

Garden Variety News

MARCH 2007

A publication of the Morgan County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

Web site: www.mcmastergardeners.org

"Helping Others Grow"



NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 1 in the basement of the County Administration Building at 6:00pm. Our program for the evening will be presented by Lou Fegans. It will be on photography and conservation.

After our speaker we will be having refreshments and a short social time with the current Master Gardener Class. Also if you have received unwanted or duplicate garden catalogs please bring them to the meeting for a 1 for 1 exchange.

COMING UP

Master Gardener Classes—Thursdays through April 5
April 12, Welcome Party—for the 2007 Master Gardener Class. We will be inviting them to join and will be sharing information about our organization and projects. Finger foods. Pitch-in, 6pm Administration Building.

Garden Fest Pansy Sale—April 14&15, Armory

April 22 Earth Day

April 27-28-29—Arbor Day Workshops

May Meeting—May 3; 6pm, Spring salad Pitch-in And a 1 for 1 Perennial Plant Exchange. We all have plants that need divided...let's share. This meeting will be held at the home of Mary Ellen Holmes. Please bring a start for our hostess to, she is just starting beds at her new home. *Please have all your plants marked with the name and growing information.

JUNE—FAMILY PICNIC

VOTES FOR MEETING DATES

Results of the official vote were:

Thursday—10

Wednesday—5

Don't Care—7

Our meetings will continue to be on Thursday's unless otherwise notified.

SILENT AUCTION/WREATH WORKSHOP REPORT

We had a silent auction at our December meeting to raise money for the public library wreath project. Twenty-one items were auctioned for a total profit of \$153.90. On Saturday December 9, a group of Master Gardeners met in the lobby of the Administration Building in Martinsville and learned how to make wreaths with wire forms, paddle wire and fresh greenery. We made a total of seven wreaths and two fresh greenery arrangements. The wreaths were taken to all of the public libraries in the county, and one wreath was hung at the Administration Building. Extra greenery was used to decorate the urns at the Martinsville Library December 16. This was a very successful project that we hope to repeat every year.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to Catherine Luker on the death of her husband, Austin, February 1, 2007. Austin died from complications following a fall. Many of us knew Austin as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, gardener and friend. He will be missed by many.



The first addition of the Morgan County Master Gardeners 'workbook' is coming along fine and should be ready for distribution to all paid members at our May meeting.



'Wow! This taste so good!'

When you pitch-in or provide snacks, If you can, please bring copies of your recipe to share...

February 13, 2007

Nancy's note

Taken For Granted



My husband called from work this morning, early, before I'd finished my first cup of tea.... "What's it look like down there?" he asked.

I'd been watching the wind in the tops of the trees. I could already see several broken branches from the weight of the ice we received overnight. He says; "they say we'll get more ice and several more inches of snow". I know he is worried about me, and that the power lines might go down. I tell him... "be careful on the way home tonight Honey".

I sit and watch the trees and worry; I think ... how different it would be without them.

They're so beautiful, pines, tulip, birch, maple, oak, dogwood, redbud and all. They screen the view of the neighbors, block the north wind, and give shade to the house and my shade gardens. They are lovely in the spring, summer and fall ... But I seldom give them a thought.

We are prepared for the storm.....jugs of water, wood for the woodstove, kerosene for the extra heater, oil lamps and extra food.

But what if I lost my trees....

Mother Nature has given me a wonderful Valentine. She has reminded me of all I take for grantedand of just how important each is to my world....

Nancy Manly

AREA GARDEN SHOWS

Indiana Flower and Patio Show - Indiana State Fairgrounds West Pavilion and Expo Hall March 10-18, 2007 Monday - Saturday: 10am - 9pm

Sundays: 10am.- 6pm General Admission: \$10.00

Monday, March 12: Senior Citizen Day

Senior Citizens 55 Years young and older pay only \$8.

(Price valid on Senior Citizen Day only-Coupons not valid with this offer.)

