

HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

OF THE HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

www.HENDRICKSGARDENERS.COM

Published By:

**Hendricks County
Master Gardeners, Inc.**

Hendricks County Extension Office
1900 E. Main Street P.O. Box 7
Danville, IN 46122-0007

317.745.9260
www.HendricksGardeners.com

Eloisa Garza, President
egcomposites@aol.com

Jim Trocha Vice President
VP@HendricksGardeners.com

Linda Rogers, Treasurer
Treasurer@HendricksGardeners.com

Kerry Cates, Secretary

Donna Mears, Editor
Editor@HendricksGardeners.com

Ed Freeman, Webmaster
webmaster@HendricksGardeners.com

Jon Cain, AG and Natural
Resources Educator
jcain@purdue.edu

April 2011



Geranium Festival May 14 9-3

Danville Town Square

The Hendricks County Master Gardeners have been asked to have an information booth once again. Chuck and Pat Dallas are the chairs. They will be needing some of you to join in the fun !! # 745-5715. Teaching... comradeship with other Master Gardeners... Eating... Shopping ... How better to spend a day!

Mission statement:

The mission of the Master Gardener Program is to provide current, research-based, home horticulture information and education to the citizens of Indiana through Purdue University Extension programs and projects.

Flower Trivia



Daisy

Among the flower meanings daisy represents purity and innocence. The specialty of the daisy flower meanings is that there are no negative meanings to it. The meanings of daisy flower are all positive in nature.





Eloisa Garza
President;
Hendricks County
Master Gardeners
Association

A Letter From Our President...

The first day of Spring I spent a happy Sunday afternoon tending to my own gardens. The first signs of spring were a welcome sight after a particularly long cold winter.

Spring's warmer weather and the "greening" of Indiana has us optimistic and looking forward to spending our days outside. You will also have many opportunities to volunteer for Master Gardener projects and to fill your calendar with interesting garden seminars and events.

Our March meeting was a another good one with lots of talk about what's new for spring. The speaker for the evening Debbie Trocha, Executive Director of Indiana Cooperative Development Center, told us why it's good to support the growth and expansion of local foods and to buy from Farmers Markets. Good stuff to know.

Our plant auction is in May. Please share your abundance of plants with Master Gardeners, by donating to our Association for the sale. Remember to label them for Sun / Shade and add any requirements that the plants need. Of course, a photo is great way to showcase what the flower will or should look like when it is in bloom. You can divide your Perennials now for samples or bring grasses, shrubs, vines and yes even trees. What a fabulous and fun way to make money for us and you go home with some beautiful plants.

Success in your Gardens!! Eloisa

Reminder: Please contact the president 5 days prior to meetings about business or committee reports so that it will be put on the agenda for the meeting.

Now seeds are just dimes to the man in the store
And the dimes are the things that he needs,
And I've been to buy them in seasons before
But have thought of them merely as seeds;
But it flashed through my mind as I took them this time,
" You purchased a miracle here for a dime."
Edgar A. Guest, A Package of Seeds

Welcome new member Broch Martindale. Having recently moved to Brownsburg, he found us and Jon will be able to transfer his hours from Crawfordsville.

Good to see Bob Mummert . Bob, we know family commitments come first..... we missed you !! So great to see you at the March meeting....we will be using your great entrance and sign at the Gardening for ALL Ages.

Thank You Master Gardeners

Pat Harmon and Maria Huffman: For wecomling the new interns. Great Job!

Cecilia Blazier, Debbie Ashby, Kelly Phillips, Cathy Frederick, Robin-Elizabeth parsley and Marjorie Bontrager: For helping with the Indiana Flower and Patio Show.

Aleta Griffin, Annabelle Jackson, Martha & John Rardin 7 Jackie Rosales: For refreshments!!





