

VMGA Minutes Aug 2009 – Jun 2010

August 8, 2009

October 10, 2009 [p. 10]

December 12, 2009 [p. 21]

February 13, 2010 [p. 35](cancelled due to inclement weather)

April 10, 2010 [p. 35]

June 25, 2010 [p. 49]

Annual Meeting June 26, 2010 [p. 55]

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting
Saturday August 8, 2009

Claytor Visitor Center, Bedford VA

Hill City Master Gardeners

Attendance:

(Arlington/ Alexandria) Joe Kelly; (Bedford) Patty Richard; (Blue Ridge) Charlie Whittle; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Chesterfield) Lynne Foote; (Fairfax) George Graine; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Gloucester) Bonnie Bernard;(Green Spring) Joan Richards, Cyndi Bishop; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan, (Henrico) Beverley Cochrane; (James City Co./Williamsburg) Susan Giandomenico, Jim and Nelda Pressly; (Lynchburg /Hill City) Cora Jane Roush (guest), Emily Sayers, Bettie Tyree, Jean Higgenbotham, Beverly Miller, Helen Adams, Karen Sacasky, Conrad Kauppi, Patty Kauppi, Iva Scott, Pasty Meyer, Klawa Thresher, Jean Camn, Sue Chipman, Claire Schultz, Bill Gahuz, Joe Pond; (Louisa) Jack Wilmer, Ira Wallace, Tina Chalekie (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera, Barbara Geer (Prince William) Janet and Bill Scott, (Rockbridge) David Mims; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar, (Virginia Beach) Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers; (Va. Tech) Nancy Franz.

Call to Order:

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Introductions:

Hill City Representative, Debra Straw welcomed everyone to the Claytor Nature Center and introduced Joe Pond, the President of Hill City Master Gardener's. Hill City had the first Master Gardener class 1982 and became an association 1991. Currently there are

139 Master Gardeners' who have contributed 14,872 volunteer hours. There are two main educational programs which are in five elementary schools in the area and a summer gardening program at the juvenile detention center.

The summer gardening program at the Boys and Girls Club generated over 400 pounds of potatoes and 4700 pounds of produce to the inner city food bank. The presentation of this garden program won 1st place in the 2009 SFE Competition at Master Gardener College.

The group has restored the speaker's bureau to include 85 topics and 23 speakers. These programs are well utilized in the community, reaching over 775 contacts in 2008 and have already been presented to 650 contacts in 2009. Hill City has an annual plant sale which generated \$8,000 in 2008.

Betty asked every member to introduce themselves and the unit they represented.

Minutes – Christy Brennan

Betty asked for one correction to the minutes of June 2009 to change the adjournment time to 5:30 p.m. and add the treasurer's report.

The minutes were accepted with the corrections added, and will be posted on the VMGA web site.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Scott

Bill presented the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit. (The report is attached).

Special Report - Betty introduced Nancy Franz, Professor and Extension Specialist in Program Development at VT and one of the judges for the **Brag Boards and Search for Excellence competition** at MG College.

Nancy spoke to the group on creating a better Brag Board and explained what the judges consider when judging the boards. There are 4 basic rules 1) follow the rules of the competition and make them easy for the judges to see. 2) Determine the category of your project and make this clear to the judges, focus on one category and project 3) know the judges and their expertise – “play “ to the expertise in the presentation” read their minds”, 4) Results – what were the changes in behaviors or the outcome of the experience. This is where most of our entries needs more work – include interviews of the contacts, how they liked the experience – what did they learn, how were they affected?

There are 5 ways to collect data. Surveys, interviews, information gained from secondary data (i.e. County Board meetings), case studies with particular subjects chosen, observation and report.

She discussed guidelines and performed a critique/workshop on three of this year's entries with suggestions from the group including how to present the information she had presented including: methods of collecting data, designing displays that appeal to all senses and the different ways of learning, reporting results and ease of replication.

Committee Reports:

Membership- Mary Anne Kincaid-Chair

As of August 5, there are 502 members of the Virginia Master Gardener Association. Of these, 332 are Active members; 5 are Auxiliary members; and 165 are Lifetime members.

This is an increase of 40 members since the June 2009 report. There are 11 fewer members than reported in August 2008.

Newsletter- Peggy Fox- Chair

Newsletter going well, please remember to let Peggy know what is going on in your area by sending her articles or links to your units newsletter.

Unit reports are sent to Cheryl Sebera – Cheryl will be sending a template to use for unit reports to

Include prevalent information for the newsletter.

Unit reports are due by August 25th.

Unit Support_ Frank Reilly – Chair

Frank was not present and no report was submitted.

Education Committee -Barbara Geer – Chair

There are only three members currently serving on the education committee- 16 VMGA members had expressed interest in the committee and Barbara will be contacting them soon.

The education committee has a program scheduled in Charlottesville in conjunction with Master Naturalist on Oct 13th. There are fliers for members to take back to the units for this event. The web site should have the registration form available next week.

The committee had to cancel the event scheduled in the Isle of Wight area on Oct 31st due to another regional training event in the area concerning similar topics.

The next planned event will be a mini- master gardener college day held at VA State University with Andy Hankins as the lead. There is ample room for over 100 attendees and at least two large breakout sessions.

On August 21s the education committee will meet with Andy to plan the event. Please e-mail Barbara any ideas or topics you would like to have presented.

A 3rd program has been planned in the Rockbridge area in the fall of 2010 concerning school programs, community gardening and SOL's requirements concerning food.

The education committee had asked the Executive Board about the cost of educational programs. The Board recommends a Cost to VMGA- members of \$10.00 and \$20.00 for non-members. The exception will be the event planned on Oct 13 which is in conjunction with the Master Naturalist Program. Master Naturalist will pay the VMGA member rate of \$10.00. Motion was made, seconded and passed.

Endowment Committee: Kathryn Debnar

There has been a significant problem with record keeping and acknowledging all contributions to the endowment fund. It originally was our understanding that Tech would send out thank you notes to all contributors. Upon investigation over forty three donors from 2008 have not been given an acknowledgement because they sent their donation to the VMGA Treasurer instead of directly to VT Foundation. Kathryn is building a spread sheet to record all donations and the date of acknowledgements. Please let Kathryn know if you have not gotten an acknowledgement. As part of the reporting system membership forms will refer all donations to the Foundation. In order to receive documentation for a tax deduction all donations must be submitted to VT. Make checks payable to "VT Foundation", add Account #886119 in the memo line and mail to: CALS Development Office, 215 Hutcheson Hall (0402) Blacksburg VA 24061.

No balance for August has been sent by the foundation to Kathryn. The June balance is 281,919.69 mostly contributed by Master Gardeners. Over 35 units have given over 100.00. Kathryn will submit a report for the next newsletter.

Virginia Green Industry: Cheri Haggerty

VGIC took part in the VA Governor's forum to determine where the candidates stand on current agriculture issues. The next town hall meeting will be held in VA Beach, August 18th.

The **VA Go Green Garden Festival** will be held September 12th at the Science Museum of Virginia in Richmond, there are lots of opportunities to volunteer. Contact Cheri Haggerty, haggs2282@earthlink.net to volunteer.

Education Endowment committee- Paul Campbell- Chair

Paul was not present at the meeting and has resigned as chair of the committee. The committee has completed the duties for this year and the new chair will be able to select a new committee. Traditionally all members of the committee have been past

recipients of the Diane Relf Scholarship. Betty will send an email to unit reps asking for volunteers.

Kathryn Debnar will send thank you notes to those who donated to the 2009 scholarship fund.

Fund Raising- Susan Giandomenico

The committee raised \$1900.00 at Master Gardener College, thank you to Patty Gamache. -Susan still has the \$20.00 packet available for reps to take back to units and get orders. Be sure to let everyone know about the new t-shirts - three colors in men's and four pastel colors in women's sizes -please take some back to you units. They will also be featured on the VMGA web site. We only have two of the flags left for sale.

State Fair- Christy Brennan

The State Fair will be held in Doswell this year one mile past Kings Dominion. The dates of the Fair are September 24th through Oct 4th - there are still several great dates and times left. Please let Christy know if your unit would like to volunteer. Especially needed "night owls" who do not mind working nights.

VCE- Dave Close

Dave was not present but submitted a report.

-Dr. Alan Grant formerly of Purdue University has been named as the New Dean for the College of AG and Life Sciences.

-VA Tech has requested VCE make permanent plans to reduce the budget in three stages by 2012 reductions are targeted to 3.1 million, 6.3 million, and 9.4 million. The reductions will be agency wide.

-Now more than ever is the time to talk with legislators concerning Extension.

-Grants have been awarded for Emerald Ash Borer programming to Northern VA; the programs will include Master Gardeners and Extension Agents.

-MG handbook has been updated and will be ready to order by this fall, cost of the handbook has not increased in years; this year will have a slight increase.

- Record system is still not updated. May consider purchasing California's system in place of building our own which is proving to be cost prohibitive.

-MG College advisory team will meet soon so please let them know of any issues or ideas for next year's MG College.

- Dave conducted training in Richmond in June for non-Ag and Natural Resource Agents on the basic policies of the MG Program.

Presidents Report-

The Executive board met July 18th to discuss where the VMGA is headed for next year

-The Board discussed the recommendations from the finance committee; we would like to distribute the membership directory on line instead of hard copies to every member. The on-line version will not be a booklet but a spreadsheet format. Dawn Myerricks and Mary Anne will meet together to determine the best format to e-mail.

-The Finance committee recommended that we increase fees to educational events to make a profit. George asked if we need to make a profit, Bill responded that as more members pay lifetime fees the organization may need to increase funds for operational items. The board felt that the fee may increase as we schedule more educational events.

- The Coordinator endowment- VMGA is requesting more information from the foundation in a formal report. We are making changes to assure every donation receives a timely acknowledgement.

-Dawn Meyerriecks has agreed to be the new web master; she has some really good ideas for updates.

Please send Dawn any ideas for updates. We have been asked to incorporate links to other organizations such as the VA Botanical program.

- VMGA would like to sponsor a mixer at MG College Thursday night after the award ceremony. It was also suggested we - † be included in the daily announcements of MG College. These suggestions will be submitted to the MG College Advisory Board.

VMGA will handle all details for the SFE /Brag Board Competition during MG College

- There will b no goody bags this year, as Dave will be recruiting sponsors who will give the MG's freebies...
- A meeting with executive board and the VCE/VT leadership is planned for Jan in Charlottesville
- Other organizations are noticing VMGA, Betty was asked by a Delaware unit for our fund raising ideas and the Home Magazine has asked for an article on night blooming plants –
- Information on obtaining a 501(3) c status is available for unit. Betty has a few copies today and she can also email you a copy.

Unfinished Business-

Silent auction – Leslie Paulson, chair- not present – we are looking for someone or a unit to handle the silent auction for next year. 164 items were donated this year. The auction normally has 5-7 helpers during set up, and the closing.

Maybe we need another type of auction to contribute to the endowment

George Graine had a debriefing meeting of Fairfax MG's who attended this year's MG College the results will be reported to the MG College Advisory Board and he would like to recommend that all units have MG College attendees convey suggestions to the committee.

Announcements

Henrico Harvest Fair, September 19th – handouts were available at meeting .There are good speakers and demos scheduled. The event will be held at the Armor House the newest park in Henrico County.

It's time to renew your membership; please remember that unit reps must be VMGA members.

Next VMGA meeting will be held on Oct 10th, 2009 - 10:00 am, in Lexington at the VA Horse Center hosted by Rockbridge Master Gardeners.

Roanoke will have a Food Expo –hi-lighting local food suppliers, AUG 14th Kathryn Debnar has tickets available today.

Community Gardening Festival will be held in VA Beach – September 12th.

August 29th is a busy day with Down and Dirty Symposium at VA Tech and VA Well Owners training in Richmond.

