

January 2009, Volume 25, Issue 1

Earn an Hour of Education Credit at General Meeting on Tuesday, January 27

By Nancy White All members and guests are invited to the January general meeting on Tuesday, January 27, at 6:30 pm. The site for our meeting will be a new one, the Allison Jukebox Community Center operated by Bloomington Parks and Recreation at 349 South Washington Street. Parking is available in the lot directly behind the Jukebox by taking the street to the south of the building and turning left into the lot. Parking is also available on Washington and Lincoln streets. Handicapped access to the building is adjacent to the parking lot. The main entrance to the building is on Washington.

We will hear a report on the 2009 intern class, discuss programming for the coming year, and hear a program for which members may claim one hour of education credit. The program, *B-Line Trail: Transforming a Brown Field into a Green Way*, will be presented by Mick RENNIESSEN, Director, Bloomington Parks & Recreation. He will detail the current status of the Bloomington B-Line Trail and its impact on the trees and green space located in downtown.

Be sure to attend this informational meeting. In case of sufficiently bad weather to cancel the meeting, we will send an e-mail in the afternoon to all members on our contact list and notify local radio stations. You can also call any board member (listed on the final page of *Roots & Shoots*) if you suspect the meeting could be cancelled.

2009 Folia and Flora Update



Gardeners frequently check the calendar for the proper time to plant, the proper time to cultivate, the proper time to harvest. Now is the proper time to check your membership listing in *Folia and Flora*, the MCMGA membership book. Is everything in your listing correct? Updates are in process for the 2009 edition. Even if you have sent in a previous correction/update, please send it again. We want to double check the list.

By Mary Jane Hall In order to be listed, your dues need to be current. The 2009 dues (\$10 for individuals; \$15 for two in a family) are due now, and 2009 *Folia and Flora* will be completed, printed, and distributed at the January 20th meeting. Dues should be taken or sent immediately to the Extension Office (attn: MCMGA); 119 W. 7th Street; Bloomington; 47404.

All *Folia and Flora* corrections should be emailed or phoned to both Mary Jane Hall (gardenz4ever@hotmail.com; 812-345-3985) and Amy Thompson (afthopmson@purdue.edu; 812-349-2745).

Member News



The MG Board for 2009 met on January 5 to organize and plan for another exciting year of activities. Members of the board represent you; so be sure to make contact if you have programming ideas or questions in the months ahead. We look forward to hearing from you.

By
Nancy
White

Thank You to Departing Board Members

We want to thank the following MG board members for their excellent leadership in past years: Barb Cappy, Bob Baird, and Mary Jane Hall. Thank you, too, to Marilyn Brinley, outgoing president. They are all outstanding Master Gardeners. Marilyn continues to serve ex officio on the board.

Fulfilling 2009 Education Hours

Are you wondering about ways to fulfill your education hours for 2009? If so, here are a few ideas to consider:

- Attend MG general meetings held in January, March, September, and December when special speakers and programs are planned to include education hours.
- Join MGs for field trips during spring and summer months which often include education hours
- Plan to attend another Indiana county's workshop that has been planned to include education hours; these are often announced in advance in *Roots & Shoots*.
- Investigate numerous all day or several day education opportunities such as the MG State Convention in September and the *Horticulture Magazine* workshop held in Indianapolis each year. The *Horticulture* date for 2009 has not yet been announced.
- Look into workshops held periodically in Bloomington offered by the City of Bloomington and IU on gardening topics, usually announced in advance in *Roots & Shoots*. Many of these qualify for MG education hours.

Contact Amy Thompson if you need information on whether or not a certain opportunity can be counted toward your education hours.

The following were listed recently on the Purdue Master Gardeners website as opportunities for education hours. All charge a registration fee. See Purdue MG website for more details.

January 21, 2009—The Midwest Annual Organic Production and Marketing Conference, sponsored by Purdue, ISDA, and the University of IL, at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Indianapolis

January 24, 2009—A Winter Day in the Garden, sponsored by the Crawford County Master Gardeners, held at Lincoln Trail College, Robinson, IL

January 29, 2009—Efficient Landscaping sponsored by Purdue and Vigo County, Covington, IN

February 21, 2009—Master Gardener Training, sponsored by Madison Co. MG, 4H Fairgrounds, Alexandria, IN

April 4, 2009—The Spring Garden Show, sponsored by the Hendricks County MG Program at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds

January Gardening Involves Planning

By Nancy White In a newly revised publication, *Gardening in Indiana* by James Fizzell, is a brief list of gardening “to dos” for each month of the year. Be watching *Roots and Shoots* for reminders of chores that will make our hectic gardening months more enjoyable.

