Photo caption: Terry Clapacs and Marshall Goss presented at our Jan. 23 MCMGA General Meeting on the history of landscaping and greenhouse operations at IU Bloomington. #indianauniversity#landscaping
President's Message

Spring is in the air if not in the temperatures! My daffodils are on hold, waiting for the sun’s warmth to spring them into action. It is this time of year when one can seriously think about seed starting, planning the garden layout, and actually getting plants into the ground.

As we were all looking forward to our Garden Fair this year it is with great regret and disappointment to announce the cancellation of this event this year. The Armory informed us of needing to use the facility for training, as troops have been called into action overseas. While we certainly cannot argue with the reason, it doesn’t mask our disappointment with being left without a venue. Huge thanks go out to Nancy White and David Dunatchik who spent many hours exploring, calling, and visiting other venues for this event. With so many logistics to take into consideration in such a short time period, cancelling the event turned out to be the best recourse. Please help us spread the word if you hear about someone intending to attend this annual event. We WILL return next year!

**Tuesday, March 27 – 6:30pm at the Extension Office** is our next MCMGA general meeting. In addition to an enjoyable evening, with delicious eatables, you can earn two educational hours by enjoying the talks by Dr. Peter Goldsbrugh on “GMO’s - Marvel or Malady,” and Gillian Harris on “Flower Parts and Wildflowers in the Garden.”

Need help registering your status as a Master Gardener, or help submitting your hours? Come early, at **5:30 PM**, for help by Board members, Hana Cleveland and Trish Gustaitis, who will be on site with computers to help you stay current with Purdue Extension. Logging your hours helps our MCMGA maintain our status with Indiana funding for Purdue extension. Do your part so we can continue to do ours!

What's Inside

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- Information on Volunteering
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"Spring is the time when it is summer in the sun, and winter in the shade."

--Charles Dickens
MCMGA General Meeting
March 27, 2018
Extension Building

Featured Talks
“GMO’s - Marvel or Malady”
Dr. Peter Goldsbrugh

“Flower Parts and Wildflowers in the Garden”
Gillian Harris

(Two education hours)

We still need a few more folks willing to share some tasty tidbits for the evening. Contact Barb Coffman if you are willing to help out!
barbara.coffman@ymail.com.
Many thanks!

Childs Elementary is looking for volunteers the week of March 26th-30th to help K-6th graders plant vegetable seeds indoors for the school garden. Later in the spring, students will use the vegetables in a new educational experience, harvesting veggies and cooking in the classroom. The students will donate any additional vegetables to community partners. Volunteers will be needed at the following stations:

1. Seed planting in trays
2. Seed planting in toilet paper rolls
3. Making newspaper pots
4. Creating toilet paper seed tape
5. Soaking, sprouting and planting peas in the garden (only outdoor activity)
6. Designing plant markers
7. Making gentle watering jugs

There will be both morning and afternoon slots available. You may select your day, time and activity.

To volunteer for these opportunities, please contact Ellee Spier, Childs PTO Sustainability Coordinator, at spierfamily@me.com.

Not yet announced, but in the works are opportunities for developing butterfly garden and prairie areas with signage for public information. If you have interests in helping develop areas like these, contact Ellee and get involved.
During March, a committee of MCMGA members studied and considered the many applications for our annual awards. Proceeds from the 2017 Garden Fair were awarded to neighborhood groups, schools, community food banks, youth organizations, senior organizations, and support agencies for those facing addiction. Over $2000 was dispensed for these groups to use on creative projects this growing year.

A full list of grant winners will be available soon on our website. Several of these groups could use some guidance from an experienced Master Gardener, as they complete their projects. If you have a little time to spare this spring and summer, contact Nancy White to volunteer. Masters will be available on our website.

Hang some posters at places that accommodate MGs, such as community food banks, youth organizations, and senior organizations. Display awards sign on your property and on the Extension Office’s General Information. Create a yummy dessert to donate to the Garden Fair. Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about the MGs we are growing this year. See the complete list of award winners on our website.
Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors, MCMGA, Inc.
FROM: Tom Lovell
       Maren Claus
SUBJECT: Annual Audit
DATE: February 2, 2018

The Audit Committee met on 2/1/2018 at 1:00 pm at the Monroe County Extension Office. The Audit Committee has examined the financial records for the period 1/1/2017-12/31/2017. Our examination included: vouchers and invoices, deposit tickets, and financial statements. We find the records in good order and would like to thank Treasurer Dorothy Kiser for a great job.
2018 Monroe County Master Gardener Intern Training Schedule

NOTE: All classes will meet at Monroe County Extension Office, 3400 South Walnut Street, unless otherwise noted.

