

Renew Your Master Gardener Membership

In October, when garden season winds down, it's time to renew your Master Gardener membership!

Annually, the Master Gardener membership application form is revised to reflect current volunteer activities. Indicating your interest on the form provides chairpersons with a list of members to call for help with different projects.

Individual membership is \$10, and family membership is \$15. Complete the membership renewal form (enclosed with mailed copies of this newsletter and available online at www.mcmga.net), and send, along with a check made out to Monroe County Master Gardeners, to Amy Thompson at the Extension Office.

The 2010 edition *Folia and Flora*, our membership handbook and indispensable guide, will be distributed early in 2010.

Approaching Year 3 Deadline for Maintaining Active MG Status

In 2007 the Monroe County Master Gardener program adopted the Purdue University Guidelines for Master Gardeners. These guidelines require an annual volunteer and education commitment in order for certified volunteers to remain active as Purdue Master Gardener volunteers. I hope no one is taken by surprise by this information. We have produced multiple articles on this issue in *Roots and Shoots*, and we have discussed this at both general meetings and at the intern training program. In case you have missed, or have forgotten the details, they are presented below.



By
Amy
Thompson,
Extension
Educator

Active Status: Once an individual has completed the necessary requirements and is certified as a Master Gardener, this does not mean he/she is a Master Gardener for life. Master Gardeners must recertify each year to remain on the "active" list and maintain the Master Gardener designation.

Master Gardener Recertification is achieved by fulfilling the following requirements:

1. Donating a minimum of twelve (12) hours of volunteer service each year and
2. Completing a minimum of six (6) hours educational training each year

This requirement runs the calendar year; i.e. 12 hours of volunteer service and 6 hours of educational training should be obtained between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009. This requirement begins the first full calendar year following the year in which you were certified. If a person is inactive for three years or less, there is no penalty; you can begin volunteering with no additional requirements. If you are inactive for three years, you

(continued on page 5)

Member News

A good crowd enjoyed our September general meeting on September 22. Amy Thompson and Nancy White opened the meeting with a presentation on shared leadership and how we can enrich our time in Master Gardening by participating in various ways. Sherry Wise, curator of the Wylie House, gave an informative session on the history of the home of the first IU President, James Wylie, and the progression of the plantings that have graced the property on East Second Street for over 150 years. Sherry showed us some historic items, such as tableware, glass bottles, and buttons, that have been unearthed in the current excavation for the construction of the new educational building. She plans to collect these artifacts as the construction continues.



By
Nancy
White

Sherry continued her presentation with an interesting discussion of the art of seed collection and saving. Several Master Gardeners have volunteered at Wylie House and have assisted in the collection and storage of the seeds. She gave us many tips on how to harvest our own seeds, store them properly, and successfully use them in the future. Sherry also provided us with reference and resource sites and contact information for purchasing heirloom seeds. Wylie House holds a seed sale early each spring where various flower, herb, and vegetable seeds are available.

We thank the refreshment committee, Gloria Noone, Dot Owen, Martha Tarbah, and Nancy White, for a fine array of snacks provided for the meeting.

Members Attend MG State Conference

The Master Gardener State Conference was held in mid-September, and we were represented by Kathy Baxter, Jeannie Cox, Debbie Harding, Mary Hawkins, Barbara Hays, Joanna Howe, Vicky St. Myers, Susan Osborne, and Amy Thompson. Our annual scholarship winner was Barbara Hays. They report that the conference next year will be held on June 18-19 at Purdue in West Lafayette. Be sure to mark your calendar for this important conference.

Call for Nominations

Nominations are open for new members of our MG Board. If you would like to be considered for an office, please contact Nancy White. Positions open are Director of Records, Treasurer, Journalist, and Vice President for Programs

New Faces at the Extension Office

Amy Thompson has announced that the extension office has two new employees. Marilyn Behrman is the new Consumer and Family Science Educator and Donna Miller has joined Jackie Claffey on the office staff. We look forward to working with these ladies.

