

# PURDUE

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# Broadcaster

"Helping Each Other Grow!"

Michiana Master Gardeners Association

October 2011

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## **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Dear Master Gardener Friends,

Autumn - What a glorious season! What a wonderful reason to be outside! To watch a tree or shrub change colors day by day is a wonder and seems a miracle. Let's enjoy the riotous color, knowing that gray days are coming.

Autumn - For me it is a time to really hustle to get all the prep work done for bringing potted plants inside, planting pots of bulbs for forcing, putting away summer indoor décor and outdoor living/yard adornments. I

look forward to it, for it gives me the needed drive to clean up/ reorganize/redecorate. I feel so virtuous when it is accomplished! How clean a yard looks after raking ...for one brief shining moment....before more leaves fall!

Autumn - This year the supplier surprised me. The bulbs ordered for forcing came about a month earlier than usual. My Dutch ancestors would be so proud of me, potting up those hyacinths and daffodils that came from The Netherlands.

Twelve clay pots already reside in the basement refrigerator; they will have root systems in about three months and will bloom in January and February. It has been a joy to share those pots with a choice few, but with the caveat that the pot and bulbs come back so they can be replanted in my yard where there are gaps in the landscape. This has been a 'tradition' of mine for many years - the spring yard is full of blooms from past potted bulbs grown in the refrigerator. This year I have an expensive 'black' hyacinth (only 1) to look forward to!

Autumn - Talented others have compared this season to those in life, with spring being youth and winter being old age, making fall a time to fulfill aspirations, to savor and appreciate.

*THE VINTAGE YEARS by Gladys Gould Noll*

*A lovely Indian summer day, the golden hours soon slip away.*

*The evening haze that's everywhere, a touch of frost that's in the air.*

*These are the days, sweet as aged wine - these treasured days -*

*Life's autumntime....*

Enjoy these treasured days, whether you are 'vintage' or not! Soak up the sun and prepare for the black and white beauty that is to come.

I look forward to visiting with you at our upcoming Michiana Master Gardener meetings:

October 25 AED demonstration

November 29 -Thanks-for-Giving Carry In

Looking forward in friendship

Marilyn Horvath





*Day Minder . . .  
Watch Us Grow*



10	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting- Extension Office Conference Room	6:30 PM
17	Mon.	Board Meeting—Extension Office Con- ference Room Lunch at 12 PM	12:30 PM
17	Mon.	Spring Celebration Committee Meet- ing—Panera Bread (Dinner 6:00)	6:30 PM
25	Tues.	Member Meeting—Ag Hall: Troy Pflugner from Cardiac Science— AED Training Session for MMGA members	7:00 PM



14	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting- Extension Office Conference Room	6:30 PM
14	Mon..	Board Meeting—Extension Office Con- ference Room Lunch at 12 PM	12:30 PM
21	Mon.	Spring Celebration Committee Meet- ing—Panera Bread, (Dinner 6:00)	6:30 PM
29	Tues.	Member Meeting—THANKS-FOR- GIVING CARRY IN AND BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS	6:30 PM

## *Upcoming Meeting Dates*

**October 1st - March 31st** Master Gardener Hotline  
Closed for the Season

### ***DECEMBER—HAPPY HOLIDAYS, NO MEETINGS***

**January 9th** - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**January 16th** - Board Meeting

**January 16th** - Spring Celebration Meeting

**January 24th** - Member Meeting—Parks of Chicago, Sarah Heeter

**February 13th** - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**February 20th** - Board Meeting

**February 20th** - Spring Celebration Meeting

**February 28th** - Member Meeting—TBA

**March 12th** - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**March 19th** - Board Meeting

**March 27th** - Member Meeting—TBA

**April 9th** - Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**April 16th** - Board Meeting

**April 24th** - Member Meeting—TBA

### ***NEW:***

**May 14, 2012**—Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**June 11, 2012**—Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**July 9, 2012**—Garden Tour Committee Meeting

**July 14, 2012**—***GARDEN TOUR 2012 (10 am to 4 pm)***

**July 19, 2012**—Garden Tour  
Wrap Meeting

**July 20, 2012 to July 28, 2012**—  
Elkhart County 4-H Fair, Theme  
TBA.



**News Release for Week of October 10th, 2011**  
**By Jeff Burbrink, Extension Educator Elkhart County**

**Cooler Temperatures Outside May Lure**  
**Stink Bugs Into Your Home**

With the cooler temperatures of fall, some uninvited guests may start barging into your home seeking shelter—stink bugs and other insects.

I have already received numerous calls about invading bugs. In fact, the “annual invasion” has been particularly heavy this year as the marmorated stink bug, a species new to Indiana, becomes more established.

Other bugs to watch out for are lady beetles, which settled in the area in the early 1990s, and box elder bugs.

Stink bugs and lady beetles won't damage a home, but they can be annoying and they release a bad smell when disturbed. Burbrink suggests caulking around windows and repair of broken screens to prevent invasion, but counsels against using insecticides inside the home.

