

© 2023 Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County

December 2023

Message from Your Co-Presidents

Jim and Mickey

To MGATC membership:

We have enjoyed serving as your co-presidents. “So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye”, as like the Von Trap family we will say adieu. We have enjoyed being your officers with the other board members and will continue to represent and lead as past presidents. I will take this time to thank Jim Jeray for tolerating my lack of experience and helping me be a better officer. We have always led with you, as members in mind, and always acted on what is best for the membership. You will still be able to see us at work helping others grow, during the compost parties, the MGATC Community Gardens, and the Pollinator Pathways. So, as we ride the tractor off into the sunset, you may dream of following in our footsteps. Good luck with that!

Happy Holidays!!

Jim Jeray and Mickey Penrod
2022/2023 co-presidents

New 2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

see

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov>

Your zone 5B (-15 to -10 F) may have changed to 6A (-10 to -5 F).

Go to USDA website and enter your zip code to check.



Ask Santa to give you some new zone 6A plants for 2024!

MGATC Programs

December 5, 2023

5:30 p.m. meeting, 6:00 Carry in dinner TCEO

6:30 Speaker

Purdue Plant Doctor Website

Professor Cliff Sadof

January 9, 2024

6:30 p.m. TCEO, Social time 6:00 p.m.

Wildlife-Friendly Gardens

Speaker: Karen Mitchell

Consumer Horticulture Specialist

Horticulture & Landscape Architecture

Purdue University Extension

Karen will talk about creating spaces that attract and support local wildlife, especially during winter months.

For more information on upcoming events, contact new VP

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

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: November 7, 2023, 6:30 pm

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Mickey Penrod at 6:35 p.m.

A correction was made to the October 3, 2023 minutes. Alison Roth's presentation was on the Master Gardener "Vineyard." A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023, monthly meeting with the noted correction.

Sue Swick questioned the statement in the October Board minutes regarding "we will not accept donated plants from persons who are not Master Gardeners as we do not know what we are getting." She asked if that meant she could not donate plants if she decided not to rejoin MGATC. Since she is a Master Gardener and we know her plants, she can continue to donate plants. This statement will be clarified at the November Board meeting.

Deb Rimer gave the Treasurer's Report. She reported that the ending bank balance was \$35,240.91, with unrestricted funds in the amount of \$18,579.47. Restricted funds totaled \$16,661.44; the savings account balance was \$10,557.53; and, the gaming account balance was \$767.00.

Jim Jeray announced that the January 2024 meeting will be held on January 9 instead of January 2. The room has been reserved for the meeting.

In regard to some members not receiving mass emails, those members should check their junk mail folder to see if they are being delivered there.

The Finance Committee met last week to prepare the 2024 budget, which will be presented to the Board at the November 9 meeting. The budget will be edited to include any changes made by the

Board and will be submitted for final review and approval at the December meeting.

Mickey Penrod announced that the MGATC placed 3rd in the AAS National Competition. She noted that there was interest from the new class to work in the AAS garden; however, no one has shown any interest in taking over as Chair. If no one steps up, we will not have the AAS Garden next year.

Pat Williams presented Aaron Hazzard with his Certified Master Gardener badge and certificate.

Pat Williams asked all members to get their hours entered by December 31 and their annual agreements updated as well. Anyone who has not done so will no longer be a Master Gardener.

Sue Hiser brought two spider plants for anyone interested in them. The plants were placed just outside the entrance door.

Mickey Penrod noted that the MGATC will be purchasing a used lawn mower from Mary Kay McCauley.

There being no further agenda items, the business portion of the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Co-Vice President Cheryl McCool then introduced the evening's speaker, John Orick who is the Purdue EMG State Coordinator. He gave a very interesting slide presentation overview on "Rainscaping for the Home Landscape." The presentation also included website resources. He also said that Purdue has a 2-day education program on rainscaping. Details can be found on their website.

The education portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Recording Secretary*

MGATC Board Minutes: November 9, 2023 TCEO

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

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023, Board meeting as posted in the November **Garden Beet**.

To clarify the question about plants for Garden Expo, our reputation is riding directly on the plants we sell so all of the plants at our plant sale must be healthy.

(continued on page 3)

(MGATC Board minutes continued from page 2)

No plants can be stressed or diseased. Quality control is very important. For that reason, we will only accept for the sale to the public plants from current and alumni Master Gardeners, but we would accept other plants donated to the MGATC for use in our gardens.

