

PURDUE[™] | ELKHART COUNTY
EXTENSION



January 2018 Broadcaster



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The Michiana

Broadcaster
“Helping Each Other Grow!”

Michiana Master Gardeners Association

JANUARY 2018

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE by CONNIE GARBER

Happy New Years, Fellow Master Gardeners. For those interested in history, this is an intriguing book, Gardening Women: Their Stories from 1600 to the Present, by Katherine Horwood. She writes, “It never occurred to me that horticulture could ever be thought of as an unsuitable job for women. It’s been a long, hard fight. The struggle for woman to gain access to training and careers in professional horticulture is the longest section of. . . her book”. I’ve not read it but it doesn’t surprise me that in this realm, too, women struggled. Thank goodness for me (us) that women in the past struggled

for rights that we don't even think about questioning. And thank goodness for the men who are in our organization because we are enriched from all perspectives.

Thanks especially to Dan Carlson for this past year of strong organization as President. I don't think I'll be able to live up to his good job, but with your encouragement I'll give it a go.

I wonder what sort of New Year's resolutions a Master Gardener should make??? One of my earlier ones will be to go the Porter County Garden Show. It's on January 27th. There are great lectures and booths; I really learned a lot and thought the \$10.00 was well worth the time. Another will be to be sure and welcome the new class, as it can be intimidating to make new acquaintances.

So much for now. Happy learning in the "quiet" part of our year.

Connie Garber,
2018 President



Attention MMGA Members

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

*****A Notice from the Board of Directors*****

If you want to post a Master Gardener Event on Facebook or other social media, you must clear the posting with Nancy Borkholder at the Extension Office to get the proper Purdue information to be included in the posting.



*Day Minder . . .
Watch Us Grow*

January



8	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	7 p.m.
9	Tues.	Board Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	6 p.m.
11	Thur.	Spring Celebration Committee Meeting, Location TBD	7 p.m.
23	Tues.	Garden Expo Committee Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	6:30 p.m.
30	Tues.	Member Meeting , Ag Hall Bill Clayton, Clayton Garden Center	7 p.m.

February

5	Mon.	Garden Tour Committee Meeting, HISTORY ROOM	7 p.m.
8	Thurs	Spring Celebration Committee Meeting, Location TBD	7 p.m.
13	Tues.	Board Meeting, Extension Office Conference Room	6 p.m.
20	Tues.	Garden Expo Committee Meeting Extension Office Conference Room	6:30 p.m.
27	Tues.	Member Meeting, Ag Hall Martha Wilczynski, Lavender Hill Farm	7 p.m.

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.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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

Tuesday, January 30, 2018	Bill Clayton, Clayton Garden Center, "Gardening for Pollinators"
Tuesday, February 27, 2018	Martha Wilczynski, Lavender Hill Farm, "For the Love of Lavender"
Tuesday, March 27, 2018	Master Gardener Awards
Tuesday, April 24, 2018	TBA
Tuesday, May 29, 2018	Flora of Australia and New Zealand, Meg Mitzel
Tuesday, June 26, 2018	Creating a Cutting Garden, Phoebe Brubaker, Flowers by Phoebe

Board Meetings, SECOND Tuesday of the month, Ext. Office Conference Room, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, January 9, 2018
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
Tuesday, March 13, 2018
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
Tuesday, May 8, 2018
Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Garden Tour Meetings, FIRST Monday of the month, Ext. Office Conference Room, 7 p.m.

Monday, January 8, 2018
Monday, February 5, 2018 (History Room)
Monday, March 5, 2018
Monday, April 2, 2018
Monday, May 7, 2018
Monday, June 4, 2018

Garden Expo Meetings, Tuesdays, Ext. Office Conference Room, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 23, 2018
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Tuesday, March 20, 2018
Tuesday, April 17, 2018
Tuesday, May 22, 2018
Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Spring Celebration Meetings, SECOND Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., location varies

Thursday, January 11, 2018
Thursday, February 8, 2018
Saturday, March 10, 2018 Spring Celebration, Greencroft, Goshen

November 13, 2017

Whether you are a farmer or a gardener, you may have some pesticides left over from the summer. Putting them away in storage for the winter may save you some money and product.