“Once the stink bugs are inside, they can be vacuumed up and disposed of,” he said. Get rid of the vacuum cleaner bag immediately, because stink bugs will release their odor when sucked up.

To keep bugs from getting inside in large numbers in the first place, homeowners can apply a residual insecticide as a barrier around the exterior of their home — the foundation, the walls, the eaves and any place the bugs start to congregate. Barrier sprays are typically sold at local garden centers.

More ominously, stinkbugs — native to Japan, Korea and China and first reported in the United States in 1998 — have become a serious crop pest on the East Coast. Notably, the insects can feed on fruit crops, damaging them, and they've also been known to pierce corn shucks, damage corn kernels in the process.

Stink bugs are shaped like shields and grow to about five-eighths of an inch long and three-eighths of an inch wide.

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**IMPRELIS® CLAIMS**

(Deadline for Submission of Claims to DuPont is November 30, 2011)

Dave Scott, Indiana State Chemist Office, has provided us with the attached information on Imprelis claims - released September 9th by DuPont:

The Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC) has investigated approximately 400 complaints in Indiana in 2011 of injury to trees and ornamentals where an Imprelis® application was made. No new investigations are planned unless injury to new ornamental species are reported.

To help document suspected injuries, the lawn care operator or client should collect and organize herbicide application records regarding these locations and photograph symptoms and changes in symptoms over time with a digital camera. A complete record of when symptoms began and how quickly they progressed is important since herbicide injury to trees and ornamentals can progress rapidly, especially in the summer heat, and without records, a firm diagnosis is much more difficult. Additionally, applicators/claimants must file a claim with DuPont, following all of their prescribed procedures, to protect themselves. To file a claim with DuPont call (866) 796-4783 and request a site detail form and ask for a complaint number. NOTE THAT DUPONT'S DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS IS NOVEMBER 30, 2011.

If you have questions or require more information on this issue please contact DuPont directly at (866) 796-4783 or the OISC pesticide section at (765) 494-1492.

**MMGA WEB UPDATE:** Our MMGA Website is located at <http://michianamastergardeners.com/>. Craig Stiver has recently updated the Procedures page, and that link is located at <http://michianamastergardeners.com/Great%20Places/ProceduresPolicies/Procedures.htm>. Please check out this new Information updated in early October.



President Marilyn Horvath called the meeting to order at 12:30. In attendance were Board members Betty Foltz, Linda Harkleroad, Barb Heeter, Marilyn Horvath, Leah Lichtenberger, Jerry Martin, Ruth Middleton, Stan Palmer, Linda Sinon, and educator Jeff Burbrink.

Assistant treasurer Linda Sinon presented the treasurer's report. Bills for the month totaled \$2396.24 (payment for the AED and garden tour related items) and income was \$30 (a donation) for a final balance of \$32,290.22.

Educator Jeff Burbrink reported that the new class is going well. The Hotline calls have slowed somewhat, and Jeff would like to begin compiling statistics concerning the calls that he and the Hotline volunteers answer.

Jeff also stated that the county budgets hearings went well, and if the proposals are approved as they now stand, it is possible that the extension office will be able to fill its current vacancy.

Ruth Middleton reported that the community garden is winding down. So far 893½ pounds of produce have been donated: 218 lbs. of cucumbers, 167 lbs. of tomatoes, 113 lbs. of zucchini, and 40 lbs. of collards to name a few. Using tires and bags to grow potatoes did not work out.

All committee positions for the Garden Tour have been filled except co-chair for garden selection. Eight homes have been selected for the 2012 tour, and there is a proposal to place artists at some of the gardens.

Merchandising chair Doris Kehr will bring the catalogs to the membership meetings starting in September.

Stan Palmer stated that his Class of 2010 has set their graduation party for February 7, 2012, and it will be held at the extension office.

Linda Harkleroad reported that the quilt garden clean up had been scheduled and the proposed design for 2012 had been submitted to the ECVCB quilt garden committee.

In old business, the 2012 budget proposals from individual committees were presented.

The library/equipment budget was increased in order to replace the copy machine in the Hotline room that is not working properly and out of warranty.

The community gardens budget was also discussed. The water pump they use is very difficult to start and 10 years old. It was decided to make the purchase of a new pump a separate line item in the budget. Jeff will speak to several sources to see what is available and what the cost might be.

There were several other items of old business. Mary Davis has agreed to chair a committee for a booth at Envirofest 2012. Also, in response to the vote at the August membership meeting, Marilyn Horvath presented a proposed layout for the paver at Wellfield Botanic Gardens. The design will feature the MG logo and the words "Michiana Master Gardener Association" and "Helping Others Grow." Marilyn, Linda Sinon, Ruth Middleton, and Barb Heeter will take a check to Eric Amt, Executive Director of the Wellfield Gardens, and submit the design.

