

October 2022

Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



Message from Your Co-Presidents Jim and Mickey

As you fill out your dues form for 2023, please take a look at the block that says "Serving as an Officer" and give it some serious consideration. Elections will be at the end of next year for a two-year term, but if we can get some people identified early, the current officers can share ideas and do some coaching for a smooth transition.

It's not a good practice to have the same people bouncing between positions on the board. We need some new blood/new ideas. For many of the positions the commitment is not great and you get volunteer hours for related duties and for attending monthly board meetings.

Here are the opportunities. Current co-vice presidents usually become the new co-presidents, and co-presidents serve on the board as past presidents.

Four of the positions are covered in that way. Openings will be for co-vice presidents, treasurer, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and member-at-large. The formal definitions of these positions are in the by-laws located on our website under the "For Members" tab.

Briefly, co-vice presidents work together to get speakers for the monthly meetings. The treasurer pays the bills, handles member reimbursement, and reports at meetings. The recording secretary takes notes and writes up the minutes for both meetings each month. The corresponding secretary mostly handles cards and letters to members and family as appropriate. The member-at-large is the primary contact for anyone with a comment or concern about the operation of the MGATC.

If you want to talk to anyone about any of these positions, the list of current officers is on page 5 of the Green Membership Book [and on the last page of the *Garden Beet*]. By stepping up and taking a leadership role, you can help yourself and others grow.

One duty that must be filled quickly is the editor of the *Garden Beet*. Chris Ramsey has been doing this for over 11 years! It requires someone with good organization skills and perhaps an artistic inclination. Chris estimates that it takes 6-8 hours each month, but you can set your own schedule. She can brief the new editor on the software, the monthly schedule, and anything else as needed.

Jim and Mickey

Treasurer's Report

September 2022 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

The only income for the month of August was a small amount, \$.27 of interest on the Checking Account. Total Income Year-to-date 2022 is \$14,933.99.

In August, for the unrestricted budget, we spent a total of \$930.10. The expenditures were: \$128.44 Display/Idea Beds, \$750 Ivy Tech Scholarship, and \$51.66 General Admin Expense

(updating the booth). In the Restricted funds, we spent \$437.50 of the Garden Improvement Fund for Lawn & Shrub to repair the irrigation leak. We also spent \$800 for Eric Rasmussen to fabricate the tractor bucket and to build and install a sign for the Composting Project.

The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of August was \$9,827.54. The total of Unrestricted Funds available at the end of August was \$20,599.97.

Deb Rimer, Treasurer

Programs

**October 4 • 5:30 p.m. • TCEO
Open Mic Night**

Mickey, John, Cindy, & Andy Mickey will be speaking on the AAS Summer Summit in Des Moines, Iowa; John will be talking on toxic plants; Cindy will present hydroponics; and Andy will speak on composting. This is a carry-in meal. Please bring a food item to share.

**November 1 • 6:30 p.m. • TCEO
6 p.m. Social Time
Native Bees
Andy Hughes**

For more information on upcoming events, contact Amanda Burge at amanda_personett@yahoo.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 Dee Dee Long at deedee1mg@gmail.com.

<http://www.tippecanomastergardener.org>

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



MGATC Minutes: September 6, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. on September 6th the monthly MGATC meeting was held both virtually and in person. The speaker was Dan Childs, who spoke on Native Plant Photography 101. He showed several examples of how he shot photos of native plants for identification. He spoke of FBL, a technique for taking the best photo.

F = Frame (fill the frame of the photo)
B = Background (show the natural background of where the plant grows)
L = Light (this is the most important factor; make sure your subject is properly lit)

After Dan spoke, the business meeting was held. The past meeting minutes were approved. Deb Rimer read the Treasurer's Report.

Jim Jeray had a few announcements. The October meeting is our annual

Hoe Down, and will start at 5:30 p.m. We have four speakers lined up. Please bring a dish for the potluck. Also Dee Dee will be sending out an email for everyone to RSVP so we have enough of the main dishes. Also we will be collecting the yearly membership dues. You can also pay your dues on the MGATC website.

