

PURDUE

U N I V E R S I T Y

PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
Elkhart County
Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds
17746 County Road 34 Ste E
Goshen, IN 46528-6898
Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture

Return Service Requested



The Michiana

Broadcaster
“Helping Each Other Grow!”

Michiana Master Gardeners Association OCTOBER 2016

Broadcaster Table of Contents	1
President’s Message by Kathleen Cripe	1-2
Day Minder and Member Meeting Dates	3-4
Bluegrass Lawn Tips by Jeff Burbrink	5
Answer Line Action for August by Dan Carlson	6
Where Did that Come From? Pumpkins by Stan Palmer	7-8
Chips and Splinters, Redbud by Stan Palmer	9
News from the Airport Community Garden by Sue Stuckman	10
Community Garden Photos by Meg Mitzel	11
Cover Crops; It’s Time to Start Thinking about your Winter Garden by Jim Carpenter	12
Persistence! By Susie Klepinger	13
Untitled Poem by Jim Carpenter	14
October Garden Tasks by Rosie Lerner	14
MMGA Board Meeting Minutes	15
Recipe by Jenny Schrock	16
Information for Our Members	17-18



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE by KATHLEEN CRIPE

Hello Master Gardeners,

Summer is quickly fading into Fall. Some leaves are drifting out of the trees now, some yellow, some with a tinge of red or orange. The Cicada have slowed their songs. The evening songs from nature sound like summer is coming to an end for another year. If you have not been out after dark in the evening lately just step outside and listen.

Many vegetables from the gardens have been preserved for winter eating enjoyment and the fruit trees are hanging heavy with fruit. I still have some tomatoes to ripen so I



can put them in jars for enjoying later and also some to enjoy as fresh salsa. My carrots still are not big enough to eat.

My summer project was a raised bed for my vegetables for 2017. I am glad to report that on Labor Day my husband and I labored and completed the building of the raised bed. It is seven cement blocks long by three cement blocks wide by two cement blocks high. It is perfect for me to sit on the edge of the bed and plant or weed without being on my knees and be able to reach to the middle of the bed. Now to fill it with soil to grow veggies.

Thank you to all who made this year's Garden Tour and Garden Tour Appreciation dinner a great success. It truly takes a village (of Master Gardeners) to pull off the great time we all had working side by side and celebrating with our Garden Tour Hosts.

Remember to report your volunteer and education hours for this year. Nancy compiles all the numbers for the March awards night. Only if she has the hours reported in the computer or to her can she help you be a success. Nancy is willing to help you with any questions about reporting your hours in a timely manner. Do not forget to thank her for all the hours she does to help us.

Nancy is also working on the 2017 MMGA Directory. If you want a new picture or you have updated info please get it to Nancy. Please do that this month.

You will not want to miss the October MMGA monthly meeting on October 25th. Our speaker will be from the Lake Milton Raptor Education Center. The topic will be "Owls".

See you at the next MMGA monthly meeting,

Kathleen





*Day Minder . . .
Watch Us Grow*

October

3	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	7 p.m.
8	Sat.	Airport Community Garden Clean-Up (Rain date is Saturday, October 15)	9 a.m.
18	Tues.	Board Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	6 p.m.
25	Tues.	Member Meeting, "Owls", Lake Milton Raptor Education Center	7 p.m.

November

7	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	7 p.m.
15	Tues.	Board Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	6 p.m.
29	Tues.	Member Meeting, Thanks-for-Giving Carry-In	6:30 p.m.

Attention MMGA Members

Articles for the November *Broadcaster* will be due on **OCTOBER 10TH**. Please e-mail items to Tammy O'Rourke at tjotlo@gmail.com before this date. Thank you.

MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE:

If the president and/or vice-president feels it would be in the best interest of the membership to cancel an event, a blanket email will be sent out to all members no later than 5 p.m. on the day of the event. For those persons who do not have access to email, a phone call will be made notifying them of the cancellation.

UPCOMING DATES

Page 4

Member Meetings, LAST Tues. of the month, Ag Hall, 7 p.m. unless noted

Tuesday, October 25, "Owls," Lake Milton Raptor Education Center

Tuesday, November 29, Thanks-for-Giving Carry-In 6:30 p.m.

