August MG Meeting

Defiance County Master Gardeners met at the Defiance Community Gardens in the garage building next to the gardens. President Jean Bremer called the meeting to order. Eighteen members and 6 guests were present.

The secretaries’ report for July was accepted with the change noting that Bobbie Sinn and Donna Hitzman provided the refreshments instead of what was reported. The treasurer’s report was given by Linda Maag. She stated that she added some money received from the plant sale. The group was reminded that Diane Clark submitted a bill for door prizes for the fair at last month’s meeting. A bill was presented by Diane Clark for posters for the fair. A motion to pay the new bill was made by Tammy Bowers and seconded by Linda Bennett.

Historian: No report given.

Communications: None at this time.

Committee reports:

Defiance Area: Work has been going on in the Defiance city parks. Diane has set up Mondays at 10:00 AM to work at the Depot. Members have helped and then had lunch afterwards. Diane asked the group if another day would work, but it was generally agreed that she would continue to communicate with the members as the need arises. Members are encouraged to work on their own time as well at any of the other city parks.

Community Garden: A tour of the gardens will follow the meeting with three gardeners available to talk to members about their gardens.

Sherwood Area: No report.

Hicksville Area: It was reported that the Hicksville group is collecting old chairs for a fund raising project.

Education Day: No report. Diane stressed that we were trying to get an hour of education at each monthly meeting.

Garden tour: No report.

Plant Sale: No report.

County Fair: A sign up sheet was passed around. Members were reminded that take down would be at 5:00 PM on Friday August 25th. Diane informed the group that the booth will be located in the Merchant’s Building this year instead of the Ag Hall as in the past. She reminded members that the cost to enter the fairgrounds is $8 a day or $25 for the week long pass.

Count the garden by the flowers, never by the leaves that fall.

Count your life with smiles and not the tears that roll.
August MG Meeting Continued

Old Business:

1. President Jean informed the group money is available to spend for certain items for the Defiance County Master Gardeners from money made available through Pam Bennett from the State Master Gardeners level. Items the group could use were discussed. Items suggested were three 6 foot folding tables to use at various events, an updated camera to use with the microscope at the Extension Office, a banner to use at our various events, a table top microphone to use at meetings and events, a Weed Wrench to be used by members doing community projects, a soil probe, and an updated Michael Dirr Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs. The group voted to submit this list and Diane volunteered to prepare the list and give it to Bruce Clevenger so we will be able to meet the September 1st deadline.

2. Diane explained about the bulb selling project talked about at the last meeting and handed out catalogs and materials. It was mentioned that checks for the product could be made out to the Defiance County Master Gardeners and that we would make 50% of the sales in profit.

New Business:

1. Diane told the group that Pro Medica is starting a Garden Group comprised of volunteers from their employees and their foundation. The idea is to rehab some of the gardens at the hospital facility by educating these volunteers with some gardening skills. They have asked us to provide the educational opportunities. Diane has set up three at 4:30 for 30 minutes. They will be held on August 23rd, September 20th and October 18th. The September session will be a panel discussion to answer questions and the October one will feature Rosalie Rosebrock talking about caring for roses since there are lots of roses in the Pro Medica garden beds. Diane asked for volunteers to sign up. If the project goes well we will consider spring sessions in the future.

2. Diane shared some programing information regarding next year’s meetings. She has set up a program for May at Kircher’s called “What’s New, What’s Hot” and September’s meeting will be held at Straight Gate near Hicksville. Diane also asked if the group was interested in a day trip next year to the Quilt Gardens over in Indiana. Many members expressed an interest. Diane encouraged members to make suggestions for next year’s programing.

3. Members were reminded that the next meeting will be September 19 at the Hicksville Schools Land Lab. A session on candy onions will be given and members will be able to tour the land lab. Dale and Linda Bennett will be in charge of refreshments in the Art room following the meeting.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Rose Tadsen to adjourn.

The members sampled many zucchini bread submissions by members and Linda Maag’s “Pina Colada Zucchini Bread” recipe was selected the best by the three visitors and community gardeners who were selected as judges. Everyone enjoyed the zucchini breads. Additional refreshments were provided by Mary Kasaga and Diane Clark. The group then toured the community gardens and three gardeners were available to answer questions. Respectfully Submitted by Tammy Bowers

Land to Lake Conference

From 9:00 - 4:00, join us for a full day focused on the Future of our Rivers, highlighting the opportunities and challenges provided by our rivers, including: Recreation, Connectivity, Improved Water Quality, Riverfront Revitalization, Riparian Habitat, Pollution Sources, Floodplain Restoration and Health Benefits. Conference registration includes a light breakfast, lunch and will be held in the Hubbard Banquet Room in the Serrick Campus Center. At 7:00 pm, Dr. Chris Winslow of OSU Stone Labs, will present: Lake Erie Algae, Nutrient Loading, and Current Research derived from the Jan J. Younger Colloquium Endowment at Defiance College. This lecture is free and open to the public and will be held in the Schomburg Auditorium. Register online at http://landtolake.com/