For the December meeting, Dee Dee will be sending out a survey to see what type of get-together members want: to go to a restaurant, carry in, or just appetizers.

At the end of the year, Chris Ramsey is stepping down from managing the *Garden Beet*. So the job is open. Chris said the job should take about 6-8 hours per month to perform.

In regard to the 5-year plan, a committee has been put together to discuss

this topic. The committee will ask the members what we want to do in the next five years. The main goals of the plan are to create a direction for the organization and a plan for succession of the various positions.

Jim also announced that the group has gained two new members who have moved in from out of the area. Welcome!

Pat Williams said that on September 10th the fall, new member classes are starting. He has 20 people signed up, and it's a very diverse group. For current master gardeners, Pat can do quick refresher classes if people are interested. He will send out a poll to see how many would like to try that.

With that, the meeting was adjourned.

- Nancy Cope, Recording Secretary

MGATC Board: September 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on September 8, 2022. Present were Mickey Penrod, Pat Williams, Dee Dee Long, Deb Rimer, Jan Sadler, Jim Jeray, Kathie Cox, Cheryl McCool, and Nancy Cope.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Deb gave the Treasurer's Report.

Dee Dee talked about the 5-year plan. She said that the first meeting of the committee was held the evening before, so they are just getting organized at this point. The two main subjects to work on are the direction of the MGATC and succession of the MGATC officers. The committee consists of six members and Pat Williams.

Jim Jeray said that he recently sent out emails to the 54 former members that have quit the MGATC in the last four years. A couple emails bounced

back, and he hasn't heard back from the majority of them. But it's early in the process.

Jim also talked about the *Garden Beet* position. Chris is retiring from this position at the end of the year. Jim wanted to stress that the new person could pick their own hours to work on the *Beet*. Chris estimated that it takes 6-8 hours per month to create the newsletter. There was some discussion on how the *Beet* might be improved as well. It was noted that 13 people still request a paper *Beet* to be mailed to them. Nancy suggested the *Beet* could be redesigned for the digital version, since that is the version that the majority of members read. It was also suggested that a survey be sent out to see how many people actually read the *Beet*.

Dee Dee had some updates on the October meeting, which is the Hoe Down. As of September 8 there were

24 people signed up. Jeri Bosworth Parker is the chair of the social committee, so she will be handling the organization of the carry-in. Four speakers are signed up, and if they have PowerPoint presentations they need to contact Pat Williams to coordinate getting that file up and running for the meeting. The meeting will be in the same conference room as the usual monthly meetings.

The December meeting was also discussed. Dee Dee suggested she could send out a survey asking what type of food the members would like at the meeting: whether to have it at a restaurant, have it at our conference room and be a carry-in like the Hoe Down, or just have appetizers in our conference room. The December meeting will also have speakers. Jim Jeray said that there is enough money in the budget to pay for half of the cost of dinners if it is catered or in a restaurant.

(continued on page 4)

What's Happening

Wednesdays in the Wild

Sept 28 • 1-3 p.m. • CBNA
*Fall's Floral Finale at the
Celery Bog Nature Area*
Dan Childs

Enjoy a leisurely hike along the Celery Bog trails with Dan Childs (retired weed scientist and author) to discover the diversity of goldenrods, asters, and other late-flowering plants, followed by an overview of what landowners can do to foster the growth of native plants by removing woody invasive species during the fall season. Note: Dan's wildflower books will be available for purchase at the program. Limited to 30 participants.

Oct 5 • 1-3 p.m. • TRSP
*Geology of Turkey Run:
Hike through Rocky Hollow
and Turkey Hollow*
Aaron Douglas

Take a trip back into Indiana's past with Aaron Douglass (DNR Interpretive Naturalist) on two of Turkey Run's iconic trails. We will search for fossils along Sugar Creek, examine the sandstone canyon walls, identify glacier features, and see how the rocks are changing today. The trails will be rugged but not include ladders. There is a \$1/person program fee (no gate fee). Limited to 30 participants.

