

VMGA Minutes Aug 2006 – Jun 2007

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**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
August 12, 2006
Gloucester**

Attendance

(Arlington/Alexandria) Vivian Ballard; (Bedford) Bob and Patty Gamache; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Fairfax) George Graine; (Gloucester) Florace Arnold, Bonnie Bernard, Mary and George Simpson, Bettsy Lane, Mary Soto, Kathleen Gierlak, Jan Price, Susan Malcolm, Linda Jales, Betty Hegamy, Nancy Cleoquette, Betty Darrette, Sally Moore, Noel Priseler; (Goochland/Powhatan) Chuck Miller; (Halifax) Bill McCaleb; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan, Brenda Shimchick; (James City County/Williamsburg) Anne Odle, Angela Cingale; (Mathews) Jo Anna Brown; (Norfolk) Lynn Adams, Jackie Camire, Linda Fox, Paula Griffiths, Marcia Oubre, Don Snipes; (Northern Neck) Jinny Estell, Pat Rogers; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Prince William) Bill and Janet Scott; (Portsmouth) Sylvia Heaster, Bill Smoot.; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks; (Virginia Beach) Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers (Virginia Tech/VCE) David Close; (Western Tidewater) Betty Jo Hendrix; (York) Jackie Lohr

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Bonnie Bernard, Gloucester Master Gardener, welcomed everyone present and introduced the hosting team members. She drew our attention to the Gloucester MG's PowerPoint presentation that was showing their projects. As an added bonus for the unit reps, a tour of the historic Abingdon church was arranged after the meeting. Introductions followed around the room

President's Report – Cheri Haggerty

Cheri informed the members present that the new and former officers met informally to discuss important issues concerning the MG's. **The Executive Board's vision** for the next two years is to help everyone understand what VMGA can do for your unit and to expand membership and service to members. **Education:** As the voice for Master Gardeners in Virginia, this board will work with any unit that desires assistance with their educational programs or projects. It is the intention of this board to have a member from each of the 6 districts on the education committee and plan an event in each district or assist a local unit with their event. The MG's throughout the state must also be willing to help one another and other units by sharing information. Cheri is going to arrange **the meetings** around the state by district. In order to fill in the calendar for units hosting for the year 2007 and 2008, the units that weren't scheduled were asked to perhaps fill in a slot. Hosting by units would make the traveling closer for the furthest unit reps when it's nearby. Cheri has asked Betty to be in charge of the **unit reports** after all reports have been sent to Angela. This assignment adds another level to the Vice-President's duties. The **VMGA newsletter** will be revamped with the unit reports reported as districts with full report on the web with hard copies available as needed. VMGA newsletter will still have the President's report, endowment news, and the Graine report. The new format could include articles on Plant/ flower of the year, new publications by ANR or articles of interest from unit newsletters. Cheri made available a copy of the VCE districts so all the representatives are aware of their district.

Cheri acknowledged Bill McCaleb for his outstanding service as 2004-2006 VMGA President. Bill commented on how it was an honor to serve the MG's throughout the state and how much he enjoyed being our representative in the regions that he has visited and assisted towards achieving some of their unit goals.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

Revised June minutes, as posted on the VMGA website by Betty Villers, were approved by all members present

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

See Treasurer's Report at the end of the minutes.

Report was accepted as presented at the meeting pending annual audit. The attached report reflects the total balances and receipts and disbursements without changes. What has changed is some of the categories and how we present the data. It is more accurate from an accounting point of view and easy to understand and track from a non-accounting point of view. Ted also introduced and is implementing a Request for Reimbursement form to be used whenever expenses are to be paid by VMGA. With Ted's new form, the requested information is filled out, receipts attached, sent to him, and a check will be sent from the checking account. The form will be sent to all unit reps, committee chairs and officers by Angela via e-mail.

Committee Reports - Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Members - Al Thompson, Chuck Miller, George Graine, Pinky, Kathryn Debnar, Lenore Plissner, Debbie Hamilton, and Nancy Drewry

Fran Shelton reported the committee will be conducting a **Fall Educational Program at Maymont in Richmond on Friday, October 27th**. Speakers include Peggy Singlemann, Horticulturalist at Maymont, and Leanne DuBois, Extension Agent with James City County/Williamsburg. **Prices are \$12.00** for VMGA members and **\$24 for non-members**. The additional \$12.00 would go towards membership in our organization, if so desired. Lunch, tour of home and gardens are extra. The information for this event is posted on the website, <http://vmga.net/calendar.htm>, and members can register on line. Topics include: The History of Maymont and Heirloom Gardening and will conclude with separate guided tours of the gardens and mansion. The Calendar of Events webpage will be updated as new educational opportunities are planned.

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Florace stated that **unit reports are to be sent to Angela** for review and assembly as this process is very helpful to her. We are planning to shorten the "around the state" section of the Newsletter to include only the **most significant item** from each district with the full unit reports being available at the VMGA website. Florace also indicated she would appreciate all units with newsletters to select articles from their newsletters of potential interest to other Master Gardeners across the state and send them to her. With the shortened "news around the state" there will be room to use many of them. She is also looking forward to receiving articles sent in by the members.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

Mary Ann Kincaid reported we have **447 current members**, of those **295** are Active members; **7** are Auxiliary members and **145** are lifetime members. Renewal notices have been sent once by mail and twice by e-mail to those whose memberships expired in May 2006. Letters will be sent to lifetime members for changes in information. Also included is a form stating if circumstances change and the MG can no longer maintain active status, they can sign up for auxiliary status for \$12.00.

Communication/Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Unit Support /Website Members - Pat Reilly, Karen Sacasky, Kerry Goldmeyer, and Pinky Derieux
Communications Members - Kathryn Debnar, Shelby Snyder, Betty Truax, Tom Bolt, and Paul Campbell.

Report read by Angela. Since the June regularly scheduled meeting there have been **15,910 visitors to VMGA.net**. This is about 3000 less visitors than the same period last year. Nearly all of our **visitors visit the front page** during their stay. This makes it a very productive place to make announcements and why we place most new items of interest there. The most popular pages in the last three months have been the Endowment page, Hort Updates, Minutes, Unit Reports, MGPW, College, Stewards and News. Frank is interested in getting **pictures from MG College** so that the committee members can begin to produce the MG College recruiting page for next year in time for a December posting. We were reminded to send all **unit events to Kathryn Debnar** for updating on **the website**.

Finance Committee – Bill Scott, Chair

Under new business.

Special Committees

State Fair - Christy Brennan, Chair

Christy stated the State Fair will be the week of **September 28th thru October 8th**. Many units are already assigned for most days and units /MG's that want to sign up were given the open dates and asked to signup. Bedford volunteered for Sept. 29th, and Chesapeake for Oct. 7th. Other days that needed volunteers were: August 25th, Sept. 25th, and October 2nd. On October 9th the flower containers used at the fair will be sold and could use additional MG's for assistance. There will be many MG demonstrations including grass cutting, mulching, and pruning. Planned for the children will be a segment on insects.

State Coordinator Endowment Committee-Pat Reilly, Chair

Members - Angela Cingale, Dave Close, Kathryn Debnar, Carol Dixon, Jane Pratt Schilling and Jim Scibek, Bill McCaleb, and Max Bales, Director of Development for CALS.

The success of the \$50 for 5 years of the Dogwood lapel pins introduced at MG College was very well received. We were reminded to tell our units to sign up for the Food Lion Rewards Program at www.foodlion.com. The total in the endowment fund is up to **\$210,000** from contributions and pledges.

Extension Liaison - Dave Close, MG Coordinator

Reported on the following:

Intern Nametags are in and will soon be shipped! Replacement Nametags for everyone else (including agents and university faculty) are not ready yet. **AAG** – Another Partners meeting scheduled for September 12 in Williamsburg and they will be discussing a statewide contest effort. **VCE News:** Mark McCann has been designated as Associate Dean and Director of Extension. It was effective July 1,

2006. **State Record Keeping System** – On hold; met (via teleconference) with folks from Michigan that has a system where volunteers enter their data and manage their own information. Dave is waiting to get a time line from Agriculture, Human and Natural Resources-Information Technology(AHNR-IT). **Wildlife Chapter** – Memorandum of Understanding draft from Department of Game and Inland Fisheries(DGIF) is being reviewed by VCE. Dave is waiting for it to be modified and approved by VCE Admin; then we'll get to work on the chapter. **Endowment Effort** – VT has a couple of potential corporate donors, such as Scott's, and Max Bales has setup meetings to discuss their involvement with the Virginia MG program. **MG College 2006** – will be sharing evaluation results with different folks on campus (primarily housing) to plan how to resolve problems before next year. **Dates for 2007 are June 19-24.** Tony Avent is already lined up as a speaker. Dave will be adding more and will keep everyone posted. **Tour of VA** – most recently in Danville; beginning to schedule more for upcoming fall. **Handbook Revisions** – compiled list of previous authors and reviewers; will be constructing a Handbook Revision Team; contacting authors and others that have expressed interest in helping with the process. **Misc. - MG College Advisory Team (MGCAT)** will meet in September to review MG College 2006 and continue working on MG College 2007. The summer issue of **In Season** will be sent out via listserv again. Please inform him if you have changed your e-mail address. Dave has been **selected to serve** on a National Extension Master Gardener/Consumer Horticulture Committee. He will be representing the Southeast region. They will be asking for funding on a national level. The **2008 International Master Gardener Coordinator Conference** will be co-hosted by VA and Washington, DC.

Unit reports

Cheri asked all unit reps to use a new format for October's meeting. The unit rep will report on a past project identifying its success and or failure and an aspect of a new project. Some units may have a fresh approach on projects that would be useful to another unit. Unit reports were given at this time. They can be found in the newsletter and on the VMGA website.

New Business

Fund Raising – Cheri Haggerty

Cheri has split the Fundraising Committee into two parts, Marketed items and the Silent Auction. She reminded us the silent auction is our biggest money maker for the MG Coordinators Endowment Fund. Pat Reilly has offered to chair this committee with help from all the units. Thanks was given to Pat Gamache for the goody bags. Cheri discussed other options for **fund raising** opportunities besides flags and T-shirts. More info at the next meeting regarding sale of polo, collared shirts, and hats after discussions with the fund-raising committee regarding marketed items and how to sell the existing items such as the garden flags once we have a new chair.

Finance- Bill Scott

Members - Lennie Mather, Brenda Shimchick, and Ted Jenks

Bill Scott stated that the finance committee has looked into opening an additional CD for the Educational Endowment Fund with higher interest rate so that we can yield a higher return on our money. The money market account has a very low interest rate. A motion was made to assign all funds in the money market account to the Educational Endowment Fund, close the money market account, and transfer all of those funds to a higher interest rate CD. The motion was seconded and approved by all present.

VMGA Annual Meeting: Cheri Haggerty

Cheri has asked that the VMGA June board meeting at MG College be switched to Friday at 5p.m. at

Torgenson Hall, rather than Thursday 11:00a.m. The change discussed is due to MG's being in class or being so far away that they cannot attend the meeting. This will be coordinated with Dave prior to MG College. Anyone with photos of their **America's Anniversary Gardens**, please send them to Cheri. **Pat Gamache, Bedford**, 2006 MG College Goody Bag Coordinator, asked each unit to be responsible for 1 goody bag item – 300 total. With the units participating in this endeavor, it's not such a big responsibility for one person to solicit the donations.