Hendricks County Extension Master Gardener Association Meeting Minutes for March 15, 2011

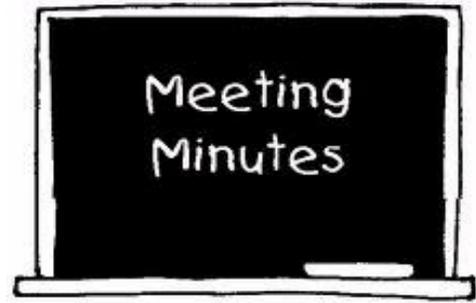
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Eloisa Garza. Approximately 50 members, interns and guests were in attendance. Eloisa thanked all for attending. February minutes were approved by all.

Treasurer Linda Rogers reported the balance in the treasury as of 2-28-11.

Eloisa mentioned the Solid Waste District and the Soil and Water Conservation District were looking for MGs to host a Booth at the Earth Day Event at Avon Park on April 16, 2011 from 12-4 pm. They are wanting us to provide activities and demonstrations. If the MG are interested in having a booth, we will need 2 Chairpersons and Volunteers. Members can sign up at the break tonight or call Eloisa if interested in being a Chairperson for this event.

Colletta Kosiba volunteered to be Chairperson for the Danville Farmers Market. It is the 3rd Saturday of the month starting May 2011 from 8am to 12 pm. She will need 3-4 volunteers for each Saturday. Colletta passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Eloisa made a note that we are still in need of a Chairperson for the Eco-Friendly Containers that are displayed and judged at the Hendricks County Fair. The theme for this year's container's are "The Race is On." Anyone interested in being a Chairperson for the event, please sign up after the meeting or contact Eloisa. We are needing a Chairperson for the event prior to the GFAA show. Information needs to be presented at the GFAA show regarding this event.



GFAA Chairperson Ginny Brandgard mentioned that the set up for the GFAA show is Friday, April 8, 2011 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. On Saturday, April 9, 2011, the Master Gardeners can arrive at 8:00 am. The show is open to the public from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Ginny mentioned that MG should wear their GFAA T-shirts. If you haven't signed up for a job at the show, see Vicki Coleman and she will assign you an area to work. The Chairpersons for various committees should contact their volunteers that signed up for their committee about work times. Ginny reminded all that any expense (receipts) incurred for the GFAA show should be given to her first. She will submit the receipts to treasurer, Linda Rogers.

A reminder that the HCMG are in charge of the booth at The "Flower and Patio Show" on Wednesday, 3-16-11 from 6:15pm to 9:00 pm.

Debbie Ashby presented ideas for possible field-trips the MG might be interested in. She passed a sign-up sheet around to see who are interested in participating in a field trip. More information will follow.

Janet Brown passed out some laminate cards she made on various flowers and their colors for reference. If you have any changes or corrections to your address, e-mail etc. for the directory, please contact Catharine Green.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm and Eloisa turned to meeting over to the evening speaker Debbie Trocha, Executive Director of Indiana Cooperative Development Center. Her topic was on "The Growth and Expansion of Local Foods and Farmers Markets."



March Master Gardener Monthly Meeting



Debbie Trocha giving presentation at the March Master Gardener Monthly Meeting

Debbie gave a very informative and thought provoking presentation about locally grown foods. While there is still debate regarding what is local and organic we can agree to the fact that all purchased food no matter what the origin, is consumer driven and it is nice to know (considering our natures) that farmer's markets are increasing throughout our country. In this fast paced world it seems there is no time for our own research so it was nice to get the information delivered to us by Debbie. I for one will continue to visit my farmer's market to support my local producers and to promote a healthier lifestyle and buy my fruits and vegetables at the grocery stores in the off seasons hoping for the best possible produce at either venue. Then there is the option of growing your own food.....and becoming a home based vendor!! Hats off to our Master Gardeners who have all ready taken the steps of being establish as home based vendors and giving their community an opportunity to indulge themselves with quality produce. I appreciate you very much when I am looking for home grown tomatoes, green beans and corn on the cob! I would rather buy a carrot that as traveled 20 or 30 miles versus a typical carrot that travels 1,838 miles to reach my dinner table!



