

# HENDRICKS GARDENER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
HENDRICKS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

January 2023



PURDUE EXTENSION  
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

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

## President's Message

Thanks for the memories....

This year has been a real learning experience for me. I really like it better when my learning involves more plants and dirty soil, but it takes a bit more than personal work to keep our kind of organization going. It's that 'everybody pitch in and help out' part that actually makes it a group effort! I look forward to sitting in the back row, so I'm



going to be pushing some of you forward for your turns, cause if I can, you can too!

And we're off - - for another great year!  
Sara Fenton  
Formerly known as President

## 2022 Winter Dinner Celebration

Our annual HCMG Awards Banquet occurred on Tuesday December 13 in the HC Fairgrounds North Hall. Co-chairs for the dinner this year were Suzy Freeman and Terry Meingasner, who worked very hard to make the evening festive, entertaining, and fun! They had a great team of volunteers who set up, welcomed attendees, bartended, served the buffet, cleaned up and much more.

The evening started with drinks and appetizers, along with a lot of socializing and photos (see last page). Sara Fenton welcomed all and provided an invocation. The Italian themed dinner was hearty and delicious. While the meal was being enjoyed, entertainment was provided by the Plainfield Middle School Jazz Band, under the direction of Erika Step. There was also a surprise "flash mob" who danced to "Jingle Bell Rock."

The evening continued with the awards announced by Sara and presented by Jeff Pell. to Master Gardeners who achieved new levels of service and received certificates, along with their badges. The celebration ended with the drawing for beautiful 4H poinsettias.

## Congratulations Master Gardeners Who Achieved New Levels



**New Master Gardeners:** Dee Moore, Kathy Abel, Patricia Furner, Courtney Harrington, Marian Knueven, Dennis Nelson, Tracy Van Tryon (not pictured: Igor Kalenny)



**Advanced Master Gardeners:** Courtney Harrington, Dee Moore, Dennis Nelson, Glenda Prysock, Mary Jo Vickery, Cal Sundine (not pictured: Clarissa Petery)

*Happy New Year!*



**Advanced Master Gardeners Bronze:** Teri Sundine, Susan Gackenheimer, Carol Gillaspay, Kathe Rae, John Rardin



**Advanced Master Gardeners Silver:** Deloris Elza, Teri Mitchum



**Advanced Master Gardeners Gold 1000:** Vicki Coleman



**Advanced Master Gardeners Gold 4000:** Colletta Kosiba



**Advanced Master Gardeners Gold 5000:** Steve Pearl

## January Meeting Presentation

New Vice President Andria Grady has coordinated an excellent speaker for the next meeting on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Diane Blazek, the Executive Director of All-American Selections, and the National Garden Bureau is the presenter. Diane will share how the All-American Selections are made, the new plant winners for the upcoming year and what goes into being a trial gardener. She will also briefly discuss the programs offered by the National Garden Bureau, as well as membership benefits. This program is open to the public and free! Please share the information and invite your gardening friends!



## 2023 Dues are Due by January 31st!

2023 membership dues need to be paid by January 31st if you want to be included in the 2023 HCMG Directory. Also, please remember to be an HCMG member you must sign the Annual Purdue Volunteer Agreement on the MG Manager website.

Dues are the same this year; \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple. There are three options to pay:

1. Mail a check to the Extension Office  
Attn: Hendricks County Master Gardeners,  
PO Box 7, Danville, IN 46122-0007.
2. Pay by cash, check, or credit card at the  
Jan. 17th meeting
3. Use PayPal or credit card through the  
HCMG website in the Members section:

<https://www.hendricksgardeners.com/dues2023.php>

## **Hendricks County Master Gardeners Pollinator Garden**

The Hendricks County Master Gardeners (HCMG) Demonstration Garden at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds began with an ambitious group of Master Gardeners. There were three distinct visions – an Entrance Garden, to welcome visitors into the garden; a Raised Garden Area to educate about the variety and benefits of raised gardens; and a Pollinator Garden to educate about the importance of pollinators and show the variety of plants available to plant.

The Pollinator Garden was designed by two Master Gardeners. Multiple native plant growers and the Hendricks County Parks Department helped their vision become reality by donating most of the native plants installed in the garden by the Master Gardeners in 2017. The contributors to all areas of the Demonstration Garden are recognized on signage throughout the garden.

When the gardeners decide to start a pollinator garden, the first native plants that come to mind are Purple Coneflowers and Black-eyed Susan's. Although the developers of the HCMG Pollinator Garden love Purple Coneflowers and Black-eyed Susan's, they wanted to demonstrate that there is a wide variety of native pollinator-friendly plants that will work in everyone's garden. The Pollinator Garden currently has over 100 varieties of native and pollinator-friendly plants.

As with most gardens, the Pollinator Garden is a continual work in process. During the Spring of 2018, it was discovered that water runoff caused flooding in a section of the garden. A trench was dug, and gravel installed. This did not resolve the drainage issue.

Guidance and information on rain gardens were received from Hendricks County Soil and Water Conservation District employees. A grant was secured from the Marion County Soil and Water

Conservation District to purchase plants for a Rain Garden and Shrub Guild. Additional trenching was done; river rock installed; a dirt berm created; and plants installed to create a Rain Garden. By directing the water runoff through an area with water loving plants, the drainage issue was resolved.

Many bees, butterflies, and birds have visited the Pollinator Garden. The garden has been visited by numerous guests attending functions at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. Tours will be available beginning in 2023.

Article written by HCMG Terri Tramm. Terri has a great love of natives plants and wants all of you to join her in planting them in your garden for the pollinators!



### **2023 HCMG Board**

Debbie Off, President

Andria Grady, Vice President

Teri Mitchum, Treasurer

Bruce Crum, Assistant Treasurer

Sharon Miller, Secretary

Kathe Rae, Communications Coordinator

Karen Chapman-Smith, Project Coordinator

## Remembering Our Friends: Nancy Rice

We are saddened by the passing of long-time master gardener Nancy Rice. She was very active in her community, church, parks, clubs and HCMG.



Throughout the years, Nancy did not hesitate to volunteer to help with programs, projects, fundraising, etc. She enjoyed helping with the Gardening for All Ages show, especially with the children's booth, and also the Hendrick's County Fair.

She was very knowledgeable about trees, bushes, and shrubs, sharing her experience in planting and pruning, by providing presentations. Nancy hosted a garden tour at her home, and those who attended were able to see and enjoy her tree and bush specialty. Most recently, Nancy was on the Adventures in Gardening planning committee and coordinated a very successful silent auction at AIG in October.

Nancy will be greatly missed for her dedicated and compassionate community involvement.



***Gardening for All Ages***  
***April 29, 2023***

## 2023 Calendar

- **January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, General Meeting; North/South Halls**
- **February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, GFAA Set up; Hendricks Power Expo**
- **April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 GFAA; Hendricks Power Expo**
- **May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Plant Sale & Auction; Cartilage Barn**
- **September 19, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, AIG Set Up; North/South Halls**
- **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, AIG; North/South Halls**
- **October 17, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **November 21, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C**
- **December 12, 2023, Winter Awards Dinner; North/South Halls**



Thanks to our tree decorating committee for the beautiful and festive tree!

# Awards Dinner Highlights:

