Fourth Annual MCMGA Garden Walk and Picnic Is June 14

Plan to attend our fun, social and educational event, our annual Garden Walk and Picnic, an invitation-only event open only to Master Gardeners. You will be receiving your invitation soon with all the information you need. The date is June 14, 2008, from 3:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., rain or shine.

Besides having three beautiful gardens to enjoy, delicious food to eat at the pitch-in picnic, and the fellowship of our members, there is an hour of educational credit you will be eligible for if you tour all three gardens and stay for the discussions and workshop following the picnic.

This year we are asking you to bring your favorite pruners in addition to bringing a dish to share at the picnic. We will have a brief explanation on how to sharpen, clean, and care for your pruners. Then we plan to have time to practice what we have learned. So, don't be afraid to bring in your tired, humble, and dirty pruners! We will also have an herb identification quiz and have our garden hosts answer any questions you may have about their gardens. Included in this issue of Roots and Shoots, pages 6, 7, and 8, are descriptions of the three gardens we will visit, especially written by our hostesses, Susan Eastman, Dot Owen, and Barbara Baynes, who have graciously agreed to open their gardens for our visit.

Putnam County MGs Offer Free Workshop

Here’s a chance to learn how to improve your vegetable and flower entries in the Monroe County Fair.

Putnam County Master Gardeners Association members are sponsoring a free Grow ‘Em & Show ‘Em Judging Workshop on Saturday, June 14, at the Putnam Fairgrounds Harris Hall.

Program

9:30—11:30 a.m. Preparing Flowers for Judging
1:00—2:00 p.m. Preparing Vegetables for Judging

Bring a brown bag lunch. Drinks will be provided. For more information, contact Cyndi Blocher (317) 341-1324.
The May general meeting, featuring our intern recognition and plant swap, was attended by a record number of Master Gardeners and their guests. Sixty-three of us congratulated the new interns on passing the course. Esther Minnick, Mary Jane Hall, and Diana Young reported on Open Class entry procedures at the Monroe County Fair; refreshments were served by Cindy Benson and her committee, Jackie Gilkey, Charlotte Griffin, Ann McEndarfer, Esther Minnick, Diana and Herman Young; and a huge number of plant swap items found new homes. Many commented on the variety and quality of the items in the swap. Happy gardening and thanks to those who participated.

Welcome, New Interns!
The 2008 Master Gardener interns were welcomed to our group as they have completed their MG course and successfully passed the examination. They will now embark on the fun part—completing their required volunteer hours for certification.

Congratulations to 2008 Master Gardener interns Penny Austin, Susan Baker, Dorothea Cole-Kiser, Neva Cottam, Peggy Daniels, Terry Dougherty, Michele Fritch, Catherine Haralovich, Ramsay Harik, Linda Heath, Joe Hillenburg, Kaye Hudson, Vina Kinman, Jennifer Lloyd, Diann Lock, Jenny Mack, Holly May, Winston May, Richard Richardson, Laurie Samuelson, Martha Sattinger, Elizabeth Simpkins, Zachariah Simpkins, Derek Stout, Martha Tarbah, Carol Thacker, Vicky Thompson, Patricia Verhagen, Katherine Wallskog, Ginger Winder, and Angela Zizak.

Check Out These Volunteer Opportunities
Several volunteer opportunities are available now for those wanting to gain some hours in the summer months. Check the list in this issue or contact these coordinators for specific information: MG Demo Garden at the Monroe County Fairgrounds—Bethany Murray, contact person; Horticulture Therapy Project at Garden Villa Nursing Home (formerly Hospitality House); Open Class Flower Arrangements at the Monroe County Fair—Mary Jane Hall; Open Class Flowers and Vegetables at the Fair—Diana Young and Esther Minnick; MG Garden Visit and Picnic—Mary Hawkins; WonderGarden—Nancy White.

June Field Trip
The June MG field trip will be to Spring Mill State Park on Friday, June 13, at 5:30 p.m., where we will have a guided tour of their gardens. We will leave Bloomington at 4:45 p.m., and we’ll carpool to this event to help save energy. If you have not already signed up to attend, please contact Nancy White (nwhite38@hotmail.com), or phone 824-4426. The July fieldtrip will be a visit to a private daylily garden. More on this event in the July Roots and Shoots.