Volunteer Opportunities-Cheri Haggerty

Volunteer opportunities exist in the ongoing recording of the **history of VMGA**. Cheri has a box of VMGA newsletters and meeting minutes that could be used to continue using the process already posted on the website. She would also like someone to scan these documents and preserve them on CD/DVD . Please contact Cheri.

We are looking for **Website assistance** for VMGA.net Frank Reilly will train any volunteers that require it. He will continue to coordinate the website as webmaster. Although an active member is preferred, the individual does not necessarily have to be an MG. Please contact Frank Reilly via the website or Cheri Haggerty.

The **Education Committee** could use **new members** as several members have agreed to stay on only through 2007. The goal is representation from every district. Any member may contact Fran Shelton or Pinky Deriux.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting – October 14th in Abingdon at Southwest Higher Education Building. More info will be posted on the website.

The December meeting will be held at the York County Fire and Safety Building at 10 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

VMGA Treasurer's Report
August 12, 2006 (Revised)
Data As

OF: 7/31/2006

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$12,496.93
Money Market (including PDR EEF of \$5256.89)	\$7,668.05
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,684.06
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	\$26,849.04

Checking Balance as of 5/31/2006 \$9,457.68

Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$332.41
Dues FY 08-17	\$504.00
FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$1,128.00
Education	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$3,383.25
Gift for EEF	\$12.00
	\$5,359.66

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$522.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$645.95
Education	\$0.00
EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00
Elections	\$0.00

Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	\$235.62
Newsletter	\$297.60
State Fair	\$0.00
Officers Expense	
President	\$0.00
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$2.29
Treasurer	\$16.95
	-\$2,320.41
Checking Balance as of 7/31/2006	\$12,496.93

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$1,128.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$3,980.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$3,383.25

total	\$11,320.00	\$7,363.25
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Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endow	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
Marketing	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Membership & Roster	\$1,390.00	\$235.62	\$1,154.38
Newsletter	\$1,500.00	\$297.60	\$1,202.40
State Fair	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Officers Expense			
President	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$35.00	\$2.29	\$32.71
Treasurer	\$45.00	\$16.95	\$28.05
total	\$11,320.00	\$1,674.46	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$ 645.95	\$ 332.41	\$ 645.95	\$ 332.41
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$ 3,616.00	\$ 504.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,120.00
Education Endowment	\$ 0.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 12.00
Total				\$ 4,464.41

**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
October 14, 2006
Abingdon**

D R A F T

Attendance

((Bedford) Bob and Patty Gamache; (Brunswick/Mecklenburg/Lunenburg, Nottaway) Linda Logan; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Goochland/Powhatan) Chuck Miller; (Halifax) Bill McCaleb; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (James City County/Williamsburg) Anne Odle, Angela Cingale; (Loudoun) Dave Hellums; (Norfolk) Don Snipes; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Prince William) Frank and Pat Reilly; (Portsmouth) Sylvia Heaster; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks; (Suffolk) Betty Freedman; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers (Virginia Tech/VCE) David Close; (Washington) Theresa Frazier, Evelyn Goldston, Margie Munsey, Florence Powell, Patte Redmond, Barbara Smith.

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Evelyn Goldston, Washington unit President, welcomed everyone and introduced the hosting team members. She gave us a summary of Abingdon projects which included a "Salute to Spring" with gardens of Red, White and Blue around town. Her group arranged discount tickets at the Barter Theatre. Introductions followed around the room.

President's Report – Cheri Haggerty

Cheri has requested that the unit reps ask their individual newsletter committee to include Cheri on their mailing list, either by e-mail or by mail. The newsletter would keep her informed and "in-touch" of what the units were accomplishing, for ideas, and for contacts purposes. Other items under new business.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

No corrections were made to the August minutes and were approved as posted on the VMGA website.

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

Ted reported that all the funds in the **money market account** have been designated to be the Professor Diane Relf Education Endowment Fund consistent with the approved motion from our last meeting. In addition, the Money Market account has been closed and the money transferred to a new **PDR Education Endowment CD** which has a current Interest rate is 5.25% APY for 13 Months. In addition, with the approval of the VMGA Executive Committee, an additional CD, called the **Future Dues CD** was opened at a current interest rate of 5.00% APY for 13 Months. The Lifetime membership dues for all future years were transferred from the checking account into this Future Dues CD to then be available for use in the appropriate future years. The full Treasurer's Report is at the end of these minutes.

Standing Committee Reports

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Members - Al Thompson, Chuck Miller, George Graine, Pinky, Kathryn Debnar, Lenore Plissner, Debbie Hamilton,

and Nancy Drewry

Fran Shelton reported that the Fall Educational Program at Maymont in Richmond on Friday, October 27th has 50 paid registrants but that they are expecting at least another 20 to 25 attendees. The cutoff date for registration is October 20th.

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Florace was not present but Cheri stated **unit reports are to be sent to Angela** for review and assembly as this process is very helpful to her. The VMGA newsletter and electronic copy is in the new format featuring interesting items from units around the state of interest to the membership. Complete reports from units are on the website. Betty Villers selects items from each report for the newsletter. Hard copies of the newsletter are sent to members without e-mail.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

Mary Ann Kincaid reported that the total membership is **474**. Breakdown is as follows: Active – 319, Auxiliary - 10, Lifetime – 145. These figures reflect an increase of 27 members since August. There are **160 members that have not renewed**. MaryAnn is hopeful that after the Maymont program there would be additional memberships. A question was posed as to how many trainees became members their first year and don't renew. Many of the memberships are new MG's. It's up to the individual units to encourage new memberships by informing them how VMGA helps the individual MG's

throughout the state. Pat Reilly suggested a brainstorming session on how to obtain new members.

Communication/Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Unit Support /Website Members: Pinky Derieux, Kerry Goldmeyer, and Karen Sacasky

The VMGA unit support role was explained by Frank. No activities were reported since last meeting.

Communications Members - Shelby Snyder, Kathryn Debnar, Pat Reilly, Betty Truax, George Graine, Tom Bolt, Kathryn Debnar, Shelby Snyder, Betty Truax, Tom Bolt, and Paul Campbell.

Since the August Regularly Scheduled Meeting there have been **13,770 visitors to VMGA.net** and the webpage has been updated on 69 separate occasions. The most popular pages in the last three months have been Horticultural Updates, Endowment, Minutes, Unit Reports, Stewards, and MGPW. **The front page has 74%** of all visitors, which means that most people (by far) come in through the front page, and see the news and announcements that are posted there. We helped Northern Neck to get their page mounted at VMGA.net/NNMG and it is incubating there. Other units just getting started are welcome to use our service at no charge. Prince William is getting ready to leave our incubator with a new site of their own.

Finance Committee – Bill Scott, Chair

No meeting since August. The committee provided a copy of VMGA's current guidelines for debit card use to a local unit which requested them.

Special Committees

State Fair - Christy Brennan, Chair

Christy stated the State Fair was very successful due to the **volunteers from 12 units, especially from Hanover**. The governor attended the fair one day with 100 people. There was lots of traffic with the average of **500 school children stopping by almost every day**. A total of **4,000 pencils** were given out as well as handouts and puzzles. The segment on insects and the bug table was constantly busy with curious onlookers. Due to the high attendance, the booth could have used more volunteers to accomplish the many tasks, i.e., recording contacts, handing out evaluation/comment sheets, answering questions, etc. A suggestion was made that units bring their contact forms to see how they capture some of the information, such as, number of children/adults that visited. This information is needed and used by VA Tech for future funding requests. Planning for next year's fair would include asking 4 MG 's or at least a minimum of 2 people per shift for the booth. This year demonstrations including grass cutting, mulching, and pruning and lots of people stopped by and showed interest in these topics. Next year more demos will be included with the additional volunteers that

we'll be soliciting. Christy will know in January 2007 where the state fair will be held next year.

Education Endowment Fund – Paul Campbell, Chair

Paul has agreed to continue as EEF Chairman. He explained how the **\$600 in the EE Fund** current budget is for 6 scholarships awarded to VMGA members every year. The money is currently coming out of VMGA operating funds allowing us to build the endowment thru a CD. If a donation is provided to VMGA for the Education Endowment it will be placed in the PDR Education Endowment CD to build the endowment unless the donor stipulates that it is to be used for an additional current year scholarship, in which case the donor's wishes will be followed.

State Coordinator Endowment Committee-Pat Reilly, Chair

Members - Angela Cingale, Dave Close, Kathryn Debnar, Carol Dixon, Jane Pratt Schilling and Jim Scibek, Bill McCaleb, and Max Bales, Director of Development for CALS.

No meetings have been held of this committee. No report was given.

Extension Liaison - Dave Close, MG Coordinator

Reported on the following: **Intern Nametags** have been shipped! Replacement Nametags for everyone else (including agents and university faculty) are ordered but not sure when they will be in the system. The membership was shown a sample of the buff colored nametag. **AAG** – Held Partners meeting on September 12 in Williamsburg. We will be discussing a statewide contest effort. Details are available (refer to handout) and will soon be on the website, www.ext.vt.edu/americasgarden/index.html. Weekly Reader picked up the AAG project, through Jr. Master Gardeners, as a national garden design contest for 3rd & 4th graders which will reach 1.3 million children and more than 57,000 teachers. We should look for it in the November edition of the Weekly Reader. **State Record Keeping System** –AHNR-IT team met with folks from 4-H and Master Naturalist program about their needs. Worked on user interface ideas and are leaning toward a volunteer entry system; they continue to work on the project weekly. **Wildlife Chapter** – VCE administration is taking a look at how we can meet this need. **Endowment Effort** – still working channels through MG units and/or associations. New development officer will be helping (Dawn Lerch – a VCE MG from Chesterfield). **MG College 2007** – MGCAT meeting postponed until October 20. Director of Conference and Guest Services resigned and no one new in place yet. **Tour of VA** – most recently in Augusta-Rockingham; beginning to schedule more for upcoming fall (Franklin County). **Handbook Revisions** –Dave will be meeting with Joyce Latimer next week to discuss the list of previous and proposed authors for updated version. **Misc:** The summer issue of In Season was sent out via listserv on September 15 and by snail mail soon after. If we know of someone not receiving it, refer them to Dave. **Rebuilding Coastal Mississippi MG Projects** – mid to late October 2007. **International MG Conference** – Little Rock, AR, May 2-5, 2007. **Impact of Hurricane Katrina** – several MG units has supported Mississippi by sending gardening books and tools. Dave would like to get a group of MG's to go to Mississippi for hands-on work in **Mid-Oct 2007** with 50 people on a bus for a minimum of 7 days at a personal cost of \$175 per person and wouldn't include room or board. The MG's would go to Mississippi to **rebuild community gardens** and projects and provide resource

guides. Several units have shown interest in helping out. MG's can go to http://msmastergardener.org/Project_Rejuvenation.htm to see donors or organizations that have helped the Mississippi MG's with Operation Rejuvenation. It was noted that 20 to 25% of the donations received for Hurricane Katrina came from Virginia.

