

# GARDEN BEET

Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County

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August 2023

## Message from Your Co-Presidents

Jim and Mickey

Summer's here and the time is right for dancin' in the street – among other things. A couple of those other things are gardening and summer vacations. Here's an idea: why not combine the two? Gardening meets all the requirements for a great vacation: it gives you a chance to get away from the rat race of work; it's relaxing, no pressure, just pull as many or as few weeds as you care to; it's healthy, besides being low stress, gardening gets you into the great outdoors, fresh air, sunshine, Vitamin D, etc.

The gardens are open for business all summer, and admission is free. Just schedule your vacation, then contact one of the garden chairs to explain your availability and ask how you can help.

Planned to see the family over the summer, invite them along. We often see spouses, children and grandchildren at the garden. It can be a learning experience. But keep an eye on them, especially the spouses. You don't want anyone wandering off. Even if no one feels like weeding or helping with the harvest, ask for a tour and get more familiar with what's been going on out there while you've been slaving away at your job. Bring along a book. Take a break on the gazebo.

The best part about a vacation in the garden is that it's a lot less expensive than what you probably were planning. You will be saving money, helping to save the environment by driving only a short distance to help the plants that soak up CO<sub>2</sub>, helping your fellow Master Gardeners and earning volunteer hours

toward your next service badge. It's a win, win, win, win!

Operators are standing by to take your reservations.

Of course, this is our light-hearted way of saying we would be happy for you to join us. Call ahead or just drop in. There is always plenty to do, and one of us is available most of the time at the gardens on South Sagamore where we spend our summer vacations.

*Jim & Mickey*

### MGATC Programs

**August 1 6:30 p.m. TCEO**  
Social time 6:00 p.m.

***Landscape History in England & Europe***  
**Professor Mike Dana**

The business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker following. Dr. Dana is a Professor, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University.

**September 5 6:30 p.m. TCEO**  
Social time 6:00 p.m.

***Container Planting***  
**Carey Grable, Marion County**

For more information on upcoming events, contact Amanda Burge at [amanda\\_personett@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda_personett@yahoo.com)

**Websites:** <http://www.tippecanoemastgardener.org/> <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/>

**Newsletter:** Please submit items for the *Garden Beet* to [MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com](mailto: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 Dee Dee Long at [deedee1mg@gmail.com](mailto:deedee1mg@gmail.com)

## MGATC Meeting Minutes: July 11, 2023, 6:30 pm TCEO

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Mickey Penrod at 6:30 p.m.

Mickey Penrod inquired about the gardens of the members. One member, Georgia Brist, said she and her husband were in the process of assembling their new rain barrel. She indicated that they purchased the barrel for a very good price. The cost of \$82.00 included the barrel, diverter and stand. If other members are interested in a rain barrel, they can purchase this unit from Lafayette Renew which is located at the Water Works on Wabash Avenue.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2023 monthly meeting as printed in the July 2023 **Garden Beet**.

Deb Rimer gave the Treasurer's Report as follows: The total income for June was \$.34 in interest with expenses of \$2651.16 (which was primarily for insurance). The ending bank balance was \$39,552.19 with unrestricted funds totaling \$22,940.79. The savings account balance is \$10,556.73.

Cheryl McCool, a member of the Nominating Committee, reminded the members that we will be voting in December to elect new officers for the 2024-2025 terms. The commitment would be from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Co-chair officers are encouraged for the President and Vice President positions. Cheryl responded to questions regarding the duties of the officers, and additional details may be found in the MGATC Bylaws, Article V, Section 3-8, found on the MGATC website. One member expressed

interest at the meeting. Please consider volunteering for one of the positions. New officers can expect the full support of retiring officers, as well as any necessary training.

All volunteer spots have been filled for the Tippecanoe County Fair Master Gardener booth. Thank you.

An inquiry was made regarding the status of the compost project, and it was confirmed by Jim Jeray and Mickey Penrod that all was going well.