No Meeting for December due to holidays

Tuesday, January 31, "Elkhart County Christmas Bird Count," Ronda DeCaire

Tuesday, February 28, "Trash to Treasure," Penny Alles

Board Meetings, THIRD Tues. of the month, Ext. Office Conference Room, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 18

Tuesday, November 15

Tuesday, December 20

Tuesday, January 17

Tuesday, January 21

Tuesday, February 21

2017 Garden Tour Committee Meetings, FIRST Monday of the Month, Ext. Office Conference Room, 7 p.m. (unless noted)

Monday, October 3

Monday, November 7

No Meeting in December

Monday, January 2

Monday, February 6 (meet in AG HALL)

Monday, March 6

Monday, April 3

Monday, May 1

Monday June 5

Monday, July 3 (if necessary)

Friday, July 7 GARDEN TOUR SET UP

Saturday, July 8 GARDEN TOUR



JEFF BURBRINK: BLUEGRASS LAWN TIPS

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016



If you were to pick one time of the year to improve your bluegrass lawn, most people would guess April or May. In truth, the best time to give your lawn a little extra TLC is the fall.

Start by fertilizing with a good quality lawn fertilizer in September. For established lawns, apply fertilizers that contain 25 to 50 percent slow release nitrogen. On the fertilizer bag, you will see the nitrogen fertilizer labeled water soluble or water insoluble. The water insoluble nitrogen is slow release. If the bag contains 30 percent nitrogen, and 10 percent is water insoluble, you have found a good fertilizer.

Apply one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn. If you have a 40 pound bag of a 30-0-5 lawn fertilizer, the bag contains 12 pounds of nitrogen (30 percent of 40 pounds). The bag will treat 12,000 square feet. The instructions on nearly all commercial lawn fertilizers are set up at the one pound rate. If your lawn is a half-acre in size, (about 21,000 square feet), you will need to buy two bags of this product.

A second dose of fall fertilizer, sometimes called a winterizer, can be applied in early November. Again, this can be applied at the one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square foot rate. You can save some money fertilizing in the fall by finding a cheaper product with less slow release (water insoluble) nitrogen.

Do not forget to mow properly. That may seem like a basic concept, but most people mow too low. Set your mower to mow at three to three and a half inches. The thicker grass will be healthier and crowd out many of the weeds. Generally in the fall, you can get by with one mowing a week, but in periods of time when the grass is growing quickly you might have to cut two times a week.

Water is important for lawns, too. In our area, rainfall usually is adequate in September and October to grow turfgrass. However, supplemental water may be needed if you shoot for something better than an average lawn. Automatic sprinklers are wonderful, but do not set them up to water every day. Instead, water deep and infrequently.

Generally, it is best to apply one to one and a half inches of water in a single dose, and then wait until the turf needs watering again. In the heat of summer, that means you might be watering every three days, but in September, you might be able to water every five to seven days, depending on temperature and rainfall.

A lot of people ask, "How long will it take me to apply an inch of water?" My answer is: that depends on how your irrigation system is set up. The best way is to measure the output of your system. I use straight sided coffee mugs. The output can vary by both the distance from the nozzle and by how your zones are set up.

By watering, fertilizing and mowing properly, you'll find you cut down on weed control products. Still, fall is the best time for control of dandelions and other broadleaved weeds in turf. In October, use a lawn weed control product that contains a three way mix of 2,4-D, mecoprop (MCP), and dicamba. This is much more effective than spraying dandelions in the spring when they are blooming. Hard to control weeds such as wild violets and creeping Charlie may require an herbicide containing triclopyr or fluroxypyr. If those do not work, consider hiring a professional to control these difficult weeds, or learn to coexist with them.

EEOC STATEMENT It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution.

ANSWER LINE ACTION FOR AUGUST
BY DAN CARLSON

Page 6

Answer Line Action – August 2016

The Answer Line has completed its fifth month of service for 2016. There were 32 inquiries in August. That brings the total for the year to 173 Elkhart County residents served by your Answer Line team. In addition, there were 8 people served at the July 2nd Farmer's Market and there were 91 people served at the Fair. Master Gardeners have helped 272 people in the past four months! Kudos to all the Master Gardeners that have been there to answer questions!