Time to Plan 2010 Field Trips

Vicky St. Myers and her program committee are interested in getting your ideas for field trips for 2010. It's not too early to begin scheduling these special trips. Contact Vicky with suggestions of any ideas of places you might like to visit.

(continued on page 3)

Member News (continued from page 2)

Pumpkins Crisp a Hit at September General Meeting

Several asked Martha Tarbah to share her recipe for the wonderful Pumpkin Crisp she served at our September general meeting, and she graciously agreed. Enjoy!

Pumpkins Crisp

1. Stir together one 15 ounce can of pumpkin, one cup of evaporated milk, one cup sugar, one teaspoon vanilla, and ½ teaspoon cinnamon.
2. Pour this mixture into a lightly greased 13" x 9" baking dish.
3. Sprinkle one package of yellow cake mix and one cup chopped pecans over the pumpkin mixture.
4. Drizzle ½ cup of melted butter over the mixture.
5. Bake one hour at 350 degrees or until golden brown.
6. Serve with whipped cream or plain.

Spring Garden Event

The board has been investigating plans for a spring garden event in 2010. The title, format, and date are still being considered, but tentative plans include a variety of speakers, local and out of town vendors, a café for lunch and snacks, a raffle, and other surprises. It has been several years since we have sponsored such an event, so we need lots of good ideas and helpers. If you can help in any way as we begin our planning, please contact any board member. Since we will be doing the planning during the fall and winter months, this will be a good way to pick up volunteer hours. We can't do it without your support and assistance.

Bloomington in Bloom

Mary Jane Hall and Gretchen Scott report a large number of nominees for the Fall Commercial, Non-Profit, and Multi-Residence Contest sponsored by the Bloomington in Bloom Project. Nominated addresses were judged by teams composed of Bloomington Board of Realtors representatives, Master Gardeners, and floral or landscape professionals. This activity is part of the America in Bloom initiative for community beautification and is sponsored locally by the City of Bloomington and Bloomington Board of Realtors. Winners of the fall contest will be announced in October.

Opportunities to Earn Education Hours

► Sherwood Oaks Christian Church will be the site in October for the *Habitat Steward Training* class. All are invited to attend these four Saturdays, October 3, 10, 17, 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at a charge of \$25. If you are interested, contact Gretchen Scott at 327-1122, or send your registration to The Center for Sustainable Living, 323 S. Walnut St. Bloomington, 47401. This training qualifies for education hours.

► *Gardening by the Season*, a fall education day, will be presented on Saturday, November 7, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Petersburg, IN. This event is sponsored by the Davies, Knox, and Pike County Master Gardeners and provides a variety of speakers for education sessions. Cost is \$30 and includes breakfast and lunch. For more information and registration details, contact Melissa Teague at 812-354-5786.

DNR to Present *Living with Urban Wildlife* Seminars

Seen a coyote in your neighborhood and wonder if you're safe? Are whitetail deer, beaver, or raccoons becoming a problem on your suburban property? If so, attend one of three *Living with Urban Wildlife* seminars being presented in October by the Department of Natural Resources' Urban Wildlife Project. The free seminars will cover various aspects of wildlife management, including relevant laws, basic biology, and methods to control wildlife damage.

The first seminar is October 8 at the Monroe County Public Library auditorium in Bloomington. The address is 303 E. Kirkwood Avenue, Bloomington. No registration is required for the Bloomington seminar.

All seminars run from 6:00 p.m. to approximately 8:00 p.m. and are free. All interested landowners, managers of corporate campuses, golf course or park employees, and the general public are invited. For further information, call the Urban Wildlife Biologist, (812) 334-1137 or e-mail swinks@dnr.in.gov.

