

August 2016

Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



From Two Js

A really big “thanks” to all who helped prepare and participated in the Open House at the extension gardens. You did a magnificent job and the public enjoyed your guided tours. Several attendees told me how much they appreciated the opportunity to learn about our organization. Great job Master Gardeners!

Our MGATC dues are due September 1st. Billie Seaton will start collecting in August and will have all forms available at our August 2nd meeting. As you know, our membership dues provides a major part of our income which is used to help support our projects.

Doing volunteer work is a major part of our responsibilities. If we had no volunteers we would be out of business. It takes numerous people doing consistent weeding to keep our gardens and adopt-a-spots in top presentable form for the public to enjoy.

The Latest Dirt

by Flora N. Fauna

🌱 Renee’s Garden suggests making your own cosmetics with summer garden produce. Many garden flowers, vegetables, and herbs can be used to make herbal cosmetics in your own kitchen, and the process is no more time consuming than making a simple sauce! Creating your own natural shampoos, hair rinses, facials, moisturizers, and body oils is rewarding, and you’ll know exactly what is in your homemade product. Try using calendula for shampoo, sage for facial

The bottom line is that we need to fill the Master Gardener class this fall and encourage most, if not all, of the graduates to become members. More members results in more volunteers that will help our organization remain viable into the future.

Steve Schilling, the volunteer manager of Matthew 25 Care & Share Soup Kitchen stopped by our Open House to express his sincere thanks for the fresh produce the Demonstration Garden donates each year. He told me the food demand remains high, especially for young families with children who earn less than needed to support themselves. Steve was very impressed with all the organized volunteer labor that the MGATC puts into donating fresh vegetables each season to help provide for the community. He wants everyone to know that your hard work is very greatly appreciated.

masks, chamomile for hair rinse, lavender for facial steam, or calendula for a hair rinse. Read more at <http://www.reneesgarden.com/articles/cosmetics.html>, including how-to cosmetic recipes for the above cosmetics.

The American Meadows Blog is full of gardening news and tips. Its June 30 post reported, “May The Best #GardenFail Win. What exactly is a #GardenFail? It is a blunder, misstep, or error in the garden that leaves you

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Today is actually tomorrow’s history and we are all writing the current chapter in tomorrow’s history books. We might not be mentioned on the nightly news or be discussed in a history class, but our family and friends will appreciate our efforts to make a difference in the community. Please be sure to document your efforts in your submitted volunteer reports so your personal history is not lost.

Volunteering is not always easy but it is satisfying and necessary to keep our organization relevant and thriving into the years ahead. Each member can be proud of their contribution to this great Master Gardener organization. Thank You!

Jerry and John

Programs

August 2 • 7 p.m. • TCEO

6:30 p.m. Social Time

Susan Ulrich

Susan Ulrich from INPAWS, NICHES, and the Audubon Society will talk about those organizations and their community commitment.

September 6 • 6 p.m. • TCEO

5:30 p.m. Social Time

6 p.m. Hoedown (carry-in)

Cliff Sadof

Cliff, Purdue Entomology professor, will talk about insects and bugs that are affecting our gardens. **NOTE** the time change for the carry-in dinner.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Cheryl McCool at mikeandcherylmc@msn.com.

Please submit items for the *Garden Beet* to MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com by the 15th of the month for the next month’s issue.

Items to be emailed to the membership should be sent to Donna Cumberland at donna.d.cumberland@gmail.com.

<http://www.tippecanoemastergardener.org>

<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mg/index.html>

MGATC Minutes: July 5, 2016, 7 p.m., TCEO

Carol Byers introduced Jan Wright from First Class Clutter in West Lafayette, Indiana. She gave a very interesting presentation and demonstration of how to repurpose items and give them new life, by adding flowers and other items.

Carol Byers thanked Jan Wright for her presentation and then turned the meeting over to John Pickett.

John Pickett called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as posted in the July issue of the *Garden Beet*.

John Pickett then thanked all of the State Conference volunteers who worked hard to make it the success that it was.

