

LOS ALAMOS MASTER GARDENERS
Meeting Minutes taken by Judy Magelssen
From meeting on October 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm
Fuller Lodge

President's comments:

LAMG member Peggy Reneau passed away. Do we as Master Gardeners want to do anything as a remembrance for her? Her husband, Steve, wants to put some of her ashes in the emoji garden. Peggy is responsible for all the turquoise paint all over the garden. We will miss Peggy.

NMSU websites: The people who operate NMSU websites and the Extension Master Gardener websites hired a new company and so the appearance looks different.

LAMG website: is a private site. The Master Gardener site is managed by Cathe Ragsdale. It is currently up and running. But every member needs to look at their data and contact Cathe if information needs to be updated. Garden leads also need to update their plant list.

LA County Extension website: Angela is to update this website to include more information about LAMG and the Master Gardener Program. It was mentioned that more detail information and more details about how to registration and registration times be included in 2023 Los Alamos County Fair Exhibits information. In the future, please take into account people who work so they have enough time to register and bring items in for LA Cty Fair Exhibits.

LAMG Outreach: We need to do more in this area. There is lots of information that we can tell the community (i.e. mission, Living Treasures). Where (possibilities): Harvest Festival, Farmers Market, LAMG public programs (previous programs landscape photographer, lavender species). Ame and Alison volunteered to help at the COOP Harvest Festival. We will have a brochure about LAMG for events in the county. You can leave brochures in the library. Helping educate should be our focus for outreach.

Approval of Minutes: minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Report: current balance is \$9,071.02. Laurie's was one of three treasurer reports sent to NMSU, Linda Gavin. Great job Laurie!

Extension Office Report - Angela:

Discussion on what qualifies (what gardens) for volunteer hours: Please note that the Los Alamos County Extension Agent has final say (in other words LAMG members can only recommend). A lengthy discussion about what gardens in Los Alamos County could members work in and be able to report volunteer hours. It was stated that education needed to be part of that garden (i.e. plant identification, area identification). Denise stated that not enough members volunteered at the Demo Garden - the Demo Garden should be taken care of first before other gardens should be considered. Bob suggested that a certain number of hours had to be completed at the Demo Garden and a lesser number of hours at another approved garden. Laurie Walker reported that all our funds go to the Demo Garden. Angela will provide guidance.

If organizations ask for help with their garden, LAMG only offer advice. We do not do the work.

Current reporting hours are: 10 Educational hours and 15 Volunteer hours. Angela has the authorization to increase these hours. She cannot decrease them because they are state minimums. Please report your 2022 hours to Angela by mid-December.

State is buying New pins (badge): Angela took an order for new pins. They are 2 x 2 ½ magnet pins with your name, year you graduated, and county.

Demo Garden:

Denise needs a pickup truck for a load of pea gravel.

Bob and Laurie fixed the east irrigation system and bought new valve boxes for all the areas. Irrigation work continues.

Winterize your gardens in the Demo Garden: 1) leave perennials until Spring 2) do weed now! 3) spread mulch [take from parking lot before the first snow] 4) compost if needed 5) water as needed. Water should be on until late October or early November.

Need volunteers for memorial sign. The sign company in Santa Fe that Dori and Carolyn preferred went out of business during Covid.

Reminder for garden leads to update plant list on LAMG website.

Labels for plants in Demo Garden: use what you want, but please make it tasteful not gaudy. And replace the label when it is unreadable. Bob has a machine that makes label signs with aluminum backing. Remember you have the real estate stands to use for showing what plants are in your area. OK to have different labels throughout the Demo Garden.

Seed project – KokHeong: COOP Harvest Festival is Oct. 16, 2022 at the Los Alamos Co-op. Members of the seed project will be collecting seeds.

Volunteers for Los Alamos Science and Engineering Fair – Coleen: Science fair is Saturday, January 21, 2023 – in person from 8 am - noon. Coleen, Judy, Dena and Laurie W. volunteered to judge.

2023 Master Gardening Class cost: Another lengthy discussion. Cost 2022 was \$200 (\$100 to state and \$100 to LAMG). Cost 2023 - \$100 to state is required. Interns need to pay \$35 for the software and \$40 to download materials for a total of \$75. (This number could change but it is an additional cost above previous years.) Our questions: How much should the total cost of the course be. Should we offer scholarships and if yes how many. No decision was made. [Info: other states charge \$300 - \$600 for the course. It is equivalent to a 3-credit course. LAMG made \$2,200 from class registration in 2022. Some interns were out of state.]

Fundraising opportunities: possibility of plant sale every year in June and an iris sale in the fall.

Future programs:

Straw bale gardening – Alison

Raised beds – Dell (Desiree's husband)

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm

Next LAMG meeting – November 3, 2022: The meeting will be in person in White Rock. Location TBD.

LAMG Attendees: Angela Prada, Coleen Meyer, Carolyn Mangeng, Judy Magelssen, Alison Grieggs, Dena Brent, Kok-Heong McNaughton, Shari Foley, Ame Mashburn, Pallas Papin, Vicki Ricketts, Denise George, and Bob and Laurie Walker.