

Master Gardeners of Clark County  
General Meeting Minutes March 12, 2025

The March 12, 2025 meeting was called to order by Jill Pfister President at 5:30 PM other officers attending was: George Simon II Treasurer, and Salena LaSalle on zoom, Karen Parsons and Gigi Wise Members at Large, Linda Asebrook Secretary, Pam Bennett, Beth Brooks and with 38 members present and 40 on zoom. President Jill Pfister asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2025 meeting. A motion by Deb Brugger and seconded by Allison Volk was made to accept the minutes as reported and, as there were no objections, the minutes were approved as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2025:

Total Cash Balance: \$14,046.92 Total assets: \$8,6870.29.

The Treasurer's report will be placed on file for audit.

George reminded us that dues and recertification are due and thanked all who brought in checks. George's address is: George Simon II 1315 Ryan Ct. Springfield OH 45503 and the dues for 2025 are: \$35.00.

**Pam Bennett Report:** Pam reported on: SPGA Committee – Nothing will be started this year. Sidewalks will be finished up to the Kiwanis Childres's Garden and around the LWN gardens.

**Beth Brooks Report:**

For our mission moment, Beth quizzed us with the questions that she, Connie and Deb have been using for their gardening game during community events, and we all did well.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Presentation

**DATE**

March 26, 2025 TIME 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**LOCATION**

OSU Extension Clark County

3130 E Main Street

Springfield, OH 45505

Join Greene County Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Marina Miquilini, for an informative, free presentation aimed at those with backyard chicken flocks, addressing the recent outbreaks of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). The program will focus on answering questions about signs of infection, next steps, flock protection, biosecurity practices, risks to small flocks from outside sources, risks to humans, and updates on any local infections. With egg prices soaring, many residents are considering raising their own chickens for fresh eggs, but before becoming an egg farmer, this session will provide crucial information about the recent bird flu outbreak and how to protect your flock. For more information about avian flu, visit: [go.osu.edu/avianfluinfo](http://go.osu.edu/avianfluinfo)

**Greenhouse Committee:** There are still open opportunities to work in the greenhouse in March and April. To work in the greenhouse, you MUST sign up using HOC. Go to 'View Calendar' to see existing opportunities. In order to allow other volunteers to work in the greenhouse, do not sign up for more than 3 opportunities. Note: Only 2 MGVs are allowed to sign up per workday.

**Docent Committee:** Next meeting is March 18 @ 1pm - Large Conference Room

**Education Committee:** YWM Grant submitted. We should hear by April 1.

**Golf Outing:** Golf Outing August 22, 2025 June 21- 3 tours- Tree ID- Plein Air-

**Plant Sale: Plant Ordering Update -.** We will need all hands-on deck to assist with unloading, setting up, etc. Email reminders will be sent. We increased the amount purchased by approx. 10-15 % and spent over \$14,000.00. Delivery Dates:

● Mill Creek- April 29, 2025, ● Chateau Farms- April 30, 2025, ● Spring Run - Vegetables - April 28, 2025

● Deeply Rooted Landscaping (Native) - May 1 or May 2

We still have Plant Sale Flyers that need to be distributed to local businesses by March 31st please. The list is on the table, so please try to sign up at least 2-3 places.

Please also sign up to assist the day of the sale. We need Clickers, Assistance for the Vegetable, Shade, Barn area as well as assisting customers inside and outside the fenced area. Large Signs will be placed on April 1, 2025. Location of Large signs:

● West entrance of Snyder Park, ● Splash Zone (Bechtel & Tremont City Rd)  
● Extension Building, ● Fountain Avenue-Ricketts Home ● SPGA Entrance

Security Update - Salena is working with the Explorers and they sound like they will be helping out that day. Deb Brugger is working with George to get the donation sent to them for last year. If you have extra carts/wheelbarrows that could be used for Sale, please mark/label them well and don't forget to pick them up after the sale.

**Early Ohio Settlers:** The Early Ohio Settlers will have their annual planning meeting on March 24 in the large conference room at the Extension Office. It will be from 10- 12 noon, come hungry with your own beverage. Any and all MGV are welcome to join us then, or for our workdays, usually on alternating Mondays starting April 14, as noted on the website calendar. We will be gathering in the EOS garden on 4/14 to take up our over - wintering chicken wire and leaves. On 4/28, we will be laying our straws paths - always a fun adventure! We will be meeting both those days at 9 am.