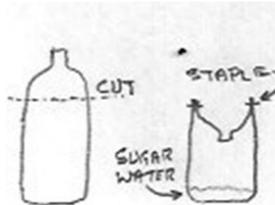


Most of the inquiries were as one would expect for this part of the growing season. The generous rains and heat have given rise to questions on fungus, mildew and rot. One person had mold on his bush beans and downy mildew on his sunflowers. After a few questions by the MG, it was learned that the client had planted too closely and there was lack of air movement through the plants.

One person called in about sick rhododendrons. Phytophthora root rot was diagnosed by the MG. This fungus can also affect azalea, boxwood, Andromeda, mountain laurel, Blueberry, camellia, juniper and yew. The first symptoms of Phytophthora consist of retarded growth, drooping and off color foliage. The roots become discolored and die. The discoloration of the roots may extend up into the lower stem. Disease development is favored by high soil moisture and soil temperature above 80° F. Chemical control is difficult, but several fungicides may check the spread to other plants. It is best to plant in well drained soil and provide only adequate water. Source: Virginia Tech, [Phytophthora Root Rot of Rhododendron and Azalea.](#)

Questions were received on bug identification, anthracnose, weed identification and eradication, and tar spot on maples. Tomatoes always bring questions. One person wanted to know why their tomatoes were cracking. The tomato skin is not very pliable, so when there is an abundance of water, ie. recent rain, the flesh of the tomato can absorb the moisture faster than the skin can stretch causing the cracking.

A couple of people wanted to know how to keep the wasps away from their hummingbird feeders. One way is to move the feeder to shady spots, as the wasps prefer being in the sun. Another idea, I got from a friend, is an inexpensive wasp trap made from a 2 liter pop bottle. Cut the top portion off the pop bottle and invert it into the bottom section. Put some of the feeder solution in the bottom of the bottle and place near the feeder. Most of the wasps cannot get out once they enter the trap. Be careful later when emptying the trap!



Until next time,
Dan Carlson

Pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*)

A pumpkin is a cultivar of a squash plant, most commonly of *Cucurbita pepo*, which is round, with smooth, slightly ribbed skin, and deep yellow to orange coloration. The thick shell contains the seeds and pulp. Some exceptionally large cultivars of squash with similar appearance have also been derived from *Cucurbita maxima*. Specific cultivars of winter squash derived from other species, including *C. argyrosperma*, and *C. moschata*, are also sometimes called "pumpkin". In New Zealand and Australian English, the term *pumpkin* generally refers to the broader category called winter squash elsewhere. This article will be specific to those pumpkins derived from *C. pepo*.

Pumpkins, like other squash, are thought to have originated in North America. The oldest evidence, pumpkin-related seeds dating between 7000 and 5500 BC, were found in Mexico. Pumpkins are widely grown for commercial use and are used both in food and recreation. Pumpkin pie, for instance, is a traditional part of Thanksgiving meals in Canada and the United States, although commercially canned pumpkin puree and pumpkin pie fillings are usually made from different kinds of winter squash than the pumpkins frequently carved as jack-o'-lanterns for decoration around Halloween.

The term *pumpkin* has no agreed upon botanical or scientific meaning, and is used interchangeably with "squash" and "winter squash" in some areas. The word *pumpkin* originates from the word *pepon* (πέπων), which is Greek for "large melon", something round and large. The French adapted this word to *pompon*, which the British changed to *pumpion* and later American colonists changed that to the word that is used today, *pumpkin*.

All pumpkins are winter squash: mature fruit of certain species in the genus *Cucurbita*. Characteristics commonly used to define "pumpkin" include smooth and slightly ribbed skin, and deep yellow to orange color. Circa 2005, white pumpkins had become increasingly popular in the United States. Other colors, including dark green (as with some oilseed pumpkins), also exist.

Pumpkins are grown all around the world for a variety of reasons ranging from agricultural purposes (such as animal feed) to commercial and ornamental sales. Of the seven continents, only Antarctica is unable to produce pumpkins; the biggest international producers of pumpkins include the United States, Canada, Mexico, India, and China.

As one of the most popular crops in the United States, 1.5 billion pounds of pumpkins are produced each year. The top pumpkin-producing states include Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and California.

WHERE DID THAT COME FROM? PUMPKIN BY STAN PALMER Page 8
Continued

Pumpkins produce both a male and female flower; honeybees play a significant role in fertilization. Pumpkins have historically been pollinated by the native squash bee *Peponapis pruinosa*, but this bee has declined, probably at least in part to pesticide sensitivity, and today most commercial plantings are pollinated by honeybees. One hive per acre is recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If there are inadequate bees for pollination, gardeners often have to hand pollinate. Inadequately pollinated pumpkins usually start growing but abort before full development.

