

PURDUE

U N I V E R S I T Y

PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Elkhart County

Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

17746-E County Road 34

Goshen, IN 46528-6898

Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture



Broadcaster

“Helping Each Other Grow!”

Michiana Master Gardeners Association

March 2010

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FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

The snowflakes are still coming but the number of daylight hours is increasing, the sun seems to appear more often and I find myself thinking that spring is not far away. My thoughts are once again turning to “growing things”.

Helen and I attended the first 2009 Class Spring Seminar this past Saturday at the Bonneyville Park One Room Schoolhouse and enjoyed hearing the various segments presented on Green Gardening. The group was very enthusiastic in sharing their knowledge and experiences and there was a lot of audience interaction. I especially enjoyed Brad's story on his personal technique of eliminating moles and Helen was pleased to get a copy of the Garden Care Calendar that Kent had put together. Oh, also the cookies and coffee served were a nice bonus.

The 2009 class will be presenting four more seminars thru April 24th and I would recommend attending those that will fit into your time schedule. By doing so, you would get the opportunity to meet and support our new members as well as earn additional educational training hours – a win-win situation. If you miss the seminars this spring the class will also be presenting these topics during the Elkhart County Fair in Ag Hall.

A bit more snow fell the evening of our Feb. 23rd MMGA monthly meeting but 60 members arrived at Ag Hall to hear Nancy Brown's presentation on Backyard Conservation. Nancy's enthusiasm for her subject was very contagious.

Next event will be our March 13th spring celebration afternoon seminar with Joe Lamp'l and our annual dinner. I hope to see many of you there.

Jerry Martin



Ornamental Grasses

by *Ericka Soumare, Purdue Extension Educator*

As spring planning continues, ornamental grasses are yet another option for the landscape. They can add spectacular texture and color to the yard and do not need to be pruned, except for cutting them down to the ground in the fall or spring. Ornamental grasses can come in a variety of colors. They are certainly not limited to different shades of green and even produce flowers. Most ornamental grasses are perennials and are considered “bunch” or clump forming grasses. They do not spread very rapidly and basically stay in the general area that they are planted in. They will get wider over time. The good thing about this is that parts of a bunch can be lifted out and planted in other locations throughout the landscape.

Different types of ornamental grasses require different types of conditions to grow successfully. It is important to make sure the area you wish to plant the grass is the best location for the grass to grow. For more information about ornamental grasses, including a list of grasses and their requirements, you can visit the web at <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/HO-219.pdf>. You can also contact your Elkhart County Extension office for more information.

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***Purdue University is an equal access/equal
opportunity institution.***

GARDEN TOUR Volunteer Opportunity

Hello All You Crafty People,

It's hard to believe that Garden Tour 2010 is only five months away. Now is the time to put our heads together to collect or make crafty items.

Here is a list of possibilities to help you put your creative crafty talents to work:

Bird houses	Bird feeders
Living wreaths	Painted chairs
Painted gourds	Hypertufa troughs
Metal art	Plant markers
Bottle trees	Garden hose wreath
Wooden art	Cement leaves
Glass art	Wind chimes
Window art	Living roof on bird houses

Items to look for - or to plant in - or paint on:

Old mail boxes	Buckets - metal
Watering cans-metal	Old toys for plants
Metal tubs	Gourds

Items needed for displays:

four old screen doors
wooden crates

Please HELP make the merchandise sale a great success. If you have any of the above items, please contact me, Judy Marquart, Merchandise Chair, phone (574) 658-4494, or email jmarquart2009@hotmail.com.



Day Minder . . . Watch Us Grow!



