



GARDEN BEET

Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County

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October 2023

Message from Your Co-Presidents

Jim and Mickey

October is our annual hoe down when we get together to hear from our fellow master gardeners about their adventures over the previous summer. It is also one of the three times each year we are able to meet as a group to share a meal in a kind of extended social time and perhaps get to make some new acquaintances.

It's pot luck! The local expression is a carry-in meal. When I (Jim) first mentioned it to my wife years ago, she thought I said carrion, which did not sound appetizing to her at all – it made us sound like a bunch of vultures. (That only applies if you stand too long in front of the dessert table.)

I once heard an organizer make a big deal out of the true meaning of pot luck. According to this purist, you don't assign dishes to make sure everyone gets a balanced meal with meats, veggies and desserts. It's time to live a little, take a chance, see what happens! If you end up with all salads, that's the luck of the pot – live with it! So, per the social committee, that's the course we are following this year. The association will not be providing grilling hot dogs outside the door as happened at some past hoe downs. We are at the mercy of individual preferences. If we see the same diversity on the buffet table as we see when we interact with our fellow gardeners in tastes, attitudes, gardening techniques and

outside interests, we should be in for an interesting variety.

In a sense, the MGATC is a pot luck experience expanded to real life. A new class has started. We didn't pick them or qualify them in any way. They each came with their own backgrounds, interests and life experiences. They each came with something to offer just as each of us did from the earliest classes at the end of the last century, to the newest interns (soon to receive their Master Gardener badges) from the class of 2022. In this way MGATC itself is pot luck, and from our point of view, we've been very lucky.

Jim & Mickey

MGATC Programs

October 3 6:00 p.m. TCEO

Social time 5:30 p.m.

ANNUAL HOEDOWN - OPEN MIC NIGHT

MGATC Master Gardeners

This is your opportunity to share!

November 7, 2023

Speaker/Topic TBD

For more information on upcoming events,
contact Amanda Burge at

amanda_personett@yahoo.com

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

Newsletter: 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 Dee Dee Long at deedee1mg@gmail.com

MGATC Meeting Minutes: September 5, 2023, 6:30 pm

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

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the August 1, 2023 monthly meeting minutes as posted in the September 2023 issue of the **Garden Beet**.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Deb Rimer. She reviewed the income and expenses for the month and noted that the ending bank balance was \$35,470.69 of which \$19,428.58 is in unrestricted funds.

There were several announcements:

Perry Schnarr announced that he had planting pots available in his truck. If anyone was interested, they should meet him after the meeting.

Terry Cook donated approximately 1,400 labels to the Master Gardeners for use at the Garden Expo.

Cheryl McCool made an announcement that we have three Master Gardener volunteers to speak at the October Hoedown meeting. They would like to get two more. Please contact Cheryl if interested.

Cheryl McCool also announced that there is still an opening for a Co-Vice President for our slate of officers. The slate will be introduced at the

November monthly meeting and the election will take place at the December meeting.

Jim Jeray reminded everyone that the October meeting is a carry-in dinner. Set up will be the same as the March Awards Banquet. Social time will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Pat Williams noted that it was great to see such a good turn-out for our meeting.

The new class is set to begin on Saturday, September 16.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Co-Vice President Cheryl McCool then introduced our speaker for the evening, Carey Grable, Home Horticulture Educator for Marion County. His presentation was titled "Container Gardening: Growing in Tight Spaces", and included information on types of containers, soil, and watering.

The education portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Corresponding Secretary*

MGATC Board Minutes: September 7, 2023 TCEO

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Mickey Penrod at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Jim Jeray, Mickey Penrod, Jan Sadler, Deb Rimer (via Zoom), Kathie Cox, Dee Dee Long and Jolaine Roberts. Pat Miller was also in attendance as noted. Cheryl McCool and Amanda Burge were absent from the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the August 10, 2023 Board meeting minutes as posted in the September 2023 issue of the **Garden Beet**.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Deb Rimer. She reviewed the income and expenses for

the month and noted that the ending bank balance was \$35,470.69 of which \$19,428.58 is in unrestricted funds. The savings account balance was \$10,556.73 and the gaming account balance was \$767.00. As the gaming account was set up for scholarships, the funds in the account should be moved to the scholarship expense in the same year the funds are collected. It was agreed to move the funds out of the gaming account, leaving only \$100 in the account to keep it open. Originally \$100 was put in the account when it was opened, so therefore, all collected funds would be moved as required.

