
Boone County ISU Extension Master Gardener Update

Volume 14, Issue 1

March 2010



Upcoming Events:

BCMG Meeting

Tuesday, March 9

Boone County Hospital 4th Floor Meeting
Room, 7:00 p.m.

(enter through the SW door and go up in the
elevator)

Prairie Plant Transplanting

Saturday, March 6 at 9:30 a.m.

(leave Boone HyVee Lot at 8:30 a.m. if you want
to carpool)

Iowa DNR Prairie Resource Center

2820 Brushy Creek Road

Lehigh, IA 50557

Seed Starting Workshop

Earl May, Ames

Saturday, March 6, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Topics: How to start your seeds indoors, Square foot
gardening, Natural alternatives for the garden and
Container gardening.

Contact Earl May for more information.

Any Program Ideas?

If you have any ideas for a program for our monthly
meetings, please send email to
bcmg50036@gmail.com. This could a program by
you or by someone else. Also send any ideas for
summer tours! Either full days or evening tours.

Crawford Hall Information

Crawford Hall Garden -- A long discussion was held
about this possible project and collaboration with
Human Services and other agencies and interested
people to establish a demonstration and community
garden at Crawford Hall. This is new homeless shelter
south of the Boone County Courthouse.
More information will be gathered so we can learn more
about this project to help write grants and find funding.
We will have more information available at the March
meeting.

If you know of any grant opportunities, please email the
information back to bcmg50036@gmail.com or contact
Connie Colle or Amy Walter.

Member Input Still Needed

Remember to fill out your 2010 Interest Survey if you
haven't already. The committee would like to have your
suggestions for this next year. The document was sent
by email in January. Another copy is attached. Either
bring a completed copy to the next meeting, mail to
Connie Colle or email to bcmg50036@gmail.com.

Member News

- Linda Cox received a State of Iowa Excellence in
Mentoring Award. She's been mentoring a young
girl from Boone for several years. Article can be
found in the Ogden Reporter,
[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20411
280&BRD=1842&PAG=461&dept_id=335645&rfi
=8](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20411280&BRD=1842&PAG=461&dept_id=335645&rfi=8)
- Ted Garwood's father passed away in February.
- Welcome to Mary Lou McDowell who has officially
switched from Polk County MG to BCMG.
- Jean Rhodes is taking a Beekeeping Course.
- Welcome to Missouri MG transplants, Garlyn &
David Saupe.

Openings Available

There are still openings for this program! Contact Natalie or Mary at the Boone EO ASAP. Counts as continuing education hours.

Are you interested in helping PreK-12 youth connect what they learn in school to how they live in a community with natural resources, plants, animals, and other people? This fun, enlightening, interactive Connecting Learning and Living training and networking session is just the place for you. For the \$15 workshop fee, you will receive at least ten hours of environmental, agricultural and nutrition lessons; opportunities to purchase curricula and books or check them out from extension; supper; networking with people that can help assure an increase in environmental literacy in your region. The attached flier/registration will provide all the details you will need to attend the March 9th training. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mary Clancy, ISU Extension Program Coordinator
for Boone and Greene Counties
Boone Co. Extension 515-432-3882

Iowa Flower, Lawn and Garden Show

Admission: \$6.95 Adults, \$5.95 Seniors 62+, Children under 12 are free

www.iowafloreshow.com

Event Days:

March 19, 2010 -- 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM
March 20, 2010 -- 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
March 21, 2010 -- 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Varied Industries Building

Speakers Needed for Green Team

The Green Team at the National Centers for Animal Health (NCAH) in Ames is hosting Gardening Green Lunch 'N Learn series for their employees. Talks will be at 30-45 minutes with time for questions and answers. Linda Cox is looking for more speakers to fill out her schedule. Topics she's interested in are:

- vegetable garden planning and seed starting
- rain barrels
- container gardening

Most of March is also open. This will continue throughout the year, at least to Fall Gardens, but I want to hook people now when they want a chance to think about green things. Please let Linda Cox know as soon as possible if you would be willing to give a talk.