Karen Mitchell then discussed several programs that she is working on. She is working on a Pollinator Project for grades 4 thru 6 and is looking for a Master Gardener to lead the program next spring. It will be an after-school program at the YMCA. Karen is also looking to develop the Junior Master Gardener Program next summer. It will be a two-day program with projects inside and outside. She is also looking to start up a Yoga Gardeners Class for Master Gardeners as yoga helps build core strength which is important for gardeners.

There are twelve shared gardens around town and Karen is working with each group to help set up pot luck socials at the gardens to help stimulate interest in these communities. She would like to have some Master Gardeners attend to help out and answer questions. The first pot luck social is scheduled for August 18 at 6 p.m. on North 10th Street. Karen will be sending out an email survey for interest in all of these programs. Anyone who does not have internet can contact Karen directly.

Karen also noted that the Wabash River Fest is Saturday, July 9 at Tapawingo Park from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. She will be helping with a cooking demonstration at the West Lafayette Farmer's Market from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on July 13 showing people how to prepare the food that they purchased. There will be another demonstration in August.

Pat Miller, Treasurer, reported that all of the expenses have not yet been paid for the State Conference but the current balance is \$23,513.

Carl Stafford reminded everyone to get their hours turned in.

Dee Dilling noted that she needs volunteers to sign up for the Tippecanoe County Fair; a sign-up sheet was at the back of the room.

Mickey Penrod asked if there were any State Conference volunteers in attendance who had not received their bags. She also thanked volunteers who helped prepare the gardens for the State Conference.

Konie Hughes thanked everyone for helping in the Demonstration Gardens which were beautiful and many great comments were received. She also asked for volunteers to weed and water.

Lynn Layden was not present at the meeting but it was reported that Art in Bloom was a success. Numerous photos are posted online and an estimated 300 people attended the event.

Dee Dee Long reported on the upcoming Open House which is scheduled for Sunday, July 10 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Plants and garden shed items as well as cookies can be dropped off at the Extension Office on Saturday, July 9 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. or Sunday morning after 9 a.m. There will be a hayride and three volunteers are needed to help with the hayride: one to sit

on the wagon to enforce the rules and act as a tour guide pointing out areas of interest; and two to help people on and off the wagon. If interested in volunteering to help with the hayride, contact Jerry Millard. Also two volunteers are needed to be greeters and hand out scavenger tickets as visitors arrive. Visitors need to go to three stations and have their tickets marked to receive a free hot dog.

Elizabeth Hartley thanked everyone who volunteered at the State Conference. She really appreciated everyone's faithful attendance at the planning meetings and the level of commitment from the volunteers. She really enjoyed the event and reported that a few suggestions were received but the comments from the attendees were overwhelmingly positive. She again thanked everyone on behalf of herself and Jolaine Roberts. She and Jolaine worked with Karen Mitchell and John Orick, who were both very helpful and did an excellent job.

Elizabeth then noted that she was requested to remind everyone that the proper place to wear your name badge is on your right side so that when you shake hands your name is visible to the other person.

Jerry Millard reported that, with Board approval, the MGATC purchased general liability insurance as well as director and officer insurance for the association. The cost was \$1,250 this year.

John Pickett reminded everyone to contact Billie Seaton with any name, address, telephone number, or email changes.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 2. This month's Board meeting will be held on July 14 and next month's on August 11. All members are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

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MGATC Board Minutes: July 14, 2016, 6 p.m. TCEO

Present for the meeting were John Pickett, Jerry Millard, Jan Sadler, Pat Miller, Dee Dilling, Cheryl McCool, Debbie Ladd, Carol Byers, and Karen Mitchell.

The meeting was called to order by John Pickett at 6 p.m.

The Minutes of the June Board meeting posted in the July *Garden Beet* were approved with no changes.

Dee Dilling reported on cards which have been sent recently. Dee was asked to send a thank you card to PFCU for the contribution made for the Cumberland Community Gardens. In addition, Cheryl McCool will send thank you notes to the State Conference vendors.

In regard to signage for the orchard as a memorial for Jeff Phillips, Karen Mitchell will follow up and have a report with quotes for the August Board meeting.

Dee Dilling reported that the volunteer schedule for the Master Gardener booth at the Tippecanoe County Fair has been completely filled and she has sent reminders to each volunteer along with instructions on what needs to be done at the event.

