

Master Gardener Update



Graduation & Potluck

Tuesday, November 13

Community Building

(Big Room—dress accordingly)

6:00 p.m., Social

6:30 p.m., Dining

7:15, Meeting, Graduation, and Election of Officers

Welcome our two new interns:

Jean Rhodes, Madrid

Gwen Schwestka, Boone

Message from the Chair:

Extreme frustration is what I just got through feeling. Linda had emailed me the newsletter, I had finished up my part and then POOF, it was gone. I saved it about 20 times and deleted the articles after each addition. However, it was saved in a temp folder and not in my newsletter folder. So at 11 p.m I started searching and then started over. This version is definitely missing information. A humbling experience!

Back to the business at hand. Holly's been busy getting ready for the potluck so I hope everyone plans to come on Tuesday. It's always great to see everyone. We're back in the big room so we shouldn't be crowded—but remember to dress a little warmer.

--Melanie Erickson

Bylaws Changes Proposed

A proposal was made to change the bylaws (attached). A summary of the proposed changes follows:

Delete Second Sentence, Article III, Item 2

Master Gardener Intern -- A Master Gardener Intern has completed training class, but has not yet completed the required 40 hours of volunteer service. ~~Effective in 1998, an intern is not eligible to vote or serve on the Steering Committee except as an ex officio member.~~

Delete Article V, 2b, 2c, 2d

2. Term
 - a. Terms shall begin in January.
 - ~~b. Terms of office shall be one year in length with a second term possible if desired by the previous office holder.~~
 - ~~c. Each officer may serve only two consecutive terms.~~
 - ~~d. An officer who has served two consecutive terms will be eligible for re-election after a one year absence in an elected office.~~

2008 BCMG Nomination Slate

If the bylaws proposal is approved, the nomination slate for 2008 is as follows. We can accept other nominations from the floor. If the proposal is not accepted, then volunteers will need to step forward for President and Secretary.

If anyone likes scrapbooking, Deanna could use some relief. She's been keeping the archives for quite a few years. Linda would also like to step down as newsletter editor but is willing to continue. If anyone wants to take these jobs over anytime during the year, let us know.

Position	Nominee
To Be Elected	
President	Melanie Erickson
Vice President	Holly Cleppe
Secretary	Cindy Bugar
Volunteer Coordinator	Gina Christians
To Be Appointed	
Newsletter Editors	Linda Cox & Melanie Erickson
Historian	Deanna Garwood
Steering Committee Intern	2006 Class Volunteer – To be decided

Volunteers Needed for Tree Decorating and Making Ornaments

The Arboretum's holiday tree decorating theme this year is "Homegrown Holidays" and Connie Colle is the chair of the committee. Unless someone has a better idea, we'll make nosegays with dried flowers, ribbons, etc., and then have balls covered in garden seeds. If you have any seed packets, old bulk seed, or seeds from your gardens, please bring them to the potluck or to the EO.

If you can help make ornaments or decorate the tree on the 30th, contact Connie Colle at cscolle@iastate.edu or phone 432-8079.

Time spent on this project counts towards volunteer service hours.

MG Tote Bags for Sale

There are only 2 MG tote bags for sale for \$10.50 each. They are natural color with red handles and a colorful MG logo on one size. Let Melanie know if you want to purchase anything we have on hand and we can figure out how to get the item to you.

2008 Garden Calendar Celebrates Sesquicentennial

In honor of ISU's Sesquicentennial celebration -- and to mark 30 years of garden calendars -- the 2008 Extension Garden Calendar focuses on horticulture history at ISU. Each month features a short bio of an Iowan who helped shape and promote horticulture.

Calendar of Activities

November

13—Graduation/Potluck See flyer enclosed.

30—Tree Decorating, Arboretum

December

??--Steering Committee Meeting

Iowa Arboretum, www.iowaarboretum.org

Programs count towards continuing education

Volunteer Soup Supper and Tree Decorating November 30, 6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of fun at the Volunteer Soup Supper. Bring a salad or dessert to share; we'll provide the hot soup, crackers, and beverages. Special recognitions will be given to our volunteers for the many hours of work they have contributed over the past year. After the supper and program, we will decorate Christmas trees for the Home Grown Holidays display.

Home Grown Holidays December 1–16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Our Home Grown Holidays display of Iowa-grown and beautifully decorated Christmas trees will start December 1 and run thru December 16. While you're here, stop in The Potting Shed gift shop for great holiday gift ideas.

Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast Saturday, December 1, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Dad's Belgian Waffles are sure to please! Join us for plates of fluffy waffles made from scratch and served hot off the griddle with your choice of delicious toppings. Sausage, orange juice, and coffee will be served. We will also have Santa here to take all holiday requests! Fee: \$6.00 per person, children 5 & under are free.

Soup Nights, 4 to 7 p.m.

Soup Night is ringing in another year! On the last Friday of January, February, and March we will be serving hot soup, dessert, and beverages.