Unit reports

The unit reps were reminded by our president to report on a completed project and what made it successful or not and a future project in the planning stages. Unit reports were given at this time. The individual unit reports can be found on the VMGA website.

Old Business

Fund Raising – Cheri Haggerty

Cheri discussed the **50+ flags** that she has for any unit that wants to sell them. The price will remain the same as it was when the garden flag was purchased to offset the cost of the initial purchase. It is hoped that each unit will purchase one or two to attract people to an MG exhibit or booth. There is still a need for a Fundraising Committee Chair. Betty Villers has offered to help with the sale of **special T-Shirts** which any MG unit can sell to their members due to the way that it's simply worded with "**Extension Volunteer**" and could incorporate the word MG with a units own colors. MaryAnn Kindcaid and Cheryl Sebera have offered to assist Betty on this fund-raiser. Ted stated that this expenditure was over budget. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of 144 T-Shirts, in ecru and burgundy, and to purchase thru a vendor that Betty has used previously. A picture will be on the VMGA website for the membership to preview. The money would go into the state Coordinator MG Endowment Fund.

Volunteer Opportunities – Chairmen are still needed for a **Historian** to continue writing VMGA's history as it unfolds. Cheri has a box of VMGA newsletters and meeting minutes that could be used to continue using the process already posted on the website. A need for **assistance with our VMGA.net website** is still being sought to assist Frank Reilly, our Webmaster. Frank will train any volunteers that require it. He will continue to coordinate the website as webmaster. Although an active member is preferred, the individual does not necessarily have to be an MG. If interested, Frank Reilly or Cheri Haggerty will be the contacts.

New Business

The Maymont Flower and Garden Show will be held on **Feb. 22nd thru Feb. 25th**, at the Richmond Coliseum. The MG's have had a booth there to educate and assist with gardening questions and handing out information bulletins. A motion was made that we use \$175 of the Marketing budget to share the cost of a booth again with Hanover in 2007. Cheri will coordinate the Hanover and other unit volunteers to man the booth in their selected time slots. This motion was seconded and approved to fund the cost of the booth to have a presence at this event.

AAG participation- Let's encourage all units to get involved in their communities with for patriotic gardens.

Jamestown 2007 participation- Each unit will decide how they want to participate in this **400th anniversary** celebration.

MG College 2007 – VMGA's role to celebrate the 20th anniversary was discussed with perhaps a commemorative T-Shirt.

Food Lion Program- Jim Scibek reminded the units to keep seeking participation by members in the **Food Lion** program. He is checking with Bloom and Bottom Dollar stores to see if they have a similar program.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting – The December 9th meeting will be held at the York County Fire and Safety Building at 10 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

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**Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
Treasurer's Report
October 14, 2006**

Data As OF: 9/30/2006

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$5,084.
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$7,816.
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,743.
Future Dues CD Balance	\$4,137.
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	<u>\$23,781.</u>

Checking Balance as of	7/31/2006	\$12,496.
	Receipts	

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$10.00
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FY 08-17 dues	\$12.00
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FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$216.00
Education	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$0.00
Gift for EEF	\$100.00

\$338.

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$332.41
Education	\$0.00
EEF Gift Transfers	\$112.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$2,861.25
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$4,120.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	\$43.05
Newsletter	\$275.81
State Fair	\$0.00
Officers Expense	
President	\$0.00
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$0.00
Treasurer	\$6.14

-\$7,750.

Checking Balance as of 9/30/2006

\$5,084.

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$1,344.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$4,196.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$3,383.25
total	<u>\$11,320.00</u>	<u>\$7,579.25</u>

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$3,500.00	\$2,861.25	\$638.75
Marketing	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00

Membership & Roster	\$1,390.00	\$278.67	\$1,111.33
Newsletter	\$1,500.00	\$573.41	\$926.59
State Fair	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Officers Expense			
President	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$35.00	\$2.29	\$32.71
Treasurer	\$45.00	\$23.09	\$21.91
total	\$11,320.00	\$4,860.71	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$645.95	\$342.41	\$978.36	\$10.00
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$3,616.00	\$516.00	\$4,120.00	\$12.00
Education Endowment	\$0.00	\$112.00	\$112.00	\$0.00
total				\$22.00

**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
December 9, 2006
York County**

Attendance

(Arlington/Alexandria) Vivian Ballard; (Bedford) Bob and Patty Gamache;
(Brunswick/Mecklenburg/Lunenburg, Nottaway) Linda Logan; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Fairfax)
George Graine; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Gloucester) Florace Arnold; (Goochland/Powhatan) Chuck Miller;
(Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry) Betty Hendrix; (James

City County/Williamsburg) Anne Odle, Angela Cingale; (Loudoun)Linda Shotton; (Newport News) Eugene B. Foster, Peggy Fox, Anita M. Smith; (Norfolk) Don Snipes; (Northern Neck/Northumberland) Pat Rogers; (Portsmouth) Sylvia Heaster, LuAnne Copeland, Bill Smoot; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Prince William) Frank and Pat Reilly, Bill Scott; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks; (Suffolk) Betty Freedman; (Virginia Beach) Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers; (Virginia Tech/VCE) David Close, Dawn Lerch; (York) Margaret Cotton, Jackie Lohr, Sybil Przypek. Lanna Rackley, Carol Tate, Nancy Thompson, Patricia Winters

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introduced York's Unit Representative, Jackie Lohr

Welcome

Jackie Lohr, York County Unit Representative, welcomed everyone and introduced the hosting team members. She gave a report on their new project, "Charlie Brown Park" with wetlands trail, which is also a Tree Steward Project

President's Report – Cheri Haggerty

See items under new business.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

No corrections were made to the October minutes and were approved as posted on the VMGA website.

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

Report accepted as read. The full Treasurer's Report is at the end of these minutes.

Standing Committee Reports

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Members - Al Thompson, Chuck Miller, George Graine, Pinky, Kathryn Debnar, Lenore Plissner, Debbie Hamilton, and Nancy Drewry

Fran Shelton reported that the Fall Educational Program at Maymont in Richmond netted \$700 with 89 attendees. The Committee is looking at further educational opportunities like Montpelier, Glen Burnie, Green Springs, etc., where due to the long distance it would be a 2 day affair. Kudos were extended to the Educational Committee for their work on coordinating the Maymont event.

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Florace stated that the latest newsletter edition, December, is ready to send out. Articles that are sent to her are saved and will be used at a future date. She is appreciative of the unit reps help in gathering articles for her perusal. Everyone is receiving their electronic newsletter without a problem. Hard copies of the newsletter are sent to members without e-mail but they are very few.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

Mary Ann Kincaid reported that 507 members received their directory. Total membership is 517. We have 363 active, 10 auxiliary and 144 lifetime members. This is an increase of (43) members since October even though 157 members have not renewed. The Maymont program signed up 27 new members and 3 renewals. A question was posed as to the expiration date of new memberships. Pat Reilly and others noted that, in the past, for new members joining between January 1 and May 30, their memberships were good until the second May 31 following that date. It was agreed to continue this practice. The official membership year is from June 1st to May 31. It is also helpful if the unit reps to encourage new memberships, especially the new trainees, by informing them how VMGA helps the individual MG's and MG units throughout the state.

Communication/Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Unit Support /Website Members: Pat and Frank Reilly, Pinky Derieux, and Karen Sacasky

No activities were reported since last meeting.

Communications Members – Cheri Haggerty, Shelby Snyder, Kathryn Debnar, Betty Truax, George Graine, Tom Bolt, Kathryn Debnar, Betty Truax, and Tom Bolt

1. Since November 12th, marked our eighth anniversary as VMGA.net, this website has grown from a single page giving the minutes of the last meeting to a large website with **more than 220 pages of content** and more than 100,000 (**131,460 actual**) visitors annually. 2. VMGA recently switched service providers for our website. VMGA's new "home" has allowed us much more space and increased services such as sub-domains which means that is easier to manage and better than ever to help a local unit incubate their site with VMGA.net. 3. Since the October regularly scheduled meeting there have been 6,645 visitors to VMGA.net. and the web page has been updated on 74 separate occasions. 4. The most popular pages in the last two months have been the Calendar of Events, Educational Events and the Membership page; but more than 58% of our page views come in through the front page. 5. Kathryn Debnar is currently accepting changes to the calendar. 6. Membership applications are available on-line at the membership page. 7. A merchandizing page has been added to the site to showcase our T-shirts. 8. The group is currently working on the MG College Recruiting presentation. The committee could use some photos of activities and Sunday going away picnic. The presentation will be distributed in January. .

Finance Committee – Bill Scott, Chair

The committee will meet in January and start the budget process for 2007.

Extension Liaison - Dave Close, MG Coordinator

Reported on the following: **Replacement Nametags** should be in local unit offices soon. **AAG** – statewide contest as final piece to campaign. Information will be on the AAG website. Photos and applications are to be turned in by September 1. Winners will be announced and presented with awards on Ag Day of the State Fair. **State Record Keeping System** – working on a data entry template/timekeeping sheet. **Wildlife Chapter** – VCE admin is has decided to keep this in house. **MG College 2007** – MGCAT met October 20. Dave also met with folks from continuing education and worked out budget for 2007. **MGCAT will meet again in January**; will be offering Water Steward Training – will be open to undergrad and grad students and junior high/high school science teachers. Working on a logo for our anniversary year and will have commemorative glasses for sale at the wine tasting event. **Tour of VA** – most recently in Franklin County; beginning to schedule more for upcoming winter: Washington County, Williamsburg, at least two more in the works. **Handbook Revisions** –met with Joyce Latimer in mid-October; reviewed list of potential reviewers and discussed a letter going through her signature to all the reviewers/authors; still intends to use VCE MG volunteers who want to help with specific chapters. Dave will be contacting reviewers by the first of the year. **Misc. items** were reported as follows: The fall issue of "In Season" was sent out via listserv on December 7 and snail mail will soon follow. **Invitation to West Virginia** in January to speak at leadership training for agents and local association leaders; trying to get statewide consistency in the programs. Dave will be putting together a poster for the **Deans' Forum on the Environment for February** – will highlight all the Advanced Training modules as service learning modules that incorporate citizen science. MG Coordinator will be working with Cathy Sutphin on the **JMG program** since Joe Hunnings' responsibilities have changed. **Hahn Hort Gardens** will have a full-time educational outreach coordinator beginning in a few weeks (Stephanie Huckestein will serve in that role; will be hiring a head horticulturist to keep the gardens up). **Dr. McCann** has purchased **six easy-up tents with the VCE logo** that can be checked out and used at events; reservations will be handled at the District level. **International MG Conference** – Little Rock, AR, May 2-5, 2007. Early-bird registration ends at the end of December. **Rumen Conev** was hired for the ornamental **plant breeder position**; interviewing for a vegetable specialist for the Eastern Shore. In 2007, **PMGs** can be ordered through local agents. While attending a national **Consumer Horticulture Forum** hosted by the University of KY, he met and spoke with the MG Coordinator from Mississippi, Lelia Kelly, to discuss VA MGs going to MS in October, 2007 to work on **Operation Rejuvenation** projects. Nova Scotia sent a copy of their online MG training, based on VA's MG training manual. Dave's department can now begin to explore an online version for VA.

