

# Garden Variety News

A publication of the Morgan County Master Gardener Association, Inc

February, 2008

[www.mcmastergardeners.org](http://www.mcmastergardeners.org)

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Tom Flatt  
Morgan County Fair

## Meeting at Oliver Winery

The February meeting will be held at Oliver Winery on State Road 37, located South of Martinsville. The meeting will be held outdoors beginning promptly at 6 p.m. on February 7, 2008, in the vineyard with a demonstration of grapevine pruning and discussion regarding the best time of year for pruning. We will then move indoors for a presentation given indoors and tour of the winery. The tasting room closes at 6 p.m. If you wish to sample some of the wines, plan to arrive early. This will not be a formal meeting, but there will be discussion of pending items and upcoming events. No voting will be conducted at this meeting.

Dress appropriately for the weather and prepare to enjoy an evening out in the vineyards and in the winery. We should learn a lot about vineyard and orchard management during this visit.



## MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you haven't already paid membership dues, please bring \$10.00 to the next meeting to bring your records up to date.

## Need to Buy Valentine's Day Roses?

- Red – Love, Passion, Respect, Courage
- Yellow – Joy, Friendship, Freedom
- Pink – Happiness, Gratitude, Appreciation, Admiration
- Cream – Thoughtfulness, Charm, Graciousness
- Orange – Fascination, admiration, desire
- White – Innocence, purity, reverence

## April 4 & 5, 2008 – Garden Fest and Pansy Sale

Friday, April 4, 3:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, April 5 – 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Application deadline for vendors is March 3, 2008. Cost is \$40.00 and electricity is \$10.00. 10 foot table provided. Location: National Guard Armory, Martinsville IN.

Call Marilyn Bickley at 765-342-9890 or Ann Hume at 317-831-9009 for additional information or application for a booth.

## Earn Volunteer Hours at the Mooresville Public Library

Master Gardeners looking for activities to earn hours should consider preparing and putting on an adult program at the Mooresville Library.

Trena Trusty is working with program coordinator, Corky Mayo, in setting up a series of classes for adults who are interested in lawn and garden topics. You can accumulate volunteer hours for the time you spend developing a program and delivering it; or, you can earn hours by helping with a class. The first class for early March will be on seed starting and will include a hands-on activity to start seeds of various types. Contact Trena (317-996-2746) if you are interested in helping with this class or any future classes.



**Travel for 2008**

By Trena Trusty **Travel for 2008**

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## **Travel for 2008**

*By Trena Trusty*

The Travel Committee met recently and discussed potential trips for us to take in 2008. We decided that we liked the idea of going to see something in summer bloom, so we are making plans to visit the *Ball Seed Company* display gardens in West Chicago, Illinois on Friday, September 6. The trip would also include a visit to another stop on horticulture interest such as *Taltree Arboretum* or *Ogden Gardens* in Valparaiso and a group dinner at someplace such as *The Trails* with a guest speaker from Purdue. If you have suggestions for group trip ideas that you would like for us to consider, contact chairman Trena Trusty with the information.

There are lots of great garden shows and tours during the spring months. There are lots of great garden shows and tours during the spring months. Trena Trusty will be going to the Cincinnati Flower Show on Tuesday, April 22 and can take up to 5 additional passengers. She will also include a visit to the new IKEA store as part of that trip. Go to [www.cincyflowershow.org](http://www.cincyflowershow.org) for more info. Be sure to add any shows or tours that you know of to the calendar on our website.

## **News from the County Fair Chairman**

*By Tom Flatt*

The MCMG Board approved the concept for the County Fair project at the January 17 meeting (see back page). The details in the proposal are all subject to discussion before plans are finalized. One suggestion from the Board was that we sell other things besides just plants, maybe flower arrangements and crafts also made by members. Another was that we have program speakers or possibly advertise the expertise areas of the members manning the booth.

On the plant sale part, I'm suggesting culturing plants to the point they are attractive at fair time. This is not dig something up and put them in a pot at the time of the fair. This is a commitment to grow something unusual, difficult or new to you. I plan on taking spring Clematis starts and put them into 6 inch pots or larger and try to have them flowering at fair time. I don't know if it can be done, but I'll try.

I hope to have time at the March 6 meeting to finalize the project plan and to get plant commitments. We might consider making it a competition with some sort of special recognition for the best plants.

## **Five of us Went North**

*By Trena Trusty*

Five Morgan County MGs braved the cold weather and headed up to Valparaiso for a super garden show hosted by the Porter County Master Gardeners. An admission of \$5.00 got us some free seeds and canna bulbs, over 60 vendors and our choice of 10 presentations on a wide range of topics. Some of us learned about the history of British gardening and how it can be used in American design while others got an in depth lesson on peonies and another on herbs. We all learned about Color in the Garden, Underused Landscape Shrubs and Landscape Dos and Don'ts. They had a fantastic photography competition and several activities for kids. We will definitely make plans to attend this show next year.

