

Meeting Minutes

Our meeting was held at Jay & Leah's Blueview Greenhouse in Rice Lake at 1:00 pm. Jay showed us how they receive their start-up plants from their distributors; how they are cared for after they are unpacked; and how they will be used in the greenhouse. He explained that they use temperature to control the growth instead of chemicals. They also make use of beneficial nematodes and fungicides to prevent predators and diseases so the plants stay healthy. Their vegetable and herb plants are grown from seed.

Jay also showed us how hanging baskets are planted. He incorporates a slow release fertilizer into the soil mix and does not compact the mixture when adding it to the container prior to planting. A small hole is made for each plant and when he is done planting, the basket is gently watered, "not soaked". They have come up with a unique combination of plants, (2 black mambo petunias, 2 white bachopa and 2 red waterfall begonias). They call this combination "Twiggy" after a family member who created it.

We had a wonderful visit and received a lot of valuable information!

Business Meeting:

- Behavior expectation forms need to be signed on a yearly basis
- Our group received both grants applied for from WIMGA
- Spring Expo, April 6th — sign-up sheet passed around for volunteers & donated give away items need to be delivered to the courthouse or brought to our April 4th meeting
- There will not be a WIMGA annual conference held this year
- The on-line reporting system will be set up soon and we will have a demonstration on how to use it to record our hours
- Kim Grover will update our website with the criteria needed to become an MGV & information about the upcoming class. Carol Kettner is in charge of the class & will provide brochures to be included in the information packets for the Spring Expo.
- Carol Kettner will be putting together a newsletter for the MGV's

Attendees:

Carolyn Swanberg, Carol Abbuehl, Millie Seabold, Jill Keefer, Sheri Snowbank, Gene Nelson, Aura Lea Carrell, Tim Schultz, Judy LaTendresse, Marilyn Saffert, Deb Schmidt, Bob Schutz, Tammy Schutz, Hali Dessecker, Rich Hokanson, Karen Schleis, Pauli Storm, Cindy Giguere