

# Hendricks Gardener

The Official Newsletter of the Hendricks County Master Gardeners

February 2017

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*Use the webmaster's email address or the contact form under "about" on our website to contact our officers.*

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## Message from the President

It is February already. I just returned from a walk in the snow with my new rescue dog Harley. He has been a lot of work but is improving daily and fitting in with our family.

Just like a new pet having a great organization takes dedication and hard work. January and February are the months our chapter sets up committees and recruits volunteers to run the organization during the upcoming year. There are still two committees needing a chairperson. They are the Refreshment and Christmas Party committees. Important positions as we love to eat and enjoy getting together to celebrate at the end of the year. Don't worry if you volunteer as a chairperson you will be left alone to fend for yourself. The help you need is just a phone call or email away. Remember our motto:

SODOTO (See One, Do One, Train One).

A double whammie thank you to everyone signing up as a committee chair and those signing up as workers.

Come grow with us in 2017.

Becky Troutman - President



## Member Meetings & Information

- Date:** February 21, 2017
- 6:30** Social Time
- 7:00** Business Meeting
- 8:00** **Panel Discussion:** The Master Gardener Demo Garden. Hear from the planning committee, our ANR, and facility management about the current plan. Help them with your ideas and suggestions. Find out how you can help with volunteer time.

### For Upcoming Member Meetings

Contact the president one week in advance of monthly meeting if you have business or committee reports to be included in meeting agenda.

- Meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month.
- Master Gardener meeting agenda will be forwarded to membership prior to meeting.
- Remember to wear your Master Gardener badges to all HCMG events and meetings.

Future meeting information will be posted on the website.

### Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes will be posted on the members page of the website after the most recent business meeting.

### Open Gardens

If you would like to offer an open garden next year please let Vicki Coleman know.

## Reporting Volunteer Hours

The method for reporting volunteer hours has changed. We are now using the Purdue on-line system. See this month's ANR report on page 3 for details and instructions. The old reporting form has been deleted from the website.

## Volunteer and Educational Opportunities

### Volunteer Opportunities .

HCMG is always in need of volunteers for committees and projects. Full project descriptions and volunteer opportunities will be posted on the HCMG website under the "Members"

### Educational

Beginners Guide to Grant Writing Workshop- February 21 and March 21 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds 9:00 am – 4:30 pm both days

Master Gardeners may find themselves looking at writing grant proposals for community projects and Association activities. This two-day workshop teaches grant writers of all skill levels how to prepare and submit a professional proposal. The workshop is geared toward those who work or volunteer for nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, community clubs, and local government units and departments. Participants will learn how to develop ideas for grant proposals, identify and work with funding sources, and understand the proposal development, submission and review process. Professional review of a draft proposal is also included. Registration is \$175 per person and includes a workbook, reference materials and lunch both days. Registration is available by visiting <http://bit.ly/2gdgXFu>.

## Demo Garden Updates

The February meeting will include a panel discussion on the demo garden project to bring everyone up to date.

## 2018 Updates

Hendricks County will host the Purdue Master Gardener State Conference on June 7-9 2018 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds and Conference Center.

The keynote speakers are now secured as reviewed at the November meeting.

The Master Gardeners on the steering committee include Jan Myers, Rose Lenihan, Theresa Byington, Cathy Frederick, Ed Freeman, Chuck Dallas, Pat Dallas, Vicki Coleman, Martha Rardin, Ginny Brandgard, Theresa Mathieson, Jill Clouser, Steve Pearl, and Kathleen Hutton. Chat with committee members to keep up to date or to let us know how you want to help.



### ANR Educator Report

The new Purdue Master Gardener online volunteer management system is here! Active Master Gardeners, those who completed a minimum of 12 volunteer hours and six education hours and completed and turned in their signed volunteer agreement forms, have received an email with instructions on how to register in the new system. If you have not yet received this email, contact Janet Cunningham in our office and she can look into your active status and let you know what you need to do to get up to date. It is likely something as simple as turning in your volunteer agreement form to our office. The Purdue MG Manager online system provides a way for Purdue Master Gardener volunteers to report volunteer activity and educational training hours online, communicate details about volunteer projects, keep and maintain a personal profile, designate calendar of events as volunteer opportunities with an online volunteer recruitment for these activities, make use of a local MG volunteer directory, sign annual agreement forms electronically, and more! All Purdue MG's MUST register in the system. In order to register, you will need an email address and a county registration code. Your county registration code will be sent to you once we confirm you have met all requirements as outlined in the Master Gardener Policy Guide. This means there will be no more paper forms to turn in! If you turned in forms to the office already, Janet will be getting those back to you so that you can register and enter them in the new system.

This is a very exciting time and we have heard about this new system for a long time. I know John Orick has worked very hard to get this system up and running. With any new system, there is a learning curve. There will be a learning curve for all of us- volunteers, county coordinators and office staff. I ask you all to keep an open mind and practice patience as we all learn how to use this new system together.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or Janet Cunningham in the Extension office. We will do our very best to help everyone get registered into the new system and answer questions as best we can. If you don't have access to a computer, you can stop in the Extension Office Monday- Friday, 8 am – 4 pm and use a guest computer to get registered. It is a good idea to make an appointment with Janet. Please keep in mind the office opens promptly at 8 am and closes promptly at 4 pm, so be sure to allow ample time before 4 pm. Janet also takes an hour lunch each day, so it is highly recommended you make an appointment with Janet. Other office staff can get you set up on a computer; however they may not be able to answer specific questions about the new system.

To those of you who already registered and have tried entering hours, thank you for being a pioneer! I look forward to exploring this new system with you! I believe it will save us a lot of time in the long run, once we learn how to use and get used to it.

Angie Tilton



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**Hendricks County Master Gardeners  
Spring Gardening Show**

**Gardening for All Ages**  
*Hendricks County Fairgrounds*  
April 22, 2017      9 to 4

 An illustration of various gardening items including a straw hat, a shovel, a watering can, a bucket, a bag of soil, and several potted plants.

It's time to sign up for Gardening for All Ages volunteer jobs. See the members page of the website for more info.

**Adventures in Gardening**  
**October 7, 2017**

 A photograph of an indoor event space decorated with autumn-themed floral arrangements. A sign in the background reads "Adventures in Gardening".