

BENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Annual Report of the Outreach Committee Nov. 1, 2021 – Oct. 31, 2022

Contact: Bob Smythe, smytherobert1@gmail.com

Committee members: Rich Taylor, Jana Tindall, Nancy Tovar, Frank Garcia, Janet Morlan

Basic purpose of committee: To advance public knowledge of the Extension Master Gardener program and to publicize activities of the BCMGA.

Estimate of total hours volunteered: 120

Goals for this year: 1. Adapt to functioning safely during pandemic ; 2. try to resume clinic tables; 3. provide publicity support for Plant Sale

Specific tasks: Clinic tables were held at the Poultry Fair, the Great Tomato Giveaway, and the Quilts in the Garden event. Gearing Up for Gardening and Insights Into Gardening did not take place this year, so our main publicity task was in support of the Plant Sale. This included both print media and social media, distribution of flyers, yard signs, neighborhood kiosks, and display banners in key locations.

Role in education: The clinic tables provided gardening information to participants in the event. We hope that in publicizing the Plant Sale we have contributed to providing gardening information and experience to the community.

Events: The Committee did not have in-person meetings during this period (although one was held in November 2022). There were probably 20-30 contacts at the various clinic tables. In addition to the Committee members, four other BCMGA members helped with distribution of flyers for the Plant Sale.

Changes made this year: We got better at operating remotely but look forward to resuming a full range of activities.

To pursue next year: The most critical need is to find someone to take charge of the clinic tables.

Budget and funding: Largely as a result of our restricted activities, we again spent only a fraction (about \$260) of our \$800 budget. This coming year we will need to replace some yard signs that have walked away, in addition to an anticipated full range of other publicity activities.

Submitted by: Bob Smythe

November 23, 2022

