

September 2022

# Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



## Message from Your Co-Presidents Jim and Mickey

First, we would like to say how nice it has been to see so many people at our in-person monthly meetings. Zoom is a nice convenience for times when in-person meetings are not possible, but it's not the same as being there and being able to have simultaneous conversations in different parts of the room. It's truly more fun than sitting at home in front of the computer. Despite the high cost of driving we hope more people will make the effort come out and participate in person.

As we are three-quarters of the way through the year here are a couple of reminders:

**Fund Raising:** True the annual Garden Expo is our number one fundraiser, and this year it was very successful, but there is another easy way to support the club year-round: Amazon Smile. Here's how it works.

Instead of buying your stuff through Amazon, please sign up for Amazon Smile. It's the same company and same products. The only difference is that if you designate the Master Gardeners Association of Tippecanoe County as your charity of choice, Amazon will send one-half of one percent of your total purchase directly to the MGATC bank account. Now that may not seem like much, 50 cents on \$100, but those nickels and dimes add up. And it's money for nothing! Just doing what you do already! So set a reminder for yourself, not Amazon, but Amazon Smile, every time you make an on-line purchase. We wouldn't object if you had some of your family members sign up as well. We would be happy to be their favorite charity. And again, it's a little extra to the club for doing what we do anyway.

**Hours Entry:** Keep up-to-date now and you won't have a mad dash at the end of the year to get yourself current and to provide the information necessary for awards, milestone badges, and other recognition that you deserve for all your hard work.

**Badges:** Please remember to wear your name badges to all our gatherings including meetings and working in the garden. Some are better than others at remembering names, and in the gardens it identifies you to potential contacts as the person to ask.

That's all for now. We look forward to seeing as many as can make it at the September meeting.

Mickey and Jim

## Treasurer's Report

### August 2022 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

There was no income for the month of July. Total Income Year-to-date 2022 is \$14,933.12 which is 31% higher than budgeted due to the success of the Garden Expo event and the efforts to promote memberships/dues.

In July, for the unrestricted budget, we spent a total of \$2,329.23. The expenditures were: \$11.99 IVH Extension Garden, \$51.89 Demo Garden,

\$52.89 Children's Garden, \$143.48 Display/Idea Beds, \$2,031 Liability Insurance, and \$37.98 General Admin Expense (updating the booth). In the Restricted funds, we spent \$69.58 for garden improvement.

The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of July was \$11,065.04. The total of unrestricted funds available at the end of July was \$21,565.80.

Deb Rimer, Treasurer

## Programs

**September 6 • 6:30 p.m. • TCEO**  
6 p.m. Social Time  
Dan Childs

He will speak on outdoor endeavors.

**October 4 • 6 p.m.\* • TCEO**  
5:30 p.m. Social Time  
*Hoedown Open Mic Night*

This is a carry-in dinner. Please bring a food item to share. The meat will be provided by the MGATC.

\* The start time for the dinner will be confirmed next month as it was not available for this issue.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Amanda Burge at [amanda\\_personett@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda_personett@yahoo.com).

Please submit items for the *Garden Beet* to [MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com](mailto:MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month for the next month's issue.

Items to be emailed to the membership should be sent to Dee Dee Long at [deedee1mg@gmail.com](mailto:deedee1mg@gmail.com).

<http://www.tippecanomastergardener.org>

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

# MGATC Minutes: Aug 2, 2022, 6:30 p.m., HYBRID

At 6:30 p.m. Cheryl McCool introduced the presenters from Bloomers Greenhouse. They gave a variety of interesting demonstrations of food preparation and preservation. These included drying tomatoes in a dryer or in an oven, preserving herbs, fresh basil pesto, herb butters, and salsa. A number of informative handouts and recipes complemented their presentation. Members got to sample several of the items. It was very well received.

After a break for cleanup and a chance to let everyone enjoy the freshly made salsa, Jim Jeray called the business meeting to order at 7:30.

The minutes for the July meeting were approved with no changes.

Pat Williams announced that Katje Armentrout, Community Development Extension Educator/County Extension Director was leaving for a new job closer to her home in Michigan.

Deb Rimer gave the treasurer's report. There was no income in July. The

Demo Garden, Children's Garden, Display & Idea Garden, and Veteran's Home had minor expenses. Deb paid the annual bill of \$2,031 for liability insurance. Jim explained a small expense, a processing fee, and deposit, due to the county asking that the water bill for the extension gardens be changed to reflect MGATC as the lessees.

Jim then warned members that scam emails have been circulating. The latest pretended to be from his email account asking for money. A group email was already sent, but he reinforced that someone may have gotten a copy of the member list and no master gardener was soliciting money in any form from other members of the club. Be very suspicious and careful so as not to be taken in.

