

# HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

July 2023



PURDUE EXTENSION  
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Hendricks County Extension Office  
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## President's Message



**HOT – It's definitely the dog days of summer. THANK YOU to Bruce and Joann Crum for hosting an open garden. Bruce led a very informative tour. What a beautiful setting they have.**

**We had a successful county fair. Over 60 people expressed an interest in taking the class next year. We just keep GROWING. The Whimsical Demo Garden was absolutely beautiful. I believe it was a top attraction of the fair. We have a lot of photos, including from a drone, to send to the All-American Selections. THANK YOU to Vicki Coleman, County Fair Booth Chair; Becky Troutman, Demo Garden Chair; and to all the fair and demo garden volunteers. It's all of you that made our success possible.**

**Our summer picnic was at Tree Frog Gardens. Thank you to John and Kathy Chapin for sharing their beautiful gardens for our picnic. It was good to see everyone that attended the picnic and catch up.**

**Don't forget AIG is Saturday, October 7. Registration will start in early to mid-**

**August. Keep your eyes open for an email with details. Stay hydrated and cool.**

## Hendricks County 4H Fair Wrap Up

**Thanks to all the volunteers the 2023 Hendricks County 4H Fair was a success. Smoke, rain, a cold building and heat did not stop us. We had roughly 1231 visitors to just the master gardener booth, 597 walked through the demonstration garden and 650 kids participated at the children's craft and game area.**



**Thank you to Steve Patterson, Executive Director of the Fairgrounds for donating the orange string backpacks and the silicone bracelets for the kids. He also provided us with the space with the Extension Homemakers and 4H in the Expo Hall. Kerry Cates did a wonderful job getting the games and insect crafts together for the kids. Several master gardeners brought in plants in unusual containers to display. We had basil and pepper plants to give away along with the remaining GFAA seeds and THE FOR GET ME NOTS can be FORGOTTEN!!! The seed packets after two years of GFAA and Fair are NO MORE, GONE, OUT of HERE!!!! Lastly in the display area we had the sensory garden and display timeline log of Master Gardeners from the GFAA Wizard Booth.**

**We had 63 visitors that showed an interest in taking the next MG class! Volunteers dug up and potted Penstemon plants from the Pollinator Garden and we gave one to each person who signed up on the interest list.**



# Summer Goes so Fast!



Thank you to Dennis Nelson, Kerry Cates, Rosie Lenihan and Deloris Elza for serving on the committee. Check out some of the photo highlights below!

Vicki Coleman, Fair Chairman

## Adventures in Gardening

Our annual Adventures in Gardening (AIG) seminar is Sat. Oct. 7 at the Hendricks Fairgrounds Conference Center. The theme this year is “Whoo’s in Your Garden.” Watch for an email very soon for online registration info. The last day to register is 9/19 and please note that no late registrations will be accepted. The cost is \$35 which includes continental breakfast, lunch & snacks.



Here are the presenters and topics;  
Amy Mullin – “Designing with Native Plants”  
Laura Kearby – “Backyard Habitats”  
Dr. Kathleen Hull – “Medicine from the Garden”  
Randy Collins – “A Mint in Every Garden”  
Charlie Nardozi – “No Dig Gardening”

AIG has a silent auction, and we are looking for items. Please consider donating items such as themed baskets, autumn and holiday decor, new or very gently used garden related items, gift cards, artwork etc. We are dedicating the auction to Nancy Rice, who did a phenomenal job coordinating the auction last year, despite significant health challenges.



## Open Garden – Tour the Lovely Gardens of Karen Smith

Bring your morning coffee and enjoy a delightful morning stroll through the gardens of Karen and Wayne Smith on Tues. August 8, from 9 am-noon. The address is: 1777 E. 400 South Clayton, IN 46118



John Chapin will also be on hand to give demonstrations and answer questions about pruning your Japanese Maple trees. Demos are scheduled at 9:30 and 10:30. The Smiths will also be on the Hendricks County Parks & Recreation Native Landscaping Tour later that evening.