January Planning

- ♦ Note new varieties of old, familiar plants listed in the 2009 garden catalogues
- ♦ Begin a list of annuals to try this year. The All-American selections are good plants to try, but their success depends on your garden.
- ♦ Revisit your annual and perennial choices from last year and decide where to add and delete
- ♦ Order seeds to start early. (Note: this publication also gives a schedule for planting seeds)
- ♦ Inventory garden tools. Clean and sharpen where needed
- ♦ Check the condition of any plants overwintered inside and discard any that are dying or diseased.
- ♦ Check all house plants for pests and signs of disease and treat as needed.
- ♦ Begin a garden journal, itemizing chores needed to plan and rework your garden

Children's Workshops Offered at Hilltop

Paper Making Kids Workshop

Saturday, January 10, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Children ages 7-15 will enjoy this workshop, which explores the paper-making process. Participants will learn to create paper with various materials including plants, flowers, and herbs. This is a fun and creative way to make cards, collages, and scrapbook pages for friends and family. The cost is \$15.

Mosaic Tile Kids Workshop

Saturday, January 17, Noon- 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 18, Noon-2:00 p.m.

A two-day, kid-friendly approach to mosaic tile design, this workshop will help participants to create a beautiful mosaic tile design atop a stepping stone. Children will learn about mosaic design. All materials will be provided. Children may partner with an adult or an older sibling/friend. Wear old clothes and bring your own special rocks, sea glass or beads. The cost is \$25.

Winter Crafts Kids Workshop

Saturday, January 24, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Children ages 6-15 may participate in this craft extravaganza. Make beaded window snowflakes, snowman cookie jar, cinnamon-spice sachet, and "ME" boxes, using all their creative talents for a few hours.. Parents may partner with their child (or take a breather). This is a great Saturday activity for siblings or friends. Participants are asked to bring a picture of themselves. Please wear old clothes. Refreshments will be included. The cost is \$20.

Don't Forget to Water Landscape Plants

Submitted by Amy Thompson Though our trees and shrubs don't lose as much moisture during the winter as during the summer, they still may lose enough that winter watering is needed. Evergreen plants are especially sensitive. Normally, watering about once a month is recommended if it is a dry, warm winter. It is best to water deeply (about 12 inches) so that the majority of the root zone is moistened.

The depth of watering can be checked by pushing a wooden dowel or metal rod into the soil. (WU)

from <http://www.hfrr.ksu.edu/DesktopModules/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=2228>

Wash Your Garden Gloves

By Helen Hollingsworth If your stash of garden gloves is like mine, they are in need of washing. I happened to think of those gloves (out of sight, out of mind) the other day when I needed a pair for a yard chore. Mud, grass stain, sweat--they were all so absolutely filthy that they were useless.

Usually I put my garden gloves in the washing machine at the end of the fall season (all by themselves) with cool water and plenty of soap and afterward hang them to dry using those clothespins that have a hanger on one end. Newly washed gloves are a little stiff when first put on but loosen up easily. Obviously I didn't get around to gloves washing last fall.

On the Internet, I read this method for washing garden gloves:

Step1

Leave the gloves on your hands after you finish working in the yard.

Step2

Wash your gloved hands with soap and water.

Step3

Rinse well with fresh water

Step4

Remove the gloves from your hands.

Step5

Lay them out flat on top of a water heater or other heat-producing appliance to dry.

Tips & Warnings

The gloves will dry stiff as a board, but will soften up quickly as you wear them.

Leave a bar of soap outside, near the water faucet.

This method works for cotton, leather and rubber gloves.

Don't leave rubber gloves on a hot surface.

from http://www.ehow.com/how_13281_clean-garden-gloves.html

Either way, machine or hand wash, this is a good time to check to see that your garden gloves are clean and ready for spring.

Advanced Training Offered by Madison County MGs

An Advanced Master Gardener Training is offered by Madison County Master Gardeners on February 21, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds in Alexandria, IN. Registration fee of \$35 includes continental breakfast and lunch. Make checks payable to Purdue CES Education Fund, and send with contact information by February 13 to Madison County Extension Office, Madison County Government Center, Suite 303, 16 E. 9th Street, Anderson, IN 46016

Program highlights:

Annuals, Perennials, and Humor, Oh My!, Bob Hill, Hidden Hill Nursery

Gardening to Save Money, Roy Ballard, Extension Educator, Hancock County

Break-out Session #1: *Attracting Wildlife to the Garden*, Scott Anderson, Seedy Sally's,

Break-out Session #2: *Master Gardener Association Discussion*. Come and share

Water and Plant Nutrition Done Right and Choosing Top Annuals, Gordon Elsbury, Elsbury's Greenhouses & Garden Center, Inc.

