



WABASH VALLEY MASTER GARDENERS  
GARDEN GAZETTE 2012

Next Planning and Scheduling Session is September 18 at **6:00pm at the 4-H Building at the Fairgrounds**. This is our annual seed and plant exchange and carry-in meal. Members with last name starting with A through G bring salad or fruit; H through M brings vegetables and N through Z brings a dessert. Meat and drinks and table service provided. Since we won't have too many plants or seeds available this year, we will be having a **"GREEN ELEPHANT GARDEN EXCHANGE"**; used items only please and make sure they are wrapped. There will also be a PHOTO CONTEST. If you have any pictures of your own garden, flowers, veggies or water garden send them to Cyd Hunter via email [cydhunter@frontier.com](mailto:cydhunter@frontier.com) or by regular mail to 2689 Eaton Drive, Terre Haute, Indiana, 47802. There will be no educational time. Carry-in, meeting, plant/seed exchange, green elephant exchange and photo contest...whew!...should be fun...so don't plan to just eat and run!!!

The nomination committee has been busy getting nominees for offices for the coming year. They are as follows:

President: Sam Liggett

Vice President: Bob Archer

Recording Secretary: Pat Youman

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin

Treasurer: John Hilderbrand

Service Coordinator: Cyd Hunter

Board of Directors past officers: Larry Agee, Kathy Hutton

Board of Directors member-at-large: Bill Hiatt

Assistant treasurer (to be voted on separately): Carl Trent

We will be voting for these offices at our meeting in October. Any member unable to attend that meeting may request an absentee ballot from the incumbent Secretary (Kathy Hutton). The absentee ballot must be returned and received by the Secretary for certification, seven (7) days prior to the business meeting (October 16). Nominees will be accepted from the floor at the September meeting. Write in names on ballots will also be accepted at time of voting.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2012, Planning and Scheduling Session held at the Vigo County Fairgrounds. A 6:30pm presentation by Linda Gard of Kalamora Gardens on hypertufa rock preceded the meeting. One hour education time may be claimed for the 38 members present.

Meeting called to order by President Larry Agee. Guest speaker introduced by Sam Liggett, Vice President. Sam reported next month's program as the Plant and Seed exchange. The Recording Secretary, Kathleen Hutton, accepted July's minutes as corrected to read: Sam Liggett in the place of Carl Trent as the member in attendance at the Ivy Tech scholarship luncheon with Larry Agee.

Corresponding Secretary: Verna Gaskin.

Treasurer's report given by John Hilderbrand.

#### COMMITTEE REPORT:

Service Coordinator: Cyd Hunter submitted a report of members who had advanced, although the ordered badges had not arrived for distribution. The following interns attained their certification status for August. George Needham, Mary Howard-Hamilton, Gene Jarvis, Jill Fleener and Richard Watson. George Needham and Greg Fields also

achieved Advanced Status at the end of the month. Advancing to Bronze was Pat Youman. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

The **Plant and Seed Exchange** committee wants us to remember what our gardens looked like prior to the drought...or...see how well they've recovered! A PHOTO CONTEST will be decided from photos of our own gardens (one per member) submitted to Cyd Hunter via email prior to September 12<sup>th</sup>. – [cydhunter@frontier.com](mailto:cydhunter@frontier.com) Identify your photo to Cyd only. The membership will vote.

Additionally, "Green Elephant Garden Exchange" will take place. Bring a **wrapped** garden item you no longer want around your garden for exchange.

The committee will provide meat and beverage. Last names A-G...please bring salads; H-M...vegetable or fruit; and N-Z...please bring dessert for the **PITCH IN**. Because food is involved, we begin earlier than normal, so the food and fun begin at 6:00pm on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Fairgrounds 4-H building. Spouces are welcome. Committee chair: Debi Gansz.

The giving garden committee reported 7800 pounds of produce. ISU (20 students) volunteers spent a productive day in the garden.

Additionally, the garden was part of the Bicentennial Garden Tour.

They ask that you check out the new addition of Gourd House by Greg Fields.

The spring Seminar Committee has not yet established a venue.

Discussion was held regarding the number of workers willing to take an active part in the seminar by committing to working on food preparation in order to increase the profit margin. More than half of the members in attendance raised their hands in support of that idea. This helped the committee to feel more comfortable in proceeding with

acquiring a venue in which the organization will be able to do the work with less expense. Anyone interested in serving on the committee may call Von Russell or Brenda Kirchner or Carol Swearingen.