Deb Rimer gave the Treasurer's Report. The ending bank balance for October was \$35,240.91, with unrestricted funds totaling \$18,579.47. There were no changes from the report given at the monthly meeting on November 7.

Jim Jeray reviewed the 2024 Budget prepared by the Finance Committee line by line. The Board discussed the budget and made a few changes. The budget will go back to the Finance Committee and Deb Rimer will make the changes. It will then be submitted to the MGATC for approval at the December meeting.

Pat Miller left the meeting.

Doug Ketterer has agreed to chair the Chatham Square Community Gardens. The Chatham gardens are in desperate need of soil. Doug would like to obtain three loads of soil from Soilmakers yet this year at a cost of approximately \$2,000. It was noted that there is \$600 remaining in this year's budget which would pay for one load. A motion was made, seconded and approved for \$1,500 from the Chatham Square restricted fund be used to obtain the other two requested loads of soil per Doug Ketterer's request.

In regard to MGATC pens, Jan Sadler reported that there are still plenty of the pens which were ordered to give out at the fair and other booths. A motion was made, seconded and carried to purchase 200 more of the nice pens for our Master Gardeners recognition (with black ink).

Pat Williams reported that he will be finished determining interest areas for the current class in

order to set up the Vine and Trellis program which will set up new class members working with experienced master gardeners.

Mickey Penrod noted that MGATC is purchasing a used lawn mower from Mary Kay McCauley at a cost of \$150.

Dee Dee Long will remind Pat Miller to obtain the nursery license needed for the 2024 Garden Expo.

Jim Jeray reported that Guido Nizzi is in the process of winterizing all MGATC equipment.

Jim Jeray also reported that we have had numerous problems with Lawn & Shrub in regard to our irrigation system at the Extension Gardens. The plan is to search for an alternative to replace them. However, Mickey Penrod said that this search should be put on hold until we see what damage, if any, has been done with the construction being done at this site. If there is significant damage from the construction, we will need to contact either the Commissioners or Tecton.

Pat Williams stated that our Master Gardeners need to get their hours posted. At this point, 49 members have reported very few or no 2023 hours. He will send out a mass email to everyone noting that if they do not get hours in by December 31, they are no longer a master gardener.

In addition, Dee Dee Long will send a mass email asking Master Gardeners if they plan to renew their membership for 2024 and asking that they respond to her if they do not plan to renew their membership.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Recording Secretary



“Snow flurries began to fall and they swirled around people's legs like house cats. It was magical, this snow globe world.”

    – Sarah Addison Allen, *The Sugar Queen*    

Treasurer's Report

November 2023 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

The income for October 2023 was \$.30 for checking account interest. Total Income Year-to-date 2023 is \$17,495.32.

For the unrestricted budget, we paid out \$320.70 for Social Committee reimbursements for Hoe Down, Trunk or Treat, and MG Class snacks. Total expense for the year was \$10,707.93. Net Income for the year is \$6,787.39. The Unrestricted Balance was \$18,579.47 at the end of October 2023.

The Restricted funds expense was \$178.18 for the Compost project tractor diesel/oil. The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of month was \$16,661.44. The Ending Checking account balance was \$35,240.91. Savings balance was \$10,557.53 and the new Gaming account was \$767.00.

Deb Rimer, Treasurer

News from the Nominating Committee ELECTION on December 5, 2023

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

Corresponding Secretary: Kathie Cox

Member at Large: Georgia Brist

We thank these nominees for their willingness to serve.

Jolaine Roberts, Nominating Committee

Purdue Landscape Report

Timely educational 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.purduelandscapereport.org> Click on subscribe link. You can also read previous issues online at the same website. See Purdue Landscape Report, October 24, 2023, Issue: 23-17 by Ben McCallister: "Autumn Tree Care – What Can I Do?"

