

December 2021

# Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



## The Final Spin from D&J

Dee Dee and Jan

It has really been a pleasure serving as Co-Presidents. Unfortunately due to COVID, we were not able to see you as much as we would have liked, but hopefully that will change soon.

Please join us for our December 7th Zoom meeting. Roxie Easter will be our speaker. Her presentation topic will be "Native Landscaping for Backyard Birds."

We hope everyone will be in attendance to meet Karen Mitchell's replacement, Dr. Pat Williams. He is the new Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator. His first day is scheduled to be December 1, 2021. He comes to us with a long tenure of horticulture and extension experience, much of which focused on the Master Gardener program. Most recently, he worked as the County Extension Director and Agriculture/Horticulture/Natural Resources Agent at the University of Florida - Institute of Food and Agriculture in Wakulla County, Florida.

I heard a bird sing in the dark of December. A magical thing. And sweet to remember. We are nearer to Spring than we were in September. I heard a bird sing in the dark of December.

~Oliver Herford

We will also be holding the MGATC election of officers for the 2022-23 term.

Following is a listing of the slate of officers:

Mickey Penrod, Class of 2007, candidate for Co-President, Outstanding Master Gardener 2015

Jim Jeray, Class of 2012, candidate for Co-President, Outstanding Master Gardener 2018

Amanda Burge, Class of 2018, candidate for Co-Vice President

Cheryl McCool, Class of 2009, candidate for Co-Vice President, Outstanding Master Gardener Support 2019

Debra Rimer, Class of 2020, candidate for Treasurer

Nancy Cope, Class of 2011, candidate for Recording Secretary,

Jolaine Roberts, Class of 1999, candidate for Corresponding Secretary, Outstanding Master Gardener 2011

Kathy Cox, Class of 1997, candidate for Member-at-Large

MGATC members may also make nominations from the floor with prior approval from the nominee.

We may not be your Co-Presidents as of the end of this year, but you will still be hearing from us for the Garden Expo, GAAP, bus trips, caravan trips, Indiana State Fair, Tippecanoe County Fair, Flower & Patio Show, and the Purdue Spring Fest.

We look forward to seeing you in the gardens. Thank you again for your support.

Happy Holidays,  
Jan and Dee Dee

## Programs

December 6 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom  
Native Landscaping  
for Backyard Birds  
Roxie Easter

January 4 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom  
TBA

For more information on upcoming events, contact Maralee Hayworth at [mhaywort@purdue.edu](mailto:mhaywort@purdue.edu).

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: Nov 2, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Virtual

At 6:30 p.m. Mickey Penrod called the meeting to order. She then introduced Jonathan Neal, retired Professor of Entomology from Purdue, who gave a very interesting presentation entitled, "Butterflies in Tippecanoe County." (This presentation was recorded and Dee Dee Long sent the link the following day.)

Afterward Mickey announced that next month's program will be about birds of Indiana presented by Roxie Easter. She then

asked if there was other business to conduct.

Jan Sadler reminded everyone of the need for volunteers for board positions. There are still openings and the board must be filled for the club to operate properly. We are still in need of one co-vice president. Elections will be held at the December meeting.

Jan also reminded everyone to mail dues for next year to Pat Miller.

The dues form was included in the November *Garden Beet*.

Perry Schnarr asked for a moment of silence in memory of Master Gardener Brenda Carton who passed away on October 22.

About 41 Master Gardeners signed on to attend the Zoom meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Jeray, *Recording Secretary*

## Easy Broccoli-Cheddar Quiche

### Ingredients:

1 (9 inch) frozen whole-wheat piecrust shell	1/2 cup evaporated milk
1 (8 ounce) package microwavable fresh broccoli florets	3 ounces sharp Cheddar cheese, shredded (about 3/4 cup)
1 1/2 teaspoons olive oil	3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup chopped sweet onion (from 1 large onion)	1/4 teaspoon ground pepper
4 large eggs	

### Directions:

Step 1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Let pie crust thaw at room temperature for 10 minutes. Bake until lightly browned, 10 to 15 minutes. Let cool slightly, about 10 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 375°.

Step 2. Meanwhile, cook broccoli according to package directions until tender-crisp, about 3 minutes. Coarsely chop any larger pieces.

Step 3. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion and cook until light golden, 8 to 10 minutes.

Step 4. Whisk together eggs and evaporated milk in a medium bowl. Stir in the broccoli and onion along with cheese, salt and pepper. Pour the mixture into the cooled crust.