13	Sat.	2010 Celebration with Joe Lamp'1 Public Seminar & Annual Meeting	1:30-4 PM
15	Mon.	Board Meeting –Extension Conference Room (12pm if you bring your lunch)	12:30 PM
23	Tues.	No Member Meeting due to Celebration	—



6		Tree Sale Committee Meeting	
12	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting— Extension Conference Room	6:30 PM
17	Sat.	Annual Tree Sale with SWCD	8 AM-3 PM
19	Mon.	Board Meeting–Extension Conference Room (12pm if you bring your lunch)	12:30 PM
27	Tues.	Member Meeting—Ag Hall : Marilyn Horvath presents “South Africa”	7:00 PM
		Tree Sale Committee Wrap-up Meeting	

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- April 1 through October 1, 2010

Michiana Master Gardener Hotline advice available from 9 am to 1 pm daily. Call 574-533-0554. Extension Office—Goshen.

May 10th - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

May 17th - Board Meeting

May 25th - Member Meeting

June 14th - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

June 21st - Board Meeting

June 29th - Member Meeting— Topic: Hydroponics

- **July 10, 2010**

2010 Michiana Master Gardener Garden Tour, Goshen and the surrounding area. For more information watch our website:

www.michianamastergardeners.com

**July 19th - Board Meeting (Board at 4:30-
Fair Setup at 6:30)**

- July 23-31, 2010

2010 Elkhart County 4-H Fair: Goshen fairgrounds

August 9th - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

August 16th - Board Meeting

August 24th - Member Meeting

September 13th - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

September 20th - Board Meeting

September 28th - Member Meeting

- September 28, 2010

Member Meeting: “Roses” Presented by Ideko Widman

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...**TREE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Once again it's time to sign up to help with our annual tree sale project. We need many worker bees to make this project a success. We have jobs to fit any skill level. Our prep days are Thursday April 15th & Friday April 16th from 8:00 – 12:00. Tree pick up day is Saturday April 17th from 8:00 – 2:00 or until cleanup is done. You may sign up for any or all of the work days. The job is dirty so please wear your grubbies and bring gloves & scissors or a utility knife.

If you can help us, please contact Vickie Estep at 269-641-7167 or (spiritdncr@gmail.com) to sign up. This year we will be working in the AG Hall Building so it should be a more pleasant environment to work in.



The Garden Tour committee still needs a Garden Selection Co-Chair, Merchandise Co-Chair, and a Maps and Signs Co-Chair. The Merchandise Co-chair will work with Judy Marquart creating, organizing and pricing donated items for the boutique at the hospitality center. The Maps and Signs Co-chair will work with Sonya Nash designing the map for the ticket book and putting up and removing signs at the tour sights. If you have any questions, please give me a call or drop me an email. We would love to have you join us!

**Questions, call Gwen.
574-264-4356 home
574-226-1103 cell**

Note: Please submit articles for the Broadcaster to Sherrie Zou at sherrie.zou@gmail.com by the end of each month so we can get the publication mailed to you before our monthly Membership meetings the following month. Thanks for all the great articles for March!

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... AND OTHER HAPPENINGS

As website liaison I would like to tell you about a new feature being developed for our website. Dara Revelli is adding a "Volunteer Opportunity" page to our website. We will gather information about upcoming opportunities to volunteer your time to "Help Others Grow" in our community and the surrounding area. In this way you will be able to see at a glance ways you can earn your volunteer hours. Dara will post listings sent to her by our Extension Office and by our membership. If you know of an opportunity that can be shared other Master Gardeners, please forward the particulars to Dara. We would also like to remind all committee chairs to forward your meeting schedules to Dara for publication on the website. In this way we can bring new interest to standing committees from our new class members as well as others in our membership who might like to give your committee a try. ~Vickie Estep

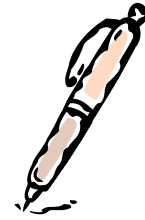
MESSAGES FROM THE M & M'S:

How exciting it is to learn about the 2010 membership roster! We should have a banner 15th year, 2010, based on new and old names and numbers! There is an old saying about getting out of a thing what you put into it! Try it! We know it's true!

Monthly meetings are full of information, fun and fellowship with folks who have our interests, plus the fact you can earn your education hours for the whole year by regular attendance!

