

# Roots and Shoots

January 2006 Volume 22, Issue 1

January Master Gardener To-Do List	General Meeting on Tuesday, January 17	New Educator Begins in January 2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <i>Sign up today to attend Advanced Master Gardener Training on February 4</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Attend the Master Gardener general meeting on January 17 at Monroe County Public Library</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Send Master Gardener dues for 2006 to Extension Office, using form in this newsletter</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Send new volunteer hours to Joanna Howe (directions in this newsletter)</i></li> <li>◆ <i>Log on to the Monroe County Master Gardener web site at <a href="http://www.mcmga.net">www.mcmga.net</a></i></li> </ul>	<p>The January MCMGA general meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 1B on the lower level at the Monroe County Public Library.</p> <p>Parking is available on the street or in the library lot or in the city lot on Lincoln Street.</p> <p>Meeting Agenda and Program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vote for 2006 MCMGA officers</li> <li>2. Complete a program survey to aid in planning 2006 general meetings.</li> <li>3. Complete membership form and pay 2006 dues.</li> <li>4. 'Show and tell' about recent publications (books, catalogs, and magazines) that help us in gardening; bring your favorites to share.</li> <li>5. Also, bring extra catalogs and magazines you do not need to give to others who could use them.</li> </ol>	<p>Amy Thompson, ANR Educator in Brown County, has accepted our invitation to serve as ANR Educator in Monroe County, effective January 16, 2006. Amy brings a wealth of agricultural and horticultural experience and knowledge to her new job. Amy replaces Dan Baugh, who retired December 30, 2005.</p>



**A Message from Amy Thompson**

Hello! My name is Amy Thompson, I will be assuming the position of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator following Dan Baugh's retirement. My first day on the job will be January 17<sup>th</sup>. I was born and raised in Monroe County, and I am looking forward to returning back to my home county to work. I am also looking forward to working with the Monroe County Master Gardener's Association and the upcoming 2006 Intern training program. My educational background is in Forest management/forest ecology, but I have had a life long interest in gardening, especially orchids and native plants, and I enjoy vegetable gardening with my husband and sons. I am looking forward to meeting members of the MCMGA and working together in the future. Best Wishes, Amy

## Volunteer Opportunity

If you can volunteer on a committee for the February 4 Advanced Training and have not already been contacted, call these committee chairs. All hours of volunteer service will count whether or not you are a certified master gardener.

Publicity—Helen Hollingsworth, chair

Breakfast and Snacks—Marilyn Brinley, chair

Clean-up—Jeff Schafer, chair

Handouts & Materials—Ann McEndarfer, chair

Door Prices & Decorations—Nancy White, chair

We need your ideas for topics and speakers. See you then!

Note: If, due to weather, this meeting must be cancelled, notices of cancellation will arrive on email and on the radio by 3:00 p.m. Voting for officers will then be conducted via email. Contact president Mary Jane Hall (345-3985 or via email) by January 19 if you want to write in a nomination for an office. Complete slate of officers is listed on page 5 of this publication.

Look for us on the Internet:  
[www.mcmga.net](http://www.mcmga.net)

## Monroe County Master Gardeners 2006 Intern Class Begins

A new Master Gardener Intern Class begins on January 26, 2006, and continues for twelve consecutive Thursdays, concluding on Thursday, April 20, 2006. Classes are held at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church, 2700 East Rogers Road, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Certified Master Gardeners are invited to attend any class, and to ensure available seats, are asked to call the Extension Office on the day of the class to register their attendance. Certified Master Gardeners receive one hour of advanced education credit for attending a complete class. Class coordinators for 2006 class are Debbie Lorton and Sandra Olvey with new Educator Amy Thompson.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
January 26	Plant Science
February 2	Soils and Nutrition
February 9	House Plants, Container Gardening, Herbs
February 16	Plant Diseases and Diagnosis
February 23	Entomology and Animal Pests
March 2	Pruning, Composting
March 9	Vegetables, Small Fruits
March 16	Landscape Design and Woody Ornamentals, Hardscaping
March 23	Pesticides: Safety and Applications
March 30	Lawn Care, Invasive Plants
April 6	Herbaceous Ornamentals, Perennials and Annuals
April 13	Organic Gardening, Weed Control, and Ornamental Grasses
April 20	Final Exam

### Advanced Training Opportunities by Nancy White

This is the time to gather up those advanced training hours for those of you who have already reached the certified level. There are several excellent classes coming up within easy driving distance from Monroe County this winter. As we are notified of others, we will pass them on to readers. Don't forget to check the Purdue website for other current classes.

