

**Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association Meeting
Fort Valley Nursery, Woodstock
January 19, 2014**

President Bob Carlton brought the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

November's Minutes: Bob Carlton noted that the minutes were posted on the website and asked for a motion to approve them. ***Rich Howell made a motion to accept the minutes as posted, Lynn Hoffmann seconded, and the motion passed.***

Treasurer's Report: Lee Demko presented the Treasurer's report for January as follows:

Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association Statement of Cash Operations for period ending 1/15/2014		
<u>Opening checking Balance - Dec 31, 2013</u>		6,070.94
 <u>Income:</u> Deposit 2014 (none)		
	Closing Balance	6,070.94
 <u>Expense:</u> (i)		
#1420 (M. Pasinton - reimb)	\$3.16	
	1/15/14 closing balance	6,067.78
 <u>Investment</u>		
CD - CD United Bank 11/4/13 maturity		5,172.24
savings acct - Savings Acct, United Bank		<u>5,102.08</u>
	Total cash on hand } on 1/15/14 }	16,342.10
prepared by Saundra Lee Demko		

Vice President's Report: Ginny Smith reported that February's Association Meeting will be held at the Warren County Government Center on Sunday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m.; Sandra Johnson will be the guest speaker.

Standing Committees

Publicity: Teri Merrill reported that she will be submitting a story to the Winchester Star about today's meeting as well as the upcoming March 15 Symposium. Teri suggested that MGs interested in writing a story submit it to her for editing and she can then submit it to the Star.

Education: Helen Lake reported on the following:

1. Anne Dewey-Balzhiser will be giving a workshop on public speaking and PowerPoint presentations on Saturday, **February 22, 2-3:30 p.m.** at the Museum of the Shenandoah's Learning Center located in Winchester. Anne stated that she will be covering the process of public speaking/PowerPoint presentations step-by-step and will include tips for success. She added that attendance at this workshop can be counted as 1.5 education hours. Please call Anne to reserve a spot: **540-869-1317**.
2. The Garden in the Valley Symposium will be held Saturday, March 15 at Shenandoah University, located in Winchester; check-in time is 7:30 a.m. and the program will end at 4:00 p.m. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided, door prizes given away, and the speakers are set. The auditorium capacity is 185 people.
3. Leadership Skills Workshop to be offered to anyone interested in holding a leadership position (e.g., county coordinator, program coordinator, project leader, etc.) More information will be forthcoming.

Finance: A turnover audit will be conducted; Frank Baxter has volunteered and will select two additional volunteers.

Membership: Mary Craig reported that the Membership List will be updated on both VMS and the Website after 2014 dues are paid today.

Newsletter: Bob Carlton reminded everyone to send MG articles and pictures to the Newsletter Editor, Richard Stromberg: risy@embarqmail.com .

Special Committees

Guidelines Review: Cy Haley reported that the Committee's next meeting will be scheduled the first week of February and updated results will be presented at the February Board Meeting. Please send Guideline updates to Cy: cdh@brs.org .

GardenFest: Cy Haley reported that the first GardenFest meeting will be held Friday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m. at Belle Grove Plantation. Cy explained that she has broken down GardenFest responsibilities into coordinator positions. Please email Cy if interested in helping with GardenFest.

County Coordinators Reports

Clarke: Mary Craig reported that Clarke will have a county meeting in late February or early March.

Frederick: Angie Hutchinson reported that the Frederick County green-line operates out of Mark Sutphin's office for three hours on Fridays. Volunteers will be needed to identify the plants in the rain garden located at the Frederick Douglass Learning Center; Angie will send out a notice. A volunteer is needed to speak on rain barrels at a Southern States event to be held April 19th. Paula Brownlee will be speaking on herbs as well. Please contact Angie if interested: call (540) 722-3336, or email: angelikhutchinson@comcast.net .

Page: Lesley Mack reported that Charlie Newton has rejoined NSVMGA and he was welcomed with applause. She noted that a 1750 Luray Chinquapin Oak has been featured in a book, *Remarkable Trees of Virginia* and it is the second largest tree of its kind in Virginia. Page County has submitted a project application that will include preventing weeds, maintaining the tree's health and providing guidance to county officials on proper care and protection of this special tree.

Shenandoah: Carolyn Wilson reported that Larry Haun will head up a new FFA Day camp project along with several other volunteers. Carolyn has a talk on house plants scheduled; the green-line is up and running 24/7.

Warren: Marsha Burd reported that County Coordinator Katherine Rindt will schedule a county meeting in February. Frank Baxter reported that the Samuel's Library lecture series is being scheduled quarterly.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Civil Rights Certificates: Susan Garrett passed around certificates for those who have completed the training.

VMS Hours: Susan reported that Time Keeper Sarah Kohrs sent emails to all MGs updating them on their hours. Susan also reported that Congrats are in order as the Kohrs family has a new and long awaited arrival! Susan added that more hours and contacts were recorded for 2013 than for previous years.

County Coordinators Meeting Scheduled: A meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 25th and updating the project application form will be discussed. Susan assured all that project applications already submitted for 2014 on the old form are fine.

MG Name Tags: Susan received new name tags for Sally Hale and Kathy Clevenger.

Recertifications: Susan reminded everyone that recertification forms were available at today's meeting and could be completed and turned in with dues payment today.

2013 Interns: Susan reported that six Interns are close to completing their 50 hours.

VCE Liaison's Report: Mark Sutphin was not able to attend.

2014 MG Class Update: Rich Howell reported that registration was held last week in Woodstock and 16 students were screened and selected to begin the class on February 11th. Rich requested that all MGs consider attending the first class to “shock and awe” the new students and make them feel welcome; the classes will be held at the Shenandoah Government Office Building, 600 North Main Street, and will begin at 6:00 p.m. He asked that those planning to attend wear their MG shirt and badge and suggested that all visiting MGers could leave at the class break around 7:45 p.m.

Old Business

Junior Master Gardeners: Lynn Hoffmann reported that the Jr. MG program for homeschoolers will begin in March. Classes will be held on Tuesday mornings and Lynn will send out an email requesting volunteers to teach and help with the classes.

MG Scholarships: Lynn Hoffmann reported that applications have been sent out to both the high schools and the county superintendents. High school seniors will be eligible for the \$200 scholarships and information as well as the application is available on our website. Children of MGs are eligible too. The College scholarship applications will be sent out soon; college seniors will be eligible to apply for the \$1000 scholarship.

New Business

Community Gardens in the City of Winchester: Theresa Krause reported that garden plots will be available to city residents; a meeting is being held Wednesday, January 29th, and she has flyers with more information.

Adjournment: *Cy Haley made a motion to adjourn and Rich Howell seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. and was followed by Terry Fogle's talk, “The Seven Most Common Questions Asked at Fort Valley Nursery.” A bountiful MG potluck, lots of MGs catching up with one another, and a great deal of shopping completed the afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Boag
Secretary, NSVMGA