Introductions around the room followed.

VMGA T-Shirt fund-raiser – Betty Villers

Betty had T-shirts in all sizes and sold them for \$10.00 each. VMGA can purchase the T-shirts in multiples of 144 pieces. The break-even point is sale of 75 pieces. The T-shirt comes in S, M, L, XL, and XXL and can be used as a gift. The beige and maroon colors are also Virginia Tech's colors. Proceeds will benefit the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund.

State Coordinator Endowment Committee-Pat Reilly, Chair

Members - Angela Cingale, Dave Close, Kathryn Debnar, Carol Dixon, Jane Pratt Schilling and Jim Scibek, Bill McCaleb, and Max Bales, Director of Development for CALS.

The committee will be looking at attempts of what committee members can handle as far as speaking to MG groups throughout the state. So far, there is \$213,904.75 in pledges in the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund. Dogwood pins are carried out by Max Bales for the 5 years for \$50 program.

Participating members in the Food Lion program must renew in December for the 2007 year and should be encouraged at our unit meetings. We have received \$56.53 for this quarter. Jim Scibek is checking into the Bloom & Bottom Dollar stores to see if they have a similar program as Food Lion. A Powerpoint presentation is available if anyone would like to show it to their unit. Units can promote the endowment fund thru their local newsletter. All of this info is on the VMGA website.

State Fair – Christy Brennan

State Fair will be held at the Richmond Raceway Complex this year September 27- October 7th 2007. Cherie has recommended that we start a State Fair Committee involving Master Gardener units closer to the Doswell location so the transition phase will be smooth when the Fair moves to the new location.

Unit reports

The unit reps were requested by our president to report on either an old or new project, or a planned project for 2007. Unit reports were given at this time. The individual unit reports can be found on the VMGA website.

Horticultural Horizons – Dawn Lerch

Dawn Lerch, Chesterfield County MG, working as Assistant Director of Development for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at VA Tech, was present to meet with the MG Endowment Committee. Dawn also is a committee member of the 'Horticulture Horizons... 400 Years after Jamestown' Symposium and reminded everyone of the date, Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA. Registration will begin in February through the Chesterfield Extension Office, 804-751-4401, due to limited space.

Unfinished Business

Fund Raising – Cheri Haggerty

There are still some marketed items that we can pursue such as the licence plates which was initiated by Tom Bolt. Perhaps a unit can head up this endeavor. Volunteers for the **Maymont Flower and Garden**, February 22nd thru 25th, at the **Richmond Convention Center**, will receive free admittance the day they volunteer. Cheri passed around a sheet for unit or individual MG to sign up on their preferred day. She will coordinate the **Hanover and VMGA volunteers**.

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New Business – President

Ways to promote Membership growth was already discussed. **Sylvia Hoehns Wright** (the **Washington(DC) Gardener** magazine garden columnist) of Glen Allen is looking for photos of eco-friendly landscapes designed and grown by youth using the AAG theme. VMGA has replaced the secretary's tape recorder. VESA (**Virginia Extension Service Association**) – at the General Assembly. **Will set up a display during General Assembly to demonstrate to legislators the importance of funding VCE**. The display will include

real numbers on how we reach the constituency in our diverse areas. MG College will be held from June 19th thru 24th. We will again be awarding 6 scholarships on June 21st. **Goodie bags**- each unit is requested to supply a goody bag item, especially if it is something special to their area. Cheri gave **the meeting schedule** with the unit and coordinator for the 2007 meetings. February- Prince George, Cheryl Sebera; April- Bedford, Patty Gamache; June-Blacksburg, Cheri Haggerty; August- Northern Shenandoah, Fran and Bud Gregory ; October-Fairfax,George Graine; December-James City, Anne Odle. She has units represented in each VCE District hosting the VMGA meetings. She thanked York Master Gardeners for being wonderful hosts.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting - April - Bedford - Patty Gamache

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

Data As OF: 11/30/2006

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$4,623.
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$7,886.
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,801.
Future Dues CD Balance	\$4,154.
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	<u>\$23,465.</u>

Checking Balance as of 9/30/2006 \$5,084.

Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$111.48
FY 08-17 dues	\$108.00
FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$720.00
Education	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$0.00
Gift for EEF	\$0.00

\$3,686.

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$2,079.46
EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Marketing	\$175.00
Membership & Roster	\$1,392.92
Newsletter	\$238.43
State Fair	\$253.57
Officers Expense	
President	\$0.00

Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$8.43
Treasurer	\$0.00
	<u>- \$4,147.</u>

Checking Balance as of 11/30/2006 \$4,623.

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$2,064.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$4,916.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$3,383.25
total	<u>\$11,320.00</u>	<u>\$11,046.75</u>

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,079.46	\$320.54
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$3,500.00	\$2,861.25	\$638.75
Marketing	\$200.00	\$175.00	\$25.00
Membership & Roster	\$1,390.00	\$1,671.59	-\$281.59
Newsletter	\$1,500.00	\$811.84	\$688.16
State Fair	\$250.00	\$253.57	-\$3.57
Officers Expense			
President	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$35.00	\$10.72	\$24.28
Treasurer	\$45.00	\$23.09	\$21.91
total			
	\$11,320.00	\$9,008.52	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start			Balance
	Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	
Coordinator Endowment	\$645.95	\$453.89	\$978.36	\$121.48
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$3,616.00	\$624.00	\$4,120.00	\$120.00
Education Endowment	\$0.00	\$112.00	\$112.00	\$0.00
total				\$241.48

**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
February 10, 2007**

D R A F T

Prince George

Attendance

(Amherst, Campbell, Lynchburg) Karen Sacasky, Debbie Straw; (Arlington/Alexandria) Vivian Ballard; (Brunswick/Mecklenburg/Lunenburg, Nottaway) Virginia Myrick, Nancy Drewry; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Chesterfield) Lynn Foote; (Fairfax) George Graine; (Gloucester) Florace Arnold; (Goochland, Powhatan) Chuck Miller; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (Halifax) Bill McCaleb; (Isle of Wight, Southhampton, Surry) Betty Hendrix; (James City County/Williamsburg) Angela Cingale,) Anne Odle; (Newport News) Anita Smith; (Norfolk) Don Snipes; (Northern Neck/Northumberland) Pat Rogers; (Portsmouth) Sylvia Heaster, LuAnne Copeland, Bill Smoot; (Prince George) Mae Robertson, Cheryl Sebera; (Prince William) Frank Reilly; Bill Scott; (Roanoke) Ginny Craig; Kathryn Debnar, Shelby Snider; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks; (Suffolk) Betty Freedman, Nita Holt; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Mary Ann Kincaid, Betty Villers; (Virginia Tech/VCE) David Close; (York) Jackie Lohr. .

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introduced Prince George's Unit Representative, Cheryl Sebera.

Welcome

Cheryl Sebera, Prince George Unit Representative, welcomed everyone and introduced the Glenn Chappell, Extension Agent. Introductions followed around the room.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

A correction was made in the attendance area. Change noted and minutes will be updated. February minutes were approved with the correction and will be posted on the VMGA website.

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

Report accepted as read. The full Treasurer's Report is at the end of minutes.

Standing Committee Reports

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Members - Al Thompson, Chuck Miller, George Graine, Pinky, Kathryn Debnar, Lenore Plissner, Debbie Hamilton, and Nancy Drewry

Pinky Derieux reported that the next Education Program will be held at Montpelier on September 28th.

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Cheri reported that the newsletter was accomplished in a timely manner even though there were a lot of updates to names and addresses. MaryAnn Kincaid also reported that 380 newsletters were sent via e-mail and 150 were sent via USPS.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

Mary Ann Kincaid reported that total membership is 539. Active-386, Auxiliary 10, Lifetime 143.

This is a net increase of (22) members since December. Of the total memberships (539), 369 expire this May.

154 members have not renewed.

Communication/Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Unit Support /Website Members: Pat Reilly, Frank Reilly, Pinky Derieux, and Karen Sacasky

The unit support committee passed on information about Plant-A-Row for the Hungry to volunteers interested in participating.

Communications Members – Cheri Haggerty, Shelby Snyder, Kathryn Debnar, Betty Truax, George Graine, Tom Bolt, Kathryn Debnar, Betty Truax, and Tom Bolt

Frank reported that since the December regularly scheduled meeting there have been 2,035 unique **visitors to VMGA.net**. The visitors visit between 2 and 4 pages past the front page when they come, and click on about 8 items per visit. This is a very favorable **“dwell time”** that most commercial sites would be proud to have. Since the December regularly scheduled meeting, the **web page has been updated on 174 separate occasions**. **The most popular pages** in the last two months have been **Calendar, About VMGA & Membership and Educational Events**; but more than 58% of our page views come in through the front page. About 28% of our page views come from people who found us by search engine. **Kathryn Debnar** is currently accepting changes to the calendar. **George Graine** is painstakingly going over the site and providing comments to Frank. He could use a volunteer to help actually perform the edits. **Membership Applications** are available on-line at the Membership page. College Scholarship information is up and current.

Finance- Bill Scott, Chair

Members: Ted Jenks, Lennie Mather, and Brenda Shimchick

The Finance Committee members will contact the committee chairs for input and prepare the 2007 budget.

Special Committees

State Fair – Christy Brennan

State Fair will be held at the Richmond Raceway Complex this year September 27-October 7th 2007. Christy has gone over housekeeping duties which will be put in place at the new site in Doswell in 2008 with volunteers and demonstrators. A State Fair Team/Committee will be organized to brainstorm for ideas for improvement and how to spread responsibilities among the units. Christy noted that the fair has become a major educational event for the MG's. Ideas are welcome and can be sent to Christy or Cheri Haggerty..

VMGA T-Shirt Fund-Raiser – Betty Villers

Betty has sold 75 T-Shirts and 37 more were sold today at \$10.00 each and only 32 left. She mentioned all the sizes and procedure of how unit reps have made their purchase. MG College would be a good place to wear the T-Shirt due to the high attendance and to encourage others to purchase one. Cheri thanked Betty for the success of this fund-raiser.

State Coordinator Endowment Committee-Pat Reilly, Chair

Members - Angela Cingale, Dave Close, Kathryn Debnar, Carol Dixon, Jane Pratt Schilling and Jim Scibek, Bill McCaleb, and Max Bales, Director of Development for CALS.

In Pat's absence, Frank Reilly reported that there is a balance of \$214,234.76. Dogwood pins are available for the "\$50 for 5" There has been a delay in delivering the pins because the donor information resides with the Development office. Many donors wish to remain anonymous in their gift to the endowment fund. The Development office has offered to send the pins to donors and the Endowment Fund. Ann Odle, JCC/Williamsburg, presented Dave with a check for the Endowment Fund.