Mickey Penrod reported that by default, the Tippecanoe County Commissioners are going to renew the lease for our garden property at the old Extension Office through 12/31/2024.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Amanda Burge introduced our speaker for the evening. Dr. Krishna Nemali from Purdue University spoke on the topic of Home Hydroponics. He emphasized the benefits of extending our growing season, reducing waste and enjoying the fresh produce. Additionally, Dr. Nemali has obtained a grant, and has started the "Grow Kit Project." He and his team will provide training and all materials necessary to set up a home hydroponics system for 30-50 participants, free of charge. Those who are interested can contact Dr. Krishna Nemali at 765-494-8179 or [knemali@purdue.edu](mailto:knemali@purdue.edu).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Jolaine Roberts,  
Corresponding Secretary*

## MGATC Board Minutes: July 13, 2023 TCEO

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Co-President Jim Jeray. Board members present were Jim Jeray, Mickey Penrod, Jolaine Roberts and Cheryl McCool; Deb Rimer and Kathie Cox were present via Zoom. Dee Dee Long, Jan Sadler and Amanda Burge were absent from the meeting.

The June 8, 2023 Board minutes were approved as posted in the June 2023 **Garden Beet**.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Deb Rimer. There were no changes from the report given at the July 11 monthly meeting.

Jim Jeray mentioned that it was time for the Finance committee to start preparing information for planning of the 2024 budget. There was also a brief discussion about moving the Savings account so that our organization will have more flexibility

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(MGATC Board minutes continued from page 2)

about how the money is used. The purpose for which the account was originally opened is no longer relevant.

Jim Jeray asked Deb Rimer about the Indiana Non-Profit Regulations and the report that we are required to file. Deb indicated that it had been very challenging to get our account activated, but once the account was set up, it was very easy to complete the required information. Deb also stated tax exempt forms, for MGATC tax exempt purchases, can be found on the MGATC website. Stores included are: Home Depot, Lowes, Bennett's, Rural King and Menards.

There was a rumor that the County Commissioners were unhappy that the Master Gardeners were unwilling to share water with contractors working at the old Extension location. This was investigated by Board members and it was determined to be unfounded.

Jim Jeray stated that the post office box has been cancelled. Any correspondence should be mailed to the Extension Office at 1950 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Lafayette 47905.

Jim Jeray made a few updates to the 2024 Membership Form. This is a form that should be completed at the time that the 2024 dues are paid. Dues should be paid by December 31, 2023 in order insure inclusion in the 2024 membership book. Further information will be forthcoming about where to mail the completed form.

Member-at-large, Kathie Cox stated that she had not received any input from the membership since the last board meeting.

It was mentioned that member Doug Ketterer is considering becoming chair of the Chatham Square Community Gardens. He would like the opportunity to shadow Pat and Aubrey before making a decision. There are currently 30 plots with about 19 gardeners. It was noted that if we continue sponsorship of this garden, it may be appropriate to supply new equipment.

Pat Williams did not have any updates on the October State Conference other than currently speakers were being contacted.

The Board continued their discussion regarding equipment and shed needs at the garden. It was concluded that if we acquire any additional equipment, we will probably need another shed for storage.

Pat Williams said that some of the Class of 2022 have already completed their minimum required hours, and are now eligible to receive their Master Gardener badges. These interns have asked to have their badges now, rather than having to wait until 2024 when badges are normally awarded. After discussion, the Board agreed that it would be appropriate to order badges for those interns who had met their commitment.

There being no other business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jolaine Roberts, Corresponding Secretary*

"The garden reconciles human art and wild nature, hard work and deep pleasure, spiritual practice and the material world. It is a magical place because it is not divided."

 – Thomas Moore 

## Treasurer's Report

### July 2023 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

The income for June 2023 was \$.34 for checking account interest. Total Income Year-to-date 2023 is \$18,419.09.

For the unrestricted budget, we paid out a total of \$2,651.16: Demo garden \$55.04, Children's garden \$212.89, Memory garden \$155.90, Liability Insurance \$2087.00, and office (stamps) \$12.60. The Unrestricted Balance was \$22,940.79 at the end of June 2023. Net Income (income-expenses) was \$10,681.06 (not including Restricted funds).

The Restricted funds expense was \$122: \$17 for the Compost Project- diesel fuel for the tractor and \$105 for Lawn and Shrub irrigation repair. The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of June was \$16,611.40. The Ending Checking account balance was \$39,552.19. Savings balance was \$10,556.73 and the new Gaming account was \$767.

*Deb Rimer, Treasurer*

## OCTOBER 3, 2023 is OPEN MIC NIGHT

Cheryl McCool would like at least four Master Gardeners to speak for open mic night at the October MGATC meeting.

This is your chance to share garden stories, successes, tips, hacks, growing information, DIYs, how-to's, and more.

