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# Boone County ISU Extension Master Gardener Update

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## *Upcoming Programs/Meeting:*

*June 28 - BCMG Tour (see right), 9 a.m., Boone Park & Ride*

*July 9 -6:30 p.m., Tour & Meeting  
Lynnette Carpenter's Gardens  
11321 233<sup>rd</sup> Street, Boone (aka  
Moingona)*

*Directions: Take New Hwy 30 West across  
the river, take the first road south and go to  
the top of the hill. Turn back east at the  
Moingona sign (Moingona Road). Go down into  
Moingona and turn north (left) on 233<sup>rd</sup> Road.*

## Message from the Chair:

Hi Everyone. We've got some good things planned for the next few weeks. Be sure to volunteer to help at fair—sign up sheet attached.

The Family Resource Center courtyard looks great. We still need a few more bushes (spirea and burning bushes) and perennials planted on the south and west but it's looking great. Thanks for everyone who helped. We had a quick meeting there last week and it was a very pleasant place to sit and relax.

Gwen Schwestka, MG intern, is working on new plantings by the entrance to United Schools. She is looking for donations (plant or monetary) and help to finish this project. Check out the article later in this newsletter. Contact her if you have items or dollars.

Deanna Garwood has put together a great tour on Saturday, June 28. We already have about 15 committed to coming and hope for some more. We'll meet at the Boone Park & Ride and carpool around. Be sure to donate some gas money to your driver. It will be a long day.

*--Melanie Erickson*

**BCMG Garden Tour**  
**Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m.**  
**Meet at Boone Park & Ride**  
**(Story & Hwy 30)**

### Stop 1:

Pantheon Gardens  
19477 T Avenue, Dallas Center

### Stop 2 (Lunch):

The Radish  
721 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Grimes

### Stop 3:

Flying Frog Farms  
5148 155<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Indianola  
<http://www.flyingfrogfarms.com/>

### Stop 4 (Bonus):

The Garden Barn  
11879 Hwy G-24, Indianola  
[www.thegardenbarn.com](http://www.thegardenbarn.com)

Invite your friends or family and have your own carload! Deanna has packets for those of you who signed up. If you are planning to go, contact her at 515-275-4804 or [teddeannagarwood@yahoo.com](mailto:teddeannagarwood@yahoo.com).

## Arboretum Butterfly Garden Needs TLC

Teresa Davenport is trying to organize some MG's to work on the Arboretum Butterfly Garden. If she hasn't already contacted you and you're interested in helping, contact her ASAP. Home phone 432-0050 or email [tdavenport@galynx.com](mailto:tdavenport@galynx.com).

## Plan Your 2008 Fair Entries

Check out the new web page for the Boone County Fair. Start thinking about what entries you might bring and how you can start shaping and conditioning them for fair.

## Calendar of Activities

### June

28—BCMG Garden Tour

### July

9--Tour of Lynnette Carpenter's Gardens & MG Meeting, 6:30 p.m.,

11-12—MG Summer Session, ISU Campus

16-21—Boone County Fair

<http://www.boonecountyfairia.com/>

16—4-H Judging Day, Comm. Bldg.

18—Extravaganza, 9:30-11:30, Comm. Bldg.

18—Garden Challenge Judging, 6 p.m., Comm. Bldg.

19—Open Class Hort Show, All Day

22—Madrid Garden Club Meeting, Melanie Erickson, BCMG Speaker, 7 p.m., Madrid Home, Madrid

### August

7-17—Iowa State Fair

19—Brushy Creek Tour and MG Meeting.

26-28—Farm Progress Show, Boone

Cool Website for Local Produce

<http://www.localharvest.org/>

## 4-H Extravaganza Needs Volunteers

The MG's will again have an interactive booth at the 4-H Extravaganza on Friday morning, July 18 from 9:30-11. Karen Dannen is on charge this year. Please let Karen know if you would like to help with the preparation or if you would like to help that morning. If you have any great ideas, email them to her at [hdannen@netins.net](mailto:hdannen@netins.net) or phone her at 275-2990.

## Open Class Fair Book

July 19-20, 2008

<http://www.boonecountyfairia.com/openclass.htm/08OpenClassBook.pdf>

## United is Updating the Landscape – Donations Needed

Gwen Schwestka, MG intern, is working with United Community Schools (<http://www.united.k12.ia.us/>) to update their landscaping. They plan to naturalize the grounds, prune trees, redesign and mulch entrance areas. If you have time to help or plants to donate, please contact Gwen at [gwenms@msn.com](mailto:gwenms@msn.com). She also needs help tilling and cutting down some trees with a chainsaw . .

