

July 2017



## From Two Js

Well, after a decidedly wet spring we have settled into the hot weather of summer. Planting is done, but we still have chores to keep our plants healthy and growing. Weeds seem to do very well wet or dry. Sometimes we envy the ability of weeds to grow in any kind of soil with limited requirements for resources. Would that some of our flower and food plants could be as adaptable. Summer is a time to pick berries, protect fruit trees from varmints, dead-head roses and other already bloomed plants, and water, water, water - not just for the plants, but for yourself too. Take a tip from the animals. Get out in early morning and evening and dress to avoid sunburn. No one can count the sunburn reme-

dies that have been tried! The Old Farmers' Almanac of 1898 suggests applying buttermilk (at that time it would have been REAL buttermilk and not the thin yogurt they call buttermilk today). A few other treatments utilize potatoes, apple cider vinegar, coneflowers, nettles, baking soda, oatmeal, and of course aloe. Other good summer activities involve finding a shady spot to fish, read a book, or just enjoy listening to the birds and watching insects go about their business.

The gardens at the Extension Office are looking great as usual. There always seem to be other Master Gardeners there whenever I go. We need to think ahead to our annual Open House

where we always have a good crowd and a good time displaying our efforts. Maybe we can encourage some of our visitors to become Master Gardeners. There are always several children in attendance and this is a chance to interest them in caring for plants. I started gardening with my mother and great grandmother before I was old enough for school and I never got over the enjoyment of it. Planting a seed signifies hope for the future.

We hope everyone celebrates and appreciates the birthday of the USA.

Have a great summer,  
Jerry and John

## What's Happening

### MGATC Open House

This year's Open House will take place on Sunday, August 13th from 1 to 4 p.m. The event will feature guided tours of the Community Gardens, Demonstration Gardens, and Display/Idea Gardens.

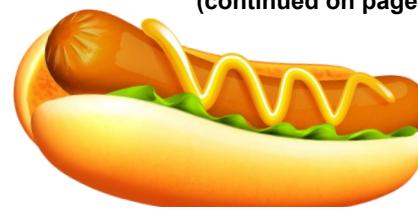
Volunteering opportunities abound! Please help out with the children's area, plant sale, cooking hot dogs, baking cookies, growing seedlings, parking, set-up, and clean-up. Please start growing plants for the plant sale. We want to sell cole crops like broccoli and cauliflower for fall vegetable planting. If you have perennials that can be divided we would love to have them too.

You will be able to drop off your plants Saturday, August 13, 2017, between 3 and 5 p.m. at the Purdue Extension office.

If you have not signed up to work, please consider volunteering and sign up at the July meeting. You can also contact Dee Dee at 765-586-2735 or [dlong70@ivytech.edu](mailto:dlong70@ivytech.edu) or Jan at 317-201-4256 or [grammajanx8@comcast.net](mailto:grammajanx8@comcast.net).

Dee Dee Long and Jan Sadler

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## Programs

### July 11 • 7 p.m. • Meigs Farm

6:30 p.m. Social Time

Trailer tour of the farm at 9101 South 100 East. Bring your lawn chair.

Directions to Meigs Farm:

- ⇒ Go south out of Lafayette on US 231 South
- ⇒ Turn east (left) onto county road 800 South
- ⇒ Turn south (right) onto county road 100 East
- ⇒ Watch for the signs on the left-hand side of the road.

### August 1 • 7 p.m. • TCEO

6:30 p.m. Social Time

Election of Officers.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Cheryl McCool at [mikeandcherylmcc@msn.com](mailto:mikeandcherylmcc@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.tippecanoe mastergardener.org>

<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/>

# MGATC Minutes: June 6, 2017, 7 p.m., TCEO

Carol Byers introduced Heather Harvey from Bees Gone Wild in West Lafayette. Her presentation was titled "Wild Bees 101" for which she educated the group on wild bees and what they do for our environment and how we can help them continue to thrive.

There was one correction to the May monthly meeting minutes - the meeting was held at the Tippecanoe County Extension Office. The minutes of the May monthly meeting were approved as posted in the June issue of the *Garden Beet* with this one correction.