In new business, Marilyn and Stan Palmer will work on scheduling a Board retreat centering on the True Colors program. The session takes about 3 hours and 12+ people could be involved. It was suggested that 2012 Board members and committee chairs and co-chairs would be good participants.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Harkleroad, Secretary

President Marilyn Horvath called the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting to order at 7 PM with 48 members present.

Program chair Barb Heeter then introduced Aaron Kingsley, Goshen Forester, who has held that position since it was created in 2006. Kingsley's first priority as Forester was to inventory all of the street trees (12,797) that make up Goshen's urban forest. Over 50% of these trees are maples, significantly out of proportion with the acceptable single genus goal of 20%. This makes half of Goshen's trees potential victims of the Asian long horned beetle, currently in Cincinnati, Ohio. Kingsley's hope is that the trees will someday be considered a part of the city's infrastructure, much like water, sewer and electricity. He pointed out the financial benefits both to the city and to the homeowners provided by the urban forest.

Refreshments provided by Jan Adamson, Doris Kehr and Doris Rody offered a tasty break before Marilyn thanked them and the set up crew and called the business meeting to order at 8:20.

The secretary's report of the August membership meeting was approved as printed in the September Broadcaster.

In the absence of both the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Marilyn presented the Treasurer's Report as presented to the Board at their September meeting. Expenses totaled \$2,396.24 and income totaled \$30 for a balance of \$32,290.22.

Educator Jeff Burbrink had several garden related items to cover: DuPont's Imprelis has been pulled of the shelves indefinitely; EAB damage has become especially noticeable now fall has arrived; September is the best month to fertilize lawns; October is the best time to work on mole eradication—poison worms are one pesticide that actually brings results; September 28<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for the Hotline; and yellow jackets have large underground holes beneath their openings with 2 applications of a pesticide such as Seven necessary to eradicate them. Jeff also stated that all members would soon receive a letter from the extension office indicating their accumulated education and volunteer hours according to office records.

Marilyn reported that she and Barb Heeter, Ruth Middleton, and Linda Sinon had delivered the check to the Wellfield Gardens, along with a design for the commemorative paver. Marilyn presented a proof of the design that she had received from Eric Amt, Executive Director of the Wellfield Gardens, and stated that she would approved the design if there were no suggested changes.

In committee reports, Penny Stroup urged the membership to mark Page 10 March 10<sup>th</sup> on their calendars as the date of the 2012 Spring Celebration. She also promoted the Fun Day on October 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 to be held on the 200 acres newly purchased by the Fair Board.

Marilyn reminded the membership to submit articles to the *Broadcaster* such as book reviews, favorite gardening items, and recipes.

Suzanne Pedler reported that the community gardens had held their wrap-up meeting. Needs for next year include suggestions for organic grasshopper control (they ate up the swiss chard this year) and help in starting a very difficult water pump.

Merchandiser Doris Kehr stated that she would attend a session of the new class in October.

Barb Heeter announced that the October membership meeting would be a demonstration of the AED, either by the company representative or Barb herself. She also distributed sign up sheets for November's Thanks-for-Giving Carry-In meeting, as well as sign-ups refreshments for 2012's meetings.

Heidi Zavatsky sent a report stating that the quilt garden clean up would take place the first week of October. Marilyn reminded the membership that a 2012 chairperson for the quilt garden committee was still needed.

In old business, Marilyn reported that over a dozen MMGA members were in attendance at the Doug Tallamy seminar in South Bend. The topic of Tallamy's presentation, like the program that evening, involved trees; however, Tallamy's discussion centered on the trees' positive impact on birds and insects, not their economic impact.

In new business, Leah Lichtenberger announced a plant swap at the DeFries Garden on October 1. Leah also stated that Mrs. DeFries would be conducting a private tour of the gardens for a few Master Gardeners on a yet to be determined date in October. Leah will send out an email to the membership when plans are finalized.

Eleven door prizes were awarded to Judy Marquart, Jim Carpenter, Gaye Yoder, Christine Goldsborough, Carol Novy, Mary Hesser, Anne Overmyer, Jan Adamson, Joyce Miller, Marilyn Horvath, and Pat Watson.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Harkleroad, Secretary



**INSIDE THE EXTENSION OFFICE**

**by Kate Rink**



Sadly, this will be the last Broadcaster article for the 2011 season. The phone lines have quieted as there not many questions to be asked when our gardens have been cleaned off, our shovels and trowels put away, and a new/old load of compost has been spread on the flowerbeds and garden.

People are just in the fall mode. They are tired of watering; they are raking or blowing leaves; and they have football on their minds. Reluctantly, I've dumped my flower pots knowing they will never be as beautiful as they were a month ago. It's time to concentrate on the fall perennial broadleaf weeds in the yard, get the last application of fertilizer spread, and sterilize my tools for winter storage.

There were only nine calls into the Extension Office through the month of September. The calls ranged from bug problems to planting instructions. Every question is important, whether it's the beginning of the season or the end.