- ◆ Indianapolis Museum of Art is teaming with *Horticulture Magazine* to present a full day workshop at the Museum on West 38th Street on February 16, 8:00-4:00 p.m. Six hours of advanced training credit is available. Send reservations to Horticulture Garden Programs, 4700 E. Galbraith Road, Cincinnati, OH 452356. This year's title is "Color Rich Gardens" and noted speakers include Nan Stinton, Rob Proctor, Janet Macunovich, and Vincent Simone. Topics include flowering landscape shrubs, garden conifers, adding color to your garden, colorful borders, and colorful container gardening. Register on-line at [www.hortmag.com](http://www.hortmag.com). Fee is \$129 and includes meals and materials.
- ◆ Crawford County, IL Master Gardeners is presenting "A Winter Day in the Garden," on Saturday, January 28, at Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, IL, State Highway #1, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. for four hours of advanced credit. Topics include ornamental grasses, lasagna gardening, and seductive and buried treasure gardens. Call (618) 546-1549 for more information. Fee is \$35 and includes lunch.
- ◆ Boone County Master Gardeners will offer a workshop with Rosie Lerner, Purdue faculty member and state director of Master Gardening. Find more information on this one at the Purdue MG website.

## Member News by Nancy White

### **Trees, All Seasons, All Reasons — Last Day to Register Is January 27**

It's coming up soon, and now is the time to register for our very own advanced training session on everything you've ever wanted to know about trees. The date is Saturday, February 4, 8:00-12:30 p.m., and the location is St. Marks Church on the east bypass. Tree topics will be the focus with Lee Huss and Ralph Unversaw sharing their expertise with us. Many are involved already in planning and helping with the class. Remember that four hours of advanced credit is available for certified master gardeners. But if you are not yet certified and you help prior to the event on a committee, those hours count toward volunteer hours. Or you can attend the session and do committee work, and you may claim up to four volunteer hours. Everyone needs to sign up right away. Send your reservation to the Extension Office with the fee of \$25 by January 27. With everyone's help, this will be a successful venture. See the November issue of Roots & Shoots for the registration form or find it on our website, [www.mcmga.net](http://www.mcmga.net).

### **November Holiday Party**

The November 29, 2005 Holiday Party was a great success with about 45 of us in attendance and loads of outstanding food shared. The wonderful program on gifts to make, given by Extension Educator Sue Berg, helped us get new ideas for all-season gift giving. Many thanks to Sue for sharing her innovative ideas with us. If you missed it, be sure to join us next year.

### **Certification Updates by Joanna Howe**

Badges have been ordered for Shahab Golian and Nancy White. Shahab (2005) will receive his Purdue Master Gardener badge for having completed his volunteer obligation by working many hours at Hilltop performing such duties as garden work, transplanting, and propagation.

Nancy (2002) has stepped up to the bronze level. Her activities include serving on the MCMG board of directors, working with and teaching children at Templeton Elementary School, planning committee for the Sycamore Land Trust Landscape Show, advising the Arboretum committee at Clear Creek Elementary School, and arranging our upcoming advanced training session in February.

A total of 18 badges were ordered during 2005; ten Master Gardener, five advanced, and three bronze. Congratulations, and keep growing!

### **Look What We've Done!**

As of this writing a total of 824.5 volunteer hours have been submitted for 2005. I KNOW there are hours donated that have not been reported (don't make me name names!). Please get your hours to me by Friday, January 13 so an updated tabulation can be presented at our meeting on January 17. Send by snail mail to Joanna Howe, 2121 I Street, Bedford, IN 47421 or email at [joanna.howe@insightbb.com](mailto:joanna.howe@insightbb.com).

### **Junior Master Gardener Program Training**

A Junior Master Gardener program training session will be held Tuesday, January 31 at the Brown County Public Library in Nashville, 5:45-9:00 p.m. Dr. Kathryn Orvis, Extension Specialist, will conduct the training for Master Gardeners, teachers, summer camp personnel, librarians, and other after-school program staff. The fee is \$25, including refreshments and workshop materials. Registration deadline is January 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact the Extension Office, 988-5495, to register.