Some products can be rendered less effective if frozen. Most liquid products may be safely stored at 40 to 100° F. However, do not assume that 32° F is the freezing point. Because pesticides often include solvents and carriers other than water, the freezing point may be different than that of water.

The first thing to do is to read the label to see if there is a warning against freezing. Store the product in a temperature compatible area. Metal shelves are preferred over wooden shelves because if the container would leak, the wood may absorb the product.

Generally, dry products such as wettable powders and granules are not affected by low temperature. However, these formulations may absorb moisture, causing them to cake and lose effectiveness. Therefore, a dry location in sealed containers is recommended.

Products in water soluble packets should not be frozen. These packages are very pliable, and once frozen, become brittle and may crack and leak.

Do not forget about your spraying equipment. Be sure to drain the tanks, hoses and pumps. Freezing water expands, and can crack fittings, pipes, pump housing, and spray wands. Wear protective equipment such as gloves and goggles while you are doing this to minimize your exposure.

As always, be sure to read the label. If there are storage concerns for the product in question, the label will spell out how to best store the product.

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.

MEET OUR MEMBERS
by Carol Swartzendruber

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Mary Davis, Class of 2003



Many of you know Mary Davis, class of 2003, from all her activities with MMGA. But, did you know that she and her husband, Rick, have ridden a tandem bicycle over 52,000 miles in the USA and also in Europe? They belong to HOOTS (stands for Hoosiers Out in Tandem), a tandem bike club. She shared that other clubs also have interesting names, like CRABS (Maryland) and PIGS. I'll let you figure out what their names mean. Mary and Rick met at IU, where Rick got his law degree and Mary went to University of Illinois, Urbana, for her law degree after they married. That happened 50 years ago. Although, they don't have children, and are retired, they keep very busy. Mary is a step-on guide for a local tour company and has encountered many interesting people and comments. The Humane Society shares some of her time and that's where they got their latest bulldog, Lily, who has a French bulldog head on an English bulldog body. She's in love with Rick. But, did you know that Mary has collected over 300 nativity sets from all over the world? Or, did you know Mary plays the harp and at one time was in a harp ensemble? Interesting lady.

Debbie Mann, Class of 2017

From the class of 2014, we have Debbie Mann, a very valuable member of MMGA. Born in Gary, Indiana, Debbie was a paramedic while in high school and then moved to California where she obtained her degree in nursing. Married to Richard, a retired policeman, for 35 years, they decided to move back to the Hoosier state to be close to family. The sun is the main thing Debbie misses, but not the stresses of earthquakes, mudslides and wild fires (they were evacuated from their home at 3am because of fire). Scary!! They have two children who elected to come to Indiana with them. Many of you have met Lora, who often comes and helps. Both children were adopted from Romania at the same time. Since both Debbie and Richard had been adopted, they understand the love of being adopted to the point they have also adopted a German Shepherd, two parrots and reluctantly, a cat. Working as a nurse in critical care and ER, she also used her photography talent when needed in the hospital. To do further interesting things with her nursing skills, Debbie also worked at California Motor Speedway at the infield care center. Yes, she has met and treated many of the older NASCAR drivers and they knew her. She also had the chance to interview Robert Duvall in person. In LA one runs into many famous people and it's no big deal. Just ask Debbie all about it.



An Ode to Sunflowers

They stand as solitary sentinels,
watching over the winter garden.
Their heads are brown, dry and drooping.
They have given up their seed.

In warmer days not long ago,
the birds would flock to eat this treat.
Seeking out this beautiful flower,
with its vivid contrast of yellow and black.

