

THE GARDENER



Newsletter of the Bowie-Crofton Garden Club

January 2019

President's Notes

Hi BCGCers – awesome new year, even with the snow and cold. Just makes you appreciate everything once the plants start growing.

We're starting the year on January 29 at 7 p.m. with a presentation by Linda Conboy on her experiences becoming a Master Gardener. The Club reimburses the Master Gardener fee for members who complete the Master Gardener program if funds are available. If you complete the Master Gardener program with all of the bells and whistles, check with me to see if the Club has funds to reimburse your fee.

Speaking of speakers, we tried a few different things last year. Took a chance and I think they were extremely successful— in addition to the format of a traditional speakers, we had members' mini-talks and panels. Field trips are always a hit and we've even done a few workshops during meetings. Please, think of topics and forums that are of interest to you and we will work on them.

The December Holiday party was highlighted with lots of good food and fun. Carmen and her family made the evening festive. Super celebration. THANKS!

On page 2, you will see the proposed 2019 Budget and the Treasurer's report for the Fourth Quarter of 2018.

Closing out 2018, the nominating committee presented a slate of officers, which the Club voted and approved. The result of the vote was that the 2018 officers will continue in their positions for a two-year term. The Club membership also approved a bylaws change realigning the timing of the budget to coincide with when the Club's revenues and expenses

have been completed for the year.

BIGGEST POINT

The Plant Sale is Saturday, April 27. Time to decide what plants you will donate to the Plant Sale. The annual Plant Sale is the Club's major fund-raiser. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of member donated plants goes to the Garden Club. We'll talk about Plant Sale needs at the next few meetings, as well as invite members to help plan and work at the sale.

Next BIGGEST POINT

Dues for 2019 are payable now, either by paying them at meeting or by mailing them to the Garden Club. Dues are still \$10 for individuals and \$12 for families.

Members who are 80 years old or older are honored with a life-time membership and are no longer required to pay dues. But you must let the membership chair know.

Our Garden

Have begun planning this year's efforts. I know I want to plant a lot of berries. My goal is eventually to "grow more berries than I can eat." We probably will plant blueberry, blackberry, and raspberry plants this year. We improved our staking methods for plants.

Keeping weeds under control is our next effort. Our 2019 slogan is "the year of no weeding." (No laughing please!)

Hope we have lots of success again with the ghost peppers this year.

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Upcoming Club Meetings

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Kenhill Center multi-purpose room

Topic: **Becoming a Master Gardener**

Speaker: **Master Gardener and Club Member Linda Conboy**

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Kenhill Center multi-purpose room

Topic: **Planning for Planting**

Speaker: **Planning and Planting Specialists**



Proposed 2019 Budget

January 1, 2019 Checkbook Balance		\$	5,743
	Income		
	Membership dues	\$	1,070
	Spring Plant Sale	\$	6,118
	Fundraisers	\$	500
	Miscellaneous	\$	26
		subtotal	\$ 526
	Total Income	\$	7,714
	Expenditures		
Operations	Equipment	\$	343
	Insurance	\$	525
	Membership supplies	\$	44
	Office supplies	\$	80
	Post office box rental	\$	96
	Speaker fees	\$	100
	Sunshine	\$	28
		subtotal	\$ 1,216
Sales	Spring	\$	2,589
	Advertising	\$	300
		subtotal	\$ 2,889
Parties	Summer picnic	\$	175
	Halloween room rental	\$	-
	Halloween food	\$	27
	Holiday room rental	\$	-
	Holiday food	\$	137
		subtotal	\$ 339
Community Service/ Promotion	Green school support	\$	500
	Service projects	\$	700
	Printing	\$	50
		subtotal	\$ 1,250
Donations	UMD scholarship	\$	1,000
	Bowie Food Pantry	\$	1,000
		subtotal	\$ 2,000
Ending checkbook balance		\$	5,763

Bowie Food Pantry Garden – 2018 Year-end Report

from John Teasdale

Each year since 2014, the Garden Club has been a sponsor of the Bowie Food Pantry Garden. Volunteers from the Garden Club and the community have planted, tended, and harvested the garden. Here are the 2018 year-end report and plans for 2019.

