

Rutland County Master Gardeners' Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2025

Rutland County Master Gardeners' meeting was held on March 17, 2025 at the Godnick Center in person and via zoom. Jan Sherman started the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Steering Team members present were: Patti Westburg, Jan Sherman, Kathy Hall, Deb Bieg, Margery Salmon, Liz Gallo, Rita Gylys, Rich Carlson, Sarah Gallagher, Al Jackson, Judy Nevin, Carol Kluchinski

Master gardeners' and interns present were: Lyn Des Marais, Pierre LaFrance, Larry Springsteen, Sandy Kuehn, Nancy Bernier, Shawn DuBois, Zack Eastman, Emily Clifford, Mary Ashcroft, Gwen Moreland, Karen Kay, Lynn Gould, Linda McGuire, Karen Lyon, Rose Czapor

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 17, 2025 secretary's report.

Deb Bieg gave the treasurer's report. Jan Sherman accepted the treasurer's report.

Recognition of new certified EMG members and volunteer milestones within our chapter:

Congratulations to: Sarah Gallagher for reaching 500 volunteer hours, and Cori Rail for 250 volunteer hours.

Congratulations to our newly certified EMG Volunteers - Mary Ashcroft, Karen Demoy, Zach Eastman, Liz Gallo, Lynn Gould, Karen Kay, Pierre La France, Robin Ogg, Colin Whitehouse and Jean Stowell.

Applications accepted for new approved EMG/VMC projects guidelines. Jan Sherman talked about new projects and how to apply.

Pine Hill Project new leadership: Thank you Rose Czapor for taking on this task. Patti Westburg and Charlene Clifford will be helping Rose transition into this role. First workday will be Saturday, April 26th at 9-12, following another work day on Saturday, May 3rd with The Rutland Rec spreading mulch.

Upcoming Educational Programs reminder. Kathy Hall updated the speaker program.

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. - Jeanne Corbett, Gardener extraordinaire, will share her ingenious and economical winter sowing system for starting flowers and vegetables for yourself. Also, there will be a quick review from Our EMG Zach Eastman about getting ready to plant garlic in the fall, full workshop will take place in September.

Monday, April 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Godnick Center - Nancy Bernier and Mary Ashcroft will be doing a workshop on Caring for Houseplants, discussing the essential elements of houseplant care including the right light, proper watering and choosing the right soil.

Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Godnick Center - Maya Zelkin, potter and fermentation expert, will teach the chemistry, health benefits and methods for fermenting garden vegetables. She will also be bringing some of her crocks for show and tell and for sale.

June – No meeting: Plant Sale

July- Field trip to be announced later

August – no meeting - Vermont State Fair 12th-16th.

Other Business:

Patti Westburg did an update on the upcoming Plant sale on June 7, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the park behind the Godnick Center. There have been some major changes to the park. The four-way cement walkway has been removed. There's a very large drainage system there which is not complete yet, behind the covered pavilion. We will have to change the layout of our plant sale. There are paved pathways. We will have to use some of them as there will be no grass planted by the sale.

We will be putting a notice out the end of March about digs and pots. We have two lined up so far. If you would like to host one, email Jerri or I. I have pots and premixed soil at my house, if you would like to come pick them up, if you wish to donate plants to the sale. We must use the sterilized soil. We are being selective about the variety, so please check with us before you dig them up. We have plenty of pink peonies. If you have any other color that you would like to donate, we would like them. We have quite a few Phlox from the fall that have been wintered over. Again, this year we will not be accepting any plants for the sale if you have had or have Asian jumping worms.

Tonight's speaker was Jeanne Corbett and the topic and workshop was Starting Flowers and Vegetables in gallon milk jugs.

Next meeting will be April 21, 2015. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patti Westburg, EMG 2012