May general meeting is May 25 at fairgrounds

Our May general meeting will be on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building located on the Monroe County Fairgrounds off Airport Road.

Chef Tad Delay, co-owner of the Limestone Grille in Bloomington, will be our speaker for the May meeting. His presentation, *Cooking with Herbs in Soups and Stocks*, highlights the use herbs to increase flavor in cooking. Chef Tad is one of the featured chefs in the book, *Indiana Cooks! Great Restaurant Recipes for the Home Kitchen*.

We will also be having our much anticipated annual plant swap. Pot extra annual or perennial plants from your garden to exchange for plants of other Master Gardeners. Please label your plants by name and indicate if they prefer sun or shade. Bringing bags or boxes to transport your plants would be very helpful.

The refreshment committee, chairperson Cindy Benson, Jackie Gilkey, Joanna Howe, and Evelyn Harrell, will provide refreshments. The May meeting will be a festive affair and one you’ll enjoy. Plan to join us!

### Master Gardener May-June calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>May 11</strong>, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>annual Master Gardener Garden Walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>May 25</strong>, 6:30 p.m., May general meeting, at fairgrounds</td>
<td><em>Bloomington in Bloom</em> national judging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>June 12</strong>, 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td><em>Bloomington in Bloom</em> national judging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>June 12</strong>, 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>annual Summer Garden Walk sponsored by The Bloomington Garden Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Special points of interest:**

- May general meeting features a speaker plus a plant exchange
- Extension office is relocating and will have lots of parking
- Learn how to teach for Peoples University
- Garden Walk invitations will arrive in mailboxes later this month
Member News

We have been contacted regarding a speaking opportunity in mid-May. The organizer needs someone to speak on starting a garden and best ways to garden in our area. If you are interested in helping with this event at the Fountain Square Ballroom on May 16, contact Nancy White.

Volunteer at Cheryl’s Garden at Karst Farm Park

Work has begun on maintaining the Cheryl’s Garden at Karst Farm Park on the west side close to the Fairgrounds. Last year the garden was cleaned of weeds and now some new plantings will be installed. Contact Nancy Fee or Debbie Harding if you can help with this small, special garden.

Help needed at Demo Garden at the fairgrounds

Coordinator Beth Murray announces that the MG Demo garden at the MC Fairgrounds invites any workers to meet each Tuesday, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. to work in the garden. Bring your own hand tools and gloves.

News from the extension office

Extension educator, Jeff Holland, is on medical leave of absence from the extension office. Amy Thompson is managing the office in his absence. Joining the extension office staff is Cindi Percifield, who works with Jackie Claffey at the front desk.

Amy Thompson, assisted by MG volunteers, is organizing a Master Gardener Hotline to begin after the move to the new office location. If you are interested in helping staff the hotline, contact Amy by e-mail. The hotline is planned to answer questions that often come to the extension office regarding soil amendments, garden plantings, pest management, and other topics of interest to the general public. Time spent in this activity counts as volunteer hours.

WonderGarden wins People’s Choice award as Best Place to Volunteer

The Master Gardener team that volunteers at WonderGarden were honored, along with other community volunteers, on April 27 at the Be More Awards ceremony. WonderLab volunteers were awarded the People’s Choice award for being the Best Place to Volunteer. The complete WonderLab volunteer team was honored with the Be More Knowledgeable award for those in education and literacy. Congratulations to all those on the Master Gardener WonderGarden team for these honors.

State Master Gardener Conference extends deadline

We have been notified that the deadline for early bird registrations for the MG State Conference has been extended to May 15.

Volunteer at Garton/Hinkle Farmstead

The Garton/Hinkle Farmstead on Highway 45 just east of the bypass invites all gardeners to spend some time this summer assisting with maintenance and design of this historic Monroe County property. Contact Danielle Bell for further information at Danielle@kiva.net.
Master Gardeners do a super job hosting Garden Fair

Congratulations to the planning committee and everyone who volunteered at the Monroe County Master Gardener Association’s Garden Fair on Saturday May 1. What a successful event! I received many, many compliments on how well the event was organized as well as multiple comments from vendors and non-profits expressing how successful they felt the event was. I noted that everyone volunteering seemed upbeat and pleasant and ready to pitch-in wherever needed. I am so pleased and proud to be associated with such a great group of volunteers and personally I feel very lucky to be surrounded by such a bunch of nice people!

