



Story County
Master Gardener
Association

SCMGA_Newsletter@hotmail.com

December 2019 Newsletter

**December 16: All SCMGA social gathering, gift exchange and potluck!
Come with your two truths and a lie to share! 7:00 pm (at Reiman
Gardens)**

Hospitality: Everyone

Annual Dues are now due

NOTE: Please wear your nametags to the meetings.

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

The President's Row

Happy December! I hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather and remember. . . winter is still 13 days away.

Please join us December 16th for our monthly meeting. If you would like, bring a gift to share, \$10 maximum and some treats to share. If you just want to watch the gift swapping fun, please join us also and don't feel obligated to bring a gift.

Remember, we are also trying a new interactive game where you share two lies and one truth about yourself.

Any questions about the game, you can ask Donald Lewis for more details. I am looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Best wishes,
Susan Stocker
2019 SCMGA President

Announcements

I. Reminder to all members. Please take a look at your info in the membership section of the 2019 program book. Please let me know if you have any changes so I can get them made before the printing of the 2020 program book. I would appreciate getting this info by December 17th. Thanks much. Madonna Feeney.

II. Committee chairs please submit your 2019 committee reports to Madonna Feeney (mfeeny1@mchsi.com) by **December 10th** so she can add them to the 2020 SCMGA program book.

III. **Dues are due** by the end of the year but if you want to be in the program book (and we need you to be in the program book) you need to pay them by **December 17th**. You might ask why

you need to be included in the book, well, if we need to contact you for any reason we rely on the book. And I have to know your email address in order to send you the newsletter.

Speaker: Abby Terpstra from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation spoke to us about INHF. She said that the purpose of the foundation is to protect the land, water and wildlife of Iowa. They want to build connections to nature. This year is their 40th anniversary. (1 hour CE)

SCMGA Board Meeting November 18, 2019

President Susan Stocker called the meeting to order at 6 pm. She described the duties of the president and vice president for the benefit of anyone who is interested in volunteering. She then read the duties as outlined in the by-laws. Darla Ewalt recommended that we read the duties of each office to be filled during the regular meeting too. Darla also said that she was interested in filling the president position if someone new didn't step forward. In that case we would still need a new at large board member

Tom Jordan showed us the two logos Donald Lewis provided so that we could decide which one we should be using on our letterhead. It was suggested that we should still be using our own logo since we don't represent all Story County Master Gardeners just those who are members of our association. Susan will ask Susan DeBlicek what her intentions were about the logo and Donald for his impression.

Susan told us that Betty Toot would like to ask if anyone is interested in a May 15 bus tour from Ames to Minneapolis, MN. This would be the Friday after our plant sale. Lunch would be at Bachman's Bouquets. The cost would be \$45 if 30 people go, \$15 for lunch if 30 people go. It would go from 7am to 8 pm. We would need at least 14 days notice and a signed contract for the bus.

Andrea Dorn suggested that for next year's Symposium we should have more advertising such as in the local papers, at the Arboretum, Reiman and through Extension.

Lisa Hein said that we should put a list of those members who have already paid their dues for next year in the newsletter to encourage others to pay their dues. Susan also suggested that we send out a copy of the newsletter through Extension to non-member MGs with an invitation to join.

Andrea mentioned that she was going to need to buy new printer cartridges and postage stamps.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Dorn
2019 SCMGA Secretary

SCMGA General meeting November 18, 2019

President Susan Stocker brought the meeting to order at 8:05 pm. She said that the talk by Abby Terpstra was amazing. She also introduced Diana Madsen and new intern. Michaela VanDeBerg introduced herself and encouraged everyone to enter their hours into the system now – don't wait.

The minutes were approved as published.

The treasurer's report was given by Tom Jordan. Donald Lewis had provided him with copies of the treasury activity to hand out. The bank balance is at \$11,566.94. Andrea Dorn

moved that we donate \$500 to INHF, and Lynette Spicer seconded. Linda Tucker Schroeder suggested we up that to \$1000 and the adjustment was made to the motion and second. The motion was approved.

Announcements:

Susan asked for volunteers/nominations for the offices of president and at-large board member. She read the descriptions from the by-laws then asked again for volunteers and nominations. Sue Jensen asked about the member-at-large. Linda nominated Susan for another term as president but she declined. Darla volunteered for the president position. Sue nominated Terry Lewis as an at-large board member and he accepted. The two nominations were approved by the membership.