Pat Miller gave the Treasurer's Report noting that as of May 31, 2017, the Master Gardeners' unrestricted balance in the checking account is \$21,000 and the savings account balance is \$10,000. Pat also reminded everyone that when making purchases through Amazon to please use AmazonSmile.com and to designate the MGATC to receive charitable donations from your purchases. Also, plant plugs left over from the Garden Expo were available for purchase at the meeting.

Jerry Millard announced that Linda Gudeman will be the Fund Raising/Grant Coordinator. Please contact her if you are submitting a grant so that she can make sure that we do not submit more than one grant to the same place. She will also be available to help write grant applications.

Jim Jeray will now be on the Finance Committee for the rest of this term. The slate of officers for the coming term will be announced at the July monthly meeting and the election will be held at the August meeting. New officers will take office as of September 1, 2017.

Jerry Millard noted that there is an opening for the Publicity Chair as Cheryl Borst has resigned her position. Cheryl will work with the new Public-

ity Chair and will transition the lists of contacts, deadlines, etc. Contact Jerry Millard if you are interested.

Another volunteer opportunity is Chair of the Children's Garden in the Extension Office Display/Idea Gardens. Anyone interested in working with children in the gardens should contact Jerry Millard.

Linda Gudeman asked for help in the garden pathways in the Display/Idea Gardens; she also asked everyone to please take care of the area by their specific gardens at least once a week.

Jolaine Roberts reminded everyone that the bus trip is scheduled for July 28. The bus is full and there is a waiting list. The cost is \$50 per person and includes the bus charge, lunch, and entry fees to the gardens. There is a table at the back of the room to pay for your trip. Fees need to be paid as soon as possible in order to maintain your spot and allow the committee to fill the trip with members from the waiting list if needed. Once finalized, the committee will be sending out an itinerary. It was noted that Master Gardeners have first preference; guests will be included if space is available.

Tonia Kasica noted that there will be a Saturday workshop on June 17. Tracy Howe from Bennett's will be giving a presentation on "Roses" and Teresa Thompson will conduct a hands-on workshop to make your own hypertufa pot. The cost for the workshop is \$8 per person and if you are interested in attending you need to preregister. It was suggested to wear work clothes for this workshop.

Karen Mitchell announced that she will be doing cooking demonstrations at the West Lafayette Farmers' Market on June 7, August 9, and October 4 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. She will be demonstrating what to do with local produce. Postcards with information

on these demonstrations were available at the greeter's table.

Karen Mitchell also noted that they are in the process of purchasing a tractor for the Master Gardeners. We need to make sure we have a shed to store it and insurance before making the purchase. It is hoped to also have a service contract for the tractor.

June 16 is the statewide Master Gardener Garden Tour in Bloomington for those interested.

On June 14 at 7 p.m., Mickey Penrod will be speaking at the Tippecanoe County Public Library (downtown Lafayette) on "Build a Better Bee Garden." It was noted that when you speak on behalf of the Master Gardener Program you cannot accept payment for your time; however, you can ask for a donation to the Master Gardeners.

Any membership updates such as address, phone number, etc. need to be reported in order to keep our records up to date. Jerry Millard reported that Gloria Teske recently passed away; she was one of the original members of the Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County. Also, Jerry noted that Sarah Kelly, a former Master Gardener, has sold her house and is moving to Westminster, so she is donating a very nice wheelbarrow to the Community Gardens.

Dee Dilling announced that she has a sign-up sheet in the back of the room for volunteers to work at the Tippecanoe County Fair from July 22 through July 27.

Mary Quinn asked for volunteers for the Demonstration Garden.

Perry Schnarr noted that horticulture tours will be starting up at the greenhouse at Purdue. If you are a docent, please email him and let him know.

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# Board Minutes: June 8, 2017, 6 p.m., TCEO

Jerry Millard called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Present for the meeting were John Pickett, Jerry Millard, Pat Miller, Jan Sadler, Dee Dee Long, Dee Dilling, Elizabeth Hartley, and Karen Mitchell.

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

Pat Miller gave the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2017. The checking account balance for unrestricted funds was \$21,000 and the savings account balance was \$10,000. Restricted funds are still in the account for grants, irrigation, and scholarships. Pat Miller again encouraged everyone to use AmazonSmile for purchases and have the MGATC designated to receive charitable donations.