The Board discussed scholarships for the Master Gardener class. The cost of this year's class is \$120. Karen Mitchell reported that she has sent out letters to interested people for the class noting that if there is a need for financial help, she could be contacted for an application. If needed, the Board approved two scholarships for which the MGATC would pay \$90 and the class member would pay \$30.

Pat Miller then gave a Treasurer's report noting that the bank balance is now \$23,513.94. She noted that the Open House made \$343.06. She is also working with John Orick to finalize the expenses for the State Conference.

As the fiscal year end is near, Pat Miller will prepare an email for Donna Cumberland to send out asking everyone to get all receipts turned in by August 15 if possible. Original receipts need to be turned in to Pat Miller.

In addition, Pat Miller suggested that the Board consider raising the check signing limit for checks which require two signatures.

Jan Sadler reported that the Open House was a success; it was a beautiful day and we had awesome volunteers. The event included tomato tasting, hayrides, and Boy Scouts helping children make Mason Bee homes. Both she and Dee Dee Long were happy with the event and received many positive comments, noting that lots of visitors were asking questions and showed a lot of interest in the Master Gardener program.

Jerry Millard reported that the Finance Committee met and worked on the budget. Pat Miller will get together with Sue Swick and Mickey Penrod to sort out the budget for the Display and Idea Gardens. The budget will be presented at the August monthly meeting. In addition, at the Finance Committee meeting, Laurie Madlung was appointed Chair of the committee. She is also the grant coordinator and is willing to help others complete grant applications.

Jerry Millard then discussed insurance. The Board approved purchasing insurance for a total of \$1,250. The insurance was purchased through the Mitchell Agency and includes general liability coverage through Auto Owners; and officer's and director's coverage through Philadelphia. In regard to the liability coverage, as the county owns the land, both the Commissioners and the Extension Office needed to be added as additional insureds in order for the hayride to be covered at the Open House. The policies will be mailed to Jerry Millard at the Extension Office.

Jerry Millard reported that due to other responsibilities (State Conference and insurance), he has not had time to work on the procedures manual. However, he is continuing to work on the master book of procedures and plans to get it done this winter.

The Board then reviewed the description of the Rookie of the Year Award. The description was approved and will be posted in the August issue of the *Garden Beet*. Karen Mitchell noted that John Orick approved class members volunteering during their class period as long as they are working with a Master Gardener. Karen will include information about the award at the Orientation session for the new class and it was suggested that the trellis and vine program be implemented the second or third week of class. It was also agreed that members be reminded periodically about the award.

Karen Mitchell noted that John Orick is willing to conduct a goal setting workshop for Board members which would be beneficial for the group to refine and evaluate all of the Master Gardener projects. The workshop was approved as all Board members were interested.

The MGATC currently has 200 members. An announcement will be made at the August meeting encouraging members to pay their dues on time.

There being no further business, the Board meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler
Recording Secretary



Financial Report

May 1 through June 30, 2016

Beginning Balance	\$21,536.01
Income	
MGA State Conference	\$4,632.68
Grant and Donations	\$1,484.99
Garden Expo	\$46.00
Art in Bloom	\$2,000.50
Interest	\$.76
Expenses	
State Conference	\$1,168.66
Member Services (Insurance, website & speakers)	\$1,609.18
Garden Expo	\$62.14
Art in Bloom	\$2,027.75
Gardens & AAS	\$1,319.27
Ending Balance	\$23,513.94

Pat Miller, Treasurer

Minutes

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Karen Mitchell then reported that this year's Master Gardener Training Course will begin on August 31. The cost will be \$120. She currently has a list of over 60 people who are interested in the class and the maximum number for the class is 40. Anyone interested should contact Karen soon.

Ed Knoth thanked everyone who participated in the silent auction at the State Conference. He had one item, a fireplace set, for which he received no bids. He sold it at the meeting for \$10 which brought the total profit for the silent auction to \$2,608.

Karen Miller then thanked her intern, Kyle Taylor, for all of her help. She started in mid-May and will be working until mid-August. With Kyle's help, Karen has been able to get a lot accomplished.

John Pickett noted that Mona Cavanaugh needs two volunteers to help at the Columbian Park Zoo from

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If interested, please contact Mona.