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Deb Rimer suggested changing our bookkeeping to QuickBooks instead of using spreadsheets as we do now. She felt it would be easier to obtain history information and is easy to use. Also membership could be added to QuickBooks and then it would generate invoices for membership dues. The Board discussed this recommendation. Currently we have 8+ years of records in the spreadsheets and thought that moving to QuickBooks might be more than we need. Pat Miller was asked to come to next month's Board meeting with a recommendation as she has been our Treasurer in the past and is on the slate for this year's election.

Pat Miller requested authority from the Board to have a second spray in the Display and Idea Garden pathways at the Sagamore Gardens. The cost last time was \$ 486.10. As the budget for this would cover it, the Board authorized her to move forward.

Pat Miller left the meeting.

Dee Dee Long reported that the Hoedown meeting is on track. Decorations have been purchased for both the Hoedown and Christmas meetings. They can also be kept and used for future meetings. The Social Committee will arrive early and set up for the meetings.

In regard to the Nominating Committee, it was reported that all positions are filled for a slate of officers for the 2024-25 term. Pat Williams noted that he had talked to Cheryl McCool about having a non-voting Member at Large from the new class in order to bring the new class in to the management of the organization. The Board discussed this and agreed that 1) it was a good idea; 2) should be a non-voting member, and, 3) should be a term of one year; and 4) should be called Class Representative. Under these conditions, the Bylaws would not need to be amended. This was approved and will be noted in the **Garden Beet** along with the slate of officers.

Per Cheryl McCool's request, Dee Dee Long brought up the topic of possibly installing electricity

at the Sagamore Gardens. Dee Dee Long and Cheryl McCool met with a representative from Duke and were quoted a cost to \$30,000 to install the electricity and would need to be installed over U.S. 52. Also, connecting to the Humane Society electrical system is not an option. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the first step would be to contact the Tippecanoe County Commissioners to determine if they would approve as we are leasing their property. If approved by the Commissioners, it was agreed that we should research the cost and justify it as this would be a major expense.

No Parking Signs are needed at the Sagamore Gardens. Mickey Penrod will take care of getting signs.

There is a flooding problem at the Sagamore Gardens. When checking with the water company, Pat Williams was told that this was during a time when the fire hydrants were being tested. As it is not believed this is the case, Pat Williams noted that we should keep a dated record of the flooding in order to determine the cause.

In regard to the upcoming Master Gardener class, Pat Williams reported that there are 15 paid students and a possibility of 9 more.

Mickey Penrod has been researching mowers for use at the Sagamore Gardens to do work that the big mower cannot do. She can obtain a self-propelled push and bagger mower for less than \$1,000. She will meet at Lowe's tomorrow to determine what kind of deal she can get for the mower she needs. The Board approved up to \$1,000 for the purchase of a push mower to support the gardens.

Mickey Penrod has also been researching riding mowers for use at the Sagamore Gardens. A gas John Deere mower with no bagger would cost between \$5,000 and \$8,000.

Mickey Penrod also met with a representative from Riggs to discuss a flail mower. Riggs recommended
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"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

 - Lucy Maud Montgomery, Ann of Green Gables 

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that we get a walk behind brush cutter from Midwest Rentals to do what we need. She will continue to research this issue.

Dee Dee Long reported that the Master Gardener scarecrow for the Prophetstown Scarecrow Exhibit is almost done. It was approved to use the straw bales from the high tunnel. There will be two scarecrows and they will be set up on September 19. Pat Williams was asked to prepare signs for the exhibit. With input from the Board, the following suggestions were made for signs: 1) Master Gardener sign with phone number/address; 2) EXPO sign with date for 2024; 3) Junior Master Gardener sign; 4) GAAP; 5) Education Hotline; and

6) AAS Gardens. Pat Williams and Dee Dee Long are working on the list. Also, anyone working on this project will need to sign a disclaimer form.

Jim Jeray reported that some members have expressed not getting the **Garden Beet** or mass emails. He talked with Charles Kanitz, Webmaster, about this. Anyone not receiving the **Garden Beet** or mass emails should first check their junk mail and if not in junk mail, please contact Jim Jeray to let him know.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Corresponding Secretary*

Treasurer's Report

September 2023 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

The income for August 2023 was \$.31 for checking account interest. Total Income Year-to-date 2023 is \$18,419.73.

