

November 2021

Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



The Latest Spin from D&J

Dee Dee and Jan

Well, another year is almost in the history books, along with our term as Co-Presidents. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Co-Presidents for the past two years. We appreciate all of you and the support you have shown us. Thank you for helping in the gardens, chairing and serving on committees, and everything else you do in front of and behind the scenes to make our Master Gardener program successful.

We have had COVID-19 issues to deal with during our term in office, but were able to have two road trips: one to Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse in Grant Park, Illinois, and one to Newfields Art Museum in Indianapolis. Also, we were able to have online meetings, which is much better than no meetings at all but we really miss seeing and socializing with all of you. Hopefully, we will again have in-person meetings beginning in February of 2022.

A special thank you to Jolaine Roberts, Sandra Kelly, and Debra Rimer for their awesome presentations at the October 5 Hoedown meeting. Their presentations were very interesting - it was great to hear about gardening in different states (Florida, California, and Alaska). The many comments we received have been very positive.

Remember to renew your membership for 2022. You will find a copy of the 2022 Membership Application on the MGATC website as well as attached to the *Garden Beet*; just print it out and mail it to the address specified on the form. Also, be sure to get your volunteer and education hours posted.

At our December meeting, we will be electing new officers for 2022-2023. The following people have been nominated and have agreed to run for office:

Co-Presidents: Mickey Penrod and Jim Jeray
Vice President: Amanda Burge
Treasurer: Debra Rimer
Recording Secretary: Nancy Cope
Corresponding Secretary: Jolaine Roberts
Member-at-Large: Kathie Cox.

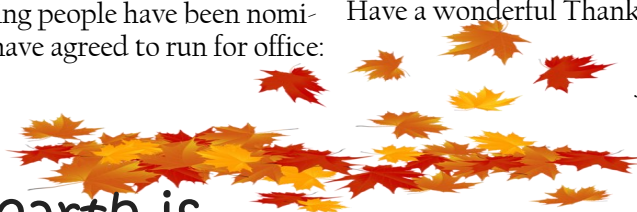
MGATC members may also make nominations from the floor with prior approval from the nominee. If you are interested in being on the board, just let us know.

Be sure to attend the December meeting and exercise your right to vote.

Again, thanks to all of you for your support over the past two years.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Jan and Dee Dee



In November, the earth is growing quiet. It is making its bed, a winter bed for flowers and small creatures. The bed is white and silent, and much life can hide beneath its blanket.

Cynthia Rylant

Programs

November 2 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom
Butterflies in Tippecanoe County
Jonathan Neal

Jonathan Neal is a retired Professor of Entomology.

December 7 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom
TBA

For more information on upcoming events, contact Maralee Hayworth at mhaywort@purdue.edu.

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.

<http://www.tippecanoeasterngardener.org>

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



MGATC Meeting: Oct 5, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Virtual

At 6:32 p.m. Mickey Penrod called the meeting to order welcoming everyone to the annual hoedown. We have been forced to have virtual hoedowns for two years but hope to be getting together in person again soon.

The meeting featured three presentations by our members about the differences in gardening techniques and gardening problems in three different areas of the country, contrasting them with what we are used to in Indiana. Jolaine Roberts explained differences between gardening in Indiana and Florida. Sandra Kelly and Debra Rimer did the same for California and Alaska, respectively.

The presentations were well prepared and well received. At the end, Jan thanked each one for their contribution.

Mickey asked if there was other business to conduct before signing off.

Jolaine 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. She pointed out that it is not difficult to serve on the board; some positions require a small commitment and can be done mostly on your own time. "Give it a try."

Mickey invited everyone out to the extension gardens to see the progress with the compost project. Feel free to pull a weed or two while there.

Katje informed the group that interviews are being held this week for the extension position that would serve as our new MGATC advisor.

A few reminders: There was no Master Gardener class this year. Dee Dee Long is the contact person to send out mass emails.

Send dues to Pat Miller. The form is online, and her address is on the form. She will be working to activate the Square app to pay with a credit card online, but she will still need to receive a form from everyone. The form will also be included in the November *Garden Beet*.

About 35 master gardeners signed on to attend the Zoom meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Jeray, Recording Secretary

MGATC Board: Oct 14, 2021, 4 p.m., Virtual

Jan Sadler called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. Attending were Pat Miller, Dee Dee Long, Jim Jeray, Kathy Cox, Jan Sadler, Nancy Cope, Jolaine Roberts, and Katje Armentrout.

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

Pat Miller delivered the treasurer's report. Since the end-of-month report she received \$218 in dues and paid out \$411.62 to reimburse the extension office for the cost of totes and compost bags. That payment came from the restricted Compost Project Fund. She reminded the board that the Garden Improvement Fund has been exhausted. Going forward, we need to consider ways to pay for items formerly covered by that fund.