## **Advanced Training**

*By Trena Trusty*

Advanced training opportunities for you to consider include the following:

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Saturday, February 9, 2008 - **Gibson County Master Gardeners' 2008 Seminar, "Once Upon a Garden"**

Location:

Princeton Community High School Auditorium

Corner of Old Hwy 41 & Old Patoka Road

Registration: 7:45am-8:30am CST

Seminar: 8:30am-3:00pm CST

Speakers and Programs include:

- Larry Miller - "Growing Azaleas"
- Jerry Wheeler - "Gardening for Wildlife"
- Edie Dyer Wilson - "Flower Arrangements-Using Flowers You Grow"

- Carissa Lovett - "Indiana's Spring Wildflowers"
- Wayne Richards & Judy Burris - "Butterflies-Gardening With A Purpose"

*Door Prizes!*

Registration fee: \$35.00 by January 25, 2007  
\$40.00 after that date and day of seminar

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Saturday, February 23, 2008

**Advanced MG Training, Madison County**

Location: Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds, Alexandria, IN

Registration (continental breakfast included) begins at 8am

Training Sessions: 9:00 am-3:30 pm

- Dr. Mary Welch-Keesey, Purdue Univ., White River Gardens *Xeriscaping for the Homeowner*
- Coletta Kosiba, Advanced Master Gardener, Hendricks County *Vertical Gardening*
- Jim Barbour, Extension Educator, Marion County Breakout session: *Hobby Greenhouses*
- Dr. Fred Whitford, Purdue Pesticide Programs *Safe Use of Pesticides in the Home Garden*
- Roy Ballard, Extension Educator, Hancock County *Growing Organic Veggies*

Fee: \$35/person for MG's, interns, and those participating in a current MG intern training. For information, call or email [John Orick](mailto:John.Orick@Hillsides.org) (765-641-9514)

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Saturday, March 1, 2008

**"Spring Tonic"** Presented by the Hoosier Hillsides Master Gardeners of Orange, Lawrence and Crawford Counties

Location: Orange County Community Center  
1075 Sandy Hook Road, Orange County Fairgrounds, Paoli, IN

Time: 8:30m-3:00pm

- Roy Ballard - *Bees*
- Ken Breese - *Hypertufa*
- Anita Peterson - *Flower Arranging*
- Don Compton - *Nuts, Persimmons, Pawpaws*
- Alec Hosterman - *Photography*

Registration fee: \$35 (if paid by February 15, and \$40 after that date) (includes continental breakfast and lunch);

Door prizes and local craftsmen selling their wares

For more information, call: 812/723-2782

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Saturday, March 29, 2008

**Smart Gardening: Working with Nature Advanced Training Workshop**

Presented by Sunnyside Master Gardeners

Location: 7810 State Road 60

Sellersburg, IN

Time: 8am to 3pm

Cost: \$25 per person and includes a box lunch  
Pre-registration required no later than March 21

Through the use of native plantings, rain barrels and other tools and techniques we can conserve resources while enhancing our natural surroundings. Please join us for a day of presentations and discussion focused on how you can create healthy and resilient landscaped spaces that are beautiful, environmentally responsive, functional, manageable and enduring.

**Guest Speakers:**

- Claude Stephens, Education Director at Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest and a founding partner in Generation 14, a sustainable design consulting firm

- John Pacyga, a Landscape Architect with Gresham, Smith and Partners in Louisville, Kentucky
- Judy Burris and Wayne Richards, a sister-brother author and photographer team
- Mary Welch-Keeseey, a Consumer Horticulture Specialist at Purdue University and White River Gardens, Indianapolis and a frequent lecturer on native plants, perennials, and plant propagation. Author of the recently published “Plant Propagation” course offered by Purdue on CD-ROM

For more information, contact [Colleen Craven-Becker](#), 812-948-5470.

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**(DRAFT PROPOSAL)**

**MORGAN COUNTY MASTER GARDNER COUNTY FAIR BOOTH**

Est. Budget: \$200  
Est. Volunteer Hours: 200

**PRIMARY OBJECTIVE:** Provide fair goers information in the area of gardening and home horticulture.

**SECONDARY OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) Promote the Morgan County Master Gardner Association.
- 2) Raise enough money to cover the expenses of the booth.
- 3) Provide Association members with education opportunities.
- 4) Have fun

**PROCEDURES:**

Primary Objective

Spend some time acquiring the latest Purdue publications about the various aspect of gardening and horticulture as well as other relevant publication from other Agencies and organizations: MGs manning the booth need to be familiar with this material to enhance information exchange with fair goers. The plants being sold need to be labeled with

growing instructions and the MGs familiar with the information.

Est. publication and copy costs \$50  
Est. volunteer hours needed to man booth (2 people x 7 days x 7 hrs): 98  
Est. volunteer hours needed for booth set-up and acquiring publications: 100

Secondary objective one

Display the MG banner, ware MG shirts, sign up folks for the next MG class and be ourselves.

Secondary objective two

Ask each Association member to raise 3 or 4 plants for sell at the booth.

Secondary Objective three

Encourage members to raise plants that are difficult, rare, and unusual or just ones they have never raised before. Reviewing publications will help reinforce knowledge.

Secondary Objective four

It will be fun accomplishing the first 4 objectives with other Master Gardeners and fair goers.

**BOOTH CONFIGURATION**

Two booths spaces will be needed with tables arranged in an inward “L” shape with about a third covered with literature and the other two thirds with plants for sale.

Estimated booth rental cost is \$150. Tables and equipment will be provided by members or sponsors.

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