Kristel Kaye asked anyone who needs a new green book printed to let her know as she will be printing one and could do another at the same time.

Door prizes were won by Elizabeth Hartley and Jeri Bosworth Parker.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler
Recording Secretary*

Et Cetera

Reimbursement

Anyone who still needs to be reimbursed for an MG expense, see Pat Miller no later than August 15th. You must have the original receipt.

John Pickett

Art in Bloom

A big thank you to all Master Gardeners who volunteered for Art in Bloom on June 25th. I realize many of you had put in long hours pulling off the State Conference the week before, but your efforts in welcoming our 300 plus visitors were really needed. We are going to start planning for 2017 and recruiting the gardens this summer and fall. If you would like to be part of the planning committee, please let me know (layden.lm@frontier.com). We appreciate all the MG help we can get.

Lynn Layden

Survey

Hello Master Gardeners,

As mentioned at the monthly meeting, I have created a survey to gauge your interest in possible future programs. This survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and will help me gather information on participants and volunteers for future programs. Please follow this link to the survey: https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8C8YL77muOITFeB.

Thank you! I appreciate you taking your time to complete this survey!

Karen A. Mitchell

Missing Kneeling Pad

Dear Master Gardeners:

If anyone has picked up Joan Straber's kneeling pad from the gardens at the Extension Office, please contact her at rick.joanstraber@frontier.com.

Here is a description: It is oval shaped and has one gray side and one flowered side. It is dirty and well loved as she uses it in her gardens at home. It was a gift from her daughter and she would very much like to have it back, so if you can help, please contact Joan.

*Thank you,
Donna Cumberland*

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Light-enchanted sunflower, thou
Who gazest ever true and tender
On the sun's revolving splendour.

~ Pedro Calderón de la Barca

What's Happening

Volunteering Info

If you are still looking for a means to earn your volunteer hours this year - here is your opportunity to do so. The below listed openings are available on a first come-first served basis:

Columbia Park Zoo: needs two Master Gardeners to work 9-11 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Contact Mona Cavanaugh at 765-404-7394 for details.

Demonstration Garden: needs two Master Gardeners to work most any time of the day or day of the week. Contact Konie Hughes at 765-418-6941 for details.

Display Garden: needs two Master Gardeners to work most anytime of the day or day of the week. Contact Micky Penrod at 765-523-3538 or Sue Swick at 765-491-5070.

Please give these openings your sincere consideration. They are very important volunteer openings that need to be filled for the MGATC to fulfill its obligations to the community.

*Thank You very much,
Jerry Millard*

Wednesdays in the Wild

July 27 • 1-3 p.m. • BEEC
GO FISH!

Mary Cutler

A fish biology and adaptation talk by Tippecanoe County Naturalist Mary Cutler will be followed by fishing on Burnett Creek. Rods, reels, and bait will be provided.

August 3 • 7-9 p.m. • LNC
An Evening with the Spiders
Marc Milne

Spiders love the night! Join Dr. Marc Milne (Assistant Professor of Biology at the University of Indianapolis) on a hike in the Celery Bogs natural areas where we will spot a variety of spiders building webs and searching for food. On the hike fascinating facts about spider behavior, web structure, and the identification of common species found in our area will be shared.

August 10 • 1-3 p.m.
FOS/NICHES

FOS Prairie Walk/Orchid Viewing
Brooke Criswell

Explore the wonders of Fisher Oak Savanna Nature Preserve with Brooke Criswell (NICHES Education & Outreach Coordinator) as you follow the trail through wetland and woods to the prairie. Stop along the way to look at rare Orange Fringed Orchids.

Suggest/encourage: long pants and long sleeves (biting insect activity is high) and boots (wetland areas can be damp or muddy).

August 17 • 1-3 p.m. • CLEGG
Indiana Orchid Diversity
Amanda Ingram

Amanda Ingram (Wabash College plant evolutionary biologist) has recently joined the North American Orchid Conservation Center - a consortium of scientists working to understand the biology of our native orchids with a goal of enhancing conservation efforts. She will speak about Indiana orchid diversity and projects she and her students are involved in to explore relationships between orchids and their mycorrhizal fungi, including stories about work with two stunning orchid populations on NICHES properties.