Source: Pumpkin. (2016, August 29). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 11:59, September 3, 2016, from <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Pumpkin&oldid=736703257>

Be safe and keep that garden growing!
Stan Palmer



**Autumn is a second spring when
every leaf is a flower.
-Albert Camus**

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

***Cercis canadensis* (eastern redbud)** is a large deciduous shrub or small tree, native to eastern North America from southern Ontario, Canada south to northern Florida. It typically grows to 20–30 ft. tall with a 26–33 ft. spread. It generally has a short, often twisted trunk and spreading branches. A 10-year-old tree will generally be around 16 ft. tall. The bark is dark in color, smooth, later scaly with ridges somewhat apparent, sometimes with maroon patches. The twigs are slender and zigzag, nearly black in color, spotted with lighter lenticels. The winter buds are tiny, rounded and dark red to chestnut in color. The leaves are alternate, simple, and heart shaped with an entire margin, 3–4.5 in. long and wide, thin and papery, and may be slightly hairy below.

The flowers are showy, light to dark magenta pink in color, .5 in. long, appearing in clusters from spring to early summer, on bare stems before the leaves, sometimes on the trunk itself. The flowers are pollinated by long-tongued bees such as blueberry bees and carpenter bees. Short-tongued bees apparently cannot reach the nectaries. The fruit are flattened, dry, brown, pea-like pods, 2–4 in. long that contain flat, elliptical, brown seeds .25 in. long, maturing in August to October.

In some parts of southern Appalachia, green twigs from the eastern redbud are used as seasoning for wild game such as venison and opossum. Because of this, in these mountain areas the eastern redbud is sometimes known as the spicewood tree.

In the wild, eastern redbud is a frequent native understory tree in mixed forests and hedgerows. It is also much planted as a landscape ornamental plant. The leaves are eaten by the caterpillars of some Lepidoptera, for example the lo moth.

In the United States, this tree is difficult to grow further west into arid areas west of western Kansas and Colorado, as there is not sufficient annual precipitation. Its far northern range of growth is the lower Midwest, Ohio Valley, to the south of Boston. There has been success with growing the tree in Columbus, WI, which has become known as the "Columbus Strain" and a seed source for nurseries.

C. canadensis is grown in parks and gardens, with several cultivars being available. The cultivar 'Forest Pansy', with purple leaves, has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit.

Source: *Cercis canadensis*. (2016, June 28). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 12:29, September 3, 2016, from https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cercis_canadensis&oldid=727329376

Stan Palmer



Redbud tree blossoms

Workday on Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Somehow, one collard row at the Community Master Gardener 4-plot space had gone unweeded. Collard leaf damage was extensive. Found on the leaves were voracious caterpillars and white egg masses

Searching internet images, I found this to be the cross-striped cabbageworm *Evergestis rimosales*.



Photo by Meg Mitzel

UMass extension explains the life cycle in a fact sheet web page at <http://ag.umass.edu>. The moth lays masses of 20-25 eggs, and 2-3 generations of cabbageworms may be produced each year. Most destruction is found on **late season** crops. Among other suggestions for control are to keep the garden clear of wild mustard and shepherd's purse. . As a matter of fact, we had one plot of mustard that grew and reseeded throughout the year last year.

Further, UArk extension states the caterpillar prefers **collards** and brussels sprouts, but will eat cole crops in general.

A thorough description of the adult and 4 larval stages of this pest is given at the U of GA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. A parasitoid or braconid wasp in the genus *Cotesia* is associated with this caterpillar. All eggs may not be eggs laid by a moth but some could be eggs of the wasps. *Cotesia* might be part of the mix. These braconid wasps will lay eggs on the tomato hornworm, parasitizing them and can also be a predator of *Evergestis rimosales*.

Incidentally, the parasitoid wasp, *Cotesia congregatus* is explained in a *Featured Creatures* webpage from UF/IFAS, FL extension. The eggs are white and wedge-shaped and laid into the larval host. Wasp larvae are pale yellow white and resemble grubs.

I hope you don't find *Evergestis rimosales* on your cole crops this fall. If you do, encourage the parasitic wasps. Adult parasitic wasps are also pollinators and will come to many of the plants that attract other pollinators, especially those with many small flowers. In his web article, North Carolina State extension agent, Sam Marshall, calls them A Gardener's Best Friend.