Be sure to check out the web site calendar for more events.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

VMGA Treasurers Report

July 2009

**Balance
Sheet**

Data As
OF: 7/31/2009

Checking Account Balance	\$7,129.54
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$14,027.26
Reserve CD #2 Balance	\$4,752.93
Future Dues CD Balance	\$5,900.42
Fundraising Inventory	\$788.98
Total Assets	<u>\$32,599.13</u>

Unearned Income - Future Dues	\$5,655.01
Coordinator Endowment Funds Payable	\$266.00
Coordinator Endowment Planned Gifts Payable	\$0.00
Restricted Gifts for Scholarships	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$5,921.01</u>

Accumulated Earnings	\$22,818.07
Current Year Earnings	\$3,860.05
Total Net Assets	<u>\$26,678.12</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$32,599.13</u>
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Checking Balance as of 5/31/2009	\$9,452.53
Receipts	\$1,298.00

	Coord Endowment Gifts	\$266.00	
	Dues FY 11-20	\$132.00	
	FY 10 dues (current FY)	\$672.00	
	Education	\$0.00	
	Fundraising	\$228.00	
	Gift for EEF	\$0.00	
Disbursements			-\$3,675.55
	Comm/Support	\$0.00	
	Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00	
		-	
	Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$1,078.00	
	Education	\$0.00	
	EEF Scholarships	-\$500.00	
	Elections	\$0.00	
		-	
	Fund Raising Gifts	\$1,639.88	
	Fund Raising Cmte	-\$202.85	
	Marketing	\$0.00	
	Membership & Roster	-\$106.04	
	Newsletter	-\$135.58	
	State Fair	\$0.00	
	Officers Expense		
	President	\$0.00	
	Vice President	\$0.00	
	Secretary	\$0.00	
	Treasurer	-\$13.20	
Transfers			\$54.56

EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Reversal of Old O/S Check	\$54.56
Fundraising Inventory Transfer	\$0.00

Checking
Balance as of 7/31/2009 \$7,129.54

Interest Income on Reserve and EEF CD's	\$101.70
Interest Income on Future Dues CD	\$36.02

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 10 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$4,000.00	\$4,008.00
FY 10(Current FY)	\$1,400.00	\$672.00
Subtotal	\$5,400.00	\$4,680.00
Education	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$1,000.00	\$228.00
Gift for EEF		\$0.00
Interest Income		\$137.72
total	\$9,400.00	\$5,045.72

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
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Comm/Support	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$275.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Education	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$100.00
Elections	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$50.00	-\$202.85	-\$152.85
Fund Raising Gifts to Endow	\$1,000.00	-\$228.00	\$772.00
Marketing	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Membership & Roster	\$2,000.00	-\$106.04	\$1,893.96
Newsletter	\$1,200.00	-\$135.58	\$1,064.42
State Fair	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Officers Expense			
President	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Treasurer	\$100.00	-\$13.20	\$86.80
total	\$9,400.00	-\$1,185.67	

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$1,078.00	\$266.00	\$1,078.00	\$266.00
Fundraising for	\$1,411.88	\$228.00	-	\$0.00

Coor. Endow.

\$1,639.88

Education

Endowment

\$353.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$353.00

total

\$619.00

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

Saturday October 10, 2009

VA Horse Center, Lexington VA

Hosted by Rockbridge Master Gardeners

Attendance:

(Arlington/ Alexandria) Joe Kelly; (Bedford) Patty Richard; (Central Shenandoah Valley) Wes Ford; (Charlottesville Albemarle) Joyce Grunewald; (Chesterfield) Lynne Foote; (Fairfax) George Graine; (Gloucester) Bonnie Bernard;(Green Spring) Joan Richards, Cyndi Bishop; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan, (James City Co./Williamsburg) Jim and Nelda Pressly; (Lynchburg /Hill City) Debra Straw, Karen Sacasky, Pam Hanse, T J Pond; (Louisa) Ira Wallace, Tina Chaleki, (Prince George) Barbara Geer; (Prince William) Janet and Bill Scott, (Rockbridge) Barbara Thomas, David Mims, Ted Jenks; (Northern Neck) Edward Munns; (Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar ; (Virginia Beach) Jim and Mary Ann Kincaid, Betty Villers; (Va. Tech) Dave Close.

Call to Order:

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Unit representative David Mims welcomed everyone to the Rockbridge County and Lexington fabulous place.

Lexington has Washington & Lee University, VMI, horses and the VA Horse Center, and Master Gardeners. David introduced the president of the Rockbridge Master Gardeners Barbara Thomas, who is also a team leader of the Natural Bridge Garden Program.

Barbara introduced Mimi Elrod, the Mayor of Lexington, who is the first woman mayor and a lifelong educator. She currently is working educating the residents of Lexington on the value of chickens to help change current restrictions.

She welcomed Master Gardeners to Lexington, and admired the hard work and education outreach that Master Gardeners perform. Master Gardeners make a huge difference in VA and have a great contribution to local areas and the greater good.

She hopes we will get a chance to visit Lexington, one of the most beautiful cities in VA.

Introductions:

Betty asked every member to introduce themselves and the unit they represented.

Betty welcomed Wes Ford a new member representing a new unit Central Shenandoah Valley, which includes Rockingham, Stanton, and Waynesboro.

Minutes – Christy Brennan

Some names were spelled incorrectly in the August minutes.

The minutes were accepted with the corrections added, and will be posted on the VMGA web site.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Scott

Bill presented the treasurer's report. There will be more expenses incurred in the next coming months due to timing but we will be well within the budget.

There were no questions concerning the treasurer's report and the report will be filed for audit. (The report is attached).

Special Report – Dave Close, speaking for Fred Weaver (Director of Risk Management) presented a power point presentation on risk management.

It is the responsibility of each Extension MG volunteer to be aware of risks. Plan and examine every program to minimize exposure to risk. Implement techniques, then evaluate and adjust the program (plan for the best and worst).

Insurance coverage for VCE volunteers applies only to liability. Liability means wrong doing to person, property, or resulting in a loss net income (this is why VCE employees and volunteers are careful not to endorse products or companies).

Every Volunteer should have the VCE Emergency Card filled out and carry it with them. Volunteer hours must be reported to verify you are a VCE volunteer as the liability coverage is for VCE employees and volunteers (there must be a paper trail with hours reported to insure that volunteers are active and certified). Every volunteer should be aware of risks when working with the vulnerable populations - be aware of your responsibility. Teachers and care givers should be present the entire time volunteers are working with these groups.

The presentation is available at <http://intra.ext.vt.edu/policies/riskmgt.html>, for more questions - contact Dave Close.

Committee Reports:

Membership- Mary Ann Kincaid-Chair

As of October 5, there are 540 members of the Virginia Master Gardener Association. Of these, 368 are Active members; 6 are Auxiliary members; and 166 are Lifetime members.

This is an increase of 38 members since the August 2009 report. There are 21 more members than reported in October 2008.

2009-2010 VMGA membership directories are available for unit reps, to take back for distribution.

Newsletter- Peggy Fox- Chair

Peggy was not present and no report was submitted.

Please remember to let Peggy know what is going on in your area by sending her articles or links to your unit's newsletter.

Unit reports are sent to Cheryl Sebera – Cheryl will be sending a template to use for unit reports to

Include prevalent information for the newsletter. Unit reports are due by October 20th.

Finance Committee- Ted Jenks

The finance committee has had no activity in the last two months and has no report.

Unit Support- Frank Reilly – Chair

The committee consists of Pinky Derieux, Kerry Goldmeyer, Karen Sacasky, and Frank Reilly and whoever else we need. Since the last meeting the Unit Support committee has:

Received and posted on-line information concerning tax reporting requirements for local Units regardless of their tax exempt or incorporation status.

Communication Committee- Frank Reilly – Chair

Members: Our newest member Webmaster Dawn Meyerriecks, Betsy Lyon, Cheri Haggerty, Shelby Snyder, Kathryn Debnar, Jim Kincaid, George Graine, Tom Bolt, George Alapas, and Chair Frank Reilly.

Since the August Regularly Scheduled Meeting there have been 10675 visitors to VMGA.net. They visited 76208 pages, or more than 7 pages each.

Since the August regularly Scheduled Meeting, the web page has been updated on 62 separate occasions.

The most popular pages in the last three months have been Calendar, Educational Events, Membership, Resources (which is the way to useful links), and Endowment. The front page has 64% 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 will again prepare a recruiting program for MG College. We would like some pictures from this past year's college. Please send them to webmaster@vmga.net by December 1st.

Education Committee -Barbara Geer – Chair

Barbara would like to remind everyone that we will be back in the fall of 2010 in beautiful Rockbridge for a educational event on community and school gardens.

The program for Tuesday October 13th program has been closed out at 130 attendees. The group made an executive decision to accommodate this number of registered participants. This program will not be a money maker. The program filled very fast and early on there was a waiting list.

Plans are proceeding for the Mini Master Gardener College titled "Leading Edges in Consumer Horticulture" scheduled for March 27th at VA State University in Petersburg.

Mary Ann thanks Barbara and the committee for fitting everyone in.

Coordinator Endowment Committee: Kathryn Debnar- Chair

There was an endowment meeting with Dave, Kathryn and the executive board earlier this morning.

In Season newsletter will have several articles concerning the endowment to clear up any misconceptions and to correct the process of giving to VT Foundation and receiving recognition and acknowledgement.

Total contributions are \$301,646.69 this figure includes all gift including those from MG College.

The Endowment reception cost \$1000.00 but raised \$3000.00.

Remember that if every active Master Gardener pledged the 50 / 5 the endowment would be paid.

Please let Kathryn know if you have not gotten an acknowledgement. As part of the reporting system membership forms will refer all donations to the Foundation. In order to receive documentation for a tax deduction all donations must be submitted to VT. Make checks payable to "VT Foundation", add Account #886119 in the memo line and mail to: CALS Development Office, 215 Hutcheson Hall (0402) Blacksburg VA 24061.

Virginia Green Industry: Cheri Haggerty- VMGA Representative

The Virginia Gardening Festival 2009 was held Saturday September 12 in Richmond. The attendance was 2400 compared to around 1000 last year. 25 MGs from Henrico, Hanover and Middlesex volunteered over 95 hours and had in excess of 546 contacts. From Rick Baker, Chairman of the Festival "special thank you to each of the Master Gardeners who helped with the raffle, pricing plants, exhibitor set up, plant sales and more. The Garden Festival is finally growing and it takes more people to make it all work smoothly. Each of you helped to do just that!

Garden Festival #5 will be on the 2nd Saturday in September back at the Science Museum of Virginia.

I look forward to working with the Master Gardeners again next year.

On behalf of the Virginia Green Industry Council I thank you again."

The Virginia Green Industry Council (VGIC) next meeting is Wednesday, October 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Henrico VCE Office. The guest speaker is Chris French, Virginia Director of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay discussing partnerships with VGIC on similar goals.

Other items to be discussed will be Virginia Agribusiness Council Legislative Update by Donna Johnson and the status of the Invasive Species brochure update by Mary Williams.

Education Endowment committee-

We need a volunteer to chair the committee. Traditionally all members of the committee have been past recipients of the Diane Relf Scholarship, most of the work is handled by e-mails.

Fund Raising-

Susan Giandomenico has stepped down from the chair of this committee. Betty has the shirts and other items to fill some orders today. Patty Gamache has agreed to chair the committee. Betty has linked to the same e-mail as Susan was using to continue to obtain orders.

As of this meeting all flags have been sold.

State Fair- Christy Brennan

The inaugural year at The Meadow for the 2009 State Fair was a success. The Fair reported attendance had reached 4000 over last year. Master Gardeners had a large venue in the Fish and Plant Center and had over 20 tables available for demonstrations and publications. Nine Units decided to face the unknown and participate in the eleven

day event this year. These volunteers shared the Strawberry DNA Experiment again on the student tour and shared sustainable land care and gardening practices and reported over 10,736 contacts and hundreds of volunteer hours.

The new venue has a lot of opportunities to offer Master Gardeners and we hope more units will choose to participate next year.

VCE- Dave Close

1. Joyce Latimer is going to take over as the content editor for the Home & Grounds PMG which means we should see a considerable improvement and change by the next go around. We are working on a process to involve MG volunteers to a limited number.
2. State Record Keeping System update – as of Tuesday, October 6, we have been granted permission to purchase a volunteer management system from UC Davis that fits the model of what we were in the process of creating from scratch. This system will hopefully be in place within a few months. The system will also be used by the VA Master Naturalist program, and potentially other Extension volunteer programs.
3. Handbook update – 2009 revision is out and being used. I hope to assemble a revision team to begin looking at the next phase. I will begin accepting ‘applications’ or at least letters of interest from volunteers who may want to participate as reviewers or more. I’m also hoping to secure some sponsorships much like MD to offset costs so we can improve the quality without having to increase the price
4. MGs as authors – I’m working with Joyce Latimer and Extension Agents to develop a policy and procedure for MG Volunteers to serve as authors for non-numbered VCE publications. Those guidelines have been sent to agents and we are waiting for feedback before finalizing the procedure and sending it out statewide.
5. Budget Update – recent letter from President Steger outlined the total impact to VT which is in the neighborhood of \$68 million reduction. For the current fiscal year, \$30 million is being offset by stimulus dollars, but beginning in July of 2010 we will feel the total impact of that permanent reduction. Extension is being hit very hard (budget reduction plans at 5%, 10%, and 15% taking us through FY 2012. These translate into cuts of \$3.16 million, \$6.33 million, and \$9.49 million respectively and are agency-wide). No one knows for sure the total impact and full implications of the impending cuts that were announced in August.
6. Farm to School Meeting update (working toward Nov 9-13 as VA Farm to School Week) – group of stakeholders from several agencies and groups are working on promoting the Farm to School program more actively here in VA. Have had two meetings and are now working on setting up smaller working groups to work on individual pieces or aspects of FtoS. I will be working to collect information on current school and community gardening efforts that exist and helping with

identifying a suitable curriculum (from existing resources such as Ag in the Classroom, Jr. MG, and others).