It seems like this year has been especially loaded with questions on what to do about bees. All kinds of bees! Many people have been stung (including me), or they want to know prevention measures to keep from getting stung. One lady had a problem with the bees eating the bottom out of her red raspberries. She described that they ate a hole clear through the raspberry, about the size of a pencil eraser up to half or 2/3 of the raspberry with 80-90% of the ripe raspberries affected. This is the first year she has had this happen, and she tried swatting them with a sticky tape covered flyswatter....which didn't work.

The MG asked for a sample of the fruit, as well as a dead bug for identification. A recommendation for using apple cider vinegar traps, as well as removing all ripe and over-ripe fruit from the ground to discourage activity, was given to the homeowner. Hopefully, by following these practices. it will allow her the luxury of first, having a crop to pick, and second, being able to pick those beautiful, ripe red raspberries without fear of getting stung.

Another lady had two trees that she was concerned about. One was a flowering pear tree that she planted a year ago, and the other was a maple that she had planted two years ago. They were losing their leaves, which is typical for this time of year, but she felt they were losing them too early in the season. A hunch from the MG indicated that the homeowner had not watered frequently enough through our drought-induced summer. An education on water and fertilization practices was explained to the client to promote better health for the trees in coming years.

A caller asked for pruning instructions for azaleas and hydrangeas. Purdue Bulletin #HO-4-W (<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/ho-4.pdf>) was offered for good advice on pruning ornamental trees and shrubs. It's good to know which plants can be pruned in the fall and which ones need to wait until spring as new growth often occurs on old, dead stems from the previous year.

It's also good to know which flowers are annuals and which ones are perennials. If you aren't an experienced gardener, it is mind-boggling to know characteristics of flowers and plants. Of course, with a hard frost, it won't take you long to sort out the annuals from the perennials. A homeowner wanted to know if it was too late to plant moonflowers outdoors. The MG recommended keeping the moonflowers in pots inside and then planting them in the spring after the danger of frost has passed.

Well that about wraps up the calls this month. It has been a busy summer in the Master Gardener room! Kudos goes to all the Master Gardeners who gave of their time to help clients with their many questions these past months. The staff at the Extension Office also appreciated the time you spent meeting and greeting clients, diagnosing bugs and diseases, and offering your knowledge to those requesting information. What a great way to learn and gain experience, as well as meet and talk with some very nice people who also care about their gardens and environment. Thanks again for your commitment! We will look forward to hearing from you again in the spring!

Kate





The original idea for the Wellfield Gardens came from a dream of the Elkhart Rotary Club. Charles (Chuck) Grodnik (who is presently City Court Judge) was in charge of a committee to do something fitting for Rotary International's centennial celebration. Eric Amt, committee member, told Chuck about gardens he visited in Janesville, Wisconsin, and how great he thought it would be if Elkhart could do something similar. Chuck immediately thought of Elkhart's North Main Street Wellfield which had, within the last few years, been opened to the public. Although Eric was not familiar with the area, Chuck took him there for a visit, and the rest, as they say, is history (although still evolving). Rotary raised \$250,000 for early plans and a feasibility study.

From this early dream, the Wellfield Botanical Gardens was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) (not-for-profit) corporation. It is governed by a public board, some of whom are Rotarians. However, the Club no longer governs the corporation. It entered into a 99 year lease with the city, which owns the wellfield. The wellfield is still operating and provides a significant portion of the water for the city of Elkhart. The lease allows the corporation to develop gardens on the property and otherwise manage it, but they must cooperate with the city utility. For example, the water works are allowed to clean the ponds and the well heads, which must be done periodically.

The architect for the gardens is Dennis Buettner who is from Wisconsin and is a nationally recognized architect of public gardens. The property encompasses 35 acres, 20 of which are east of Christina Creek, which flows through the property. The corporation's future plan includes attempting to

acquire the Selmer property which adjoins the prop- Page 14  
erty and which will ultimately provide a parking lot  
for 500 cars. Also located on the property are storage tanks,  
each holding 1,000,000 gallons of water. They are going to be  
painted in a soft green. The three towers are air strippers  
which were originally used to clean the water from TCE con-  
tamination arising from former uses of neighboring property.  
Possible contaminants from those properties are no longer a  
concern, and the towers will be torn down within the next five  
years. There are 11 wells dotting the property. Originally they  
were inside the small brick structures on the property, but the  
majority of those were moved outside and fenced in before the  
arrival of the Wellfields.

The chain link fencing is going to be replaced with  
wrought iron fence and landscaped to fit in with the gardens.  
The small brick buildings are being redone as the gardens  
around them are planted to tie in with the theme of the garden.  
There will be a 6,000 to 7,000 square foot Visitor's Center,  
constructed in the front (where the painted elk presently are,  
but don't know if they will be there next year). A temporary  
Visitor's Center will be opened in 2012, which will be a mod-  
ular building. When the permanent center is constructed, it is  
intended to move the temporary unit to the Wedding Garden to  
be used as a changing facility for brides and attendants.