July Master Gardener Meeting
The July general meeting will be a work session in the Monroe (continued on page 2)
Member News (continued from page 2)

County Fair Demonstration Garden on Tuesday, July 15, where we will do general clean-up and mulching. Plan to attend this evening event to help prepare the Demo Garden for the Fair, which is July 19-26. Bring your favorite hand tools and a rake or other implement for mulch spreading. Water will be provided. All members and guests are invited.

Informative Visit to IU Greenhouses

In early May, a MG fieldtrip to the IU’s greenhouses was enjoyed by a good crowd. Marshall Goss, IU Landscape Inspector, guided the group through several greenhouses, giving us important commentary on the plant materials used and the planting schedule for the campus area. Marshall is well-known in Bloomington as former BHSS track coach and director of the horticulture program there and as a former assistant track coach at IU Bloomington. He now directs staff at the greenhouses and the many crews that plant and maintain all campus trees, shrubs, perennials, and seasonal flowers. Some of the plant materials he suggested as his favorites and can be found around campus are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shrubs</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Hydrangea ‘Little Lamb’</td>
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<tr>
<th>Perennials</th>
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<tr>
<td>Astilbe ‘Key Biscayne’</td>
<td>Helenium-‘Dakota Gold’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grasses ‘Karl Foster’ and ‘Pink Crystal’</td>
<td>Portulaca</td>
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<tr>
<td>Echinacea ‘Prairie Splendor’</td>
<td>Salvia ‘Strata’, ‘Flame’ and ‘Victoria Blue’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iberis</td>
<td>and red salvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coreopsis</td>
<td>Cleome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferns</td>
<td>Dusty Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Sage</td>
<td>Alternathea Dentata ‘Royal Tapestry’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemisia ‘Silver Crown’</td>
<td>Scaveola ‘New Wonder’ and ‘Whirlwind White’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roses ‘Red Double Knock-Out’ and ‘White Knock-Out’</td>
<td>Coleus ‘Texas Parking Lot’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees</td>
<td>Angelonia, purple, white, and pink</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dogwood ‘Rutgers’</td>
<td>Geraniums ‘Rocky Mountain Series’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak—6 varieties</td>
<td>Bacopa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Bud</td>
<td>Ornamental peppers ‘Chili, Chile’ and ‘Black Burrow’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cheryl’s Garden

By Larime Wilson

We will establish a regular maintenance schedule, Saturday mornings, but also varied times if there is interest in it. We have lots more MG’ers signed up than will be needed in the garden, so I’ll be looking to see if there is interest in related projects, such as presenting workshops, designing brochures, or writing articles.
From the President’s Desk

At long last the weather seems to be trying to turn in our favor. It has been a cool and wet spring, and I will probably kick myself come August when I remember that I have been complaining about all this rain we are getting now. Such is the life of a gardener, I suppose.

Despite the weather and the rain, we had a wonderful turnout for the May general meeting. The graduating members of this year’s intern class were welcomed into the fold, and two $100 scholarships were awarded for the 2008 Indiana State Master Gardener Conference. Diana Young, Esther Minnick and Mary Jane Hart explained the rules for entering the horticultural classes at the fair and encouraged the members to enter their plants, seeds and arrangements in this year’s county fair. Afterwards, refreshments were served and many plants exchanged hands. Not bad for a rainy evening.

Meanwhile, we steal moments in the garden between the rain drops. Soon, we tell ourselves, soon. Soon the sun will beat down on the earth, the temperatures will rise, the plants will grow, and the gardener’s soul will be satisfied. So until then, while you are sitting inside, watching the cold rain fall and the weeds grow, just remember that your time in the garden will come. Sometime!

Purdue Offers Advanced Master Gardener Training

By B. Rosie Lerner, Purdue Horticulture Specialist

Purdue is sponsoring an advanced Master Gardener Training on July 17, 2008, titled “Master Gardeners in Bloom.” Purdue Master Gardeners will explore the use of bedding plants in public gardens and community beautification projects and learn more about the nationwide “America In Bloom” (AIB) program. We’ll tour the display gardens of Ball Seed Company, AIB plantings in downtown Chicago, and the Lurie Garden at Chicago’s Millennium Park.

We do still have some openings. Priority enrollment for MGs and MG Coordinators ends on June 1, after which we will open the remaining spots to guests of those already enrolled.

