

February 2015

Rosie Lenihan, President
lenihrose1161@att.net

Barb Zupan, Vice President
bsz@indy.rr.com

Karen Smith, Treasurer
karen12208@aol.com

Judy Kenninger, Secretary
judy@kenningercommunications.com

Ed Freeman, Communications
webmaster@hendricksgardeners.com

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President's Message

Greetings Hendricks County Master Gardeners & Interns,

Our January Master Gardener meeting seemed, almost, like a touch of Spring! We had a total of 53 gardener-type people, wonderful news and update of GFAA, 2015 Budget presented and passed by membership, updates on existing projects and opportunities to *sign up for 2015 Volunteer efforts!*

John Chapin presented another great program, this time on Viburnums - and he did describe their scents - even if we couldn't quite experience it for real.

There is not a new Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR), Jon Cain replacement yet. Ed Freeman has requested we all consider 4-hour shifts for GFAA since a 2015 Intern Class for this spring looks rather slim. The upside of this is more volunteer hours available - and Chase is most helpful in collecting and tracking those for us. Send 'em in!

HCMG Handbook and Directory is being compiled by Jan Myers and her proofreaders. All members with current dues paid by February 1 will be included in the Directory unless you don't want your scoop printed.

Our 2015 HCMG Bus Trip to Missouri Botanical Gardens is a GO. It will be a one-day trip, tentatively planned for June. Date and details will be shared as plans are confirmed.

There are five Open Gardens planned - dates pending. If you would like us to come see your yard and gardens please contact a Board member. Please remember this is a visit - not a garden tour. We like weeds. We ALL have them!

Theresa Mathieson and Roxanne McGlone are co-chairing Adventures In Gardening on Saturday, October 3, 2015. More plans underway and details will be shared as schedules are confirmed.

Tom May is chairing our 2015 Scholarship Committee. Due Date for Scholarship Applications to be announced. Please let your "students" know this \$1500 Scholarship will be available and to check on our website.

Our February 17th meeting speaker is Linda Blocher who has judged for several years at fairs and events in the areas of plants, flowers, and produce. But beyond fair entries Linda is a wealth of educational information regarding the good and not so wonderful (fungi, bugs, etc) that attach to our garden items - and that's from plants and pruners.

We are still growing Interns....

Volunteer, grow, and meet an Intern! "Grow Interns, Grow Master Gardeners"

- Rosie Lenihan

Member Meetings & Information

February Meeting

Date: February 17, 2015

Time: Social Time 6:30 p.m./Business meeting 7 p.m.

Events: Presentation: Linda Blocher **Judging Floriculture & Garden at the Fair**

Location: Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds

Have you exhibited at the fair? Did you know you are eligible? Do you know how to prepare your exhibit? You may be shaking your head “no” to one or more of these questions.

You are a Master Gardener and you are proud of the things you grow. So, why not show them off? Come to the February 17th meeting and learn how to exhibit to impress the judge.

The program will be **Judging Floriculture & Garden at the Fair** by Linda Blocher. Linda is a Putnam County gold level Master Gardener with over 2000 volunteer hours to her credit. She has been exhibiting in floriculture and garden for about 13 years. She has studied under two certified judges and attended judging workshops at Purdue. She has judged at numerous County Fairs and conventions. Linda will share with us what she looks for as a judge, following national standards and Purdue 4-H standards.

Mark your calendars. Get the inside scoop on exhibiting. Bring your questions. Then go home and look through the seed catalogs and decide what you are going to grow and show!

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 4 days 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 website](#) no more than one week after the most recent business meeting.

2015 Master Gardener Classes

Hendricks County’s Master Gardener Classes have usually started in January of each year. However, this year we are without an ANR Educator until Jon Cain’s replacement is appointed. The ANR Educator is responsible for conducting the classes.

We will post further information about the schedule for classes here and on the website as it becomes available.

2015 Membership Dues

Dues for individuals are \$15 and couples are \$25. Pay at the meeting or mail a check to HCMG, P.O. Box 7, Danville, IN 46122-0007

Dues are payable in January each year. If you haven’t paid yet please send them promptly.

Volunteers Needed for Open Gardens

Volunteers are being sought to host Open Gardens in 2015.

HCMG refers to them as Open Gardens rather than Garden Tours because all we ask you to do is open your garden to members. Open Gardens are very informal with no expectation to do anything out of the ordinary to your garden, no expectation to serve refreshments, no muss or fuss—just relax and let members enjoy your gardens with you.

Members enjoyed several Open Gardens in 2014. Each of the gardens was very different from the next. There was something to be learned in each and every garden, no matter how large or small.

If you would like to host an Open Garden in 2015, please email to hcmg.communications@gmail.com. You will be contacted early in 2015 to arrange the date and time, and get the information out to the membership.

Contribute to the Newsletter

Chairing a committee? Know about an interesting event? Have some timely garden advice? Giving a presentation somewhere? Need volunteers for a project?