Oct 12 • 2-5 p.m. • IN-DUNES
*Pinhook Bog Tour: Exploring One
of Indiana's Natural Treasures*
Kipton Walton

Join Kipton Walton (NPS Park Ranger) as he shares some amazing experiences on this hike: we'll walk on water, see insect-eating plants, and experience biodiversity on a different level. The program will begin at the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center in Porter, where we'll view an orientation

film and see the park exhibits related to the property. Local time is 1-4 p.m. CDT. Limited to 20 participants.

Oct 19 • 1-3 p.m. • NICHES/SB
*Autumn at Shawnee
Bottoms Nature Preserve*
Bob Easter

Bob Easter (NICHES Stewardship Director) will provide a guided tour of this diverse Fountain County property, pointing out the special features found in the fall season. A carpool leaves LNC at noon. Limited to 20 participants.

Oct 26 • 1-3 p.m. • ROSS BR
*Ross Biological Reserve: A Gem of
Natural Heritage and Laboratory for
Ecological Study for Over 70 Years*
Dr. Kerry Rabenold

One of the best understood forests in the midwest, Purdue's Ross Biological Reserve has a surprising diversity of habitats. Dr. Kerry Rabenold (Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences, Purdue University) will lead this hike highlighting the resilience and vulnerability of Indiana's forests. Limited to 20 participants.

LOCATIONS:

CBNA (Celery Bog Nature Area): Meet at 1 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheater by LNC (1620 Lindberg Road, between Northwestern Avenue and McCormick Road).

IN-DUNES (Dorothy Buell Visitor Center): Meet at 2 p.m. EDT at this IN-DUNES visitor center at 1215 SR-49, Porter, IN 46304.

LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): In West Lafayette, on the north side of Lindberg Road, between Northwestern Avenue and McCormick Road at 1620 Lindberg Road.

NICHES/SB (Shawnee Bottoms): Meet at 1 p.m. in the property parking lot (directions can be found at www.nicheslandtrust.org) or join the noon carpool from LNC.

ROSS BR (Ross Biological Reserve): Meet at 1 p.m. at the property parking lot at 451 S 875 W, West Lafayette, 47906.

TRSP (Turkey Run State Park Nature Center): 8121 Park Road, Marshall, IN 47859 in Parke County in the west-central part of the state along State Road 47, 2 miles east of U.S. 41.

Butternut Squash Steaks With Brown Butter-Sage Sauce

Ingredients:

Large butternut squash (about 3 lb.), preferably one with a long thick neck
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
6 Tbsp. unsalted butter, cut into pieces
2 sage leaves
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
Kosher salt, freshly ground pepper

Preparation:

Step 1 - Cut the neck off of squash; reserve base for another use. Trim the stem off the neck then peel. Resting neck on cut base, cut in half lengthwise, creating two lobes. Trim off outer rounded side of each piece to create two $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick steaks (about 6 oz. per steak); reserve trimmed off sides for another use.

Step 2 - Heat oil in a large heavy skillet over medium. Cook squash steaks, turning every 3 minutes, until deeply browned on both sides and fork-tender, about 15 minutes. Add butter, sage, and garlic to skillet, tilt pan toward you so that butter pools on one side, and use a large spoon to continually baste steaks with butter. Cook, basting, until butter is no longer bubbling, smells nutty, and is beginning to brown, about 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in lemon juice; season with salt and pepper.

Step 3 - Transfer squash steaks to plates and spoon sauce over.

~ Anna Stockwell

October, baptize me with leaves! Swaddle me in corduroy and nurse me with split pea soup. October, tuck tiny candy bars in my pockets and carve my smile into a thousand pumpkins. O autumn! O teakettle! O grace!