August 24 • 1-3 p.m. • LNC
Monarch Migration, Tagging Demo & Habitat Tips
Reni Winter-Evans

Starting in mid-August, the monarch butterfly population east of the Rocky Mountains will start its annual migration to Mexico. Local Monarch Conservationist Reni Winter-Evans will teach about the migration, and demonstrate how she and thousands of other citizen scientists raise monarchs indoors and then tag the migrating generation to help researchers track the fall and spring migrations. Eggs being laid now will be part of that migration. Help tag and release migrating monarch butterflies. Reni will also give tips on how to establish monarch reproduction habitat.

August 31 • 4-6 p.m. • CLEGG
Gravel Hill Prairie Talk & Walk
Ryan Schroeder

Ryan Schroeder (Purdue student, Natural Resources & Environmental Science) will share information about the rare gravel hill prairie ecosystem, including work from his research project on this topic. The program will include a tour of gravel hill prairie at Clegg Memorial Garden. **NOTE:** trails include steps and hills.

LOCATIONS :

BEEC (Brier Environmental Education Center): In Battle Ground, turn by the small sign on the south side of Prophet Street near its intersection with North 9th Street.

CLEGG (Clegg Memorial Garden): In Lafayette at 1782 North 400 East (Eisenhower Road); just south of its intersection with 200 North.

FOS/NICHES (Fisher Oak Savanna-Jasper County): Meet at 1 p.m. in the property parking lot (property directions can be found at www.nicheslandtrust.org) or come at noon to carpool from LNC.

LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): In West Lafayette, on the north side of Lindberg Road, between Northwestern Avenue and McCormick Road.

WNC (Wah-ba-shik-a Nature Center): In Battle Ground, at the end of the Battlefield Monument parking lot off North 9th Street.

WPK: In Lafayette at 5129 Eisenhower Road. Parking is limited, so please join the 12:30 p.m. carpool from the Battlefield Monument.

Sunflower Cabbage Salad

*(From National Sunflower Association
<https://www.sunflowernsa.com>)*

- 3 c. shredded cabbage
 - 1 package beef ramen noodles, broken into pieces
 - 1/3 c. chopped onion
 - 1 large tomato, chopped
 - 2 T. bacon bits
 - 1/4 c. sunflower kernels, roasted, no salt
 - 1/4 c. shredded cheddar cheese
- Dressing:
- 1/4 c. sugar
 - 3 T. sunflower oil
 - 1 1/2 T. vinegar
 - 1 beef seasoning packet from ramen noodles

Boil ramen noodles for 3-4 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water. Refrigerate until cool. Combine all salad ingredients in a large bowl. Prepare dressing and add to salad. Refrigerate before serving. Makes 4-5 main dish servings.

MGATC Roots

From the March 1999 *Garden Beet*:

1998 Results for the Demonstration Garden by Walt Stirm

The purpose of the TCMGA Demonstration Garden was to demonstrate the use of various cropping techniques, variety testing, yields, organic type insect and disease control and to provide all produce to the St. John's LUM Food Pantry. The 90' by 30' plot provided 28 rows of vegetable crops, three 4' x 8' raised beds and four rows of late-planted sunflowers. We began planning in mid-May with successive plantings through early June. Harvest began in mid-July and continued through October.

Costs

Seeds for starting transplants (tomato, cabbage, broccoli, peppers) and for direct sowing were left over from my home garden (\$18); additional transplants were provided by Don Nead, and Bennett's Greenhouse donated herb garden plants. Twenty pounds of 12-12-12 garden fertilizer used for starter and side dress applications cost \$6. Organic insecticide and fungicide came from my home supply of Bonide (which contained Rotenone, Pyrethrum, sulfur and copper) and cost approximately \$10. (Editor's note: The \$34.00 "start-up" cost was donated by Walt.) Water was supplied from the Extension Office. Plant supports came from my 47 years of home gardening!

Problems

Here is the crop of wisdom we harvested from the garden:

- Good stands of carrots and beets were difficult to establish.
- Cabbage and broccoli require very good insect control.

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Etc.

