

**Union County Master Gardener Association  
Business Meeting  
February 25, 2015, 7:00PM – Buckeye Room  
Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:** Suzie Arnold, Dixie Bowen, Al Burnard, Chris Burnard, Kay Covert, Vera Cyre, Terri Farley, Donna Gehring, Roberta Gordon, Scheral Greider, Joan Griffin, Mary Ann Haynes, Melissa Henry, Deb Jeffers, Julie Jones, Harry Kirtley, Lisa Kovinchick, Laurie Lowe, Donna Maley, Mary Salimbene Merriman, Karen Moots, Sheila Sands and Patty Sweeney

**Call to Order** – Al posed the question: “Have you taken a walk to enjoy the winter weather?”

**Secretary’s Report** – there were no edits to last month’s meeting notes.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Al reported on Carolyn’s behalf: received McCloud Park reimbursement for 2014 from the City of Marysville. Sheila audited the books for 2014 and found everything to be in good order including checking statements, checkbook register, deposit slips, reimbursement forms, Treasurer’s Reports and summary of expenses by project. All agreed that Carolyn did an excellent job.

**Coordinator’s Report** – Laurie awarded badges to a couple more interns. Pam Bennett co-authored “Gardenpedia” and provided a copy for each county. Every MGCV will be **required** to complete abuse training in 2015, likely via a presentation during monthly meeting. More information to follow.

**Old Business**

- **2014 State Conference** – Proceeds should soon be distributed to the counties. Though ticket prices were kept low (same as previous year) to merely cover expenses, good turnout and lower expenses may result in greater than anticipated proceeds. To that end, Al is asking Julie and Eunice to create a plan and report back on ways to put the funds to good use. **Send suggestions to [Julie](#) or [Eunice](#).**
- **[VMS Home Page](#)** – Lisa K. volunteered to keep *Monthly Musings* updated and has run with it! **Send announcements, stories, links and news items to [Lisa](#).**
- **[In the Garden with Ohio Master Gardeners](#)** – **read the weekly articles on the [State MGCV website](#) and [OSUE MGCV Facebook page](#)**

**New Business**

- **Recognition Banquet** – will be held Wednesday, April 1 at 6:00 PM at Allen Township Hall, 16945 Allen Center Rd., Marysville, OH 43040. Event will include a potluck with hors d’oeuvres and desserts. This is in addition to the Monthly Business Meeting. Details, map and directions to follow.

- **Project Handbook** – We have created a form and ask that project chairs document project requirements, activities and timelines. We will email the form to chairs along with instructions and an example. The documentation may cover several months or a single point in time, depending on the project. Please merely capture details about the project, including digital photos, if possible. Potential volunteers and chairs will use the information to learn more about a project. **Chairs: please complete the form by end of the season for your project(s).**
- **Opening our monthly meeting education program to the public** – questions about logistics were raised such as whether to have guests RSVP by email; monitoring and replying to inquiries; whether to invite guests to the meeting, too; process for welcoming guests in an adjoining area beforehand. Topic was tabled pending further discussion.

### **Project Reports**

- **Adopt-a-Pot** – [Donna Maley](#) and [Mary Salimbene Merriman](#): met with a City of Marysville official to inform her about the project. They have purchased some pots and need to clarify who will do the planting. There were issues with watering in the past and Scheiderer may take over the watering contract. Volunteers are advised to check plants frequently the first couple weeks until they are established. Plan to go door-to-door to discuss the program with local merchants. Possible planting dates are May 20 (city pots) and May 23 (merchant pots). **Please contact any uptown merchants you know to tell them about the project.**
- **August Plant Sale** – [Audrey Kise](#): nothing new to report
- **Covered Bridge Festival** – [Bea Metz](#) and [Kay Nichols](#): nothing new to report
- **Diagnostics/Helpline** – [Laurie Lowe](#): hope to start back up in the spring. **Need volunteers to come into the office 2-3 hours once per week.** Email to follow.
- **Love & Learn** – [Chris Burnard](#): the team will plant 10 gardens to donate produce to the local food pantry, and will hold an education program in June for the public in collaboration w/Project GROW. Roberta's garden – an organic layered raised bed over turf – is ready. Next meeting will be 6:00 PM before March Business Meeting. **Volunteers are needed for this project.**
- **Magnetic Springs Beautification** – [Karen Long](#): nothing new to report
- **Marketing** – [Kay Covert](#) and [Lorna Williamson](#): nothing new to report. **Volunteers are needed.**
- **McCloud Park** – [Dixie Bowen](#) and [Julie Jones](#): met with City officials and they will add a water outlet to the remote bed, provide leaf bags, tools, fertilizer and more at no cost. **Starting in March: plan to work in the park the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, 9:00 – 11:00 AM.** We'll remove leaves and prune first. In April we'll dig perennials during the 'divide and conquer' event, and subsequently give the plants away on April 25 to coincide with City's "Passport to Fishing" event at Aldersgate Park. Projects in the works include:

- A seed planting event for kids to coincide with City's fishing pole giveaway event – **MGVs: we need a chair to plan this one-day event**

- An event for seniors later in the summer; working with City to transport seniors to McCloud
- "Partner with a Gardener" program

Next meeting: 6:00 PM March 25, before Business Meeting. **We need volunteers for these projects!**

- **Monthly Meeting Educational Program** – [Dixie Bowen](#): in March, Brodie Rockenbaugh and Amber, Marysville Parks, will present the history of McCloud Park. Future topics include:
  - April – raising backyard chickens
  - May – bird feeding
  - June – tour of Maryanne Haines' garden
  - July – canning
  - August – succulents (tentatively)
  - September – butterflies (tentatively)
  - October – native trees
  - January or February 2016 – insects on trees (by Alum & Arbor)
- **Project GROW** – [Al Burnard](#): met with COYC staff to schedule work times: **we will work in the garden Wednesday and Sunday evenings.** Collaborating with Love & Learn project to hold education program for the public on raised beds, including a walking tour and hands on experience. Plan to convert the neglected perennial garden to a space where counselors can meet with the residents. Space will become a container garden with containers from Dutch Mill. We will dig and divide perennials, plant annuals and mulch between containers. More information to follow.
- **Scholarship Committee** – [Audrey Kise](#): **help us get the word out to friends in the community.**
- **Speaker's Bureau** – [Eunice Hornsby](#) and [Lisa Kovinchick](#): nothing new to report

### Announcements

- March Educational Program will include presentations on the History of McCloud Park and City of Marysville Parks, presented by Amber Haynes and Brodie Rockenbaugh, respectively, beginning at 8:00 PM.
- Local Soil & Water Conservation Districts are holding their annual tree and shrub sales:
  - [Union County SWCD](#) sale will be held Saturday, April 18, 9:00 – 11:00 AM, Ag. Center, Buckeye Meeting Room; includes bare root seedlings, native trees and plants
  - [Delaware County SWCD](#) and [Franklin County SWCD](#) offer pre-ordering for trees, shrubs, native plants and more. Check their websites for more details.
    - Delaware Co. [Tree & Wildlife products order form](#)
    - Franklin County's [ordering page](#) is now open and accepting orders
- Lorna distributed a flyer promoting "The Secrets of Saffron" program to be held March 5, 6:30 PM, by the [Herb Society of America](#), Delaware County Unit. Cost to attend is \$8.
- There was a suggestion to add links to MGv related activities and organizations, such as the Union Co. birding group, to VMS.