<https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/article/autumn-tree-care-what-can-i-do/>

**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:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Annual Dues (includes 1 Green Book) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple Annual Dues (please include both names above) | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Beet (if you wish to receive monthly printed copies) | \$12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Membership Book (additional copy) | \$2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TOTAL = \$ _____ |

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

Areas where I can be an effective Master Gardener:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Annual Annual Planting
<input type="checkbox"/> Serving as an officer
<input type="checkbox"/> Serving as committee chairperson
<input type="checkbox"/> Publishing the Garden Beet
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Garden Beet
<input type="checkbox"/> Preparing publicity
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with youth programs
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with plant sales
<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Home gardens
<input type="checkbox"/> MG Educational Center
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Garden Tours
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing info booths
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning workshops
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenting workshops
<input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature center docent
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with annual Garden Expo
<input type="checkbox"/> Working in Demonstration Gardens
<input type="checkbox"/> Working in the Display & Idea Gardens
<input type="checkbox"/> Working at the Children's Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Ext Office Community Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Chatham Sq Community Garden
<input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland Community Garden |
|--|---|

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**



Photo: © 2018 Kathryn Reeves

What's Happening

WEDNESDAYS in the WILD no events this month. Programs will resume in February.

Nov. 24, 10 am – noon CST, Day after Thanksgiving Hike at Kankakee Sands, hosted by Friends of the Sands in partnership with TNC. Join us for a 2-mile stretch-those-legs walk along the Grace Teninga Trail. If family and friends are in town, bring them along! Dogs on a leash welcome too! We will be meeting at the Grace Teninga Trail parking lot located on CR 600 N, one and a half miles east of CR 200 W in Lake Village. **For more information and to RSVP**, contact Alyssa Nyberg at anyberg@tnc.org or 219-866-1706.

See The Nature Conservancy (TNC) calendar for December events at Kankakee Sands and other TNC locations around the state:

<https://outlook.office365.com/calendar/publish/1090e94c81a6426fb2079298d85371dd@TNC.ORG/4ee1e251dbcd4e77b629030c873f22893591099997417263813/calendar.html>

November volunteer workdays with RIP Squad - Remove Invasive Plants to help protect the native plants:

TUESDAYS Nov. 21 & 28, 3:00-5:00 pm, at Prophets Rock Woods

THURSDAYS Nov. 30, 3:00-5:00 pm, at Ross Hills Park

No December RIP Squad workdays.

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 Sycamore Audubon Society, in cooperation with Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation and TICT (Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Task Force)

Master Gardener volunteer hours are approved for Rip Squad work.



Recipes of the Month

Emily Hughes found great recipes for this month. See directions online for these recipes.

Winter Chicory Salad with Kumquats and Date Dressing

<https://www.foodandwine.com/recipes/winter-chicory-salad-kumquats-and-date-dressing>

Food and Wine is part of Dotdash Meredith publishing family.

Hearty Chickpea and Spinach Stew

<https://www.eatingwell.com/recipe/270568/hearty-chickpea-spinach-stew/>

Eating Well is part of Dotdash Meredith publishing family.

Melt In Your Mouth Toffee

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/15921/melt-in-your-mouth-toffee/>

All Recipes is part of Dotdash Meredith publishing family.

Master Gardener Online Educational Opportunities

Purdue Extension 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 EMG Education hours. **NEW** webinar recording in the Purdue Advanced Training Series is “Tree and Shrub Disease Problems.”



Purdue Extension Monthly Hot Topics for 2024

“Hot Topics” is a free monthly live Zoom presentation featuring Purdue Extension Professionals discussing their research and area of expertise. You can **sign up** for the series at <https://bit.ly/HotTopics2024>.

Virtual presentations are from noon to 1:00pm EST and will earn Master Gardener education hours. All programs are recorded for later viewing if you can't make the noon presentation.








January 17	<i>Ants</i> , Tabby Flinn, ANR Extension Educator
February 21	<i>Weather</i> , Austin Pearson, Climatologist, Midwest Research Climate Center
March 20	<i>Purdue on the Farm</i> , Scott Gabbard, ANR Extension Educator
April 17	<i>Eat Midwest Fish</i> , Amy Shambach, Aquaculture Marketing Outreach Associate
May 15	<i>Purdue Institute for Family Business</i> , Dr. Maria Marshall, Director, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development







Additional programs will be announced as they are scheduled.