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Outstanding M. G. Rookie of the Year

The period of time to be reviewed starts with the beginning of the Master Gardener class (normally September) through the end of the following year. This is a time frame of approximately 16 months.

Presentation of this award will be at the annual awards banquet. Normally March of the year following the end of the calendar year in which it was earned.

This award is for the Rookie (Intern) MGATC member who is identified as volunteering during their first year as a Master Gardener. The first year is defined as starting with the first day of the Master Gardener class and continuing through December 31 of the following calendar year.

The committee to select the winner of this award will consist of the current Co-Presidents and past Co-Presidents serving on the Board of Directors of the MGATC. The committee members will change each time new officers assume these positions.

To be considered for this award, membership dues must be current and a minimum of 35 volunteer hours must have been obtained for the period of time under consideration.

The committee will prepare a list of the top 10 members of accumulated volunteer hours that are eligible for the Rookie award. This information can be obtained by contacting the person in charge of volunteer hour records.

Class attendance records and any notes made by the class coordinator should be reviewed. The committee should also consider the number of Master Gardener meetings attended by the individual being considered for this award. This information is availa-

ble from the Extension Master Gardener Coordinator and the MGATC Recording Secretary.

Volunteering is the single most important contribution any member can make to our association. Thus, the member's number of volunteer hours should be the most important factor considered when selecting an individual for this award.

Green Book Update

The new phone number for Carolyn Ake is 765-413-4203.

Keep your
face to
the
sunshine
and you
cannot
see the
shadow.
It's what
sunflowers
do.

~Helen Keller

Latest Dirt

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with an entirely different set of results than you were hoping for. It can be as simple as mislabeling a flower or as disastrous as planting your entire collection of heirloom roses on your neighbor's property - Oops! And why celebrate them? American Meadows think that #GardenFails, like all failures, are enormous opportunities to learn, grow, and explore gardening on a deeper level, which is why it thinks they deserve way more attention than normally given. If you are brave enough to share your failures, you may win a \$25 gift certificate for the best #GardenFail! To learn how others have failed or to enter the contest by sharing your best (or rather, worst) story in the comments at the bottom of the blog page, visit <http://www.americanmeadows.com/blog/2016/06/30/may-the-best-gardenfail-win/>

According to *Farmers' Almanac 2016*, the best days in August to can fruits and vegetables are 18, 19, 26-28; best days to dry fruits and vegetables are 20, 21; best days to make jams and jellies are 22, 23; best days to pick apples and pears are 1, 20, 21, 29, 30. According to *The Old Farmer's Almanac 2016*, best days to plant above-ground crops are 9-11; best days to plant below-ground crops are 1, 19, 20, 27, 28; best days to destroy pests and weeds are 21, 22; best days to harvest above-ground crops are 4, 6; best days to harvest below-ground crops are 23, 24; best days to can, pickle, or make sauerkraut are 19, 20, 27, 28.

Sustainable Gardening News offered two timely articles last month, written by Rose S. "5 Tips for Starting a Sustainable Vegetable Garden," suggested creating ground level or raised vegetable beds, regulating pH levels, making organic compost and mulch, maintaining an organic focus, and creating your own seed bank. Read the details at <http://sustainablegardeningnews.com/5-tips-starting-sustainable-vegetable-garden/>. The second article,

"7 Common Mistakes for New Gardeners - and How to Avoid Them," might be good reading for our newest Master Gardeners. The mistakes are listed as over enthusiasm; improper watering; planting too early in the year; assuming your plants only need sun, water, and dirt; not following the directions on your seed packets or seedlings; not investing in the success of your garden; and not monitoring the weather. The full article can be read at <http://sustainablegardeningnews.com/7-common-mistakes-new-gardeners-avoid/>.

This August, don't forget your houseplants that have been vacationing outdoors over summer. It's time to think about bringing them back indoors. Before you do, shape and pinch them back and check thoroughly for insect pests and treat as necessary. August is also the time to order spring-flowering bulbs for fall planting and to continue taking garden notes and photographs to help plan for next year's garden.