Session 1 - Thursday, January 25
Welcome/Program Orientation ........................................6:00pm - 7:30pm ...........Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe Co. Care of House Plants ..................................................7:30pm - 9:00pm ...........Terri Vicenzi, Master Gardener

Session 2 - Thursday, February 1
Plant Science ........................................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Richard Beckort, Extension Educator, Jackson Co.

Session 3 - Thursday, February 8
Entomology and Insect Control ........................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Bob Bruner, Extension Educator, Owen Co.

Session 4 - Thursday, February 15
Herbaceous Ornamentals ...............................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe Co. Perennials & Annuals

Session 5 - Thursday, February 22
Landscape Design .................................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Anita Bracalente, Landscape Designer Woody Ornamentals

Session 6 - Thursday, March 1
Lawn Care ........................................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Jeff Hermesch, Extension Educator, Decatur Co.

Session 7 - Thursday, March 8
Plant Propagation Techniques ......................................6:00pm - 8:00pm ...........Gina Anderson, Floyd Co. Master Gardener Invasive Plants ........................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe Co.

No Class – Spring Break - March 15

Session 8 - Thursday, March 22
Nuisance Wildlife ...............................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Brian MacGowan, Extension Wildlife Specialist

Session 9 - Thursday, March 29
Vegetables .....................................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe Co.

Session 10 - Thursday, April 5
Pesticide Safety and Application ..................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Fred Whitford, Director, Purdue Pesticide Programs

Session 11 – Thursday, April 12
Soils and Plant Nutrition ..............................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Scott Gabbard, Extension Educator, Shelby Co.

Session 12 - Thursday, April 19 - Location TBD
Pruning and Tree Care .....................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Brett Morinnee, Certified Arborist

Session 13 - Thursday, April 26
Backyard Fruit Tree Basics ........................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Jim Luzar, Extension Educator, Parke Co. Small Fruit Management

Session 14 - Thursday, May 3 at Hilltop Garden and Nature Center
Composting .................................................................6:00pm - 7:30pm ...........Lea Woodard, Hilltop Garden and Nature Center Rain Gardens: The Anti-Lawn Care ................................8:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Dana Wilkinson, Monroe County Stormwater

Session 15 - Thursday, May 10
Plant Problem Diagnosis .............................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Amy Thompson, Extension Educator, Monroe Co.

Session 15 - Thursday, May 17
Final ........................................................................6:00pm - 9:00pm ...........Class wrap-up/Evaluation/Final Exam

Schedule Subject to Change

Current Master Gardeners are welcome to attend sessions that interest them and can earn one education credit maximum. Please RSVP a week in advance to Amy Thompson (afthompson@purdue.edu) for the session you plan to attend.
Monroe County Public Library Programs for Gardeners

All programs begin at 3 PM and will last approximately 1.5 hours. All events at Main Branch unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 11 — Care of House Plants (Ellettsville Branch)
Mar. 25 — Planning and Prepping for a Vegetable Garden
Apr. 15 — Soils and Composting for Vegetable Gardening Success
May 6 — Growing Great Tomatoes
June 10 — Diagnosis & Control of Plant Diseases in the Vegetable Garden
July 15 — Planning Your Fall Vegetable Garden
Aug. 12 — Invaders in Your Backyard Landscape: Identification & Control
Sept. 9 — Tree Selection & Planting

Contribute to the MCMGA Newsletter!!

Please send your announcements, photographs and short articles to MCMGA Journalist, Beth Samuelson (samuelson.beth@gmail.com). Some possible topics: memories of MCMGA for the upcoming anniversary, reviews of good books, pictures of your favorite flowers or houseplants, or musings on the changing seasons.

If you have some ideas for future issues or are interested in volunteering on the production of the newsletter, please get in touch as well!

Check out our new MCMGA Instagram Page!!

@monroecounty_mastergardeners

This is your chance to share your garden and nature photos! Please send your spring photos with a short caption to MCMGA Recorder, Hana Cleveland (hanacleveland@gmail.com).

Hana is requesting photos that have educational uses, such as images of common pests in the garden, invasive species, beneficial plants to have in the garden, and examples of good landscape design, etc. Photos from master gardener demonstration gardens and events are also needed!

Visit the page at http://instagram.com/monroecounty_mastergardeners
GET IN TOUCH WITH MCMGA

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