Master Gardeners at the Monroe County History Center

The Monroe County Master Gardener program will have a display in the Community Voices Gallery of the Monroe County History Center beginning May 21 and continuing through August 8. The exhibit will highlight Master Gardener activities in our community and also highlight some of the gardening related collections of a few of our members.

If you have something you’d like to contribute to this display, please contact Amy at athompson@purdue.edu. It is not too late! To kick off the exhibit, History Center will host a reception on Friday May 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. I am looking for a few volunteers for that event as well. If you can help, please contact me at the email address above or call 349-2575.

Watch for your invitation to MG Garden Walk later this month

Our sixth annual Master Gardener Garden Walk is Saturday, June 12, 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., rain or shine, and your special invitation will be arriving in your mailbox soon. The walk features gardens of three of our members, and you’ll especially want to notice choices of plants to foil deer and rabbits, and choices of plants to thrive in sun and shade. There is always so much to learn from visiting gardens.

Our annual Garden Walk provides opportunities to have fun and become better acquainted with our gardening friends, to learn from and appreciate each other’s efforts to be good caretakers of our part of this world, to enjoy delicious food at the pitch-in picnic, and to earn an hour’s educational credit.

Your invitation provides directions to each of the gardens and information about the pitch-in picnic. Watch for it in your mail, and plan to come!
2010 field trip schedule is announced

Each spring the MCMGA program committee arranges visits to area gardens, nurseries, and other locations of interest recommended by members in our annual January program survey. The field trip schedule is as follows:

**Tuesday, May 11**, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., historic Dunn Woods on IU Campus, Tour and Tree ID conducted by Ralph Unversaw, District Forester. Meeting location will be at Sample Gates at intersection of Kirkwood and Indiana Avenues.

**Sunday, July 11**, 10:30 a.m., a visit to Hobbit Gardens, Fillmore, IN (near Greencastle), a 27.5 acre organic farm growing herbs, perennials, and vegetables, followed by a visit to Cox's Plant Farm, Clayton, IN (18 miles from Hobbit Gardens), one of the largest lawn and garden centers in Indiana.

**Saturday, August 28**, 10:30 a.m., a visit to Hunter's Honey Farm, Martinsville, for their Honey Barn Tour and Forestry Tour.

**August**, date and time TBD, a visit to Oliver Winery, north Highway 37, Bloomington, *for a tour of the vineyards*.

**September**, date and time TBD, a visit to Huber Orchard, Gardens, and Winery in Starlight, IN, to see daylilies, ornamental grasses, orchard, farm market, and winery.

Anyone who did not sign up for field trips at our March 23 general meeting but would like to be included, email Vicky at vstmyers@hotmail.com to let her know. Family and friends of Master Gardeners are welcome to attend field trips. Detailed information about plans for trips will be announced in *Roots and Shoots* and also will be emailed to interested members as the date for each field trip approaches. Program committee members are Jeanie Cox, Kathie Baxter, and Vicky St. Myers. Feel free to contact any committee members with additional ideas for field trips.

State MG Conference early bird discount is extended

The early bird discount for the State Master Gardener Conference has been extended through **May 15**. We still have plenty of space available.

**Hotel Info**: Be sure to mention the Purdue Master Gardener Conference when making your hotel reservation. There is still space available at the Purdue Memorial Union, but you must mention the MG Conference. Newly added, we’ve also reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn at Wabash Landing. Contact the hotel directly at (765) 743-2100. Purdue rate is $96 per night (must mention Master Gardeners when making your reservation).

More information on the conference and registration forms are available at [www.hort.purdue.edu/mgconf](http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mgconf).

By
Rosie Lerner,
Purdue University,
Master Gardener State Coordinator
From the President’s Desk

It is with gratitude to all who participated for over 16 months that I can report that our first Garden Fair event was successfully presented on May 1. Planning began in January 2009 as the Master Gardener board began to investigate a community event to provide education and stimulate interest in gardening. Since then, a steering committee of four members, Diann Lock, Jeff Schafer, Vicky St. Myers, and Nancy White, organized committees to accomplish the many tasks needed for success. On May 1, hundreds of regional individuals and families joined us to view vendor exhibits, attend the four free educational seminars, share a meal, and enjoy the support and information gained from fellow gardening enthusiasts.

A special highlight of the day was the fun raffle event that energized the participants and prize donors as dancing, singing and even turkey calling filled the Fair site. Visitors commented on the variety of vendors and non-profit booths, the Garden Thyme Café, the educational programs, and the opportunities to purchase quality items and make important contacts with vendors as their favorite aspects of the Garden Fair.