Step 5. Bake until the center is just set and the edges are golden brown, 30 to 35 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

*Recipe by Pam Lolley*

## Treasurer's Report

Income for the month of October was from dues and interest for a total of \$842. Expenses for the month were for the shed move, Garden Expo 2022, compost project, and the Demo and Display & Idea Gardens for a total of \$1,167. There were charges to the Compost Project and the addition of 2022 dues which changed the restricted funds giving a balance of \$16,483. The total of unrestricted funds available is \$13,785 as of October 31.

**DUES:** It is now time to renew your membership in the MGATC for 2022. The dues remain the same as 2021 with single membership at \$25, couples membership at \$40, the Green Book is \$2, and the *Garden Beet* by US mail is \$12. You can renew online using the Square link that has been forwarded to you and send your membership renewal form by mail to the address below. Or, you can send your membership

renewal form and check to the following address.

Pat Miller, MGATC  
3801 South River Road  
West Lafayette, IN 47906

If you have any changes to your membership details please send them to me at [pmillerathome@comcast.net](mailto:pmillerathome@comcast.net).

*Pat Miller, Treasurer*

# MGATC Board, Nov 11, 2021, 4 p.m., Virtual

Dee Dee Long called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Attending were Pat Miller, Dee Dee Long, Jim Jeray, Jan Sadler, Nancy Cope, Mickey Penrod, Maralee Hayworth, Jolaine Roberts, Karen Mitchell, and Katje Armentrout.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as published in the *Garden Beet*.

Pat Miller delivered the treasurer's report. Since the end-of-month report, she received \$605.77 in dues and paid out \$304.50 for signs for the compost area and the Display & Idea Gardens.

2022 Budget: Pat then reviewed in detail the proposed budget from the finance committee for the coming year. The budget has two scenarios in the unlikely event of the cancellation of the Garden Expo again. The board will vote to approve the budget at the December meeting.

Membership: Dues for 2022 continue to come in with 57 members signed up so far. Next month Pat will put together a spreadsheet with contact information of current members not yet responding plus those who recently dropped out for the board members to contact. (There is good evidence that the pandemic/lockdown discouraged some former members from rejoining last year.)

Garden Expo: Preliminary plans are beginning for the Expo in April: the deposit to reserve the West Pavilion was sent in; tables and chairs will be available as in years past; Pat is applying for the nursery license; and Katje will locate the lawn signs or furnish new ones.

Separate Expo meetings will begin in December.

Security/Alarm System: The board voted to let the alarm system agreement expire at the end of the current term and instead use additional physical security on the sheds.

Garden and Parking Lease Agreements: The board received and reviewed the formal contracts from the county to lease to MGATC the land for the gardens behind the current extension office with provisions for some adjacent parking. There is a need for clarification in a few areas: inconsistent description of the term of the leases, number of parking spaces allocated, liability, reassignment of the leases, and parking lot use for the portable toilet. Katje will set up a meeting with the commissioners to finalize details.

New Officer Nominations: Cheryl McCool will run for the remaining co-vice president position. Dee Dee Long will post the slate of officers in the *Garden Beet*. The vote will take place at the December monthly meeting.

Sheds and Storage: The sheds are full and the brown shed behind the office still has many miscellaneous items to be moved out. Most of it is of low value and is being saved for sale at the Expo. Jim will contact Candace Sheagley who traditionally runs the sale so that she can provide experienced input into what should be saved and what should be thrown away. The rest will be stored under tarps in the pergolas in the community gardens until closer to the Expo time.

Alumni Members: The bylaws must be updated to follow the recently published Purdue program rules. Jim Jeray will recommend changes to Article II, Section I, Paragraph C. Alumni members must still pay for a Green Book and/or mailed *Garden Beet* if desired.

Extension Move Update: The move is now scheduled for the middle of January. Katje will set up a building tour for the board as it becomes possible. Our first in-person monthly meeting will not be before March.

New Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator: Pat Williams has a Ph.D. in horticulture and many years of experience working with county extensions in about 10 different states. He will be our primary support person at the extension office and is excited to start working beginning on December 1.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Jeray, Recording Secretary

Hanukkah is  
about the  
spark of the  
divine in all of  
us made in  
God's image.

~Suzanne Fields

# Gadgets

(continued from page 6)

If you want to improve your soil and don't already have a compost bin, ask Santa for one or two or three. There are small indoor composters for apartment dwellers, large ones for those with outdoor space, wire bins, enclosed bins, and rotating compost bins.