The Junior Master Gardener program (JMG) is an international youth gardening program operating nationwide through Cooperative Extension Service. The program offers curriculum which covers a broad range of horticultural and environmental education topics. The entire JMG curriculum is correlated to academic standards for science, math, language arts, and social studies. This will be a hands on workshop designed to introduce and immerse you in the JMG curriculum.

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# All-America Selections New Flowers and Vegetables for 2006

By B. Rosie Lerner

This year brought a bumper crop of 11 new All-America Selections (AAS) garden flowers and vegetables judged to be superior based on their performance in test gardens all over the country.

*Dianthus* 'Supra Purple' was selected for its early and prolific blooming and improved heat tolerance. The 1.5-inch, fringed, purple blooms literally cover the 12-inch plants. 'Supra Purple' also makes excellent cut flowers and performs best in full sun.

*Diascia integerrima* 'Diamonte Coral Rose' was selected for early flowering, branching habit and long bloom season. This relatively unknown plant reaches just 8-10 inches tall with a 18-inch spreading habit, making it ideal for container gardening or as an edging plant. *Diascia* is related to snapdragons but is much larger in flower. The 1-inch blooms continue opening all season in full sun.

*Nicotiana* 'Perfume Deep Purple' was selected for the delicately fragrant, deep purple blooms. The single, 2-inch star-shaped flowers are produced on plants reaching 20 inches tall with a spread of 15-18 inches. This plant performs best in full sun but also adapts to part shade.

*Salvia farinacea* 'Evolution' was chosen for the 6-7 - inch flower spikes that are distinctly violet, rather than the traditional blue. 'Evolution' is a medium-height annual reaching 16-24 inches tall.

*Viola cornuta* 'Skippy XL Red-Gold' won over the judges on its flower size, color and continuous bloom. The large, 1.5-inch, round flowers are ruby red with violet-red shading below the golden-yellow face containing penciling or whiskers. 'Skippy XL Red-Gold' promises heat tolerance combined with winter hardiness in protected locations. The compact habit reaches about 6 inches tall, spreading about 8 inches.

*Zinnia* 'Zowie ! Yellow Flame' was selected for its unique bicolor pattern. The 3-4-inch semi-double bloom contains a scarlet/rose center with yellow petal edges, reminiscent of a yellow flame. Expect flowering plants in about 8-10 weeks from sowing seed. Plants will reach 24-29 inches tall, spreading 26-27 inches in full sun.

Ornamental Pepper 'Black Pearl' produces shiny, pearl-like, black peppers against a striking backdrop of black foliage when grown in full sun. The vigorous, compact plants reach just 18 inches tall and are quite heat tolerant. The peppers turn red as they mature and are edible, if you like fiery hot!

In the vegetable department, Carrot 'Purple Haze' is the first purple imperator-type carrot, reaching 10-12 inches long and tapering to a point. The purple beauty is only skin deep -- the sliced, raw roots reveal a bright-orange center and cooking will dissolve the purple color. 'Purple Haze' can be harvested in about 70 days from sowing seed.

Cilantro 'Delfino' is an improved selection with decorative fern-like foliage, ready to harvest in about 4-5 weeks from seed. Mature plants reach about 20 inches tall when grown in full sun. 'Delfino' can also be grown for its flavorful seed, known as coriander.

'Carmen' is an improved Italian-type sweet pepper selected for early production of the distinctive horn-shaped peppers with wide shoulders, tapering to a smooth point. An excellent choice for container gardening, the upright plant reaches only 28 inches tall. Expect ripe peppers about 75 days from transplanting.

Chile Pepper 'Mariachi' was chosen for superior fruit size, early production, high yield and mildly hot flavor (500 to 600 Scoville heat units). The colorful fruit ripen from yellow to red, and flavor can become more pungent when plants are under heat or drought stress. 'Mariachi' produces an abundance of 3-4 inch peppers beginning about 65-68 days from transplanting.