Project Available at the Madrid Home

Angie Gurius from the Madrid Home contacted the Boone County EO. She wants to create a garden (flowers, herbs, vegetables) in a space in front of the Madrid Home. Her goal is to have a garden that residents can 1) see and enjoy visually, 2) pick flowers or vegetables (such as pole beans) or smell the herbs, 3) those that are able help with simple planting and maintenance tasks. Low maintenance is also important. She has some volunteers who can help with creating the garden, but she needs the expertise of people like the Master Gardeners to determine a layout, what to plant for the lighting conditions (a little shady) and soil conditions.

Ideally, she'd love to have someone meet with the residents and be there for guidance.

If you can assist Angie in any way to realize this dream/goal, please contact Angie at 515-795-3007 or agurius@madridhome.com.

Orchids

Did you attend Orchid Fest at Reiman Gardens and now you want to learn more about these beautiful plants? Check out the Central Iowa Orchid Society at <http://www.c-we.com/cios/>

Central Iowa Orchid Society Schedule

(all meeting times are 2:00 pm at the Sears Tower Merle Hay Mall, Des Moines, Iowa, unless noted otherwise)

March 7, 2010

March 19-21, 2010 - Iowa Flower, Lawn, and Garden Show at the Fairgrounds

April 11, 2010

April 16-18, 2010 - Orchid Show & Sale, Merle Hay Mall

June 6, 2010 - Annual Pot Luck & Plant Auction (Location & Time to be announced)

July 11, 2010

July 25, 2010 - Speaker's Day, Camp Dodge

August 29, 2010

October 3, 2010

November 7, 2010

December 5, 2010 - Annual Christmas Party

One of the speakers at Orchid Fest, Carson Whitlow, has a website with links to suppliers and other information. Orchid Mall can be found at <http://www.orchidmall.com/society.htm>

Walkabout Gardens Website

Nan Ripley sent the link to her new website.

Walkabout Gardens

26391 - 595 Ave.

Nevada, Iowa 50201

Zone 4/5

<http://centraliowadaylilyociety.com/nanripley.html>

All-Iowa Horticulture Exposition II, March 19-20 in Ottumwa

The Iowa State Horticultural Society (ISHS) is pleased to partner once again with its 26 affiliate organizations and ISU Extension to present a gala exhibition of horticulture, which includes hands-on demonstrations, lectures and diverse trade show exhibits showcasing the many facets of Iowa horticulture. The All-Iowa Horticulture Exposition II will be held March 19-20, 2010 in Ottumwa, IA at the Bridge View Center. A children's garden, gardener's gift shop, and forestry field day are among the activities planned for the upcoming Expo.

The children's garden will offer crafts and activities for children and families from 11-4 pm on Friday and 9-2 on Saturday. The ISU Insect Zoo will expose children to the lives of insects for two hours each day and Iowa's Butterfly Lady Kathleen Ziemer will make a special appearance on Saturday from 1:30-2.

The ISHS will sponsor a gardener's boutique that will feature plants introduced by Terra Nova Nursery and grown by the Iowa State Horticulture Club. Dan Heims, President of Terra Nova Nurseries will feature many of these plants in his Saturday keynote presentation. Attendees may also purchase copies of Dan's books, as well those of other authors presenting at the Expo including Stephanie Cohen, Ann Marie VanDerZanden, and Jean Ann Van Krevelen.

On Friday afternoon a forestry field day will be held in conjunction with the Expo. This partnership between the Iowa Nut Growers Association, Wapello County Conservation Board, Trees Forever, and the Iowa Woodland Owners Association will feature a tour of the Pioneer Ridge Nature Area and catered evening meal. Topics to be covered on the tour include invasive species control, timber stand management, nut propagation, and more. The tour bus will depart the Bridge View Center at 2:45 pm.

For information about hotel accommodations, maps, and programs at the Expo, please visit www.iowahort.org.

The ISHS was founded in 1866 for the purpose of promoting and encouraging horticulture and its related interests in Iowa through the collection and dissemination of information concerning production, marketing, and utilization of horticultural crops. The Iowa Code of Law states support for the ISHS from the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). The ISHS promotes the horticulture industry as a means of diversifying agriculture in Iowa.

Reiman Gardens

www.reimangarden.iastate.edu

Brown Bag Lectures

Bring your lunch to the Reiman Gardens and enjoy an education program. Call 515-294-2710 for more information. Free for CoHorts' members and ISU students. Price of admission for general public.