Membership: Dues for 2022 are beginning to come in. Pat is still working on the process for using Square for credit card payments. She will ensure that the form is attached to the November *Garden Beet*.

Sheds: The tractor shed is cleaned out and ready to be moved to a leveled area closer to the gardens. Jim contacted the driver and is waiting for a schedule confirmation. A group of volunteers emptied the shed except for the tractor and attachments. The other sheds are very full after the transfer of miscellaneous items, many of which will be saved for sale at the Expo.

Zoom Meeting Recordings: Katje has the link to the recordings of the monthly meetings. She and Dee Dee will work out a convenient way to make them accessible for members who have missed the meetings.

Compost Project: The educational sign has been approved. Pat has sent it to the sign company. Andy Hughes has agreed to chair the committee and will take over communication with Eric, our contractor, but will inform the co-presidents and treasurer in cases of additional spending.

Irrigation System: The board approved the recommendation to by-pass the Lawn & Shrub system in cases of aboveground leaks instead of paying repair fees. In addition, the posts will be numbered.

Security System: The alarm system is tied to a control box located in the extension office. It requires an AC outlet, constant power, and a climate-controlled environment. The annual cost of support is about \$550. The recommendation is to turn off the system and put an additional high-security lock on the tractor shed. Pat will call the insurance company to see if discontinuing would affect premiums. Katje will investigate whether the security company needs to uninstall it. Since we are paid up until December and the extension office will not be moving until then, no decision must be made at this time.

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Treasurer's Report

Income for the month of September was from a refund of taxes for the compost project, dues, and interest for a total of \$102. Expenses for the month were for irrigation, speakers, and admin for a total of \$572. There were charges to the Compost Project which changed the restricted funds giving a balance of \$16,053. The total of unrestricted funds available is \$14,541 as of September 30.

Board Minutes

(continued from page 2)

Seed Donations: In the past Karen solicited seed donations from local stores. The giveaways that resulted were a good way to promote the Master Gardeners; but it is late in the year, and the board decided to forego the practice for this year. Katje noted that there are prairie seeds stored in the extension office.

Extension Office Update: The move is tentatively scheduled for December 1. Katje is contacting the commissioners to finalize plans for the gardens. She will send the draft email to the board before it goes out.

New Officer Nominations: As of the meeting, the board was still in need of volunteers for 2022-3. Open positions are co-president, co-vice president, and corresponding secretary. Nancy Cope agreed to be recording secretary.

Alumni Membership: There was a brief discussion. Final guidelines from Purdue are expected soon.

Trash Disposal: The dumpster primarily supports the office. Gardeners use it a little and only about six months of the year. The recommendation is to adopt the National Park model: carry out what you carry in - with possibly a one time dumpster available for a week at the beginning and end of the season. This option was approved by the board. These expectations should be included in the community garden contracts.

DUES: It is now time to renew your membership in 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 by using the Square link that will be forwarded to you and send your membership renewal form by mail to the address below.



Garden Portable Toilet: In the past it was removed in mid-November. Jim Jeray will tell the extension office to do the same this year.

Other Business: We removed two hand tillers from the tractor shed. Both have good, working motors, but the transmissions are broken and not worth the price of fixing. If anyone knows of someone willing to buy these for parts, notify Jim Jeray. He can also provide the specifications and more details.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Jeray, Recording Secretary

Homemade Pumpkin Pie Spice

4 t ground cinnamon
2 t ground ginger
1 t ground cloves
1/2 t ground nutmeg

Mix together, store in airtight container, good for 6 months. Makes 2 1/2 T.

Recipe from Mary Dixon

Or you can send your membership renewal form and your 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.

Pat Miller, Treasurer

What's Happening

Purdue Extension Master Gardener (EMG) volunteers and EMG County Coordinators are invited to participate in the following webinars:

Risk Management Best Practices for Non-Profit Organizations
October 26, 10 - 11 a.m. (ET)
Miriam Robeson, Attorney at Law, Flora, IN

What Non-Profit Organizations Need to Know about Copyright
November 10, 10 -11 a.m. (ET)
Donna L. Ferullo, J. D., Director, Purdue University Copyright Office and Professor of Library Science

Purdue EMG volunteers will receive 1 education hour per webinar attended in its entirety. Please report all education hours to your EMG County Coordinator for approval.

Please register at: https://purdue.cal.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5d7ejcYMB73oRLg (required to receive virtual connection link).

Webinars will be recorded for future viewing.

