

March 2015

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In This Issue

President's Message	1
Membership and Meetings	2
2015 GFAA Event	3
Upcoming Events and Opportunities	4

President's Message

Greetings Master Gardeners & Interns!

Just think...we didn't need to spend all our nickels going south...we have the same weather as they do...and this snow will augment our water supply, of course, so could rain!

Linda Blocher's February program "Judging Floriculture & Garden at the Fair" was a most welcome wealth of information for our 55 members and guests present. Blocher reminded us that Open Class at the Hendricks County Fair is open for public exhibits - that includes HCMG, too! Linda gave us tips for exhibits and encouraged members to take the step forward - Exhibit.

Open Class Catalogs should be available at the March meeting.

Thanks to Jan Myers, Karen Monesmith, Ann Selvy, Jeff and Nancy Barnett for creating the HCMG 2015 Handbook and Directory. It's great having this document full of information for our Association. There will be an additional list of 2015 HCMG members available at the meeting this month.

The March 17th program "Plant Breeding for Gardeners" will be presented by HCMG Magen Eller. And since we all enjoy the refreshments, please contact Martha Gooldy to sign up for "your turn."

As spring comes (yes it will) and you clean out your stash of garage and storage items, please consider donating those items for the Gardeners' Closet at our Gardening for All Ages even on April 25.

We are still growing Interns....

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

- Rosie Lenihan



Member Meetings & Information

March Meeting

Date: March 17, 2015

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

Events: Presentation: Magen Eller **Plant Breeding for Gardeners**

Location: Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds

Learn the basics of plant breeding. Add to (or refresh) your skills as a Master Gardener by attending the next meeting and getting in -depth advice from a real expert.

Magen became a Master Gardener in 2013. Her interest and studies in plant science are not just a hobby, but also her career. After receiving her B.S. in Crop Science from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. in Crop Science-Plant Breeding with a Plant Pathology minor from North Carolina State University, Magen joined Monsanto Company as a commercial breeder in 2009.

Magen has made many contributions as a HCMG. In 2014, she was a presenter at GFAA. She is also the co-chair of the Ellis Park Teaching/Learning Garden project. She participated in plant digs and nurtured dozens of plants for the plant auction.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday March 17th, and come and learn from fellow HCMG member Magen Eller.



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](#).

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.

The Extension

MG volunteer and education hours—if you have lost track of your total hours that you have submitted send Chase Stanley an email (stanle19@purdue.edu) and he will bring you up to date.

Extension Homemakers are inviting the public to a financial seminar on April 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be sessions on "Senior Scams and Identity Theft", "Is On-Line Banking Safe?" and "Asset Protection". Admission is free—registration is required by April 22. Contact Carol Pearson (745-9260 or cpearson@purdue.edu) to register.

There are many educational programs offered by Master Gardener organizations throughout Indiana. Check the extension web page for more information about these—it is updated regularly. See <https://extension.purdue.edu/Hendricks/>

Volunteers Needed for Open Gardens

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.

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.

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

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

Brownsville 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!!

April 1 8:30 a.m."Spring Wildflowers: Indiana Native Plants—Flowers of our Woodlands"

Coletta Kosiba

Earth Discovery Center at Eagle Creek Park. 7840 West 56th St, Indianapolis.

We have lots of them growing in Eagle Creek Park. Did you know these natives are easy to grow in your garden? Historical uses, photos, folk lore, and answers to questions. Where to get plants.

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Gardening for All Ages Update

"Gardening for All Ages" preparation continues. Our sponsors this year are Hendricks Power, Lawson & Co., Ray's Trash, and Dammann's Nursery. Exhibitors are signing up for booths. We are excited to have Stream Cuisine as our food vendor. This is Courthouse Ground's mobile food service. They will be offering a menu that includes breakfast and lunch items.

Task sign-up sheets and a master schedule will again be posted at the March meeting for master gardeners to volunteer. Nearly fifty volunteers have signed up so far, but we still need a few more people for

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

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



Don't forget about saving your newspaper sleeves for wrapping the sapling trees. Bring them to any upcoming meeting for Roxanne McGlone. 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.

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 Twitter account. Follow them at <https://twitter.com/PurdueMG>

Volunteer & Educational Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteers are needed for the Master Gardener booth at the Earth Day plant sale at McCloud Nature Park on April 18. Please contact Nancy Rice or sign up at the March meeting. Volunteers will be briefed on the plants being offered before the sale so that they can be prepared to answer questions.
- 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. Master Gardeners will be on hand to provide information about plants.

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

Friday, May 1 4:30 PM—7:00 PM & Saturday, May 2 8:00 AM—2:00 PM—Avon Outdoor Learning Center—Native Plant Sale. 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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