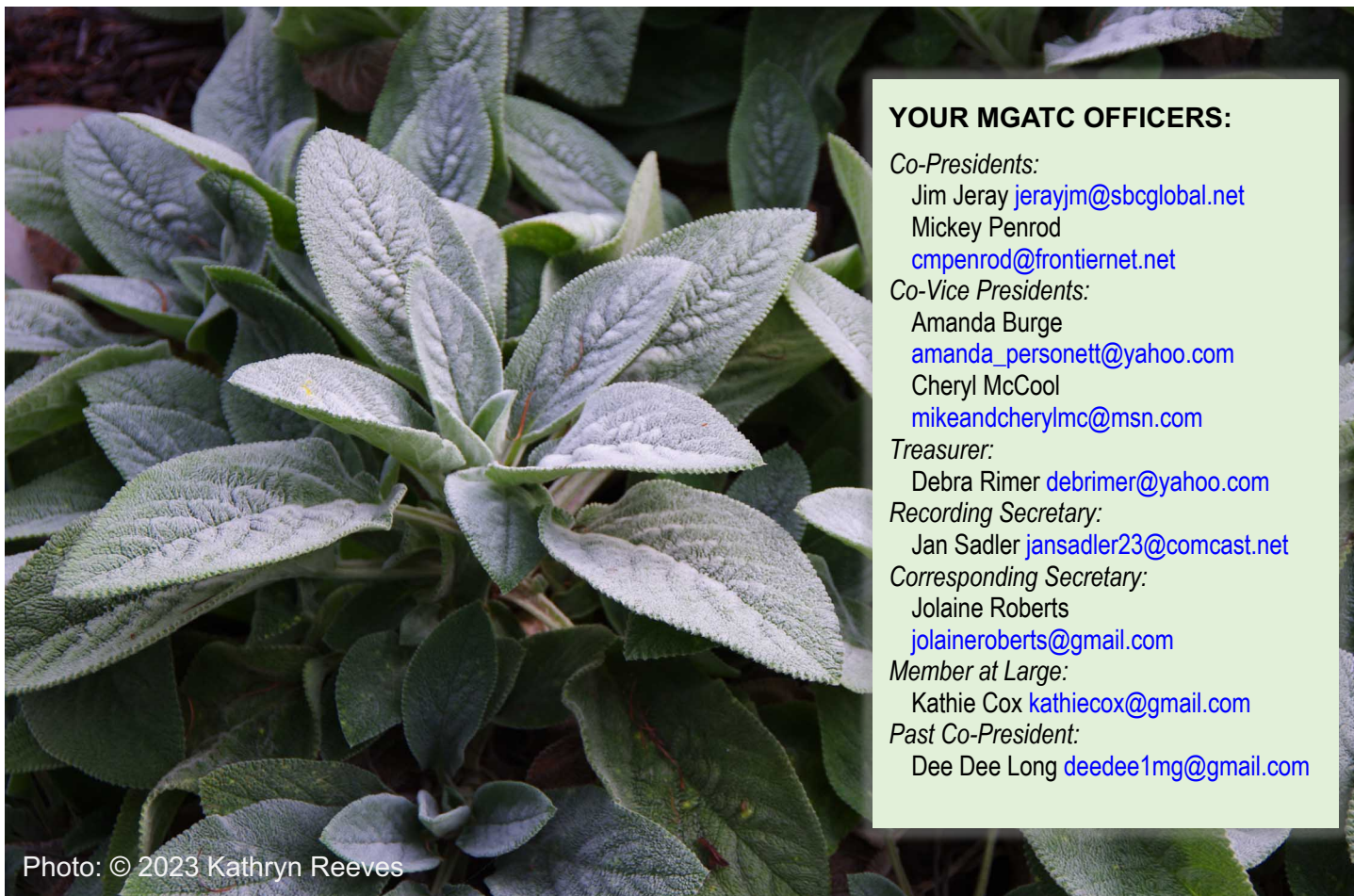
Contact Courtney Ann Schmidt, Extension Educator, Ag & Natural Resources/Health & Human Sciences County Extension Director-Miami County Purdue Extension at schmi163@purdue.edu, for details.

Thank you to new EMG Aaron Hazzard who suggested **Hot Topics** for inclusion in *Garden Beet*.

December Garden To-Do List

-  Spring bulbs can still be planted this month before the ground is frozen.
-  Create seasonal displays in pots and planters with colorful stems, boxwood and evergreen cuttings.
-  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.
-  Start forcing hardy bulbs like tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, grape hyacinth, crocus and others for indoor blooms.
-  Prune trees in fall and early winter to remove dead or weak branches.
-  Clean birdhouses and fill bird feeders.

-  Mulch tender perennial plants. Provide winter protection for roses when plants are dormant, temperatures are cold and 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. To prevent rot, don't cut back those with hollow stems until spring.
-  Mark your calendars for the First Day Hike at participating 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. Hope you are too.



YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

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