But everything has its season,
the cycle of life goes on.
Though many of the seeds were eaten,
Some survived to live again.

To rise once more in another spring,
responding to the warmth of the sun.
Quickly sprouting and growing,
in root, and stalk, and flower.

There are lessons to be found in nature.
With the sunflower it might be this;
“Follow the source that makes you flower,
but keep your roots planted on the ground”.

Jim Carpenter





Allium 'Millenium' is hardy in zones 4-9 and grows best in full sun. It likes well-drained soil and is deer and rabbit resistant. This herbaceous perennial is a relative to the common onion, and is a butterfly magnet with its masses of rose-purple blooms. Each plant produces a grass-like clump 10-15" tall, with a fibrous root structure that makes it easily divided in either spring or fall. 'Millenium' keeps its structure and glossy leaves in the heat of the summer and does not get scraggly like some alliums can. The butterflies and bees will love you for adding this low maintenance beauty to your garden. For more information, <http://www.perennialplant.org>.

2018 PANTONE® COLOR OF THE YEAR

ANNOUNCING PANTONE 18-3838 ULTRA VIOLET, PANTONE® COLOR OF THE YEAR 2018.

As creative gardeners, one of our many inspirations comes from color, and the Pantone® color of the year is a perfect way to gain inspiration on trending color styles. Although I cannot give you a color representation of Ultra Violet in this newsletter, you can visit the Pantone website at www.pantone.com/color-of-the-year-2018 to see the beauty of Ultra Violet 18-3838, and read more about it.

Some quotes from the Pantone website:

"Inventive and imaginative, Ultra Violet lights the way to what is yet to come."

"...the depth of PANTONE 18-3838 Ultra Violet symbolizes experimentation and non-conformity, spurring individuals to imagine their unique mark on the world, and push boundaries through creative outlets."

SECOND GRADE GARDEN CHALLENGE**By Jim Carpenter**

It was a bit of a challenge, but I love interacting with kids so I decided to go for it. I was asked to speak to four classes of 2nd graders about gardening at Orchard View Elementary in Middlebury. I knew I needed to cover some basics but I also knew I would not miss the opportunity to introduce some new concepts to these children.

I was given the choice of speaking to the 88 students at one time or I could do one class after another all in one morning. I decided it was worth the extra trip to talk to two classes on one day and the other two on the next. It would be a little more time and travel, but I thought my message to the kids would be a bit fresher.

I wanted something to pass around as I know how much kids love to handle items that have to do with the topic they are hearing about. One of the things I came up with was a large baggie containing four wild carrot roots, or what is known as Queen Anne's Lace. This plant is considered a weed today but was brought over from Europe hundreds of years ago as an edible garden plant.

As I explained about how the wild carrot was cultivated over the years, it gave me the opportunity to talk about some of the unique vegetables that can be grown today. The kids were very interested as I told them of thorned tomatoes, spiked cucumbers and the vast array of colors that different varieties of tomatoes might have.

I also passed around a bag with some different types of vegetable seeds in it, big and small. This was to help explain the depth requirement for different seeds and also to help them understand the concept of cool season versus warm season vegetables. Several of the children were able to identify the bean seeds that were in the bag, but the tomato, cucumber and okra seeds were new to them.

Some basic garden information I wanted to stress with them was about the importance of soil, water and sun. I talked about the importance of microbes in the soil and explained how earthworms digest and process organic matter in the earth and make it into a form that the plant roots can take into the plant. I also talked about how and why soil can be improved with the addition of organic matter.

Most of the children were familiar with what raised beds were all about. They easily were able to give me one advantage of raised beds, height, when I asked them why many older people liked to garden this way. Talking about raised beds also gave me the opportunity to go over again the importance of weeding and watering.

The children were very attentive and I made it a point to interact with them by asking various questions relating to their garden knowledge. It seemed

SECOND GRADE GARDEN CHALLENGE, Continued

By Jim Carpenter

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about two thirds of them had a family garden at their house and about one half of them helped with the garden in some form or another.