Members Enjoy Hidden Hill Field Trip



Hidden Hill owner Bob Hill

Named for its owner Bob Hill, Hidden Hill Nursery is located across the Ohio River from Louisville. Although Bob Hill has no formal training as a horticulturist, he wrote a gardening column for the *Louisville Courier Journal* for many years. He also has an impressive collection of rare trees and shrubs, of which he enjoys describing the special characteristics to visitors. Master Gardeners Ida Bouvier, Nancy Fee, Bob Baird, Diann Locke, and Vicky St. Myers enjoyed a tour with Bob on a recent trip to Hidden Hill.

By
Vicky
St. Myers

Clues to Bob's offbeat sense of humor are evident in the stories he tells and the whimsical metal sculptures he has built throughout the gardens. Not one to let a cast-off oddity go to waste, he manages to incorporate the unusual into his landscape to add interest. His gardens also serve as an outdoor gallery for works by artists in the area.

A visit to Hidden Hill would be better appreciated earlier in the season when the trees and shrubs are in full bloom and fragrant. Many trees, shrubs, and plants not commonly offered for sale in Indiana are available at Hidden Hill.

New Publication Available from Purdue

Looking for a neat publication to take along when plant shopping? Want to know which annuals and perennials are most disease resistant? Here's a publication you can print at home for your MG notebook for easy reference.

Take a look at ID-414-W *Disease Resistant Annuals and Perennials in the Landscape*, available online at

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/ID-414-W.pdf>.

Submitted
By
Amy
Thompson

Approaching Year 3 Deadline (continued from page 1)

will no longer be considered a Purdue Master Gardener.

As the end of this 2009 draws near and members send in their renewals, we will be checking our records to ensure that you have met this minimum requirement and have submitted hours and have “been active” in at least one of the past three years. **There are some of you who have been actively volunteering who have not sent in hours for more than three years!** I have seen you volunteering, so I know you’ve been active! **Please complete the records to document your activity!** The MG record form is available from our office or online at www.mcmga.net. As always, please keep a copy for your records of any hours that you submit.

If volunteer hours are not received, and we have no record of your activity since January 2007, you will be notified by the Extension Office that you are no longer considered an active Master Gardener volunteer. We need those volunteer and education hours submitted by not later than January 15, 2010.

We are still working to combine several years of different systems of recordkeeping into one modern, central system; therefore, we have not been able to send each Master Gardener a letter summarizing your record of volunteer and education hours. You are welcome to stop by at the office at any time to see what hard copy records we have for your MG activities, and we can also mail (or scan and email you) copies of our current records.

You still have time to complete and submit both educational and volunteer activities. If you need ideas for hours, please contact a board member or the extension office, and we can assist you. If a person is inactive for more than three years, the following is required [per Purdue guidelines]: 1) Purchase a new manual or CD. 2) Retake the Master Gardener class sessions on pests, plant problems and pesticides. 3) Pass an exam similar to the training class final. If a person fails the exam, he or she must retake the entire course.

Gardening by the Season Seminar Offered in November

The DKP Master Gardeners and the Pike County Garden Club present *Gardening by the Season*, on Saturday, November 7, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the IPL Communications Building off Highway 57, just north of Petersburg, Indiana.

Presentations include *Orchid Culture* by Dick Wells, Hilltop Orchids, who will bring several orchids as part of the presentation; *The Wonderful World of Pumpkins, Squash, and Gourds* by Mac Condill, The Great Pumpkin Patch; *Making Your Fall Garden Work for You: Making Items with Herbs and Flowers* by Linda Teague, Gold Master Gardener; and *Native and Invasive Plants in Southern Indiana* by Davie Sue Wallace Litov, Silver Master Gardener.

Cost of the seminar is \$30, including breakfast and lunch; after October 26, registration cost is \$40. To register, send your contact information, any special food or physical needs, and check made out to DKP Master Gardeners to Melissa Teague, c/o DKP Master Gardeners, 1207 N. Co. Rd. 900 E, Otwell, IN 47564. Registration fees are not refundable.

For additional detail or information, contact Melissa Teague (812) 354-5786, or email dkpmastergardeners@yahoo.com or visit www.dkpmastergardeners.org.