Help make this a fun night! 😊

Call Cheryl at 765-413-1686 or email her at [mikeandcherylmc@msn.com](mailto:mikeandcherylmc@msn.com).

## 🍏 MGATC NOMINATIONS 🍏

Nomination for officers in 2024-2025 are needed for the following offices: Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Member at Large.

Please think about being more involved in your organization – run for an office.

Please call Cheryl McCool at 765-413-1686 or Jolaine Roberts at 765-412-4821 with your choice of office. Their emails are in the Green Book and on the last page of this newsletter.

🍏 If you have any questions, please feel free to ask! 🍏



Photo: © 2022 Kathryn Reeves

## What's Happening

### WEDNESDAYS in the WILD

REGISTRATION is required by noon on Monday prior to program: [mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov](mailto:mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov) or 765-567-2992. Some programs are LIMITED to 25 participants.

JUL 26<sup>th</sup>, 9-11pm, Moth Ball, (NOTE: Outdoor Evening Program), WNC. Join Indiana moth-er Jeannette Jaskula for an evening celebrating moths in the woodlands of Tippecanoe County. Lights will be set to attract moths to a white sheet and moth bait will be spread on nearby trees to draw them in, as well. With over 2,300 species of moths recorded in our state, we are certain to find a dazzling and beautiful variety! Bring a flashlight and bug repellent. Limited to 25 participants.

AUG 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1-3pm, GO FISH!, TIPP BF. Fish biology and adaptation talk by Tippecanoe County Naturalist Mary Cutler will be followed by fishing on Burnett Creek. Come learn how fish are so much more than “what’s for dinner!” (Rods, reels, & bait provided) Limited to 25 participants.

AUG 9<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm, Granville Sand Barrens: A Growing Restoration, NICHES/GSB. Bob Easter (NICHES Stewardship Director) will provide an update on ongoing projects at this rare sand barrens property on this hike featuring rare species, unique wildlife and restoration techniques. He will also share plans for a large restoration/revitalization project on a new addition of 190 acres connecting this preserve to the Wabash River. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring bug repellent. Limited to 25 participants.

AUG 16<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm, Forestry for the Birds Case Study on Purdue Properties, D Woods. Brian Beheler (Purdue Farm Manager) will lead this hike to highlight the diversified forest management techniques used to maximize habitats for breeding

bird species on this Montgomery Co. property, Darlington Woods. This hike will be off-trail through hilly woodland terrain, crossing several dry creeks. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring trekking poles, if desired. Limited to 25 participants.

AUG 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1-3pm, Beyond the Battle: Chapters in the Tippecanoe Battlefield Story, TIPP BF. Tippecanoe County Naturalist Mary Cutler will share the history of this iconic historic site from 1811 onwards. Political rallies, early educational institutions, church camps, and Purdue University all have a connection to this unique site! Limited to 25 participants.

AUG 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30pm, Incredible Edibles & Plant Potions: Ethnobotanical Uses of Plants, (NOTE: Outdoor Evening Program), WNC. Enjoy a leisurely hike with Tippecanoe County Naturalist Mary Cutler on the Tippecanoe Battlefield grounds to learn about the human uses of a wide range of both native and non-native plants found at the park. Limited to 25 participants.

### WEDNESDAYS in the WILD LOCATIONS:

**D Woods (Darlington Woods):** Meet 1pm in Crawfordsville at 5790 Co. Rd. 500 E.

**NICHES/GSB (Granville Sand Barrens):** Meet 1pm in property parking lot (directions at [www.nicheslandtrust.org](http://www.nicheslandtrust.org)) in Tippecanoe Co.

**TIPP BF (Tippecanoe Battlefield):** Meet 1pm at the large picnic shelter adjacent to the Battlefield Museum off N. 9<sup>th</sup> St. in Battle Ground.

**WNC (Wah-ba-shik-a Nature Center):** Located at Tippecanoe Battlefield off N. 9<sup>th</sup> St. in Battle Ground—see program descriptions for evening meeting times.

(What's Happening continued on page 6)

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing,  
the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken.



~ James Dent



## What's Happening cont'd

July 28 – August 20, 2023, Indiana State Fair  
Indiana State Fairgrounds, 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis,  
IN. <https://www.indianastatefair.com>



### SAVE THE DATE:

October 6-7, 2023

## 2023 Purdue Extension Master Gardener State Conference Purdue Campus, West Lafayette

Registration online TBA in August.