For the unrestricted budget, we paid out a total of \$2,039.00: Children's garden \$680.76, Display and Idea Beds \$62.95, and Vineyards 293.29 for new grape and kiwi plants, Ivy Tech Scholarship for \$1000.00, and a fax for \$2.00. The Unrestricted Balance was \$19,428.58 at the end of August 2023.

The Restricted funds expense was \$18.05 for the Compost project diesel. The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of July was \$16,042.11. The Ending Checking account balance was \$35,470.69. Savings balance was \$10,556.73 and the new Gaming account was \$767.00.

Deb Rimer, Treasurer

News from the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present a slate of candidates for the Board of MGATC. Nominations may also be made by members of MGATC, from the floor, with the permission of the nominee. Voting will take place at the December 2023 regular meeting, and the successful candidates will serve for two years beginning on January 1, 2024.

Co-Presidents: Cheryl McCool and Dee Dee Long

Co-Vice Presidents: Sally Casey and Alison Roth

Treasurer: Pat Miller

Recording Secretary: Mary Kay McCauley

Member at Large: Georgia Brist

We thank these nominees for their willingness to serve.

Jolaine Roberts, Nominating Committee

**Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County
2024 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. Annual dues include one copy of the Membership Book, access to the Garden Beet by email, access to the 'Members Only' area on the website, monthly educational seminars and voting rights during the annual election.

Name: _____ Year Graduated: _____

I have reported at least the Purdue minimum of 12 volunteer hours and 6 education hours for 2023.

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

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check the membership option(s) you would like below:

Individual Annual Dues (includes 1 Green Book)	\$25
Couple Annual Dues (please include both names above)	\$40
Garden Beet (if you wish to receive monthly printed copies)	\$12
Green Membership Book (additional copy)	\$2

TOTAL = \$ _____

Paid Online: <https://master-gardener-association-of-tippecanoecounty.square.site>

Areas where I can be an effective Master Gardener:

<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"/> Event Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Publishing the Garden Beet	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature center docent
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Garden Beet	<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with annual Garden Expo
<input type="checkbox"/> Preparing publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Working in Demonstration Gardens
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with youth programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Working in the Display & Idea Gardens
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with plant sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Working at the Children's Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Home gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Ext Office Community Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> MG Educational Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Chatham Sq Community Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Garden Tours	<input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland Community Garden
<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 (MGATC)** by the December 31, 2023:

**Mailing address: MGATC Membership
Tippecanoe County Extension Office
1950 South 18th Street
Lafayette, IN 47905**



What's Happening

WEDNESDAYS in the WILD

REGISTRATION is required by noon on Monday prior to program: mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov or 765-567-2992. Some programs are LIMITED to 15 or 20 participants.

SEP 27th, 2-4pm EDT Starting from Seed: The ABCs of Planting a Prairie, KS. Alyssa Nyberg (Restoration Ecologist, Kankakee Sands) will provide a tour of the Kankakee Sands Native Plant Nursery, where seeds are grown and harvested for new prairie plantings on the property, followed by a visit to the Kankakee Sands Seed Barn where the harvested seeds are dried, processed and stored until planting each winter. Max: 20 participants.

NOTE: 2-4pm EDT (local KS time is 1-3pm CDT). EXTRA: Special Post-WitW Opportunity! "Planting on the Prairie" event at Beaver Lake Nature Preserve, 5-7pm EDT (4-6 local CDT) For meeting location, more info and to RSVP, contact Gus Nyberg: nyberggus@gmail.com or 765-427-4345.

OCT 4th, 1-3pm, Apples for the Tasting, WCO. Perry Kirkman (Owner, Wea Creek Orchard) will share how apple trees are managed from planting to harvesting, then follow up with discussion and sampling of various apple varieties. Interested individuals may take a wagon ride and learn about bees, additional crops on the site, and related topics. Max: 20 participants.

OCT 11th, 1-3pm EDT, Back Home Again in Indiana: Bison at Kankakee Sands, KS. Olivia Schouten (Kankakee Sands Bison Manager) will provide an overview of the Kankakee Sands Bison Program, then lead a tour of the Bison Corral infrastructure and bison pasture. Bring cameras for photo opps of our iconic state mammal! Max: 20 participants. NOTE: 1-3pm EDT (local KS time is noon-2pm CDT).