7. MGCAT met in mid-September and worked on concurrent sessions and keynote speakers
8. Conducted a Risk Management Training via Adobe Connect with the JCC/Williamsburg MG unit; 32 present; am willing to do this for other units too and also to use this technology for me to participate in the MG training class by giving my "What is Means to be a VCE MG" presentation.
9. Dr. Alan Grant began as the new Dean for CALS on October 1. I have already requested a meeting with him later this month to bring him up to speed on the VCE MG program and our impact on the Commonwealth of VA.
10. VCE is going through a strategic planning process. They have scheduled 45 events statewide to do hold some discussions with VCE faculty and staff and stakeholders. Be on the lookout for an opportunity in or near your locality and please participate in the planning process. They hope to produce a strategic planning document by February and will make it public no later than July of 2010. This is not in response to the economic downturn and the budget situation. The two events paralleled in time but this will help us pro-actively address the changes that will be inevitable in light of pending budget reductions.
11. Emerald Ash Borer Project – working on developing an online module on EAB to increase awareness in VA and eventually nationally on the presence and impact of EAB. We are working with agents in NoVA to increase public awareness through garden shows and events. The module will be hosted by the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) group out of Univ. of FL. NPDN is the group responsible for first-detector training that some of you may have participated in a few years ago with Sudden Oak Death (in cooperation with the North Central IPM Center)
12. Landcare Stewards Project – completed first draft of a new book for the NPS. Final version will be available by December 31, 2009.
13. Two new student workers: Lindsay Taylor working on the newsletter (we will likely go to 6 issues per year instead of just 4) and Aldo Coomez working on the website (you will see a dramatic change in the coming weeks to the state MG website).
14. Summer issue of *In Season* was posted on 10/9/09 on the state MG website; the fall issue will soon be forthcoming.

Presidents Report-

Betty thanked Mary Ann for getting the directories to the meeting.

Aug 29th the Gardening Symposium sponsored by VT Hahn Horticulture Garden was an excellent program – there were lots of master gardeners, five speakers, lunch and a plant sale.

Betty is continuing to receive e-mails and request from other groups, for fund raising ideas and information concerning Master Gardeners volunteering across borders.

Kathryn is in the process of creating an index of power point presentations and slide programs which units have and would share and resources. Please send Kathryn an e-mail of the program titles and unit sname for the directory.

Unfinished Business-

Silent auction – we are looking for a volunteer or a unit to handle the Master Gardener silent auction for next year.

Diane Relf Education Endowment Committee –needs a volunteer to chair the committee.

We are looking for a volunteer to take records of VMGA and update the history of the VMGA.

Please let Betty know if interested.

New Business:

Betty has appointed the nominating committee; Cheri Haggerty, Jim Scibeck and Paul Campbell. Remember this year ballots will be sent by e-mail as approved by membership last year.

The committee had to be appointed 150 days before the Annual Meeting according to the by-laws.

Dave mentioned an idea some units pay for VMGA membership for all MG Trainees, this may be worth the investment to attract more members to the organization.

Announcements:

There will be several VCE Stakeholders Meetings to plan where VCE is headed in the future. The locations and times of these meeting is posted on the web page. There will be 45 meetings occurring statewide. Please try to attend and invite other MG's as this is an opportunity to be heard.

If you are unable to go please e-mail Cheri Haggerty ideas and issues you would like to have discussed.

Next VMGA meeting will be held on Dec 12th, 2009 - 10:00 at VA Beach AREC, hosted by the VA. Beach Master Gardeners.

Schedule of meetings:

February: Suffolk

April: Gloucester

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

October 10, 2009

Balance Sheet

Data as
of: 9/30/2009

Assets

Checking Account Balance	\$7,201.67
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$14,108.64
Reserve CD #2 Balance	\$4,770.67
Future Dues CD Balance	\$5,936.44
Fundraising Inventory	\$2,498.05
Total Assets	<u>\$34,515.47</u>

Liabilities

Unearned Income - Future Dues	\$5,787.01
Coordinator Endowment Funds Payable	\$528.00
Coordinator Endowment Planned Gifts Payable	\$0.00
Restricted Gifts for Scholarships	\$0.00

Scholarships

Total Liabilities

\$6,315.01

Net Assets

Accumulated
Earnings

\$22,818.07

Current Year
Earnings

\$5,382.39

**Total Net
Assets**

\$28,200.46

**Total
Liabilities and
Net Assets**

\$34,515.47

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report
October 10, 2009

Checking
Balance as of
7/31/2009

\$7,129.54

Receipts

\$2,810.76

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$262.00
Dues FY 11-20	\$132.00
FY 10 Dues (current FY)	\$348.00
Education	\$30.00
Fundraising	\$2,038.76
Gift for EEF	\$0.00
Restricted Gift for Scholarship	\$0.00

Disbursements -\$191.59

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00
Education Scholarship-Spec	\$0.00
EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
Elections	\$0.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Membership & Roster	-\$23.76
Newsletter	-\$161.74
State Fair	\$0.00
Officers Expense	
President	\$0.00
Vice President	\$0.00
Secretary	\$0.00
Treasurer	-\$6.09

Transfers -\$
\$2,547.04

EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
Reserve CD Transfers	\$0.00
Fundraising Inventory	-
Transfer	\$2,547.04

Checking

Balance as of 9/30/2009

\$7,201.67

Interest Income on Reserve and EEF CD's \$200.82

Interest Income on Future Dues CD \$72.04

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

October 10, 2009

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY10

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 09 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$4,000.00	\$4,008.00
FY 09 (Current FY)	\$1,400.00	\$1,020.00
Subtotal	\$5,400.00	\$5,028.00
Education	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Fundraising	\$1,000.00	\$1,428.79
Gift for EEF		\$30.00
Interest Income		\$272.86
total	\$9,400.00	\$6,759.65

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$275.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Education	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$100.00
Elections	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$50.00	-\$202.85	-\$152.85
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$1,000.00	-\$228.00	\$772.00
Marketing	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Membership & Roster	\$2,000.00	-\$129.80	\$1,870.20

Newsletter	\$1,200.00	-\$297.32	\$902.68
State Fair	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Officers Expense			
President	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Treasurer	\$100.00	-\$19.29	\$80.71
total	\$9,400.00	-\$1,377.26	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY10

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$1,078.00	\$528.00	\$1,078.00	\$528.00
Fundraising for Coor. Endow.	\$1,411.88	\$1,428.79	\$1,639.88	\$1,200.79
Education Endowment	\$353.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$353.00
total				\$2,081.79

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting
Saturday December 12, 2009

Hampton Roads AREC

Hosted by VA Beach Master Gardeners

Attendance:

(Arlington/ Alexandria) Joe Kelly; (Bedford) Patty and Bob Gamache; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Gloucester) Bonnie Bernard; (Green Spring) Cyndi Bishop, (Halifax) Bill McCaleb; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (James City Co./Williamsburg) Jim and Nelda Pressly; (Louisa) Ira Wallace, Tina Chaleki, Edna

Musser; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera; (Prince William) Janet and Bill Scott; (Rockbridge) David Mims; (Newport News) Peggy Fox; (Norfolk) Don Snipes; (Northern Neck) Edward Munns; (Suffolk) Nita Holt ; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Johanna Culver, Jessica O'Connor, Susan French, Vera Geddes, Jim and Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Karen Renda, Carol Roll, Betty Villers, Eileen Walsh, Peg Ward; (Va. Tech) Dawn Lerch, Dave Close; (Western Tidewater) Betty Jo Hendrix.

Call to Order:

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Unit representative Fran Shelton welcomed everyone to VA Beach and the Hampton Roads AREC.

Fran has been President of the VA Beach Master Gardeners and just completed a two year term as the VMGA Unit rep from VA Beach.

Fran introduced Karen Renda the newly elected president of the VA Beach MGs and Jim Kincaid the new VMGA representative.

Susan French, the VA Beach Extension Agent was introduced. The VB organization was formed in 1982. Since that time, they have trained 11,000 MG's and have 250 active MG's and 24 main projects which have produced thousands of contacts. VA Beach is very appreciative of the Master Gardener program due to the commitment of the volunteers which readily assumes leadership and responsibility.

Introductions:

Betty asked every member to introduce themselves and the unit and committee or office they represented.

The Unit representative Rooster was passed around and representatives were asked to update information and return the form back to Christy.

Minutes – Christy Brennan

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted as posted on the VMGA web site.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Scott

Bill presented the treasurer's report. The last education event almost broke even; the event was well attended and well organized –over 100 attended.

There were no questions concerning the treasurer's report and the report will be filed for audit. (The report is attached).

Committee Reports:

Newsletter- Peggy Fox- Chair

Peggy thanked all units for articles submitted for the newsletter.

She reminded the reps to let us know what is going on in your area by sending her articles or links to your unit's newsletter.

Unit reports are sent to Cheryl Sebera – Cheryl will be sending a template to use for unit reports to

Include prevalent information for the newsletter. Unit reports are due by December 20th.

Membership- Mary Ann Kincaid-Chair

As of December 8, there are 548 members of the Virginia Master Gardener Association. Of these, 379 are Active members; 6 are Auxiliary members; and 163 are Lifetime members.

This is an increase of 8 members since the October 2009 report. There are 21 more members than reported in December 2008.

Finance Committee- Ted Jenks

Ted was not present and there was no report.

Unit Support- Frank Reilly – Chair

. The committee consists of Pinky Derieux, Kerry Goldmeyer, Karen Sacasky, and Frank Reilly and whoever else we need. Frank was not present and Cheri Haggerty read the report.

The unit support committee disseminated information obtained by Loudoun MGs via the VCE List Serve and answered questions from a unit concerning obtaining IRS Tax-Exempt Status.

Communication Committee

Members: Betsy Lyon, Dawn Meyerriecks, Cheri Haggerty, Kathryn Debnar, Shelby Snyder, Tom Bolt, George Graine, Jim Kincaid and Chair Frank Reilly and whoever else we can get.

1. November 12th marked our 11th 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 240 pages of content almost 200,000 (198806) hits annually.
2. Since the October meeting there have been 2403 visitors visiting more than 26499 items at VMGA.net. The web page has been updated on 44 separate occasions.
3. The most popular pages in the last two months have been Educational Events, membership, about VMGA, Calendar, resources, and Minutes; but more than 58% of our page views come in through the front page.
4. Last month alone 117 discrete visitors came directly from Google. People search for us and find us.
5. Kathryn Debnar is currently accepting changes to the calendar.
6. Dawn Meyerriecks in addition to her Webmaster role is keeping current news items on our News page.

7. We are currently working on the MG College Recruiting presentation. We could use some photos of activities. The presentation will be distributed in January.

Education Committee -Barbara Geer – Chair

Members: Barbara Geer, Betty Jo Hendrix, Lori Hamlett, Patty Richard, Mildred McDuffie, Ira Wallace.

Ira Wallace gave the report. 129 attended the program in October, which filled very fast and early on there was a waiting list, 20 people were turned away. There was very good feedback and the Master Naturalist were very appreciative and would like to be included in a joint program again. Monticello really enjoyed the MG's and more than half of the attendees went on the tour. Pre-announcement: Save the date April 17th – Location Roanoke, VA Western College.

Betty Jo Hendrix gave the report: Plans are proceeding for the Mini Master Gardener College titled "Leading Edges in Consumer Horticulture" scheduled for March 27th at VA State University. This is a beautiful facility that VSU has provided and they have provided some funding for the event. The University will be closed for spring break and there is ample parking right in front of the building. The Fee has yet to be determined. Registration will begin on Jan 15th.

Coordinator Endowment Committee: Kathryn Debnar- Chair

Kathryn was not present, Dawn Lerch gave the report. This will be Dawn's last time as a VA Tech employee of the Development Office. She is retiring and returning to Chesterfield County.