Thanks,
John Orick
Purdue Extension Master Gardener State Coordinator
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

Miscellaneous

Brenda Carton

I know many of you attended the living funeral for Brenda Carton yesterday [October 18]. She really appreciated having everyone show their love and support. She would love to receive cards and letters from the group during her final days. Brenda has been an active Master Gardener for 22 years. Her address is below:

Brenda Carton
203 E. Elm St.
Fowler IN 47944

Dee Dee Long

Purdue EMG T-shirts and Masks

The Freckles Graphics online store is now open for Purdue EMG mask and t-shirt orders through midnight on October 24, 2021! Purdue EMG volunteers and staff can visit the link below to place their orders directly with Freckles Graphics.

<https://shop.frecklesgraphics.com/purdue-master-gardeners-2021/shop/home>

Purdue EMG Polo Shirt orders:

Those interested in ordering a Purdue EMG embroidered polo shirt should contact Marti Decker at Freckles Graphics at 765-449-8463. Colors include black, white, grey, and gold only. Go to www.frecklesgraphics.com and click on catalogs, choose "SM2021" to choose your polo shirt brand. Prices depend on style of polo shirt chosen.

Thanks!

John Orick

*Purdue Extension Master Gardener State
Coordinator*

*Department of Horticulture and
Landscape Architecture*

Plants Available

Several Master Gardener's have plants available. Some of these plants may already be gone, but please contact the appropriate person if you are interested.

Mickey Penrod, 765-714-8971
2 - 5 per pot fall amaryllis
2 - several per pot anytime amaryllis
6 - large orchids
1 - several orchid in a pot
3 - small succulents

Jan Sadler, jansadler23@comcast.com
14 pots - Dianthus, mostly pink but a few dark red
5 - huge orchids
5 - small orchids
13 - amaryllis plants
5 - caladium plants

Dee Dee Long, deedeel@gmail.com
Fig tree
4 amaryllis
Large orchid
Succulents
Wandering Jew

Hoedown Link

We heard from many Master Gardeners how awesome the Zoom meeting was. If you weren't able to attend, and are interested in seeing the presentations, you can watch them by clicking on the link below.

<https://youtu.be/HYDt2e-7KJY>

All my hurts,
My garden
spade can heal

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Spring is
brown;
summer,
green;
autumn, yellow;
winter, white;

November, gray

Henry David Thoreau



Roasted Brussels Sprouts

This recipe is from my mother. It may sound strange, but these are really good and very easy to make. The Brussels sprouts should be brown with a bit of black on the outside when done. Any leftovers can be reheated or even just eaten cold from the fridge. I don't know how, but they taste sweet and salty at the same time!

By JAQATAC

Prep: 15 mins. **Cook:** 45 mins. **Total:** 60 mins

Ingredients:

1 ½ pounds Brussels sprouts, ends trimmed and yellow leaves removed
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon kosher salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Directions:

Step 1 Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (205 degrees C).

Step 2 Place trimmed Brussels sprouts, olive oil, kosher salt, and pepper in a large resealable plastic bag. Seal tightly, and shake to coat. Pour onto a baking sheet, and place on center oven rack.

Step 3 Roast in the preheated oven for 30 to 45 minutes, shaking pan every 5 to 7 minutes for even browning. Reduce heat when necessary to prevent burning. Brussels sprouts should be darkest brown, almost black, when done. Adjust seasoning with kosher salt, if necessary. Serve immediately. Serves 6.

Nutrition Facts Per Serving: 104 calories; protein 2.9g; carbohydrates 10g; fat 7.3g; sodium 344mg.

**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

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Gadgets

(continued from back)

“There is no definitive research on the effects of using galvanized steel to grow vegetables. That being said, to galvanize the steel they use zinc to coat it. The zinc, if not corroded with acidic (food) or heated, will likely remain in place. If some zinc does enter the soil, it should only be in small quantities, and plants make use of zinc as a micronutrient.”

Charla Anthony, Texas A&M Extension, 2014 - <https://ask2.extension.org/kb/faq.php?id=170051>.

“I have looked at Extension internet sites for information regarding the safety of eating food grown in galvanized containers, and find little specific information, but in what I find, there are varying opinions, but no research based outcomes. So, I cannot definitely answer your question at this time. For your consideration: As you may know, galvanized containers have a zinc coating (which can contain cadmium). The coating protects the underlying metal (steel or iron). Over time, the coating corrodes and the zinc and cadmium are released. Zinc and cadmium are dangerous to humans if consumed in high enough amounts (however, small amounts of zinc are considered an essential micronutrient for both plants and humans). Here are a few points to consider regarding the safety of growing edibles inside galvanized containers:

- the biggest danger cited with respect to galvanized materials in contact with food is to not cook or serve food or drink inside a galvanized container (because of the possibility that the acidity of the food or drink will dissolve the zinc, thus leaching it into the food or drink)
- another big danger cited with respect to galvanized metal is that it is dangerous to breathe the fumes created when heating the metal (such as during welding)
- humans in rural areas have collected rainwater (for drinking water) off of galvanized roofing for many years

- residential water was supplied in galvanized pipes (and still is in some areas) for many years
- livestock and pets have used galvanized containers to drink water out of for many years
- if the plants in your galvanized container absorb the zinc and cadmium, it will most likely be in very small amounts and the plants themselves will show toxicity if the amounts are too large
- a plastic liner could be used inside the galvanized container to minimize soil contact
- older galvanized containers that are rusting would be much more dangerous than newer ones.”

