

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



Happy 2023! It's going to be an **EXCITING** year! Our January speaker, Diane Blazek, was **WOW – Amazing!** The South Hall was packed. There were over 100 people in attendance.

Thanks, Andria, for an excellent program.

The technology committee has been working hard on the new website. A sneak peak of the site was presented at the October meeting. The technology committee will be ready soon to present the “Go Live” version to membership. Stay tuned for more updates.

The new intern class started January 23. Last count there were approximately 30 people signed up for the class. Volunteer opportunities to serve as a host have been posted and filled. Thanks to those that volunteered. I know Jeff appreciates the help. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2023. Debbie Off

Diane Blazek Program Highlights

Great turnout for this highly anticipated program and Diane certainly delivered! She shared a historical perspective and the current processes for selecting the annual All-American Selections. This includes annual flowers and vegetables, perennials, shrubs, and houseplants. How the plant trials occur was particularly interesting and the photos certainly illustrated the differences. If you would like more information and/or to check out the winning selections, here is a link;

<https://all-americaselections.org/>



Next Meeting & Program - Feb. 21st

February Speaker Spotlight

Gaye Hammond

GARDENING IN THE 'HELL STRIP'

LET'S FACE IT EVERY LANDSCAPE HAS A 'HELL STRIP'. ITS THAT SPOT WHERE THINGS DONT WANT TO GROW LIKE THEY SHOULD. A LOT OF TIMES THIS IS THAT STRIP OF GRASS BETWEEN THE SIDEWALK AND THE CURB IN RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS WHERE NOT EVEN GRASS WILL GROW. SOMETIMES ITS THAT SPOT BY THE GARAGE THAT SEEMS TO ALWAYS BE WET OR THAT FLOWER BED WHERE LITERALLY EVERYTHING DIES.

SO HOW DO YOU TURN THESE UNPRODUCTIVE SPOTS AROUND SO THAT THEY BECOME PRODUCTIVE AREAS OF THE LANDSCAPE? GAYE HAMMOND, BEST PRICED ONE OF THE HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY WILL SHARE TIPS AND TRICKS FOR GARDENING IN THE HELL STRIP AND SOLVING THESE LANDSCAPE WOE.

Presentation created with the Master Gardener in mind

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Gaye's bio is included on the next page

Gaye will Zoom to us from Texas!

Happy Valentine's Day!



GFAA April 29, 2023

GFAA Planning Update

While planning for this year's GFAA has been going on for some time, the committee officially met on 1/9. Thanks to Steve and Kim Somermeyer for again chairing our most popular annual event, and to all the dedicated committee members who make it happen!!

Here is what was discussed;

1. Sponsors to date per Suzy Freeman:
 - Hendrick's Power
 - Save a Tree
 - Dammann's Garden Center
 - Lawson & Co.
 - Kramer Companies
2. Presentations: Decided to have four speakers, only in the morning, since attendance in the afternoon seems to really drop. Would again like our own MGs to present. Contact Carol Gillaspay if interested.
3. Trees: John Dottenwhy ordered 200 button bush, 100 red oak, 200 bald cypress, 100 white pines, 200 gray dogwoods. *Please save newspaper bags. Shredded paper is also needed. Bring both to meetings!*
4. Postcards: Will be available very soon.
5. Seeds: Vickie Coleman stated that seed donations have been secured. Will again be sorted and bagged.
6. Gardener's Closet: Becky Troutman asked for donations. Still prefer garden

related items, but will accept all, except chemicals. Contact Becky for pick up.

7. Children's Booth: Kerry Cates would like several additional members for the planning committee.
8. Vendors: Pat & Chuck Dallas reported 86% booths filled!
9. Food Truck: Chompz will be back. Also decided to have breakfast food available for attendees to purchase.
10. Donated Bulbs: Received a large donation of spring bulbs. Would like to plant and force blooms, to sell at the show. If anyone has 6" pots to share, please bring them to the Feb. meeting.
11. Antique Tractor Association: Equipment was a huge hit with kids last year, so will be back again.
12. Set up: April 28th; the trees may be bagged in the evening on April 27.

Dues Update

Teri Mitchum and Bruce Crum would like to thank members for paying annual dues in a timely manner. Over 90% paid by the 1/31 deadline for inclusion in the 2023 directory, which should be available by the March 21st meeting.