Total contributions are \$308,911.37. Dawn would like to remind all of us that it is up to us to help secure the MG Coordinator position. Remember that if every active Master Gardener pledged the 50 / 5 the endowment would be paid.

In order to receive documentation for a tax deduction all donations must be submitted to VT. Make checks payable to "VT Foundation", add Account #886119 in the memo line and mail to: CALS Development Office, 215 Hutcheson Hall (0402) Blacksburg VA 24061.

Virginia Green Industry: Cheri Haggerty- VMGA Representative

The December VGIC meeting was held in the Americrafts building at The Meadows (State Fair of Virginia). The Council set its Legislative Agenda for 2010 with efforts to be focused on Water Quality.

The 2010 Go Green Festival will be again the second week in September at the Science Museum of Virginia.

Other highlights of the meeting included:

Report from the VirginiaAgribusiness Council working with the VGIC:

- A member of Governor-elect McDonnell's transition working group for Agriculture and Forestry. Will be developing a report to include top issues for our industry including recommendations for implementing his campaign policies.
- Discussed fertilizer application issues with [Virginia Green Industry Council](#) Board.
- Welcomed Dr. Alan Grant, Dean of the Va. Tech [College of Agriculture & Life Sciences](#), at a reception in Richmond.
- Council was recognized by the [Va. Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts](#) for its role in the Water Quality Partnership (for Ag BMP cost-share funding).
- Submitted [Council's concerns](#) regarding H.R. 3852, the Chesapeake Bay Reauthorization Act, in comments to the US House Agriculture Subcommittee for their [Chesapeake Bay hearing](#), and coordinated the submission of similar comments from [63 state and national organizations](#) for the hearing record.

The VGIC is concerned that the EPA may be using outdated models for their plans on bay restoration. It doesn't appear that new technology and data is being sought from VT.

Education Endowment committee- Leslie Paulson-Chair

Leslie was not present but asked Betty to report. Committee members are: Mary Ann Kincaid, Debbie Hizer, Jack Prince, Jane Wyman, Jim Revell, and Jeff Goggin. She reminded us that it is every reps responsibility to get the word out concerning the availability of scholarships. These scholarships were restructured to represent the needs of the larger and smaller units. Please remind Unit Coordinators and Extension Agents to nominate a recipient.

Fund Raising- Patty Gamache -Chair

Patty reminded everyone she is new to the committee so please work with her as she learns the ropes. E-mail Patty any ideas for new items; she currently is looking into obtaining sweatshirts.

Betty reported sales of \$876.00 of items since the last meeting. The "neverenoughplants" e-mail address has shared link to continue to obtain orders.

State Fair- Christy Brennan

Master Gardeners had a large venue in the Fish and Plant Center and had over 20 tables available for demonstrations and publications. MGs shared the Strawberry DNA Experiment again this year on the student tour and shared sustainable land care and gardening practices and reported over 10,736 contacts and hundreds of volunteer hours.

The new venue has a lot of opportunities to offer Master Gardeners and we hope more units will choose to participate next year.

Special thank you to Tina Chaleki for donation of strawberries and Laurie Clarkson for recruiting volunteers.

VCE- Dave Close

15. Dave polled the unit reps to see if there would be interest in a webinar on recycling plastic containers? A positive response from unit reps that were present. The MOBot model would be used. John Ignosh pulled together a webinar on Plastofuel (a process developed at Penn State for creating a fuel source from recycled plastic); this was part of an effort to explore possible solutions to recycle horticulture waste plastic in VA.
16. Working with Jonah Fogel, a Community Viability Specialist, on mapping all of the school and community gardening resources across the Commonwealth. This is part of a larger effort to promote the Farm to School program in VA and increase awareness and participation of local communities in community gardening initiatives. Agents in the newly redrawn Southeast District are pulling together some resources to have a statewide advisory group on community gardening due to the increase in requests for local support of community gardening efforts.
17. All of the VCE strategic planning meetings concluded this week; the initial report should be ready by February and things in place by July 1, 2010 for implementation
18. Redrawing of District lines occurred a couple of weeks ago and as of December 7, 2009, VCE went from 6 to 4 districts: Northern, Southeast, Central, and Southwest; the four offices will be located in Harrisonburg (Northern – Cyndi Marston), Richmond (Southeast – Lonnie Johnson), Danville (Central – Lonnelle Marsh), and Abingdon (Southwest – Mike Martin); once the strategic plan is announced and official, it will take 12-18 months to transition through some of the changes
19. Under the direction of Dr. Joyce Latimer, he enlisted a team of Extension Agents and Extension MG volunteers to meet in late January to begin the planning process for the 2011 edition of the Home & Grounds PMG. They will meet to identify key issues and create a plan of action to come up with the 2011 edition incorporating the necessary changes.
20. At the same time he was collecting names for the PMG Advisory Team, he also collected names of volunteers to serve on a MG Handbook advisory team. Hope to have a meeting in late winter to begin the process of planning the next update to the MG Handbook.
21. State Record Keeping System update – last word was that the legal counsel office at VT was working with the legal counsel of UC Davis to iron out the details of our contract to purchase their volunteer management system. It should be in place soon, although there is not a confirmed date.
22. Extension MGs from Fairfax County have completed the first Extension Publication by a volunteer. It is on cold-hardy palms that grow well in VA. It will be reviewed by a couple of agents, and then submitted to VT for final approval

and formatting and electronic publishing. They hope to create a series of fact sheets to supplement this initial pub.

23. MGCAT meeting scheduled for November 30 was postponed until January 18. So far the following individuals have been lined up as keynote speakers: Rita Randolph, Mike Raupp, Jeffrey Gillman, & Kirk Brown as John Bartram. In January, we will button up the additional concurrent session topics and the leadership development training. The registration fee for 2010 will be \$150, up \$25 from the past 5 years. Sunday morning has been added back into the schedule and is when Kirk Brown will appear as John Bartram.
24. The website has been updated. Please check it out for the new look and one new feature: an adobe connect session on risk management has been uploaded to the site for anyone to download and watch. It lasts just under one hour. Similar sessions can be held and/or recorded for future use. His intent is to record one on one what it means to be a VCE MG volunteer and post it before the January training classes begin.
25. Dr. Alan Grant began as the new Dean for CALS on October 1. Dave met with Dr. Grant on November 20 to bring him up to speed on the VCE MG program. He is familiar with the MG program and has a positive impression of it already. He will be making an appearance at the 2010 MG College.
26. Dave met with Interim VCE Director, Dr. Rick Rudd, on December 4 to discuss how we can proactively plan for the impending restructuring of VCE statewide and how it will affect local Extension MG programs. Still too many unanswered questions to really be able to pin this down. Bottom line, there will be changes and we will survive them.
27. Emerald Ash Borer Project – working on developing an online module on EAB to increase awareness in VA and eventually nationally on the presence and impact of EAB. We are working with agents in Northern VA to increase public awareness through garden shows and events. The module will be hosted by the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) group out of Univ. of FL. NPDN is the group responsible for first-detector training that some of you may have participated in a few years ago with Sudden Oak Death (in cooperation with the North Central IPM Center)
28. Land Care Steward Project – contract with the NPS will conclude on December 31. He will announce when the new book is available online.
29. Dave will be sending out an email next week asking every MG unit to submit their annual totals of volunteer hours and contacts for 2009 to include in the 2009 annual report to VCE as part of the annual faculty report.

Presentation:

Betty mentioned that this classroom was dedicated one year ago. The photos on the wall are from the Display Gardens at the Hampton Roads AREC. She introduced Pete Shultz, the Director of the Hampton Roads AREC.

Pete gave a power point presentation of the VA ARECs.

ARECs of Virginia are to serve VA Agricultural needs. There are 13 AREC sites across the state encompassing over 3900 acres. Pete showed slides of each AREC and explained the location and primary purpose of each location.

There will be a tour of the Hampton Roads AREC's New Sustainable Garden after the meeting.

Presidents Report-

There was a request from four units for a letter to interns about VMGA and membership. This letter was sent by e-mail to each unit representative and is available for future interest.

Cyndi Bishop and Joan Richards from Green Spring MGs have put together a power point presentation for the VMGA for their introduction training class. It is available for all units.

Betty is continuing to receive e-mails and request from other groups, including fund raising ideas and information concerning Master Gardeners volunteering across borders.

Kathryn Debnar is in the process of creating an index of power point presentations and slide programs which units have and would share with other units. Please send Kathryn an e-mail of the program titles and unit's name for the directory.

February is the 20th Anniversary of the VMGA; the first meeting was held 1990. Betty would like to encourage each unit rep to invite a guest to the meeting. Past officers will also be invited.

IRS- all units must file an IRS 990-N e-postcard on an annual basis, no matter how small the proceeds from the fund raising efforts. You must submit the form electronically. Bill Scott can answer any questions concerning the post card.

Please submit unit reports to Cheryl Sebera by December 20th. Include something new to share with other units. Include both good and bad learning experiences so other groups can learn from your group.

Fiskars – has gardening grants for tools and –Betty has sent an e-mail to unit reps on the grant information.

Meetings for 2010 have been taken – Betty encourages groups to think about hosting one of the meetings in 2011.

2010 meetings:

April 10- Gloucester

June- VA Tech

August 14- Newport News

October 9- Galax

December 11- Fluvanna

Unfinished Business-

Silent auction – we are looking for a volunteer or a unit to handle the MG College silent auction for next year, this is a large fund raiser for the Coordinator Endowment.

We are looking for a volunteer to take records of VMGA and update the history of the VMGA.

A suggestion to divide the missing years into small sections might make the task more attractive to volunteers. Please let Betty know if interested.

2009 VCE External Stakeholder Dialogues meeting:

Report by Cheri Haggerty, VMGA representative

10-14-2009

Attendees included external stakeholders such as VMGA, VGIF, DNR, VDOF, VA Farm Bureau, farmers, nurserymen, etc.

The Facilitators included Jim Riddle, Rick Rudd and many others from VCE at VT.

The intent of the meeting was to hear about VCE and these agencies collaborations and other mutual programs to ultimately focus VCE programs. This was not in response to budget shortfalls but rather explore VCE's focus on programming.

These strategic meetings will end by December 1st, with a new strategic plan made by February, with dissemination in July 2010.

Audience was asked to name the successes of VCE. The list isn't in any particular order.

1. Farm to school
2. Master Gardener programs
3. Youth development, including resources for parenting
4. Introduction of different crop varieties
5. 4H clubs
6. Youth gardening, organic gardening
7. Insect and weed identification and management

8. Certification for pesticide use
9. Programs focused on collection of pesticides, commercial and residential
10. Richmond Area Food System council
11. Virginia Biological Farming Conference
12. Family and Community Education programs
13. Adult training for youth development
14. Specialty crops, experimental, Virginia State University

Next we were asked to think about the mission of VCE, and how to improve VCE's influence in three specific areas... Economic, Environmental, and Social. Then we were asked how VCE could implement these ideas and whether there were parts of VCE's current mission that could be eliminated. Common themes emerged, listed in no particular order.

1. Families are under stress (job loss, loss of homes, etc) due to the economic downturn. Children in these families are suffering in greater numbers from stress-related issues and support for such families is critical.

2. Financial issues in families have led to more people working (when possible) and fewer volunteers.

3. Many people in communities do not know what resources are available through VCE and so there should be a mechanism to make VCE's role part of community discussions.

4. Use of pesticides and other chemicals that are toxic to land and water should be regulated, primarily through communication with communities and interested groups so that information is made available to provide less toxic alternatives.

5. VCE should be more involved in urban planning so that communities lose the minimum habitat and so that developers are educated about alternative ways to design developments, retaining trees, topsoil, etc.

6. 4H programs are vital because they involve children in farming and agriculture and other programs that instill good habits with respect to the land and its inhabitants.

7. Master Gardener programs are important because these volunteers are educators and help to disseminate information coming from university research efforts.

8. VCE provides a valuable service to a number of constituencies and NONE of its programs should be reduced or eliminated!

Nominating Committee: Jim Scibek, Paul Campbell, Cheri Haggerty

The committee communicated by e-mail and according to the by-laws the slate of officers should be presented 150 days before the annual meeting.

The new slate of officers presented:

Bill Scott- President

Christy Brennan- Vice President

Jim Kincaid – Treasurer

Peggy Fox- Secretary

This will be the first time the election will be held by electronic ballot. Those without internet access will be sent paper copies of the ballot. Results will be announced at the April meeting.

New Business:

The VMGA executive board will be meeting with the VCE, College of AG. & Life and Sciences (CALS), Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR), and Hort Department Administrators in Charlottesville on Feb 3rd. Betty will be sending an e-mail to ask for questions and concerns the groups would like us to present at the meeting.