AAS winners are selected from many new cultivars, based on performance in the garden as well as in the greenhouse. Although no plant offers a guarantee of success in an individual garden, AAS winners have proven themselves worthy over a broad range of growing conditions. Try these new selections alongside your old standbys so you'll have a means of comparison. AAS winners should be available through local garden centers and mail-order catalogs next spring. For more information about these and previous years' winners, point your Web browser to <http://www.all-americaelections.org/>.

## Master Gardener Officers for 2006

The nominating committee, chaired by Lydia Anderson, offers the following slate of officers for 2006: President, Marilyn Brinley; Vice Presidents, Nancy White and Ann McEndarder; Secretaries, Barbara Cappy and Mary Hawkins; Treasurers, Diana Young and Dale Calabrese; Journalists, Helen Hollingsworth and Lydia Anderson; State Advisory Committee Representatives, Herman Young and Gino Brancolini. Voting for 2006 officers will be held at the general meeting at the Monroe County Public Library on Tuesday, January 17. (See page one for complete meeting information.) The old and new boards will meet together on Monday, February 6, to complete old business and begin the new year.

### Indiana Bee School IV

The Indiana Beekeepers Association is holding the Indiana Bee School on Saturday, February 25, 2006, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST. The cost is \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family, lunch included, catered by SPC Food Service Ministry. Deadline for registration is February 15, 2006. To register, call Steve Doty, 317-485-5593 or email [jsdoty@indy.net](mailto:jsdoty@indy.net).

### Indiana Community Tree Stewards Session

The Indiana DNR, Community & Urban Forestry, the Owen County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Indiana Urban Forest Council are hosting Indiana Community Tree Stewards Session, Owen County Public Library in Spencer, IN, on January 10, 17, 24, 31 and February 7, from 6:00pm - 9:00 p. m.

A work day will be held on February 18 at 10:00 a. m.

Cost is \$25. To register, contact April Murray-Clayton at 317-915-9390 or mail to IDNR, Community & Urban Forestry, Attn: April Murray-Clayton, 6515 E 82nd St., Ste 204, Indianapolis IN 46205-1562.

### Gibson County Master Gardeners Present Advanced Training

Gibson County Master Gardeners are hosting an advanced Master Gardener training titled, *When the North Wind Blows—Let's Talk Gardens*, on Saturday, February 11, 2006, at the Gibson County Fair Grounds Activities Building, N. Embree Street, Princeton, IN, 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

Registration fee is \$35, including lunch and snacks. Registration deadline is January 25, 2006. Late registration fee is \$40. Training is open to the public. Master Gardener attendees will receive four education hours.

#### Program

Bonsai Is Not Merely a Tree in a Pot

Dave Bogan

Grasses: Old & New, Short & Tall

Darrell Cross

Banding Hummers: Every Bird Is Special

Cathie Hutchinson

Trees, Trees, Trees, and More Trees

Steve Marling

To register, send name, address, telephone number, email address, and check for \$35 payable to Gibson County Master Gardeners to Master Gardener Training, Gibson County Extension Office, 800 S. Prince Street, Princeton, IN 47670. Call 812-385-3491 for more information.

## Winter Gardens to Visit by B. Rosie Lerner

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While a thick blanket of winter snow might keep even diehard gardeners out of yard work for now, a visit to one of the many Midwestern glasshouse gardens may help you get your plant fix. In addition to seasonal plant displays, many of these gardens offer classes, art exhibits and other ways to beat the winter doldrums.

<b>Indianapolis</b>	White River Gardens, 317-630-3252; Indianapolis Museum of Art, 317-920-2660; Garfield Park Conservatory, 317-327-7184
<b>Fort Wayne</b>	Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 260-427-6440
<b>Chicago Area</b>	Garfield Conservatory (Chicago), 312-746-5100; Lincoln Park Conservatory (Chicago), 312-742-7736; Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe), 847-835-5440; Morton Arboretum (Lisle), 630-968-0074
<b>Cincinnati:</b>	Krohn Conservatory, 513-352-4080; Civic Garden Center, 513-221-0981

### January Calendar by B. Rosie Lerner

#### HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

Keep holiday poinsettias and other plants near a bright window. Water as top of soil becomes dry.

Increase humidity around houseplants by grouping plants together, placing them on a pebble-water tray or running a humidifier.

Check stored produce and tender flower bulbs and roots for rot, shriveling or excess moisture. Remove and discard damaged material.

Repot houseplants as they outgrow current pots.

#### YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals and fruits)

Check young trees for rodent injury on lower trunks. Prevent injury with hardware cloth or protective collars.

Keep road and sidewalk salt away from plants. Construct a screen of burlap, if necessary, to keep salt spray off plants.

"Leaf" through nursery catalogs and make plans for landscape and home orchard additions. Order plants early for best selection.

Early spring-flowering trees and shrubs, such as forsythia, crabapple, flowering quince, flowering dogwood and honeysuckle, can be forced for early indoor blooms by placing cut branches in water in a warm location.

#### GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

Send for seed catalogs for the garden.

Sketch your garden plans on paper, including what to grow, spacing, arrangement and number of plants needed.

Order seeds and plants as early as possible for best selection.

Wood ashes from the fireplace can be spread in the garden, but don't overdo it. Wood ashes increase soil pH, and excess application can make some nutrients unavailable for plant uptake. Have soil tested to be certain of the pH before adding wood ash.

## Volunteer Opportunities Compiled by Nancy White

Location	Time	Jobs	Contact
Hilltop Garden & Nature Center	year around	various	Marcia Figueiredo, 855-2799
Templeton Garden Project	spring/fall	teaching children	Nancy White, 824-4426
MG Demonstration Garden	seasonal	various	Lydia Anderson, 825-2961, landers@wormsway.com
T. C. Steele SHS	seasonal	various	Steve Doty, 988-2785
Cheryl's Garden	seasonal	various	Larime Wilson, 339-9705
Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens	seasonal	various	Cathy Meyer
MCMGA Horticulture Hotline	year around	inquiries and research	Amy Thompson, 349-2575
MCMGA Speakers Bureau	year around	various	Amy Thompson, 349-2575
MCMGA Newsletter	year around	writing, stapling, labeling	Helen Hollingsworth, 332-7313
MCMGA Web Site	year around	various	Barb Hays, 332-4032
MG Program Committee Member	year around	plan MG programs	Ann McEndarfer, 334-1801 Nancy White, 824-4426
Middle Way House	seasonal	various	Clara Wilson, 333-7404
Wylie House	year around	various	Sherry Brunoehler, 855-6224
Bloomington Hospitality House	year around	educate seniors work with Horticultural therapist	Rene Thompson, 353-3000
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard	year around	education, resource	Libby Yarnell, 355-6843
Clear Creek School	spring/on-going	identification, education	Charlie Hawk, 824-7969
Advanced Master Gardener Training	October 2005 through February 4, 2006	various	Nancy White, 824-4426 Ann McEndarfer, 334-1801

## January 2006 Volume 22, Issue 1

Cooperative Extension Service  
Health Building  
119 West Seventh Street  
Bloomington, IN 47404

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Helping Others Grow

**Inside: General Meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m.**

### MCMGA Executive Board

**President Office Team:** Mary Jane Hall

Mary Jane: 824-2762 gardenz4ever@hotmail.com

**Vice President Office Team:** Ann McEndarfer, Nancy White

Ann: 334-1801 amcendar@truman.edu

Nancy: 824-4426 nwhite38@hotmail.com

**Treasurer Office Team:** Diana Young, Mary Hawkins

Diana: 812-339-0040 hoyoung@indiana.edu

Mary: 824-2139 marywalloon@aol.com

**Secretary Office Team:** Marilyn Brinley, Joanna Howe

Joanna: 812-277-8369 Joanna.howe@insightbb.com

Marilyn: 824-1318 mlbrinley@aol.com

**Journalist Office Team:** Helen Hollingsworth

Helen: 332-7313 hlhollin@indiana.edu

**State Advisory Committee Representative:** Herman Young, Gino Brancolini

Herman: 339-0040 hoyoung@indiana.edu

Gino: 336-1680 brancol@indiana.edu

**Extension Educator:** Amy Thompson

Amy: 349-2575 afthompson@purdue.edu

### *In This Issue*

New Educator	1
General Meeting	1
Volunteer Opportunities	1, 2, 7
New Intern Class	2
Advanced Training	2, 3, 5
All-American 2006 Plants	4
2006 MG Officers	5
Winter Gardens to Visit	6

### *Upcoming Events*

MG General Meeting, January 17
New MG Class begins, January 26
MG Advanced Training, February 4