Roots

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- Green beans provided very good successive pickings but bean leaf beetles and western corn root worm beetles were very damaging.
- Sugar snap peas are not successful if planted after mid-May.
- Sweet corn must be harvested a little early or protected from deer and raccoons. About 70% of the late-planted corn was lost to raccoons. Suggest trying capsaicin (hot pepper extract) spray next year. Potention for large yields from raised beds is good but beds tended to dry out faster.
- Early-June weed control is very essential either through cultivation or chemical control. See the below production record for yields.



Crop and Variety	Rows	Yield (lbs)	Price per pound	Value/\$
Sweet Corn "Sir Prize"	3	50/180 ears	#3 per dozen	\$45
Green Beans "Espada"	5	57.5	.70	40.25
Green Beans "Blue Lake"	2.5	25	.70	17.50
Green Beans "Gumbo"	.50	14	.75	10.5
Beets "Warrior"	1	16.5	.5	8.25
Carrots "Nantes"	1	9.5	.50	4.75
Snap Peas "Sugar Snap"	1	2	.85	1.75
Sweet Corn "Sundance"	3	25/100 ears	\$3 per dozen	24.90
Tomato "Red Pink Celebrity"	1	144/14 plants	.75	108.00
Peppers "Boynton Bell"	.50	47.5	.90	42.75
Cabbage "Market Prize"	.50	0	0	0
Squash "Butternut" and "Ace"	1	41	.70	28.70
Sweet Corn "Eldorado"	4	10/40 ears	3.00	10.00
Lima Beans "King of Pole"	1	7	.90	6.30
Onions "Stuttgarter"	3	22	.50	7.70
Cucumbers "Burpless 26"	1	70	.30	21.00
TOTAL		544 lbs		\$377.75

Herb Bed

(continued from back)

Shelled sunflower seeds are plentiful in the store, but keep in mind that unless noted they are, most likely, not organic or GMO-free. And the seasoned varieties are roasted and loaded with high-sodium flavorings.

To roast unshelled sunflower seeds, cover them with salted water, using 1/4 to 1/2 cup of salt per two quarts of water. Soak seeds in the salt solution overnight. Next morning, drain off the water and pat the seeds dry to remove excess moisture. (You can also roast the seeds unsalted, by simply skipping the soaking process). Preheat the oven to 300° F. Spread the sunflower seeds evenly on a cookie sheet or shallow pan and bake for 30 to 40 minutes or until golden brown, stirring occasionally. The seeds will often develop a small crack down the center as they roast. Taste after each stirring to see if the seeds are completely roasted. When done, remove seeds from the oven and allow to cool completely. Store the seeds in an airtight container for future snacking.

To roast raw sunflower seeds in a microwave, follow the same directions as for oven roasting by covering with water and soaking overnight. Toss the seeds to ensure all the seeds are wet. Transfer the wet seeds onto a large flat dish. Microwave for one minute. When cooking stops, toss the seeds, add another minute. Repeat as many times as required until the seeds are crispy and tasty. Depending on the

quantity, the entire roasting process should take less than 5 minutes.

To oven roast sunflower kernels, pre-heat oven to 400 degrees. Evenly spread one cup of raw sunflower kernels over a jelly roll pan or large roasting pan. Bake for 5 minutes or until lightly browned. Let cool and store in airtight container. May be frozen for up to 1 year.

Getting back to the sunflower-loving chipmunks, I had planned to find a new cat at the animal shelter to help keep the chipmunks under control; but, my daughter and her family recently moved next door and built a home on a wooded hilltop. They have three cats that have found their way to my house and garden by following my granddaughters down the hill when they come to visit. Looks like I won't be in need of a cat, after all. These three feline neighbors seem interested in the job.

Photo taken at the MGATC
Open House
(Note: It has been lightened for use here)

Acorn Squash with Caramelized Sunflower Kernels

1 lb. acorn squash, washed
1/4 c. brown sugar
1/2 t. cinnamon
1/4 t. nutmeg
1/4 c. caramelized sunflower kernels
(recipe follows)

With a sharp pointed knife, cut a few small slits through the skin of the squash; place it in a microwave for 1-2 minutes on high power to soften a bit. Then, using a large, sharp knife, cut squash in half, remove seeds and membranes; cut into four pieces. Place pieces in a glass baking dish and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Microwave on high for 5-6 minutes. Test for doneness by carefully removing wrap and inserting the sharp point of a knife into the flesh. Mix brown sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg in a small bowl and add an equal amount to the center of each piece. Cover and heat for about 1 minute until sugar is melted. Sprinkle each piece with 1 tablespoon of caramelized sunflower kernels. Serves 4.