Cheri Haggerty – motion was made and passed to renew \$50.00 VGIC membership dues.

Announcements:

Bud Gregory passed away yesterday. VMGA would like to recognize his contribution to VMGA, the board will decide at what level.

Inclement Weather policy: In case of bad weather check the VMGA web site for cancellation information.

Brent and Becky's Bulbs are having a 75% off sale and it might be worth the member's time to make a trip to the shop.

Betty asked all of the VA Beach MGs that put this meeting together to stand and be recognized.

Next VMGA meeting will be held on Feb 13th, 2009 - 10:00 in Suffolk, hosted by the Suffolk Master Gardeners.

Schedule of meetings:

February 13th: Suffolk

April 10th: Gloucester

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

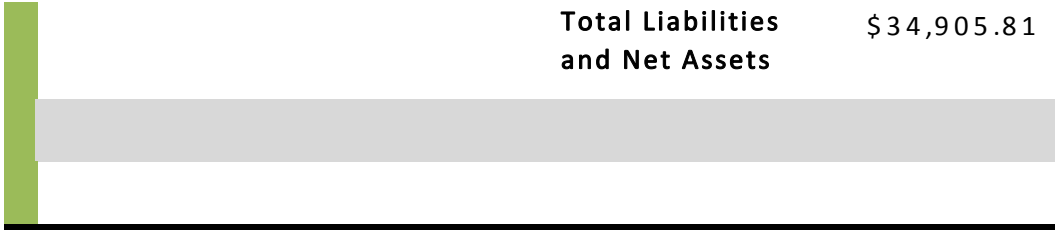
VMGA December 2009

Financial Statements

Balance Sheet	
Data As 11/30/2009	
OF:	
Assets	
Checking Account Balance	\$7,477.39
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$14,148.74
Reserve CD #2 Balance	\$4,788.41
Future Dues CD Balance	\$5,990.11
Fundraising Inventory	\$2,501.16

	Total Assets	\$34,905.81
Liabilities		
Unearned Income - Future Dues		\$5,799.01
Coordinator Endowment Funds Payable		\$528.00
Coordinator Endowment Planned Gifts Payable		\$0.00
Restricted Gifts for Scholarships		\$0.00
	Total Liabilities	\$6,327.01
Net Assets		
Accumulated Earnings		\$22,818.07
Current Year Earnings		\$5,760.73
	Total Net Assets	\$28,578.80

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$34,905.81



VMGA December 2009
Financial Statements

Checking
Balance as of
9/30/2009 \$7,201.67

Receipts \$5,674.00

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$0.00
Dues FY 11-20	\$12.00
FY 10 Dues (current FY)	\$132.00
Education	\$3,340.00
Fundraising	\$2,182.00
Gift for EEF	\$8.00
Restricted Gift for Scholarship	\$0.00

Disbursements \$4,435.17

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
Education	\$2,150.00

		\$3,150.00
	Education Scholarship-Spec	\$0.00
	EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
	Elections	\$0.00
	Fund Raising Cmte	\$0.00
	Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
	Marketing	\$0.00
	Membership & Roster	-\$899.40
	Newsletter	\$0.00
	State Fair	-\$341.78
	Officers Expense	
	President	\$0.00
	Vice President	\$0.00
	Secretary	-\$7.99
	Treasurer	-\$36.00
	Transfers	-\$963.11
	EEF Gift Transfers	\$0.00
	Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$0.00
	Reserve CD Transfers	\$0.00
	Fundraising Inventory Transfer	-\$963.11
Checking		<hr/> <hr/>
Balance as of	11/30/2009	\$7,477.39

Interest Income on Reserve and EEF CD's	\$258.66
Interest Income on Future Dues CD	\$125.71

VMGA December 2009
Financial Statements

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY10

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY 09 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$4,000.00	\$4,008.00
FY 09 (Current FY)	\$1,400.00	\$1,152.00
Subtotal	\$5,400.00	\$5,160.00
Education	\$3,000.00	\$3,340.00
Fundraising	\$1,000.00	\$2,650.79
Gift for EEF		\$38.00
Interest Income		\$384.37
total	\$9,400.00	\$11,573.16

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$275.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Education	\$3,000.00	-\$3,150.00	-\$150.00
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$100.00

Elections	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$50.00	-\$202.85	-\$152.85
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$1,000.00	-\$228.00	\$772.00
Marketing	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Membership & Roster	\$2,000.00	-\$1,029.20	\$970.80
Newsletter	\$1,200.00	-\$297.32	\$902.68
State Fair	\$400.00	-\$341.78	\$58.22
Officers Expense			
President	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$100.00	-\$7.99	\$92.01
Treasurer	\$100.00	-\$55.29	\$44.71
total	\$9,400.00	-\$5,812.43	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY10

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$1,078.00	\$528.00	\$1,078.00	\$528.00
Fundraising for Coord. Endow.	\$1,411.88	\$2,650.79	\$1,639.88	\$2,422.79
Education Endowment	\$353.00	\$38.00	\$0.00	\$391.00
total				\$3,341.79

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

February 2010

The February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

April 10, 2010 (as amended 11/5/12)

Hosted by Gloucester Master Gardeners

Attendance:

(Arlington/ Alexandria) Joe Kelly; (Bedford) Patty and Bob Gamache; (Chesapeake) Pinky Derieux; (Chesterfield) Lynne Foote; (Fauquier) Jim Scibek; (Fairfax) George and Gwen Graine; (Gloucester) Deb Bartok-Newton, George Simpson, Bill Walker, Jim Newton, Mo Lynch, Susan Malcolm, June Young, Kathy Gierlak, Wile Blair, Mary Simpson, Sally Moore, Dan Nortman, Bonnie Bernard; (Green Spring) Cyndi Bishop, Joan Richard; (Hanover) Cheri Haggerty, Christy Brennan; (Henrico) Beverly Cochrane; (Hill City/Lynchburg) Deborah Straw; (James City Co./Williamsburg) Jim and Nelda Pressly; (Loudoun/ Leesburg) Larry Burk; (Prince George) Cheryl Sebera, Barbara Geer; (Prince William) Janet and Bill Scott, Pat and Frank Reilly; (Rockbridge) David Mims, Ted Jenks; (Newport News) Peggy Fox; (Norfolk) Tom Bolt, Don Snipes, Anita Smith; (Northern Neck) Edward Munns; (Northern Shenandoah Valley) Fran Gregory; (Stafford, King George, Spotsylvania, Fredericksburg) Gwen Pate; (Virginia Beach) Paul Campbell, Jim and Mary Ann Kincaid, Fran Shelton, Betty Villers, (Va. Tech) Dave Close; (Western Tidewater) Betty Jo Hendrix.

Call to Order:

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Bonnie Bernard, VMGA Unit representative and President of the Gloucester Master Gardener Association, welcomed everyone to Gloucester and introduced Dan Nortman the Gloucester Extension Agent.

The Gloucester Master Gardeners are grand marshal of the daffodil festival and have several large projects throughout the area.

Introductions:

Betty asked every member to introduce themselves and the unit, committee or office they represented. The Unit representative roster was passed around and representatives were asked to update information and return the form back to Christy.

Minutes – Christy Brennan

The minutes of the December 2009 meeting were accepted as posted on the VMGA web site.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Scott

Bill presented the treasurer's report. The last educational program was very successful, well attended and well organized.

The report will be filed for audit. (Report is attached).

Special Report- what changes will the state budget cuts have on the VCE Master Gardener Program? **Pat Reilly** provided an historical perspective of past challenges to the program and what VMGA Units and local associations did and can do in response.

Dave Close provided an update from VCE to the General Assembly budget requirement for a strategic plan.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter- Peggy Fox- Chair

Peggy thanked all units for articles submitted for the newsletter.

She reminded the reps to let us know what is going on in their area by sending her articles and unit newsletters.

Send unit reports to Cheryl Sebera by April 20th.

Membership- Mary Ann Kincaid-Chair

As of April 8, there are 639 members of the Virginia Master Gardener Association. Of these, 477 are Active members; 6 are Auxiliary members; and 156 are Lifetime members.

This is an increase of 74 members since the February 2010 report. The increased membership is due largely to the March Education event in Petersburg.

There are currently 61 more VMGA members than reported a year ago.

362 Active memberships will expire the end of May. Renewal notices to these members will be sent in mid-April.

Unit Support- Frank Reilly – Chair

The committee consists of Pat Reilly, Pinky Derieux, Karen Sacasky, and Frank Reilly and whomever else we need.

The unit support committee prepared a budget issues website, and sent over 8000 e-mails messages out asking for support for the VCE programs and MG's in particular.

Communication Committee

Members: Dawn Meyerriecks (Web Master), Cheri Haggerty, Kathryn Debnar (maintains the calendar page), Shelby Snyder, Tom Bolt, George Graine, Betty Truax, and Chair, Frank Reilly and whoever else we can get.

1. Since the report for the February meeting, there have been 2994 unique visitors to VMGA.net they visited a total of 20,563 pages. The visitors visit between 6 and 7 pages in addition to the front page when they come, and click an average of 8 times per visit. This is a very favorable "dwell time" that most commercial sites would be proud to have.
2. Since the February report, the web page has been updated on 374 separate occasions.
3. The most popular pages in the last two months have been; calendar and educational events, about VMGA and membership. But more than 68% of viewers come through the first page.
4. About 28% of our viewers come through search engines.
5. Kathryn Debnar is accepting changes to the calendar page.
6. Membership Applications are available on line at the membership page.
7. The new MG college page is up and presentations are available.

Finance Committee- Ted Jenks

The Finance committee will present a balanced budget at the Annual meeting in June. The proposed budget is attached.

Education Committee -Barbara Geer – Chair

Members: Barbara Geer, Betty Jo Hendrix, Patty Richard, Mildred McDuffie, Ira Wallace.

The Mini College titled "Leading Edges in Consumer Horticulture" held in cooperation with VA State University was a success. There was very good feedback from most MG's who were very appreciative and would like to attend a similar program again. There were 120 registered, with 113 in actual attendance.

Extraordinary support [planning, printing, supplies, etc.] from Andy Hankins and VSU staff and facilities may actually give us a small 'profit'; they provided 'up-scale' folders, programs, badges, etc. much above the quality we would have used to 'stay within the budget'.

Other main VSU contributions were in advising on topics, finding speakers and cost-free use of an excellent facility.

The Director of Programs at VSU is quite interested in the VCE-MG program and wants to see the Survey results. We will comply and will request for approval a similar Educational program at VSU for early spring of 2011.

Fall 2010 program will be in Rockbridge County.

Coordinator Endowment Committee: Kathryn Debnar- Chair

Kathryn was not present, Dave Close gave the report.

Total contributions are \$316,280.63

Cash on hand	128,392.95
O/S Pledges	16,405.00
Mr. Dempsey deferred gift	100,000.00
Dawn Lerch (bequest)	50,00.00
Interest Earned	21,482.68

In order to receive documentation for a tax deduction all donations must be submitted to VT. Make checks payable to "VT Foundation", add Account #886119 in the memo line and mail to: CALS Development Office, 215 Hutcheson Hall (0402) Blacksburg VA 24061.

Virginia Green Industry: Cheri Haggerty- VMGA Representative

Cheri was not present and Betty gave the report. The 2010 Go Green Festival will be the second week in September at the Science Museum of Virginia. Cheri will be asking for volunteers.

Education Endowment committee- Leslie Paulson-Chair

Leslie was not present, Betty gave the report. Committee members are: Mary Ann Kincaid, Debbie Hizer, Jack Prince, Jane Wyman, Jim Revell, and Jeff Goggin, all are previous scholarship recipients. She reminded us that it is every reps responsibility to get the word out concerning the availability of scholarships. These six scholarships were restructured to represent the needs of the larger and smaller units. Please remind Unit Coordinators and Extension Agents to nominate a recipient.

Fund Raising- Patty Gamache -Chair

Patty is retiring from the committee so please consider taking the position of fund raising chair.

Sales continue to be strong since the last meeting. We will have new items available at MG College, a new MG window cling and a long-sleeved sweatshirt.

State Fair- Christy Brennan

Master Gardeners had a large venue in the Fish and Plant Center and had over 20 tables available for demonstrations and publications. Please consider volunteering your unit. The new location at the Meadow is just down I-95 and we are still having over

10,000 contacts and hundreds of volunteer hours. What a great chance to showcase Master Gardener units and projects to state officials who attend the fair!

The new venue has a lot of opportunities to offer Master Gardeners and we hope more units will choose to participate this year.