Betty Toot spoke about a possible bus trip to Minneapolis. We would be going to Bachman's Floral, Gift and Garden, Tangletown Gardens, and Donahue's Greenhouse (Faribault, MN). If we fill 35 seats the cost would be \$54 each. Lunch would be \$15 each if we had 30 people. Supper would be on your own at Clear Lake. The trip would be from 7 am to 8 pm. Any extra money goes to the SCMGA funds. The date would be May 15, 2020. Deadline to sign up a bus would be March 1, 2020. We can cancel it up until 14 days before the trip. Betty mentioned the possibility of another garden tour to the Minneapolis area in July or August.

The next meeting will be December 16. We will have a gift exchange with a \$10 maximum. We will also have a potluck of holiday goodies. Be prepared to play the game "Two truths and a lie."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Dorn
2019 SCMGA Secretary

This is a list of members who have already paid their dues. Are you on the list? Please pay your dues today. The address is at the beginning of the newsletter or you can bring them to the next meeting. Thanks!

Bertelson, Corry
Bethrum, Jenny
Bettelsen, Corry
Beyer, Jamie
Bostrom, Candy
Boswell, Michelle
Bunde, Carol
Cassady, Lisa
Clark, Kathy
Colony-Smith Marti
Coverdale, Judy
Darbyshire, Matt
Denato, Judy
Dorn, Andrea
Ewalt, Darla

Feeney, Madonna
Frame, Bronwyn
Gust, Tom
Harryman, Carolyn
Hein, Lisa
Jensen, Sue
Johnson, Donna
Johnson, Tom
Jordan, Tom
Judge, Patricia
Kenney, Barbara
Kruse, Brenda
Lamkey, Becky
Lewis, Donald
Lewis, Terry
Oltman, Judy
Peterson, Joan
Runyan, Jackie
Sievers, Donald
Spicer, Lynette
Stocker, Susan

Opportunities for Service and Education

Service

- ☀ Volunteer to give a **presentation** at the SCMGA meetings

Education

SCMGA 2019 Program Calendar

- ☀ December 16: All SCMGA social gathering, gift exchange and potluck! Come with your two truths and a lie to share! (7 pm **at Reiman Gardens**)

Please contact your 2019 SCMGA Board of Directors, if you have questions or concerns:

President	Susan Stocker	515-401-2349	scstocker2@yahoo.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	Tom Jordan	515-233-4103	tjdljordan@yahoo.com
	Darla Ewalt	515-232-4716	gsjoey69@hotmail.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 _____

BIRDSEED ORNAMENTS

½ CUP WATER

¼ CUP FLOUR

3 T. CORN SYRUP

2 ½ TSPS. UNFLAVORED GELATIN---Like Knox

4 CUPS BIRDSEED

NONSTICK COOKING SPRAY

COOKIE CUTTERS _METAL OR PLASTIC

Cookie cutters should be an inch thick so ornaments are more stable. Choose cutters without very fine detail. Chunkier shapes work best. Spray each cookie cutter with nonstick cooking spray.

SKEWER TO MAKE HOLE TO HANG ORNAMENT

NONSTICK SAUCEPAN

WAX PAPER

YARN, TWINE, RIBBON, OR STRING

1. Add the water & corn syrup to the nonstick saucepan & bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to low & add the gelatin, stirring continually to dissolve. Clumps may appear but will gradually vanish. Only heat this mixture until gelatin is dissolved -- boiling the liquid down too far will reduce the quantity available to bind your ornaments.
2. Transfer the syrup to the mixing bowl & add flour. Stir the mixture until well blended; will have consistency of thick cake batter. If too thick, add add'l hot water 1T at a time. Too thin, add flour 1T at a time.
3. Add birdseed and mix with the flour mixture to coat all the seed. Will be thick, stiff mixture. Spraying a rubber spatula or scraper can help ensure a good mix
4. Spray hands with nonstick cooking spray & fill each cookie cutter to the brim with birdseed. Be sure to press seed into every corner of mold & press the seed firmly to compact the ornament. Mixture can dry out quickly so wise to have help or cover the bowl with plastic wrap.
5. Gently move ornaments to wax paper. Can remove them from molds or leave them in. Wire rack works well to dry more quickly. Dry ornaments for a minimum of 6-8 hours or overnight.
6. Use string instead of fishing line for hanging. String can be used for nesting material for birds. Fishing line may choke the birds. Hang outside – birds love these.