Ginny Brandgard gives updates on GFAA



March Monthly Master Gardener Meeting



Gardening For ALL Ages - Saturday, April 9, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Spring is in the air and **Gardening For ALL Ages** is just around the corner - **Saturday, April 9**. Hope you are getting as excited about it as this year's chairmen. We are busy putting the finishing touches together but there is still much to do, and we need your help - PLEASE VOLUNTEER IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY. It really is a lot of fun meeting and working with fellow gardeners. Feel free to send information about GFAA to your family, friends and neighbors and anyone on your email list. Following are just a few reminders:



Window done by Rose Lenihan

--Set up time on **Friday, April 8 - 10:00-2:00** (vendors begin arriving around 2:00 until 8:00)

--Arrival on **Saturday, April 9 - 8:00 am**

--Wear red t-shirts (if you still need one, they will be available on Friday at set-up)

--Bring items for Gardener's Closet on Friday

--Bring items for door prizes on Friday

--If you have not signed up for a particular area and are still interested in volunteering, please come - Vicki will assign an area where help is needed

--Remember to park away from the Expo Hall door - this will give our guests plenty of space to park

--Expenses and bills **MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 31** - turn them into Ginny Brandgard first and she will forward to Linda Rogers for payment

--Request from Dale Olson for the Train Booth - he is looking to borrow a few pieces of doll furniture (half-inch scale - for example, doors should be about 3-4" high). If you can accommodate this request, either contact Dale (dwolson1@tds.net) or bring them to set-up on Friday.

--Remember to keep track of your volunteer hours which includes travel time.

Thanks so much for your help - it is much appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Chairmen:

Lynn Cochran, lynnacochran@yahoo.com

Ginny Brandgard, ginnybrandgard@aol.com

Vicki Coleman, vlcoleman21@yahoo.com

Martha Gooldy, mago0310@att.net



Some of our ladies in their Master Gardener Tee Shirts!



Wear Your " Gardening for ALL Ages " Tee shirt every place you go!!!!!!

This is a great way to advertise our upcoming show.



Getting to know you..

Kelly Allen Silver Level Advanced Master Gardener



Kelly Allen

I have always been interested in science and have gardened all my life. When we moved to the farm the gardening began on a much larger scale, I thought it might be helpful to learn how things could be done more efficiently and in a more sustainable way. My husband Mark took the MG class first; I took it the next year. While in the class, I became aware of the many learning opportunities through Extension that I didn't know existed.

My first project was landscaping a Habitat for Humanity property. I helped landscape and maintain the beds at the old fairgrounds for several years and helped organize the annual garden show a few times. Plant a row for the hungry is my most recent long term project, as I feel that no one should have to go without in a country that grows so much food. I have given programs at the library and for other groups

My passions are veggies, bee keeping and agriculture. We have a 38 acre farm, the vegetable garden is about 3/4 acre. We produce vegetables, everlastings, free range eggs, honey and grass-fed beef. I don't grow many flowers, if I'm going to work hard to grow something, I want to be able to eat it. Besides, my chickens aren't very flower friendly critters. I plan to continue to grow quality veggies for my family and customers, while providing them information about gardening.



Kelly Allen shows a garden club how to cure potatoes

We have two children and a grandson They help out, but aren't really passionate about gardening due to time constraints. Our grandson likes to play in the dirt and ride the tractor with Pappy, and most days will help sell produce (he's my greeter!)

I babysit a few days each week and I am an RN at Wishard. Mark works as a subcontractor inspecting wood products for export. Outside of gardening, I am interested in poultry, cooking, and cross-stitching.

We don't really need any pets. We have the cattle, chickens and barn cats. We are "dogless" currently, but that may change in the spring

This gardener plans to improve my own skills and knowledge base. I will provide info for anyone who would like to learn about gardening, and mentor others in growing in a responsible, sustainable way. I like to talk!