VCE- Dave Close

- From the 12,000 comments, six themes emerged:
 - Value-enhanced agriculture
 - Sustainable natural resources and environment
 - Healthy living for youth (obesity)
 - Building capacity for communities
 - Healthy families and communities
 - Organizational excellence
 - The focus areas align with the five key initiatives of the College. During the months of April, May, & June, the Strategic Planning Committee will be writing the 2010-2015 VCE plans. Suggestions and directions from the process will be implemented on July 1, 2010.
- As of April 10, Dr. Rick Rudd has stepped down as Interim VCE Director and will be returning to the Ag Extension & Education Department as Department Head. Dr. Alan Grant will step in as Director of VCE until a permanent Director of VCE can be hired. A committee will be assembled to conduct a national search within the next couple of weeks.
- Three candidates were interviewed for the Associate Extension Director for Ag & Natural Resources. The candidates included two internal to VCE: Dr. Andy Overbay, acting District Director for the Southwest District & Dr. Dee Whittier of the VA-MD Regional Vet School, and one candidate from the Michigan Extension system.
- Pest Management Guide – two meetings have taken place: one with agents and MG volunteers and one with authors and specialists. Now a design team has been constructed of VCE Specialists, Agents, and MG volunteers. We have identified three specific changes we intend to implement in the 2011 edition. This is being treated as a long-term process to develop the ultimate PMG. Dr. Joyce Latimer, Extension Project Leader in Horticulture is taking the lead and Dave is assisting her with respect to the MG element.
- State Record Keeping System update – Dave is looking for two units willing to pilot the new system.
- MGCAT met in March. The registration fee for 2010 will be \$150, up \$25 from the past 5 years. Sunday morning has been added back into the schedule and is when Kirk Brown will appear as John Bartram. We will also have a picnic on Sunday like years past. There will be three options for on-campus housing: New Residence Hall West, New Residence Hall East, and the GLC (former Donaldson-Brown hotel conference center). New Res Hall East: \$38 (double), \$43 (single); GLC/New Hall West: \$40 (double), \$46 (single); there is also a one-time \$2.50 admin fee; meal cards are \$24.70/day.
- Land Care Steward Project – the books are printed and sitting in my office! It is titled *Smart Yard Care: Big Rewards from Small Investments in Stewardship*. Working on setting up an account to be able to print and sell more copies. They will retail for \$19.95 for orders of 100 or more. We will be pre-selling them with registration for MG College.
- As you may or should be aware, the General Assembly modified the biennium budget and removed language to close offices, consolidate others, and eliminate targeted VCE programs. They have charged the VCE admin team to complete their strategic plan and report to the

budget finance committee as to how they will implement the \$1.1 million dollar budget reduction for 2011 and the \$5.5 million budget reduction for 2012. There are also some talking points for stakeholders to use to continue talking with legislators now that they are back home. Dr. Alan has stated he will develop a task force to begin working on a restructuring of VCE in conjunction with a white paper being prepared to outline the process. Dave has asked Dr. Grant to appointment either the current president or president-elect of VMGA to the task force since VCE depends on MG volunteers to advocate on their behalf. Similarly, VESA (VA Extension Service Assoc.) is developing an advocacy group to educate stakeholders on the value of VCE. Dave has volunteered to serve on that group and he nominated one VCE MG volunteer as a non-paid advocate of VCE to serve on the group too. Designs will be pending until April 16 as to who will be selected to serve.

- Great article in the Washington Post on April 1: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/30/AR2010033003046.html>
 - talking about the value of the MG program and the short-sightedness of VA's legislators in how they wanted to 'prune' it.
 - An idea has been put forth (by an agent from the Northern Neck) to market the VCE MG program as a private-public partnership. This should be more appealing to our elected officials
30. Dave asked VMGA to endorse and be a co-sponsor of efforts to recycle plastic pots/containers through some cooperating local independent garden centers. This will take place in the Richmond area and hopefully expand beyond Richmond in the future. We will encourage VCE MGs to participate as needed in these events by providing educational materials and answer questions for consumers.

Presidents Report-

- February meeting canceled because of weather but reports from the committees, Dave and meeting of VCE and Executive Board were sent to everyone.
- Thanks to all who sent letters to state legislators concerning the budget cuts.
- Executive Board decided not to allow other organizations to solicit donations through our website as it would undercut our attempts to fund the Coordinator Endowment.
- Reminder to post your Plant Sales and educational events on VA Gardener magazine website at vagardener.com.

Unfinished Business:

Elections -

Jim Scibek reported our first election by email thru Ballotbin was a success. Those without email were sent paper ballots. This process yielded similar numbers in number of persons voting as previous elections using all paper ballots but at a savings of \$317. It was decided to allow two weeks for voting at the next election in two year. New officers to be installed at the Annual Meeting, June 26th: Bill Scott - President; Christy Brennan - Vice President; Secretary - Peggy Fox; Jim Kincaid - Treasurer.

MG College -

Silent Auction - Leslie Paulson will be contacting all units to contribute items for the Silent Auction. Remember this is our largest fundraiser for the Coordinator Endowment.

Search for Excellence - Last year we had several groups adjust to the documentation process and try the Search for Excellence competition to showcase a particular project. We have had training sessions for helpful pointers on putting together award-winning presentations. This year we hope more units will participate. The rules, helpful pointers and entry forms can be obtained online at VMGA.net or by emailing Christy Brennan, ctb47@comcast.net

Please let Betty Villers know if you require space and electricity for your presentation by June 5th. Remember the 2011 International Master Gardener College will be in our own backyard (Charleston, WVA) and this will be a great year for us to prepare.

Plant Swap - Bring plants to swap with someone else. There will be a drop-off area at the Registration Tent and you can pick up your traded plants on Sunday. There will be a specially marked table for swap plants at the Plant Sale on Sunday.

New Business:

Board Meeting Cancellation Policy adopted - The Board voted to adopt a Meeting Cancellation Policy to be added to the Standing Rules. " Before canceling a Board Meeting because of threatening weather, the President shall consult with the host and the Executive Board. Members of the Board and unit reps will be notified by email and/or phone 24 hours before the Board meeting of the cancellation. The cancellation notice will also be posted on the website".

Diane Relf EEF Scholarship Fund - We voted to give an additional scholarship to Master Gardener College this year to honor the memory of Bud Gregory who passed away in December. Bud was an active member of the VMGA.

Audit Committee - Deborah Straw was appointed chairman of the Audit Committee to audit the Treasurer's books before the Annual Meeting.

Silent Auction - Bill Scott introduced a new plan to rotate the Auction responsibility each year at MG College similar to the rotation of the Bi-monthly VMGA meetings. Looking for large units or several units to work together to chair this very successful Coordinator Endowment Fund raiser. Let Bill know which year you would like to volunteer for.

Botanical Interests Seed Company - At the suggestion of Beverly Cochran from Henrico MGA to partner with Botanical Interests as a fund raising opportunity for the Coordinator Endowment and after some research, the Executive Board recommended we accept the opportunity to earn 20% on all seed sales (no sales tax) for the Endowment. Information to place an order will be posted on the VMGA website.

Announcements:

Educational Event: Community Garden Workshop - April 17th, Roanoke

Next Bi-Monthly Meeting - Friday, June 25th 5:00 PM - MG College

Annual Meeting - Saturday, June 26th, 7:00 PM - MG College

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

VMGA, Inc.

DRAFT FY2011 Budget Assumptions

June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011

- Membership dues are based upon prior year actual collections and are reduced \$300 from last year.
- Revenue from education activities is projected on last year's experience and forecast to offset expenses.
- Fundraising revenue represents income from the sale of t-shirts and other merchandise. Silent auction revenue will be given directly to the VT Foundation and will not flow through VMGA records.
- The combined line item for Communication/Support expenses is composed of \$225 for Communications and \$50 for the Unit Support Committee.
- Education represents the expenses of FY2011 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 FY2011. The current VMGA endowment does not generate sufficient revenue to fund the scholarships and growth accumulation. One of last year's scholarship winners had to leave MG College on the first day therefore, this scholarship will be awarded this year. In addition, the VMGA Board voted in ??????? to create an additional scholarship in memory of Mr. Bud Gregory. That will bring the total scholarship awards for this year to eight (8).
- Election expenses are not included since there will be no election this year.
- Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment represent the contribution of revenue from the sale of merchandise described above to the endowment for the state coordinator.
- Marketing expenses include \$250 for the Maymont Booth, \$50 for membership in the Virginia Green Industry Council (VGIC), and \$50 for a donation to the VGIC Green Festival in the fall since they do not charge MGs for a booth.

- Membership & Roster expenses approximate the costs of producing the membership directory and other expenses incurred to acquire new members and renew members in FY2011. If an electronic solution for the directory were utilized, as discussed in the Finance Committee report, these costs would be significantly reduced.
- Newsletter expenses are composed of \$840 for printing costs and \$360 for postage and labels to provide for the mailing of 125 issues. This assumes the remaining 450 copies are provided electronically by email.
- State Fair expenses are forecast at \$400 which is the same as 2010.
- Officers' expenses for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are based on historical actual data.
- The President's expense represents a contingency fund to be used at the President's discretion with approval of the Executive Board

VMGA, Inc.

DRAFT FY2011 Budget

June 1,2010 to May 31,2011

Income

Membership			
Regular		\$	1,100
Lifetime/Advanced Payments			4,000
	Total Membership		5,100
Gifts for EEF Scholarships			-
Education		6,000	
Fundraising		1,000	
	Subtotal		7,000
Total Income			\$ 12,100

Expenses

Communication/Support		\$	275
Coordinator Endowment Committee			100
Education	6,000		
EEF Scholarships			800
Elections			-
Fundraising Committee			50
Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment	1,000		
Marketing			350
Membership & Roster			2,100
Newsletter			1,200
State Fair			400
Officers' Expense			
President			300
Vice President			25
Secretary			75
Treasurer			125
	Subtotal	7000	5,800
Total Expenses			<u><u>\$ 12,800</u></u>

Virginia Master Gardener Association

Treasurer's Report

April 10, 2010

Balance Sheet

Data As

OF: 3/31/2010

Assets

Checking Account Balance	\$11,503.95
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$14,228.94
Reserve CD #2 Balance	\$4,832.97
Future Dues CD Balance	\$6,018.07
Fundraising Inventory	\$1,945.67
Total Assets	<u><u>\$38,529.60</u></u>

Liabilities

Unearned Income - Future Dues	\$7,815.01
Coordinator Endowment Funds Payable	\$653.00
Coordinator Endowment Planned Gifts Payable	\$0.00
Restricted Gifts for Scholarships	\$0.00

Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$8,468.01</u></u>
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Net Assets

Accumulated Earnings	\$22,818.07
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Current Year Earnings	\$7,243.52
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Total Net Assets	<u><u>\$30,061.59</u></u>
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$38,529.60
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Virginia Master Gardener Association

Treasurer's Report

April 10, 2010

Checking Balance 1/31/2010	\$8,487.05
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Receipts	\$5,450.17
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Coord Endowment Gifts	\$125.00
Dues FY 11-20	\$1,560.00
FY 10 Dues (current FY)	\$494.32

	Education	\$3,063.00
	Fundraising	\$90.81
	Gift for EEF	\$168.00
	PayPal Processing Fees	-\$50.96
Disbursements		-\$2,484.29
	Comm/Support	\$0.00
	Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
	Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
		-
	Education	\$2,095.50
	Education Scholarship-Spec	\$0.00
	EEF Scholarships	\$0.00
	Elections	-\$100.00
	Fund Raising Cmte	
	Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$0.00
	Marketing	-\$50.00
	Membership & Roster	
	Newsletter	-\$151.30
	State Fair	\$0.00
	Officers Expense	
	President	-\$28.24
	Vice President	\$0.00
	Secretary	\$0.00

Treasurer -\$59.25

Transfers \$51.02

EEF Gift Transfers \$0.00

Lifetime Dues Transfers \$0.00

Reserve CD Transfers \$0.00

Fundraising Inventory Transfer \$51.02

Checking Balance 3/31/2010 \$11,503.95

Interest Income on Reserve and EEF CD's \$383.42

Interest Income on Future Dues CD \$153.67

Virginia Master Gardener Association

Treasurer's Report

April 10, 2010

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY10

Income YTD

Committee Budget Income

Membership

FY10 (Lifetime/Prior Year) \$4,000.00 \$4,008.00

FY10 (Current FY) \$1,400.00 \$1,730.32

Subtotal \$5,400.00 \$5,738.32

Education	\$3,000.00	\$6,403.00
Fundraising	\$1,000.00	\$3,412.34
Gift for EEF		\$214.00
Interest Income		\$537.09
total	\$9,400.00	\$16,304.75