The plants they plan to use are listed below. If you have any of these plants to donate, let her know.

- **Shade garden plants:** Any kinds of Hostas, Red or White Astilbe, Coral Bell (Heuchera-Silver Scrolls), ground cover: Ajuuga-'chocolate chip', Phlox in blue or lavender, and white. Columbine flowers in the blue and purples
  - **Perennial flowers:** Sedum, Yarrow (yellow, red or white), Verbena, Russian Sage, Lavender, Salvia, Peony in white or blush/pink.
  - **Lilly:** Bulbs or plants: Yellow Stella or Dark Red Asiatic Lily
  - **Iris:** Blue, Purple, Yellow, White
  - **Grasses:** Perennial grasses for zone 4
  - **Native Iowa prairie:** Black-eyed Susan, Blazing Star, Milkweed, Common Evening Primrose, False Indigo, Great Blue Lobelia, Heath Aster, New England Aster, Pale Purple Coneflower, Prairie Coreopsis, Prairie Phlox, Purple Coneflower, Goldenrod, Spiderwort, Rue
  - **Shrubs:** Forsythia, lilac, hydrangea, pussy willow, red twig and yellow twig dogwood
- Trees: **Flowering Crab, Redbud, Magnolia.**

## ISU Extension in Iowa Gardening

The June/Summer issue of Iowa Gardening includes several references to ISU, including an advertisement for 3 popular publications plus these feature articles:

- \* Polk County Master Gardeners' work on the Discovery Garden on the Iowa State Fair grounds
- \* Sioux City Master Gardener Patty Glisar's garden
- \* Polk County Master Gardeners' work on the Enabling Garden in Altoona's Prairie Heritage Trail Park
- \* Tips for creating edible landscapes, with quotes from Eldon Everhart

## Boone has MG Training in the Fall

Be sure to start recruiting potential MG's for the fall training which starts in September. Send their name, address, and email to Rich at the EO. We'll also have a sign-up sheet at fair.

## DISCOVER GARDENING AT THE DISCOVERY GARDEN

Part of a free educational series sponsored by Iowa State University Extension Master Gardeners. Classes held at 7 p.m. at the south entrance of the Agriculture Building. Bring a lawn chair! For more information, contact the ISU Polk County Extension Office, 515-261-4200.

**Tuesday, June 24**  
"Watering Techniques" by Tom Nelson, Rain King

**Tuesday, July 8**  
"All About Roses" by Shelley Lande, ISU Polk County Master Gardener

**Tuesday, July 22**  
"Ways With Tomatoes" by Bill and Judy Goshom, ISU Polk County Master Gardeners

**Tuesday, September 9**  
"Best Plants for Shade" by Mel and Carol Visser, ISU Polk County Master Gardeners

## Iowa Arboretum

<http://iowaarboretum.org/> or email [info@iowaarboretum.org](mailto:info@iowaarboretum.org), 515-795-3216

Programs count towards continuing education

**Saturday, July 12, 7 p.m.**  
**Prairie Hike, 7 p.m.**

Join the hike through the Arboretum's 4-plus acres of reconstructed prairie. We'll see plants like rattlesnake master, mountain mint, Indian grass, and many, many others. You will not want to leave your camera at home as the prairie should be in full bloom! We will talk about plant identifications, prairie management, and landscaping with native plants. So bring your boots and your bug spray and meet at the Hughes Education Center at 7 p.m. Must preregister by phoning 515-795-3216. Accredited for Master Gardener hours. Fee: Adults \$5.00, Children 12 and under free.

**Friday, July 25, 9 a.m.**  
**Volunteer Workday**

We have a big day coming up on Saturday and could use some help. Join us in preparing for the Daylily and Tent Sales. We will provide refreshments for the morning break. Bring a sack lunch if you can stay into the afternoon. Accredited for Master Gardener hours.

**Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m.**  
**Daylily Sale and Tent Sale**

Free and Open to Public. Don't miss this chance to purchase from a fantastic selection of daylily cultivars, offering a wide range of color, bloom size, and scape height. While you're here be sure to check out the bargains at the tent sale in the pavilion – prices are so low here, you are sure to find something you can't do without!

**Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m., Hughes Education Center**  
**Hybridizing Daylilies**

Join Nan Ripley of Walkabout Gardens and learn from the best! Nan, a well-known and respected hybridizer, introduced her first daylily, 'Nan's First Blush', in 2004. She then introduced 'Don Lovell' in 2005 and 'Scarlet Pimpernel' in 2006. Accredited for Master Gardener hours.

