



The Garden Gate Newsletter

Boone County Master Gardener Association
Sept & Oct, 2020

NEXT MEETING – Monday, Sept. 21, 2020
@Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, 1300 E 100 S,
Lebanon, IN 46052

Details: We will be social distancing and no refreshments provided. Bring a water bottle for your personal use and wear a mask.



Boone County Master Gardeners 2020 Officers

President	Butch Kidd 317-690-5454 Kiddel56@gmail.com
V. President	Lynn Kenyon 765-482-4172 Lynnk1@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Jane Bewley 317-313-1496 jsbewley@gmail.com
Secretary	Barb Burkhardt 317-873-1022 Sparky8505@att.net

President's Notes from Butch

Time goes on, and on, and on, and we see the passing of time, of seasons, and of life during this most unusual reality in which we find ourselves. Most importantly, we are here to see that passage of time and season with hope for a brighter future, masks or no masks.

As I think about it, I seem to be by nature a bit of a loner. This doesn't mean I don't like people, it only means that I am comfortable having a more solitary life. Having said that, this time feels a bit odd because, loner or not, I do enjoy the interactions with other people, most notably the ones we have had at our meetings. I miss those interactions more because there is something (not to mention breakfast at meetings) that cannot be captured in our personal interactions with the personal space restrictions and within the virtual environment.

On to gardens and the need we have to garden.

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Cultivate Lasting Friendships

Our website:

<http://mastergardenerboonecounty.org/>

Have you tried to grow pole beans on an arched tunnel? See @ Youth Learning Garden



Deadline for Newsletter October 31, 2020 to

Facebook: *Master-Gardeners-of-Boone-County* and *Boone County Community Gardens*

Websites: www.mastergardenerboonecounty.org and <http://bewellboone.org/CommunityGardens.html>

Club News and Opportunities

Letter from the president (cont'd from page 1):

I just returned from a 1400-mile loop through southeast Indiana, northeastern KY, southeastern Ohio, eastern KY, West Virginia, Virginia, and back up through the middle of KY back home. Along that long meandering route, I saw quite a variety of production farming that we don't see here in Indiana, but most striking was the presence of small vegetable plots and an abundance of flower beds. At first thought, this may not seem to be unusual but visually it was striking because many of these beds were stuck out in the middle of a seeming nowhere. Home burrowed into a hillside, miles away from the next closest anything and aside from the few tomato plants and scraggly corn, there were flowers and more flowers all around, brightening an otherwise dull location. Unfortunately, my description doesn't begin to capture just how striking, or how pleasing that glimpse of beauty in bloom really was.

I'm not sure what it is that motivates us to garden, or if there is a definitive reason why we garden. Whether or not I understand it, there is some drive that fuels the endeavor, along with the frustrations and rewards associated with growing a living thing which has a finite purpose and span of existence. The fruits, the vegetables, the beauty of beds in full bloom, along with the frustrations of wilt, squash borers, drought, or virtual flood all play into this magical world of planting, nurturing, and feelings, all of which go into any season.

I think that the best that I can do at this point is to stop rambling, close this missive, and say that I look forward to our meeting on September 21.

Thanks,

Butch (Butch Kidd)

Boone County Master Gardeners Volunteer Opportunities

Lebanon Boys & Girls Club

In 2019 we were able to work with a local resident to get a tower hydroponic system for the Lebanon Boys & Girls Club. We are seeking someone to get it setup again this year at the club (can be done during the day when kids not there, or with kids). It would also be great if you could talk to the kids about hydroponics. But just getting the tower back and working would be great along with a little oversight. We have someone who can help explain how to do this.

Boone County Community Gardens

We are gardening amid the COVID-19 crisis. Much of our produce goes to local feeding programs and pantries and there is an increased demand for food. At this time, the Youth

Learning Garden produced and donated over 277 pounds, and the Production garden 719 pounds. Steve and his team of volunteers continue to work hard at The Caring Center garden.

This year the Youth Learning Garden partnered with Mental Health America Boone County (MHABC) summer camp. The elementary-age campers enjoyed the activity totes and were able to join us in the garden for three weeks.

Also, always a lot going on at St. Peter's share garden and Harvest House Community Center.