With the opening of the Visitor's Center, the Gardens  
will start charging admission. Since it is an independent, not-  
for-profit agency, it has to pay its expenses, as it receives no  
government funds. The residents of the city will continue to  
enjoy free admission from 7 to 9 a.m. during the week. In ad-  
dition to the admissions, the corporation has a wide variety of  
items which people can endow and receive a commemorative  
plaque for the same, which you will see throughout the

Page 15 gardens. Each garden and major piece of art is separately endowed to pay for the acquisition or creation of the item and to provide additional funds to become part of an endowment to care for the gardens. In addition, there are pavers of various sizes which individuals or groups can sponsor (which Michiana Master Gardeners voted unanimously to do at our August meeting). The Gardens also sponsor *Tulips and Tunes* in the spring, and the Rotary Club hosts *Taste of the Gardens* in August, which showcases local artists and local restaurants.

The first thing that was done was a reconfiguration and combination of some of the existing ponds. Niblock construction provided the same as an in-kind donation. Next came the planting of some gardens and addition of amenities and infrastructure. Starting at the front of the property, a serpentine waterfall was created. This was intentionally uneven, to create the sound of splashing water. The water garden just across from the waterfall was dedicated in August of 2011 and includes Tethys, the goddess of fresh water. She was created by Tuck Langland, a nationally known sculptor. The garden and goddess are to celebrate water as a natural resource. Signs explaining the same are planned. Behind the water garden, a large stage by the oak tree is planned, and a sculpture gateway by the buildings to the north has already been endowed.

The Annual Garden is to the right as one continues along the path. This garden changes from year to year. It includes a sculpture of a mother bear and her cubs. The artist is Ken Bjorge, and the sculpture faces his native Montana. Formerly an attorney specializing in environmental law and a professor of law for over 20 years, Ken left the legal profession in 1988 to pursue a career as a self-taught sculptor. Later that year he opened Bjorge Gallery in Bigfork, Montana where,

inspired by the rich history, beautiful landscapes, Page 16  
and wildlife of the area, he shapes scenes of the  
American West, representations of wildlife, and portraits in  
bronze

The brick building in the next garden, known as the  
English Cottage Garden, is called the Acorn House. (If you  
look carefully on the west side of the building, you will see  
why). It is basically a tool shed, an office for the horticultur-  
ist, and a building used by volunteers to get tools and assign-  
ments and to keep their records. Volunteers work on Tuesday  
and Thursday mornings and can be identified by the blue  
shirts most of them wear. They are very happy to chat and an-  
swer questions. The only employees of the Wellfield, are Eric  
Amt, Executive Director, and Steve McCluskey, horticulturist.

Across from the Annual Garden and the English Cottage  
Garden is the site of the future Children's Garden. This garden  
will include a bridge over the pond as well as three education-  
al tree houses. Also there will be twelve interactive planting  
areas and a stage with a green (meaning living) roof. This gar-  
den has been funded and construction will commence in 2012.

As one travels along the path, the Wedding, Contempo-  
rary, Event, and Sensory gardens will be constructed on the  
left as funding becomes available. The Sensory Garden will  
feature a wind sculpture to highlight hearing. Gardens empha-  
sizing sight, touch and smell will be planted in raised beds so  
they will be accessible to handicapped individuals. This gar-  
den will be maintained by ADEC volunteers (Association for  
the Disabled of Elkhart County), who already volunteer at the  
gardens once a week. An archway will separate the Sensory  
and Waterfall Garden. The Waterfall Garden will be by the  
dam on Christiana Creek and will include a pavilion with a

glass roof. The Waterfall Garden has also been funded, and construction will also commence in 2012. The Wellfield is seeking a grant to redo the shoreline.

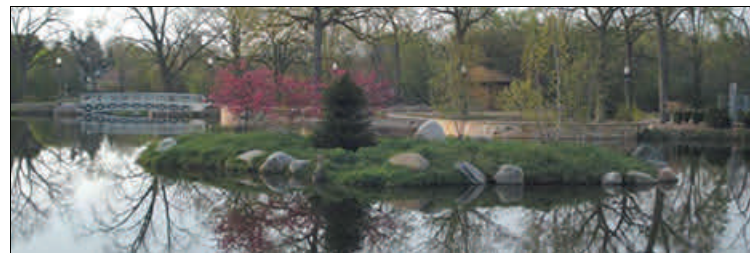
As you continue to walk, you come to the west end of The English Cottage Garden. While the east cottage of the English Cottage Garden is the Acorn Cottage, the west brick building has been adapted to resemble a dovecote, which is typical in England. The walkway through the garden gives the history of walkways, starting with rough stones that might have been laid out by farmers, going on to more and more intricate cutting and fitting of the stones, and the addition of bricks, first as a border, and then as the entire walkway (bricks were very expensive when they were first created).