Pat Miller gave the committee report in regard to an alternate location for the December 2017 Christmas meeting and the March 2018 Awards Banquet. She, Dee Dee Long, and Jan Sadler contacted six different venues and narrowed their list down to two - Judi's Catering and The Outpost. All three visited these locations and got information on pricing of meals, etc. and distributed a comparison spreadsheet to the Board. The committee recommended Judi's Catering for the December meeting. The cost per person would be \$21.18 of which it was recommended that each member pay \$10 and the MGATC would pay the additional \$11.18. If members bring guests, the guest would pay the entire \$21.18. If it works out well and the MGATC has the funds, we could decide at a later date about the March meeting. The Board approved the recommendation. Dee Dee Long will contact Judi's Catering and Pat Miller will contact The Outpost regarding the decision. Jan Sadler will contact Joanne Liphard to let her know so that the Social Committee, as well as everyone else, will be able to enjoy the dinner and not worry about setting up and clean-

ing up. Dee Dee Long will prepare an article for the August *Garden Beet*. Judi's Catering will need a final count by November 28 and require a small deposit to hold the room. Reservations and collection of the \$10 per member will begin at the October meeting.

Jerry Millard reported some member complaints which were given to him at the June monthly meeting. Three members complained that there was no meeting topic listed in the June *Garden Beet*. The reason was that the speaker which was shown in the May *Garden Beet* cancelled and another speaker had not been scheduled by the newsletter's deadline which is the 15th of the month. A recommendation was made that when this happens, an email blast is sent to all members once a new speaker is scheduled so that members know the topic before coming to the meeting. Jerry Millard will discuss this with Cheryl McCool.

Jerry Millard reviewed the openings as reported at the June monthly meeting. A new Publicity Chair is needed to replace Cheryl Borst. Cheryl has given her entire contact list to Jerry Millard and is willing to help the new Chair. Jerry Millard will follow up with Cheryl Borst to determine what she has done so far in regard to the Open House.

A Chairperson is also needed for the Children's Garden to replace Viola Jones.

Linda Gudeman needs help to clear the pathways in the Display/Idea Gardens.

In regard to the Indiana Festival Guide, June 30 is the early-bird deadline for an ad in the guide. Cheryl McCool will need to get something submitted. It was also suggested to mention the Open House in the ad.

A discussion was held regarding how to raise money for speakers at the Saturday workshops. Some suggestions

were charging more for plants at the Garden Expo, charging admission to the Garden Expo, raising the vendor fees, and charging for the public workshops.

It was recommended that the MGATC hire a CPA to review our Indiana Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, and address the issue of changing the fiscal year to a calendar year. Jan Sadler volunteered to contact the Community Foundation and ask for recommendations for a CPA who works with non-profit organizations.

Karen Mitchell is working with Jerry Millard regarding the purchase of a tractor and shed for the Master Gardeners. The Board approved keeping the tractor and shed under Master Gardener ownership and paying the additional insurance.

Karen Mitchell is working with Dee Dee Long regarding the flyer for the Open House. In order to raise funds, it was decided to have a plant sale. However, there will not be a garden shed at the event. Dee Dee Long and Jan Sadler are making plans for the event.

Sheila Koehler will present the slate of new officers at the July monthly meeting and the election will take place at the August meeting. New officers will take over as of September 1, 2017.

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**A world without tomatoes  
is like a string quartet without violins**

Laurie Colwin

# Garden Gossip

## Gardens Need Volunteers

If you are looking for a way to earn your volunteer hours on a regular basis to meet your MGATC requirements, the below listed opportunities will appeal to you. These openings are available on a first come-first served basis. Please contact Jerry Millard with your interest and questions:

- ⇒ The Children's Garden (a part of the Display/Idea Gardens) is in need of a chairperson to replace Viola Jones who is retiring from the position after a long and dedicated period of time. Thank you Viola for all your past help.
- ⇒ Linda Gudeman and Pat Niswonger could use a couple of helping hands removing grass from the pathways in the Display/Idea Gardens. These gardens are one of our show places when visitors stop by. Please give this opportunity very serious consideration; several people can make

this job fun and greatly reduce the time required to keep the walking paths grass free.

Thanks for any help you can provide.