And to clarify, the registration fee of $55 includes lunch, soft drinks, snacks, AND round-trip transportation via motor coach to Chicago. You can leave a car at the Bill Daniels Turf Center. For those that live north of West Lafayette, we are planning one NW Indiana pick up point, likely the Lake County Extension Office.

Directions to these locations will be sent to enrollees with final confirmations as the event gets closer. The program flier and registration form can be downloaded at <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mg/info/MGinBloom.pdf>.

Hilltop Is Looking for a Bamboo Stand

Submitted by Charlotte Ann

Hilltop is in need of around 100 six foot tall bamboo stems. If you have or know of someone who has a large bamboo stand that ‘needs some maintenance’, Hilltop volunteers will come with machetes in hand to help thin the forest. To make arrangements, contact Hilltop Garden and Nature.
All members of the Monroe County Master Gardener Association who exhibit at the Monroe County Fair in the Vegetables, Fruits, Herbs and Grains, Potted Plants, Cut Flowers and the Floral Show divisions are eligible to accumulate points and earn a cash award from the Association. Points for the exhibitor award will be earned as listed. The Monroe County Master Gardener with the highest overall points will receive a $50 award at the September general meeting of the MCMGA.

Those entering Vegetables, Fruits, Herbs, Seeds and Grains divisions should take their products to the Fairgrounds on Saturday, July 19. Entry for Potted Plants, Cut Flowers and Floral Designs divisions is on Monday, July 21. For additional information, call Amy Thompson at 349-2575 or email afthompson@purdue.edu.

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Second Place</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
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<td>Honor</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Champion</td>
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<td>Champion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserve Grand Champion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Champion</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Search for Excellence Award Nominations Are Due by October 1, 2008

By Monica David, Illinois Master Gardener Coordinator, IMGC Vice President

Master Gardener volunteers, it is time to consider nominating one of your outstanding projects for an international Search for Excellence (SFE) award. The SFE award is the recognition program for Master Gardener volunteer work throughout the United States and Canada. Applicants may choose from seven categories to enter their project: youth programs; demonstration gardens; workshop or presentation; community service; innovative projects; special needs audiences and research. All applications must show that significant learning took place, whether by Master Gardeners or the general public they serve.

Awards will be presented at the International Master Gardener conference, March 22-26, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada (http://www.unce.unr.edu/imgc).

The application guidelines and the application template will be posted on the Extension Horticulture Community of Practice-Master Gardener website (http://www.extension.org/pages/IMGC_Search_for_Excellence). Look also for pictures and information about the 2005 and 2007 project winners.

Please note that the deadline for submission is October 1, 2008. All applications must be written by the volunteers but must then be submitted along with a verification letter from the extension advisor/coordinator.
My garden started out as a way to screen off the street from my house’s front windows. Like most born and bred Californians, I like looking outside and seeing a view. While the house was being built nearly 20 years ago, I began planting trees and shrubs along the street and driveway, screening the house and leaving space for flowers and a bit of lawn.

Along the west side of my property huge old hemlocks made a screen, and along the east side, my neighbor had big old elms. I added spruces, a Japanese maple, and what became a big Minnesota Snowflake shrub. And I planted holly and recently a weigelia. As things grew and grew, two spruces had to be removed because they were too crowded, but that made more sun for flowers.

My front garden is divided by stepping stones into color-coded perennial sections. In the far west front is the “Yellow” area; in the driveway’s center west is the “Red” area; and next to the front steps is the “Pink” area. After that, things got mixed up.

The east side of the driveway (with the poser of a baseball hoop) was intended to be symmetrical, but plants have a way of doing their own thing. The butterfly bushes aren’t exactly in the corners (because I couldn’t bear to tear out the evergreen bushes that I enjoy in winter), but a mix of things with some winter interest surround the half-circle where balls most often bounce. One year, the stone wall collapsed, but so far, so good.

I use rubber mulch, by the way, in that basketball circle and on the paths leading to the back yard. Although I use hardwood mulch on the flowerbeds, I found that it had to be replaced every year on paths. Birds take it, wind blows it, and weather disintegrates it. The rubber mulch endures, but like all smooth ground, gets full of branches, leaves, and helicopters that have to be painstakingly (and painfully) cleared away.