The State Fair booth still has two openings for volunteers on Friday, 8/19 from 4:30 to 7. Dee Dee will send another SignUpGenius link.

The Education Center could use some help for a couple of hours on Thursday afternoons. John Pickett and Georgia Brist were at the meeting and could explain the duties in more detail.

The Hoedown will be held at the October meeting. Members will speak on their experiences this year. Last year we had four but since the meeting is no longer purely virtual, we could accommodate more. Let Amanda or Cheryl know of your interest and your subject. The Hoedown will be a carry-in meal with the meat dish supplied. We will have more details next month.

There was a question about whether we were having a garden open house. There are still too many open issues around parking, access to the building, etc. We will not have one this year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Jeray for Nancy Cope  
Recording Secretary

# MGATC Board: Aug 11, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Jim Jeray called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on August 11, 2022. Present were Amanda Burge, Pat Miller, Mickey Penrod, Jolaine Roberts, Jan Sadler, Deb Rimer, Jim Jeray, Nancy Cope, Cheryl McCool, and Dee Dee Long.

Deb read the treasurer report.

Jim noted that the dues form has been updated for the fall. It was passed that a printed copy of the Green Book would be included in the price of the dues.

The subject of printed and mailed *Garden Beet* newsletters was brought up, and whether the practice would still continue. It was decided that there was enough interest in printed copies to continue the practice, without any changes.

For the yearly dues, the Square system is ready to use for people who want to pay by credit card. Pat Miller will announce it at the October, November, and December monthly meetings.

For the fall Master Gardener class, the price of the class will include membership for the remainder of 2022.

It was announced that Chris Ramsey is retiring as the *Garden Beet* publisher at the end of the year. The board will have Chris write up a job description, and then the job will be announced by mass email.

Jim said that he has identified about 55 former members that the group has lost in the last four years. He suggested he could contact them and try to get them back.

The annual Hoedown potluck dinner options were discussed. One suggestion was to have it at the garden shelters. However they have no electricity and there would only be primitive bathrooms. So that idea was tossed fairly quickly. Dee Dee suggested sending out a mass email quickly to find members interested in speaking. They would have 5-10 minutes each.

The December meeting was also brought up for discussion. There hasn't been a decision on whether it would be a sit down dinner or a potluck. Dee Dee suggested doing a potluck so that the group wouldn't be beholden to a restaurant contract in case the Covid numbers rise again. It

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# Board

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was suggested to bring up the subject at the September meeting, then do an online survey to see what people think.

Trunk or Treat is on October 26th and held at the Fairgrounds. Jim Jeray saw this as another way to get word out about the MGATC. Cheryl suggested giving candy to the kids and our pamphlet to their parents. The subject was passed to consider at the next board meeting.

The 5-year plan was broached. One master gardener was interested in joining the committee. Pat Miller was also interested in joining. It will be announced at the September meeting to see if other people are interested in

being on the committee. It would be good to have people volunteer who have experience in organization.

A master gardener brought up the idea of a cookbook and/or calendar to raise money. Someone said that the group had done these at one time, but they required a lot of work. Plus in this electronic age, many people have digital recipes and calendars. Jim suggested tabling the idea until next month.

Mickey suggested having an ice cream social in the community gardens. It would give the people renting the plots an opportunity to meet each other. Mickey could also show off the AAS garden and have yard games and

maybe a scavenger hunt. It would be good to also include the master gardeners who work with the community gardens. This ice cream social will be August 28 from 2-4 p.m.

Cheryl noted that Brock Turner, the Educator at the extension office, said he can calibrate and check people's pressure canner and gauge. Just call him and bring the canner and gauge to the extension office and he will be glad to help you. He is busy, so please call to make an appointment.

With that, the meeting was adjourned.

- Nancy Cope, Recording Secretary

## Et Cetera

### Call Out for Speakers for the October Hoedown

We would like to have 6-7 MG's speak for 6-7 minutes each on "Open Mic Night" at the Hoedown on October 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Please take pictures and bring your knowledge to share. Some ideas for topics are:

- Did you have something grow really well and want to share your experience?
- Did you grow a new vegetable or plant and want to share it's growth?
- Did you plant a new flower bed?
- Plant an entire new garden space?

Please call Cheryl McCool or Amanda Burge or email them with your willingness to speak and let them know they can count on you. Let us know if you need help with a presentation.