Supporting Organizations

Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry – Debbie Langdon, Director

City of Bowie Kenhill Center – Sally Hein, Director, Department of Community Services

City of Bowie Parks and Grounds – Ed Hall, Superintendent

Bowie-Crofton Garden Club – Brian Gollsneider, President

Calvert Farm – Pam Stegall, Farmer

Volunteer Gardeners

Peggy Brow, Madonna Chernesky, Pam Fleming, Sue Goldberg, Rob Kellaway, Sue Livera, Patty McCaughey, Ralph Moultrie, Annellen Moore, Martha Schmidt, John Teasdale (coordinator), Verna Teasdale, Joshua Wooten, Becky Yoblin, Sharon Young.

Activities

- The Bowie Crofton Garden Club donated funds for supplies and plants.
- Calvert Farm donated tomato, pepper, and eggplant transplants.
- Volunteer gardeners participated in all phases of garden operations from planting to harvesting and cleaning produce for distribution to Food Pantry clients. **A total of 261 hours of work was performed by 15 volunteers.**
- The City of Bowie provided access to the Kenhill Center garden site and to the water outlet on the outside of the building for irrigation during dry weather.
- Harvests were every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to stock the Pantry with freshly-picked produce by 9:00 AM on those mornings. A total of 28 crops were harvested over a 178-days from May 25 to November 19.
- This season crops were challenged by weather and animal grazing. Alternating periods of heavy rain and excessively hot conditions limited production of most crops. In addition, animals ate many tomato fruit and sweet potatoes, while insects destroyed most eggplant and Swiss chard plants. Production of almost all crops was down from previous years.
- **An estimated 2,839 units (numbers, bags, bunches) of vegetables and herbs were provided to Bowie Food Pantry clients this year. The estimated total value of produce raised for the Food Pantry from this garden was \$2,398.**

2019 Plans

- We plan to extend the garden farther north of its current location so that it will receive more sun light.
- We will abandon the south end of the current garden because the trees provide too much shade and their roots compete with crop roots.
- New volunteers always are welcome.

**Fourth Quarter 2018 Financial Statement
Treasurer's Report October 1 to December 31, 2018**

Income

Membership	\$ 186.00
Seed cash return	\$ 300.00
Miscellaneous	\$ <u>14.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 500.00

Expenses

Office supplies	\$ 22.65
Advertising	\$ 331.43
Halloween party	\$ 68.67
Holiday party food	\$ 90.71
School grant	\$ 186.94
Master gardener fee	\$ 350.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,050.40

Ending Checkbook Balance \$ 5,743.34



In Memoriam

Now I lay me down to rest knowing that with my earthly garden I've done my best.

Kent Winterson (June 29, 1939-January 8, 2019) Served the Garden Club in several capacities. He organized garden tours and promote the club with his posters and photographs. From 1989 to 2011, he served as either the president or vice president of the Club.

BCGC Officers

President Brian Gollsneider president@bcgardenclub.org	1 st VP/Programs Elmer Dengler BCGC.1vp@gmail.com	2 nd VP/Membership Verna Teasdale member-ship@bcgardenclub.org Shadow: Patti Thorp	3 rd VP/Plant Exchange Jackie Streeks BCGC.3vp@gmail.com
4 th VP/Public Relations Karen Woolfley BCGC.PR.VP@gmail.com	Treasurer John Teasdale BCGC.treasurer1@gmail.com	Secretary Linda Cooper BCGC.secretary1@gmail.com Shadow: Deborah Forespring	Newsletter Submissions All Garden Club members are encouraged to write articles on gardening-related subjects for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. Send your articles to: BCGC.newsletter@gmail.com Deadline for Newsletter Article Submission is The 8th of Each Month Please limit your submissions to 400 words.
BCGC Chairpersons			
Hospitality Carmen Hernandez BCGC.hospitality@gmail.com	Member Garden Tours TBD president@bcgardenclub.org	Sunshine Rose Arslanian BCGC.sunshine@gmail.com	
Historian Heidi Golding historian@bcgardenclub.org	Road Cleanup Coordinator Deb Forespring BCGC.rdcleanup@gmail.com	Newsletter Verna Teasdale Alisha Kruger BCGC.newsletter@gmail.com	
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