

Outagamie County Master Gardener Association

Member Meeting

January 21, 2010

Location: Fox Valley Technical College Agriculture Building

PROGRAM

6:30PM: Guest speaker, Roxanne Rusch, was introduced. Roxanne shared her slide presentation titled "Perennials and Plant Propagation" and provided handouts.

MEETING

7:40PM: Mary Learman, President, called the meeting to order.

Minutes from the November meeting were accepted as written.

Plans for the 2nd Annual Garden Discoveries are already underway. Kathy and Pat Shaw will include their garden in this year's tour, which is scheduled to take place in July.

Mary highlighted the fact that Kathy has an article about dill featured in The Herb Quarterly, Spring 2010 edition.

Treasurer's Report: Available upon request. Members were reminded that if you are making payment to the organization, for all items except for plant sale-related items, please be sure to use a check as your payment method. Checks should be made out to OCMGA.

State Rep: Lynn Coffeen informed attendees that on February 20, from 9AM – noon, a program on gardening year round and starting plants indoors will be offered at the Green Bay Extension. Cost for the program is \$10. For more information, see UW Brown County's website or contact Bill Wright at 920.391.4658.

The 2010 Wisconsin Master Gardener Conference will take place July 23 & 24 in Sheboygan on the U.W. Sheboygan Campus. Conference cost is \$79. An incredible variety of topics are to be covered. Be sure to check the website for details.

Education Committee: Kathy Baum noted the next member meeting will occur on February 18, the third Thursday of month, at FVTC. A topic being considered for the March meeting is how to convert pictures to Powerpoint format. If you know of anyone who could teach such a topic, please contact Kathy.

Garden Expectations is scheduled for March 6, 2010 at Appleton East High School. Price for the event is \$30 and includes lunch. Please spread the word to friends, family, and co-workers. Flyers will be available at the Extension office on Monday, January 25. Please feel free to stop in and pick up some for distribution.

Plant Committee: Jackie Rickel asked if you are interested in joining the committee of have ideas for this year's sale, please be sure to contact her.

Communications Committee: Colleen Reed reported the deadline for the next newsletter is February 15. If you have an article, news, or other item you would like to share, please forward them before that date to Newsletter_ocmga@yahoogroups.com,

A release form is being created which will provide documentation of permission given for use of photos of members on the website or in newsletters.

Education Committee – Basic class: Peg Ebben provided a committee update.

A Mentoring Program is being developed which would match a student with a more seasoned Master Gardener for mentoring and to encourage involvement and retention in our organization. Members were encouraged to consider participation in the program and to contact Tom Wenzel if you are interested.

Advisor: Farm Technology Days: Kevin announced this event will be hosted in Outagamie County in 2012. Terry Tess is the Master Gardener representative on this executive committee, which is currently looking for a chairperson and co-chairperson. It takes approximately 1500 volunteers to make this event happen, with some sub-committees requiring the support of hundreds of volunteers. Assistance is needed with things like parking, food, signage, and more. Individuals interested in helping were asked to email or call Denise at the Extension office. Volunteer forms were distributed. The event will take place at Sugar Creek Farms, July 17-19, 2012.

Kevin shared that Jessica Wickland was hired for the UWX support staff by the county. She will also be filling in for the support position for OCMGA. The position is for a \$1500 stipend and will involve approximately 135 hours of Jessica's time. She will work with Denise and report to the executive board. Jessica has been cleared by The Board to fill this position and a motion was made to ratify the OCMG Executive Board's decision to hire Jessica as the Master Gardener support staff. Jessica provided an overview of her background. A motion was made by Suzanne Fowle and seconded by John Hengel to accept Jessica appointment to this position.

AOB: Name badges were distributed. If you were not in attendance, **you may pick up your badge at the Extension office.**

Flyers were handed out for the Joy Conference. This conference is coming up on February 6, 2010 at Fox Valley Lutheran High in Appleton.

Mary announced Judy Miller is still looking for heirloom seeds for her trip to Nicaragua. Mary stated even one packet would be appreciated and asked that all seeds be dropped off at the extension office.

Mary noted that we have a new recording secretary – Renee Corral. If anyone is willing to act as back up person, please contact Mary or Renee.

Lucy Valitchka reminded the group of the Wild Ones 14th Annual Toward Harmony With Nature Conference on January 30 in Oshkosh. Details can be found on The Wild Ones web site.

Also, the Covert Conference will occur in August. The conference is an amazing opportunity for landowners interested in **managing their woodland property to encourage wildlife**. The Covert Conference Feedback from previous participants has been extremely positive.

Next Meeting: February 18, 2010 FVTC Jim Beard

Meeting adjourned: 8:50PM

Attendance: 64 members

Education hours = 1hr 20mins

Support hours = 30 minutes (+ travel time)

Please scroll to the next page to view meeting photos by Cathy Schwieso . . .

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Plant Maintenance 101



By: Roxanne Rusch
Horticulture Instructor



Our January meeting featured Roxanne Rusch, Horticulture Instructor from FVTC who shared her expertise on plant maintenance.



Roxanne and **Colleen Reed** discuss the best ideas for gardener's wishes for Spring and the end of our Winter.



Welcome to **Jessica Wickland**, our new seasonal horticulture agent and also newest member on the Master Gardener support staff.



Terry Tess explains how volunteers are going to play a major role in the 2012 Farm Technology Days in Outagamie County. Terry and Kevin Jarek asked all MGs to consider volunteering to help with this large-scale endeavor.