Based on this information, new undamaged galvanized sounds ok. But if holes are drilled into standard galvanized water troughs, the galvanized coating is pierced and the exposed metal will rust and the coating will continue to break down leaching zinc and possibly other heavy metals into the soil. A bottomless trough with its coating intact would not have that problem.

Galvanized pots and containers are not safe for cooking or for serving acidic foods and drinks. Lemon juice, lemonade, and many soft drinks for example have a pH between 2 and 3 - very acidic. Most vegetables do best in soil that is pH 6.0 to 6.8 - only slightly acidic. Any soil acidic enough to damage new galvanized coating would be too acidic to grow veg.

Lining galvanized raised beds with plastic sheeting or drop cloth might also be good insurance against leaching metal. Low-density polyethylene (LDPE 4) is a safe plastic to use; some plastic drop cloths are made from this. Other safe plastics are high-density polyethylene (HDPE 2), and polypropylene (PP 5).

NOVEMBER TO-DO LIST

- Make sure houseplants have adequate light and humidity.
- Plant spring bulbs when soil temperature is 55° or less.
- Apply animal repellent over spring bulbs such as tulips and crocus, and on trees, shrubs, and evergreens. Animals usually won't bother daffodils or alliums.
- Start bulbs for forcing. Keep tender bulbs like paperwhites in warm or slightly cool indoor temperatures.
- Harvest late season leafy greens and Brussels sprouts. Carrots can stay in the ground for a while longer if thick mulch is applied to keep the ground from freezing.
- Wait to mulch tender plants and roses until ground is frozen (usually in late November or early December).
- November is still a good time to plant trees and shrubs.
- Deeply water trees and shrubs, especially new ones, before the ground freezes if rainfall has been light.
- Keep mulch away from base of trees and shrubs to discourage bark-chewing voles.
- Do final garden cleanup. Compost leaves and debris.
- Clean up all dropped fruit below fruit trees.
- Turn the compost pile.
- Cut lawn grass at usual height if needed. Tall grass can be prone to snow mold.

For more tips see:

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

Stay warm and healthy while you garden indoors and outdoors this month. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Great Gadgets and Tools

Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway

This month, we're cutting back perennials, only leaving seedheads of native flowers for birds to eat this winter, raking leaves from lawn areas for the compost pile, leaving the leaves on the ground in tree and shrub borders for over-wintering invertebrates, and generally cleaning up the garden. If we're lucky there will be some sunny November days for these jobs.



Our backs agree the easiest end of season task is pulling spent veg and a few weeds from our wooden raised beds.

If you want to add raised beds to your garden, consider galvanized metal. At least one manufacturer got the brilliant idea to make bottomless galvanized troughs so you don't have to drill extra drainage holes. We saw these at Rural King this year.

Are there any safety issues with growing vegetables in galvanized troughs? Maybe, maybe not.

Here's some info we found on the ask2.extension.org website about using galvanized steel water troughs for vegetable gardens. Ask Extension is a website available for anyone with a question and any extension agent/educator in the US may provide an answer.

YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

Co-Presidents:

Dee Dee Long, deedee1mg@gmail.com

Jan Sadler, jansadler23@comcast.net

Co-Vice Presidents:

Maralee Hayworth, mhaywort@purdue.edu

Mickey Penrod, cmperrod@frontiernet.net

Treasurer:

Pat Miller, pmillerathome@comcast.net

Recording Secretary:

Jim Jeray, jerayjm@sbcglobal.net

Corresponding Secretary:

Kathie Cox, kathiecox@gmail.com

Member at Large:

Nancy Cope, nancyc1970@hotmail.com

Past Co-Presidents:

Cheryl McCool, mikeandcherylmc@msn.com

Jolaine Roberts, jolaineroberts@gmail.com

Rebecca Krans, Michigan State University Extension, 2016 - <https://ask2.extension.org/kb/faq.php?id=324102>.

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Garden Beet

3150 Sagamore Parkway • Lafayette IN 47905

Address changes:

Jim Jeray • 5360 Wilmington Circle • Lafayette IN 47905
(765) 269-7508 • jerayjm@sbcglobal.net

Editorial correspondence:

Chris Ramsey • 4801 North 600 East • Lafayette IN 47905-9764
(765) 589-8601 • MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com