One concern might be that you have a problem with attending the monthly meeting. We'd like to help if you have transportation issues. Why not let us know of them & we'll try our best to match you up with a ride! Please call 522-6889 or email mrlnifly@aol.com ahead of time so we can research those who live in your area! Counting down to gardening time....*The M & M's, your Membership Committee* (Marilyns Miles & Horvath)

MMGA Membership Meeting
February 23, 2010,
7:00 p.m. Ag Hall



President Jerry Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the 60 members present.

PROGRAM

Nancy Brown, MMGA member and Program Manager, Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District, presented an interesting program on **Backyard Conservation**. Nancy defined conservation as “the wise use of natural resources”. She discussed 10 elements of conservation: composting, mulching, nutrient management, pest management, backyard ponds, terracing, tree planting, water conservation, wetlands and wildlife habitats. She indicated further information can be obtained at www.nrcs.usda.gov and www.indianawildlife.org

BUSINESS

Thank you Doris Kehr and Christine Goldsborough for the delicious refreshments! Erica Soumare reminded members that if they get a request to speak as a Master Gardener, they should notify both her (or Linda Kimpel) and Jean Rombke. Larry Drudge, Treasurer, reported that we have a bit over \$36,000 in the bank today. Welcome to class of 2009 – Jerry welcomed Kent Yoder, Gaye Yoder, Laura Barbettini, Barb Heeter and Lawrence Scholl, who introduced themselves with a brief description of their gardening interests.

Mary Davis said there are a few seats left for the March 11 bus trip to the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. She has a biographical form for members to fill out, or she “will make things up about you!” She needs 2 or 3 volunteers to help children plant seeds on April 17 at the Elkhart YMCA.

Hanging Basket Rentals – those who “rented the hanging baskets after the fair last summer need to return them to Paul Miles or Jim Bare now, so they can be replanted for 2010.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Spring Celebration Annual Dinner meeting and Public Seminar – Linda Harkleroad and Penny Stroup reminded us, via a skit, of the Annual Dinner to be held at Greencroft, in Goshen on March 13. Joe Lamp'l will speak at the public seminar in the afternoon on *Greening Your Garden While Protecting the Planet*. In the evening he will speak on *The Coolest Garden Gear and Gadgets for the New Year*. Linda, an umbrella will not be needed to protect the planet, and Penny, cool garden gear does not mean shovels and rakes left outside over the winter!

Archive - many thanks to Helen Martin for the collection of articles and photos of the MMGA 2009 year. It will be kept in the MMGA room in the Extension office.

Community Gardens – It was reported by Suzan Stuckman that the first committee meeting will be March 23, 6 PM, at the Elkhart Public Library.

Elkhart County Fair – No report.

Garden Tour – It was reported that still desperately needed are Co-Chairs for the Garden selection committee, the Merchandise committee, and Maps and Signs committees. These people would then be chairs of the respective 2011 committees.

Membership Committee – Marilyn Horvath noted that we have 121 paid up members, including 19 from the 2009 class. She called attention to a sign-up sheet for **anyone needing a ride** to these monthly meetings. (Editors note – if you were not at this meeting because you don't drive at night, phone Marilyn at 522-6889 and she will try to find someone living near you to drive you to these meetings.) The door prize tonight, a beautiful Trumpet Plant, was donated by Gaye Yoder and won by Ruth Yeomans. Marilyn also called attention to the Suggestion Box.

Merchandise - Doris Kehr reported that soon the club merchandise will be available for viewing in an on-line catalog. New stuff will be available.

Michiana Broadcaster – Deadline for the March issue is Feb. 26. Recipes are requested.

New Class Seminars are underway. The next one on Children's Gardening will be Feb. 27 at the Middlebury Public Library.

Member Meeting Notes (con't)

Program Committee – April's speaker will again be one of our own, Marilyn Horvath, speaking and showing pictures of the flora and fauna of South Africa.

Quilt Garden – Heidi Zavatsky reported the first organizational meeting will be sometime in the first week of April.