Cheryl and Amanda

### GB Editor Wanted

I will be resigning as editor of the *Garden Beet* effective at the end of 2022. This is the perfect MGATC project for someone who cannot help out in the gardens or who is not available to help with other projects. This person will need to have software to create the newsletter and have the expertise to create a new format from scratch. I use Microsoft® Publisher which is not the best, but works. You will need to be able to compose short notes, but do not have to be a writer. You also need to be able to edit material submitted and proofreading is essential. Each month you will need to solicit items via email for each column. Organization and coordination is a must. For more specific details about the monthly process, I will be happy to talk to anyone who is interested. Please let one of the officers know, or you can contact me via the *Garden Beet* email: [MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com](mailto:MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com).

Editor, Chris Ramsey

### Berry Watermelon Fruit Salad

A foolproof berry watermelon fruit salad, packed with four kinds of berries, fresh cherries, and juicy watermelon. Always a crowd-pleaser, this healthy fruit salad couldn't be easier to make and is full of sweet, summer flavor.

#### Ingredients:

4 cups watermelon, cubed  
1 pint strawberries, hulled and quartered  
1 pint blueberries  
1 pint raspberries  
1 pint cherries, pitted and halved  
1/2 pint blackberries  
squeeze of fresh lime juice

#### Instructions:

Cut all of the fruit into similar bite-sized pieces. Add to a large mixing bowl, and gently toss together.

Top with a squeeze of fresh lime juice, to taste. Serve chilled. Enjoy!!

~Author: Laura from Fork, Knife, Swoon

# What's Happening

## Wednesdays in the Wild

**SEPT 7 • 1-3 p.m. • NICHES/GSB**  
*Granville Sand Barrens:  
Sandy but not Barren*  
Rick Meilan

Rick Meilan (Purdue Professor Emeritus of Forestry & Natural Resources) will lead a hike focusing on various adaptations (physiological, morphological, and anatomical) that have evolved in plants which have allowed them to survive, and even thrive, in environments like sand barrens where water is a limiting factor. Limited to 20 participants.

**SEPT 14 • 10 a.m.-Noon • PSP**  
*Restoring a Lost Landscape:  
Prophetstown's Wetlands*  
Tom Swinford

Tom Swinford (Director of Stewardship, The Nature Conservancy) will lead us on a fun and informative tour of the vision, planning, and work behind restoring worn-out ag fields to high functioning fens, wet prairies, and marshes. Mitigation on public lands, restoration techniques, and human contexts will be discussed. Note: There is an \$8 per car entrance fee or bring your state park annual pass. Limited to 20 participants.

**SEPT 21 • 1-3 p.m.**  
**NICHES/FOS**  
*Discovering the Beauty  
of Fisher Oak Savanna*  
Susan Ulrich

Join Susan Ulrich (Sycamore Audubon Society) on a hike through the diverse landscapes of this Jasper County nature preserve, where the unique beauty of black oak savannas, pin oak flatwoods, and restored prairies provide a variety of habitats for diverse plant and animal communities. There is a carpool from LNC leaving at noon. Limited to 20 participants.

**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, 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 Douglass

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. Trails will be rugged but not include ladders. Note: There is a \$1 per person program fee (no gate fee). Limited to 30 participants.

### LOCATIONS:

**CBNA (Celery Bog Nature Area):** Meet at 1 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheater by LNC.

**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/FOS (Fisher Oak Savanna):** Meet at 1 p.m. in the property parking lot (find directions at [www.nicheslandtrust.org](http://www.nicheslandtrust.org)) or join the noon LNC carpool.

**NICHES/GSB (Granville Sand Barrens):** Meet at 1 p.m. in the property parking lot (find directions at [www.nicheslandtrust.org](http://www.nicheslandtrust.org)).

**PSP (Prophetstown State Park):** Enter the park via Swisher Road (off North Ninth Street) just south of Battle Ground. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Circle of Stones parking lot.

**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.

## Doug Tallamy Webinar

**SEPT 13 • 7-8:30 p.m. • Zoom**  
*The Nature of Oaks*

Doug Tallamy will be discussing how oaks sustain a complex and fascinating web of wildlife. The webinar is free for IFWOA members and \$5 for nonmembers. You can register at: [oaks091322.eventbrite.com](http://oaks091322.eventbrite.com).

### Autumn Apple Salad with a Maple Vinaigrette

#### Ingredients:

2 cups baby spinach raw  
1/4 cup dried cranberries  
1/4 cup pecans halved  
2 tbsp feta cheese  
1/2 granny smith apple sliced  
1/2 fuji apple sliced  
2 slices bacon cooked and chopped  
Maple Dijon Vinaigrette:  
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil  
1 tbsp apple cider vinegar  
1 tbsp maple syrup  
1 1/2 tsp dijon mustard  
salt & pepper to taste

#### Instructions:

**Make Dressing:** Add all the ingredients for the maple dijon vinaigrette to a small mason jar. Shake to mix.

**Layer Salad:** Add the spinach to a medium size bowl or plate.

Top with dried cranberries, halved pecans, feta cheese, sliced apples, and cooked bacon.