The property is about three-fourths of an acre, so there is lots of space in the back. Many years ago, I planted several spruce and lilacs back there which do well, but the central problem is the water flow: As people built houses up on Thornton, more and more water travels my direction. It comes through the back of my west neighbor’s property and floods out sideways until it comes to my riverbed. (After the pilot light on my hot water heater went out for the third time, I had the riverbed dug and lined with stones.)

Until last year, the centerpiece of the back yard view was a huge old willow. But willows don’t last forever, and after storms and perhaps lightning destroyed big branches, it eventually had to go. In fall 2007, we planted a new small willow at bit east of the old one, and it seems to be happy. There is probably underground water there year around.

The other feature of the backyard is the hosta serpentine with astilbe and caladium in the center. The hosta requires thrice-weekly spraying with nasty smelly stuff to keep the deer and rabbits away. Also, for this year, potted plants replace the deck furniture as they are much more colorful!

What is paradise? but a garden, an orchard of trees and herbs full of pleasure and nothing there but delights.

-- William Lawson
Mon Jardin

Upon arrival at 1400 East Hillside twenty years ago, I found solid basics: good trees, many wildflowers, and large garden spaces. I built on that existing landscape gradually, adding new beds, perennials, trees, some herbs, fruits and vegetables, plus modest hardscape. Although I enjoy all the gardens, the most eye-opening one is hidden behind the house. I call this plot an Amish garden, planted short to tall and combining flowers and vegetables. I believe planting perennials and annuals provides maximum continuous color throughout the growing season.

Most important for me is that gardening be therapeutic and challenging without becoming an overwhelming task and a budget breaker. Enjoy!

Arborvitae Shoot Tips Turning Brown

By
B. Rosie Lerner,
Extension Consumer Horticulture Specialist, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

The brown tips on these Arborvitae branches are actually normal production of flowers. Arborvitae has separate male and female flowering structures called cones. The male cones shed large quantities of fine, yellow, dust-like, pollen, usually in April, then those flowers fall off. The female flowers become the seed-bearing structures, as they mature into small, wooden cones.

Picture 1 courtesy of Jim Peter, DuBois County
Picture 2 courtesy of Gail Ruhl, PPDL
We have a large yard and garden that has been developing for most of our married life. When we were married almost 37 years ago, we moved into the family farm home so that my husband could be close to the barn and cows that he milked twice a day. Along with that old farm home I inherited a yard full of peonies, lilies, daffodils, poppies, roses, lily of the valley (just to name a few) as well as many flowering bushes, mature trees, a humongous vegetable garden, and lots of expectations from older family members. My husband’s grandmother had lovingly cultivated this garden since 1943 when the Baynes family moved to this family farm from the Maple Grove neighborhood.

I was not a stranger to gardens and flowers having grown up with a father that loved tending the beautiful flowers and gardens around our home, eventually building a small greenhouse so he could start his own plants. I have memories as a child when I had (along with my four siblings) to hoe a row a day in the vegetable garden—and I hated it! I’m afraid that in the process of raising four children, keeping up with the house, and helping out with farm chores that I didn’t have as much time to devote to the yard as I would have liked.

Some of the original perennials we inherited still grow in my yard, although I’ve had to move them as they became too shaded or crowded. After most of my children had graduated from high school and were off on their own, I began the transformation of the farm yard which is the focus of our yard and gardens today. I became fascinated with fish ponds in the middle 90’s and did my share of experimenting, starting with preformed ponds, then using an old swimming pool liner. When our oldest son Mike started installing ponds professionally, he helped install the 2500 gallon pond that I have today that is the center focus of my garden.

I am not much of a planner, but rather buy plants that I love and then find a spot for them. Sometimes that gets me into trouble, but if I find that I don’t like the look, I just dig plants up (sometimes with the help of the farm’s backhoe) and move them to a better spot! I really like the casual, cottage garden feel and love flowering plants and bushes so I strive for something blooming all the time. We have a fair size vegetable garden and a small herb garden, as well as lots of annual and perennial beds around the pond. I was inspired by Susan Osborne’s book review of Lasagna Gardening in the April Roots and Shoots newsletter and have created two of those beds, one in my vegetable garden as an experiment, and another has been planted with perennials in a rocky landscaped corner.