Speakers Bureau – Requests are being filled.

Tree Sale – Vickie Estep was present but could not speak! Judy Baker read her report that sales are going well, especially the Shrub Variety Pack. The goal this year is to get rid of all trees by the end of the day. Unsold trees will be donated to government entities and local non-profit agencies. If the Garden Tour Committee is interested, up to 50 trees will be given to them to sell at their merchandise sale. Volunteers are needed April 15 and 16 to get trees ready for sale on the 17th, and to clean up after the sale.

Web site – Judy read Vickie's report on the website. A listing of "Volunteers Needed" will be added.

That which is good for the welfare of the organization – there were two suggestions from the January suggestion box:

Do not have a members meeting in January. The Board has reaffirmed that the January meeting is important to get the new year's activities underway, and we will continue to hold January meetings.

More craftsmen and craftswomen needed to make merchandise for sale at the Garden Tour Hospitality Center. The Board agrees, but also stated that "we will do what we can", and no one person is expected to do it all.

Plant identification – a minty-smelling plant circulated by Jerry was tentatively identified by Leona Yoder as a Puerto Rican Oregano.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Bare
February 24, 2009*

*Interesting Facts About Trees from the Website
“National Register of Big Trees”*,,

The largest American Smoketree (*Cotinus obovatus*) is located at Purdue University!! The tree's circumference is greater than 74 inches. The height of the tree is more than 56 feet, and it has a spread of 32 feet.

The Largest Green Ash tree (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) is located in Cass County Michigan. The tree has a circumference of 271 inches, a height of 98 feet, and a spread of 104 feet.

You can research your favorite tree at the website:
www.americanforest.org



MORE UPCOMING EVENTS in Elkhart County...

Organic Beekeeping Workshop with Ross Conrad, May 22nd-23rd, location Rise Up Farm, 22600 SR 120, Elkhart IN, Fee: \$60 for the full workshop, \$35 for one day, \$20 for half-day. Beginner session available. For more information call or email Nichole Bauman at 574-536-0225 or email nicoleocbauman@gmail.com.

Elkhart County Purdue Extension will host a **Community Garden Summit**, Tuesday March 9th at 7 pm, Coordinated by Jeff Burbrink and Ericka Soumare. With the rise of community gardens due to the recession, Jeff and Ericka arranged a meeting with the purpose of helping coordinators of the community gardens share ideas and become acquainted with some of the resources available from Purdue Extension. For more information, call Jeff or Ericka at the Extension office, 574-533-0554 or email jburburink@purdue.edu.

Why Did My Plant Die?

A Poem by: Geoffrey B. Charlesworth

***You walked too close. You trod on it.
You dropped a piece of sod on it.***

**You hoed it down. You weeded it.
You planted it the wrong way up.**

**You grew it in a yogurt cup
But forgot to make a hole;
The soggy soil took it's toll.**

**September storm, November drought.
It heaved in March, the roots popped out.**

You watered it with Herbicide.

**You Scattered bone meal far and wide,
Attracting local omnivores,
Who ate your plants and stayed for more.**

**You left it baking in the sun
While you departed for a run
To find a spade, perhaps a trowel,
Meanwhile the plant simply threw in the towel.**

**You planted it with crown too high,
The soil washed off, that explains why.**

**Too high Ph, It hated lime.
Alas it needs a gentler climb.
You left the root ball wrapped in plastic.
You broke the roots, they're not elastic.**

***You walked too close, you trod on it,
you dropped a piece of sod on it.***

**You splashed the plant with motor oil.
You should do something to your soil.**

**Too rich, Too poor, Such wretched tilth,
Your soil is clay, Your soil is filth**

**Your plant was eaten by a slug.
The growing pot contained a bug.**

**These aphids are controlled by ants,
who milk the juice, it kills the plants.**

**In early spring, your garden's mud.
You walked around, that's not much good.**

**With heat and light you hurried it,
You worried, then you buried it.**

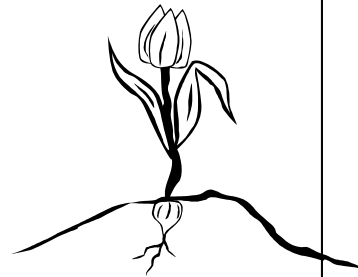
**The poor plant missed the mountain air;
No heat, no summer mugs up there.**