PHOTOS FROM THE AIRPORT COMMUNITY GARDEN
BY MEG MITZEL



As of September 13,
the Community
Garden has donated
748 pounds of
produce to the
Church Community
Services food bank.



**COVER CROPS: IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT
YOUR WINTER GARDEN BY JIM CARPENTER**

Page 12

Winter is coming.

When I first thought of writing about cover crops I thought it might be a little early in the season. But then I realized that right now is the time when a person ought to be thinking ahead with future plans for the garden.

When it comes to cover crops, timing is critical to maximize the value of whatever you decide to grow as a cover for your garden. There's also some difference in planting dates, depending on what you intend to plant.

For those who aren't familiar with exactly what a garden cover crop is, it's pretty simple: It is any crop that is grown in the garden that is intended to be tilled into the soil to add additional nutrients and organic matter. It is a simple way to provide more nourishing soil during a time when the garden is considered dormant.

There are a number of choices in what you might want to plant in your garden in the fall that will continue to grow over the winter. Probably the most popular is winter rye.

This grass will continue to grow during times of mild winter weather and is meant to be tilled under in the spring before you start your regular garden planting. I've used rye grass for many years and it works well for what it is supposed to do.

Timing is interesting because if you plant too early you may have some pretty tall stuff to till under in the spring. On occasion I have had to set my mower blades on the highest setting and mow the grass down before I till, which will still get all the rye incorporated into the soil. If you plant too late in the fall you may not have much grass to till under in the spring. I will probably plant mine in early to mid-October this year.

I also like to plant clover in part of my garden in the fall. I have been planting Crimson Red Clover off and on for a few years now and really like the blossoms it gets. The flower is a bit heart shaped and bright red for a few weeks when it matures in the spring. As a legume, clover will also fix nitrogen in your soil. This can be a big plus.

Most of the clover and rye you purchase as a cover crop will have some additional seeds added that might help in your efforts to nourish your soil. Often, a type of forage radish will be included in the mix. This radish seed grows up to several feet in length and will open up the soil to make water and nutrients pass more easily. I have also gotten oats and a type of field turnip in the cover crop seed I have purchased.

Another type of cover crop seed I have used for many years is a type of seed that will not survive cold weather. That is buckwheat seed. This is a rapidly growing plant that can be grown when you have dormant areas of the garden for periods of time during the growing season. I plant this after I dig early potatoes or if I pull up my beans and still have a number of weeks left before frost. The buckwheat will provide some of the same organic matter and nutrients the overwinter crops do.

Some may have a fall garden and some may even raise crops through the winter with tunnel gardening, but for most of us the season is nearly done. The average killing frost date in our area is generally the first or second week of October. I hope your harvest this year was a good one and I also hope you are making plans for next year's garden.

Keep on growing!

PERSISTENCE!! BY SUSIE KLEPINGER

For over a year, I have been battling mealybugs on my orchid plants. I expect them to appear on my succulents during the winter, but a Q-Tip loaded with rubbing alcohol usually suffices. This time, multiple generations (sometimes 8 a year) have managed to escape almost every weapon in my arsenal. They have found their Garden of Eden and are not about to leave.

When tracking their arrival, I have decided that a newly purchased plant was infected, or they were living on one of my own. Either way, I do know that their stylets (long, sucking mouth parts) are robbing much needed sap out of leaves, stems, flowers or roots; sometimes all at once. These insects may pass along disease while excreting honey dew, a sticky substance which promotes mold. It is sticky, unsightly, and can block photosynthesis. As a side-note; ants love to play the western cowboy and herd the mealybugs for this prize.

I decided that my most important defense was to get acquainted with my enemy. It is 1/20 to 1/5 inch long and covered with white, powdery wax for adult protection. The female can lay 600 eggs in a two week period, but will die shortly thereafter. The eggs will hatch within 1 to 3 weeks, and nymphs or crawlers will emerge with their "walking shoes" on looking for a feeding spot. Yes, they do have legs and can move among plants and even hibernate on furniture. This is one of numerous instars or developmental stages. These nymphs must find food within 24 hours of birth, while the adult can live 10-19 days without sustenance. Obviously, this nymph stage is where my battle will be most effective, but they hide in any crack, crevice or tiny fold they find.