I love to host family picnics and other gatherings at our home and am looking forward to hosting the Master Gardeners. We have hosted all four of children’s wedding receptions/rehearsals in our gardens. Although somewhat stressful, many of the major changes to the landscaping have been a result of those weddings. All of our children have helped in the development of the major projects that we have undertaken. One of my new additions this year is the sunflower playhouse that four of our granddaughters, ages 3-5, helped to plant. We are very excited to see that the sunflowers and morning glories have sprouted!

One of my biggest challenges is deciding where the yard and gardens stop and the barnyards begin. We have some old buildings that border our back yard that have seen better days but are still serving a purpose, so I plant to screen those buildings. I dug up and divided a large ornamental grass into 15 divisions and replanted several around one of those buildings. I have almost eradicated the wild morning glory vines that once enveloped everything but still have problems with dandelions and Kansas fern. On the west side of the house is a narrow, shady wilderness which needs help. I would like also to improve the lawn because there are too many weeds and bare spots. My greatest challenge is lack of time and money and direction on how to preserve our family heritage!

Overall, we enjoy our yard and gardens, especially sitting on the little stone patio next to the pond hearing the sounds of the waterfalls, the frogs, and evening breezes while enjoying a cool drink and discussing the day’s events and news. You might even find us ensconced in our gazebo on the nicest of summer evenings. We chose Richland Valley Hermitage as the name of our garden because of the desire for quiet and seclusion in this little valley of Richland Creek we call home.
**Volunteer Opportunities Compiled by Nancy White**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilltop Garden and Nature Center</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Greg Speicher, 855-2799 or <a href="mailto:gspeiche@indiana.edu">gspeiche@indiana.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Templeton Garden Project</td>
<td>spring/fall</td>
<td>teaching children</td>
<td>Nancy White, 824-4426</td>
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<td>MG Demonstration Garden</td>
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<td>various</td>
<td>Bethany Murray, 339-8876, <a href="mailto:bethany.murray@gmail.com">bethany.murray@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>T. C. Steele SHS</td>
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<td>various</td>
<td>Steve Doty, 988-2785</td>
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<td>various</td>
<td>Larime Wilson, 333-9705</td>
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<td>Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens</td>
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<td>Cathy Meyer, 349,2800</td>
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<td>inquiries and research</td>
<td>Amy Thompson, 349-2575</td>
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<td>MCMGA Speakers Bureau</td>
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<td>writing, stapling, labeling</td>
<td>Helen Hollingsworth, 332-7313</td>
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<td>various</td>
<td>Barbara Hays, 332-4032</td>
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<td>MG Program Committee Member</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>plan MG programs</td>
<td>Nancy White, 824-4426, Bob Baird, 331-1308</td>
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<td>Middle Way House</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Clara Wilson, 333-7404</td>
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<td>Wylie House</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Sherry Wise, 855-6224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden Villa</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>educate seniors</td>
<td>Rene Thompson, 339-1657</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>education, resource</td>
<td>Libby Yarnell, 355-6843</td>
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<tr>
<td>WonderLab Garden</td>
<td>2 times monthly</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Nancy White, 824-4426</td>
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</table>

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE WHEN VOLUNTEERING.
An Inspiring Book on Late Summer and Autumn Flowers

Late Summer Flowers by Marina Christopher, Timber Press, 2006, includes index and glossary, 208 pp.

Does your garden appear dull, burned-out, void of any luster once mid summer is past? Do you ever wonder what you might do to have it vibrant and alive come September? Late Summer Flowers by Marina Christopher is a must for your summer reading list and should answer many, if not all, of your questions, concerns, and how to’s. Christopher is an enthusiastic plant breeder and propagator and Late Summer Flowers offers an accounting of her own personal plant growing experiences.

The basis of the book is an authoritative and semi-comprehensive guide to the best late flowering perennials, as well as, some biennials and annuals. Christopher enthusiastically discusses the best conditions, details regarding specific flower families, tricks to persuade plants to delay their bloom times, as well as to repeat their blooming and extend the flowering season. Late Summer Flowers consists of six chapters within sixty pages of easy reading of highly informative and delightfully illustrated text.