Fee: \$5.00 per person

Reiman Gardens

Programs count towards continuing education

Reiman's Gift to Keep Butterfly Wing Open

A gift from Roy and Bobbi Reiman will keep the Reiman Gardens' Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing open until Dec. 31. Earlier, the Gardens had announced the butterfly wing would be closed Nov. 1 to April 1, 2008 to help balance the operating budget. More: <http://www.iastate.edu/~nscentral/news/2007/oct/reiman.shtml>

Arrangement of the Month

December 13, 2007
Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. - Hughes Auditorium
Engineered for the Holidays by Dan Brabec, speaker
\$25 for members/\$30 for non-members

Blossoms of Light

Friday, November 30th 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Begin your holiday celebration at Reiman Gardens' annual Blossoms of Light Festival. The Gardens will be lit with thousands of twinkling lights perfect for a winter walk while holiday tunes chime on the Gardens' campanile. The outdoor Garden Railroad Display will feature a musical Christmas engine. Indoor activities will include live musical performances, a visit with Santa, and family activities.

In addition, the Conservatory display will feature burgundy poinsettias as we conclude our 2007 Excellence in Bloom: Celebrating 150 Years at Iowa State University theme year. This display also will feature many new tropical plants expanding the Conservatory's permanent plant collection.

Musical Performance Schedule:

5-6 p.m. Central Iowa Brass Quintet
6-7 p.m. Jive for Five
7-8 p.m. Ames Children's Choir

Free for Reiman Gardens' members and ISU students (with student ID)
Guests: \$3 for adults; \$1 for children under 17.

Botany Lunch

December 6, 2007 – 12 p.m., Bells of Iowa State
Enjoy a holiday inspired menu while celebrating the Campanile and the Edgar W. & Margaret MacDonald Stanton Memorial Carillon. Along with lunch, learn about the fascinating history of this iconic Iowa State landmark. Menu to come.

Attend a Botany lunch each month to enjoy a one-of-a-kind menu in a beautiful garden setting. Lunch is served at Noon in Reiman Gardens' Hazel's Kitchen. Cost is \$22 for CoHort members and \$25 for general public and includes Gardens' admission. Register early to reserve your seat!

Other MG Groups

Polk County

Polk County MG winter programs are a great way to earn your annual education credits. All programs are held at the ISU Extension Office, 5201 NE 14th Street, Des Moines.
TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
You will receive two hours of education credit (CEUs) for each class you attend.
All programs are free of charge for Polk County Master Gardeners, Master Gardener interns, and any Master Gardener seeking to recertify.

Thursday, January 17, 2008

Iowa's Butterfly Survey Network

Speaker: Nathan Brockman, *curator, Christina Reiman Butterfly Wing*

In his role as curator for Reiman Garden's butterfly wing, Nathan is a recognized authority on these beautiful creatures. He will join our group to share information about an interesting project: The Butterfly Survey Network. Through this work, our state's butterflies are being identified and recorded.



We'll also get useful information on attracting butterflies to our gardens and ways we can support them.

Thursday, February 21, 2008

How to Build a Dream Garden

Speaker: *Susan Appleget Hurst, MG*

Sr. Assoc. Editor, Garden, BH&G

How do garden magazine editors find the great gardens they show in their pages? What does it take to create a 'star' garden? Susan sees hundreds of such standouts every year in her work as a garden editor. She will offer her best garden design pointers to help us learn to create our own dream gardens.

Story County

The Story County MGs are getting a new website.

Check it out at

http://home.mchsi.com/~madeleine70232/scmg/scmg_homepage.html

Gardening Tips and Ideas

This was taken from the Home and Garden Television Website

Designing with Bulbs

[Seasoned Gardener : Episode SGN-306](#) -- [More Projects »](#)

For those who love spring-flowering bulbs, fall is one of the most anticipated times of the year. It's time to plant, and the onset of cold weather invites the new roots to begin developing. Before you begin planting, however, start with the basics: where are you going to plant your bulbs and what sort of design will you use?

Here are some options:

Planting in and around established beds and hedges:

- Bulbs can complement these areas by adding spring color.
- Pay attention to existing plant heights. Choose tall bulbs like allium to stand in with lilies, and smaller bulbs like crocus and snowdrops to plant at the front of a garden or hedge.
- Create borders with tulips and daffodils--their height and vibrant color create a natural edge.
- Intermix bulbs that bloom in spring with perennials that bloom in summer to create a camouflage for the dying foliage of spring blooms.
- Avoid planting too many different colors together--it can end up looking messy.

Naturalizing areas of the yard and around trees:

- Naturalizing is a method of planting bulbs so that they appear natural and unplanned in the landscape. Imagine walking in the wild and coming across a blanket of daffodils under large trees or on rolling hills--that's the look achieved by naturalizing.
- Most bulbs require sun, so when planting under trees, use grape hyacinth or scilla that will tolerate shady conditions. They grow to look like a carpet spread out under the tree.
- Crocuses of all kinds and snow drops are great planted in grass lawns. They are low-growing and give that flower-carpet effect that people love. Choose an area that you won't have to mow in the spring.