**Note: Nan will hold her annual daylily sale on July 11-12 or 18-19. Email will be sent when she announces it. If you don't have email but would like to know when it is, let Melanie know.**

**August 7-17**

**Volunteers needed for the Iowa Arboretum Booth at the Iowa State Fair**

We can use all the help we can get! We will have four-hour shifts with a variety of jobs available. Admission to the fair is covered by Iowa Arboretum. Call 515-795-3216 to sign up!

**Thursday, September 4, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Herb Wreath Workshop**

Join Heather Bass, Arboretum Horticulturist, and make a beautiful herb wreath to adorn your door, wall, patio, or deck. Wreath forms and plant materials will be furnished by the Arboretum. Bring pruners or sturdy scissors and gloves. Must preregister by phoning 515-795-3216. Fee: \$18.00 for members, \$20.00 for non-members.

## Other Happenings

### Hamilton County Miniature Flower Show

ISU Extension of Hamilton County, along with Mid-Iowa Master Gardeners; Town and Country Garden Club, and Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club are joint sponsors of a miniature flower show. Entitled "The Tales of Peter Rabbit & His Friends," this show will feature cut specimen exhibits of dwarf or miniature plants and flowers. Miniature and small floral design classes, special exhibits, and youth exhibits are included. The show is free and the general public may view the show from 1-4 PM. Entries may be placed Friday 5:30-7 PM, or on Saturday 8-10:30 AM at Hamilton Co. ISU Extension Office, 311 Bank Street, in Webster City.

For further information, contact Yvonne Nilles, Extension Horticulturist at the Hamilton County ISU Extension Office, 515-832-9597 or by email [ynilles@iastate.edu](mailto:ynilles@iastate.edu)

### 2008 Reiman Gardens' Photo Contest, July 1—July 31

Do you enjoy taking photographs? Then enter the 6th annual Reiman Gardens' Photo Contest. Submissions will be accepted July 1, 2008—July 31, 2008, and all photographs must be taken at Reiman Gardens. This event is sponsored by Reiman Gardens' CoHorts.

Visit [www.reimangardens.com](http://www.reimangardens.com) for an application and contest rules or phone 515/294-2710. Good luck!

### Brown Bag Lecture July 10

July 10, 2008 at 12:00 p.m., Reiman Gardens  
Bring your lunch to the Gardens and enjoy an education program, *Stormwater Gardens: Water Conservation & Creek Protection* presented by Mimi Wagner, ISU Landscape Architecture Dept.

Free for members; price of admission for general public. Call 515/294-2710 for more information or visit [www.reimangardens.com](http://www.reimangardens.com).

### Master Gardener Summer Session Still Taking Registrations

On July 11 and 12 the first Master Gardener Summer Session will be held on the ISU campus. There is still time to register at

<http://mastergardener.hort.iastate.edu/index.html>

More information can be found at

<http://www.mastergardener.iastate.edu/info/mgsummersession08.pdf>.

### Reiman Garden Art Fair July 13

Go to Reiman Gardens on Sunday, July 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and experience how artists draw inspiration from the landscape, gardening, flowers and butterflies to create prints, paintings, jewelry, sculpture, pottery, photography and more. With over 40 exhibitors, this one-day art fair is becoming well-known as a top summer event. All items available for purchase within a beautiful garden setting.

Admission to the Garden Art Fair is FREE! Call 515-294-2710 for more information.

### Taste of the Heritage Gardens

Johnson County MGs are hosting their 13th annual Taste of the Heritage Gardens at Plum Grove State Historical site. Soups, vegetable dishes, salads, breads, desserts, beverages based on heritage garden produce and 1850 recipes will be served. Entertainment, door prizes and guided tours of the gardens and 1840 home of Iowa's first territorial governor Robert Lucas round out the festivities. Wednesday, July 16 5:30-7 PM Carroll Street off Kirkwood Avenue in Iowa City.

Cost: \$5 for adults. Get further information from Betty Kelly. [blk106@earthlink.net](mailto:blk106@earthlink.net).

### Water Monitoring Workshop

Friday Evening, July 18th and Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> the Brenton Arboretum is hosting an IOWATER level one water-monitoring workshop. Registrations are being accepted now. For more information and a registration form, visit the [lowater website](http://lowaterwebsite.com), <http://www.iowater.net/Workshops/Level1Workshops.htm>. Please contact the Arboretum for information and pre-registration; Kay Meyer, Director of Education and Outreach, **The Brenton Arboretum**, (515) 992-4211; [kay@thebrentonarboretum.org](mailto:kay@thebrentonarboretum.org)