Jerry Millard

## Canal Park Needs Help

The Gardens at Canal Park in Delphi, Indiana is an approved Master Gardener project. For over five years we have cared for 15 historic gardens reflecting plants of the 1800's during the Wabash and Erie Canal era.

Don't want to garden? Enjoy a picnic in the park. The canal boat runs on the weekend; see the historic buildings, trades people, and museum. It's only 20 minutes from Lafayette.

For a low key beautiful place to volunteer, contact me at 765 237-8717 or [lrcrooper@outlook.com](mailto:lrcrooper@outlook.com).

Linda Cooper

## Minutes Cont'd

### June Meeting (continued from page 2)

Sue Hiser thanked everyone for all of their help with GAAP. She then made an announcement for Lynn Layden - Art in Bloom is scheduled for Saturday, June 24 and volunteers are needed. The first shift is from 9:30 a.m. to noon and the second shift is from noon to 2 p.m. Sign-up sheets were available in the back of the room.

Jan Sadler reminded everyone that the Open House is scheduled for Sunday, August 13 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sign-up sheets will be available at the July meeting.

Since July 4th is on the first Tuesday, the next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11, which is the second Tuesday in July. This meeting will be held at Meigs Farms and there will be a tour before the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Sadler  
Recording Secretary

### Board Minutes (continued from page 3)

No member updates were reported.

## Et Cetera

## New Publicity Chair

Effective immediately, Nancy Cope is appointed Chairperson of Publicity. Her primary responsibility will be to place MGATC ads in the local media (print, radio, and TV) to promote Master Gardener events. Remember to give her as much lead time (six to eight weeks) if possible. We are very pleased to have Nancy step up to fill this important position for our Association. Thank you Nancy.

Jerry Millard

## Sautéed Yellow Squash

6 medium summer squash, sliced  
1/4 cup butter  
1 medium onion, sliced thinly or diced  
salt & pepper

Melt butter in large skillet. Add onion and cook just till tender. Add yellow squash and continue cooking over medium heat, stirring until squash begins to soften. Cover and continue cooking over low heat until nice and tender (usually about 20-25 minutes). Add salt and pepper to taste. Serves 4.

Dee Dilling reported that a sympathy card was sent to Gloria Teske's family. She will send a thank you to Sarah Kelly for the wheelbarrow when she gets an address; however, Jerry Millard told her that Sarah Kelly told him that it was not necessary to send her a card.

It was noted that they are working through problems with the new irrigation system.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Sadler  
Recording Secretary

If the first of July be rainy weather,  
It will rain, more or less, for four weeks together

John Ray, English Proverbs

# Happening

(continued from page 1)

## Wednesdays in the Wild

**July 5 • 1-3 p.m. • STPK**

*Ephemeral Ponds: Here Today, Gone Tomorrow*

Angie Manuel

Temporary pools of water are home to unique plants and animals. Join Angie (Interpretive Naturalist) and explore an area of Prophetstown State Park not open to the public. Bring bug spray, binoculars, and a bottle of water. There is a \$2/person program fee.

**July 12 • 1-3 p.m. • LNC**

*Butterflies of Tippecanoe County*

Jon Neal

Purdue Entomologist Jon Neal will give a brief indoor presentation on our local butterflies followed by an outdoor butterfly identification walk. Bring binoculars. This is good preparation for the upcoming Butterfly Encounter sponsored by the Purdue Entomology Department and Evonik - July 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Evonik.

**July 19 • 1-3 p.m. • WNC**

*Hoosier Riverwatch Sampler*

Mary Cutler

Join Mary, Tippecanoe County Naturalist, as we head to Burnett's Creek to dabble in the protocols used to monitor stream water quality. Utilizing methods taught in the Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program, we'll assess the physical, chemical, and biological health of this local waterway. Learn how you can attend the full training, become a certified Riverwatch volunteer, and submit data on the health of the streams in your own backyard. Wear boots or shoes for wading.

**July 26 • 1-3 p.m. • BEEC**

*Stream Critters!*

Mary Cutler

Explore Burnett Creek and find out who lives there! Program led by Mary Cutler, Tippecanoe County Naturalist. Bring your boots.

