

Danville Master Gardener Association
Membership Meeting
September 11, 2023

The September 11, 2023, meeting was held at West Main Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. with 21 members/trainees and 2 visitors present. Social hour began at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments provided by Pat Morgan, Jennifer Pittman and Isla Wiles.

Educational Program:

Corey Reidel, VT Extension Agent and our resident “Bug Expert”, presented our educational program on “Get to Know your Arthropod Allies”. Arthropods are critical to our eco-system, creating food and assisting in maintenance of biological control. They are our allies, not our enemies. There are four categories – specialists, predators, parasitoids, and pathogens. Predators include beetles, flies, and wasps. For fun and identification, Corey recommends the app, “Seek by iNaturalist”.

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

Billy Holley, President, called the Business Meeting to order. The August 14 minutes were reviewed by membership previously by email; on motion by Judy Hodnett and second by Brenda Rowland, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer Kelly Adcock reported that DMGA had received \$1001.00 in Spring to Green sponsorships and \$25.00 in income from the Seed Savers sales. Outgoing - DMGA paid West Main Baptist Church the annual \$500.00 for use of the church for our meetings and \$150.00 deposit to Angela’s Creative Catering for S2G catering deposit.

Current balances on our accounts are:	Main Account	\$15,545.52
	Swipe Account	\$ 1,746.66
	Greenhouse Account	\$ 1,976.81

Audit Committee:

The Audit Committee will need new members: Carrie Rogers, Cindy Bailey and Brannon Blount have volunteered to serve on this committee.

Greenhouse Funding:

The Board asked Billy to give the membership a review of the financial set-up of the Gibson Greenhouse operations. The Danville City School system provides the utilities (heat, electric, water) and general maintenance. A “Greenhouse Fund” was established with funds coming solely from Greenhouse plant sales. This Fund is overseen jointly by DMGA and the Gibson principal; all purchase orders have to be approved by the principal.

The “Greenhouse Account” was established by DMGA to support any programs at the school; this account was established with money donated in memory of Dan Goble by his family,

and from donations made by family and friends in memory of Ann Roberts. This account is controlled by DMGA and the DMGA Board.

DMGA Purchases:

In compliance with guidelines for Non-Profit 501-c-3 status, DMGA expenses require documentation and an audit trail. The treasurer is authorized to pay expenses on receipt of appropriate invoices or receipt of a reimbursement request with attached receipt. The reimbursement forms can be found in the DMGA Handbook. A debit card linked to the DMGA Main Account has also been obtained, authorized to be used by our President, Billy Holley or our Treasurer, Kelly Adcock.

DMGA Educational Programs:

Corey will send the membership a link for the annual/required “Risk Management/Civil Rights Training”; it is a Virginia Tech requirement for all members to have this training every year.

October 2 - Jessica Smith, “Rain Garden Management”

November 6 – Amanda Rhyne, “Bats”

December 4 – Christmas Holiday Social and Trainee Graduation Recognition

DMGA Newsletter and Website:

Brenda is having the Spring to Green vendor application posted on our website.

DMGA Master Gardener Training Class:

Corey reports the trainees are finishing up their on-line classes and their labs in the next few weeks. Saturday, September 16, the trainees will be treated to lunch before a lab discussion on “Lessons Learned/Latin Names/Garden Myths/Better Impact”. On Wednesday, September 20, Lena Salamanca, VT Professor of Plant Pathology, will be the coordinator for a Zoom presentation from 6-8 p.m. About 20 are participating in the Zoom training, including our trainees, DMGA members and Halifax DMGA members.

DMGA Project and Committee Reports:

1. Community Market – Volunteer coverage is needed for September 16, 23, and 30. On September 23, tables etc. must be moved out of the Market area after the Market closes, due to the Shrimp Fest taking place that evening.
2. Extension office help is still needed for September 26 and September 27, while Corey is away at a meeting. Hours needed are 11 a.m., 12 noon, and 1 p.m.
3. Gibson Greenhouse – Ann Sylves showed the group a plaque that Danville City Schools had awarded to the Danville Master Gardeners for the service provided to the school system. Billy reports “Watermelon Day” will be held in the next week or so, sharing our watermelon harvest with the students and teachers at Gibson.

4. Brookdale Assisted Living – Mary Beth Holley continues to interact with the residents and staff. She says a new resident there is a former Master Gardener and want to help with this.
5. Social Committee – Please see Nancy Carpenter and Isla Wiles to volunteer. Ann mentioned that there were some paper supplies at the Extension Office.
6. Nominating Committee – A description of the duties of each officer will be included in the next newsletter, new officers will be needed in January 2025.
7. “Spring to Green” – Scheduled for February 3, 2024, at Olde Dominion Ag Complex; plan is to sell 125 tickets. Speakers are Bryce Lane, Mary Ann Hansen and Pat Lust, with focus on Native Plants. The committee is meeting regularly; posters and brochures, registration information will be available by mid-October.
8. Seed Savers Program – Ann is continuing to accept and package seed donations, may bring some to next DMGA meeting for purchase.
9. Plant Sale – Debra reports that our DMGA fall plant sale will be on Saturday, September 30, at our regular DMGA table at the Community Market. Plants can be brought to the Market on Friday September 29, at 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed for set-up and sales.

Area Gardening Events:

Halifax Master Gardeners – Talks on October 13-Landscape Security by Design; October 27 -Caring for Roses, and November 3-Hardscape in your Landscape (check their website for times/location. Other groups and websites of interest are the Alamance County NC Master Gardeners, The Smithsonian, and Nelson County Extension Office. Debra is also looking into a possible DMGA trip on November 11.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 4:00 p.m., Extension Office

Next DMGA Meeting:

Monday, October 2, at West Main Baptist Church
Refreshments at 6:30
Program at 7:00, “Rain Garden Management” by Jessica Smith
Business Meeting at 7:30

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Hill, Secretary