Kelly's Service to community and nation

- Past Extension board rep for Ag/ Natural resources for Hendricks County
- Member of Extension Homemakers, assist with Open Class flowers and vegetables at county fair
- Judge 4-H vegetables at the county & state levels
- On Sustainable Agriculture Advisory Board for Purdue University
- Boy Scouts of America member
- Educate kids at Ag Day on poultry; known as the "Chicken Lady" to fourth graders in Hendricks county
- Plainfield farmers market Vendor
- Weather observer for the CoCoRaHS network, turn in daily/ storm reports used by the National Weather Service and universities for research/ public safety
- First Detector for the National Plant Diagnostic Network, monitor for exotic and nasty disease/insect pests



Kelly Allen giving program on late blight



Mark and Kelly Allen



Annual Plant Auction

Get ready for the Master Gardeners' Annual Plant Auction on Tuesday, May 17, beginning at 6:30. Come early with your plants for the Auction so we are ready to go at 6:30. "The value of this event is three-fold," says Eloisa Garza, Master Gardener's President. "The plants come from the gardens and yards of Master Gardeners, so we know the plants are healthy and can handle Central Indiana weather. The second advantage is the abundance of plants one can buy for little cost as compared to the nurseries and big box stores. And third, the Master Gardeners use the auction proceeds to support the flower beds at the Fairgrounds as well as the contests associated with the County Fair. And given the summer weather of 2010, we probably all want some new plants!"

Here's how the Auction works if you need a brush up:

Master Gardeners and Interns bring as many plants, bulbs, trees, shrubs as they please - dug from their own gardens and yards. They should be dug at least 4-5 days before the Auction so they are "looking pretty". Plants may be in pots, baskets or double bagged. All plants should be tagged with name of plant, color and if it prefers sun or shade.

Then the fun begins! Plants are sorted on tables by sun and shade. Colletta Kosiba will identify the plant, and give a few points about it. And no one knows it all, so sometimes Colletta will ask the donor to tell us more. Then Rosie Lenihan will auction the plants to the highest bidder.

This is our biggest money maker, so please "dig in" and bring plants, plants, plants, and some money!

Free Classes

April 6 "Butterfly Gardening" 8:30am at the Earth Discovery Center Eagle Creek Park

April 12 "Container Planting" Brownsburg Library 7pm 852-3167

April 16 "Vegetables" 10 am Danville Parks / Recreation 49 N Wayne St, Danville IN 745-3015

April 23 " Tour Colletta's Spring Gardens" 10am 852-5973

Please call number listed

Presenter.....Colletta Kosiba Advanced Master Gardener



Master Gardener member speaking engagements

Rob Green

Apr 16 - Dinner Speaker, Heritage Prairie Farm, La Fox, Illinois "Trends towards Organic Beekeeping"

Apr 28 - Lunch Speaker, Rotary Club, Brownsburg, Indiana "The Plight of the Honeybee"

Each year Rosie Lerner and Mary Welch-Keesey put together a series of horticultural updates primarily intended for County Coordinators like myself. However, Master Gardeners are also invited to attend. They are all scheduled from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm and will be viewed via adobe connect at the Fairgrounds. I am scheduling the following update sessions:

April 12, 2011 - 'Tree Appraisal' - by Lindsey Purcell, Forestry

If you are interested in attending any of the above sessions please RSVP to Janet Cunningham at 745-9260 and tell her if you plan to attend.



Native Plant of the Month - FLOWERING DOG WOOD (*Cornus Florida*)

One of the most spectacular of our spring flowering native trees is the dogwood. It grows slowly into a pagoda of color. The dogwood's compact growth habit shows the dense blossoms. The long blooming season overlaps the redbud . When these two trees are found blooming together it provides a spring show that is un forgotten!



Dogwood blooming

What appear to be four petals of the horizontally held flower are actually modified leaf structures called "bracts." The small flower clusters are surrounded by four leafy bracts that turn white as they expand. It takes several weeks until the bracts grow to finally reach 2 inches which is the reason for the long blooming period. The blossom color can be white, pink or red. In the fall, Squirrels and birds devour the pretty red fruits.

When Dogwoods are under story trees, they have supple wispy stems. At the woodland edge, exposed to sunlight, the trees are shorter and develop a compact crown. The wood has been used to make shuttles, spools and bobbins for the textile industry. Golf club heads, mallet heads and jeweler's blocks are also made from the wood.



Dogwood fruit

Use dogwood as a framing tree or as a background tree. They are excellent beneath large oaks or pines.

