

## MACOMB BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Macomb Beautiful Association met at the Old Dairy meeting room on April 18<sup>th</sup> with 28 members attending.

President Penny Yunker introduced Chris Enroth, the Horticulture Educator from the U of I Extension Service, who spoke on "Pesticides: Organic versus Synthetic". Organic is defined as a molecule that contains carbon which can encompass many products. The USDA specifies what can be certified as organic. Sir Albert Howard, J.R. Rodale, and Rachel Carson all pioneered the early organic movement. The Environmental Impact Quotient (EIQ) is used to identify pesticide's risk to applicator, consumer, and the environment. A chart may be found at <https://nysipm.cornell.edu/eiq/list-pesticide-active-ingredient-eiq-values>. Any EIQ number under 20 is an acceptable risk factor. Organic alternatives to pesticides include traps and barriers, milky spore disease, Bt, Capsaicin, Neem, Nicotine (NOT safe), Oils (hazardous), Pyrethrum, Rotenone (dangerous), Ryania (high EIQ), Spiosad, soaps, Kaolin, and garlic. Synthetics on the market include Sevin (doesn't discriminate), DDT (stable so persists in the environment), Imidacloprid (negatively impacts pollinators), Organophosphates (Malathion originally used by Hitler), and Pyrethroids. The very best way to control insects is good soil and plant culture management.

### **BUSINESS MEETING:**

**Minutes:** Secretary Barb Knox presented the minutes from the March meeting. Morris Vos moved to approve and the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Madena Chuvala presented the treasurer's report which shows a current cash balance of \$5,711.74. She is accepting membership dues for 2018. The budget for 2018 was presented and an invitation was made for suggestions of projects that would need funding.

John Looman requested \$150-\$200 to replace and add some plants to the Macomb Library. Dennis Danowski made a motion to authorize those funds, Sharon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Rosemary Aten told us that long-time MBA member Roger Barclay recently passed away. A small garden on the intersection of Lafayette Street and University Drive was tended through the years by Roger and she would like to propose we allocate funds to upgrade that space and perhaps place a sign there. Those in attendance agreed with that proposal. Tim Howe also shared some memories of Roger's dedication to the trees in Chandler Park. He donated a Chinquapin and a burr oak tree in memory of loved ones. Rosemary made a motion to provide two plaques to be placed under those trees commemorating Roger's contributions. Sally Sallee seconded the motion and it carried. Contributions to Roger's memorial may be sent to Box 183, Macomb, IL 61455.

## **COMMITTEES:**

**Membership:** Sue Marshall and Penny will head up this committee and are looking for one more person to help. Please contact Penny if you would be willing to assist them.

**Fundraising:** Sharon Lindahl announced that a Card Party will be held at the Country Club on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. There will be no Chinese Auction this time but a handmade quilt has been donated to auction. Please sign up with Sharon to host a table.

**Train Station:** Victoria Engnell has contacted West Prairie FFA and our plants are doing well and will be installed after Mother's Day. The greenhouse will be open Monday through Friday during school hours. Next month she will pass around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to water the window boxes during the summer and fall.

**Illinois Bicentennial of Illinois:** Morris Vos reported that the tree planting in Chandler Park on Tuesday was very well attended. John Hall was spoke on the significance of the white oak to the community and Mayor Inman proclaimed it Macomb Beautiful Day in Macomb. Sharon Lindahl announced that another white oak tree will be planted in the park as a "sister" tree by the Macomb Women's Club.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Clean-up at Chandler Park will be Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-11. Volunteers should bring rakes and gloves. Also, the Macomb FFA will be assisting us with placing new mulch around the Courthouse landscaping.
2. Penny has had a large box of seed packets donated to MBA and she is looking for a way to distribute them.
3. We will continue to maintain the garden across from Magnolia's. The Orphanage located on East Jefferson is developing a new garden and has interest in acquiring some input from MBA.
4. Penny handed out an MBA priorities sheet. She would like input from the membership in the direction MBA wants to go into the future.
5. We may plan a road trip this summer to the Luthy Botanical Gardens in Peoria.

Marilyn Pastorelli won the free lunch!

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Knox, Secretary