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2020 Officers

Steve Pearl, President

Sara Fenton, Vice President

Teri Mitchum, Treasurer

Bruce Crum, Back Up Treasurer

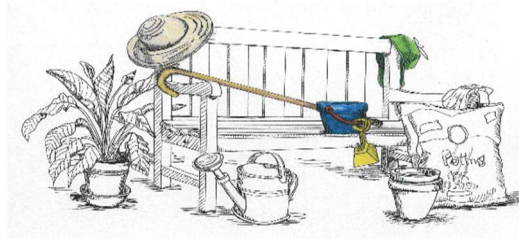
Cathy Frederick, Secretary

Judy Kenninger,
Communications Director

October 2020

HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



President's Message

Happy Fall Master Gardeners. September 22 was the Autumnal Equinox, in which we had equal day and night. The days only get shorter from here until December 21, when the days will start getting longer again. Fall is always a pretty time of year with the colors of falling leaves and Fall-blooming flowers. The only problem with Fall, for some of us, is what is to follow.

We had another good HCMG meeting in September, with a great presentation by John Chapin on Flowering Shrubs. As with the August meeting, September was a combination of in-person and virtual; it again went as well as could be expected. Holding a combination meeting is still a little awkward, and I want to thank all who attended for hanging in there through the inevitable minor delays. We'll be using the same format for the October meeting, and November as well, so watch your email and MG Management System for in-person sign-ups and Zoom link. I am requesting that those attending the October meeting via Zoom do so with their video ON. We'll be voting on the ratification of the proposed revision to the Bylaws as well as our 2021 officers, and it will be much easier to count "raised hands" on Zoom video rather than a voice poll.

As you know, the Executive Board adopted a proposed revision to the HCMG Bylaws in July, and it was explained at the September meeting. The primary reason for the revision is to add two new positions to the Executive Board, an Assistant Treasurer and a Project Coordinator. The proposed revision also includes a few updates and cleans up provisions. I provided a "redline" version of the proposed revision and a summary of changes via email on August 11, and it's also available for review on the HCMG Website. The ratification of the proposed bylaw revision is on the October meeting agenda and will occur prior to the election. If the revision is approved, we can have the two new officers in place for 2021.

A big THANK YOU to the nominating committee, Vicki Coleman, Pat Dallas, and Chuck Dallas. At the September meeting, Vicki presented the slate for 2021 officers, who will be elected at our October meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor if anyone else is interested in serving on the board.

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A big THANK YOU also to Carol Gillaspay, Susan Gackenheimer and the AIG Committee for their hard work on Adventures in Gardening scheduled for October 10. They've put together a great program, and it promises to be a wonderful and educational day.

A quick reminder, as with so many of our events this year, the Winter Dinner & Awards scheduled for December 8 has been cancelled. Here's to hoping we will be able to get back to normal for our 2021 events and activities.

Also, the Annual Purdue Volunteer Agreements are due, so if you haven't signed the agreement please log onto MGMS and do so. When you log onto the Master Gardener Management System, a pink box will appear if you haven't signed the agreement, just follow the instructions. Please be sure to enter "Hendricks County" when asked. Your annual volunteer and educational hours for 2020 are due by October 31. The volunteer hour requirement has been waived for 2020, but you still need to enter your educational hours.

As I mentioned last month, it has been simply wonderful to see some of you at recent events. I really look forward to seeing many more of you in coming months. 2020 has been a long year and we have a lot of catching up to do. In the meantime, please stay adaptable as we know all gardeners are, and above all STAY SAFE Hope to see you soon.

Steve Pearl, President

Upcoming Meeting Preview

Our October meeting will feature Greenscape Geeks. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. as we can't

serve refreshments. To attend in person, sign up via the MG Manager so that we stay within social distancing requirements. Everyone else can attend virtually through the Zoom invite, just click on the link and follow the instructions. Both those who attend virtually and in person qualify for education credits and can vote on HCMG business including elections for 2021 officers.

In November, Constance Ferry with Hobbit Gardens will speak on self-care ideas for the holidays, plus herbs and teas.

Demo Garden Donates to Local Non-profits

Becky Troutman has great news about the HCMG Demonstration Garden. "I am happy to report that as of September, the amount of produce donated to local food pantries is 125 pounds," she says. "Since we had a late start planting the seedlings, many of which were grown by the Plainfield Correctional Center inmates, I wasn't sure how well the plants would grow and produce. We can be proud of our donations that help food insecure families in Hendricks County."

The Adopt-a-Plot program announced recently has been a success, with just a few beds left to be adopted. These include the Entrance Garden's South beds A and B, the PVC raised bed and the straw bale beds. Also, several volunteers have expressed a desire to have a buddy to help with their beds. To participate, please contact Becky. "This is a great way to earn volunteer hours, and even though the need for hours has been waved for this year, the credits are cumulative and will be in your account," she says. "Also, I want to give a BIG YEE HA! to all volunteers. I truly appreciated them stepping up to the challenge and choosing to help."

Upcoming Dates to Remember

October 10 • Adventures in Gardening
October 20 • HCMG Monthly Meeting and Election of Officers
November 17 • HCMG Monthly Meeting
January • 2021 Meetings Begin

(Note: all dates may change based on COVID-19 restrictions.)