***Cincinnati Flower Show** April 21 - 29, 2007 at Coney Island

Madison In Bloom 2007 Spring Garden Tour

May 12-13, 19-20 2007 Saturdays 10-4 Sundays 12-4

\$11 each until April 27, 2007 \$13 each after April 27

Order online or call 800-559-2956 or 812-265-2335.

Garfield Park Annual Spring Bulb Show:

March 30 - April 6. 10am - 5pm daily. View your classic favorites or brand new hybrids of tulips, hyacinth, daffodils, muscari, and more! An early dose of spring right in our very own Garfield Park Conservatory Gazebo Room. Special Admission Rates Apply. **Bulb Sale: April 7 & 8th, Free Admission 10am-5pm** - The entire bulb show collection goes on sale to the public.

*Plans are in the works for the Morgan County Master Gardener Association to host a bus trip to the Cincinnati Flower Show on Monday, April 23. More details will be in the next newsletter, or contact Trena Trusty for more information 317-996-2746.



NEED HELP WITH A LANDSCAPE DESIGN?

Ben Rawlins, ASLA, will be speaking at our GardenFest and Pansy Sale. He has offered to design a landscape for a Master Gardener as the basis for his presentation. He would like to take photos of the area from which he can work and use these photos to show how he develops a design. If you are seriously interested in a chance to have a landscape design for your home prepared by a professional landscape architect please submit a description of your layout and any ideas you may have for that design to Marilyn Bickley or Ann Hume at the March Master Gardener meeting. Depending how many are interested we will probably let Mr. Rawlins decide which project he prefers.

MCMG SPRING

GARDENFEST AND PANSY SALE

Due to the large turnout last year of both vendors and attendees, vendors suggested our GardenFest and Pansy Sale should run two days. On their advice the committee decided this year's GardenFest and Pansy Sale will be a two day event April 14 & 15 at the National Guard Armory. Hours Saturday, April 14 are 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. and Sunday, April 15 12:00 pm. to 4:00 pm.

SCHEDULE TO DATE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Fri. 13th AM— Preparing the Armory for vendors will begin first thing Friday morning (maybe even Thursday).

12:00-3:00 pm Vendor set-up

Sat. April 14—7:30 am Vendor set-up

9:00 am.— Doors open to public

9:30 am.— We will kick off our tree give away at 9:30 am with a talk by Chris Parker on the proper planting of trees and the protection of seedling trees from hungry predators.

11:00 am.— Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp writer for the Saturday Indianapolis Star Newspaper Home and Garden Section will give a Powerpoint presentation on what's new in plants for 2007.

2:00 pm.— Ben Rawlins, ASLA. Principal, Manager of Landscape Architecture with Odle, McGuire and Shook Corporation will discuss how to design a landscape from start to finish. He would like to use a MG yard. (see **NEED HELP WITH A LANDSCAPE DESIGN**)

5:00pm— GardenFest and Pansy Sale ends for the day.

Sunday April 15

Sun. 12:00— Doors open to public

No planned events at this time.

Sun. 4:00pm GardenFest Ends and clean-up begins.

Please help spread the word about our speakers. They are noteworthy in their respective fields and should prove most interesting. One aspect of the Master Gardener program is education. These speakers give our club an opportunity to provide this on a community level. We need to promote them and generate good attendance. Help us generate interest and encourage attendance. Thanks.

We will be having our regular Q & A booth and will be doing soil testing as in the past.. We have a great need for MG volunteers and will be passing out sign up sheets at the March meeting. Please plan on helping and/or accumulating your volunteer hours.

If you are or know of anyone interested in a booth at our GardenFest contact one of the following committee members: Marilyn Bickley/Ann Hume co-chair, Theresa Hawkins, Mary Ellen Holmes, Betty Kenworthy, Catherine Luker, Neta Phelps, Diane Taylor, Cindy Vogel and Ginger Voyles.



A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.

John James Audubon, 1785 - 1851

The foolish man seeks happiness in the distance, the wise grows it under his feet.

James Oppenheim

Mud is the most poetical thing in the world.

R. H. Blyth

When you throw dirt, you lose ground.

Texan proverb