Education Endowment Fund – Paul Campbell, Chair

Committee members: Ed Hazelwood, Jackie Lohr, Jim Revell, and Jane Wyman

Paul reported that we will award 6 scholarships through the Diane Relf Education Fund. The unit's VCE agent may submit up to two (2) applications to the EEF committee for consideration and the deadline for submission is May 18th. Committee meets electronically. The board provides \$600 toward scholarships but units can designate monies toward the scholarships. He recommended that we offer a one-time scholarship in memory of Chuck Norrington. The motion was taken under advisement by the Executive Board.

[Extension Liaison - Dave Close, MG Coordinator](#)

Reported on the following: **AAG** – Dave has **seed packets** that can be distributed at garden shows/fairs, plant clinics, garden Club talks, etc.; they will be available through the Extension ordering system next week; contest launched; entries due September 1; winners for each category awarded at State Fair (expenses paid); hope to have Virginia's First Lady there to Present the awards; VMGA sponsoring Category 3 and will be looking for volunteers to help judge their category.

State Record keeping System – work continues; Sarah Kelly recently moved the entire application to a new server; the system was down for a day and a half in late January; Sarah is working to clean up bogus dates; some units received emails regarding specific data entries that were suspect; if your unit didn't receive an email you have nothing to worry about.

WildlifeChapter Dave met with Jim Riddell and Jim Parkhurst. They have a timeline for producing the chapter and Dave is working up a section on wildlife enhancement and Jim Parkhurst will be working up a section (the bulk of the chapter) on nuisance wildlife; a complete rough draft should be ready by June and will be included in the updated MG Handbook. **MG College 2007** – plans are coming along nicely; registration fee will be the same at \$125 for the full conference; daily rates available as well; Milestone Award discounts will be the same as last year as well; remember there is a one year roll-over of these discounts but they can only be used one at a time (they are not cumulative); new for this year – rooms in the former Donaldson-Brown will be available for summer conferences; we will have access to approximately 60 rooms; the rates for these rooms will be \$40/single or 28/double; double rooms will have a queen and a full/twin; remaining rooms will all be in New Res East; singles will be \$35.50 and doubles \$25 (these prices do not include tax and may vary slightly – **the Board of Visitors** will meet in March to approve on-campus housing rates for summer conferences for 2007 and 2008); meals will be \$21.50/day. **Tour of VA** – Williamsburg, Washington County, Northern Shenandoah; setting dates for Newport News and Portsmouth; new classes beginning in Scott County this fall and working toward classes in King and Queen County; possible opportunity for a unit to begin within the city of Richmond. **Handbook Revisions** –Joyce Latimer discussed the content of a letter going through her signature to all the reviewers/authors; still intend to use VCE MG volunteers for chapters specific MGs had expressed interest in helping with intended to send the email out last week but didn't get it out yet. We are shooting to have initial reviews back by late April to early May with the intent of having layout and design completed by August so these will be available by early fall for the 2007-08 training classes. **Misc.** - The winter issue of **"In Season"** is being finalized. He made a **trip to Weston, WV** to the Jackson's Mill 4-H center and met with West Virginia county MG coordinators; had a great reception and hope to work with them again in the future. Dave will be putting together a poster for the Deans' Forum on the Environment for February – will highlight all the Advanced Training modules as serving as learning modules that incorporates citizen science. **International MG Conference** – Little Rock, AR, May 2-5, 2007. Already have more than 800 participants pre-registered. He will be attending at least the first half of the conference. **Dates are set for our trip to MS for Operation Rejuvenation:** we will depart Blacksburg on October 22 and return on October 28; Dave has

requested a contract with Abbott Tours and will have cost details available very soon. Thebes will hold up to 57 people. He still needs to decide on the exact destination (either Hancock County – Bay St. Louis or Harrison County - Biloxi/Gulfport). When he advertises for volunteers, Dave will also have details about fun stops, hotel costs, and estimated meal costs for the trip. **A hearty THANK YOU was extended to Cheri** for representing VMGA and VCE MGs at the General Assembly in Richmond this past week; the MG volunteers handed out seed packets to all delegates and their personal assistants. **Cost of new manuals** was discussed but no dollar amount has been decided. Dave reminded us to look at the website for questions on registration and speakers for MG College. For anyone wanting photos of AAG gardens, they are available on the website.

Unit reports

Unit reports were given at this time. The individual unit reports can be found on the VMGA website. The representative's **"Question of the Day"**, "How is your local unit participating with America's Anniversary Garden activities".

Unfinished Business

President Haggerty suggested that a unit take on fund-raising or become part of the committee. There will be more information on marketed items at the next meeting.

New Business –

Cheri volunteered for one day with the **Virginia Extension Service Association (VESA)** at the **General Assembly, in Richmond**, and distributed AAG seeds and information on MG contributions to the delegates. She noted that our volunteer hours amount to \$5.5 million in worth to the state of Virginia. **Maymont Flower and Garden, February 22nd thru 25th**, at the Richmond Convention Center. Cheri will coordinate the MG's by rotating volunteers in 3 shifts for this event and will send out reminders to whoever signed up by e-mail. Workers will receive free admittance the day they volunteer. A shuttle is available to transport people from the center to the Diamond parking lot. Cheri reminded us about the **MG College Goodie bags** which are being assembled by Patty Gamache and the Bedford MG's. Ideally **each Unit will contribute 300 of an item representing their area**. These must be sent or delivered to Patty by the **end of May**. **VMGA role at MG College**: VMGA members/officers will help with registration and have a bigger role to fulfill as the voice of the MG's. She will tell us more about the schedule as it evolves. As usual, there will be the annual VMGA meeting and the June meeting at MG College. A **Bereavement guideline** has been approved by the board as follows: 1. The unit will notify the VMGA President of the passing of a VMGA member. This notification will include the name, address and wishes of the family. The notification will also include the details of the service. 2. The minimum response will be a card. 3. A decision will be made by the Executive Board on the level of recognition based on the level of participation in the VMGA. 4. If a unit or family desires to honor their

VMGA member through a financial contribution, they will be directed to the Treasurer of the VMGA. The Bereavement Guideline will be added to the standing rules. It is the responsibility of the unit to inform their membership. Cheri thanked Prince George Master Gardeners for their wonderful hospitality.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting – April 14th in Bedford / Unit Rep - Patty Gamache

Meeting schedule was listed in the December minutes and will be posted on the website www.VMGA.net

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer’s Report

February 10, 2007

Data As OF: 1/31/2007

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$4,754.
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$7,950.
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,858.
Future Dues CD Balance	\$4,188.
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	<u>\$23,751.</u>
Checking Balance as of 11/30/2006	\$4,623.

Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$56.63
FY 08-17 dues	\$300.00
FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$180.00
Education	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$750.00
Gift for EEF	\$0.00

\$1,286.

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00
EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$748.80
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$273.19
State Fair	\$0.00
Officers Expense	
President	\$52.50
Vice President	\$0.00

Secretary	\$78.29
Treasurer	\$3.25
	<u>- \$1,156.</u>

Checking Balance as of 1/31/2007 \$4,754.

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$2,244.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$5,096.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$4,133.25
total	<u>\$11,320.00</u>	<u>\$11,976.75</u>

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,079.46	\$320.54
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$748.80	-\$598.80
Fund Raising Gifts to	\$3,500.00	\$2,861.25	\$638.75

Endowment			
Marketing	\$ 200.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 25.00
Membership & Roster	\$ 1,390.00	\$ 1,671.59	-\$ 281.59
Newsletter	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,085.03	\$ 414.97
State Fair	\$ 250.00	\$ 253.57	-\$ 3.57
Officers Expense			
President	\$ 75.00	\$ 52.50	\$ 22.50
Vice President	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 25.00
Secretary	\$ 35.00	\$ 89.01	-\$ 54.01
Treasurer	\$ 45.00	\$ 26.34	\$ 18.66
<hr/>			
total	\$ 11,320.00	\$ 10,164.55	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start			Balance
	Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	
Coordinator Endowment	\$ 645.95	\$ 510.52	\$ 978.36	\$ 178.11
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$ 3,616.00	\$ 924.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 420.00
Education Endowment	\$ 0.00	\$ 112.00	\$ 112.00	\$ 0.00
total				\$ 598.11

**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
April 14, 2007
Bedford**

D R A F T

Attendance

(Amherst, Campbell, Lynchburg) Karen Sacasky, Debbie Straw; (Bedford) Lynn Boggess, Karen Craig, Patty Gamache, Bob Gamache, Jim Revell; (Brunswick/Mecklenburg/Lunenburg, Nottaway) Virginia Myrick; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Chesterfield) Lynn Foote; (Fluvanna) Joan Farren; (Goochland, Powhatan) Chuck Miller; (Grayson, Carroll County, Galax) Charlie Whittle; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty; (Halifax) Agnes Gregory, Bill McCaleb; (Henrico) Beverly Cochrane; (Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry) Betty J. Hendrix; (James City County) Angela Cingale; (Loudon) Dave Hellums; (No. Shenandoah Valley/Clarke/Frederick/Page/Warren) Fran Gregory; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks, David Mims; (Stafford) Don Saunders; (Suffolk) Betty Freedman, Nita Holt; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Mary Ann Kincaid, Jim Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers; (York) Jackie Lohr.

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and introduced Bedford's Unit Representative.

Welcome

Patty Gamache welcomed everyone and introduced their President, Lynn Boggess. Lynn told us about the different activities and accomplishments of the Bedford Master Gardeners. Introductions followed around the room.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

No corrections were made to the February minutes and were approved as posted on the VMGA.net website.

Treasurer's Report Ted Jenks

Report Accepted as pending audit. The full Treasurer's report is at the end of the minutes. Ted acknowledged a \$100 donation in memory of Bill Atkinson, from Virginia Beach, to the P.Diane Relf Education Endowment Fund for scholarships to Master Gardener College. This donation increases the scholarships to 8 for the 2007 attendees.

Standing Committee Reports

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Members - Kathryn Debnar, Nancy Drewry, George Graine, Chuck Miller, Debbie Hamilton, Lenore Plissner,

and Al Thompson

Fran reported that the next Education Program will be held at Montpelier on September 28th. Price for program is \$12.00 for VMGA members and \$24.00 for non-members.

Lunch will cost \$8.50 each. There will be tours of the grounds in the morning and afternoon. Fran spoke about some initial expenses prior to the program which will entail an earlier than usual registration cut off date.

Newsletter - Florace Arnold - Editor

MaryAnn Kincaid reported that 399 newsletters were sent via e-mail and 156 via USPS.

.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid - Chair

Mary Ann Kincaid reported that total membership is 561. Active-397, Auxiliary 10, Lifetime 154.

This is a net increase of 22 members since February and could reflect new interns becoming members. Two-thirds of the memberships (369) expire in May. These members will be receiving renewal notices the week of April 15th.

Unit Support/Communication - Frank Reilly, Chair

Unit Support /Website Members: Pinky Derieux, Pat Reilly, and Karen Sacasky

No activity to report for April.

Communications Members - Tom Bolt, Kathryn Debnar, George Graine, Cheri Haggerty, Shelby Snyder, Betty Truax .