**You overfed it 10-10-10.
You forgot to water it again.**

**You hit it sharply with a hose,
you used a can with out a rose.**

**Perhaps you sprinkled from above,
You should have talked to it with love.
The nursery mailed it without roots.
You killed it with those gardening boots.**

***You walked to close, you trod on it,
You dropped a piece of sod on it.***



Submitted by: Pati Goss

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR THE 2010 MMGA/SWCD TREE SALE

Submitted by Vickie Estep, Tree Sale Chair

When the committee met on February 16, 2010 we discussed the problems we run into when we hold seedlings after the Saturday sale until the following MMG meeting. We are concerned about the quality of the seedlings; the hassle of Jim M. having to leave his trailer at the fairgrounds; the hassle to the SWCD staff of dealing with people calling about leftovers during that two weeks; and the problem of trying to find homes for sad little seedlings leftover after the member meeting.

We are not proposing any changes to published prices, so if you get your **order in by the March 12, 2010** deadline you will still get the second best deal of the sale. (The best was you already ordered by December 1 and received the 10% discount.)

Anyone can purchase “leftover” trees on **pickup day, April 17th, from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM**, still at a good price, but more than if you preordered. In fact, encourage everyone you know to be there to pick up seedlings!!

But here is where things will be different. As a solution to all of the above mentioned concerns, we have made the following changes:



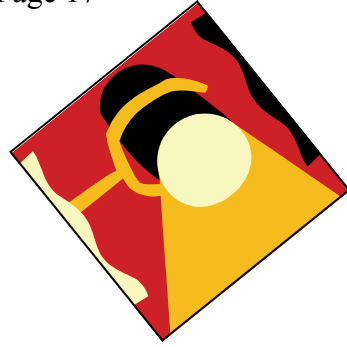
All sales to the general public, including MMGs, will end at 1 PM on Saturday. The Committee will have previously contacted local **government entities** (public schools, city and county park departments, libraries, township trustees, etc.) to let them know that at **1:30 PM** they will be able to purchase any leftover trees at the preorder price.

At 2:00 PM the MMGA Garden Tour Committee Representatives will be allowed to take up to 50 trees free of charge to save and pot to sell at the Garden Tour. (The Tree Committee will work out with the Garden Tour Committee who will represent them for this selection.)

At 2:15 PM all remaining trees will be given to local non-profits, such as the Boys and Girls Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Habitat for Humanity, LaCasa, and others. They will be contacted before hand, and will be given a number to call if they want to know what is left before driving out to the fairgrounds.

Although an adjustment for everyone, we feel it will be less stress on the seedlings and on those of us who spend so much time on this sale!! Our goals include better sales on Saturday, and healthier seedlings being planted more quickly.

Please remind everyone you know to get their order in by March 12th. But if that isn't possible, then be here on April 17th to scarf up the last of the offerings for 2010!



Member Spotlight

By Mary Davis

AMY MCLAUGHLIN

Amy McLaughlin (class of 2004) loves to read. She indicated her reading usually reflects her interests, and since becoming a master gardener, she has acquired a lot of gardening books. She also enjoys mysteries, history and cookbooks and enjoys cooking, history, counted cross-stitch and Star Trek. She and her husband, Brian K. Hunsberger have a cat named B' Elanna, a calico. You apparently have to know more about Star Trek than I do (which admittedly is almost nothing) to know the origin of and how to pronounce kitty's name. Kitty had a sister Shade who died, but Amy indicated together they were the source of many funny stories.