To make collecting kitchen veg scraps easier and reduce trips out to the compost pile, Gardeners Supply Company <http://www.gardeners.com> has a stylish selection of countertop compost pails and crocks with airtight lids. Some designs include odor eliminating carbon filters.

A good sturdy garden fork helps with turning and aerating your compost pile and, in our opinion, works better than a standard pitchfork.

Another useful tool is a compost/mulch/manure fork - these are slightly scoop or basket shaped, have more tines and are wider than a garden fork or pitchfork. The long, slender, closely spaced tines of this kind of fork are particularly suited for transferring awkward loose materials like compost, mulch, manure, straw, hay, or wood chips. Some are light duty; some are stronger for heavier loads. A. M. Leonard <https://www.amleo.com> has a selection of 6, 8, and 10 tine forks. A few are made of weather-proof poly so you could leave it outside right by the compost pile to save time.

From the practical to the purely joyful, there are so many gifts perfect for gardeners. Terrain <http://www.shopterrain.com> has a range

of glass Christmas tree ornaments representing vegetables, fruit, flowers, birds, honeycomb, and bees.

Don't forget to buy spring bulbs. Plant them when the soil temperature is 55 degrees or cooler, but before the ground is frozen.

## DECEMBER TO-DO LIST:

- ☑ Continue to apply animal repellent over spring bulbs such as tulips and crocus and on trees, shrubs, and evergreens.
- ☑ Store fragile pots before freezing weather. Frost-proof pots can stay outside during winter.
- ☑ Create seasonal displays in pots and planters with colorful stems, boxwood and evergreen cuttings.
- ☑ Start forcing hardy bulbs like tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, grape hyacinth, crocus, and others for indoor blooms.
- ☑ Mulch tender perennial plants and provide winter protection for roses when plants are dormant, temperatures are cold, and the ground has frozen.
- ☑ Winterize mower and all power tools. Run them to use up remaining fuel or add a fuel conditioner.
- ☑ Leave some perennial foliage standing for winter interest - birds will feed on the seed heads. Cut back less decorative perennials after a frost, leaving 3-6" to protect the crown of the plant.

Don't cut down perennials with hollow stems, as they are especially prone to rotting in a wet winter.

- ☑ Clean birdhouses and fill bird feeders.
- ☑ Mark your calendars for the First Day Hike at Prophetstown State Park and all Indiana State Parks on Jan. 1st.

For more tips on houseplant, yard, and garden care see: "December Garden Calendar" <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/december-garden-calendar/>

Happy Holidays to all! We're looking forward to a new year of gardening and hope you are too.

At Christmas  
I no more  
desire a rose  
than wish a  
snow in May's  
new-dangled  
shows, but  
like of each  
thing that in  
season grows.

Shakespeare

**Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County  
2022 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. We are now on a calendar year and these dues will be for all of 2022. This annual fee allows 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 in the Display & Idea Gardens |
| <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"/> 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 2021 monthly meeting via mail to:

**Attn: Master Gardener Membership**  
**Pat Miller**  
**3801 S River Road**  
**West Lafayette, IN 47906**

# Great Gadgets and Tools

Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway

Give yourself and the earth the gift of healthy soil this year and all the years to come. This month is a per-

December 5 is World Soil Day. WSD is held annually “as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources.”

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-soil-day>

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations says WSD “aims to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining

healthy ecosystems and human well-being by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil biodiversity loss, increasing soil awareness and encour-



fect time to spread compost and other organic amendments on your garden to protect and improve your soil.

## YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

### Co-Presidents:

Dee Dee Long, [deedee1mg@gmail.com](mailto:deedee1mg@gmail.com)

Jan Sadler, [jansadler23@comcast.net](mailto:jansadler23@comcast.net)

### Co-Vice Presidents:

Maralee Hayworth, [mhaywort@purdue.edu](mailto:mhaywort@purdue.edu)

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### Treasurer:

Pat Miller, [pmillerathome@comcast.net](mailto:pmillerathome@comcast.net)

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Kathie Cox, [kathiecox@gmail.com](mailto:kathiecox@gmail.com)

### Member at Large:

Nancy Cope, [nancyc1970@hotmail.com](mailto:nancyc1970@hotmail.com)

### Past Co-Presidents:

Cheryl McCool, [mikeandcherylmc@msn.com](mailto:mikeandcherylmc@msn.com)

Jolaine Roberts, [jolaineroberts@gmail.com](mailto:jolaineroberts@gmail.com)

aging governments, organizations, communities and individuals around the world to commit to proactively improving soil health.”

Learn more about soils at: <http://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/en/>.

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## Garden Beet

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