In contrast, the male mealybug has very limited mouth parts, but can fly. His only job is to fertilize the females. He dies soon after.

To eradicate these insects, I have tried the following remedies:

1. Isolate the infected plant.
2. Change tactics often. Just as our use of the same antibiotic becomes useless, so does using the same insecticide. The enemy becomes immune to it.
3. Use sticky traps to catch the males.
4. Prune out light infestations.
5. Attack at the nymph stage when it is most defenseless.
6. Try insecticidal soap, rubbing alcohol, water power, Neem oil, horticultural oil and Malathion. Never use any of these in the sun. Don't use Malathion indoors!
7. Repot, if necessary.

The bottom line is that one must be vigilant and persistent. I am beginning my second year fighting these varmits, determined to win. I check the plants daily armed with my focused flashlight and Q-Tip. If this were David and Goliath, I feel a little bit like Goliath is winning. However, this problem shows that if I really do care about these plants, David will win in the end.

Sources:

ipm.uconn.edu

Planetnatural.com/pest-problem-solver

Aos.org

The garden now is winding down,
 with still some work to do.
 Some final harvest to be made,
 before the growing time is through.
 Another season is nearly done,
 with all that it has given.
 Hopefully with much success,
 and will make for healthier livin'.
 Produce frozen, dried or canned,
 or stored in a cool place.
 Saving for another time,
 to enjoy a healthy taste.
 No matter how you garden,
 whether a little or a lot.
 One thing that will keep forever,
 are the memories that you've got!
 -Jim Carpenter

OCTOBER GARDEN TASKS BY ROSIE LERNER

(This is an excerpt from Rosie's October Garden Calendar found at https://hort.purdue.edu/ext/garden_calendar/oct2015.html#.V9mCG5grKM8)

GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

- Harvest root crops and store in a cold (32 degrees F), humid location. Storing produce in perforated, plastic bags is a convenient, easy way to increase humidity.
- Harvest Brussels sprouts as they develop in the axils of the leaves from the bottom of the stem. Brussels sprouts will continue to develop up the stem.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash before frost, but when rind is hard and fully colored. Store in a cool location until ready to use.
- Harvest gourds when stems begin to brown and dry. Cure at 70-80 degrees F for two to four weeks.
- Harvest mature, green tomatoes before frost and ripen indoors in the dark. Warmer temperatures lead to faster ripening.
- Asparagus top growth should not be removed until foliage yellows. Let foliage stand over winter to collect snows for insulation and moisture.
- Remove plant debris from the garden to protect next year's planting from insect and disease buildup. Compost plant refuse by alternating layers of soil, plant material, and manure or commercial fertilizer.
- Have garden soil tested for fertilizer needs every three to five years.
- Plowing and incorporating organic matter in the fall avoids the rush of garden activities and waterlogged soil in spring. Fall-prepared soils also tend to warm faster and allow earlier planting in spring.
- Carve a Halloween jack-o'-lantern.
- Dig tender, garden flower bulbs for winter storage. Gladiolus corms should be dug when leaves begin turning yellow. Caladiums, geraniums and tuberous begonias should be lifted before killing frost. Dig canna and dahlia roots after a heavy frost. Allow to air dry, then pack in dry peat moss or vermiculite, and store in a cool location.
- Complete planting of spring-flowering bulbs.

INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS

MMGA Board Meeting Minutes
 August 16, 2016
 6:00 p.m. Extension Office Conference Room

Present: Bill Albaugh, Jeff Burbrink, Dan Carlson, Kathleen Cripe, Loanne Harms, Carol Novy, Ann Regier, Bill Roberts, Jenny Schrock, Cindy Watson, Ron Troyer, Heidi Zavatsky

