

HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

March 2024



PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

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President's Message

Mother Nature has teased us with some warmer days. A sign that spring is coming! Many of us started seeds in milk jugs at the February meeting. Thank you, Steve Pearl, for sharing tips on how to do winter perennial seed sowing.



GFAA is April 27th - less than 60 days away! The GFAA team is AMAZING! All booth spaces – SOLD! We have 2 premier sponsors confirmed, 1,200 free trees, and 4 of our own master gardeners will be presenting and one doing a demonstration. The Children's booth theme is Bicentennial/Pioneer Living. Volunteer opportunities will be posted mid-March. If you volunteer in the children's booth, you must complete the Working with Minors training. [Here is a link to the training;](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/PUminorcert>

Do not forget about the Spring 2024 Virtual EMG Advanced Training Series. The first session is April 9th. May 21st is our annual Plant Sale and Auction. If you are interested in being on the committee, contact Jo Vickery. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the March meeting.
Debbie

February 20th Meeting Highlights

Great attendance at the meeting, including several interns currently participating in the MG class. Various officer and committee reports were given; treasurer's report, GFAA update (see separate article) Avon Outdoor Learning Center Plant Sale, our plant sale and auction, educator update, and Plainfield Correctional Facility. The Demo Garden committee was unable to meet, however, will in March. Membership for 2024 is 113!



Steve Pearl provided a workshop on Winter Milk Jug Seed Sowing. Having done this winter growing for many years, Steve shared how to plant perennial seeds, along with a lot of

helpful tips. Interested MGs were able to prepare and plant seeds in a jug to take home. Perhaps some of the plants could be potted and brought to our plant sale in May! We love to garden even in the winter. Thanks Steve!

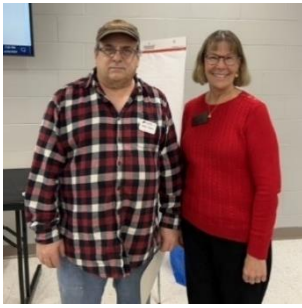


Congrats MGs for Achieving New Levels

Several MGs received certificates and pins at the meeting, for achieving new levels. Congratulations to Linda Kanouse (transferred from Morgan County), Suzanne Roehling, Dennis Nelson, Debbie Baker, and Charles Zauss.



 Happy St. Patrick's Day & Spring! 



March 19th Program: Urban Forestry Benefits and Master Gardener Involvement by Aren Flint

Our presenter is Aren Flint, who is an Urban Forestry Project Manager (her parents are MGs John and Dee Dottenwhy). She will explore how trees in cities and neighborhoods clean the air, cool the environment, and support wildlife while also boosting property values, improving health, and enhancing community enjoyment. She will discuss how Master Gardeners can assist with tree care, planting, and community projects to make neighborhoods greener and healthier. Join us to learn about the vital role of trees and how they contribute to vibrant, sustainable communities.

GFAA Update from 2/12 Mtg. Committee met on February 12th

1. Postcards – Ann Wynn has postcards for MGs to distribute to businesses, friends and families!
2. Vendors – We are now full at 45 vendors utilizing 63 booths! Vendor highlights on FB have started!
3. Trees – please continue to collect newspaper sleeves, and shredded paper, or

paper for Kathe Rae to shred. Bring to the 3/19 mtg.

4. Speakers / Demonstrations are also filled!

SPEAKERS:

- Deb Pease: “Self Watering/Self/Wicking Containers”
- Laura Graham: “Birds & Butterfly Gardening”
- Colletta Kosiba: “I Wish I had Known That!!! Garden tips for success: Planting, Pruning, Tools, Mulching and More”
- Barb Pantos: “Dazzling Dahlias”

DEMONSTRATIONS:

- Representatives of the Danville Tree Advisory Committee: “Tree Planting”
- Tom Stetser: “Trapping Critters”
- Sara Fenton: “How to Make Hypertufa Pots”

5. Bulbs Project – Dee Dee Moore reported that we have received several donations of soil and pots from businesses and MGs. A bulb planting party is scheduled in March. The pots will be wrapped just before GFAA and hopefully the bulbs will be blooming for sale like last year.



6. Sponsors – Suzy Freeman has secured the following sponsors, which are being recognized on FB:

PAID SPONSORSHIPS;

- Hendricks Power (Premier \$500)
- SavATree (Premier \$500) Will also have a booth.

INDICATED THEY WILL SPONSOR;

- Dammann's (Premier \$500)
- Hendricks Regional Health (\$400)

7. **Parking** – We are investigating several options to address parking issues. We are checking liability coverage via our insurance policy for possible shuttle service, such as golf carts. Steve Patterson also suggested utilization of the parking lot north of the Expo Hall **IF** the ground conditions are suitable. These options would require additional volunteers willing to help with parking procedures.