Let us know if you want to be involved and we'll plug you into a team.

Questions: Contact Holly Catron, 812-343-8554 or catronh@purdue.edu

Education Information

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

Click on the link above to learn about any garden shows and training opportunities in our area. The recent events have been virtual. Check back to see what has been added.

The **Hortuscope**, by Wendy Ford, highlights what is new in central Indiana gardening. Here is the link to that publication for January 2018: <http://hortuscope.info/>

There are many educational and volunteer opportunities. All count towards your training hours.

Rainscaping:

The Purdue Rainscaping Education Program team is offering a virtual Purdue Rainscaping Education Program workshop as a series September 21, 23, 30, October 5, and 7, 2020. The workshop series of will be held 2:30 – 5:00 pm (ET)/1:30 – 4:00 pm (CT) on each date via Zoom.

Cost is \$50 and there is a maximum enrollment of 50 participants. Registration deadline is September 11.

For more information, see the brochure at: https://extension.purdue.edu/rainscaping/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/3-241-Rainscaping_brochure-2020.pdf. You may register by visiting: <https://www.cvent.com/d/v7qpml>

More information about the Purdue Rainscaping Education Program can be found here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/rainscaping/>

This is the same program several Boone County Master Gardeners have attended in the past though not precisely as this will be virtual rather than in-person. Ten Master Gardeners have formed the Boone County Rainscaping Team and have been involved in various activities including developing and delivering educational programs and materials.

Their latest effort is a Boone County Virtual Ran Garden Tour. They have just finished this and you can see the three-video tour here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck6FL83DwyG95_6-ZtM99kA

Questions? Contact Curt.

Second Annual Dahlia Exhibition Announced

The **Zionsville Cultural District** announces its second annual Dahlia Exhibition, to be held from 9AM to Noon on Saturday, September 19th, at **PALETTE: Community Art Center**, 295 S. Main St., Zionsville. All gardeners are invited to bring along their prized Dahlia blooms to be displayed with dozens of others. Thanks to a grant from the Zionsville Village Garden Club and the generosity of Dahlia expert, Alan Strader, over 100 tubers and plants were distributed for free to those wishing to give Dahlia growing a try.

The exhibition is part of the organization's Dahlia City Initiative which aims to bring to light the town's former history as "**Dahlia City**", when two nurseries in the village produced Dahlia tubers mailed to gardeners around the country. Dahlias were in fashion during the 1920's to 1940's, with many local residents filling their yards with these showy blooms. The Zionsville Cultural District aims to encourage gardeners to grow dahlias as a way to beautify neighborhoods and highlight a significant segment of the town's history.

All are welcome to participate. Educational information will be available on growing and overwintering Dahlias. Everyone is urged to bring a bud vase or bottle in which to display their blooms, and to wear masks.

For more information, please contact Mark Zelonis at (317) 258-2071, or visit the ZCD website at www.zvillecd.org.

Join Pollinator Day on September 19th!

The 5th annual Pollinator Day will take place virtually on September 19th from 10 a.m.-3p.m at <https://www.sunnysidemg.org/pollinator-day> During this virtual event we will have live webinars starting at 10 a.m. The schedule for the day is 10 a.m.-Bee the Difference; Citizen Science and Pollinators, 11 a.m.- Pollinator Importance and Conservation, 12 p.m.-Fall Gardening for Pollinators, 1 p.m.- Our Forgotten Pollinators, and 2 p.m.- Help Indiana Bats. No registration is needed to attend the webinars.

To make sure there is something for everyone, activity bags have been created for youth up to age 12. Pre-registration is required to receive a bag. Activities and crafts for the day include: a flying bat, pollinator mask making, creating plantable seed papers, pumpkin decorating, and a Pollinator Quest. These bags will include all of the supplies needed for the activities and crafts except for scissors. Bags will be picked up on the afternoon of September 18th from 1 p.m.-6 p.m. at the Purdue Extension Office of Floyd County (3000 Technology Ave. New Albany, IN 47150). To register for the activity bags, please visit <https://bit.ly/38UxfxR>

If you have any questions please contact the Purdue Extension Floyd County Office at 812-948-5470 or email ANR Extension Educator Gina Anderson at gmanders@purdue.edu

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