Master Gardeners: Communicating with a Passion for People, Dr. Fred Whitford, Purdue Pesticide Programs, Purdue University

For information, contact John Orick, Extension Educator, 765-641-9514 or e-mail at orick@purdue.edu

Newly Elected Board Members Begin Serving

By Helen Hollingsworth
At the first MG board meeting of the year on Monday, January 5, newly elected officers Nancy White; president; Vicky St. Myers, vice president for programs; Carol Cobine, vice president for education; and David Dunatchik, secretary, began their service. Barbara Hays, director of communications and Herman Young, director-at-large, newly re-elected long time board members, continue their work. Those departing from the board are Marilyn Brinley, former president (who continues to serve ex officio); Bob Baird, vice president for programs; and Barb Cappy, secretary.

To facilitate the work of new members, the board set aside time at the end of the meeting for outgoing and incoming board members to discuss their respective duties.

2009 Master Gardener Intern Class Begins

By Amy Thompson, Extension Educator
Current Master Gardeners are welcome to attend any of the upcoming sessions of the Master Gardener intern training class. (See schedule on page 6.) Please notify Amy Thompson (349- 2575 or afthompson@purdue.edu) if you plan to attend specific class sessions so that we will have the appropriate number of handouts. Attendance at any intern class does not count as advanced training for certified Master Gardeners; however, you may earn volunteer hours if you are willing to assist with the class. Please contact Amy if you are interested.

2009 Monroe County Master Gardener Intern Training Schedule

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church

February 2

Welcome6:00 Nancy White, MCMGA President
Program Orientation Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe County

February 9

Plant Science6:00 - 9:00 Mary Welch Keesey, Purdue Consumer Horticulture Specialist

February 16

Soils & Plant Nutrition6:00 - 9:00 Chris Parker, Extension Educator, Morgan County

February 23

Landscape Design &

Woody Ornamentals6:00 - 8:00 Anita Bracalente, Landscape Designer
Hardscaping8:00 - 9:00 Helen Hollingsworth, Bronze Master Gardener

March 2

Plant Problem & Diagnosis6:00 - 9:00 Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe County

March 9

Entomology & Insect Control 6:00 - 9:00 Larry Bledsoe, Research Entomologist, Purdue Entomology

March 16 NO Class – Spring Break

March 23

Home Wildlife Habitat6:00 - 8:00 Brian MacGowan, Extension Wildlife Specialist
Rain Gardens8:00 - 9:00 Todd Stevenson, Monroe County Drainage Engineer

March 30

Invasive Plants6:00 - 7:00 Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe County
Composting7:00 - 8:00 Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe County
TBA8:00 - 9:00 TBA

April 6

Vegetables & Small Fruits6:00 - 9:00 Richard Beckort, Extension Educator, Jackson County

April 13

Pesticides: Safety & Application 6:00 - 9:00 Dr. Fred Whitford, Director Purdue Pesticide Program

April 20

House Plants6:00 - 7:00 Sharon Wise, Wylie House, Outdoor Interpreter
Lawn Care7:00 - 9:00 Mike Ferree, Extension Educator, Bartholomew County

April 27

Herbs6:00 - 7:30 Joanna Howe, Gold Master Gardener
Pruning7:30 - 9:00 Speaker TBA

May 4

Herbaceous Ornamentals,
Perennials & Annuals6:00 - 9:00 Trena Trusty, B.S. Purdue Horticulture and owner of “Cool Things for the Garden”

Bloomington in Bloom

By As the 2009 is getting started, so is Bloomington in Bloom (BIB). The
Mary Jane Steering Committee is meeting and committees are forming. The commit-
Hall tees are structured according to the points format for the America in
Bloom (AIB) competition.

I am seeking members of the Floral Display and Landscape committees. Once the judges' route becomes more established, specific garden areas will be noted for the judges to see. These two committees will work with the property owners – both commercial and private – to make Bloomington beautiful! The BIB marketing committee will provide us with some structure this year to facilitate the growing enthusiasm for Bloomington In Bloom. Many of your volunteer hours will count as MCMGA hours. Please call/email Mary Jane Hall if you would like to participate on these committees: 812-345-3985 gardenz4ever@hotmail.com

Conference Helps Growers Learn about Organics

The fifth annual Midwest Organic Production and Marketing Conference and Trade Show, in conjunction with the Indiana Horticulture Congress, will be held on January 21-22 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Indianapolis.