Amy and her husband are both employed at Syndicate Systems, and she has always lived in the Middlebury area, although she spent time as an exchange student in Finland between high school and college. She said this was an interesting year in her life—the Finns speak (surprise) Finnish, which really isn't much like any other language. She learned quite a bit and could understand much of what was said, but was not very fluent at speaking.

As a result, she listened and understood totally as her hosts planned a surprise party for her birthday, right in front of her, assuming she had no idea what they were saying! (She was a good sport and acted surprised.)

Amy indicated she is interested in xeriscaping (if you were at the February meeting, you should know this means plants that can tolerate some drought and thus conserves water), shade gardening, rock gardening and perennials, and she has worked at past Garden Tours. She also is a faithful attendee at monthly meetings.

She became interested in master gardeners after attending one of our spring seminars and going on the garden tour, and Amy wanted to learn more about gardening. She indicated the training was excellent, and she learned a lot. She said her husband is delighted she is in Master Gardeners because she has someone to talk to gardening about and thus doesn't bore him anymore.





Member Spotlight

By Mary Davis

DYANN ZIMMERMAN

February 27 is Dyanne and Ray Zimmerman's 50th wedding anniversary! Several Master Gardeners were bringing her the newspaper clipping about the same. A family dinner is planned, and this summer they intend to go to the Canadian Rockies on vacation (wise to wait, although sounds like Vancouver has been warmer than Indiana). Dyanne and husband Ray are both retired and moved here from Chicago in 1977, although she had lived in Muncie until 1975. She worked in a lab testing electrical components for companies like Chrysler prior to her retirement.

They have sons Raymond, who lives in Utah, Bob, in South Bend, Rick in Elkhart and Chuck, in Utah and one daughter Maryanne in Jimtown. Of course, lots of children produce lots of grandchildren and they have—Brannon, Tyler, Desire, Darcey, Kendell, Gavin, Cassie, Dominic and Savannah! They have a blue-eyed, tan, long-haired cat named Gizmo. Dyanne said if she knew his eyes were going to stay blue she would have named him Frank.

Dyann collects Wizard of Oz memorabilia and in 2005, she combined this with gardening and created a Wizard of Oz garden. Dyanne enjoys shade gardening (of necessity, she says), water features and grasses. Since she has been a Master Gardener since 2001 she has lots of volunteer experiences, including Garden Tour, fair registration for flowers and vegetables, working at the community garden and tree sale. She said she was looking for a class in landscaping and went to a seminar at Palmer's—presented by Gwen. She was so impressed both by Gwen and by the support she got from fellow master gardeners that she decided to take the class and thought it was great, since it started from the bottom, but taught one a lot. She enjoys fellow Master Gardeners and continued learning.

Happy anniversary, Dyanne and Ray!!





Member Spotlight

By Mary Davis

Anne Overmyer

Anne Overmyer was on the verge of telling me to make up her biography when I reminded her I knew lots of interesting things about her, especially Cherry Smash—and she quickly relented! Actually, it is Cherry Bounce, which is a cherry flavored liqueur made from fresh cherries and bourbon. Anne said it is an old southern recipe. She was complaining about the bountiful crop of cherries her tree produced each year, and Jim Maddux told her how to make Cherry Bounce. Anne brought him a bottle to thank him for the recipe. He returned the empty bottle a month later, with a smile on his face. As I said, Anne decided to give me the interview by merely mentioning Cherry Bounce, so you will have to draw your own conclusions (she said she has new ideas and plans on more this year).

Although Anne was born in Chicago and lived for a while in Dearborn, Michigan, she graduated from Elkhart High School. She married Wayne, who came with two children. After marrying, she lived for a while in Terre Haute and then moved back to Elkhart. He and Anne added two more children, so she has four sons—Chuck, Bryce, Andy, and Josh. Bryce lives in Elkhart and Josh in Edwardsburg, and between them Anne has 2 girls and 5 boys for grandchildren. Chuck and Andy are both bachelors and live in Orlando, which would make for nice vacations, except Anne doesn't like Florida. Anne lives with Curious, a twelve year old cat. He was a neighbor's wandering cat,

and when they were moving, Anne volunteered to adopt him. He was sleeping in the middle of Strong Avenue when it was undergoing repairs. and she was worried about his safety. Her husband, Wayne (also a teacher) had passed away in 2006 while he and Anne were on vacation, and she said Curious came to her at a good time and has been a good companion.

