



Story County
Master Gardener
Association

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

January 2018 Newsletter

January 15, 7 pm Program: Mark Schneider, the Iowa Arboretum, (at Reiman Gardens)

Hospitality: Kristi Evans/Marty Colony-Smith/Jane Tomesch

NOTE: Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

NOTE 2: Dues of \$10 are now due. You may pay at the meeting or send your payment to SCMGA, P.O. Box 164, Ames, IA 50010

The President's Row

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season with family/friends and was able to stay warm. I know the week of December 17th I was wondering where winter was as I still moved bulbs on the south side of the house. The saying goes "careful what you wish for" . . . I now know where winter is and can honestly say that it has found us. Though we haven't had the snow accumulation we need yet for this year's water supply, I VOTE we warm up a smidge.

I have hope that winter will continue to be kinder as I peer at the forecast for this week and see that it will be a balmy 35 degrees. Please continue to keep our wildlife and furry friends in mind for the remainder of the winter and realize that. . . spring is only approximately 72 days away.

I am excited and looking forward to serving our members in the coming year on many different levels. Please let me know what's on your mind and how I can assist to make it happen.

Susan Stocker
2018 SCMGA President

SCMGA Board Meeting Minutes 12-18-17

President Tom Jordan imparted his wisdom of years of service to the association to incoming President Susan Stocker with help from the rest of the board.

Treasurer Brenda Kruse presented the budget for next year and discussed some of the specifics. (The budget is attached)

Graduation program will be a presentation of volunteer opportunities by people such as Taylor Woodcock from Reiman, someone from the Iowa Arboretum, etc. Might be volunteers from each group to share their experiences. Also we'll discuss what counts as volunteer hours so new and existing members know what they can do for credit.

Katie Williams is looking for outstanding volunteer and lifetime award nominations as well as anyone we've lost this year.

We discussed the need for an association laptop computer. Tom suggested that we should research types and prices before presenting to the association as a whole.



The speaker for the night was Carl Kurtz who gave us an overview of prairie restoration and management. (50 minutes CE credits)

SCMGA General Meeting Minutes 12-18-17

President Tom Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm. Candy Bostrum passed around a sign-up sheet for hospitality at future meetings.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer Brenda Kruse presented the budget for next year and discussed some of the specifics. Plant sale expenses were higher because of the purchase of tables. The treasury balance is \$10,257.05. Tom explained to some of the newer members that the reason we have a budget is so we can approve most things in one vote and don't have to make a special vote every time we need to spend money. The budget was approved as presented (attached).

Tom recognized the outgoing board members Ann Wilbur and Jackie Runyon.

Darla Ewalt reported that we actually had 24 people attend the Fall Symposium. The bills were turned in and paid. The lecturers were excellent.

The Iowa Arboretum and Reiman Gardens both received their donations and photos were taken at both presentations.

Lisa Hein reported that she has ruled out some locations for the April meeting. The Iowa Arboretum, Story County Extension, and Story County Conservation are still options.

It was reported that the Christmas tree committee, Ann Wilbur, Jane Tomesch, Marty Colony-Smith, and Judy Coverdale, did an excellent job in a short time. Ann suggested that we get started sooner if we intend to do another tree next year. The theme of pollinators was decided upon so many ideas were presented for possible decorations. Ann also suggested we look for sales this year. Tom recognized Brenda for coordinating the decorations on the tree in the past.

Graduation will be in March again at our regular meeting. Lisa Hein gave us her ideas on volunteer opportunities as the program. She suggested that we also have sign-up sheets at that meeting and have Katie discuss what is appropriate as volunteer activities. It was suggested that we include contact information for all opportunities and handouts where possible.

Tom presented an email from Katie that the ISU Soil Testing Lab is closing to submissions. She also said that Extension has seven 4-inch terra cotta pots available for free. He also presented a thank-you letter from the Iowa Arboretum for the donation.

Tom was recognized for his many years of service as President.

He then adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm

A highly entertaining present exchange then ensued.

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Dorn
2018 SCMGA Secretary



Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- ☀ Volunteer to give a presentation at the SCMGA meetings

- ☀ If you love to give presentations and/or teach adults and love gardening (who doesn't) please consider teaching an OLLI course next year. I'm looking for 4 individuals to teach a class of seniors (like me). You would only be responsible for presenting one 1 ½ hour session on a topic of your choosing. Please contact Andrea at adorn@iowatelecom.net .

Education

SCMGA 2018 Program Calendar

- ☀ January 15 – Mark Schneider, the Iowa Arboretum, at Reiman Gardens
- ☀ February 19 – Bill Johnson, Seed Starting at the Prairie Resource Center (Iowa DNR), at Reiman Gardens
- ☀ March 19 – Master Gardener Graduation and presentation of volunteer opportunities by SCMGA members, at Reiman Gardens
- ☀ April 16 – Mike Cox, Story CCB Director, Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor project, **at McFarland Park**, 56461 180th St. Ames, IA

Announcement:

The Iowa State University Soil and Plant Analysis Lab (Soil Sample Lab) will no longer be taking any samples from outside the University for research. The University is recommending the use of the service laboratories identified by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). This is attached. If there are any questions please contact Katie or the Extension Office.

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

2018 SCMGA Secretary

515-382-5604

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

Please contact your 2018 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

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