"Participants will leave the conference with a better understanding of organic production techniques," said Jim True, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service educator and co-conference planner. "Once growers can produce the product, they'll need to market it, and we've got sessions explaining different marketing strategies such as community supported agriculture and how to sell to wholesalers."

The conference will cover topics ranging from composting and cover crops to livestock production and food safety regulations. The program will begin at 8:00 a.m. January 21 and wrap up with an organic dinner that evening. The conference will run from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the following day.

Conference costs for early registration, due Jan. 14, are \$95 per person or \$85 for the second person from the same family. Registration after January 14 costs \$145 per person or \$135 for the second person from the same family. Students receive a discount and can attend for \$25, not including meals. Online registration is available at <http://orgconf.sustainability.uiuc.edu/>.

Leaving a Garden a Cause for Pain for Some Gardeners



Gardeners tend to cherish their land and gardens, whether they've lived in their home three or thirty years. What happens when gardeners move, leaving behind their beloved gardens?

By Helen Hollingsworth
Once a friend literally pulled up a handful of phlox from her garden and handed them to me, exposed roots and all, as she was packing up to leave for a new home. "The new owner of my house promises to take care of my garden, and I've given him a tour and instructions," she said. "But in case he doesn't, I want to know that these phlox are growing in your garden." Years later, my friend related that she was so disappointed the new owner did absolutely nothing to maintain her garden and that she wished she had given away more of her cherished plants. Since she was moving to England, she could take none of her plants.

Another friend used to take her mother for a drive once or twice a month to see her mother's former home but eventually had to stop these visits because seeing the state of the yard was distressing. Another former owner of the same house said, "Don't you just hate what they've done to the garden? Did you ever see such a mess? Don't you just want to get into it and at least tidy it?" Seeing a garden become some else's vision is difficult for some former owners.

An acquaintance related that she bought her current home with considerable trepidation because the home's gardens had been featured on the annual Bloomington Garden Club Garden Walk, and she worried that she may not be up to maintaining the garden to the former owner's standards. Her new home came with complete garden documentation—garden layout with names of plants and instructions for care—which she has followed and enjoyed. "It's a pleasure to have a beautiful, well-known garden. I've learned a lot, and I love showing it."

Leaving behind a cherished garden evokes pain for many gardeners. Some former owners return to take pictures of 'their' tree or shrub, and some drive by former homes to check on garden progress. Some give away as many plants as possible and take cherished plants with them to their new homes. However, some stalwart gardeners never look back, preferring instead to dream of new spaces, new challenges, and new gardens.

Buy 2009 Master Gardener Calendars at Reduced Cost

By Kathleen Hull
In 2007, the Master Gardener Calendar was a very successful fundraiser. Unfortunately, in 2008, even though the calendar itself was even better, the calendar project was a "fundloser." By the end of December, we had sold only 590 calendars as opposed to 1133 in the previous year. We blame the general financial anxiety and prudence created by the declining American economy. Our MCMGA will be about \$2000 in the red on the calendar project after we honor our commitments.

In an effort to recoup some of this loss, our Board has decided to reduce the price for the remaining calendars to \$5. We hope that those who purchased the calendars earlier at full price will understand our predicament and not feel cheated. If you would like to purchase calendars at the reduced price, send your order to Kathleen Hull. Use the old order form that is available at www.indymgconf.org, but just send \$5 instead of \$10 per calendar. For more information contact 317 996-4380, hullk@ccrtc.com.

Volunteer Opportunities Compiled by Nancy White

Location	Time	Jobs	Contact
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center	year around	various	Greg Speicher, 855-2799 or gspeiche@indiana.edu
Templeton Garden Project	spring/fall	teaching children	Nancy White, 824-4426
MG Demonstration Garden	seasonal	various	Bethany Murray, 339-8876, bethany.murray@gmail.com
T. C. Steele SHS	seasonal	various	Davie Kean, 988-2785
Cheryl's Garden	seasonal	various	Larime Wilson, 333-9705
Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens	seasonal	various	Cathy Meyer, 349,2800
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	Barbara Hays, 332-4032
MG Program Committee Member	year around	plan MG programs	Nancy White, 824-4426 Bob Baird, 331-1308
Middle Way House	seasonal	various	Clara Wilson, 333-7404
Wylie House	year around	various	Sherry Wise, 855-6224
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard	year around	education, resource	Libby Yarnell, 355-6843
WonderLab Garden	2 times monthly	various	Nancy White, 824-4426

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE WHEN VOLUNTEERING.

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Master Gardener General Meeting
January 27, 6:30 p.m.,
at Allison Jukebox Community Center,
349 South Washington Street**

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