One last concept I tried to introduce them to was about 'living above the dollar'. I stressed to them that while money is certainly important, there are other things in life that have a value that can't be equated with money. The satisfaction of producing some of your own food in your own backyard is certainly one of these.

I have found that when you engage grade school children in a genuine and interesting way, their natural curiosity and desire for new information will enable them to understand concepts and ideas that might even be beyond their grade level. The plan is for these second graders to plant and tend some sort of garden at the school this next spring. My hope is that my time with them may spur some future passion for gardening. Who knows, there may even have been some future Master Gardeners in the classroom!

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



This month's Photo of the Month was taken by Laurette DeToro in Brickyard Pond Park, Providence Rhode Island, on a recent trip to visit family. This tree appears to be swallowing the "No Skating" sign. Brickyard Pond and the surrounding land was once a clay pit. From the mid 1800's to the mid 1900's, clay was dug and produced into bricks used to build hundreds of buildings in the New England and surrounding areas. In the 1940's, the town of Providence acquired the property, including Brickyard Pond, and created a park for future generations to enjoy.

**Free Workshops Presented by the
Elkhart County Master Gardener Class of 2017**

Simple Gardening for Beginners

Presented by Joann Rose, Connie Kline, Lois Brewster

Locations and dates (Saturdays):

Elkhart Environmental Center
1717 East Lusher Avenue, Elkhart
Saturday, January 27, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Elkhart Public Library
300 S Second Street, Elkhart
Saturday, February 17, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Rieth Interpretive Center
410 W Plymouth Avenue, Goshen
Saturday, April 21, 2018
10 a.m. - noon



Getting The Dirt on Soil!

Presented by Kathy Mow, Sandy Amt, Eric Amt,

Annette Webb, Jean Deary

Locations and dates (Saturdays):

Elkhart Environmental Center
1717 East Lusher Avenue, Elkhart
Saturday, January 13, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Rieth Interpretive Center
410 W Plymouth Avenue, Goshen
Saturday, February 10, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Purdue Extension Office
17746 County Road 34 Ste E, Goshen
Saturday, April 14, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

**Free Workshops Presented by the
Elkhart County Master Gardener Class of 2017**

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Landscaping: Planning - Design - Planting - Maintenance
Presented by Cathy Hughes, Robert Slaski, Kelly Bancroft, Shari Yacks
Locations and dates (Saturdays):

Elkhart Environmental Center
1717 East Lusher Avenue, Elkhart
Saturday, January 20, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Purdue Extension Office
17746 County Road 34 Ste E, Goshen
Saturday, February 10, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

American Countryside Farmers Market
27751 County Road 26, Elkhart
Saturday, April 14, 2018
10 a.m. - noon



Food for Thought
Presented by Angie Miller, Doug Fetters,
Melanie Johnson, Rhonda Wesselman
Locations and dates (Saturdays):

Elkhart Environmental Center
1717 East Lusher Avenue, Elkhart
Saturday, February 3, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

Rieth Interpretive Center
410 W Plymouth Avenue, Goshen
Saturday, February 17, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

American Countryside Farmers Market
27751 County Road 26, Elkhart
Saturday, April 21, 2018
10 a.m. - noon

PURDUE
EXTENSION

LOCAL FACES
COUNTLESS CONNECTIONS



“THE BIRDS & THE BEES”

Learn how to attract birds and bees
to your garden...

Saturday, March 10, 2018
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Greencroft

1820 Greencroft Blvd.
Goshen

Sponsored by:

Michiana Master Gardeners' Association in
cooperation with Purdue Extension -
Elkhart County

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Porter County Master Gardeners
Association presents
"Renovate! Repurpose! Revitalize!"