~Rainbow Rowell

I remember it as October days are always remembered, cloudless, maple-flavored, the air gold and so clean it quivers

~Leif Enger, Peace Like a River

Board

(continued from page 2)

Pat Williams said that the fall, new member classes have begun. They are 9-12 and 1-4 on Saturdays. Andy Hughes wanted to know if the people attending classes should be added to the email list right away. It was decided that they should.

The topic of sheds in the gardens was brought up. The Children's Garden shed is being fixed. Pat Williams said that it is unknown whether there will be more storage space available at the extension office in the future, so not to count on it. Mickey Penrod said that the tractor shed needs work. Pat suggested using fill dirt to help with the shed entrance in order to make it easier to get the tractor in and out. It was noted that Jim Jeray and Mickey Penrod need to get together to discuss irrigation issues.

Mickey also gave a report on the ice cream social that was held in the gardens. She said that 35 people showed up, and everyone had a good time. However, we still don't have a community garden chair person. Also some members don't understand that the community gardens are part of the MGATC.

The board is sorry to hear that some of our active members are stepping back from volunteering. However, that means that we have more openings available to newer members to earn their volunteer hours and learn something new. The openings are for web site master, compost committee, native bees committee, running the web server, and the AAS chair. It was suggested that new members in the class can volunteer in the gardens if they have a Master Gardener with them.

Dee Dee brought up the Trunk or Treat that will be held at the fairgrounds, and asked if she should get candy now. If so, is there an estimate on how many kids might show up? After some back and forth, it was thought that 400-500 kids would probably show up. She then asked how much she could spend on candy. Fifty dollars was approved.

With that, the meeting was adjourned.



- Nancy Cope
Recording Secretary

Glazed Apple Tart

1/2 pkg. frozen puff pastry, thawed (1 sheet)
1 large 8 oz. honey crisp apple, cored and thinly sliced
1/3 cup granulated sugar
3 Tbsp. unsalted butter, cubed
3 Tbsp. apricot preserve or apple jelly
Fresh thyme for garnish optional

Preheat oven to 350. Line large rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

Place puff pastry sheet on prepared pan. Shingle apple slices evenly over pastry in diagonal lines, cover dough completely. Sprinkle with sugar and top evenly with butter cubes.

Bake in preheated oven until brown and puffed, 35-40 minutes. Stir together preserves and 1 Tbsp. Water in small bowl. Brush over warm tart. Garnish with thyme if desired.

~Southern Living

-----Its fall - apple time, most popular variety of apples: Honey crisp, Gala, Granny Smith, Golden Delicious, McIntosh, Fuji

I'm falling in love with the vibrant colors as the leaves transform,
I'm falling in love with the smell of spiced pumpkin cakes, pies and cookies,

I'm falling in love with the cold October rain,
I'm falling in love with October again and again.

~Charmaine J Forde

**Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County
2023 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 Green 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: _____

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 |
| | | TOTAL = \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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"/> 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 2022 monthly meeting:

Attn: Membership
MGATC
PO Box 6135
Lafayette, IN 47903

Gadgets

(continued from back)



photo: © 2022 Kathryn Reeves

'Sooty' is an heirloom variety (not a hybrid) and comes true from its seed. Don't bother collecting seeds from hybrids, as the resulting plants will not be the same.

In addition to paper bags, we've also used recycled mailing envelopes. The 9 x 12 size is good for larger seed heads. For flower heads that have started dropping their seeds, carefully slip a bag or envelope over the whole thing and hold it closed upside down before cutting the stalk.

When completely dry, the seeds of some plants easily fall when shaken loose, but seeds like peas and beans have to be removed from dry pods. Other plants need to be crushed or broken up to free the seeds. Our advice is collect mature seed now on a fine fall day - winnow the chaff later.

October TO-DO List

- ⇒ Frosts and hard freezes can be expected in a few weeks. The National Weather Service lists the median frost/freeze as October 11-20 in Tippecanoe County.
- ⇒ Disconnect garden hoses before freezing temperatures.
- ⇒ Dig up tender tubers and corms of caladiums, cannas, dahlias, and gladiolus.