Habitat Steward Training Offered in October

The Center for Sustainable Living and Sherwood Oaks Christian Church are sponsoring *Habitat Steward Training* on four Saturdays, October 3, 10, 17, and 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church, 2700 E. Rogers Road in the Education Building, Room G150. Cost is \$25, which includes 24 hours of training plus a manual of information and resources.

Seminar topics include ethics of stewardship; four components of backyard habitats; birds, bats, butterflies: what to do with injured/orphaned wildlife; and identifying plants and mapping your garden.

Mail contact information and \$25 check made out to Center for Sustainable Living to Center for Sustainable Living, 323 S. Walnut Street, Bloomington, IN 47404, Attention: Lucille Bertuccio.

For information, contact Gretchen Scott, 827-1122 or Marg Madore at mamadore@comcast.net, or Vicky Getty at vgetty@indiana.edu.

Donate Extra Produce to Jill's House

We know that many of you raise your own vegetables and hopefully this has been a fruitful year for you.

Jill's House, a not-for-profit group that serves as home to many families coming to Bloomington to receive medical treatments, has asked that any families having extra vegetables consider donating them to the kitchen at Jill's House. I will be taking those vegetables that we receive to Jill's House every Thursday during the month of October.

I'm learning that many patients rely on fresh produce because they can't eat processed foods. A small donation of fresh produce goes a long way to helping those in need.

If you can help, your donation will be most appreciated, and please remember, I'll be taking produce on Thursdays. Call Jeff at the Extension Office if you have questions.

Submitted
by
Jeff
Holland,
Extension
Director &
4-H Youth
Extension
Educator

Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society Announces Conference

The Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society's 16th annual conference, *Native Plant Communities: What to Plant Where—and Why*, will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 401 E Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

The conference is open to the public, especially those with an interest in native plants, gardening, landscaping, and creating wildlife habitat.

Conference partners are Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP, Attorneys at Law and Native Plants Unlimited.

Cost for INPAWS members is \$50 (\$60 after October 24); for nonmembers \$65 (\$75 after October 24); and students \$35. Download registration brochure at www.inpaws.org. Event information is posted at www.inpaws.org.

Sycamore Land Trust Offers Winter Tree and Shrub ID Hike

On Saturday, November 14, from 1:00-3:00 p.m., the Sycamore Land Trust is offering a Winter Tree and Shrub Identification Hike at The Cedars. The hike is free and open to the public and is an environmental education activity.

Join District Forester Ralph Unversaw on an easy walking tour through the forest at one of SLT's most beautiful year-round preserves, [The Cedars](#), in southern Monroe County. Learn that when the leaves have fallen and many clues are gone, there are still great ways to positively identify our woodland. Please RSVP and include your phone number by November 9 to info@sycamorelandtrust.org or call 812-336-5382 x 100.

Important Alert for Our Annual Holiday Meeting

Our Master Gardener annual holiday general meeting, which is the last general meeting of the year, will be held on Monday, November 30, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church, 100 N. Highway 46 Bypass in Bloomington. The evening will feature a pitch-in dinner, a speaker, and door prizes.

By
Vicky
St. Myers

For this annual holiday meeting, you will be asked to RSVP to let us know if you plan to attend and also to let us know what dish you plan to bring to share.

It is essential that we think very carefully about what food we plan to bring for the holiday meeting. **No peanuts in any form may be brought into St. Marks.** This includes any foods containing **peanut oil or cooked in peanut oil**, such as chips or other snacks. A child in the congregation at St. Marks has a severe peanut allergy, and we don't want to cause any emergencies by anything we bring into the church. So now would be a good time to start thinking of which holiday dish you want to contribute to the dinner on November 30. Watch for more details in the November *Roots and Shoots* and member bulletins.

