



Story County
Master

Gardener
Association

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

June 2018 Newsletter

June 18, 6:30 pm Program: Iowa Arboretum tour

Hospitality: None

NOTE: Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

The President's Row

It is the second week of June yet the temperatures tell me that it's time for the State Fair. Are you going? The theme for 2018 is.... "Nothing compares to the Iowa State Fair" But wait.....! Where did July and the beginning of August run off to? Are the kids back at school already and please tell me where spring went?

I am finally recovered from working in the 100 degree temperatures cutting sod over the Memorial weekend. We created a 36' by 36' flowerbed in our yard that I am very excited about. Do I need my brain examined though? What were we doing out in those temperatures instead of sitting in the shade with a beverage? My entire life I have been known to enjoy 80 plus temperature and would often let friends and family know this. Working in those temperatures have me questioning if I really enjoy the heat anymore? Maybe it is not about the heat but my inability with changing the plans when I have my heart set on it? I might want to look at this...?

I am very happy to report that all the sod found another home.

Please join us for our field trip to the Iowa Arboretum.

See you there!

Susan Stocker
2018 SCMGA President

SCMGA Minutes, May 21, 2018 @ Reiman Gardens

Mike Witt from ISU Extension showed us that soil testing need not be dry, err, a dry subject that is. He explained how to obtain a useful sample and what the testing results mean. (1 hr CE credit)

General meeting minutes 5-21-18

President Susan Stocker called the meeting to order at 8:20 pm. Katie Williams, Program Assistant for ISU Extension and Outreach, was introduced.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Brenda Kruse reported that our bank balance was \$8821.98. The income from the plant sale has not been received yet. She also commented that this was our best ever sale and she handed out some worksheets showing the early figures.

Jackie Runyon said that we make the biggest profit on member plants and we had plenty donated this year.

It was suggested that the placement of the cashiers was not ideal and it was challenging charging the iPad and Block

Bronwyn Frame asked for a hand for Michelle Boswell on a great job with the plant sale. Michelle pointed out the quality/quantity of plants and how valuable that was for a successful sale.

Dee Draper asked how Sunday went without MG members working. It was pointed out that several members actually did work Sunday even though we weren't officially manning it that day.

Announcements:

Katie will send out details about volunteer opportunities at the ISU Horticulture Farm's Home Demonstration Garden when she knows more.

Susan received an email from the Iowa Heart Center requesting MG presenters to accompany their dietitians to present how to plant and health benefits of produce.

Jamie Gurganus (sight-challenged) needs help with her garden including soil sampling, mulching, planting (maybe someone with a truck) and once per week thereafter to help with weeds, etc.

An email "blurb" will be sent out with several volunteer opportunities, including the above, later.

Old Business:

Michelle questioned what we should be doing about the "contacts" category when we enter our volunteer hours. Katie will "fix" our contacts for the plant sale. List the hours you worked at the sale. Jaclyn Hill asked about the purpose of the "contacts" category on the entry page. Katie explained that it shows the benefits of the MG program and compares the value of our program to other counties. It is a way to show that the MG program is empowering through our shared knowledge.

New Business:

Andrea Dorn noted that some folks had trouble opening the newsletter this time. She mentioned that it might have been because of the size of the photos enclosed. She will try to decrease the photo size for the future.

Tom Jordan received a request from the Story County Conservation for help with Hickory Grove Park. Last week they planned the garden around the flagpole. Now they need to plant sometime in June. Ann Wilbur asked how big the garden was. Tom explained that the bricks were 11.5 inches and there were 60 of them. This will be added to the "blurb" of volunteer opportunities.

Jackie reported that she had 15 more hostas left to sell. They are \$8/plant.

Katie asked if we'd sponsor one person for the youth bee-keeping course for \$200. It would include materials, activities, and room space in the Ames area. Tom moved and Michelle seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Brenda reported that several expenses were incurred for the plant sale that had not yet been approved:

Soil	\$51.02
Photocopies	\$24.31
Tent	\$95.23
2 Volunteer's tents	\$325
Total	\$495.56

Jackie made the motion to approve and Lisa Hein seconded. The motion was approved. Susan recommended we have this in the budget next year.

The June meeting will be at the Iowa Arboretum, July will be at Loya's B&B and in August we'll be at the One Heart Therapy Horse Facility. All summer meetings will start at 6:30 pm.

Susan adjourned the meeting at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted
 Andrea Dorn
 2018 SCMGA Secretary

Announcements

I. We receive a hardcopy of the Iowa Arboretum newsletter but by the time we have a meeting much of that information is outdated. Therefore we thought you might like the link to the online version: <https://iowaarboretum.org/newsletters/>

Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- ☀ Do you have a special green thumb when it comes to **houseplants**? Or do you have a love of working with indoor plants? Would you like to share that love with others? I'm looking for someone to give a talk on caring for houseplants for an OLLI class. This is a new class so you would have the freedom of determining which session it will be (winter or summer 2019) and how long it will last. You could use just one 90-minute class or 2, 3, or 4 classes. It's up to you. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity please let me (Andrea) know soon. My email is adorn@iowatelecom.net or phone 515-382-5604.
- ☀ Volunteer to give a **presentation** at the SCMGA meetings
- ☀ The Nevada Historical Society is looking for help in Nevada at **Evergreen Lane** and the Dyer Dowell House. They are open to working with you on what you are comfortable with. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to Jenny Helland – 515-382-4510.

Education

SCMGA 2018 Program Calendar

- ☀ June - 6:30 pm, FIELD TRIP Iowa Arboretum
- ☀ July – 6:30 pm, FIELD TRIP Loya's B&B 56676 160th St. Ames
- ☀ August – 6:30 pm, FIELD TRIP One Heart Therapy Horse facility (tentatively)
- ☀ September – 7:00 pm, Bluebird Trails - Jaclyn Hill

- 🌻 October – 7:00 pm, Diversity of Life within the soil - Don Draper
- 🌻 November – 7:00 pm, SCMGA digging committee - Bronwyn, Michelle, Jackie
- 🌻 December - TBD

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

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