Thursday, March 11 at 12:00 p.m. -- "Beyond the Basics of Garden Perennials" presented by Veronica Fowler from TheIowaGardener.com

2010 Celebration of Garden Ornamentation

In 2010, Reiman Gardens will explore the secret world of garden ornamentation. A world filled with gazing balls, topiary, whirligigs, fairies, wheel barrows and

gnomes. Learn about garden decoration with a humorous twist.

2010 Rose Presale

The rose sale held each year at the Rose Festival continues to gain success. As a benefit to its CoHorts' members, Reiman Gardens is offering a rose Presale for Buck roses and Easy Elegance roses. All of the roses take minimal care and are very disease resistant.

The Presale started on Monday, February 1st and ends on Sunday, April 25th.

Presale orders will be available for pick up Monday through Friday beginning May 31 by appointment. Please contact Sarah Rummery at 515-294-0305 or summery@iastate.edu

The proceeds of the rose sale are used for the care and improvement of the rose gardens. Projects funded range from a summer intern caring for the rose gardens, all of the annuals planted in the rose garden each year, mulch, items to overwinter the roses, organic fertilizer for the Buck Rose Collection and a new interpretive sign for the Buck Rose Collection which is coming soon.

Brent and Becky's Bulbs - Fundraiser

Reiman Gardens would like to announce a new and easy fundraising opportunity. Brent and Becky's Bulbs has accepted Reiman Gardens into its fundraising program for nonprofit organizations. You get bulbs for spring, summer and fall planting. Reiman Gardens receives 25% of all sales.

Go to www.bloominbucks.com and select from a pull down menu of all the organizations that are registered. Click on Reiman Gardens and you will be sent to the Brent and Becky's Bulbs website where you can order whatever you like including, bulbs, books, tools, supplements and even gift certificates.

This unique approach to fundraising allows Reiman Gardens to benefit nearly year round. If this long cold winter has you yearning for summer blooms, jump online and start picking out the bulbs that will fill your garden with glorious color. All bulbs are guaranteed to arrive in good condition.

Day of Insects -- March 6, 2010

Reiman Gardens will host the second annual Day of Insects. The day will be filled with presentations from professionals, academics, advocates, and enthusiasts. Emphasis will primarily be on different ways of studying, learning about, and discovering insects. There will be a variety of topics including Citizen Science opportunities, Iowa insects, specific taxa, interactions between insects and their host plants, as well as land snails. There will be many opportunities to share knowledge.

Registration Deadline: March 1, 2010 (If you're interested, call to see if they still have room!)

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD A REGISTRATION FORM
OR CALL REIMAN GARDENS AT 515-294-2710.**

8:00 to 9:00 a.m. – Registration

9:00 to 9:20 a.m. – “BugGuide.net: Collaborative Entomology” presented by John VanDyk, Department of Entomology at Iowa State University

9:20 to 9:40 a.m. – “Citizen Science for Invertebrate Enthusiasts” presented by Nathan Brockman, Butterfly Wing Curator at Reiman Gardens

9:40 to 10:00 a.m. – “How Can Citizen Scientists Help Solve an Entomological Problem?” presented by Matt O'Neal, Department of Entomology at Iowa State University

10:00 to 10:20 a.m. – “Bumbling Bee Around” presented by Steve Hanlin, Entomologist, Controlled Pollination for the Agricultural Research Services (ARS); USDA

10:20 to 10:40 a.m. – Break

10:40 to 11:00 a.m. – “How Longhorned Beetles Share Dogwood Flowers: A Niche-Overlap Study” presented by Royce Bitzer, Research Associate, Department of Entomology at Iowa State University

11:00 to 11:20 a.m. – “Where the Wild Things Are: In Pursuit of Rare Beetles in Iowa's Relict Conifer Forests” presented by Marlin E. Rice and Doug Veal, Rice: Senior Research Scientist, Pioneer Hi-Bred International & Collaborator, Iowa State University and Veal: Coleopterist.

