

Danville Master Gardener Association
Membership Meeting
February 5, 2024

Danville Master Gardener Association met on February 5, 2024, at West Main Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. with 20 members and 5 guests present. Refreshments were provided at 6:30 p.m. by the Social Committee.

Educational Program:

Kayleigh DiNoto from Kallan Farm on Berry Hill Road in Pittsylvania County ([Kallan Farm](#)), spoke to the group and showed slides on the establishment, growth, and goals of their family farm. The farm was started in 2019 with about 3 acres now being used to grow seasonal vegetables, herbs, and flowers. These products along with eggs from their chickens, are sold in farmers' markets in Danville, Greensboro, and the Piedmont Triad area. They also have direct sales at the farm and can provide "porch delivery".

The goal at Kallan Farm is to be chemical-free and sustainable. Fertilizers are nature-based, primarily using chicken manure and powder-form alfalfa meal. They obtained a grant to establish a pollinator field beside the garden. Pest control is managed using insect strips and trap cropping, increasing the numbers of lady bugs and praying mantis, and fencing to keep out deer and rabbits. Cover crops and tarps in the off-season contribute to successful weed control. They have a small greenhouse and are adding tunnel structures to lengthen the growing season.

Business Meeting - Call to Order, Minutes and Financial Report:

Billy Holley, President, called the Business Meeting to order. Minutes of the January 8 meeting were approved on a motion by Jim Clark and seconded by Deb Henderson. Billy asked the group about changing the July 2024 meeting to the second Monday; the first Monday is July 3. The consensus was to leave it on July 3.

Treasurer Kelly Adcock reported that income and expenses were still incoming for Spring to Green. About half of the DMGA members have paid their dues for 2024. These can be paid by check in person or by mail to Kelly. Credit card payments are also accepted with an added \$0.52 service fee.

Current balances on our accounts are: Main Account \$ 17,087.35; Swipe Account \$ 5,552.19; and the Greenhouse Account \$ 1,644.67.

Spring to Green Report:

Billy led discussion, with all agreeing Spring to Green was a success with positive feedback from attendees. Corey shared a slideshow of pictures prepared by Pat Morgan. We had 132 registrations; 15 businesses and DMGA members were partners/sponsors; and 6 area garden-related businesses were

vendors. In addition, there were about 20 contributors of door prizes, gift bag items, centerpieces, bottled waters, printing costs, etc. The Quilt contributed by Brenda Rowland sold for \$315.00. The DMGA raffle and sales of plants, cookies, and cards raised an additional \$809.00. Pending final figures, it is expected that Spring to Green will have a profit to help meet operating expenses and fund additional educational programming in 2024.

Evaluations will be reviewed by Carrie Rogers, Cindy Bailey and Brannon Blount, with a report to be submitted to the STG committee in the near future.

Educational Programs:

Ann Sylves reported that Annie Baggett with Sunshine Lavender Farm in Hurdle Mills, NC., will present our March program. She is continuing to get commitments from other speakers for 2024.

Budget for July 2024-June 2025:

Billy will be in touch with all committee chairmen to see what budget requests they have. The Budget Committee needs to have all requests by the end of March in order to present the budget at the June 2024 DMGA meeting.

Membership List for 2024:

Bonnie Hill reported that additional changes are being made to the current membership contact information. An updated list will be distributed later this month by email and printed copies will be available at the March meeting.

Corey Reidel, Extension Agent-Info and Reminders:

Training Class 2024 – Corey reported that 7 people have already signed up through Better Impact to take the 2024 class. He had sent out emails to about 70 people who had expressed interest to him, other members, or at the Community Market. The deadline for signing up is February 23. Another notice will be posted on our Facebook page and information is available on the DMGA website.

Orientation for the 2024 class is planned for Monday, March 4, at approximately 6:00 p.m., prior to the DMGA meeting. The lab schedule will be available soon. The Water Quality lab will be taught by Jessica Driver and Sonya Wolen, members of the Dan River Basin Association.

A question was raised about whether a person who had attained Master Gardener status in another state could transfer this to our group. Corey stated that if the certification was from another state, the person would need to re-take the class.

DMGA Project and Committee Reports – Debra Bailey:

The Pesticide Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 5, at Olde Dominion Agricultural Center. Debra has a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Area Events:

The Southside Master Gardener has meetings with speakers in the coming months listed on their website, www.ssmga.org. To register, send email to: ask@ssmga.org or call 434-476-2147. Option 0.

The Bedford Master Gardener seminar, “Grow the Good Life” will be on Saturday, March 9. [Grow The Good Life 2024, March 9 Tickets, Sat, Mar 9, 2024 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Patrick County Master Gardeners also have a seminar on March 9. [Master Gardener Symposium brochure 20240123_122016_0000.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Billy at 8:10 p.m.

DMGA Board Meeting: February 5, after the DMGA meeting.

Next DMGA Meeting:

**Monday, March 4, 2024 at West Main Baptist Church
Program: Annie Baggett with Sunshine Lavender Farm
Time: 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Hill, Secretary