Chili Cook-Off (Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>) Committee meeting after August session.

Details will be circulated via email for participating in making our chili a repeat winner.

In old business: The State Fair Master Gardener's Booth was open for our volunteers on 2 days. First time volunteer Peggy Harlan reported on her positive experience while acquiring volunteer time.

Three members have registered for the State Conference to be held October 4-6 in Noblesville. Registration and deadline information may be found on the website <http://209.43.115.19/2012-master-gardener-state-conference-2/>

The Ivy Tech Scholarship award recipient was Tiffany Dycus. A note of thanks was received from Tiffany. President Larry Agee and Vice President Sam Liggett attended.

Patty Weaver reported on the success of the ISU Green Valley Alliance for Sustainability program. The ISU Community Garden received a certificate for participation. She reported the Garden Party was well attended.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** for the Soil and Water Conservation science program, held annually at the fairgrounds for Vigo County 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Students are bused in for the day. You will assist Jim Luzar or Pat Secret with shorty sessions during which student groups rotate through stations from 8:30am to 2:00pm. Full day or half day volunteers are needed as it runs September 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>. Continental breakfast and lunch are served.

Peggy Harlan has agreed to chair the Christmas in the Park Committee. Many volunteers are needed to prepare, set up and take down the display in Deming Park.

Bill Hiatt gave an official Vigo County fair report. Impressive numbers verified another successful year for the committee's efforts.

A nominating committee, consisting of Pat Youman, Carol Swearingen, and Greg fields will present a slate of officers for publication in the September gazette. Members are asked to consider serving a one year term for the offices.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ivy Tech Class on woody Landscape Plants begins Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> and ends Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ohio Valley Garden Conference, Evansville. Paul James, speaker. Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.

September 8: VOTE for WVGMA chili at the Chili cook-off (Clabber Girl lot)

September 8: Nature Day Clay County: 9am to 1pm at Clay County Fairgrounds.

September 14: Wildflowers Workshop at McCormick's Creek.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. The Board meets at the Grand Traverse Pie Company. You do not have to be a board member to attend and listen in.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Hiatt; John Hilderbrand seconded. Adjourned after **1 hour of volunteer time** for the 39 members present.

Due to a problem with the recording secretary's computer, the Board of Directors minutes of September 6<sup>th</sup> will be sent out at a later date.

## HOW MUCH TO WATER AND HELP SAVE YOUR TREES AND SHRUBS FROM THE DROUGHT!!!

Drought stress can be relieved by removing any weeds and grass from beneath the tree (they compete for water). Place a 3-4" layer of mulch back 6" away from trunk around the tree. If you haven't been watering this spring or summer, it may not be too late to save them. Water at the base of the plant and deep soak the root ball and the immediate area outside the root ball area. The surrounding ground is going to suck the moisture away from the immediate root ball so it is important to soak the entire area. Watering this way will actually cut down on the visits you actually have to make with the hose. It is also best for your plants if you water this way. Plants generally like to be thoroughly saturated with water and allowed time to drain in between watering. The exception to this is the first week or two after initially planting. After that it is imperative plants be given time between watering to drain. This is also how you get plants to establish themselves in their permanent location. If the plant is given time to drain between watering then the roots will chase the water into the surrounding ground. If watering daily the roots have no reason to go anywhere. Furthermore, roots need oxygen and if they are continually saturated they will begin to rot. One of the most difficult things in gardening to do is to get a plant turned around when it is afflicted with root rot or other fungal problems initiated by over watering.

On average, you should water:

1 gallon = 2-3 minutes	
2 gallon = 3 minutes	
3 gallon = 3-4 minutes	\
5 gallon = 5-7 minutes	/ shrubs and small trees
7 gallon = 7-10 minutes	/
10 gallon = 10-15 minutes	\
15 gallon = 15-20 minutes	/ 7 to 15 gallon trees
20 gallon = 20-25 minutes	\
25 gallon = 25-30 minutes	\ larger trees
45 gallon = 30-40 minutes	/

New plantings – 2 to 3 times per week till October – November.

Established plantings – 2 to 3 times per week till October – November.

More often on plants showing stress or wilting. (Watering instructions courtesy of Apple House)

That's all for this month, see you the 18<sup>th</sup>.

You might be a redneck gardener if...

...you use bathroom fixtures as planters

...you edge your paths with all kinds of empty bottles