Beyond the cottage garden, an Asian garden and Japanese Tea House, with a covered pavilion, are planned. A moon bridge will connect the two. These will necessitate the moving of the Quilt Garden. The Quilt Garden at the Wellfield started in 2010 and is done as a partnership with the Vera Bradley Foundation, which cooperates with the quilt gardens in Hope Along the Heritage Trail, to raise money for the Foundation for cancer research. The Vera Bradley Corporation creates (as most women know) vibrant handbags and accessories of brightly colored floral fabrics. It is headquartered in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. The garden design comes from quilt designs by fiber artist Diane Bennett of Goshen. She is the first person outside of the corporation who has ever had the opportunity to use Vera Bradley fabrics and each year has designed a wall hanging incorporating the fabrics.

Raffle tickets are sold throughout the season, and a drawing is held in conjunction with the Taste event in August for the lucky winner. (Vera Bradley also designs a limited edition bag each year, available in limited quantities from the six local Vera Bradley outlets).

As one approaches this area, a small Elk garden has been created, featuring an Elk statue, again done by Ken Bjorge. A local resident felt a sculpture should be created celebrating the city's name. He suggested the island in the middle of the ponds, but the architect suggested the elk be available, where people could take pictures and enjoy the sculpture up close. Over the hill, the Conversation Garden has been created with seating to encourage people to relax and enjoying the park. The ground cover is crushed black granite which will harden as it gets more tamped down. The pavers on the walkway are available for appropriate inscriptions. The Eagle sculpture here is mobile.

When completed, the Wellfield Gardens will include 20 individual gardens. The walkways wind through the property and are designed to encourage wandering. It is anticipated that a complete walk will probably take 1 to 1 ½ hours. More information about Elkhart's Wellfield Botanic Gardens may be found at their website located at [www.wellfieldgardens.org](http://www.wellfieldgardens.org). ~*Mary Davis, October 1, 2011*



## WHAT'S UP WITH COVER CROPS

Submitted by Jim Carpenter

This is a tad late in the year to get full use out of this article, but I just now thought of putting it out there. As a member of the 2010 class of Master Gardner's, one of my topics/specialties for public presentation in the seminars was cover crops. This is an area that I had always been somewhat knowledgeable in, and I thought it would be something that might benefit others.

This morning, as I was finishing up one of my last sections to be planted with winter rye grass, I was thinking of different reasons why I like planting a cover crop. Of course, the most obvious reason is to add 'green manure' to your garden when you till the cover crop in. Something I just recently figured out is that in a winter cover crop, the plants will actually take up nitrogen and hold it in the green leaf over winter. This nitrogen, which would have leached out or would not have otherwise been available, is then tilled under and used by your garden plants the following spring.

The green manure aspect of a cover crop is the organic matter it adds to the soil. Organic matter, to me, is like fiber to the human body. You just can hardly get enough of it. One of the things I was thinking about as I was working in my garden this morning was that when you plant a cover crop, you also get to see seeds germinate and plants grow even after all your regular garden is finished. Also, you have green color all winter in your garden *if* the snow isn't too deep!

There are many more pluses to having a winter cover crop. Protection against possible soil loss through wind or water erosion is also an advantage. The beneficial soil organisms are also protected by a cover crop. Winter growing weeds will be suppressed. With rye grass, you also have a very deep root system which will help break up the soil and avoid compaction.

This year for the first time, I experimented with buckwheat seed. This is a plant that will freeze out, so I used it during times of summer dormancy in my garden. For instance, I planted buckwheat seed where I was going to plant my late potatoes. In the four weeks before I tilled it under, it had grown to about six inches and added just that much more to my soil. Also, after I took out my early green beans and my early potatoes, I seeded in the buckwheat. The only caveat here is that you do not want them to mature and reseed themselves, so timing is a factor.

Legumes are something I would like to try another time. Hairy vetch and clover supposedly works well as cover crops because of their ability to fix a great deal of nitrogen in the soil. There is a type of radish, which can grow up to a 31" root, is sometimes used to help break up really hard pan soils.

One of the neat things about cover crops, and gardening in general, is that there is no 'one size fits all' formula. What you want to do or what works for you may not be at all what your neighbor does, but isn't that one of the great things in life? Figuring out a better way, a different way, or maybe even figuring out what doesn't work, is all good!

And finally, the one most important thing to me about why winter cover crops are so valuable, is that by planting a cover crop, I must totally cleanup my garden, and I am just that much more ready to go when those warm spring breezes start coming around in late March and early April!

*Jim Carpenter Class of 2010*



### CARD OF THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS

This is a scanned image of a beautiful handmade Thank You card that was mailed to our membership. The card is an image stamped in green mounted on green paper.



*Kate Rink  
Marilyn Miles  
Paul Miles  
Jerry L. Martin  
Helen Martin  
Mary Hesser  
Mary Riggs  
Jim Maddux*

It reads, "With the greatest of appreciation to Michiana Master Gardeners' Association for partnering with the Open Class Horticulture Committee to bring horticultural beauty, friendly competition, & enjoyment to the public during the 2011 Elkhart County 4-H Fair.