15th Annual Gardening Show
Saturday, January 27, 2018
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (EST)

Admission is \$10



Keynote speaker is nationally known gardening expert Melinda Myers

Porter County Expo Center
215 East Division Road
Valparaiso, IN 46383

For more information www.pcgarden.info/gardening-show



Wednesday, March 14 -
Sunday, March 18, 2018

Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-8PM
Sunday 10AM-6PM



Admission is \$10-\$15, depending upon day/times

Navy Pier
600 E. Grand Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611
For more information www.chicagoflower.com

2019 ELKHART COUNTY GARDEN EXPO

To My Fellow Gardeners,

Our Garden Show is gaining ground. We have made a decision as to who will be our keynote speaker. It is Barbara Pleasant from Virginia, author of Mother Earth News. Another notable speaker will be Mike Groarty from Perry, Ohio. They both have offered us prices less than we were prepared to give. We are working at getting contracts set up for both of these speakers.

I have secured four new members for our advertisements and sponsorships committee. They are Tammy O'Rourke, Meg Mitzel, Dean Linsenmeyer and Carol Swartzendruber. These four are from different parts of our community and hopefully that will make the job less stressful in covering the area we expect to include. We warmly welcome them aboard!

The name of our new show will be "Elkhart County Garden Expo". Two of our members have offered to contact the Elkhart County Community Foundation about acquiring a grant, noting that this will be an educational opportunity for the community.

So far we have acquired vendors for coffee, soft serve and pretzels. Actual vendors for meals have not as yet been secured. Exciting things are happening!

Carol Novy
Garden Expo Chair



NEW COLUMN FOR BROADCASTER

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS! You don't have to be a professional photographer to take fun, unique and interesting photos! Anyone can do it! Grab your phone or camera and capture Mother Nature's offerings.

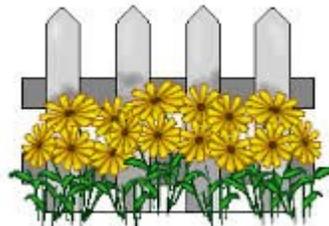
I would like to feature a "Photo of the Month" in future newsletters which is interesting, unique, fun, cute, etc., and of any garden/nature/wildlife topic. Please include details of when and where the photo was taken, and any other details that you would like to provide. Sometimes a story is necessary and sometimes the photo speaks for itself. Please send your submissions to me at tjotlo@gmail.com.

Tammy O'Rourke

2018 GARDEN TOUR

Spring will be here before we know it, and with Spring comes NEW PLANTS! Please remember to start saving planting containers for the Garden Tour Plant Sale. I will be asking for donations of containers for those who need them. Thank you!

Pam Cecchi,
Plant Sale Chair



INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS

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MMGA Board Meeting
October 10, 2017
6:00 p.m. Extension Office

Present: Dan Carlson, Kathleen Cripe, Connie Garber, Carol Novy, Bill Roberts, Jenny Schrock, Craig Stiver, Cindy Watson.