Anne said at age twenty-two, she had three children and one year of teaching! How's that for experiences? Anne taught English, reading and American Studies at Central High School until her retirement in 2002. She lives near Heidi Zavatsky who had just gone through Master Gardener training, and after talking to Heidi, Anne decided it was something she would like to do. So, she joined the class of 2003. She said she didn't know much about gardening and proved it with a dismally low score on the pre-test. But as a teacher, Anne loved school, and she loved training and passed the final with flying colors. She enjoys gaining continuing knowledge through belonging to Master Gardeners and like the people, especially working with them on extra projects. She particularly enjoys plant id for garden tour and working in the community garden, and she has been involved in the tree sale as well. She worked for a while on the state meeting committee, but had an interruption in caring for her sister during a serious illness. Anne says she enjoys all aspects of gardening, but especially herbs, which she started growing and using in cooking. She also said she has just started growing vegetables for the first time in her life and enjoys fresh tomatoes and peppers (and cherries J).

CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS

- March 4,11,18,25 & April 1st, 2010

“Adventures in Backyard Fruit Production ” by Purdue Extension

Hancock County, 27 Sites across Indiana and remote viewing available, Pesticide education credits available. Purdue Ext. Hancock County is sponsoring a series of educational programs aimed at backyard fruit growers. The program will be hosted at 27 county sites around the state or can be viewed from your home computer. See flyer at the following link: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mg/info/BYfruitBrochure10.pdf>.

- March 13, 2010

The 2010 Gardeners’ Gathering by Wabash Valley Master Gardeners,

Operating Engineers Hall, 6801 S. US 41, Terre Haute, IN, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, EST. Doors open at 7:30 am for registration, breakfast snacks, and vendor shopping. the public (Master Gardeners receive 5 hours of Education Credit), Registration Fee: \$30.00 if paid by March. 1, 2010, \$35.00 after. Fee includes lunch. Counts as 4.5 hours continuing education credit. Speakers include Chad Franer, Dallas Foster, and our own Sonya Nash.

- March 19-20, 2010

“Garden Fest” by Morgan County Master Gardeners,

Martinsville National Guard Armory, 1900 Hospital Dr., Martinsville, IN, March 19th, 3-8 pm, and March 20th, 9-5pm. Featuring the annual Pansy Sale, 6” pots are \$3.50 each. Admission is Free! Topics include tomatoes, water conservation, daffodils, hardscaping, and the garden “bucket list”. Each visitor will receive a free tree seedling while supplies last.

- March 26-27, 2010

Montgomery County Flower & Patio Show

Friday: 3 pm to 8 pm, Saturday: 8 am to 3 pm, Admission Free
Lots of door prizes, treasure hunt, Tree Giveaway from 8 am Saturday until gone, 40 vendor spaces, Good reasonably priced food, Proceeds to ne 4-H fairgrounds, Master Gardener booth for questions. Contact Mel Kelly (765) 362-4982.

- March 27, 2010

“4th Annual Spring Symposium: Growing Together” by LaGrange County

Master Gardeners, LaGrange County 4-H Fairgrounds, 4-H Community Bldg, 1030 E– 075 N, LaGrange IN, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, Reservations required before March 15th. Fee \$20 adults, \$10 Children, morning refreshments and box lunch, receive up to five Advanced MG training hrs.