Kathleen Cripe called the meeting to order. The June minutes were approved as emailed. No additions or corrections. **Treasurer's report:** Anne Regier stated that \$7,660.13 is in checking, \$18,743.66 is in Money Market, \$137.21 in Savings and \$200 in cash for a total of \$26,741.00. With some outstanding expenses from Garden Tour 2016, the successful event made a profit of approximately \$6,844.15. **Jeff Burbrink:** The new class started today with 12 students. A diverse and interesting group. He talked about a project he is doing at the Elkhart Conservation Club regarding invasive species. **Answer Line:** Dan Carlson reported over 100 calls in office and over 90 questions answered at the Fair and Farmers' Market. The Answer Line has helped over 200 people ytd. He said that more people are needed to help. There are about 6 people who work. **Archive:** Ron Troyer stated that some form of protocol is needed to determine what is archived. Helen and Jerry Martin have been ill and Ron will be calling/visiting them to see if we can do anything for them. The board signed a get well card for them and the secretary will send a card from the association. **Broadcaster:** Loanne Harms stated that the transition from Sherrie to Tammy is working well. Tammy needs articles to publish. The broadcaster will be available at the monthly meetings and the rest will be mailed. **Class Update:** Cindy Watson reminded the class about the Appreciation Dinner. She also stated that the new class really enjoyed the Fair in Ag Hall. Their graduation will be held in February. **Community Garden:** Heidi Zavatsky reported that 551# of produce have been harvested to date. Squash bugs are a problem that we will be dealing with now. The lasagna garden is producing also. A new hive is being placed at the garden. **Quilt Garden:** Cindy Watson had no report, but said all gardens look great. **Extension Landscape:** Bill Albaugh had no report. The grounds look good. **Fair Set-up:** Bill Albaugh reported that set-up went well. There were lots of volunteers so it went fast. **Fair Board:** Jenny had no report. Ag Hall got 1st Impressions Award. **Garden Tour:** Loanne Harms reported that the wrap meeting was held and profits were up, new committees are being formed, and the gardens have been selected, but have not presented to committee yet. Garden Tour 2017 will be in Middlebury. **Membership:** Ron Troyer had no report from Helen because of illness in the family. **Merchandise:** Carol Novy had no report. **Nominating:** Loanne Harms reported that committee will be meeting soon. The committee consists of Jim Bare and Penny Stroup. **Programs:** Dan Carlson said everything is set for September program on Forestry, He will be sure to contact Laura Stevens to confirm. **Property Trustee:** Dan Carlson had no report. He will wait until after the Appreciation Dinner to do an inventory. Carol Swartzendruber asked the board to approve the funds to purchase eco friendly cups. **Quilt Garden Bristol:** Jenny Schrock stated that the pattern and colors have chosen for next year. Jenny will be chairing the Bristol garden next year. **Speakers Bureau:** Carol Novy had no report. Carol brought up the topic of a set-up committee for the Appreciation Dinner. She will follow up to make sure this happens. There was a discussion regarding **the Farmers Market** getting started again. The owners wanted to know if MGRs would plant and maintain a quilt garden at the site. The board vetoed this idea unanimously. The Board motioned/seconded and passed to keep **the awards presentation** in March at what would be a regular meeting. Light Snacks would be served. Dan Carlson will head this up. The Spring Celebration will take place on the usual date of the 1st Saturday of March. There will be two events in March. **Web Master:** Dan Carlson said there were no issues; however Kathleen stated he should remove cartoon that was published. It is a copyright infringement. Kathleen will talk to Tammy about copyright issues. Kathleen will put together the **questionnaire/discussion sheets**. She will send to the board first before sending to Broadcaster. Under **New Business:** Ron Troyer passed around pictures of a popcorn machine he has and would donate to MMGA if we would have a use for it. After a discussion, the Board decided not to accept his generous offer because of cleaning and storage issues.

With no other business on the agenda, meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Heidi Zavatsky, Secretary

There are no August Member Meeting minutes due to the Garden Tour Appreciation Dinner.

RECIPE SHARED BY JENNY SCHROCK

This fruit salsa was recently enjoyed by the crew at the Airport Community Garden.

Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon Crisps
Recipe by Spend with Pennies

Cinnamon Crisps

10 flour tortillas (10")
Cooking Spray
1/3 cup sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Fruit Salsa

2 granny smith apples
1 lemon
2 kiwis
1 lb. strawberries
1/2 lb. raspberries
1 tablespoon brown sugar
3 tablespoons preserves (I used raspberry)



For Cinnamon Crisps: 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine cinnamon and sugar. Set aside. 2. Working with 3 tortillas at a time, spray both sides of the tortilla and sprinkle each side lightly with cinnamon sugar. 3. Stack 3 tortillas and using a pizza cutter, cut tortillas into 12 wedges. Place on a baking sheet and bake 8-11 minutes or until crisp.