Absent: Jeff Burbrink, Loanne Harms, Dianna Jackson, Anne Regier, Ron Troyer

Dan welcomed the group and called the meeting to order. **Secretary's report**-There were no questions, Jenny moved that the Secretary's report from the September meeting be accepted; Craig seconded; motion passed. Anne had emailed the **Treasurer's report** to Dan. The checking account balance was \$8,418.35; money market balance was \$18,765.65; savings balance is \$137.34; and cash on hand is \$200.00, for a total of \$27,521.34. Kathleen made a motion to approve, Carol seconded; motion passed. **Educator's Report**-Jeff absent-no report. **Committee Reports:** **Answer Line**-Done for this year. **Archivist**-Marilyn Horvath is doing this. **Broadcaster**-Things are going well. **Bus trip**-Looking for a person to chair this committee. **Bylaws**-Craig met with Nancy and the revised bylaws have been sent out to members. A vote will be taken at the October 24 membership meeting. **Class update 2016**-No report. **Community garden**-Jenny reported that October 21 is the garden's closing date with October 28 as rain date. Work was done on the asparagus bed. A total of 59.5 pounds was harvested today; 896.5 pounds have been harvested this year. **Extension Landscaping**-Kate Rink has volunteered to do this. **Fair Board**-No meeting in September. **Fair Set up**-Nothing for now. **Garden show 2019**-Barb Heeter had to resign as sponsorship chair and a new person will be found soon. Sherrie Zou will work on Organics and Heirlooms. The speaker sub-committee is working on finding speakers. The vendors sub-committee is working on an application form and information letter to share with potential vendors at upcoming venues. At the October 24 membership meeting garden show name suggestions will be gathered. **Garden tour**-10 gardens plus one site of interest have been selected and most are in southwest Goshen plus 2 off of Middlebury Street. **Membership**-Things are going ok. **Nominating Committee**-Five people have been nominated for three Board positions: Kathleen Cripe, Kate Rink, Gwen Ferland, Bud Mosier, and Carol Swartzendruber. Two positions will be for three years and one position will be for two years. A written ballot for voting will be provided at the October 24 membership meeting. **Programs**-Loanne has most of the 2018 programs scheduled. Dates and subject matter include: 1-30 TBA; 2-27 For the Love of Lavender; 3-27 Awards; 4-24 TBA; 5-29 Flora of Australia and New Zealand; 6-26 Creating a Cutting Garden; 7-16 Fair set-up; 8-28 Garden Tour appreciation dinner; 9-25 Food as Medicine; 10-30 TBA; 11-27 Thanks for Giving dinner. **Property Trustee**-Dan showed Connie the property room. Connie would like to have that reorganized. It was suggested that a standing committee be formed to care for the property/room. **Quilt Gardens**-Jenny reported that October 12 is the closing date for the Bristol garden but that the sculpture is there until mid-October. There still is no chairperson for the Goshen fairgrounds garden and Cindy will email Jim Bare to see if he was planning to remove plants from the garden. If not, she will email Mary Ann Lienhart-Cross to see if there would be a group of Extension Homemakers that could. **Set up**-Things are going fine and a group of 3-4 is utilized for set-up. **Spring Celebration**-Will be held at Greencroft on March 10, 2018. There will be a speaker on bees. She will bring her own books with sales going to charity. **Tree Sale**-Bill was not sure if order blanks were in. **Webmaster** - Going ok. **Old Business:** Elections will take place at the October 24 meeting. State conference - The \$500 half page ad will cover garden tour and the garden show. **New Business:** The 2018 meeting room request has been made for use of Ag Hall. Kiwanis announces their names speaker's names before speaking. Connie suggested we do more of that for MMGA membership. Jenny made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Carol seconded; motion passed. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held November 14, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Watson, MMGA Board Secretary

INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS

MMGA Member Meeting
October 24, 2017
7:00 p.m. Ag Hall

Dan Carlson welcomed everyone and invited Loanne to introduce our guest speaker, Jason Becker of Fashion Farm/Countryscapes in Ligonier. Jason shared the history of Fashion Farm, started in 1960, and named after "Old Fashioned", a cow his grandfather had. His grandparents, Charlie and June Williams, from Copemish, MI, purchased 200 acres in Ligonier on the Lincoln Highway (CR 50). They lost everything on Easter Sunday in 1974. In March of 1975 they opened Fashion Farm restaurant and Jason's father, Russ, started working there and is famous for his pumpkin donuts and homemade ice cream. On October 1, 1972 they opened the pumpkin fantasyland and each year there's a new design theme. Jason started in the business in 2000. His children plant 27 varieties of pumpkin seeds over 26 acres. A retail greenhouse was built in spring 2001. Jason started the landscaping part of the business in 2003 and is hoping to become a Master Horticulturalist in 2 years. Jason likes connecting people to the farm to give them a chance to slow down and enjoy time with family. Today Fashion Farm includes landscaping and design, the restaurant, retail greenhouse and garden center, and the floral and gift shop. During October they receive about 3,000 visitors on a weekend and 14,000 to 16,000 throughout the month. **Board positions-** Dan pulled the group back together and announced the vote for board positions. Ballots were passed out containing the names of 5 people (Kathleen Cripe, Bud Mosier, Carol Swartzendruber, Gwen Ferland, Kate Rink) to fill 3 board positions. The group was encouraged to vote before taking their break and to put their completed ballots inside the box at the end of the food tables. Following the break, the votes were tabulated and Kathleen Cripe (3 years), Kate Rink (3 years), and Carol Swartzendruber (2 years) will be filling the three open board positions. **Secretary's report-**The secretary's report is listed in the Broadcaster. A motion to accept the secretary's report was made by Paul Miles; seconded by Loanne Harms; motion passed. **Treasurer's report-**Anne Regier shared the treasurer's report. The checking account balance is \$8,418.35; money market is \$18,765.65; savings is \$137.34 and cash on hand is \$200.00 for a total of \$27,521.34. Dan reminded the group Anne will be leaving the treasurer's position and invited qualified members, if interested, to contact a board member. Paul Miles made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Tom Havens seconded; motion passed. **Educator's report-**Jeff had traveled to the Bristol, TN, area. There were interesting differences in climates. Four to five inches of rain there caused roads and bridges to wash out. Ornamental grasses are native there and grow along roadsides. The new MG class is going well. Jeff will be doing a power point class the evening of November 16 and will send out an email about the class. Bring your own computer. The new class is working on their presentations. **Committee reports: Spring Celebration-**Karin Frey handed out invitations. More copies are available. **Tree Sale-**Barb announced that the tree sale order forms were on the table. The early bird deadline is January 5; final deadline is March 9. Contact Soil & Water for additional order forms. Signup sheets for volunteering will be available at the January or February members meeting. **Garden tour-**They have finalized their gardens for the July 14 tour. The next meeting is January 8 at 7:00 p.m. (November meeting has been canceled.) **Bylaws-**Dan asked for a motion for the 2018 budget. Jenny Schrock made the motion to accept; Connie Garber seconded; motion passed with no questions. Dan also asked for a motion about the Bylaws. Diana Thornton made a motion to accept the Bylaws as amended and Paul Miles seconded. Dan opened for questions. Comments from members included: 1) All are volunteers and are supposed to help others grow. Does not think it is right and opposes the addition of new Bylaw 6.2.; 2) The addition of Bylaw 6.2 formalizes what was already being done; 3) Assumes the board would be working with the person before they were dismissed from a position; 4) Just puts what is being done into writing; 5) Jeff shared that the language of new Bylaw 6.2 is normal language for replacing a person not performing their duties. Dan read Bylaw 6.2 in its entirety and called for a show of hands for the vote on the Bylaws as re-written. The motion passed with a few votes against. **Thanks-for-Giving-**The November 28 members meeting will be the Thanks-for-Giving dinner. Meat and rolls will be supplied. Bring a vegetable, salad or dessert. A guest can accompany a member for a cost of \$6, members are free. **RSVP to Loanne Harms by November 21 or before.** Door prizes were awarded to 18 members. New board members will begin their term starting with the December 12 Board meeting. Joyce Miller shared that Mary Morgan's service will be held on 11/11 at 11:00 a.m. Jeff will email details to everyone. Paul Miles made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. and Tammy O'Rourke seconded; motion passed. **Next meeting:** Thanks-for-Giving carry-in on November 28th at 6:30 p.m. There will be no December meeting. Respectfully submitted by Cindy Watson, Secretary

INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS

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MMGA Board Meeting
November 14, 2017
6:00 p.m. Extension Office