Garden beds devoted entirely to spring-flowering bulbs:

- Experiment with different shapes and colors. Be mindful of not planting in straight rows: vary the placement and create drifts of colors.
- When thinking about color schemes, let your personal preferences guide you. Some gardeners prefer the light and airy effect of pastel blooms, while others lean towards classic spring combinations like white and red.
- If you need a little help, try using a color wheel--many landscape designers use one to determine which colors work well together.
- When laying out the design for the bed, create a sketch using colored pencils to get a better idea of the color scheme.
- Choose bulbs with different blooming times to create a blooming sequence.
- Remember, more bulbs look better--you don't want the bed to look sparse.

Shopping for and storing bulbs

When you're shopping for bulbs at your local garden center or nursery, pick out the healthiest ones and handle them with care. Even though they are dormant, they are alive and affected by their environment. A healthy bulb should be firm to the touch, plump and full-shaped. It should have no soft spots, bruising or evidence of rot or mold.

If the papery outer layer is peeled away, don't worry--it won't hurt the growth of the bulb. The size of the bulb does matter, though. Generally the bigger the bulb, the bigger the bloom. Perfectly healthy bulbs will begin to sprout before planted and produce new shoots once planted.

Place a tag with a picture of the flower with the bulbs, or mark the individual bags so you will remember what types you purchased when you get home. If you can't plant your bulbs right away, don't let them get wet or they will rot. Also don't let them get too hot or they can dry out and die. The best place to store them is in the refrigerator in a paper bag. Bulbs will suffocate in a plastic bag.



Allium giganteum are tall, striking flowers that are a good companion to taller perennials such as lilies.



Grape hyacinth, or blue muscari, tolerates partly shady



Create a contrast with high-impact color combinations--here, yellow and purple tulips.

Master Gardeners, Come One, Come All!

Join us for the

11th Annual Boone County Master Gardener Potluck & Awards Ceremony



**Tuesday, November 13, 2007
Community Building, Fairgrounds**

6:00 p.m., Arrive and Get Acquainted

6:30 p.m., Potluck Supper

7:15 p.m., Election of 2008 Officers

Presentation of Awards

Recognition of New Class and Interns

Photos

Bring:

Main Dish to Share + Salad or Dessert
Table Service (plate, silverware, glasses)
You and your family or special friend

We'll supply:

Beverages
Napkins

Boone County MG Meeting Minutes

Extension Office

October 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Melanie Erickson at 7:20pm

Roll Call: Leone Junck, Karen Dannen, Holly Cleppe, Jim Jordan, Greg Anderson, Melanie Erickson and Cindy Bugar.

Old Business:

Farmer's Market-Octoberfest, 10/11/07 3-6 pm – Melanie and Cindy will have a sample bird feeder of a bagel dipped in peanut butter and rolled in bird seed tied with string. instructions to take.

Graduation & Potluck Committee – Holly Cleppe - chair, Karen, Dannen, Leone Junck, Teresa Davenport, Greg Anderson and Melanie will provide set up & cleanup. Melanie will provide tablecloths, Holly – napkins, Karen & Leone – beverages & coffee; & Rich - coffeepot. Set up will be 5:30 pm. Rich will be asked about some calendars and Melanie will provide a tote or two for door prizes.

Nominating Committee – Holly Cleppe, Melanie Erickson and Jim Jordan, results: Pending changing of Bylaws

President – Melanie Erickson

VP – Holly Cleppe

Secretary – Cindy Bugar

Newsletter – Melanie and Linda Cox

Volunteer Coordinator – Gina Christianson

Historian – Deanna Garwood.

Arboretum Tree – Connie Colle, chair

New Business:

Bylaws Changes – Motion by Holly Cleppe, seconded by Jim Jordan proposing bylaws changes to remove Article III, 2 – MG Intern last sentence and to remove Article V, 2 – c and d. It will be the first order of business at the November meeting.

Speaker List for Story County MG's: Who is willing to be on list? Suggestions follow:

Lynnette Carpenter

Holly Cleppe – Costa Rica Tour, Mulch

Connie Colle – Landscape Design

Gary Craven – Water Gardening

Melanie Erickson – Accessible Gardening

Mike Kurtz

Other:

- Yearly Hours (CS & VS) due November 1st to EO or bcmg50036@gmail.com
- It was moved by Jim Jordan and seconded by Leone Junck that we don't renew the club's Arboretum Membership dues as most MG's are already members.

Announcements:

- Landscape Design Course at the Arboretum is October 25th & 26th. It is well worth the price of \$25 + textbook.
- Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13th 6pm, Graduation and Potluck, Boone County Community Building, Fairgrounds.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 followed by a presentation on Mulch by Holly Cleppe. Holly had some good visual aids of various types of mulch including grass clippings, straw, cypress and cedar mulch, wood chips and various types of rock/gravel. She provided cookies that had several ingredients that make good mulch in different forms, ie: cocoa bean shells, oat hay, peanut shells and sugar cane. The presentation was very informative and enjoyed by all.