**Pictures for the Yearbook:**

Karen Parsons took pictures before the general meeting tonight and if you missed out and want to be in the book, you might want to call her and see if she can accommodate you. Red shirts are requested.

**Night Weeders:** Joyce Watson will be chairman of this committee. If interested, please sign up on HOC

**Perennial Committee:** Held our first workday Tuesday, March 11th. A beautiful morning that felt like Spring is close! Had 7 members show up to clean up, cut back, prune and start the weeding. Kathy did a walk thru and planned for our upcoming Pruning program April 3rd 5:30-7pm. Flyers and announcements for it will be going out this week. Beth brought out the new golf cart to use for hauling supplies and taking away a huge load of debris to compost. It was great to see it and will be extremely handy to have! The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays will be our work day unless other days work better. March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss garden design. Held our first workday Tuesday, March 11th. A beautiful morning that felt like Spring is close! Had 7 members show up to clean up, cut back, prune and start the weeding.

**Tree Committee:** We are meeting March 20th 11-1pm at SPGA if the weather is nice, if not, the meeting will be held at Allison Volk's house, so please sign yourself up on HOC if you want to join our group. This spring we have a few public events happening, the first on April 26th. A Saturday morning walk to educate on the importance of Arbor Day, spring bloomers and our Conifers. the second event is on May 8th, a Thursday evening public education program. We are showcasing proper tree care, including steps for selection both in your space and at the store, proper planting, mulching, pruning and watering. Double check the times for those events on the calendar. At SPGA we are working on getting temporary signage out on the trees that are included in our Arboretum list before long. Our group was started to mainly help get the Arboretum part in our named space, SPGA level 1 certified. In doing that I have added the trees and shrubs within the various gardens to our primary list and noted the conditions, scored and measured them and did a latitude/longitude location on them. We can help you with any tree concerns but we are not responsible for the care of the trees within your gardens. We will focus our care efforts on the trees within our open spaces. There have not been any problems with this, but it was discussed with Beth and Pam at our last committee meeting and I want us all on the same page.

**The fairgrounds entrance committee**

Many members do not know we maintain the general admission entrance at the fairgrounds. If you would like to join us in weeding, planting and general gardening, please sign up on HOC. We will be having our first clean up date announced soon. The plot is about 40 feet by 12 feet and doesn't take much unless there is a drought. We generally meet about 6-7 times a year.

**Victory Garden:** Replaced the fence underneath and also put a tall fence in for the deer. Tilling in the next few weeks and ordering seeds around March 20, 2025

**Jubilee Committee:** This committee is in search of new leaders and Rita Lane and Susan Smith will be available for assistance.

**Strategic Plan** – Feb. 17 and 24 Meetings, Brian Raison from OSU facilitated. Summary was distributed. Qualtrics survey will be sent out for feedback from the membership.

### **Old Business:**

President Jill Pfister announced a reminder to please enter your hours and recertify asap. RSVP for Pruning Workshop.

Need submissions for the Barn Sale

Blades and Blooms moving to every other month starting with February. For those who are paying to receive it by mail – that money will appear in next years (2026) budget.

**Memorial Day Parade:** Discussion with Chairman Gigi Wise. Please contact her with ideas.

### **New Business:**

Opportunity to Volunteer at the Westcott House

We are looking for volunteers to help on a weekly basis during the growing season to keep the gardens behind and in front of the Westcott House in ship shape condition for the thousands of visitors who come each season. This task mainly means deadheading, weeding, and cutting back plants after their main blooming season. Folks will be assigned to work with a partner for each space to assure coverage.

The middle garden behind the house was sprayed with a pesticide to remove the stubborn Bishop Weed. Fingers crossed that it worked. This garden will be replanted this spring and will need extra "tending" so the perennial plants get a good healthy start.

I will be happy to give any gardening volunteer a tour of the house if you so desire. We have a more complete job description for those interested. Please let Rita Lane, [ritalane2@gmail.com](mailto:ritalane2@gmail.com), know.

Linda Butler announced her Plant Swap on May 24, 2025 from 10A to 1P at 270 Broadmoor. This is a "friend" raiser.

Box Tree moth was discussed and we expect calls asking questions.

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Marilyn Hinderer and seconded by Gigi Wise to adjourn at 7:00 PM. Motion passed.

Linda Asebrook,

*Linda Asebrook*

Recording Secretary