- ⇒ Bring in houseplants when evening temps begin to drop into the 50's if you want to overwinter them indoors. Hose them off with water and spray with insecticidal soap to prevent bringing in unwanted pests.
- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ Oak wilt is most active from April to July. To be safe, avoid pruning oaks between April 1 and October 1.
- ⇒ Continue watering new and established garden plants and trees in fall until the ground freezes. Make sure all your trees and shrubs have adequate soil moisture. Not sure how much water they need? See: "Drought? Don't Forget the Trees" Publication FNR483W <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-483-w.pdf>.
- ⇒ Deadhead and cut back spent perennials as needed. Leave plants with attractive seed heads, especially wildflowers, for winter interest and to feed birds.
- ⇒ Rake autumn leaves so lawn grass is not smothered. Let leaves lie in borders and woody areas to help invertebrates overwinter. Compost leaves or keep them in bags as "browns" to mix with "greens" next year.
- ⇒ Fertilize lawn and apply broadleaf herbicide. See <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu> for details, application rate, and schedule in free Purdue publications: "Lawn Improvement Programs" AY-13-W, "Turfgrass Management: Fertilizing Established Cool-season Lawns" AY-22-W, and "Maintenance Calendar for Indiana Lawns" AY-27-W.
- ⇒ Continue mulching and weeding. Prevent weed seed formation to make next year's maintenance easier.
- ⇒ Harvest and preserve herbs by drying or freezing.
- ⇒ Continue growing spinach, cabbage, lettuce, and kale under row covers or in a cold frame for tasty fall and winter salads.
- ⇒ Clean up all fallen fruits to reduce disease and pest problems.
- ⇒ 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!

Volunteer Opportunity

RIP Squad

The RIP (Remove Invasive Plants) Squad helps to protect native plants. Their October volunteer workdays are Tuesday, October 18 and 25 at Prophet's Rock Woods from 3-5 p.m. and Thursday, October 20 and 27 at Ross Hills Park from 3-5 p.m. For more information contact Patty Jones, landline/voicemail 765-463-3050 or email removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com.

Miscellaneous

December Meeting RSVP

Pre-covid the MGATC would host a carry-in dinner or meet at a catering facility for our December meeting. We are asking every Master Gardener to go to the SignUpGenius link below to vote for the December meeting. There are four choices to choose from: a carry-in dinner, a carry-in of light refreshments (finger foods with a holiday theme), a meal at a catering facility (the MG organization pays for a portion of your meal), or stay home and watch it on zoom. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CAEA62CA4F8CF8-holiday>

Great Gadgets and Tools

By Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway

Gardeners have been busy all summer growing and harvesting crops, but October feels like the ultimate harvest month.



'Candy Hybrid' onions have been a reliable and tasty harvest for us. We grew a new hybrid shallot 'Echallion Crème Brûlée' in pots this year - they're so beautiful and delicious too. It's the first shallot to be named an AAS winner. Seeds of both the onions and shallots were started indoors in

very early spring and then the seedlings transplanted. Both of these varieties will be on our seed list again for next year.

October is a good month to harvest seeds too. Paper bags are a great tool for collecting seeds from the garden. Any size from the large classic grocery bag size down to lunch bag or smaller works for collecting and drying seed. When flowers or seedpods are very brown and dry, seeds should be mature. Before the seed drops, clip the entire seed head and put it in a bag to continue drying. With few exceptions, seeds should be completely dry before storing.

It's a good idea to mark the seed variety on the bag when it's still flat, and

YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

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Mickey Penrod, cmpenrod@frontiernet.net

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Past Co-Presidents:

Dee Dee Long, deedee1mg@gmail.com

Jan Sadler, jansadler23@comcast.net

we often do that indoors before heading out into the garden. Seeds of *Dianthus barbatus* 'Sooty' look fairly similar to columbine. We always think we'll remember which seeds are which without pre-labeling the bags, but you can imagine how that goes.

(continued on page 7)

Garden Beet

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