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$275.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
			-
Education	\$3,000.00	-\$5,439.52	\$2,439.52
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$100.00
Elections	\$125.00	-\$100.00	\$25.00
Fund Raising Cmte	\$50.00	-\$228.35	-\$178.35
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$1,000.00	-\$228.00	\$772.00
Marketing	\$300.00	-\$50.00	\$250.00
Membership & Roster	\$2,000.00	-\$1,258.54	\$741.46
Newsletter	\$1,200.00	-\$701.26	\$498.74
State Fair	\$400.00	-\$341.78	\$58.22
Officers Expense			
President	\$125.00	-\$28.24	\$96.76
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$100.00	-\$7.99	\$92.01
Treasurer	\$100.00	-\$177.55	-\$77.55
total	\$9,400.00	-\$9,061.23	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY10

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$1,078.00	\$653.00	\$1,078.00	\$653.00
Fundraising for Coor. Endow.	\$1,411.88	3412..34	\$1,639.88	\$3,184.34
Education Endowment	\$353.00	\$214.00	\$0.00	\$567.00
	total			<u>\$4,404.34</u>

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Bi- Monthly Meeting

June 25th 2010

Master Gardener College

VA. Tech

(Draft)

Attendance:

(Blue Ridge) Charlie Whittle; (Fauquier) Jim Scibeck;(Fairfax) George Graine; (Green Springs) Cyndi Bishop, Joan Richards; (Halifax) Pat Coughlin; (Hanover) Christy Brennan, Cheri Haggerty; (Loudoun) Margie Bassford;(Newport News) Peggy Fox; (Northern Shenandoah Valley) Fran Gregory; (Prince George) Barbara Geer; (Prince William), Leslie Paulson, Janet and Bill Scott, Frank Reilly;(Roanoke) Kathryn Debnar; (VA Tech/VCE) Dave Close; (VA Beach) Betty Villers, Jim and Mary Anne Kincaid

Call to Order –

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm

Introductions;

Introductions were waived to shorten the meeting.

Minutes:

The minutes of the April Bi-monthly meeting were approved as posted on line with one correction.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Scott

Bill presented copies of the Treasurer's report which include final expenses for the education events, income from dues payments and income from sales of merchandise for fundraising. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read and has been audited as part of the annual review by the Audit Committee.

The report is attached at the end of this document

The audit committee performed the annual audit and Chairman Deb Straw reported the Treasurer's reports were in order. The books were well organized and details were well documented.

Presidents Report: Betty Villers

Our fund raising item- Botanical Interest Seed Company has been added to the VMGA web site. VMGA will receive 20% of sales which will go to the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund. Betty was given packets of seeds to give out at MG College and a few catalogs

Betty had a great 2 years as President and thanks everyone who has helped her with the success of the organization.

Committee Reports:

Committee reports were deferred to the annual meeting with power point presentations.

Silent Auction – Leslie Paulson Chair,

We need a volunteer to sell tickets for the water fountain raffle. Kathryn Debnar volunteered; tickets are \$1.00 and 6/\$5.00.

New Business: the next VMGA Bi-Monthly Meeting will be in Newport News at the Extension Office –information is available

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

June 25, 2010

Balance Sheet

Data As OF: 5/31/2010

Assets

Checking Account Balance	\$10,644.76
PDR Education Endowment CD Balance	\$14,269.04
Reserve CD #2 Balance	\$4,845.99
Future Dues CD Balance	\$6,032.05
Fundraising Inventory	\$4,081.28

Total Assets	<u><u>\$39,873.12</u></u>
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Liabilities

Unearned Income - Future Dues	\$10,419.01
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Coordinator Endowment Funds Payable	\$653.00
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Coordinator Endowment Planned Gifts Payable	\$3,048.46
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Restricted Gifts for Scholarships	\$0.00
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Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$14,120.47</u></u>
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Net Assets

Accumulated Earnings	\$22,818.07
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Current Year Earnings	\$2,934.58
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Total Net Assets	<u><u>\$25,752.65</u></u>
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Total Liabilities and	<u><u>\$39,873.12</u></u>
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Net Assets

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

June 25, 2010

Checking
Balance as of
3/31/2010

\$11,503.95

Receipts

\$3,990.32

Coord Endowment Gifts	\$0.00
Dues FY 11-20	\$2,604.00
FY 10 Dues (current FY)	\$0.00
Education	\$790.00
Fundraising	\$386.12
Gift for EEF	\$229.00
PayPal Processing Fees	-\$18.80

Disbursements

-\$1,963.90

Comm/Support	\$0.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$0.00
Coord Endow Gift Transfers	\$0.00
	-
Education	\$1,687.69
Education Scholarship-Spec	\$0.00

EEF Scholarships	\$ 0.00
Elections	\$ 33.31
Fund Raising Cmte	\$ 0.00
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$ 0.00
Marketing	\$ 0.00
Membership & Roster	-\$ 115.67
Newsletter	-\$ 135.25
State Fair	\$ 0.00
Officers Expense	
President	-\$ 50.99
Vice President	\$ 0.00
Secretary	\$ 0.00
Treasurer	-\$ 7.61

Transfers		-\$ 2,885.61
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EEF Gift Transfers	\$ 0.00
Lifetime Dues Transfers	\$ 0.00
Reserve CD Transfers	\$ 0.00
Fundraising	-
Inventory Transfer	\$ 2,885.61

Checking		
Balance as of 5/31/2010		<u>\$ 10,644.76</u>

Interest Income on Reserve and EEF	\$ 436.54
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CD's

Interest Income on Future Dues CD \$167.65

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc
Treasurer's Report

June 25, 2010

Year to Date Income & Expenses to Budget FY10

Income YTD

Committee	Budget	Income
Membership		
FY10 (Lifetime/Prior Year)	\$4,000.00	\$4,008.00
FY10 (Current FY)	\$1,400.00	\$1,730.32
Subtotal	\$5,400.00	\$5,738.32
Education	\$3,000.00	\$7,193.00
Fundraising	\$1,000.00	\$3,048.46
Gift for EEF		\$443.00
Interest Income		\$604.19
total	\$9,400.00	\$17,026.97

Expenses YTD

Committee	Budget	Expense	Year-End
Comm/Support	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$275.00
Coord Endowment Cmte	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Education	\$3,000.00	-\$7,127.21	\$4,127.21
EEF Scholarships	\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$100.00
Elections	\$125.00	-\$66.69	\$58.31

Fund Raising Cmte	\$50.00	-\$228.35	-\$178.35
Fund Raising Gifts to Endowment	\$1,000.00	-\$3,276.46	\$2,276.46
Marketing	\$300.00	-\$50.00	\$250.00
Membership & Roster	\$2,000.00	-\$1,374.21	\$625.79
Newsletter	\$1,200.00	-\$836.51	\$363.49
State Fair	\$400.00	-\$341.78	\$58.22
Officers Expense			
President	\$125.00	-\$79.23	\$45.77
Vice President	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Secretary	\$100.00	-\$7.99	\$92.01
Treasurer	\$100.00	-\$203.96	-\$103.96
			-
total	\$9,400.00	\$14,092.39	

Year to Date Endowment & Restricted Funds Transactions FY10

Fund	Balance to Start Fiscal Year	Funds Received	Transfers	Balance
Coordinator Endowment	\$1,078.00	\$653.00	\$1,078.00	\$653.00
Fundraising for Coor. Endow.	\$1,411.88	\$3,276.46	\$1,639.88	\$3,048.46
Education Endowment	\$353.00	\$443.00	\$0.00	\$796.00
total				\$4,497.46

Virginia Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Annual Meeting

June 26, 2010 (as amended 11/5/12)

MG College, VA Tech

ATTENDANCE:

Not taken – all MG's who attended MG College were invited

CALL TO ORDER:

President Betty Villers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone to the 20th annual VMGA meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS: Betty asked officers and committee members to introduce himself or herself and the unit, committee or office they represented. Officer and committee reports have been submitted and will be viewed by a power point presentation.

MINUTES – Christy Brennan (Hanover)

The minutes of the June 2009 Annual meeting were accepted as posted on the VMGA web site.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Bill Scott (Fairfax)

Bill presented the treasurer's report. VMGA has presented several quality continuing education programs this year. Although these programs are designed as break even event there is a \$60.00 profit noted.

There were no questions and the report will be filed for audit. (Report is attached).

AUDIT COMMITTEE- Deb Straw (Hill City)

Members:

An audit was performed on June 20th and all documentation was found well organized and complete. There were no issues and all books were found in order.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee -Barbara Geer (Prince George) – Chair

Members: Betty Jo Hendrix (Western Tidewater), Mildred McDuffie (Roanoke), Ira Wallace (Central Virginia) and 11 new volunteers representing 8 additional areas.

The mission of the committee has been: To Provide low cost advanced level Continuing Education events in all areas of Virginia and encourage sharing of knowledge and resources among MG Units.

The committee planned and scheduled several continuing education events on the most popular topics derived from last years' survey. These events included:

“Sustainability”, October 2009, Tufton Farms, [Monticello] with 129 attendees

“The Cutting Edge”, Mini-College March 2010, at VSU with 120 registered and 113 attendees

“Community Gardens”, April 2010, VA Western Community College and 30 attendees

The speakers of the community garden event have agreed to put their presentation on a DVD including all written materials. These materials will be available to MG Units for training.

The committee would like to encourage members to name the event held at VSU. Please stop by the board at the bottom of the stairs to give us your ideas.

The next Continuing education event has been scheduled to be held in Rockbridge, on School Garden Programs and will include the following topics: Children gardens, school programs, and setting up a grant or scholarship programs.

The committee is planning a 2nd program at VSU Feb 26, 2011. Please give us your suggestions or topics and for new name.

Ira Wallace asked for members help to spread the programs in different parts of the state. In order to do this – they need organizers that can find a central location which would accommodate programs in these areas. Please let the Education Committee know if you have any ideas or are interested in becoming an organizer for an event in your area.

Newsletter- Peggy Fox (Newport News) – Editor; Dawn Meyerriecks (Loudoun) - Content Editor (Fairfax); Tom Bolt (Norfolk) – Electronic Distribution

Peggy thanked all units for articles submitted for the newsletter. Bi-monthly averages have been 125 mailed and 480 electronically e-mailed newsletters.

She reminded the reps to let us know what is going on in their area by sending her articles and unit newsletters.

There has been an electronic mishap this month sending unit reports to Cheryl Sebera, please copy Peggy Fox with your reports.

Membership- Mary Ann Kincaid (VA Beach)-Chair

Currently there are currently 500 members, 336 are Active members, 5 are Auxiliary members, and 157 are Lifetime members.

We are waiting for the renewal of 166 members whose memberships expired 5/31/10.

On May 31, the end of VMGA's fiscal year we have a total of 639 members, this year the distribution of the Membership Rooster will be by e-mail in October as suggested by the budget committee. Printed rosters are available for those MG's without e-mail.

Unit Support- Frank Reilly (Prince William) – Chair

Members: Pat Reilly (Prince William), Karen Sacasky (Hill City), Pinky Derieux (Chesapeake), Cheri Haggerty (Hanover), and whomever else we need.

Purpose of the committee is to be a resource for helping Master Gardener units with questions, concerns and development. The committee has answered questions concerning obtaining 501(c)(3) status and VMGA Emeritus Status, ownership of property by MG units and how units can function in absence of agents or paid coordinators. They developed: a project to track Unit impact throughout the state, web page dealing with budget impacts.

Communication Committee- Frank Reilly (Prince William)-Chair

Members: Dawn Meyerriecks (Web Master), Loudoun; Cheri Haggerty, Hanover; Kathryn Debnar, Roanoke (maintains the calendar page); Shelby Snyder, Roanoke; Tom Bolt, Norfolk; George Graine, Fairfax; Betty Truax, and whoever else we can get.

The VMGA web site started with one page of meeting minutes, since then we maintain on average over eleven pages and several links with over 23,000 visitors. The front page is the most popular page. The

committee e-mailed over 2500 MG's with talking points to use when speaking to interested stakeholders and representatives during the budget crisis.

Remember that units can use the calendar page to advertise special events –e-mail Kathryn Debnar with your event information.

Finance Committee- Ted Jenks (Rockbridge)-Chair

Members: Mary Fox (Western Tidewater), Jim Kincaid (Virginia Beach), Bill Scott (Prince William)

The proposed 2011 budget includes the changes of the electronic distribution of the Membership Directory and the addition of budget assumptions were presented and are attached to these minutes.

There were no questions and a motion to adopt the budget as presented was made, seconded and approved.