Keep your fellow members informed. Contact Ed Freeman to get your info into the newsletter or on the website

Master Gardener Presentations

Feb 18--6:30 p.m. "Best Annual Flowers" Coletta Kosiba

Brownsburg Library: 450 South Jefferson Street--call 852-3167

There is a whole world of annuals to choose from besides marigolds and petunias. Learn what annuals are so easy that they need no deadheading and bloom until fall. Unusual sizes and shapes and drought tolerant annuals

March 11--7 p.m. "Native Plants in the Home Garden"

Coletta Kosiba

Plainfield library: 120 Stafford Road--call 839 6602

Using native plants in your landscape for a low maintenance beautiful garden that will attract birds and butterflies. Learn an amazing variety of colorful hardy native plants guaranteed to thrive in Hoosier habitats

Mar 18-- 6:30 p.m. "Choose Your Weapon": Garden Tools Every Gardener Should Know"

Coletta Kosiba

Brownsburg Library: 450 South Jefferson Street--call 852-3167

With the proper tools, work is quick and painless. See lots of tricks to make working in the garden a breeze. **Bring your favorite tool!**

March 25 12:30 p.m."Why doesn't my hydrangea bloom"

Coletta Kosiba

Hendricks County Garden Club at Avon Methodist church: 6850 US Highway 36 Avon IN

We can grow many hydrangeas our grandmothers never even dreamed of! Hydrangeas are divided into 4 main groups. Learn their requirements. To Prune or Not Prune? Find out answer to "Why doesn't my hydrangea bloom?" You should have at least one of these marvelous plants with amazingly large blooms in your yard!!

Gardening for All Ages Update

"Gardening for All Ages" is underway, and much has been accomplished! We have procured two confirmed sponsors for the event already (Hendricks Power Cooperative and Lawson & Company). We have a commitment from Tour Hendricks County to provide bags and brochures for the show, as they did last year. We have received positive responses from a half dozen seed companies, and 500 trees have been ordered from the DNR for distribution at the show.

Task sign-up sheets and a master schedule will again be posted at the February meeting for master gardeners to volunteer. Some areas to volunteer for include:

Vendor Hospitality (goodie bags, survey distribution and pickup, evaluation)

Publicity (news releases, advertising, spreading the word around the county and more)

Master Gardener booth (set up, manning booth, answering questions, etc.)

Children's booth (helping with children's gardening projects – need about 8/hour on 4/25)

Gardener's Closet booth (procuring gently used items for sale, booth setup, manning booth)



We also ask that you save your newspaper sleeves, which are used to wrap the sapling trees the day before the show. Bring them to any upcoming meeting for Roxanne McGlone. If you want to ask your neighbors to help, that would be great! If you have garden magazines that you hate to throw away, bring them along. We will distribute them at the Gardener's Closet. And don't throw that old planter, or garden tool away, if it's able to be sold at a garage sale price! Save your collectibles for our Gardener's Closet. If you can set these used items aside until April 24, that is best. If you don't have room to store them until that time, feel free to bring items to the next meeting and give to Becky Troutman, Ed or Suzy Freeman.

This is one project with lots of intensive planning, lots of fun and camaraderie along the way. Watch for the master sign-up sheets at the February meeting!

Upcoming Events

[See the HCMG website](#) for more information on upcoming HCMG events. Be sure to mark your calendar for the following events:

- March 14-22, 2015 - Flower and Patio Show • Indiana State Fairgrounds
- April 25, 2015 - Gardening for All Ages • HC Fairgrounds Expo Hall
- June 4-6, 2015 - Purdue Master Gardener State Conference • Evansville
- October 3, 2015 - Adventures in Gardening (Note: Changed from previously published date) • HC Fairgrounds

Statewide Events

[See the Purdue website](#) for statewide Master Gardener events.

The Purdue Master Gardener Program has entered the world of social media with a brand new Twitter account. Follow them at <https://twitter.com/PurdueMG>

Volunteer & Educational Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteers are needed for the Operations Committee. Please contact a board member or email hcmg.communications@gmail.com for more information.
- The HCMG Board is in search of members willing to host plant digs to provide plants for next year's plant auction. Please email hcmg.communications@gmail.com or contact a board member if you are interested.
- 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" tabs.

Spring is coming!—Local Plant Sales

Saturday, April 18, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM—Earth Day Native Plant Sale, benefiting Hendricks County Parks and Recreation – McCloud Nature Park, North Salem. Many selections from over 1,000 plants. Free entrance.

Saturday, April 25, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM—Many different plants offered by vendors at "Gardening for All Ages," .

Avon Outdoor Learning Center—Native Plant Sale—Most likely in **early May**—Please look for further announcements! Free entrance.

Saturday, May 9, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM --Danville Downtown Merchants' Association Geranium Festival—Farmers' Market and many other vendors, including the plant booth of the Hendricks County Garden Club. Free entrance.

Saturday, May 9, 10:15 AM – 12:30 PM – Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society (INPAWS) Native Plant Sale –Park Tudor Gym, 7200 North College (entrance off 71st St.), Indianapolis. Auction of rare and prime specimen plants at 11:00 AM. Free entrance.

Saturday, May 16, 8:00 AM –3:00 PM –Hamilton County Master Gardeners Plant (including Iris) Sale. "Expanded selection of Indiana natives, perennials, annuals, vegetables and trees. Bearded Iris Sale (dug to order at iris bed). Hamilton County Fair Grounds. Free entrance.

Tuesday, May 19, 6:30 PM—Hendricks County Master Gardeners annual plant auction. Hendricks County Fairgrounds.



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