## Goodbye & Best Wishes to Becky Troutman

Becky Troutman has been an active MG since 2007, contributing so much throughout the years. Among her many roles and accomplishments; she served as President, coordinated the Gardener’s Closet at GFAA, chaired the Demo Garden committee, designed both the GFAA and new AIG logos, hosted the 2021 summer picnic, shared many of her interesting plants with MGs, provided interesting presentations and so much more, of which we are very appreciative. She has moved to Georgia, and we wish her the very best in this new life journey. She was unable to attend our recent picnic, but asked Debbie to share her goodbye and we would like to share it with all MGs.



“Dear Gardening Friends,  
I sit here a little after 6:00 am Tuesday (7/25) morning. I was hoping to come to the

annual Master Gardener Picnic but moving duties have intervened. I asked Debbie to read my goodbye to y'all.

This Master Gardener chapter has become very important to me over my 16 years of being involved. Thank you to past and present MG's. I have learned so much from y'all and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you. My hope is that I have contributed to the organization and leave it stronger than before.

To the new interns and up and coming members I challenge you to find your niche and figure out where you fit in and what is your passion. Volunteer with different committees until you figure it out. My best days were speaking about my worms, dumpster diving for the Closet and the Demonstration Garden. Finding where I fit in didn't happen overnight, but I kept at it. What a fulfilling endeavor it is being a Master Gardener.

In closing, I truly believe that Gardeners are the BEST people. If you are a true gardener and plant lover, you just can't be a nasty person. Being grounded by the EARTH and dirt is medicine for the soul".

With Grateful Affection,  
Becky Troutman

## **Nominations for 2024 Board Members**

The Nominating Committee will be meeting in early August. At that time the proposed slate of officers will be determined. The bylaws are on the Hendricks County Master Gardener website that list the requirements for eligibility and duties of each officer.

At the September 19 Master Gardener meeting, the slate will be presented, and nominations taken from the floor. Nominations can be taken for all the positions and then the slate will be closed. At the October meeting the slate will again be presented and if there is only one

candidate for each position, a verbal vote will occur on the slate as a whole. If there is more than one candidate for a position/s, a paper ballot will be provided for that position/s only. The elected officers will take office 1/1/24.

The Nominating Committee members are Vicki Coleman, Chair, Deloris Elza and Annella Abell.

## **Tour of Eskenazi Sky Farm**

Mark your calendars for August 23 at 10:30 am to have a docent-led tour of the Eskenazi Sky Farm and learn how the hospital uses the garden to benefit patients. Watch for an email for more details.



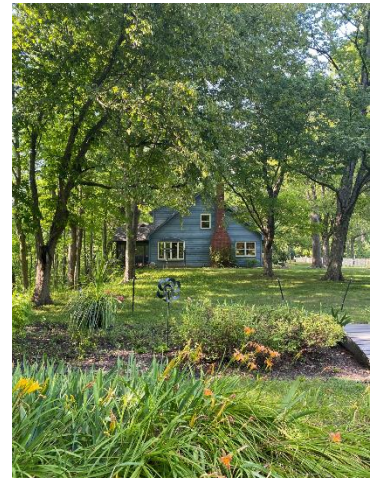
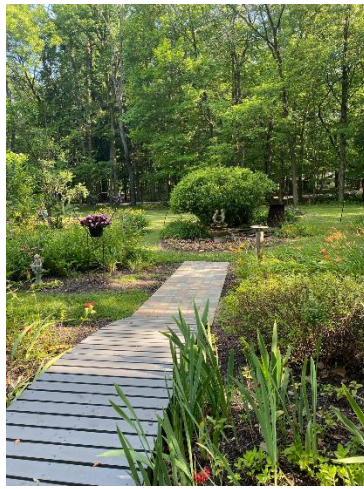
## **2023 Calendar**

- September 19th, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- September 28th, Tour of Beasley Orchard \$12/person (sign up in August)
- October 6th, AIG Set Up; North/South Halls
- October 7th, AIG; North/South Halls
- October 17th, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- November 21st, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- December 12th, 2023, Winter Awards

# Fair Highlights



# Open Garden at Bruce & Joann Crum's



# Summer Picnic at Tree Frog Gardens Thank you to Kathleen Kindred & Karen Smith!