OCT 18th, 1-3pm, History, Ecology, & Active Management of Portland Arch Nature Preserve, P-ARCH. Danielle Williams (Central Region Ecologist, IDNR Div. of Nature Preserves)

will lead a hike through this Fountain Co. preserve featuring cliffs, several forest types, spring-seep wetlands, and of course, the natural bridge which gives preserve its name. Hiking will be moderate. Max: 20 participants.

OCT 25th, 9-11am, Heading South: Fall Migration at Celery Bog Nature Area, CBNA. Join Susan Ulrich (Sycamore Audubon Society) for this stroll along the Celery Bog trails to view migrating waterfowl, permanent bird residents, and winter arrivals. Bring binoculars. Max: 15 participants. NOTE early 9 am start time.

WEDNESDAYS in the WILD LOCATIONS:

CBNA (Celery Bog Nature Area): Meet at 9am at LNC front doors (1620 Lindberg Rd, between Northwestern & McCormick, WL).

KS (Kankakee Sands Office): Meet at the Kankakee Sands office (3294 N US 41, Morocco).

P-ARCH (Portland Arch N.P.): Meet 1pm in north parking lot. MORE INFO at

https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/files/Portland_Arch.pdf

WCO (Wea Creek Orchard): Meet 1pm at the orchard: 5618 S 200 E, Lafayette, IN 47909.



October volunteer workdays with RIP Squad - Remove Invasive Plants to help protect the native plants.

TUESDAYS Oct. 17, 24 & 31 at Prophets Rock Woods, 3-5pm

THURSDAYS Oct. 19 & 26 at Ross Hills Park, 3-5pm

For more information contact Patty Jones, landline/voicemail 765-463-3050 or

email: removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com
Co-sponsored by the West Central Chapter of the Indiana Native Plant Society and the Sycamore Audubon Society, in cooperation with Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation and TICT (Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Task Force)

What's Happening cont'd

October 6-7: 2023 Purdue Extension Master Gardener State Conference

Purdue Campus, West Lafayette

Online schedule and information at:

<https://bit.ly/2023EMGStateConf>



Purdue Landscape Report – timely topics on lawn care, 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.com> Click on subscribe link. You can also read previous issues online at the same website. See Purdue Landscape Report, September 12, 2023, Issue: 23-14 by Ben McCallister: “Can I Plant Trees in the Fall?”

<https://www.purduelandscape.com/article/can-i-plant-trees-in-the-fall/>



Got extra produce? Donate it!

If you have extra produce this fall, **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, 6th Street between North and Ferry, Lafayette TH mornings *and* at Unitarian Universalist Church, 333 Meridian St., West Lafayette, FRI mornings.



Recipe of the Month

Emily Hughes found a great adaptable recipe this month for a **Harvest Bowl**. See directions for this copyrighted recipe at:

<https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/food-cooking/recipes/a44704380/harvest-bowl-recipe/> The Pioneer Woman is “A Part of Hearst Digital Media” © Hearst Magazine Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



October Garden To-Do List

Frosts and hard freezes can be expected in a few weeks. The National Weather Service lists the median frost/freeze as Oct 11-20 in Tippecanoe County.

Disconnect garden hoses before freezing temperatures.

Buy or order spring bulbs. Pre-dig areas for bulbs, refill with loosened soil or set soil aside until you're ready to plant. Add animal repellent granules to discourage bulb raiders.

Plant trees, shrubs and perennials so their roots can establish before winter.

Rake autumn leaves so lawn grass is not smothered. Let leaves lie in borders and woody areas to help invertebrates overwinter.

Deadhead and cut back spent perennials as needed. Leave attractive seed heads, especially wildflowers, for winter interest and to feed birds.

Continue growing spinach, cabbage, lettuce and kale under row covers or in a cold frame.

Clean up all fallen fruits to reduce disease and pest problems.

Fertilize lawn and apply broadleaf herbicide. See <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu> “Maintenance Calendar for Indiana Lawns” AY-27-W.

For more tips, see Purdue Extension October Garden Calendar

<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/october-garden-calendar/>

Dress up porch and patio containers with fall mums, asters, pumpkins and decorative gourds. Enjoy!

MGATC 2024 Membership Renewal Form

Find new membership form on page 5 of this newsletter and online at

<https://www.tippecanoemastergardener.org>

Dues will begin being collected in October 2023 for 2024 year. Mail membership forms to:

MGATC Membership, Tippecanoe County Extension Office, 1950 S. 18th Street, Lafayette, IN 47905.



Photo: © 2023 Kathryn Reeves

YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

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