Cheri read Frank Reilly's report which included the following:

- Since the February regularly scheduled meeting there have been 4,297 visitors to VMGA.net.
- The web page has been updated on 39 separate occasions.
- The most popular pages in the last three months have been Minutes, Horticultural Update, and Master Gardener College.
- The communications committee can help units host their site for awhile under certain conditions.
- The page of links to local unit/association websites has been updated. It now contains links to 21 local associations. Not all of these sites are being kept current, and at least one of the links is dead. Some websites are using pop-ups and Active X controls. While these techniques can make a stunning site, many people now employ pop-up blockers, and spy-ware prevention. The end result is delayed response time, in some cases pages that do not load properly. Frank visited a site and was blocked by Google as a harmful site and he was unable to

access it. Units were asked to please check with their webmaster to be sure that the address is correct.

- A new page to promote MG College is now open. After this weekend, there will be a link there to download an MG College recruiting PowerPoint presentation. He will update the classes and schedules as soon as he receives the information from Virginia Tech.

Kathryn Debnar asked the members to keep sending her their unit's Calendar of Events at the k2garden@cox.net and she will post it.

Finance- Bill Scott, Chair

Members: Ted Jenks, Lennie Mather, and Brenda Shimchick

Ted Jenks read Bill's report. The Finance Committee members will be contacting the officers, Standing and Special Committee Chairs for input on what funds they will need in the 2007-2008 budget for their needs by April 23rd; Committee members will report their findings to Bill by April 30th; draft a budget by May 7th; Inform the Executive Committee of their budget recommendation by May 21st.

Special Committees

VMGA T-Shirt Fund-Raiser - Betty Villers

Betty has sold all the T-shirts from the first order of 144 T-shirts and is working on the 2nd order. More T-shirts were bought today and orders from units were sold today at \$10.00 each. She mentioned all the sizes and procedure to order shirts through the unit reps. A hearty thank you and round of applause for Betty who has done an outstanding job with this fund-raising activity for the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund. Cheri announced that Betty Villers, Vice-President, has agreed to be Fund Raising Chairman for marketed items.

Education Endowment Fund – Paul Campbell, Chair

Paul reported that we will award 8 scholarships through the P. Diane Relf Education Fund. So far, one request has been submitted for review. The unit's VCE agent has already received one application but can submit up to two (2) applications to the EEF committee for consideration by May 18th. A winner can only receive the award once. The membership was encouraged to support efforts for this fund

Extension Liaison - Dave Close - MG Coordinator

Bill McCaleb read Dave Close's report as follows:

- **AAG** – VCE Extension Agents have distributed nearly 50,000 seed packets; Dave is working on an AAG proclamation from the Governor’s office and an AAG planting at the Governor’s mansion in early May. The statewide contest will wrap up in September.
- **State Record Keeping System** – on hold; working on contacts for VCE administration (USDA has new reporting requirements for contacts)
- **In Season** e-mail glitch – working with Information Technology specialists to determine problem when the Horticulture Horizons announcement was emailed for the Chesterfield Office. The IT folks assured him it was an anomaly and shouldn’t happen again. For future reference, only small, pdf files will be e-mailed. Anything larger than 1 MB will not be forwarded. Bill MCCaleb reminded us to send Dave any change to our e-mail address if we're not receiving the newsletter.
- **MG College 2007** – list of speakers is almost complete; a good balance of basic and advanced topics; registration fee will be the same at \$125 for the full conference; daily rates available as well; milestone award discounts will be the same as last year as well; there is a one year roll-over of these discounts but they can only be used one at a time (they are not cumulative); Here are the room and board rates without a \$2.00 administration fee per person. There is also 5% sales tax on lodging and meals :

<u>Hall East)</u>	<u>Donaldson Brown Fees</u>	<u>A/C Room (New Residence</u>
	Single - \$40.00	Single - \$37.00
	Double - \$28.00	Double - \$26.00

Breakfast - \$5.00 / Lunch - \$7.50 / Dinner - \$9.00 from the cafeteria.

- The overall theme for this year’s Master Gardener College is **Water Quality**
- **Tour of VA** –visited Newport News on April 4. Set a date to visit Portsmouth on July 6.
- Handbook Revisions – email was sent to chapter reviewers and Dave has requested that revisions be back by the end of May; he’s had positive response overall from folks being contacted about doing a review of the chapters. Additional volunteers may be needed to accomplish this work..
- The **winter issue of In Season** was finally mailed on April 10 (email version went out March 15). The Spring issue will only be released online due to its size; will be available during the week of April 23.
- Developed and displayed a poster at the **Deans’ Forum on the Environment in February** that highlighted all the Advanced Training modules which are serving as learning modules that incorporates citizen science. There were well over 300 posters at the conference.

- Held **2 one-day trainings** in the Northern District at the end of March (March 23 & 24); it was a streamlined version of leadership development like the session held at MG College with 20 to 25 people at each session; one was in Culpeper, the other at Green Spring Gardens and it was well received. This presentation may serve as a model for other districts; agents were impetus behind organizing the event and securing the speakers. Dave spoke on **Risk Management, Culture of Change, and the Basics of Extension Programming** on both days.
- **International MG Conference** –He will be attending a State MG Coordinators meeting on May 2.
- Gave a presentation at the **Emerging Issues Along the Urban-Rural** Interface meeting in Atlanta this week; talked about the Land Care Steward module; roughly 200 scientists and agency representatives attended this conference. Keynote speakers included Deputy Secretary of United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and a retired Director of the Population Division from the United Nations.

A reminder from Bill and Cheri that the dates are set for MG volunteers trip to Mississippi for Operation Rejuvenation which will take place October 22 to October 28; The bus will hold up to 57 people. No decision on exact destination but Dave will communicate details once they are finalized.

Bedford Extension Agent- Scott Baker

Scott joined us a little late due to instructing a class on rain barrels. He gave the membership a brief history of Bedford's agricultural landscape and how changes are taking place. He was most gracious in acknowledging his unit's MGs and all MG's for their tireless volunteering to make beneficial contributions to the state of Virginia.

Unit Reports

individual unit reports can be found on the VMGA website. The unit representative's topic for the meeting was, "Please report on your unit's participation/attendance at MG College". A discussion followed on each unit's ideas and approach on how they share their experience, knowledge gained, and fellowship of MG College to their members and trainees.

Unfinished Business -Cheri

VMGA History Project – Cheri needs someone to work on bringing VMGA history up-to-date on website using the information passed on.

State Fair Team- Cheri announced that Christy Brennan will need more assistance with the state fair. Christy will coordinate a team of VMGA Master Gardeners. The team would help by distributing the workload during the week. A unit could help Christy by displaying a project for a couple of days or they could bring their brag boards. The “Bug Box” with the live insects was the biggest display and the most looked at by the public. The new site at Doswell in 2008 will have a bigger booth which will need many more volunteers and demonstrators. The State Fair is working with Master Gardeners and the Green Industry to coordinate the booth’s display and layout.

Webmaster Assistance- Frank Reilly has help with Jim Villers and Kathryn Debnar but with constant updating of the many pages on the website, he would appreciate it if the units could talk to their Webmaster to see if they would share some of the tasks. They may contact Frank directly.

New Business

Betty Villers presented the newest **Master Gardener marketed items** as follows:

- 1) A **white ceramic coffee mug** with the **Master Gardener** imprinted name on the side of cup which could also have a design of our choosing. She had a copy of the dogwood design, because it’s our state flower, but the final design has not been finalized.
- 2) A **Canvas tote bag** of 100% canvas with contrasting trim. A logo or MG name would be in the front. The membership was not favorable to the tote bag at this time.
- 3) **Car window cling/decals** in 2 sizes – round and rectangular. It was suggested that we imprint Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener around the perimeter of the round decal with the VCE logo in the center. These clings are available in 2 color or 3 color prints. The 3 colors are easier to read.
- 4) **License plate frame in durable plastic** can be ordered in green, black, grey and white. On top would be Virginia and on bottom of frame the words Master Gardener.
- 5) **Lanyards** were mentioned but most felt that because most units had their own that it wouldn’t be a good selling item.

A motion was made and approved that the mug with “Master Gardener” and dogwood design, window cling with VCE MG logo, and license plate frame, in white background and green lettering with Virginia Master Gardener, be ordered as fund-raising items for the 2007-2008 year. Betty will have a sample of each of these items discussed to show at MG College. The membership decided that we wouldn’t sell the items there due to special commemorative items already ordered for the 20th anniversary celebration. More information about the items will be included with the MG College

announcements of meetings, class schedules, instructors, and silent auction. Marketed items will be available for sale in time for the VMGA August meeting in Upper Shenandoah/Glen Burnie and once the items are available for sale they will be posted on the fund raising page of the website with orders taken by Betty.

Search for Excellence-Cheri had guidelines, in a handout, on how a unit wins one of the Brag Boards awards. The criteria were adapted from competitions at the regional and international MG conference called "Search for Excellence". A unit may order a table to display their unit's project by contacting Cheri at their earliest convenience but before June 15th.

Audit committee-Cheri will appoint committee by Mid-May.

Announcements

--**VMGA meeting will be on Friday, June 22nd, at 5:00p.m.** at MG College. The day and time were changed to allow less interruption of instructional time for stewardship classes.

--**Annual VMGA meeting will be on Saturday, June 23rd, 7:00p.m.,** at MG College. Scholarship awards will be given at this time. Winners must be present to receive their award.

--**MG Silent Auction** items will be available for bidding purposes from Saturday morning until the annual meeting at 7p.m. More information will be available on the website once all plans have been finalized.

--All meetings are posted at VMGA.net

-- **MG College Goodie bags** are being assembled by Patty Gamache and the Bedford MG's. If a unit wants to donate an item, the **Unit should contribute 300 of an item representing their area**. The items must be sent or delivered to Patty by the **end of May**. **A donation, from one of the units, of 13 cases bottled water will be sent to Blacksburg directly.**

-- **Cheri thanked the Bedford Master Gardeners** for their wonderful hospitality and arrangements for a tour of the D-Day Memorial.

-- MG **College will take place from June 19-24** and expectations are high that we see every unit represented. Please look for further information at our website at www.VMGA.net before the end of the month. **Fran Shelton** has offered to send any member a hints list of what to bring to MG College.

