

Hendricks County Extension Office
1900 East Main Street
Danville, IN 46122-0007
317-745-9260

www.HendricksGardeners.com

2020 Officers

Steve Pearl, President

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Teri Mitchum, Treasurer

Bruce Crum, Back Up Treasurer

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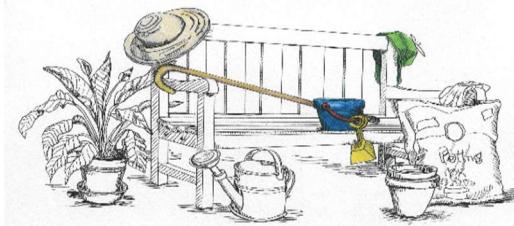
Judy Kenninger,
Communications Director

September 2020



HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



President's Message

Greetings Master Gardeners. Hope your summer has gone well despite all the invasives we're battling. This is a fun time of year with fall flowers blooming, hummingbird chases, watching the butterflies and other favorite insects, and looking for caterpillars in our gardens. Here at the Pearl residence, we've decided that looking for Monarch caterpillars is the summertime version of hunting Morel mushrooms, and just as much fun.

We had a good HCMG meeting in August, with a great presentation by Broch Martindale on growing cutting flowers. The meeting was a combination of in-person and virtual which went as well as could be expected. As a first-time effort, it was a little awkward, and I want to thank all of you attendees for hanging in there with us through the couple minor delays. We will be using the same format for the September meeting, so watch your email and MG Management System for in-person sign-ups and Zoom link.

As an update on our Fall events, the Annual Plant Sale and Auction which had been rescheduled for September 9th has been cancelled. At the August board meeting, we decided to cancel the December 8 Winter Dinner and Awards. Awards will be presented at the January HCMG general business meeting on January 19, 2021. And one additional note, the Avon Outdoor Learning Center Native Plant Sale rescheduled for September 18-19 has been cancelled. And while it may sound like everything has been cancelled, that's not the case. We are moving forward with Adventures in Gardening on October 10, and our monthly business meetings will be held on September 15, October 20 and November 17.

Carol Gillaspy, Susan Gackenheimer and the AIG Committee continue to prepare a great program for Adventures in Gardening on October 10. As with our monthly meetings, appropriate precautions and safety are top of mind. We will be using the entire North and South Halls to allow social distancing. They have a great program lined up, so check out the HCMG website for details and registration information. The price is right!

It's almost time again to elect HCMG officers for next year. The Nominating Committee, Pat Dallas, Chuck Dallas and Vicki Coleman will present a slate of officer candidates at the September meeting, so

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If you're interested in an Executive Board position for 2021, please let one of them know. Also, if you should get a call from them asking you to serve in a Board position, please give it careful consideration. Election of the 2021 officers will occur at the October 20 meeting.

At the July board meeting, we adopted proposed revisions to the HCMG's Bylaws. The primary reason for the revisions is to add two new positions to the Board: Assistant Treasurer and Project Coordinator. The revisions also include a few updates and cleanups. I provided a "redline" version of the proposed revision and a summary of changes via email on August 11; they're also available for review on the HCMG Website. The membership will vote on ratification at the October 20 meeting before the election, so that we can fill the new positions for 2021 if approved.

A special THANK YOU to Nancy Rice and Becky Troutman for hosting Open Gardens. It was great to see their beautiful gardens, the fruits of their "garden therapy" and some real people.

On a final note, the Annual Purdue Volunteer Agreements are due on September 1. When you log onto the Master Gardener Management System, it will prompt you to sign, so simply follow the directions. So be sure to log onto MSGS sometime this month and sign the agreement.

It has been a long year thus far, and it was simply wonderful to see some of you at recent events. I really look forward to seeing many more of you in coming months. We have a lot of catching up to do. In the meantime, please keep up with your garden therapy, stay adaptable as we know all gardeners are, and above all STAY SAFE. Hope to see you soon.

Steve Pearl, President

September Meeting Preview

At our September 15 meeting, John Chapin of Tree Frog Gardens and Chapin Landscaping will be reviewing some of the most innovative and popular, yet possibly little-known, Proven Winners shrubs. "There are many exciting introductions on the market, with many uses in today's landscapes, large and small," he says. "Flowering shrubs are playing an increasing role in garden designs,

supplementing perennials and trees and adding low-maintenance interest to landscapes of all sizes. Proven Winners has become known for introducing excellent varieties of flowering and foliage shrubs as well as evergreens and even a few fruit-bearing shrubs. There's a Proven Winners shrub for every garden!"

The meeting starts at 7 p.m., and we won't serve refreshments. To attend in person, you must sign up via the MG Manager so that we stay within social distancing requirements. We will email a Zoom invite so everyone else can attend virtually, just click on the link and follow the instructions. Zoom software is quite simple to use, but if you haven't Zoomed before, you can find tutorials and more info at support.zoom.us. Both those who attend virtually and in person qualify for education credits and can vote on HCMG business.

Adventures in Gardening Registration Open



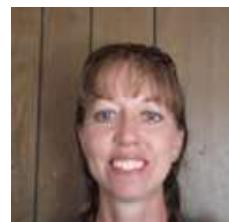
Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp



Colletta Kosiba



Simon Davies



Amy McKamey



Scott Lawrence

Plans are still underway for our fall Adventures in Gardening program on October 10. Speakers include the ever-popular Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp (AKA the Hoosier Gardener), HCMG standout speaker Colletta Kosiba on Bulbs, Corms and Rhizomes--the Underground Story, Simon Davies on Singing in the Rain--an Introduction to Residential Rain Gardens, Amy McKamey on The Basics of Backyard Poultry and Scott Lawrence on Preserving the Gardener.

Prior registration is required--please register at hendricksgardeners.com/aig2020reg.php.

When you register, you'll have the option of paying the fee through PayPal or by mailing a check. The registration fee of \$15 includes a box lunch and snacks. Payment must be received by September 28.

The presentations will be recorded and available for viewing for those who can't attend the live event. Attendees will be seated to achieve social distance. Some of the speakers may present remotely.

Plainfield Correctional Facility Gardens On!

Eloisa Garza, chair of our Plainfield Correctional facility project has some much welcome good news to share. "We are happy to report that the men have been gardening," she says. "Despite the Coronavirus creating difficult conditions for both

the men and staff members, they have still been able to garden. In addition, they also made face masks for their own use and shipped them to other facilities. I was able to collect donations of 140 pounds of fabric plus thread, elastic and even a sewing machine!"

Over the summer, the men at Plainfield donated some starters plants to our HCMG demonstration garden as promised.

So far this year, the project has also donated 10 pounds of radishes to Sheltering Wings Women's Center, and 90 pounds of radishes, beets and lettuce to Wheeler Mission.

HCMG extends a huge thank you to all who have supported and volunteered for this hugely successful effort.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

September 15 • HCMG Monthly Meeting

October 10 • Adventures in Gardening

October 20 • HCMG Monthly Meeting and Election of Officers

November 17 • HCMG Monthly Meeting

(Note: all dates may change based on conditions related to COVID-19)