More information as details become available at:  
<https://bit.ly/2023EMGStateConf>

### October 6

- 5:30 pm Check-in and reception
- 6:15 pm Heavy Hors d'oeuvres served and social time
- 7:00 pm Guest Presenter (TBA)
- 7:45 pm Interactive Presentation (TBA)
- 8:30 pm Adjourn

### October 7

- 10:30 am Choices for Session 1:
  - Jules Janick Horticulture Gardens and Greenhouse Tour
  - Tree ID Walk & Planting Demonstration
  - Gardening While Aging /Horticultural Therapy
  - Plant Disease Diagnostics
  - Spreader Calibration & Reading the Fertilizer Bag
- 1:15 pm Choices for Session 2:
  - Jules Janick Horticulture Gardens and Greenhouse Tour
  - Bee Keeping Demonstration
  - Flower Arranging
  - Home Hydroponics
  - Landscape Design
- 2:45 pm Choices for Session 3:
  - Jules Janick Horticulture Gardens and Greenhouse Tour
  - Vermi-Composting
  - Fruit Gardening
  - Alternatives to Pesticides & Fertilizers in Turf
  - Field Diagnostics Walking Tour
- 4:00 pm. Break
- 4:15 pm Closing Session and Evaluation
- 4:30 pm Adjourn



## Master Gardener Online Educational Opportunities

Master Gardener web-based education at:  
<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/continuedhours/>

A variety of topics are available to watch anytime to suit your schedule. Earn MG Education hours.



**Purdue Landscape Report** – timely topics on trees, shrubs, flowers, plant diseases, insect pests, invasive species and more. To get this twice a month newsletter by email go to: <https://www.purduelandscape.org> Click on subscribe link. You can also read previous issues online at the same website.



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## Recipes of the Month

Emily Hughes found a tasty recipe for **Grilled Ratatouille Pasta Salad**. Complete directions for this copyrighted recipe at:

<https://www.countryliving.com/food-drinks/a36320314/grilled-ratatouille-pasta-salad-recipe/>

...and a recipe for **Air-fryer Squash**:

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a36755556/air-fryer-squash-recipe/>

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## Got extra produce? Donate it!

As part of the MGATC mission, Master Gardeners grow and donate thousands of pounds of fresh produce to food banks in the Greater Lafayette area.

If you have extra produce this summer, **Food Finders Food Bank Inc.** will distribute it back to our community!

Drop it by the 1210 N 10th St Warehouse in Lafayette between 7am-4pm from Monday through Friday. Enter Food Finders door on 10th Street - there's a counter on the right. If there's no one there, just leave produce on the counter (sometimes there's cart there for donated produce).

Other places to donate fresh produce are: **Lafayette Urban Ministry (LUM)** at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6<sup>th</sup> Street between North and Ferry, Lafayette TH mornings *and* at Unitarian Universalist Church, 333 Meridian St., West Lafayette, FRI mornings.



## Great Gadgets and Tools

Heavy duty plastic tubs, trugs or "tubtrugs" (shown below) are great for weeding, deadheading, and mulching. Look for food grade tubs for harvesting.

