

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President **Maryann Horgan** with 20 members in attendance at 9am.

President's Message

President Horgan announced that 9 members had gone to Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh, NC to visit the gardens and to take a seminar. MG paid the \$450.00 tuition for the members to take part in this trip. They were accompanied by Sam Marshall. A transfer, Ron Layman from Forsythe County was introduced. He was not in attendance. He will be able to transfer his volunteer hours. President Horgan announced that we have 52 house calls so far this year.

We will be giving a \$1,000. scholarship to Brunswick County Community College. We have given a scholarship of \$100. to 4H student Mason Bowling. Mason will also work in the BG for 10 hours this summer.

After the June general meeting there will be a tutorial given by **Amanda Kiel** on how to report house call visits.

In April, Brunswick County MG reported 2,796 volunteer hours and in May, 3,866 volunteer hours. Our goal for the year is 6,000 hours. Mecklenburg County reported 3,344 hours. They are our direct competition.

Mare Lawruk and **Jeanne Pavero** supplied the refreshments.

Membership Acceptance

The minutes from the April meeting posted on the web were accepted with no revisions.

Merry MacBarb produced the April Treasurer's report reflecting an ending balance of \$24,692.79. Report was accepted by the membership.

Old Business

President Horgan spoke at length about the need for volunteerism. She reported that we had 3 groups tour the Botanical Garden in April and May. In September, OLLI (Osher Life Long Learning Institute) from UNCW would like to come to the garden.

President Horgan stressed the need for volunteers to write articles for the local papers.

President Horgan passed around clip boards for the BG. There will be a transition from the old committee to new members. The committee needs volunteers in the Asian Garden; Grass Team; Maintenance; What's in Bloom; Sunny Perennial and Heavy Lifting. A bench for the garden has been delivered and needs to be placed. Tom Woods needs help after today's meeting.

Committees

Corresponding Secretary - **Jenny Newton** sent a "thank you" to Tracy Skrabal from the NC Coastal Federation. She received 2 "thank you's", one from BCC and one from Julie Livingston from the STJ Garden Club.

Membership - **Lynn Eriquez** and **Kay Swenson** announced that we have 74 paid members. They also distributed MG discount cards to those in attendance.

Hardscape - **Fred Mina** had no report.

Liaison Committee - **Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman** had no report.

Webmaster - No report

Hoop House - No report.

Publicity - No report.

Field Trip - No report.

Speakers and Library - **Sonia Smith** announced that today's speaker will be Tom Woods on IPM. Next month will be member Mary Dixon who will speak on edible gardening.

Plant Sale - President Horgan presented **Vicki Fuhrmann** with a rain gauge as a gift. Seems that it always rains when we have a plant sale. Vicki Fuhrmann announced that the Native Plant sale was a huge success. The Friday seminar was attended by 124 people. Sam Marshall spoke on natives and Jill Peluses spoke on birds in the garden. Vicki Fuhrmann reported that we earned approximately \$30,000. from the 2 sales totaling \$12,000. in profit.

Extension Coordinators

Michelle Cousineau personally thanked John Walters, Bob Kiley, Fred Mina, Janet Schmiel and Gail Pfeiffer for their work in the BG. Michelle Cousineau has devised a new plan to facilitate volunteering in the garden. There is a work sheet on a clip board in the tool shed with a list of garden chores. It will be clear and concise. Volunteers are to sign their names and cross out the jobs as they are completed.

Restitution - **Anita Handler** announced that in April, Restitution started with 11 children, added 15; 4 completed and 1 quit. In May, there are 18 current children and 14 have not showed up as of yet. They have already served 96 children this year. Their goal is to reach 130.

The children are growing plants by the concrete divider. The plants need to be watered since there is no irrigation. The children have also cleaned up the potting shed. They will be looking for more chores as the summer progresses.

Tom Woods reported that our House Call program is a very good value. We have 52 to date. He would like to start a program in Leland similar to the Hickman Crossing library program. We need a MG to start it up and others to man it. The "Fire in the Pine" festival in Halliburton Park in Wilmington is on October 8. We will man it if no one from New Hanover County will be there. Bark lice are currently showing up on Oak trees and Crepe Myrtles. The lice clean the trees by eating the lichen and bacteria. Turf problems are starting due to the weather.

New Business

President Horgan announced that in September we will form a committee to determine what our goals are and where we are headed? What direction should we take and how can we increase our public outreach?

A summer project for a MG this year is to edit and update the "*Herb and Edible Flower*" book.

John Walters expressed a concern that soil sample boxes are not being filled correctly. **Fred Mina** said if a Google search is done, there is a tutorial , *Taking Soil Samples NCSU*.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

Speaker: Tom Woods on IPM.

Submitted by Jeanne Pavero
Vice President