Signed: Kate Rink, Marilyn Miles, Paul Miles, Jerry L. Martin, Helen Martin, Mary Hesser Mary Riggs, and Jim Maddux

*With the greatest of appreciation to  
Michiana Master Gardeners Association  
for partnering with the  
Open Class Horticulture Committee  
to bring horticultural beauty, friendly competition, & enjoyment  
to the public during the  
2011 Elkhart County 4-H Fair*

**For our winter reading: Perhaps you've heard of American Rose Society or the American Dahlia Society, but did you know there were so many societies relating to gardening?**

## Societies and Groups

*We strongly recommend membership in the following support groups for the serious gardener:*

### **American Conifer Society**

c/o John Martin  
175 Charisma Lane  
Lewisville, NC 27023-9611  
336.945.0483  
conifersociety@aol.com  
www.conifersociety.org  
Annual Dues: \$30 Individual

### **American Hosta Society**

Sandie Markland, AHS  
Membership Secretary  
PO Box 7539  
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948  
AHSMembershipSecretary@  
Charter.net  
www.americanhostasociety.org  
Annual Dues: \$30 Individual

### **Friends of Duke Gardens**

Duke University  
426 Anderson Street  
Box 90341  
Duke University  
Durham, NC 27708-0341  
919.684.3698  
gardens@duke.edu  
www.hr.duke.edu/dukegardens/  
Annual Dues: \$50

### **The Hardy Fern Foundation**

PO Box 3797  
Federal Way, WA 98063-3797  
253.838.4646  
hff@rhodygarden.org  
www.hardyferns.org  
Annual Dues: \$25

### **The Hardy Plant Society/ Mid-Atlantic Group**

Eve Thyrum, Membership Chair  
19 Crestfield Drive  
Wilmington, DE 19810  
membership@hardyplant.org  
info@hardyplant.org  
www.hardyplant.org  
Annual Dues: \$25

### **International Bulb Society**

PO Box 336  
Sanger, CA 93657-0336  
membership@bulbsociety.org  
www.bulbsociety.org  
Annual Dues: \$40

### **International Aroid Society**

Lester Kallus, President  
PO Box 43-1853  
South Miami, FL 33143  
lkallus@earthlink.net  
www.aroid.org  
Annual Dues: \$25

### **JC Raulston Arboretum at NCSU**

Anne Porter  
Director of Development  
NC State University  
Box 7522  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7522  
919.513.3132  
www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarbor-  
etum  
Annual Dues: \$40, Individual

### **North American Rock Garden Society**

Bobby Ward, Executive Secretary  
PO Box 18604  
Raleigh, NC 27619  
nargs@nc.rr.com  
www.nargs.org  
Annual Dues: \$30

### **North Carolina Botanical Garden**

UNC-Chapel Hill  
CB 3375, Totten Center  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3375  
919.962.0522  
ncbg@unc.edu  
www.ncbg.unc.edu  
Annual Dues: \$45, Individual

### **Southeastern Palm Society**

Will Taylor, Treasurer  
214 Oak Street  
Athens, TN 37303  
tnpalmdude@comcast.net  
www.sepalms.org  
Annual Dues: \$25

## Information For Members

### Membership Committee Message



Two more monthly membership meetings and our 2011 year will be over (as we do not have a membership meeting in December). At our October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be starting a new sign up sheet for greeters and contributors of the “Plant of the Month” or other gardening related door prizes at our 2012 monthly membership meetings. Thank you to the greeters at our recent meetings, Suzanne Pedler and Kate Rink, and our door prize contributors, Barb Heeter, Pat Watson, Terry Wiley, Loanne Harms, and Sherrie Zou.

To current and new members, we would like to remind you that there is a suggestion box at our sign-in table for you to express your ideas for the betterment/good of our organization. It is just waiting for suggestions which we would pass on to your MMGA Board for consideration. You can sign your name or leave it unsigned, so if you have suggestions, please drop a note in the box.

Current members should have recently received a postcard from Jeff Burbrink/Linda Kimpel listing your reported volunteer hour totals. If you have unreported hours earned this past year, we encourage you take the time to send them to Linda so she can update the records. If for some reason you did not keep a record of the monthly meetings you attended, which count as education hours, our committee has those records available if you contact us.

Please continue to make us aware of members who are ill or in need of a caring card so we can send one from the organization. We hope to see you all at the October meeting. Submitted by the Membership Committee, Marilyn Miles and Helen Martin (email: gardening-duo@maplenet.net)

**NOTE SUBMITTED BY STAN PALMER:** As a follow-up to Aaron Kingsley’s September presentation, here is a link to the National Arbor Day Foundation information entitled, “Trees Tame Stormwater”. The pdf file highlights the effects of having few trees in a city versus abundant trees. The site features an interactive poster that can be downloaded and printed, and it is located at the following link: <http://www.arborday.org/>



### **PROGRAM & REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**

What an informative program we had in September with Aaron Kingsley, the Forester for the City of Goshen. Aaron's statistics on the numbers and varieties of trees located in Goshen were amazing. Now we know why Goshen is called the Maple City!

