have heard, this year the demonstration gardens at seven ISU Research Farms are going to be focused on growing food for food banks. Campus is hoping that Master Gardener volunteers will be interested in helping to plant, weed, harvest, and deliver the produce from Gilbert. If this project interests you – please let me know. (Alison Boelman aboelman@iastate.edu or 515-382-6551)

Educational talk – Roland Library for 10-15 adults; May 7 or 14 at 1 pm or May 5 or 12 at 7 pm; topic – gardening either general or specific; approximately 45 minutes. If interested please contact Sara at 515-388-4086 or by email at salmond74@gmail.com

Education
Included is a YouTube link to the 2015 Growing Season webinars including topics such as water features, theme gardens, planting for pollinators offered this past Spring in case you missed it:  https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBsBPVFxix-gdpQPAtShDMyGGdWdiLpq2

Edible Landscaping - allows you to create a multi-functional landscape that provides returns year after year with minimal work. Get started planning your garden in a whole new way! There will be multiple handouts as well as time to get started designing your yard. **Registration is required** by February 12th. Register at: www.storycountyconservation.org
Location: Ames Public Library Auditorium
Cost: Free
Date and Time: February 16th, 6:30-8:00 p.m

Garden tours in April and July (flyers attached to newsletter). **Register ASAP**

**SCMGA 2015 Program Calendar**

- Feb 15 – Program: Rosalie Owens, *Growing Aronia Berries*
- March 21 – Program: Dick Schreiber, Mid-Iowa Cactus and Succulent Society, *Succulents In and Around the Home*
- April 17 – SCMGA Graduation and Volunteer Recognition
- April 18 – Program: Andy Schmitz, *Brenton Arboretum*
- May 6-8 – SCMGA Plant Sale

If you have any announcements you would like included in the SCMGA Newsletter, please email the announcements to SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com at least 3 weeks prior to the monthly meeting date.

Sincerely,
Andrea Dorn
2015 SCMGA Secretary
515-382-5604
SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com
Please contact your 2014 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Tom Jordan</td>
<td>515.233.4103</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tjdljordan@yahoo.com">tjdljordan@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Kristi Evans*</td>
<td>515.979.3818</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dna4n6@mchsi.com">dna4n6@mchsi.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Andrea Dorn</td>
<td>515.382-5604</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com">SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Brenda Kruse</td>
<td>515.291.1355</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bkruse@mcfarlandclinic.com">bkruse@mcfarlandclinic.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Michelle Boswell</td>
<td>515.268.0925</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shell688@aol.com">shell688@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ann Wilbur</td>
<td>515.382.4882</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abwilbur54@gmail.com">abwilbur54@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa Hein</td>
<td>515.249.3182</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ldsag@msn.com">ldsag@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackie Runyan</td>
<td>515.232.5599</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com">jackierunyan.ames@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*temporary