**August 2 • 1-3 p.m. • WNC**

*Micro-fishing 101:*

*What it is and how to get started in local waterways!*

Jay Beugly

Jay (Purdue Forestry Department Aquatic Ecology Specialist) will introduce the latest fishing craze: micro-fishing - the practice of catching non-game, lesser known fish in small waterways. The low cost of equipment and ability to fish anywhere for smaller, unique species has driven the popularity of this hobby. Some anglers even keep "life lists" similar to birders!

Learn about the fishing methods, the equipment, and the bait needed, then get a line in the water and try your luck! Note: Adults over 18 must have a valid Indiana fishing license to fish on Burnett's Creek.

### Locations:

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

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

**STPK (Prophetstown State Park):** Enter the park via Swisher Road (off North 9th Street, just south of Battle Ground). Halfway around the curve, look for signs and a parking lot on the right (if you've reached the park gatehouse, you've gone too far.)

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

## Tomato-Basil Skewers (Appetizer)

16 small appetizer skewers

16 small fresh mozzarella balls

16 fresh basil leaves

16 cherry tomatoes

Extra-virgin olive oil, to drizzle

Coarse salt & freshly ground pepper to taste

Thread mozzarella, basil, and tomatoes on small skewers. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Makes 16.

**Don't forget the  
MGATC bus trip  
on July 28.**

# Thyme

(continued from back)

Part two of my garden: basil. Who knew that there were nearly 150 species of basil? I certainly didn't, but I do know that there are a few that we can grow here in north-central Indiana, including Genovese basil, which is definitely a standard around here. This year, we're trying Cinnamon and Lime basil, which have more mild flavors, but I'm eager to try them in sweeter dishes. Last year, I discovered my absolute favorite at the Saturday morning Farmer's Market, though: Purple Basil. Not only does it taste delicious, but it looks as good as it tastes. (I got two purple basil plants this year!)

So what are we going to do with all of these tomatoes and basil leaves? One main dish will undoubtedly be caprese salads, made with fresh tomatoes, basil, mozzarella cheese, and some olive oil (and maybe some pepper). While this is a staple at our house in the summer, I would prefer to eat these salads maybe once in awhile-not every day of the week, which normally happens at some point as the tomato plants keep producing and I've made as much tomato sauce as I can fit in the freezer.

When I told Erik that I knew his ideal garden would be just tomato plants and basil, he answered, "You forgot the cow that just magically produces balls of mozzarella." So, if anyone finds the proverbial cow that laid (produced?) the perfect cheese, you know who to call.

**A world without tomatoes  
is like a string quartet without violins**

Laurie Colwin

# Word Thyme

By Erin Brock Carlson

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about how different gardens develop, based on the personal tastes (both literally and figuratively) of the gardeners who plant them. For example, my garden has always had a lot of hosta plants, because I find their giant leaves to be absolutely beautiful, and they don't need a lot of sun (and admittedly, little maintenance.)

Only recently have I ventured into vegetable and herb territory; growing my own food just seems to be more high-stakes than flowers, but vegetables are about all my husband is interested in growing. He's actually only passionate about two types of plants: tomatoes and basil.

Last year, Erik came home with five tomato plants for our tiny yard, and

when late July arrived, we were inundated with tomatoes, more than we could ever hope to eat. So I thought that surely, this year, we would scale it back. At the end of May, he came home with **nine** - nearly double from last year. So much for moderation. I will say, however, that I have learned way more about tomatoes than I ever thought possible, especially when it comes to the range of varieties you can grow.

When I was a child, my mother grew exactly one kind of tomato: Roma, and that was the extent of the vegetable garden. I now know, however, that there is more to life than Roma tomatoes. Though I think he just picks out the plants he wants at random, my husband always buys some sort of Heirloom - the bigger, the better. This

year we have two types in our back yard: Black Krim (which have a beautiful, unusual coloring) and Brandywine, which look to be a solid, basic tomato.

My favorite variety that we've grown, however, is called the Rapunzel Hybrid. And yes, its name reveals quite a bit about the way the plant looks: tiny cherry tomatoes grow along long strands that can hold up to 40 fruits! Additionally, the tomatoes on each strand are all at different levels of ripeness, so there is always a range of reds, yellows, and greens once the plant starts producing.

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## Garden Beet

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