Present: Jeff Burbrink, Dan Carlson, Kathleen Cripe, Connie Garber, Loanne Harms, Dianna Jackson, Anne Regier, Bill Roberts, Jenny Schrock, Craig Stiver, Cindy Watson. Absent: Carol Novy

Dan welcomed the group and called the meeting to order. **Secretary's report** -As there were no questions, Jenny moved that the Secretary's report from the October meeting be accepted; Kathleen seconded; motion passed. Anne shared the **Treasurer's report**. The checking account balance was \$8,139.38; money market balance was \$18,767.25; savings balance was \$137.35; and cash on hand was \$200.00, for a total of \$27,243.98. Craig made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Jenny seconded; motion passed. **Educator's Report**-Jeff mentioned that the PowerPoint class was the next day, Thursday, 11/15. In addition, the new class has provided their seminar information to Jeff and they are ready to print off the cards listing the upcoming seminars. Jeff has received a request for emeritus status from a non-association member Master Gardener. After discussion about who should approve requests for emeritus status, it was agreed that if the person is an MMG Association member, the Board would review requests and make the decision about granting status. Any Master Gardener who is NOT a member of the Michiana Master Gardeners Association, and who makes a request for emeritus status, Jeff would make that decision and then report his decision to the board. We were reminded that once emeritus status is granted, the individual can no longer volunteer. **Committee Reports** (those not listed had no report): **Answer Line**-Done for this year. **Archivist**-Marilyn Horvath is doing this but we need a board liaison. **Broadcaster**-Tammy is doing a great job. **Bus trip**-Looking for a person to chair this committee and we will need a board liaison. **Bylaws**-The updated and new bylaws have been posted on the website. **Class update 2016**-Dianna reported that class members are active on committees. They are also looking at an April date for their graduation celebration. **Community garden**-Jenny reported that the community garden is closed. October 24 was the wrap up meeting. A total of 939 pounds were harvested in 2017. The MMGA community garden was the first to provide vegetables this year to CCS. They would like to amend the soil over the entire garden. They've gotten some pricing but costs are coming in greater than the \$500 budgeted. They currently charge \$8 per plot but the price is going up to \$10. The City of Elkhart used to provide leaves and tilling but did not provide that service this year. Suggestions were given and Jenny will check into them. **Fair Board**-Kate is excited about this. Jeff talked about the master plan for the fairgrounds and suggested watching this closely. **Garden show 2019**-The planning is going well. The group will be selecting a speaker and show name at the November meeting. **Programs**-Things are going well. Still has January and April to finish. **Set up**-Things are going fine. **Speakers Bureau**-Things are going fine. **Spring Celebration**-Will be held at Greencroft on March 10, 2018. Charlotte Hubbard is the main speaker and they are working on Wild Birds Unlimited as the second speaker. **Tree Sale**-Order forms have been mailed. **Webmaster**-Bylaws have been updated online. **Old Business**: Elections were held at the October MMGA meeting. **Treasurer replacement**-Anne is resigning from the Treasurer's position and Dan Carlson has offered to do this for one year. He will not be able to be at every event to have the Square available so another person will need to be trained on how to run the square. Anne stated that she is willing to help too. Jenny made a motion that we ask Dan Carlson to serve as treasurer for 2018; Bill seconded; motion passed. **New Business**: An emeritus status request has been received from Ruth Middleton. Dan will do the merchandise inventory. A motion to accept Ruth's request was made by Dianna; Kathleen seconded; motion passed. Ron Troyer submitted his resignation from MMGA and the Board. Ron had one year remaining on the board. Dan asked the board if we can have the fourth candidate (Gwen Ferland) from the membership vote to fill Ron's position. The board affirmed so Dan will ask Gwen to fill that position. Dan will ask the departing members to bring their green notebooks. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held December 12, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. and new Board members will be attending.
Respectfully submitted by Cindy Watson, MMGA Board Secretary



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.

MOTTO

"Helping Others Grow"

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