It is impossible to adequately thank all who participated, including Master Gardeners, their families, and friends; Amy Thompson; and committee chairs, Cindy Benson, David Dunatchik, Diann Lock, Victoria Rogers, Jeff Schafer, Vicky St. Myers, Nancy White, and Diana Young. Simply put, it was a team effort, and our team was amazing in its commitment to the event. The community is richer today because of your efforts, and gardening in our part of the planet has been given a lift.

Special thanks to

● all of the many MGs who volunteered their time for the Garden Fair

● the commercial and non-profit vendors who staffed the booths

● the staff of the National Guard Armory for their assistance

● MG Gary Anderson for his wonderful logo, especially designed for us, that appeared on posters, cards, yard signs, banners, and other publicity

● MG Bob Baird for his first-rate publicity articles and notations in the Herald-Times

● Victoria Davison, owner of Bloomington Hardware, for her support and generous sponsorship of the Garden Fair by donating the grand raffle prize

● all of the vendors and friends who donated other raffle prizes

● Amy Thompson for all her guidance and assistance

● extension office staff, Cindi Percifield and Jackie Claffey, for their assistance with data and publications

By Nancy White
Junior Master Gardener Program at Hilltop

Hilltop Garden and Nature Center at Indiana University is looking for Master Gardeners to assist with their 2010 summer Junior Master Gardener Program. Master Gardeners can earn volunteer hours for helping with the program. The program runs Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon from June 1 through August 12. The program will serve ages 7-14. For more information on volunteering, please contact Sue Speichet at suespeichert@aol.com or call Hilltop, 855-8808. If you know of a child who might be interested in the program, you can learn more at http://hilltopgarden.org/wordpress/learn-2/youth-education/.

Extension office is relocating

Although negotiations have not been finalized, we believe our office will be relocating to the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District Office on May 17. The address of the new location is 3400 S. Walnut, Bloomington, IN 47401. You can find a map to the new location here: http://www.mcswmrd.org/index.php?option=comcontent&task=view&id=111&Itemid=52. We look forward to settling into this new location with ample parking. We expect our phone numbers to remain the same. Please call before you visit our office that first week after our move to make sure we are up and running.

T C Steele Quilting Fair begins on May 14

Attention quilters! Quilter, RJ Trubitt will be at the T.C. Steele State Historic Site from May 14 through 29 and will give a number of workshops and demonstrations. As the T.C. Steele State Historic Site Artist in Residence, RJ Trubitt will give an introduction to rotary cutting and machine piecing on May 22 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is $15 per session and registration is required. A material list can be found at www.indianamuseum.org/tc_steele. RJ Trubitt is also hosting a quilter’s circle on May 23 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. There is no cost for this program; however, registration is appreciated. Bring a family quilt to share or one that you have made. Come and talk with her about quilts during the two weeks she is on site or visit during our Festival of Flowers PaintOut on May 15. RJ Trubitt will work on a fabric collage, and you can help, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., during the PaintOut on May 15. To register or for more information, please visit our website at www.tcsteele.org or contact us at tcsteeleshs@dnr.in.gov or 812.988.2785.

A comprehensive guide to poisonous plants available on MG website

A Guide to Poisonous & Non-poisonous Plants in Indiana, published by the Indiana Poison Center, lists plants that may cause severe, moderate, mild, or no toxicity. The guide lists indoor/house plants and outdoor/landscape plants as well as information on poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac and tips to reduce the risk of plant poisoning.
How to teach for People’s University

If you have skills or knowledge you’d like to share with other community members, here’s a free class to help you become a People’s University instructor. The class covers class planning, budgeting, facilities, proposal writing, and contracts. Participants receive the People’s University Instructor Manual, assistance with curriculum development, and tips on working with adult learners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Day(s)</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Register by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57681-A</td>
<td>Thur.</td>
<td>8/26</td>
<td>6:30–8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8/19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost: FREE

Ages: 18 yrs. and up

Location: City Hall, Hooker Conference Room, #245

Instructor: H. Michael Simmons

People’s University of Bloomington is a community-driven educational resource administered by Bloomington Parks and Recreation. Classes are designed by instructors throughout the area in response to the diverse interests of community members.

