



Story County
Master

Gardener
Association

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

December 2017 Newsletter

December 18, 7 pm Program:

Hospitality: Potluck

NOTE: Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

The President's Row

During his presentation at our November meeting, Donald Lewis explained how insects survive the winter. As cold as it is today I am more concerned about how am I going to make it through the winter. I guess I've made it before, so I can do it again. The changes in the weather take some adjustment, last week I was working outside around noon without a jacket, by late afternoon I had a coat on and could have used another one.

I would like to express my appreciation for our retiring board members. Jackie Runyan and Ann Wilbur. They have both served admirably and I benefited greatly from their counsel.

As the end of the year approaches I should remind you of a couple of things. First, dues are due and second, record your volunteer and education hours. The strength of the Master Gardener Program lies in the community service it provides and the only measure of that service is the volunteer hours recorded. I used to work in safety and compliance and standard line was "if you don't write it down, it didn't happen".

Our December meeting includes a gift exchange. If you want to be involved bring a wrapped gift (\$10 or less). If you don't want to participate you can still stay and watch the fun. For treats we are having a goodies potluck, or maybe it is a plate luck as most goodies don't come in a pot.

After five years this will be my last President's Row. I have enjoyed my time as president because of the people I have had the privilege to work with. Thank you. My only request is that you will give our new president, Susan Stocker as much support, guidance and tolerance as you have given me.

Tom Jordan
2017 SCMGA President



General Meeting Minutes 11-20-17

Speaker Donald Lewis taught us where insects go in the winter and how they survive. (30 min CE credit hours)

President Tom Jordan brought the meeting to order at 7:50 pm. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Brenda Kruse expressed her appreciation for the symposium committee's work. Twenty-eight people attended meaning we took in \$1400. Expenses were \$355. She passed around the newsletter from the Brenton Arboretum. She also reported that a check was presented to the Arboretum after the Symposium and pictures were taken. A check must still be presented to Reiman Gardens. She asked for someone to step up to make that presentation and get a photo. The bank balance is presently \$10,097.05. She reminded us that annual dues are due now.

Madonna Feeney requested that members check their listing in the club folder and update her with any changes before the end of the year.

Lisa Hein is working on future speakers. She would like someone to present a travelogue in January with photos of their visit to other gardens. She would also like some ideas for other speakers and/or topics.

Tom reported that the Iowa Arboretum will be holding their fundraiser on Dec. 2. They will have the decorated Christmas trees on display. We also need someone new to step up to decorate a

tree for the association. The Arboretum needs to know soon if we are going to decorate a tree again so they can order an accurate number of trees.

Tom referred to an email that we all received from Katie Williams today. In it she mentioned the upcoming Home and Garden Show that needs presenters, preferably MG'ers to give talks of approximately 30 mins in length. She also reminded us all to turn in our volunteer and education hours.

Darla Ewalt reported on the Symposium. She said that the speakers and caterer were great. Three non-members came. She commended the treats committee on their efforts to keep our stomachs happy.

Tom told us Katie requested that we have the MG graduation at our March meeting again next year. Everyone present felt it worked well last time.

Tom reported that the contract for room for our meetings had been signed. There will not be a room available for our April 2018 meeting so discussion ensued on possible alternative locations. City Hall, The Ames Library, the Iowa Arboretum and the Extension office were mentioned as alternatives.

The December meeting will be a gift exchange and potluck. For those wishing to participate in the exchange a range of \$5-\$10 was suggested. Even if you don't participate it is fun to watch the exchanges.

Plant Sale:

Michelle Boswell will be the head of the committee next year. Bronwyn encouraged everyone to plan ahead, have plants that you intend to donate in an area where you can find them come spring. (Sue Draper made a list of what she has and where). Or in early spring divide for the sale. Sometime in the next couple of months try to provide the committee with what you plan to donate so they have some idea of what we still need.

This year we need to increase member donated plants. If anyone has ideas how we can encourage more donations please contact the committee members.

Ann Wilbur and Tom told us that Reiman still wants to keep the sale open on Sunday but they don't need as many MG'ers. However, we would still need plenty of people to help with shut down (especially the DMF plants). Once again the sale will be on a different weekend than ISU graduation so we won't have that traffic problem. Tom reported that if you have ornamental grasses (which don't usually sprout by the time of the sale) dig out some grasses early and place them in a warm spot to green up.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Dorn
2017 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 2017 Program Calendar

- ☀ December 18 - Carl Kurtz, Prairie restoration and management
 - ☀ January 15 – TBA
 - ☀ February 19 - TBA
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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
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Please contact your 2017 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

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