8. **Children's Booth** – The theme is 1824 Bicentennial/Pioneer Living. Some of the volunteers will dress in costumes. Activities will include tattoos, reading/story time, corn husk dolls, checkers, medallions, herb basket, goody bags, corn-hole, coloring pages, and a Three Sisters display. **FUN!**

9. **Gardener's Closet** – Friendly reminder we are still wanting garden related items for the sale.

10. **Hendricks 200** – Ann Wynn has submitted the request for endorsement by the Hendricks 200 committee for use at GFAA.

11. **Volunteer shifts** - Will be available in MG Manager by mid-March for MGs to sign up. As a reminder, MGs do not need to sign up for "set up" day on April 26th. All MGs "hands on deck" that day!

12. **GFAA T-shirts** – Can still be ordered at

the March 19th meeting. Pink is in short sleeve only.
 Short sleeve \$10
 Long sleeve \$13.50
 2XL add \$1
 3 XL add \$2
 4XL & 5 XL available with additional charge
 The GFAA logo will be on the back.



Master Gardener Class is in Session!

There are 37 people participating in the current MG class with Jeff Pell. Thanks to MGs who are hosting; also, Rosie Lenihan

and Jan Myers for intern coordination. We look forward to meeting the new interns.



Congratulations to Eloisa Garza!

Congratulations to MG Eloisa Garza, who was recently selected as the Lawson Education Award winner by the Hendricks County Soil & Water Conservation District for her leadership & dedication to the Plainfield Correctional Facility Garden. Eloisa's many contributions to our community make her a winner!



Thank You Colletta!

Our venerable Colletta Kosiba supports the MG mission to educate the community on the importance of horticulture, through her interesting and fun presentations. She recently spoke about "The History of Medicinal Plants" to The Herb Society of Central Indiana in Carmel.



It's Tulip Time! By Martha Rardin

A wonderful way to expand your knowledge and understanding of tulips is to visit Holland, Michigan for their annual Tulip Festival. The dates for the 2024 festival are May 4th-12th.



According to the Tulip Time website, the idea of Tulip Time was introduced in 1927 at a Woman's Literary Club meeting. A teacher at Holland High School suggested that Holland adopt the tulip as its flower because of its close ties to the Netherlands and set aside a day for a festival. In 1928, the City Council appropriated funds to purchase 100,000 tulip bulbs from the Netherlands. These bulbs were to be planted in city parks and other areas. The



bulbs were available to Holland residents for a penny a bulb. As you would expect, in 1929, thousands of tulips bloomed creating a riot of color across Holland. Soon after, a revival of old Netherlands customs and traditions naturally

followed, and visitors and townsfolk found the one-day festival both unique and picturesque.

The history of the tulip started in Asia. The first tulips bloomed in Central Asia amidst tall Himalayan mountains. Nomadic soldiers collected the tulip seeds/ bulbs and carried them to the courts of Persia and Turkey. According to the Holland Michigan Visitor's Bureau, tulips were cultivated in Constantinople. By the 15th century, the tulip was the Ottoman Empire's symbol. A single bloom in a turban, or "tulipan", meant wealth and power. Sultan Suleiman, the Magnificent gave tulips as gifts to

important visitors. Soon these flowers traveled west to Austria, Germany, France, and England before infatuating the Netherlands.

Two of my sisters and I travelled to Holland last May and enjoyed the festival and simply amazing array of tulips. We visited three different tulip farms and purchased bulbs which were shipped to us in the Fall. Holland is approximately a 4-hour drive right up US 31. I encourage you to consider taking part in the tulip festival at some point.

2024 Calendar

- ❖ March 19th - General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- ❖ April 16th - General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- ❖ April 26th – GFAA Set-Up; Hendricks Power Expo
- ❖ April 27th – 2024 GFAA; Hendricks Power Expo
- ❖ May 21st – Plant Sale and Auction – Cartilage Barn
- ❖ July 23rd – MG Picnic (location TBD)
- ❖ September 17th – General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- ❖ October 12th – AIG; South Hall
- ❖ October 15th - General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- ❖ November 19th - General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- ❖ December 10th – Winter Awards Dinner

Upcoming Events

3/16/2024 Putnam County Master Gardeners Garden Fair 9 – 3 Putnam County Fairgrounds

3/16/2024 Morgan County Master Gardeners Gardenfest 9 – 3 Bell Intermediate Academy \$2 admission

4/6/2024 Boone County Master Gardeners Gardenfest 9 - 3 Boone County 4-H Fairground

4/13/2024 Monroe County Master Gardeners Garden Fair 9 – 4 Switchyard Park