Caramelized Sunflower Kernels

1/3 c. raw sunflower seed kernels
2 T. brown sugar

Heat sunflower kernels in a non-stick skillet about 3 minutes over medium-high heat. Stir in the brown sugar, stirring constantly until melted and kernels are coated. Turn out onto waxed paper to cool. Use as a snack or sprinkle on salads, fruit, or sweet potatoes. 4 servings or can double or triple this recipe and keep at room temperature in a tightly sealed container.

The gaudy leonine sunflower
Hangs black and barren on its stalk
And down the windy garden walk
The dead leaves scatter—hour by hour.

~Oscar Wilde

Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County 2016-17 Membership Application & Annual Dues

The Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County dues are \$25 per year for an individual or \$40 per year for a couple at the same address. This annual fee will allow access to the Garden Beet by email, the 'Members Only' area on the website, and the monthly educational seminars, as well as, voting rights during the annual election. If you would like to receive printed copies of either the monthly Garden Beet or the Green membership book, please select the option below.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check the membership options that you would like below:

- | | |
|---|------|
| <input type="radio"/> Individual Annual Dues | \$25 |
| <input type="radio"/> Couple Annual Dues (please include both names above) | \$40 |
| <input type="radio"/> Garden Beet (if you wish to receive monthly printed copies) | \$12 |
| <input type="radio"/> Green Membership Book (if you wish to receive a printed copy) | \$2 |

TOTAL = \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Primary gardening interests (i.e. roses, perennials, organic, etc): _____

Areas in which I think I can be an effective Master Gardener and achieve volunteer hours:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing info booths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Annual Annual Planting | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as an officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as committee chairperson | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Garden Beet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working at Adopt-A-Spot | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse or nature center docent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Working behind the scenes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in Demonstration Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working with youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping at the Garden Expo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with plant sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping at the Annual Open House |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

Please return this completed form and a check for the amount of your dues (payable to **Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County**) to Billie Seaton by the September 2016 monthly meeting, or mail them to: **Billie Seaton / 1712 Mason Dixon Drive South / West Laf, IN 47906**

The Herb Bed

by Connie Kingman

Chipmunks are giving me fits, again. Earlier this spring, I noticed no evidence of the small squirrels and wondered if last year's flood had eradicated them. Then, last month, I spotted two survivors popping in and out of a hole from under a large mound of impatience, growing below a redbud tree. And since I no longer have a cat, the chipmunks come and go as they please.

Their ground-covered home is conveniently located midway between the garden in one direction and the bird feeders in the opposite direction. In researching, I discovered that chipmunks love sunflower seeds, which I grow in the garden and use in the bird feeders. I refuse, however, to stop feed-

ing the birds and stop growing sunflowers. It's a tradition for me, as I'm sure it is for many gardeners and bird lovers. I am partial to growing the bold giant sunflowers, the ones that tower over the garden.

Sunflowers produce seeds from grayish-green to black, encased in teardrop shaped shells. The most recognizable of these seeds are those featuring black and white stripes. Due to their high oil content, sunflower seeds are a good source of polyunsaturated oil, the type that lowers cholesterol. They are an excellent source of vitamin E, the body's primary fat-soluble antioxidant, with a quarter cup serving containing over 60% of the daily value of the vitamin. The seeds are a good source of copper, vitamin B1, manga-

nese, selenium, phosphorus, magnesium, vitamin B6, folate, and niacin.

If you have never prepared your own seeds, here are some guidelines for the tedious task of removing sunflower seeds from their shells. To speed up the process, try grinding them in a seed mill and then placing them in cold water where the shells will float to the top and can be skimmed off with a slotted spoon. If a mill is unavailable, place a small amount of seeds into an electric mixer bowl and pulse the mixer on and off a few times for a few seconds each time, until the shells separate but before crushing too many seeds. Plunge the seeds into cold water as described above to separate them from the shells.

(continued on page 8)

Garden Beet

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