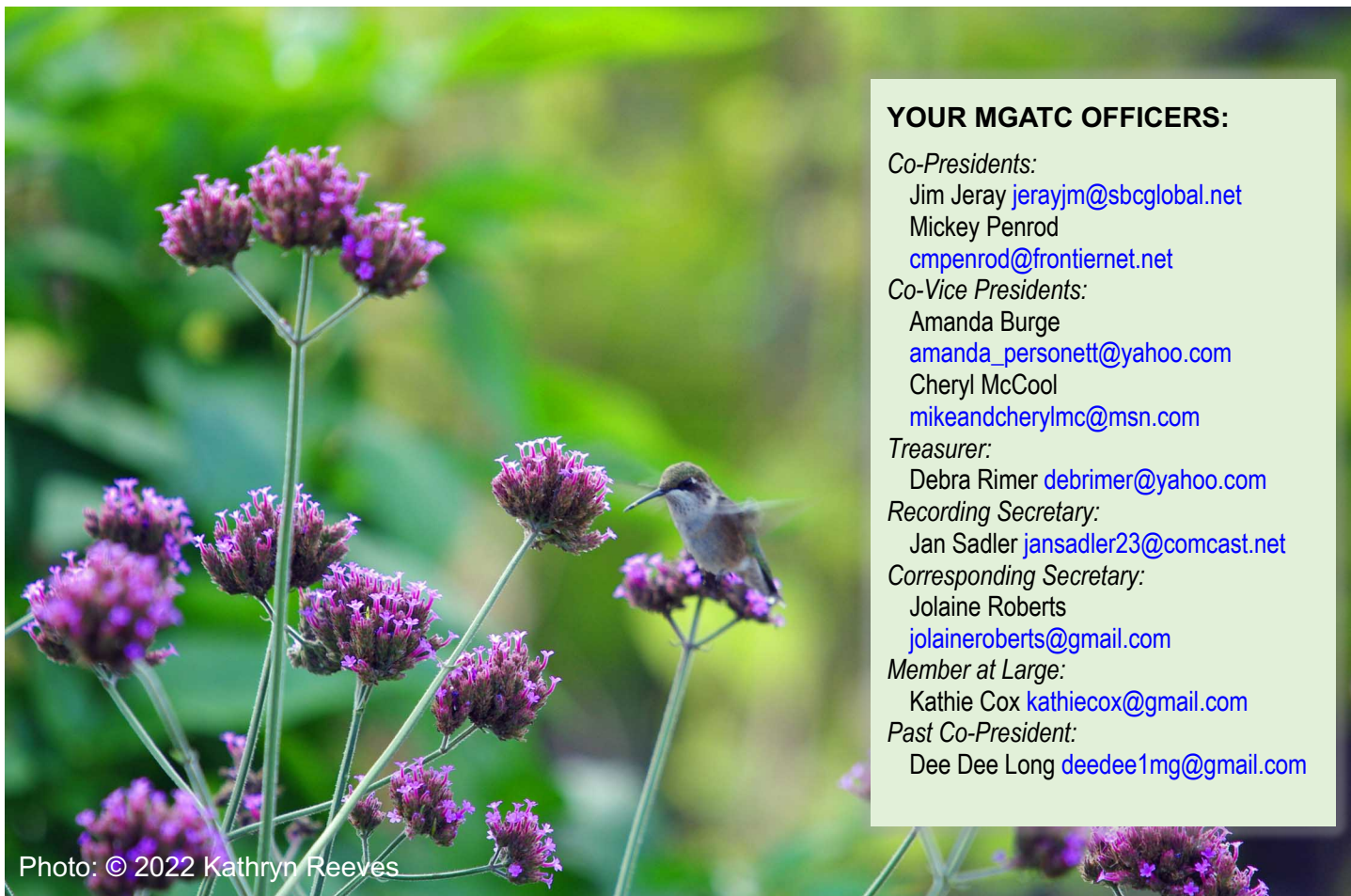


Photo: © 2020 Mike Hathaway



## August Garden To-Do List

- ☀️ Water in drought conditions. Keep watering newly planted perennials, shrubs and trees, and well-established trees and shrubs too. Conifers do not wilt; they just die if there isn't sufficient water. Arborvitae are especially susceptible to dying in drought.
- ☀️ It's hot and your garden may be looking tired. Weed, trim, deadhead, edge, mulch, water and remove debris to keep things looking fresh.
- ☀️ Keep compost pile "cooking" with adequate moisture.
- ☀️ Pick veg like tomatoes, peppers, beans and squash to keep plants producing.
- ☀️ Watch for tomato hornworms – handpick and destroy unless they're covered with white eggs of parasitic wasps that will hatch and naturally kill the hornworms for you. Handpick Colorado potato beetles and squash bugs.
- ☀️ Melon and corn crops may start to ripen this month.
- ☀️ Cure potatoes, onions, and garlic after harvest before storing.
- ☀️ Start fall veg planting by transplanting broccoli, pak choi, kohlrabi and kale or direct sow root and leaf crops.
- ☀️ Sow cover crops on bare areas in veg garden.
- ☀️ Start taking cuttings of favorite garden plants to root and overwinter indoors.
- ☀️ Don't fertilize woody plants this month.
- ☀️ Prune and destroy branches infested with fall webworms and tent caterpillars. Hand prune bagworms.
- ☀️ Early August lawn care: if white grubs are causing damage, apply insecticide and irrigate.
- ☀️ More August lawn care: water during dry spells or allow lawn to go dormant. Wait to fertilize until September.
- ☀️ Think about garden areas that need improvement. Plan to buy or order perennials, shrubs and trees for fall planting.
- ☀️ See more tips from Purdue Extension August Garden Calendar:  
<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/august-garden-calendar/>



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