Partial shade...can take full sun.. tolerant of normal dry periods
The dogwood is beautiful in all seasons

Colletta Kosiba Advance Master Gardener , Advanced Master Naturalist



Dogwood berries



Dogwood leaves



Master's Advice for Choosing Daylilies

Christopher Lloyd grew thousands of plants in his world-famous gardens at Great Dixter, and he evaluated them all with the discriminating eye of an artist. "Don't be carried away by a single bloom seen out of context.

"While being dazzled by large blooms, remember that small-flowered *Hemerocallis* are the most prolific. Furthermore, their individual flowers tend to die off discreetly, whereas large-flowered kinds really need dead-heading every morning, to prevent the colony from becoming slovenly.

"As with so many 'improved' plants, enlarged flowers are often matched by an increase in leaf size and coarseness. Watch out for this. Then again, the naked flowering stem should present its blooms well above the foliage, this being the graceful effect that gives the flowers style."

***Old Bulbs Gazette, March 2011**



Bomb-Sniffing Tulips: Coming Soon to a Garden Near You?

"Could airport security gardens be the wave of the future?" asked a recent article in the *New York Times*. "How about a defensive line of bomb-sniffing tulips in Central Park or lining the streets of Baghdad?" Though it may sound far-fetched, researchers at Colorado State University report that they've "created the platform for just such a plant-kingdom early warning system: plants that subtly change color" by draining chlorophyll from their leaves when exposed to air-borne particles of TNT.

"Plants are uniquely suited by evolution to chemical analysis of their environment, in detecting pests, for example," the article explains. "When modified to sense TNT, the most commonly used explosive, [plants in the lab] reacted to levels one one-hundredth of anything a bomb-sniffing dog could muster." There's still work to be done "to make sure the plant's signal is clear enough and fast enough to be of use,"

but researchers hope to have response time down from hours to minutes within three years



***Old Bulbs Gazette, March 2011**

*******WANTED*****WANTED*****WANTED*******

We are starting a new column. If a MG/Intern is looking for a garden item, send me the scoop at mearsdonna@yahoo.com and I will add it to the newsletter under our WANTED section. This would be for gardening items only - not advertising someone's event - For instance for the Plant Auction if someone is looking for a butterfly bush, or for GFAA if we needed wooden crate, etc. .. I realize it is too late for these events, but you get the idea. Let's try this for a couple of months and see what develops.

*******WANTED*****WANTED*****WANTED*******

EDITOR'S REQUEST

Master Gardeners.....Please consider writing an article, or poem, or suggest a gardening book or magazine article with a review, send recipes that pertain to the season, share your gardening ideas or share photos of your own gardens with fellow members in the newsletter.

Please email copy to the editor no later than 4 days following the meetings.

Remember, this is your Newsletter! Thank you.



Danville Farmers Market

Danville square... 8-12 am...Master Gardeners will have an area answering questions and teaching on the 3rd Saturday of the month. We have selected these themes for each date.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Featured topic for the Month</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| May 21 | Container Gardening |
| June 18 | Insecticides and fungicides |
| July 16 | Fall Crops |
| August 20 | Compost |



Chairman Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba is seeking members to volunteer on one Saturday. Three- four gardeners are needed each day. You will have an opportunity to have a break to enjoy the market.

Benefits

- "Teach others to Grow" (Our Motto) (get volunteer hours)
- Enjoy meeting the community (& your fellow master gardeners that are there)
- Spread the word about the Master Gardener Program.
- Build good will with Danville Chamber of Commerce

Please contact Colletta 852-5973 or kcolletta@sbcglobal.net



What's that Recipe? Well you ask for the Cake Ball Recipe from our last meeting so here is.

- 1 cake mix (13x9 cake). Bake and crumb.
- 1 cup & 2 tablespoons of ready made frosting or homemade icing.
- Mix cake crumbs and icing. Form into balls and chill.
- Melt dipping chocolate and dip each ball in dipping chocolate. Easier to dip with a fork so you can tap off excess. Place on plastic wrap or parchment paper on a cake sheet to set..



It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, National origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.