I am hoping the as many of you as possible will be able to attend our October 25th MMGA membership meeting as it will be VERY informative and will be something we all need to know.

As you all know, earlier this year you voted to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). As I told you at one for our previous meetings, it had arrived and is in my possession, and I am taking it to all MMGA events until we can all be in-serviced.

On October 25th, the representative, Troy Pflugner from Cardiac Science, will be here to present a program on the AED and it's use. The AED is a permanent fixture in our organization and will be available at all of our activities. We need to have as many members as possible be aware of when to use the AED and how to use it.

One last reminder— please do not forget to sign up for a time to provide refreshments for the 2012 meeting year. I will also have sheet to sign up for a dish to share at the November Thanks for Giving Dinner (November 29th at 6:30 pm). Remember, this is the November dinner one at which we not only have a good meal (meat, drinks, rolls, and table service provided by MMGA) but we also remember those who are less fortunate by bringing non perishable items and or money to be donated to a local food bank.

We hope to see you at the MMGA Membership meeting on October 25th, starting at 7 pm. The program on the Parks of Chicago, originally scheduled for the October meeting, has been postponed until the January 2012 meeting.

Barb Heeter  
Program/Refreshment Committee Co-Chair

### **Garden Tour Merchandise Committee**

Dear Friends,

For all of those who took gourds at the August MMG meeting to clean...

If you could get them back to me before or on the 21st, (October) we could include drilling the holes and cleaning them out as part of the "Parts" workshop. If you plan to finish them yourself, that's fine, just please return them before May. (You have time.) And, if you could identify yourself in one camp or the other (you finish or we finish) that would help a lot. (And if you realized that you can't find time to clean them...just return them and we'll take them from there.)

Loanne Harms, Class of 2010  
Garden Tour Merchandise Committee Chair

RECIPES FROM OUR MASTER GARDENERS

Fruit Pizza

- 1 package of sugar cookie dough, Pillsbury (Spartan or Roundy's is ok)
- 1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1 package of strawberry pie glaze, found in the Produce Section
- 3 bananas
- Fresh fruit as available: strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, Apples, grapes, plums, etc, Sliced



Let cookie dough soften, roll out onto GREASED large round pizza pan. Bake in a preheated oven at 350 ° F for about 8 minutes until outside edge is starts to turn golden. Let cookie crust cool.

Mix cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla. Spread over cooled cookie crust. Thinly slice bananas, and place them evenly over cream cheese layer. Cover bananas completely with strawberry pie glaze. This will prevent bananas from turning brown. Add sliced fresh fruit or berries in a decorative pattern onto the top of the glaze. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Slice into 2" squares for serving. Makes enough for 10-12 people.

This is one of my favorite recipes to take to a carry-in. Kids and adults love it—especially college students! However, this is NOT sugar-free!

-Sherrie Zou

*Please email articles for next month's Broadcaster to Sherrie Zou by **November 8th**. You may also mail them to Linda Kimple in the extension office or to Sherrie at the address in the directory. Thank you!*

### PEACH RASPBERRY GALETTE

1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened  
1/2 c. confectioners' sugar  
3 T. cornstarch, divided  
1 whole egg, separated  
2 T. sugar, plus extra for sprinkling  
1 t. vanilla extract or 1/4 t. almond extract  
1 refrigerated pie crust (14.1 oz)  
2 cups fresh fruit (I chose peaches and raspberries, you may use apricots, blueberries, or plums)

Adjust oven rack to lowest position and heat oven to 400 ° F.

Mix cream cheese, confectioners sugar, 2 T of the cornstarch, and the egg yolk in a medium bowl. In a separate medium bowl, mix fruit, 2 T. sugar, remaining T of cornstarch, and vanilla or almond extract.

Unfurl pie dough on a lightly floured surface and roll to about 13 inches in diameter. Slide onto a cookie sheet or pizza pan and spread evenly with cream cheese mixture, leaving a 2-inch border. Scatter fruit evenly over cream cheese mixture. Fold pastry border over the fruit. Brush dough perimeter with egg white and sprinkle with a little sugar.

Bake galette until golden brown and bubbly, about 30 minutes. Loosen with a metal spatula and slide onto a wire rack to cool slightly. Serve warm. Yield: 6 servings.

Source: USA Today Weekend (via my high school friend, Joanne). This is SO yummy and easy!! The only problem I had making it was getting the tart off the cookie sheet to the cooling rack. It wanted to stick, so I would recommend using parchment paper to avoid sticking.

Submitted by  
Sherrie Zou



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.

*“Autumn is a second spring  
when every leaf is a flower..” ~  
Albert Camus*

(574) 533-0554  
OCTOBER 2011