AROUND THE STATE

- April 10, 2010
“Gardening for ALL Ages” by Hendricks County Master Gardeners,
Hendricks County Fairgrounds, 1900 East Main Street, Danville, IN, 9:00 am-4 pm, Free admission to all ages, and it includes free trees and seeds, door prizes, speakers, gardening tips, children’s activity area, and vendors. Call 317-839-7375 for information.
- April 24, 2010
“Garden Expo 2010” by Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners, Tippecanoe County 4-H Fairgrounds, 1010 Teal Road, Lafayette, IN For Information call Dee Dilling: 765-572-2769 or email Jackie Scott @ scottswoods @verizon.net.
- May 1, 2010
“Gardening Green” by LaPorte County Master Gardeners,
Best Western Hotel & Conference Center, 444 Pine Lake Ave., LaPorte, IN, 8:30 am-3 pm CENTRAL time, Admission \$28 in advance and \$33 at the door, including lunch. Topics are “Good Planets are Hard to Find”, “Heirloom Vegetables”, and “Container Gardening-mixing Veggies with Bloomers.” Call 219-324-9407 for information.
- May 1, 2010
“Grow Wild” at the 10th Annual Native Plant Sale, 9:00 am—2:00 pm, Gibson Woods Nature Center, 6201 Parrish Ave, Hammond IN, Over 100 species of flowers, grasses, and shrubs, including prairie, wetland, shade, and woodland. Call 219-844-3188 or 219-865-2679 for more information or see www.lakecountyparks.com.
- June 9, July 14, and August 18, 2010
Advanced Master Gardener Training Sponsored by Lake County Master Gardener Program. Location: Taltree Arboretum and Gardens near Valparaiso. Contact: Taltree Arboretum: 219-462-0025
- June 18-19, 2010
2010 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference, Purdue University —West Lafayette.



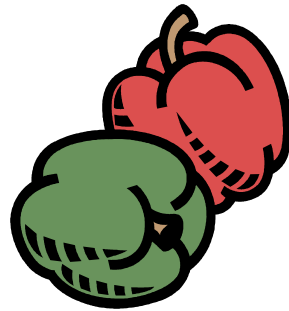
Recipe from our Master Gardeners

Doris' Pasta Salad

1 lb. pasta, cooked until al dente
(choose spiral, rigatoni, or your favorite pasta)
1/4 lb. salami, chopped
1/4 lb. pepperoni, chopped
1/2 lb. mozzarella cheese, shredded
6 oz. can black olives, chopped
1 red bell pepper, chopped
1 green bell pepper, chopped
2-3 tomatoes, chopped

Combine and add:
1 bottle of Italian Salad Dressing

Mix well, refrigerate several hours.



This is a recipe you can have fun with and make it your own.
~Doris Kehr

Learning Opportunities in Elkhart County
Upcoming Gardening Seminars

March 27, 2010@ 10 a.m.—HERBS

Willowdale Park Pavilion
1320 Olive Street—Elkhart

Topics for this seminar include cooking, crafts, drying, medicinal uses, and tea—a great educational opportunity!

April 10, 2010@ 10 a.m.—BASIC LANDSCAPING FOR THE HOMEOWNER

Sautter's Floral and Greenhouses
1725 Toledo Road—Elkhart

Whether you are a beginner or want to revitalize your present landscape design—this seminar is for you! Learn how to design areas, select plants and shrubs, and properly care for and feed your plants. Be the “focal point” of the neighborhood when you are done!

April 24, 2010@ 10 a.m.—RAIN GARDENS

Prairie Trail Herb Farm
16203 CR 40—Goshen

What you need to know to construct it, plant it, and enjoy it while protecting the environment.

***Brought to you by the MMGA
Class of 2009***



MICHIANA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
ELKHART COUNTY
Mission Statement



The Michiana Master Gardeners Association is a not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to the improvement of the community. Members of the Association have completed the requirements of the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program, working in affiliation with the Purdue Extension Service of Elkhart County. Its specific aim is to improve the quality of life in the community by providing information and technical assistance in the area of home horticulture through the use of trained and certified volunteers.

*It was one of those March days
when the sun shines hot and the
wind blows cold: when it is sum-
mer in the light and winter in the
shade. ~Charles Dickens*

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

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MARCH 2010