- Paul Campbell was named "Volunteer of the Year" by the Virginia Beach Rotary Club.
- Lynn Foote announced there were openings for **Chesterfield's Horticultural Horizons** event at Lewis Ginter, Tuesday, 4/24.
- Chuck Miller announced the **Spring Garden Fest for the Goochland-Powhatan** Master Gardeners for Saturday, April 28th.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

April 14, 2007

Data As OF: 3/31/2007

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$5,601
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$8,019
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,916
Future Dues CD Balance	\$4,222
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	\$24,759

Checking Balance as of	1/31/2007	\$4,778
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Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts

FY 08-17 dues	\$480.00
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FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$0.00
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Education	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$575.00
Gift for EEF	\$100.00

\$1,155

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00
EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	\$24.79
Newsletter	\$282.07
State Fair	\$0.00
Officers Expense	
President	\$25.00
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$0.00
Treasurer	\$0.00

-\$331

Checking Balance as of 3/31/2007

\$5,601

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$2,244.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$5,096.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$4,708.25
total	\$11,320.00	\$12,551.75

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,079.46	\$320.54
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$748.80	-\$598.80
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$3,500.00	\$2,861.25	\$638.75
Marketing	\$200.00	\$175.00	\$25.00

Membership & Roster	\$1,390.00	\$1,696.38	-\$306.38
Newsletter	\$1,500.00	\$1,367.10	\$132.90
State Fair	\$250.00	\$253.57	-\$3.57
Officers Expense			
President	\$75.00	\$77.50	-\$2.50
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$35.00	\$89.01	-\$54.01
Treasurer	\$45.00	\$26.34	\$18.66
total	\$11,320.00	\$10,496.41	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start			Balance
	Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	
Coordinator Endowment	\$645.95	\$510.52	\$978.36	\$178.11
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$3,616.00	\$1,428.00	\$4,120.00	\$924.00
Education Endowment	\$0.00	\$212.00	\$112.00	\$100.00
total				\$1,202.11

**Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of
The Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.
June 22, 2007
Blacksburg – Virginia Tech**

D R A F T

Attendance

(Amherst, Campbell, Lynchburg) Debbie Straw; (Bedford) Patty Gamache; (Carroll, Grayson, city of Galax) Charles Whittle; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Chesterfield) Dawn Lerch; (Clark, Frederick, Page, Warren, No. Shenandoah) Bud and Fran Gregory; (Fairfax) George Graine; (Fairfax-Green Spring) Joan

Richards; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (James City County/Williamsburg) Angela Cingale; (Loudon) Dave Hellums; (Northern Neck/Northumberland) Jinny Estell, Pat Rogers; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (Rockbridge/Bath) Ted Jenks; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers; (Virginia Tech/VCE) David Close; (York) Jackie Lohr. .

Call to Order - Welcome

President Cheri Haggerty called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m. and welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

No corrections were made. Minutes will stand as posted on the VMGA website.

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

Ted presented the budget and gave an explanation about the unbalanced budget for the 2007-2008 year. This report will be presented at the annual VMGA meeting for approval.

Standing Committee Reports

The President's Report and all Committee Reports were deferred to the annual meeting, Saturday night, June 23rd, 2007.

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Derieux, Co-Chairs

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

Communication/Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Finance- Bill Scott, Chair

Special Committee Reports

Reports deferred to annual meeting

State Fair – Christy Brennan

VMGA Fund-Raising – Betty Villers.

State Coordinator Endowment Committee-Pat Reilly, Chair

Education Endowment Fund – Paul Campbell, Chair

Extension Liaison - Dave Close, MG Coordinator –

Dave will give his report at the annual meeting

Unit reports

The unit reps attending were asked to send their report to the secretary. They will be posted at www.VMGA.net and printed in the next newsletter.

George Graine presented a \$500 check from the Fairfax unit for the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund to Dave Close.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting – August 11th - North Shenandoah – Winchester – Fran Gregory is coordinating the details for the unit.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale – VMGA Secretary

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

June 22, 2007

Data As OF: 5/31/2007

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account Balance	\$8,420.35
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$8,086.43
Reserve CD Balance	\$6,976.27
Future Dues CD Balance	\$4,256.04
Total Overall Balance of Accounts	<u><u>\$27,739.09</u></u>

Checking Balance as of 3/31/2007

\$5,601.18

Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$417.00
FY 08-17 dues	\$2,568.00
FY 07 dues (current FY)	\$12.00
Education	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$865.00
Gift for EEF	\$90.00

\$3,952.00

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00
EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$748.80
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	\$4.05
Newsletter	\$271.78
State Fair	\$0.00

Officers Expense

President	\$91.88
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$0.00
Treasurer	\$16.32

- \$1,132.83

Checking Balance as of 5/31/2007

\$8,420.35

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY 07

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 07 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$2,920.00	\$2,852.00
FY 07 (Current FY)	\$2,000.00	\$2,256.00
Subtotal	\$4,920.00	\$5,108.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$4,000.00	\$5,573.25
total	\$11,320.00	\$13,428.75

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00

Coord Endowment Cmte	\$700.00	\$522.00	\$178.00
Education	\$2,400.00	\$2,079.46	\$320.54
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$150.00	\$1,497.60	-\$1,347.60
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$3,500.00	\$2,861.25	\$638.75
Marketing	\$200.00	\$175.00	\$25.00
Membership & Roster	\$1,390.00	\$1,700.43	-\$310.43
Newsletter	\$1,500.00	\$1,638.88	-\$138.88
State Fair	\$250.00	\$253.57	-\$3.57
Officers Expense			
President	\$75.00	\$169.38	-\$94.38
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$35.00	\$89.01	-\$54.01
Treasurer	\$45.00	\$42.66	\$2.34
	<u>total</u>	<u>\$11,320.00</u>	<u>\$11,629.24</u>

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY07

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$645.95	\$927.52	\$978.36	\$595.11
Lifetime Dues FY 08-17	\$3,616.00	\$3,996.00	\$4,120.00	\$3,492.00

FY 08 Dues Thru

5/31/07

\$3,276.00

Education Endowment	\$0.00	\$302.00	\$112.00	\$190.00
				<u>\$4,277.11</u>

total

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Annual Meeting

June 23, 2007

(Draft)

Call to Order

President Cheri Haggerty called the 2007 Annual VMGA Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the theater of Torgerson Hall on the Campus of Virginia Tech and welcomed everyone attending.

Minutes – Angela Cingale

The minutes from the 2006 Annual Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Ted Jenks

Annual Treasurer's Report - June 23, 2007

Data As OF: 5/31/2007

Overall Balance of Accounts

Checking Account

Balance

\$8,420.35

PDR Education Endowment CD Balance

\$8,086.43

Reserve CD Balance

\$6,976.27

Future Dues CD Balance

\$4,256.04

Total Overall Balance of Accounts

\$27,739.09

Checking Balance as of 5/31/2006

\$9,457.68

Receipts

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$927.52
FY 08-17 dues	\$3,996.00
FY 07 dues	\$2,256.00
Education	\$2,747.50
Fundraising	\$5,573.25
Gift for EEF	\$302.00

\$15,802.27

Disbursements

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$522.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$978.36
Education	\$2,079.46
EEF Gift Transfers	\$112.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$1,497.60
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$2,861.25
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$4,120.00
Marketing	\$175.00
Membership & Roster	\$1,700.43
Newsletter	\$1,638.88
State Fair	\$253.57

Officers Expense

President	\$169.38
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$89.01
Treasurer	\$42.66

-
\$16,839.60

Checking Balance as of 5/31/2007

\$8,420.35

Audit – Jim Scibek, Chair

The audit committee consisted of Cheryl Sebera (Prince George) and Barbara Geer (Prince George). The annual audit was completed June 13, 2007 and is an attachment to these minutes. Jim thanked Ted Jenks for his excellent record-keeping and thanked the committee for their efforts. Motion was made and carried to accept Audit Committee report.

Standing Committee Reports

Education - Fran Shelton and Pinky Deriuex, Co-Chairs

Members: Nancy Drewry, Kathryn Debnar, George Graine, Debbie Hamilton, Chuck Miller, Lenore Plissner, and Al Thompson.

This past year, the education program was held at Maymont in Richmond on October 27. We had 89 in attendance and the speakers were Peggy Singleman and LeAnne DeBois. We toured the gardens and mansion and had a great day. We are presently working on the education program to be held at Montpelier on Friday, September 28, 2007. This was the home of James and Dolly Madison and has recently been renovated and the gardens restored. Also, this estate holds many of the state champion trees. We will tour the home and grounds of Montpelier, and Ira Wallace from Southern Seed Exchange will be our speaker for the day. She will speak on collection and preserving seeds. They hope everyone will be able to attend and enjoy the program. Please see me or Pinky for the registration forms.

Membership - Mary Ann Kincaid, Chair

As of June 17, there are 423 current members of the Virginia Master Gardener Association. Of these, 270 are Active members; 4 are Auxiliary members; and 149 are

Lifetime members. We are awaiting renewal of 182 members whose memberships expired 05/31/2007

Newsletter - Florace Arnold, Editor

Cheri thanked Florace for her hard work and she received a round of applause. The number of newsletters being mailed out is 89 and decreasing steadily to members' access to e-mail. Continue to send unit reports and current news from your unit to Angela Cingale.

Unit Support - Frank Reilly, Chair

Members: Pinky Derieux, Kerry Goldmeyer, Pat Reilly, Karen Sacasky.

1. The committee promulgated information about "plant-a-row for the hungry."
2. The committee answered a question from a Unit concerning the use of Local Association Funds, and required wording on MG Association Banners.

Communication Committee – Frank Reilly, Chair

Members: Tom Bolt, Paul Campbell, Kathryn Debnar, George Graine

Cheri Haggerty, Shelby Snyder,

Frank reported the following. **1.** November 12th marked our eighth anniversary as VMGA.net. We've grown from a single page giving the minutes of the last meeting to a large web site with more than 350 pages of content and nearly 100,000 visitors annually. **2.** Since the last Annual Meeting 131,460 actual visitors to VMGA.net. **3.** The most popular pages in the last year have been Calendar, Hort Update, Minutes, News, Education, and Membership. **4.** They have begun revamping the website. George Graine has been painstakingly reviewing pages, and sending edits to him. He could use some editing help because George is way ahead of him. They have also begun trying to unify our look and changing some of the older formatted pages. **5.** He reminded us that we can help us host our site for a while under certain conditions. In the past year they have incubated 3 unit sites and helped two of them with comments and instruction. **6.** Since January 10th of this year we have advertised 51 different unit events on the Calendar page. There are directions on the Calendar page about how to get Kathryn Debnar to add your event. Consider doing this because the Calendar page had about 1,658 in the last 6 months. In general the only page with more views month after month is the home page.

Finance - Bill Scott, Chair

Members: Ted Jenks, Lenny Mather, and Brenda Shimchick.

Bill worked with committee members to compile proposed budget.

Attached is the recommended FY2008 Budget together with assumptions. He noted that this is an "unbalanced" budget with expenses of \$12,145 and income of \$11,400

resulting in a “budgeted” deficit of \$745. VMGA’s cash position is strong and a short-term deficit is not a problem. However, on a long-term basis, the Finance Committee recommends the Executive Board address these issues for future budgets as follows:

- ⊕ Membership dues are based upon prior year actual collections.
- ⊕ Memorial funds received in 2007 with the restriction that they be used as education scholarships.
- ⊕ Revenue from education activities is projected on past experience and forecast to offset expenses.
- ⊕ Fundraising revenue represents income from the silent auction at Master Gardener College.
- ⊕ The combined line item for Communication / Support expenses is composed of \$250 for Communications and \$50 for the Unit Support Committee.
- ⊕ Education represents the expenses of FY2008 educational activities forecast at a break-even level. Refer to the related income in the revenue section of the budget.
- ⊕ EEF Scholarships are forecast to be paid from operating funds in FY2008. The current VMGA endowment does not generate sufficient revenue to fund the scholarships and growth accumulation. The increase for FY2008 is funded from memorial funds described above.
- ⊕ Elections expenses represent the estimated costs of conducting the biennial election of officers.
- ⊕ Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment represent the contribution of proceeds from the silent auction at Master Gardener College to the endowment for the state coordinator.
- ⊕ Membership & Roster expenses approximate the costs of producing the membership directory and other expenses incurred to acquire new members in FY2008. The \$2,000 budget represents a \$610 increase from FY2007. If an electronic solution were utilized, as previously discussed, these costs would be significantly reduced.
- ⊕ Newsletter expenses are composed of \$1,239 for printing costs and \$461 for postage and labels to provide for the mailing of 175 issues. This assumes the remaining 400 copies are provided electronically by email.
- ⊕ State Fair expenses are forecast at \$300. This represents an increase of \$50 compared to FY2007.