**Dress and Toss:** Drizzle the salad dressing over the top of the salad, toss and serve.

~Author: Serene

#### Notes:

Apples: using two kinds of apples (Granny Smith and Fuji) gives more color to the salad it also gives a nice balanced sweet and tart flavoring.

Maple Syrup: use a Grade A maple syrup in this recipe.

Pecans: use halved pecans. Can be substituted with walnuts or left out if needed.

**Make Ahead Instructions:** If you need to slice and prepare the apples hours before serving use a water bath made of 1 cup of water mixed with 1 tablespoon of lemon juice.

After you slice the apples soak them in the lemon water for 3-5 minutes then remove and rinse them.

**Storage:** when preparing the salad ahead of time store the dressing separate from the salad to prevent the spinach from getting soggy. Dress the salad just before serving.

Happily we bask in this warm September sun, which illuminates all creatures...

~ Henry David Thoreau

# Gadgets

(continued from back)

If you can stand one more “arrrr” thing... An army shovel (shown below) is a great tool. It folds flat and that’s helpful if you have limited storage space. It can be used for digging holes for perennials and bulbs, and also works as a hoe - yo ho ho. And now we’re wondering if we have a bottle of rum somewhere.

## September TO-DO List

- Refresh porch and patio containers with a spectacular fall display of asters, chrysanthemums, and ornamental cabbage.
- September lawn care: Re-seed bare spots or over-seed your lawn with

high quality grass seed. Lightly water newly seeded lawns 2-4 times daily depending on weather. When seedlings are 2” high, reduce frequency and water more deeply.

- Fertilize lawn with high nitrogen, very low phosphorus, low to moderate potassium. See details, application rate, and schedule in free Purdue publication AY-13-W and AY-22-W on Lawn Maintenance and Fertilizing at:  
[https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?Item\\_Number=AY-13-W](https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?Item_Number=AY-13-W)  
[https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item\\_number=AY-22-W](https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item_number=AY-22-W).
- Harvest and preserve herbs by drying or freezing.

- Collect mature, dry seeds for winter sowing or store for next year.
- Start spinach, kale, and other cold tolerant greens under row covers or in a cold frame for tasty winter salads.
- Early this month, take cuttings of favorite garden plants to root and overwinter indoors. Bring tender plants in containers inside before the first frost.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials so their roots will establish before winter. Replace under-performing plants with something better.
- Sow seed of next year’s biennial flowers.
- Divide and transplant early spring and summer flowering perennials.
- Plant perennial ornamental grasses. Wait to divide most grasses until spring.
- Deadhead and cut back spent perennials as needed.
- Continue mulching and weeding. Prevent weed seed formation to make next year’s maintenance easier.
- Order spring bulbs for fall planting. Pre-dig areas or holes for bulbs and refill with loosened soil.
- Check rakes and leaf blowers - autumn leaves will be falling soon.
- See more tips from Purdue Extension Autumn Garden Calendar:  
<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/september-garden-calendar/>.
- Enjoy the last days of summer and the cooler weather.



photo: © 2022 Kathryn Reeves

I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house

~ Nathaniel Hawthorne

# Great Gadgets and Tools

By Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway

Fall is a good time to plant perennials, shrubs, and trees. Monday September 19 is "Talk Like a Pirate Day." While you're saying "arrr" think about some hardy plants to add to your garden like *Armeria maritima* (Sea Thrift), *Artemisia schmidtiana* ('Silver Mound'), and *Arun-  
cus dioicus* (Goat's Beard).



*Aronia melanocarpa* (shown above) is a beautiful native shrub known as black

chokeberry. We enjoy the brilliant fall foliage. Birds and other wildlife enjoy the berries. (We're not pirates - this copyright free photo for educational purposes is provided by Hardy Plant Society [www.hardy-plant.org.uk](http://www.hardy-plant.org.uk).)

If you prefer native wildflowers, consider *Arisaema triphyllum* (Jack in the pulpit). BTW 'Black Beard' penstemon is a beautiful selection of native *Penstemon digitalis*.

It's too late for artichoke, but you can still sow seeds of cold tolerant *Arugula* in the vegetable garden this month for fall salads. We also grow this in pots under lights during the winter.

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And don't forget spring bulbs like parrot tulips, matey. Wait until soil cools down to bury those treasures.

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