In the first chapter, The Late Summer Line-up, Christopher highlights plants that she considers major players (e.g., asteraceae, apiaceae, lamiaceae, poaceae, scrophulariaceae) and bulbs. However, she does not overlook those she characterizes as the minor players (e.g., dipsaceae, rosaceae, ranunculaceae) and portrays each of them as thoroughly. The second chapter is all about plant environment and best conditions for growing strong, healthy plants. Such topics as soil type, drainage, raised beds, vertical elements, and water features all contribute, she says, to a beautiful garden. The third chapter explores the need to move plants around, and she explains the most successful methods for eliminating plant loss. Even though this chapter is comprised of fewer than four pages, Christopher’s methods and advice are well presented. The fourth chapter emphasizes soil improvement, staking and mulching so the gardener can maximize a plant’s success. Chapter five’s title, Manipulating the Seasons, could lead you to believe a certain amount of alchemy is afoot. However, Christopher offers known and proven methods (e.g., deadheading, sowing, pruning, disbudding) as a means to extending the beauty of your flowering garden. And the final chapter discusses softwood cuttings, seed collecting and sowing, and propagating – areas about which she is most enthusiastic which inspired her to write Late Summer Flowers.

The remaining hundred pages is Christopher’s “Plant Directory,” which includes plants that she has grown and found effective for late summer and autumn season gardens. The choices are not completely comprehensive, but offer a list that may enable you to have a more colorful late summer garden. The directory includes a simple description, a beautiful photograph, and recommended planting zones. Also, I must give mention to the photographer, Steven Wooster, for his stunning photography. The details, the lighting, the close-up and distant snapshots contribute to the beauty within the book; giving each page a kaleidoscope of color.

Do I recommend reading this book – YES! Do I recommend using this book as a reference guide – YES! Do I believe this will influence your future plant selections – YES! Late summer and autumn plants do not have to be restricted to mums, asters, and grasses. The increased use of late summer perennials that Christopher suggests should be an inspiration during the time of year when the shadows are lengthening and we need color in our gardens. I hope you choose to and enjoy reading this book as much as I did.
Purdue Master Gardener Haiku Poetry Needed

Submitted by 
Kathleen Hull

The designers of the 2009 Indiana Master Gardener Calendar are looking for Purdue Master Gardeners who are poets. We want to include a seasonal garden-related Haiku poem with the image for each month on the calendar, and it would be great to have poetic input from MGs all around the state.

So, please send entries to the poetry contest. The rules are simple:

1. Poems should be in the format of Haiku and be related to the seasons and to gardens and nature.*
2. Entries must be original poems written by the Purdue Master Gardener submitting the entry.
3. Any Purdue MG may send up to eight entries.
4. Send entries by email to hullk@ccrtc.com or by postal mail to Kathleen Hull, 7899 N. Briarhopper Rd., Monrovia, IN 46157
5. Deadline for entries is July 1, 2008.
6. By sending each entry, the poet is giving permission for its publication in the calendar. Unless the poet stipulates otherwise at the time of sending the entry, the author's name will appear in the calendar if the poem is published.

Thanks for helping make the 2009 calendar even better! For more information, contact http://volweb.utk.edu/school/bedford/harrisms/haiku.htm

What Is Haiku?

Haiku is a poetic form and a type of poetry from the Japanese culture. Haiku combines form, content, and language in a meaningful, yet compact form. Haiku poets write about everyday things. Many themes include nature, feelings, or experiences. Usually they use simple words and grammar. The most common form for Haiku is three short lines. The first line usually contains five (5) syllables, the second line seven (7) syllables, and the third line contains five (5) syllables. Haiku doesn't rhyme. A Haiku must "paint" a mental image in the reader's mind. This is the challenge of Haiku - to put the poem's meaning and imagery in the reader's mind in only 17 syllables over just three (3) lines of poetry!

Indy Bonsai Club Convention June 12-15

The Indianapolis Bonsai Club will host a Bonsai Show & Sale on Saturday, June 14, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 15, 8:30 a.m. to noon, at the Marten House Hotel & Lilly Conference Center, 1801 West 85th Street in Indianapolis.

The show features miniature Japanese trees and viewing stones from eight Midwest states and a huge selection of bonsai, pots, tools, and accessories for sale. Admission is free to the exhibit and vendor areas only; donations are accepted. Demonstrations and workshops require registration and a fee. For information, log on to www.indybonsai.org.

Two Awarded Scholarships to Attend State MG Conference

A drawing was held at the May general meeting for two $100 scholarships to attend the annual Purdue MG State Conference. Winners of the 2008 scholarships are Dan Nichols and Diann Lock, alternates are Angela Zizak and Marilyn Brinley. Congratulations!
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