Special Committee Reports

State Fair - Christy Brennan, Chair

Christy reported that the 2006 State Fair was a huge success. Our booth and the educational demonstrations were well received by the State Fair Staff. She read a letter from Lorene Blackwood which read in part, "***Please express our appreciation for***

the extraordinary educational presentation that the Master Gardeners provided and presented for the Fair attendees. It was truly wonderful and well received. Everyone was helpful and positive." She reported the statistics were as follows: 25 Different Counties in VA were represented by the Master Gardener Units and Volunteers. The Master Gardeners had over **5,973 contacts**. Christy received a round of applause for all her hard work and dedication to the state fair. Once again the state fair will be held at the **Richmond RaceWay Complex on September 27th - October 7th 2007**. There will be lots of demos consisting of composting, pruning, soils, the popular Insect Cage, and Vermiculture. There will be lots of educational opportunities for children and adults who stop by at our booth. Dates are still available to volunteer either yourself or your unit. Volunteers who work the booths only get free tickets for themselves, not their spouses and children. Notice about the State Fair volunteer opportunity will go in the newsletter. The state fair is open to anyone who wants to enter their garden harvest, house plants and more. For more information, Christy gave us the following website:

<http://www.statefair.com/competitions.asp>. She reported that she has been in touch with Don Saunders who is keeping her apprised of progress at the Dowell facility which will be the new state fair site when completed.

Fundraising Committee – Betty Villers, Chair

Betty thanked everyone for their support with the fund-raising items. The Board introduced the Master Gardener t-shirt last year as a fundraiser for the Master Gardener Endowment. Since December we have sold 242 shirts at \$10.00 each and will be adding around a \$1000 to the Endowment after costs. This year we will be adding a VCE/MG decal (\$2.00 each) and a Virginia Master Gardener license plate holder (\$3.00 each). With these items, Betty is anticipating raising \$3,000 during the year for the endowment. Cheri still has flags at 2 for \$15 and is anxious to sell them.

Silent Auction Committee, Pat Reilly, Chair

Pat praised all the MG's for their efforts in bringing the items for the silent auction which took place tonight before the meeting. As the meeting progressed, the successful bidders of the silent auction were being tallied.

Educational Endowment Fund - Paul Campbell, Chair

Committee members: Ed Hazelwood, Jackie Lohr, Jim Revell, and Jane Wyman

Paul announced the 2007 scholarship winners as follows: Barbara Brawley, Virginia Beach; Flo Davis, Prince William; Sharon Giese, Hanover; Jeff Goggin, Bedford; Bud Gregory, Northern Shenandoah; Conrad Kauppi, Lynchburg; Teri O'Brien, Fairfax; Donna Pearsall, Chesapeake

Coordinator's Endowment Committee - Pat Reilly, Chair

Committee consists of Pat Reilly (Chair), Angela Cingale, Dave Close, Kathryn Debnar, Carol Dixon, Jane Pratt Schilling and Jim Scibek. Bill McCaleb, Max Bales, Virginia Tech Director of Development for College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Pat Reilly gave a PowerPoint presentation on the need for the endowment fund, the importance and impact of Dave Close's position as MG Coordinator, and why we need to support it thru our own personal efforts as well as the spread the word to the units. She announced that Dawn Lerch, Assistant Director, from the CALS office has also become active with the committee by pursuing additional funds with donors and foundations. The present figure toward the million dollar goal is \$214,302.76 plus the fund had received \$1,250.00 which was not included in that total. Kathryn Debnar reported that the silent auction donation was \$3,243.00. The committee continued to reach out to units through Dave Close and Kathryn Debnar has coordinated speaking engagements to the units. Units were invited to add more support the fund by meeting the "Reilly Challenge". The Reillys will donate \$250.00 to the fund if a committee member gives a presentation on the Endowment Fund. We are continuing with the the "\$50 for 5" pledge campaign in which the donors receive a dogwood tree. The committee is pursuing foundations and corporations from which we can solicit funds or outright grants.

Pat recognized George Graine (Fairfax) who presented a check for \$500 to the MG Coordinator Endowment. Sharon Corbin read the winners of the silent auction.

Extension Liaison Report - David Close, MG State Coordinator

- Dave reported at how well the community responded to the VA Tech tragedy of April. Virginians, people from everywhere in the USA, and worldwide poured their support for the staff and students. He thanked everyone who has sent cards, flowers and showed special support for Jerzy Nowak, head of the Horticulture Department,

- Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the landing at Jamestown has brought international attention to our Commonwealth with America's Anniversary Garden

- Celebrating the 20th Annual Master Gardener College! The Water Stewardship program is the theme for this year and the extension agents and MG's have shown their enthusiasm throughout Virginia.

- Operation Rejuvenation in Mississippi and the efforts to rebuild the coastal MG programs where many Virginia MG's have been and still continue their involvement through our contributions.

- He is optimistic that with everyone's effort we will be closer to reaching the goal of \$1 million for MG Coordinator Endowment Fund by June 2008.
- He thanked everyone for their efforts throughout the year in their communities and how our commitment is making a difference towards a better environment in our state.
- Milestone awards commenced giving recognition to the MG's for their service.

President's Report- Cheri Haggerty

Cheri reported the adoption of a Bereavement Guideline as follows:

1. The unit will notify the VMGA President of the passing of a VMGA member. This notification will include the name, address and wishes of the family. The notification will also include the details of the service.
2. The minimum response will be a card.
3. A decision will be made by the Executive Board on the level of recognition based on the level of participation in the VMGA.
4. If a unit or family desires to honor their VMGA member through a financial contribution, they will be directed to the Treasurer of the VMGA.

Bereavement Guideline is as follows:

She announced the passing of Chuck Norrington, Rockbridge Bath; Sammye Stienke, Prince William; and Larry Woyer, Brunswick, all of whom were or have been active VMGA supporter.

Some units have given scholarships in their names.

She reported that since the June 2006 Annual Meeting, VMGA members have participated across the state: June 2006 – June 2007, MGCAT; September 2006- State Fair; October 2006, VGIC Garden Festival; February 2006 General Assembly- VESA; February 2006, Maymont Flower Show; March 2006, AAG. She announced the **2007/2008** Membership Meetings as follows:

August	Gloucester
October	Abingdon
December	York
February	Prince George
April	Bedford
June	MG College
August	Northern Shenandoah

October Fairfax-Greensprings
December JCC/Williamsburg
February '08 - Open to units in Central or Northwest Districts
April '08 Portsmouth
June '08 MG College
August '08 Prince William
October '08 Northern Neck

December '08 - Open to units in Central or Northwest Districts

Goody Bags - A huge **Thank You to the Bedford unit** for the tremendous job they have done on the daunting task of assembling Goody Bags for the past 2 years.

Volunteer Opportunities – Cheri announced volunteers are needed to assist Frank Reilly, the webmaster. Also a volunteer or unit is needed to assemble the contents she has for the VMGA history book and write about our past, present and future. Our next meeting is in Shenandoah.

New Business – there was no new business

Announcements

Winners of the Brag Board –

Winners of the Sustainable Land Management Categories in the Brag Board competition were announced as follows: Prince William, SLM1 - Environmental Stewardship; JCC/Williamsburg, SLM2 - Youth in Horticulture; Northern Neck, SLM3 - Economic Value of Landscape; Central Rappahanock, SLM4 - Horticulture Therapy.

Awards - Peggy Fox of Newport News gave the Golden Trowel award to Dave Close and Barry Robinson for all their hard work which starts the minute that MG College is over. She also thanked everyone for their participation and support of the Master Gardener College and community work.

Announcements

Next Board Meeting – Saturday, August 11, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. and will be hosted by Northern Shenandoah. Fran Gregory is the VMGA Representative.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Cingale
VMGA Secretary

VMGA, INC.
REPORT of the FINANCE COMMITTEE
PROPOSED FY2008 BUDGET

Attached is a draft of the FY2008 Budget together with assumptions. You will note that this is an “unbalanced” budget with expenses of \$12,145 and income of \$11,400 resulting in a “budgeted” deficit of \$745. VMGA’s cash position is strong and a short-term deficit is not a problem. However, on a long-term basis, the Finance Committee believes there are some critical areas that must be addressed.

- First, the Membership & Roster expense budget of \$2,000 increased \$610 from the FY2007 budget. As we indicate in the budget assumptions, these costs could be significantly reduced if an electronic solution were utilized. This budget increase represents approximately 82% of the budgeted deficit.
- On a long-term basis, the Education and Newsletter programs need to be reviewed and the Board of Directors ensure that these programs provide a meaningful and informative benefit to the membership. These programs should be the answer to the question, “What benefit does a VMGA member receive from his (her) membership in the organization?” From a financial standpoint, the education programs should be structured to produce a small profit to help cover the total costs of the organization.
- Lastly, the Committee believes that the Lifetime membership classification should be reviewed to determine its effect on revenue from a long-term perspective. As the organization ages and the Life members remain active for more than 10 years, VMGA has the obligation to provide member benefits without any current revenue to pay for the services. Perhaps the structure of this class of membership may need to be modified.

The committee reviewed the financial stability of the VMGA investments and is continuing to look at restructuring the investments to improve yield. They have prepared a budget for 2006-07 which is attached. Changes from 2006 Budget include Membership Dues Income that is more consistent with what is actually received. On the Expense side the Newsletter cost will be considerably less due to electronic distribution of the newsletter. Since Lifetime Dues are paid in a lump sum the Finance Committee proposed and the Board approved not spending the future years' dues until that year. Motion made and carried that the 2007 Budget be accepted as presented by the Finance Committee.

VMGA, INC.
Proposed FY2008 Budget

**June 1, 2007 to May 31,
2008**

Income

Membership

Regular \$1,900

Lifetime / Advanced 3,300

Payments

Total Membership 5,200

Gifts for EEF Scholarships 200

Educatio
n 3,000

Fundraising 3,000

Total Income \$11,400

Expense

s

Communication/Support \$300

Coordinator Endowment Committee 100

Educatio
n 3,000

EEF Scholarships 800

Elections 475

Fundraising Committee 50

Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment 3,000

Marketin
g 200

Membership & Roster	2,000
Newslett er	1,700
State Fair	300
Officers Expense	
	125
Presiden t	
Vice President	25
	35
Secretar y	
	35
Treasure r	
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$12,145</u></u>