P. Diane Relf Education Endowment Fund (EFF) –Leslie Paulson (Prince William) Chair

Debbie Hiezer (Hill City), May Anne Kincaid (VA Beach), Jack Price (Four County), Jim Revell (Bedford), Jane Wyman (Prince William)

VMGA provides scholarships to Master Gardener College. Last year we decided to include scholarships to small units and larger units. Scholarships are recommended by Extension Agents and MG Coordinators. This year's winners were recognized with the presentation of the checks by Dave Close and Betty Villers.

The 2010 Winners are:

Small Unit Selectees

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Ext Agt/Coordinator</u>
Karen Craig	Bedford
Susan Tipton	Northern Neck

Large Unit Selectees

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Ext Agt/Coordinator</u>
Margie Bassford	Loudoun
Tom Bolt	Norfolk
Paul Gibson	Prince William
Kandy Keith	Chesapeake
Jim Kincaid	Virginia Beach

This year a special scholarship was presented by Fran Gregory in honor of her husband, Bud Gregory:

In Memory of Bud Gregory

Judy Burton	Henrico	Lisa Sanderson
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Congratulations to this year's winners.

Coordinator Endowment Committee: Kathryn Debnar (Roanoke) - Chair

Current Status June 2010

Cash on Hand	\$132,968.97
O/S Pledges	\$14,275.00

<u>Dempsey Deferred Gift</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
<u>Lerch Deferred</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
<u>Interest</u>	<u>\$24,867.23</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$322,111.20</u>

Kathryn and Dave will come to your unit to give a presentation on the endowment fund give her e-mail to schedule, give Kathryn an e-mail to schedule a presentation.

VGIC-VMGA Representative— Cheri Haggerty (Hanover)

VMGA has been a member since January 2007

Partners other than VMGA include the Virginia Agribusiness Council, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), Virginia Nursery and Landscaping Association (VNLA), Central Virginia Nursery and Landscapers Association (CVNLA), and numerous other Horticultural, Agricultural and Environmental associations

Hi-lights of accomplishments:

- Represented on the Virginia Invasive Species Working Group. This brochure will be funded by The Nature Conservancy.
- Met with Dr. Grant in January to discuss the future of Extension and to let him know of their support.
- Arbor Day, April 30th with VNLA – Two trees were donated for the Capital Square grounds.
- Supportive of developing a tree license plate initiative. Proceeds from the program would be used to fund research at Virginia Tech.
- Established a pilot plastic pot recycling program with Strange’s in Richmond. Hope to make it statewide.
- 4th Annual VA Garden Festival was held at the Science Museum in Richmond. The VMGA staffed a Plant Clinic booth and volunteered in other capacities. 25 MG volunteers, 95 hours and 546 contacts. Attendance was 2500.

This year the GO Green VA Garden Festival Saturday, September 11th at the Science Museum of Virginia in Richmond- contact Cheri Haggerty for more information on volunteer opportunities.

Search for Excellence- Christy Brennan (Hanover)

The Search for Excellence is a competition sponsored by VMGA to showcase Master Gardeners and projects throughout the state. VMGA sponsored contest to showcase unit projects during Master Gardener College. The SFE introduced a new format since 2008 with the purpose to get VA Master Gardener units ready for the International Competition. VMGA has provided training for MG groups. Aug 2009, during the bi-monthly meeting Nancy Franz, a former judge presented a Winning SFE Presentation Seminar

This year the judges elected to judge all entries (Brag Broad and SFE) to comply with the SFE Competition. The 2010 SFE Winners were recognized by a certificate presented by Dave Close and Betty Villers.

Congratulations to the 2010 SFE Winners

Demonstration Gardens

1st Place – VA Beach MGs

- **The New Kitchen Garden**

2nd Place – Henrico MGs

- **MGs Help Families**

Honorable Mention – York County MGs

- **MGs at the Market**

General Master Gardener Accomplishments

1st Place – Hanover County MG Cheri Haggerty

- **The History of VMGA: A work in Progress**

Innovative Projects

1st Place – Prince William County MGs

- **BEST Lawn Projects**

Community Service

1st Place – MGs of Arlington & Alexandria

- **I Can Shine Gardens**

One MG Group followed the rules of the contest posted on the VMGA web site and placed in the last International Competition -Please consider entering your project at the International Competition in Charleston, West VA in 2011.

State Fair- Christy Brennan (Hanover)

The Inaugural Year of the State Fair at the Meadow Event Park went very well. There were 247,958 visitors recorded, an increase of 2.4% from 2008. The Fair also bested its average of 243,753.155. Master Gardener Volunteers prepared and staffed various displays, educating the public and performing the Strawberry DNA experiment.

The contacts reported by Master Gardeners at the Fair have grown from almost 6000 contacts in 2007, 8000 contacts in 2008 to over 10,300 contacts in 2009!

Thanks to the Master Gardener units who helped to organize (Hanover, Spotsylvania, Louisa, and Henrico) and the units which volunteered during the 11 day event.

The new venue has a lot of opportunities to offer Master Gardeners and we hope more units will choose to participate this year.

The 2010 State Fair will be held Sept. 23 thru Oct. 3 2010 at The Meadow Event Park -Be sure to volunteer your unit! Bring Photos & Brag Boards to showcase Master Gardeners throughout VA.

This year's educational focus is Water (protection & quality) - great opportunities for new Water Stewards.

Don't forget to enter your plants & veggies at the Fair - Competition Guides can be found at <http://www.statefair.com/competitions>

Fund Raising- Pattie Gamache (Bedford)

We have been selling VMGA logo: sweatshirts (new), t-shirts, license plate frames, water bottle clips, decals and window clings (new). The total income from fundraising items was \$3,048.46 this year. We have these items on sale during college and they are selling fast.

VCE- Dave Close (VA TECH)

-State record keeping system update – The agreement with UC Davis concerning the use of the system needs to be signed and finalized. Seven units have volunteered to pilot the system - target is mid July.

-In the process of updating MG e-mail addresses for the In-Season newsletter.

-New Extension Consumer Horticulture gardening blog called Ask an Expert has started and will be linked to face book and twitter for answers by extension 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This will amplify what agents do. Implementation scheduled for 50% of VA, with the purpose trying to get MG units in defined geographic locations to communicate with local constituents in a blog format.

Silent auction: Leslie Paulson, Chair and Sharon Corbin (Prince William)

2009 - Over 150 items donated.

Raised over \$4000 towards the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund

2010 – 150 Items donated

Raised over \$3659 in addition to raffle donations of \$118.00 which will go towards the MG Coordinator Endowment Fund

THANKS TO PRINCE WILLIAM MGs who have done a fantastic job with this event.

President's Report –Betty Villers (VA Beach)

The VMGA Mission Statement: To foster communications, education, and fellowship among those involved in the Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program and to support and promote the Program.

The past two years VMGA:

- Had training on various topics during the bi-monthly meetings for VMGA reps and members,
- Has developed and presented three excellent continuing education programs to MG's throughout the state
- Has registered with Botanical Interests to contribute 20% of all sales to the State MG Coordinator Endowment Fund
- Has participated in MGCATs, State Fair, Maymont Flower Show, VGIC, and the Beautiful Gardens Program.
- Had the first electronic election of the VMGA Executive Board
- Participated in leadership meetings with CALS/VCE
- Responded to the news of uncertainty of the legislative budget cuts, developing talking points and e-mails
- Sponsorship of events at MG college

We would like to thank all Master Gardeners and interested stakeholders that contacted and wrote letters to State legislators. This certainly seemed to be effective as to putting the ball back into VCE court concerning budget and program cut backs.

It is unsure how the Extension Strategic plan will affect the Master Gardener program. It has been recently revealed to the executive board that The State Coordinators salary (Dave's) is funded by: the sales of MG handbooks, grants and VA Tech funding (7% of salary). Due to the economy some of these grants are drying up and it has been revealed there may be a gap in this year's funding of the salary. A meeting has been planned with Dean Grant tomorrow morning to obtain more information and to make sure that there is continued support from VCE.

The VMGA Executive board will keep everyone informed with continued accurate updates concerning this issue.

Unfinished Business:

Nominating committee- Jim Scibek (Goldvein)-Chair

Members Cheri Haggerty (Hanover), Paul Cambell (VA Beach)

The first electronic election thru Ballotbin was a success. Those without email were sent paper ballots. This process yielded similar numbers in number of persons voting (219) as previous elections using all paper ballots but at a savings of \$320.00.

The Election results were:

Bill Scott (Prince William) President; Christy Brennan (Hanover) - Vice President; Secretary - Peggy Fox (Newport News); Jim Kincaid (VA Beach) - Treasurer.

Motion made to destroy ballots, seconded, motion passed.

New Business:

There are several opportunities to serve VMGA; we currently are in need of a Fundraising Chairman, Newsletter Content Editor and a Silent Auction Chairman.

Peggy Fox presented to George Graine (Fairfax) a gift in recognition of his 50th article for the VMGA newsletter.

Cheri Haggerty thanked Betty Villers for a job well done as VMGA President and presented her a framed copy of The Master Gardener's Creed.

Next Bi-Monthly Meeting - Saturday August 14th 10:00 AM - Newport News Master Gardener Unit

2010 Future meetings

October Galax

December Fluvanna

Betty introduced Bill as the new president VMGA.

He is looking forward to charging ahead with the new physical year. Kathryn Debnar, Roanoke, has been a committee of one – Bill would like to revamp the MG Coordinator Endowment Committee to make the process different. Bill has met with Vernon Meacham from VA Tech development office to work together and move ahead. This needs to be a partnership which can move together for long term support of the endowment. Bill and Betty will meet with Dean Grant and VCE to become more informed about the support of our coordinator.

VMGA members need to give the development office a list of potential contacts for corporate and individual donors.

The education events have been a wonderful success and the VMGA and the Education Committee have provided quality continuing education classes in several different areas as the VMGA members have requested and we will continue this progress in the upcoming years.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Brennan, VMGA Secretary

VMGA, Inc.

FY2011 Budget Assumptions

June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011

- Membership dues are based upon prior year actual collections and are reduced \$300 from last year.
- Revenue from education activities is projected on last year's experience and forecast to offset expenses.
- Fundraising revenue represents income from the sale of t-shirts and other merchandise. Silent auction revenue will be given directly to the VT Foundation and will not flow through VMGA records.
- The combined line item for Communication/Support expenses is composed of \$225 for Communications and \$50 for the Unit Support Committee.
- Education represents the expenses of FY2011 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 FY2011. The current VMGA endowment does not generate sufficient revenue to fund the scholarships and growth accumulation. One of last year's scholarship winners had to leave MG College on the first day therefore, this scholarship will be awarded this year. In addition, the VMGA Board voted to create an additional scholarship in memory of Mr. Bud Gregory. That will bring the total scholarship awards for this year to eight (8).
- Election expenses are not included since there will be no election this year.

- Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment represent the contribution of revenue from the sale of merchandise described above to the endowment for the state coordinator.
- Marketing expenses include \$250 for the Maymont Booth, \$50 for membership in the Virginia Green Industry Council (VGIC), and \$50 for a donation to the VGIC Green Festival in the fall since they do not charge MGs for a booth.
- Membership & Roster expenses approximate the costs of producing the membership directory and other expenses incurred to acquire new members and renew members in FY2011. If an electronic solution for the directory were utilized, as discussed in the Finance Committee report, these costs would be significantly reduced.
- Newsletter expenses are composed of \$840 for printing costs and \$360 for postage and labels to provide for the mailing of 125 issues. This assumes the remaining 450 copies are provided electronically by email.
- State Fair expenses are forecast at \$400 which is the same as 2010.
- Officers' expenses for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are based on historical actual data.
- The President's expense represents a contingency fund to be used at the President's discretion with approval of the Executive Board

VMGA, Inc.

FY2011 Budget

**June 1,2010 to
May 1,2011**

Income

Membership

Regular	\$ 1,100
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Lifetime/Advanced Payments	4,000
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	Total Membership	5,100
Gifts for EEF Scholarships		-
Education	6,000	
Fundraising	1,000	
	Subtotal	7,000
Total Income		\$ 12,100

Expenses

Communication/Support		\$ 275
Coordinator Endowment Committee		100
Education	6,000	
EEF Scholarships		800
Elections		-
Fundraising Committee		50
Fundraising Gifts to VT Endowment	1,000	
Marketing		350
Membership & Roster		2,100
Newsletter		1,200
State Fair		400

Officers' Expense

President	300
Vice President	25
Secretary	75
Treasurer	125

Subtotal 7000 5,800

Total Expenses \$ 12,800