For Fruit Salsa: 1. Zest the lemon and set aside. Peel and finely chop apple, squeeze 2 teaspoons lemon juice over apples and mix well to combine. 2. Finely chop strawberries and kiwis. Gently combine all ingredients, the raspberries will break apart a bit, but that's what you want. Allow to sit at room temperature at least 15 minutes before serving.

BOOK REVIEW

We all enjoy a good gardening book! Would you be willing to share your opinion of a new (or old) gardening book? It is always nice to hear someone else's opinion of a publication before we spend our hard-earned dollars on a potential dust collector. Please send me a short review of the book or publication ready to print in the *Broadcaster*, or send me notes and I will write it for you. Send to Tammy O'Rourke at tjotlo@gmail.com.

I will compile this information and print it in a winter issue when we are all craving that inspiration for Spring.

Thanks to Mary Ann Martin for this wonderful idea!

Also, if you follow any great garden blogs, Facebook pages, Pinterest pages, etc., email me that information and I will include it in the newsletter. Those long winter evenings are just made for researching all of our grand plans for Spring!

FALL EVENTS

October Events at Fernwood Botanical Gardens-visit their website for details

www.fernwoodbotanical.org

- 10/1 Nature Station: Owl Research at Fernwood
- 10/2 Photography Club
- 10/4 Volunteer Educator Session: Fall Trees
- 10/8 All Aboard! Geocaching Event
- 10/8 Mindfulness in Nature: How to Cultivate Presence through Awakening our Senses
- 10/9 Magnificent Viburnums
- 10/9 Pumpkin Project
- 10/10 Niles Handweavers Guild
- 10/13 Autumn Color in Michigan
- 10/14 Knee-High Naturalists: The Season of Fall
- 10/15 Fernwood Book Group
- 10/15 Nature Saplings: Leaves
- 10/15 Owls Live!
- 10/18 Volunteer Educators Session: History of the Nature Preserve

October Event at Wellfield Botanic Gardens

www.wellfieldgardens.org

The 3rd Saturday of every month through November at 8 a.m.-a family friendly, one-hour Bird Walk led by Master Naturalist Mary Kauffman-Kennel. Visit their web site for cost and to register.

2017 GARDEN TOUR

We still need lots of help for the Garden Tour and getting it all organized. I will introduce the committee chairpersons at the September meeting so you can let them know of your interest in their committee or team. We need more team members on all of the committees and we also still need a chairperson for Media and Advertising. Think about how you can be of service to make the 2017 Garden Tour another successful event. We know that we have many, many very capable members and we need your help and input. Descriptions of the different committees are as follows:

Garden Tour Chair: Leads Meetings and oversees the Tour

Garden Tour Co-Chair: Chooses area for and oversees the Hospitality Center. Chooses area for Garden Tour the following year.

Garden Selection: Chooses gardens for the tour. Writes descriptions of gardens for the tour booklet. Works with ticket book and maps/directions committees on directions. Homeowner liaison with GT committee.

Plant ID: Identifies plants at homeowners' gardens.

Merchandise: Purchases materials, creates, encourages members to create, organizes and prices items for the hospitality center sale.

Education: Finds educators/displays for the Hospitality Center.

Photography: Takes pictures of the tour and set-up. Creates a power point presentation and CD of garden tour highlights for program at August Appreciation Dinner. Makes copies of CD's for homeowners, archives and to fulfill member orders.

Ticket Book: Creates ticket book with garden information and ads. Works with garden selection and maps/directions committees on directions.

Advertising: Sells ads to local businesses for ticket books.

Media/Publicity: Arranges TV, radio, and press releases.

Maps/Directions: Working with garden selection and ticket book committees, lays out map and directions for gardens. Places garden signs and driving directional before the tour and retrieves them afterwards.

Volunteers: Arranges MG volunteers for hospitality center and gardens. Distributes comp ticket books to volunteers.

Ticket Sales Delivers and retrieves ticket books to outlets. Sells ticket books the day of the Garden Tour.

Plant Sales: Encourages MG membership to donate plants for the sale and organizes the set-up and sale the day of the Tour.

Advisor: Last year's chairperson.

Carol Swartzendruber,
2017 Garden Tour Chair

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.

(574) 533-0554
OCTOBER 2016

**I trust in nature for the stable laws of
beauty and utility. Spring shall plant and
autumn garner to the end of time.**
- ROBERT BROWNING