If you would like to teach for People’s University, please submit your name, contact information, proposed course title, and a course description. Classes may be scheduled on Mondays through Fridays at times between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. or during the day on weekends. Some classes may be appropriate for daytime during the week.

In your proposal, include preferred length of class, preferred start time, preferred day(s) of week, preferred date(s), and total number of class meetings required. Possible locations include Bloomington High School North, Allison-Jukebox Community Center, Bloomington High School South, Showers City Hall Conference Room, Banneker Community Center, Old National Bank (College Mall), Project School, Hinkle-Garton Farmstead, or a location of your choice. Please note any additional materials fee (if any), proposed instructor fee (if any, per hour). Include instructor qualifications (a brief description of your experience or education qualifying you to teach proposed subject) and two references.

We are currently seeking instructors for the fall/winter session beginning in mid-September 2010. Please submit separate information for each class you wish to propose.

If you have questions about People’s University or need assistance in planning your class, you may contact Michael Simmons at 812-349-3737. You may also contact us by email at PUB@bloomington.in.gov. Please send your proposals to People’s University of Bloomington, P.O. Box 848, Bloomington, IN 47402. We look forward to hearing from you. Please submit proposals by 15 May 2010.

Note: Amy Thompson, extension educator, reminds Master Gardeners that they may not accept a fee for their instructional time and/or preparation time and still claim Master Gardener volunteer credit. However, Master Gardeners are allowed to recoup any expenses incurred associated with teaching a class.
Master Gardeners host their first Garden Fair at the Armory

Debbie Harding, Barbara Cappy and Kathy Baxter help set-up the Monroe County Master Gardener Association booth.

T. C. Steele State Historic Site booth at the Garden Fair highlights their diverse year-around activities.

Vicky St. Myers, broom in hand, helps prepare for the Garden Fair.

Numerous varieties of seeds and plant starts are artfully arranged at the Red Rosa Farm booth.

Roy DeBaets from d’Royal Orchids explains orchid culture.

The outside entrance to the Garden Fair welcomes visitors.
Volunteer opportunities compiled by Nancy White

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomington in Bloom Planning Committee</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Mary Jane Hall, 824-2762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gretchen Scott, 330-7548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MG Demonstration Garden</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Bethany Murray, 339-8876, <a href="mailto:bethany.murray@gmail.com">bethany.murray@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. C. Steele SHS</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Davie Kean, 988-2785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Cathy Meyer, 349,2800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMGA Horticulture Hotline</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>inquiries and research</td>
<td>Amy Thompson, 349-2575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMGA Speakers Bureau</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Amy Thompson, 349-2575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMGA Newsletter</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>writing, stapling, labeling</td>
<td>Helen Hollingsworth, 332-7313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMGA Web Site</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Barbara Hays, 332-4032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MG Program Committee Member</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>plan MG programs</td>
<td>Vicky St. Myers, 323-7072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jeff Schafer,325-3130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Way House</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Clara Wilson, 333-7404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wylie House</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Sherry Wise, 855-6224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Hubbard's Cupboard</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>education, resource</td>
<td>Stephanie Solomon, 334-8374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WonderLab Garden</td>
<td>2 times monthly</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Nancy White, 824-4426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoosier Hills Foodbank</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Jessica Williams, 334-8374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please wear your name badge when volunteering.
20010 MCMGA Board

President: Nancy White  
812-824-4426  nwhite38@hotmail.com

Vice President—Programs: Vicky St. Myers  
812-323-7072  vstmyers@hotmail.com

Vice President—Education: Jeff Schafer  
812-325-3130  jeff.schafer1@comcast.net

Treasurer: Diana Young  
812-339-0040  young-Diana@att.net

Secretary: David Dunatchik  
812-332-2331  ddddunatchik@att.net

Journalists: Helen Hollingsworth  
812-332-7313  hlhollin@indiana.edu

Director at Large: Herman Young  
812-339-0040  hoyoung@indiana.edu

Director—Communications: Barbara Hays  
812-332-4032  barbsblooms@att.net

Director—Records: Dan Nichols  
812-331-7412  nicholsdg@yahoo.com

Fair Board Representative: Preston Gwinn  
812-876-2999  pgwinn@bluemarble.net

Extension Educator: Amy Thompson  
812-349-2575  athompson@purdue.edu

Plan to attend our
May general meeting
on Tuesday, May 25, 6:30 p.m.,
in the Community Building
at the Monroe County Fairgrounds.
Bring your extra plants to exchange
with other Master Gardeners.