11:20 to 11:55 a.m. – “Exciting Undergraduates about Entomology: Bugology at Luther College” presented by Kirk Larsen & Reese Worthington, Larsen: Professor of Biology at Luther College in the Department of Biology and Worthington: current student at Luther College in the Department of Biology

12:00 to 1:00 p.m. – Lunch

1:00 to 1:20 p.m. – “Discovering Iowa's Aquatic Insects - Filling in the Gaps” presented by Dennis Heimdal, Environmental Lab Scientist at the University of Iowa Hygienic Lab

1:20 to 1:40 p.m. – “Getting Started and After You Realize You Are in the Swamp, Continuing ...” presented by Jim Durbin, Citizen Moth Documenter

1:40 to 2:00 p.m. – “Biodiversity in a Nutshell: its Salvation, and Yours” presented by Andrew Williams, naturalist studying insects, plants and relationships between species

2:00 to 2:20 p.m. – “Crossing the Intersection of Botany and Entomology: A Crash Course in Galls, Mines, and Phyto-specific Insects” presented by John Pearson, Botanist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

2:20 to 2:40 p.m. – Break

2:40 to 3:00 p.m. – “How to Get Started with Iowa's Terrestrial Snails” presented by Harlan Ratcliff, naturalist; especially enchanted by the small stuff

3:00 to 3:20 p.m. – “Prairies and Insects on an Old Farm” presented by Marcie O'Connor, Landowner: Ecological Restoration

3:20 to 3:40 p.m. – “Who Says You Can't be a Generalist?” presented by MJ Hatfield, Insect Enthusiast and Iowa Insects Mailing List, Manager

3:40 to 4:00 p.m. – Discussion and Evaluation

Sit and Relax

Conservatory (January – March)

Garden ornament is not only embellishment, but serves a functional purpose too. A collection of whimsical, traditional and colorful seating arrangements throughout the Conservatory will provide ideas for your outdoor space this year. Just sit, relax and enjoy.

POLK COUNTY MG 2010 BUS TRIP TO WATERLOO AND AMES
Saturday, June 5, 2010

Get on the bus at the Polk County Extension Office, 1625 Adventureland Drive, Altoona at 6:00 A.M. We've got a busy day planned, so we need to be on the road to Waterloo shortly after 6:00!

Waterloo Visit: The **UNI Biology Botanical Center** has been a part of the central campus for 70 years. This extensive and well displayed Teaching Collection contains a diversity of plant species from around the world. The Botanical Center will be opening on Saturday to give our group a special tour. Visit their website at <http://www.biology.uni.edu/botanicalcenter>.

We will also be stopping (and shopping) at **Meyers Nursery** in Waterloo. This family owned business has been around since 1932. Visit their website for a long list of all of the products they offer at: <http://meyersnursery.com/>.

One of the highlights of our trip will be a visit to the **Cedar Valley Arboretum and Botanical Gardens** at Hawkeye Community College (<http://cedarvalleyarboretum.org/>) This relatively young garden was started in 1995 through the efforts of volunteers who wanted build a beautiful space in the Cedar Valley area. Today, visitors can "relax in the shade of the hosta garden, wander through the rose garden, reflect in the labyrinth, or laugh with children playing in a garden all their own". We will enjoy lunch at the arboretum (included in the cost of the trip).

Ames Visit: Our next stop will be **Reiman Gardens** in Ames. Members of the staff will be giving us a "behind the scenes" tour of their fabulous gardens. Visit their website at: <http://www.reimangardens.iastate.edu/>

After we leave Reiman Gardens, we will shop at one of the local nurseries, grab supper (on your own), and then visit a private garden in the Ames area. The **private garden has a large water feature**, lots of plants to see and some to purchase (mostly hostas).

We plan to have you back at the Polk County Extension Office by 9:00 or 9:30.

MASTER GARDENER JUNE 2010 BUS TOUR REGISTRATION – COST IS \$ 50

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail this registration form with \$50 check made out to Polk Co. Master Gardeners to:

Jeri McGinnis
3121 45th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Questions? Call Jeri McGinnis at 515-276-2598 (home) or 515-314-1326 (cell) or e-mail her at: jsmcginnis@netins.net.

Bus (tour) capacity is 47 people. Reservations will be taken in the order payment is received. No spots will be reserved without receipt of payment. * No refunds unless spot is filled from the waiting list.

***We must have your check to hold your spot on the bus, but the check will not be cashed until the Friday before our trip.**

Tour committee: Jeri McGinnis, Charlene Butz, Melissa Holst, and Neil & Laurie Barrick