

## January 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Approximately twenty-one members gathered at the home of Angie Fender for the annual January planning meeting.

Julie Coffin read the secretary's report from the October 7, 2009, meeting. There were no changes or additions to the secretary's report.

Nancy Knapp, the treasurer, caught us up with bank account activity, and reported that the club's account balance is \$1,445.31.

Agenda items were as follows:

**Master Gardener Class:** The Purdue Extension is holding a Master Gardener class in Clay County. Classes begin on Tuesday, February 2 at the Clay County Extension Office in Brazil. Registration is due by January 22. There is also a class scheduled for Greene County—to be held in Switz City. Details can be obtained from the Extension Office.

**Spring meeting:** Annie opened up a discussion about possible speakers for our annual spring "educational" meeting. Berta Moore suggested that an acquaintance of hers who is an expert on native plants might be a possibility. Berta will contact the person and let Annie know whether this is a possibility. There was also some discussion of a meeting about mushrooms and mushroom hunting, but the consensus led back to the possibility of Berta's acquaintance.

**Plant Sale:** The Farmer's Market opens on Saturday, May 1, 2010. We will hold our annual plant sale there--for the third year in a row. Nancy Sparks will make sure we have three spaces reserved. Jo Ann Ligon will be in charge of the sale. As usual, all members are encouraged and welcome to participate by digging and potting plants, labeling them with name and sun requirements, and taking them to the Market on that Saturday morning.

**June Meeting:** Sunday, June 13, was chosen as the date for the annual Progressive. Berta Moore offered her home as a destination, and Jo Ann Ligon's home *was volunteered* as a second destination. The evening will begin at 4 p.m. at Berta's house, followed by dessert at Jo Ann's house.

**Owen County Fair:** The 2010 Fair is July 18–24--nearly two weeks later than usual. The Open Class building theme is "Down the Yellow Brick Road." In keeping with the theme, members settled on "a yellow arrangement" as the category for the specialty flower contest that the Club sponsors on Tuesday of Fair week. Prizes (of \$25, \$15, and \$10) will go to the cut-flower arrangements that show the most variety (of yellow flowers).

Some discussion followed about making sure that adequate numbers of Garden Club members were on hand to check in flowers on Saturday, help with the judging, and then to check out flowers on the following Sunday.

Annie and Berta volunteered to take in flowers and help judge on Saturday, July 17.

Various other members volunteered to be available for other duties. There has as yet been no word from the Fair Board about whether Club members are needed to patrol the Open Class building during Fair week.

**Fair Display:** The Club will once again have a designated space in the center of the Open Class building for a display. The topic of container gardening and/or “patio pots” was agreed upon. Julie Coffin will be in charge.

**Triangle:** Julie Coffin contacted the Cloverdale High School agriculture teachers and has committed the club to purchasing 150 Wave petunias (half hot pink and half deep purple) from the school’s horticulture program. The Club’s cost will be only 90 cents per plant. Julie will hold a meeting in April to plan the Triangle plantings and work schedule.

**Urns:** Faye Ure addressed various watering concerns. The job has become too large for many members to want to take on. In addition, there is some confusion about what pots need water because some members take care of their own pots, and others volunteer to water more than their own. John Fuhs volunteered, once again, to water all the pots on the perimeter of the Square. Julie suggested creating a map that shows pot locations and separate symbols to indicate whether each pot is an owner-watered pot or whether it needs to be taken care of by the weekly waterer. Faye is updating the watering list for the summer.

John Fuhs will remove the greens by the end of April. Fresh dirt was put in last fall, so the pots should be ready for planting once the greens are out. Members should plan to have pots planted by May 15. Members may choose their own plants.

**October Meeting:** Connie McCain always graciously hosts this event. We’ll leave the planning to her once again, including the choice of date.

**An Additional Meeting:** Some discussion was had about whether the Club could or should hold some type of additional meeting in September or October. The possibility of a “field trip” to visit a notable garden was raised. Members suggested that a day trip by coach might be an enjoyable diversion. After some discussion, it was agreed that the cost of renting a bus or coach needed to be explored before further plans are made.

**May 1 Courthouse Celebration:** A group of community members is planning a celebration on May 1 to note the Courthouse’s 100th year of service. There may be opportunities for the Garden Club to get involved, either by participating or contributing. A suggestion was made to replace the somewhat worn-out picnic table at the northeast corner of the Square. Or, the Club could offer to landscape that corner to enhance its appearance. The Club will await further information from the organizing group before any decisions are made.

submitted by Julie Coffin, 2/2/10