Congrats!



Jeff Pell presented certificates to Andria Grady, Advanced EMG Bronze, and Igor Kalenny, Certified EMG at the Feb. meeting.

HCMGA Scholarship Program

In recent years, there have not been as many applications for our scholarship program as we would like. However, our scholarship ambassadors, Jan Myers and Rosie Lenihan, are working to increase the interest and applications! In addition to Facebook, local newspapers, 4H, high school media, we are asking our members to get the word out to families, neighbors, and friends. Any student who meets the criteria is eligible, including adult learners. Here is information about our program and a link.

- Two \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded to students pursuing an education in one of the following;

1. Accredited University or Technical School in Indiana
2. Continuing Adult Education

- Preference will be given to students pursuing a Horticulture Degree, Certificate or related Agriculture Field.

- Eligibility: Must be a Hendricks County resident.

- Application Deadline: April 15, 2023

<https://www.hendricksgardeners.com/scholarship.html>

GFAA T-Shirt Sale

We are offering GFAA t-shirts for sale this year, in three colors; dark grey, forest green, and cardinal red. Long-sleeved or short-sleeved shirts are available. Orders will be taken at the February and March meetings and the shirts will be distributed at the April 18th meeting. Type, size & price:

- Short Sleeved T-Shirt; S, M, L, XL \$10
XXL \$12, XXXL \$14
- Long Sleeved T-Shirt; S, M, L, XL \$13,
XXL \$15, XXXL \$17

Sample sizes and the three colors will be available at the next 2 HCMG meetings. If you are not able to attend the meetings and would like to order a shirt, please call or e-mail Suzy Freeman (317-730-5954 or ejfandtsf@gmail.com) to place your order. Checks should be made payable to HC Master Gardeners, with "GFAA T-Shirt" in the memo section. If paying by mail, send check as indicated above to:
Purdue Extension Office
PO Box 7
Danville IN 46122

All orders must be paid by the March 21st meeting, to ensure availability by April 18th. Any shirts not picked up at the meeting will be available again at GFAA setup on April 28th, or at 8 a.m. on the morning of GFAA, April 29th.

Hendricks Fairgrounds Blessing Box

At a recent holiday party, Steve and Kim Somermeyer collected four large boxes of food for the Blessings Box at fairgrounds. They also received \$50 cash donations and purchased additional food for the box.



We are all very aware of the struggles many in our community continue to face, so, perhaps, there is more we can do to help. If anyone would like to bring non-perishable items to our meetings, the box can be regularly restocked.



Former HCMG Wins Best of Show

Our master gardener friend, Cathy Dunn, who moved to Florida, recently won the Best of Show for her hibiscus blossom “Climax.” Congrats to Cathy as her beautiful bloom won against 87 other blooms being judged.



February Garden Calendar

By Rosie Lerner

Purdue Consumer Horticulture

GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables, and small fruits)

- Order seeds before it is too late for this year's planting.
- Sketch your garden plans. Remember to include plants to replace or replant crops that you will harvest in spring or early summer.
- Prepare or repair lawn and garden tools for the upcoming season.
- Start seeds indoors for cool-season vegetables so they will be ready to transplant to the garden early in the season. You should start broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage seeds five to seven weeks prior to transplanting.
- Test leftover garden seed for germination. Place 10 seeds between moist paper towels or cover with a thin layer of soil. Keep seeds warm and moist. If fewer than six seeds germinate, then purchase fresh seed.

Upcoming Garden Shows & Programs

Boone County Master Gardeners
“Gardenfest” April 1st, 9:00 – 3:00
Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, Lebanon

Hamilton County Master Gardeners
“Stepping Stones to Successful Gardening”
April 1st, \$50; space is limited.

Monroe County Master Gardeners “Garden Fair” April 15th, 9:00 – 4:00 Switchyard Park, Bloomington

2023 Calendar

- February 21st, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- March 21st, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- April 18th, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- April 28th, 2023, GFAA Set up; Hendricks Power Expo
- April 29th, 2023 GFAA; Hendricks Power Expo
- May 16th, 2023 Plant Sale & Auction; Cartilage Barn
- September 19, 2023, General Meeting; Classrooms A B C
- October 6th, 2023, AIG Set Up; North/South Halls
- October 7th, 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