Reminder to Send Ideas for Future Speakers and Field Trips

Got some ideas for gardening spots you'd like to visit but just haven't made it there yet? Give us your best ideas, and we'll plan a field trip to your dream spot. It's time to start thinking about ideas for field trips and speakers for next year. Jeff Schafer and Vicky St. Myers, co-vice presidents, will be distributing a survey at the January, 2010 meeting to ask for your input. You may have seen or read about possible speakers or locations of interest this past summer, so don't forget them. You can also email program and field trip ideas now to either Jeff or Vicky. If you would like to be involved in helping plan field trips or choose speakers, please contact Jeff or Vicky. What a great way to earn volunteer hours!

By
Vicky
St. Myers

MCMGA Well Represented at 2009 MG State Conference

Those who attended MG State Conference were Kathy Baxter, Jeannie Cox, Debbie Harding, Mary Hawkins, Barbara Hays, Joanna Howe, Vicky St. Myers, Susan Osborne, and Amy Thompson. Barbara Hays was the recipient of the MCMGA annual scholarship awarded a member in a drawing to attend the conference.

Doug Tallamy Is Coming to Indianapolis on November 3

Entomologist Doug Tallamy wants us to garden as though life depends on it. In his eye-opening book, *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens*, he shows how life does depend on what we plant in the landscape. Tallamy makes us look at our gardens—and think of our role as gardeners—in a new, more meaningful way.

Doug Tallamy is coming to Indianapolis. *Gardening for Life: An Evening with Doug Tallamy* is being presented at Clowes Memorial Hall, 4600 Sunset Avenue, Indianapolis on Tuesday, November 3. Sponsors for the event are Center for Urban Ecology, Butler University; Friesner Herbarium; Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society; IMA Horticultural Society; Indiana Wildlife Federation; and Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The evening's schedule is as follows:

6:30 p.m. Displays by Sponsoring Organizations

7:30 p.m. Lecture

8:30 p.m. Refreshments and Book Signing

For information, log on to www.butler.edu/CUEB or www.inpaws.org.

Master Gardeners Visit Stream Cliff Herb Farm

Stream Cliff Herb Farm is a hidden treasure in southeast Indiana and well worth a drive. Those who visited during our August field trip were Barbara Hays, Bob Baird, Marie Settle, Cindy Benson, Nancy Fee, Jeanie Cox, Kathy Baxter, Martha T and Vicky St. Myers. The farm's history dates from 1821, and current owners Gerald and Betty Manning acquired the farm through Betty's grandmother's family.



By
Vicky
St. Myers

In addition to numerous theme gardens, Stream Cliff offers the Twigs and Sprigs Tearoom and a winery. Many of the herbs and flowers from the gardens are served to give the tea-room menu items special fresh taste and color. The winery's early beginnings as a blacksmith shop influence the naming of the wines, with such colorful names as Running Horse Red, Thunder Hoof, and Fancy Filly.



Front: Cindy Benson, Vicky St. Myers, Jeannie Cox. Back: Marie Settle, Barbara Hays, Bob Baird, Kathy Baxter, Nancy Fee, and Martha Tarbah.

Other buildings on the farm include gift shops, classrooms, and greenhouses. Workshops are offered throughout the year. Four large greenhouses are at the back of the property, and a plant sale with great discounts was underway during our visit. Since Master Gardeners don't want to allow a good opportunity pass, some of us loaded our cars with plants.

Betty Manning's easy-going manner is reflected in the relaxed feeling one gets while strolling the grounds. Stream Cliff is certainly worth another trip in the future.

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 |
| Bloomington in Bloom Planning Committee | year around | various | Mary Jane Hall, 824-2762 Gretchen Scott, 330-7548 |
| MG Demonstration Garden | seasonal | various | Bethany Murray, 339-8876, bethany.murray@gmail.com |
| T. C. Steele SHS | seasonal | various | Davie Kean, 988-2785 |
| 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 | Vicky St. Myers, 323-7072 Jeff Schafer, 325-3130 |
| 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



**Send your volunteer and education hours to
Amy Thompson
at the Extension Office.**

Look for your membership renewal form inside!

2009 MCMGA Board

In This Issue

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