To keep the members of the Greene County Master Gardener Club updated on events and meetings we are emailing a newsletter each month. If someone is not on the email list please inform them to send it to loisrae@netins.net, or email their mailing address.

We will NOT be sending postcards. This is your notice of the meetings

**2015 Greene County Master Gardener Club Schedule**

MG Meetings second Thursday of the month @ 7pm.
Club Dues $10/year.

January 8th Club Meeting: Tom Heater, Vice Chairman Greene County Extension Council: Extension Office Landscaping
February 12th Community meeting: Jean Walker: Fairy Gardens workshop
March 12th Annual Community speaker Nicole Jonas of Red Granite Farm
April 23 Sandy Quam: Floriculture Open Class County Fair exhibiting
May 14th no club meeting
May 15th MG Club Plant Sale Setup 4-7 pm
May 16th MG Club Plant Sale 9:30-11:00 am
May 16th 11:30-12:30pm Plant Extension beds
June 6th Bus tour: Joan & Renee Newton bus tour
July - no meeting
August no club meeting
September 10th Club Meeting: Dave presents “Tour My Hostas”
October 8th Club Meeting: visit John 15 Vineyards
November 12th Club Meeting: Potluck & Speaker
April Meeting Information

April 9th Club Meeting: Postponed to Thursday April 23

Sandy Quam: Floriculture Open Class County Fair exhibiting
Greene County Fair July 7th—July 13
Sandy Quam is a Certified Floriculture Judge
Sandy gave us some really good hints for showing our plants/flowers
What to do you look for to have a winning fair entry

Look for the most perfect specimen that you have
Learn how to prepare your plants for display
They need to be clean, most specimens need their leafs,
be in the appropriate sized container
What are the many divisions that you can enter

Need to get a Fair book for the class listings, there will be an explanation of
each class and what is expected
available at the Extension office and some of the banks
This is fun and easy to do

And the bonus
The Greene county fair gives money with the ribbons.

One of the few ways to pay for our beautiful gardens

Lois,
Spread the word I have some Popcorn Plants coming soon.

Thanks,
Jean Walker

These plants smell like popcorn, a rounded fernlike leaf that folds up at night, can grow to 5ft tall shorter in shade
May 15th MG Club Plant Sale Setup 4-7pm
Some heavy work this evening so husbands and children are welcome

May 16th MG Club Plant Sale 9:30-11am
Wear your green shirts, & name tags, people like to ask questions

May 16th 11:30-12:30pm Plant Extension beds
Time to be prepared for the plant sale
This sale is important, due to the weather the last 2 years our sales have been down, and so is our account balance.

We really need to have a good assortment of flowers, so please try to find something you can bring,
or help a friend thin out some flowers.

Be sure to mark the plant
Name, shade or sun, wet or dry soil, when and how long it blooms, a picture of the bloom, how tall it gets, how fast does it spread.
Tape this to the pot, and we do have sticks for the price.

Did not hear about any demonstrations so they were not advertised, if you want to do one it would be a nice bonus for our customers.

Plan a demonstration some suggestions
How to plant a pot—what plants work best —color scheme—etc.
Make an unusual home make garden item that they can buy or make themselves

Lets Make this the Best Plant Sale Ever
MG Bus Trip Tentative Itinerary
Saturday, June 6, 2015

7:00 AM Load bus
7:30 AM Depart ISU Extension Office

9:00 AM—11:00 AM Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

The Arboretum occupies six acres of land in the southeast portion of Agnes Patterson Memorial Park along 3000 North 4th Avenue East. Over 185 individual trees of 150 species cover the grounds. The park is filled with demonstration beds including three annual beds, a mixed perennial bed, an ornamental grass bed, a rose bed, two woody shrub beds, a shade garden, a tulip bed, a hybrid rose bed, a butterfly garden, a water garden, and a native prairie. The park also has a large pond and over 3,000 feet of hard surface trails. Other focal points include the Betty Allen Gazebo, the Smith Garden Arbor, the Swanger Bow Bridge, and numerous sculptures.

The Arboretum was developed and is managed by Project AWAKE. Project AWAKE is a 501-(c)(3) public charity, no tax dollars have been used in the development and maintaining of the Arboretum. The Arboretum is maintained by a volunteer Board of Directors and the "Friends" of Project AWAKE.

11:00 AM—12:45 PM
Lunch
"The Monarch" in Pella
Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1990 with ambitious goals and a multifaceted mission. The mission of the Refuge is to actively protect, restore, reconstruct and manage the diverse native ecosystems of tallgrass prairie, oak savanna, and sedge meadow. These were the native habitats existing on the Refuge’s 5600 acres prior to Euro-American settlement.

The Refuge serves as a major environmental education, volunteer and outdoor recreation hub for people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy. The Refuge also strives to provide assistance to local landowners as they improve their lands for wildlife habitat. Lastly, the Refuge tries to increase scientific knowledge and understanding of the prairie and savanna through ongoing, targeted and innovative research. The Refuge achieves all of these goals through community involvement and by working and partnering with others.

We are an independent nursery specializing in unusual and collector perennials, hostas, trees, shrubs and conifers.
Call for Artists for 2015 All-Iowa Master Gardener's Art Show

Be part of the fourth annual Master Gardener's Art Show. New this year, entering the show is open to all Iowa Master Gardeners. The exhibition will be held at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, beginning with a reception on Monday, August 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Applications are being accepted now through August 1, 2015. Entries must have a horticultural, floriculture, or gardening theme and must have been completed within the last 3 years. In addition to Best of Category designation, selected art work will be exhibited at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden’s North Gallery from September 1 through November 16. Free standing art pieces may be entered in the Art Show, but it is not possible to display free standing objects in the North Gallery; these entries will be represented in a photo collage. Selections for art to be hung in the gallery will be based on Botanical Garden criteria for exhibits and selection will be part of the judging process.

POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, June 20, 2015 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. • rain or shine
Treat yourself to a day visiting seven gardens in western Ankeny and the Lower Beaver Neighborhood of Des Moines, Iowa at the 15th annual Polk County Master Gardeners’ Garden Tour.

PCMG tour.com Tickets $15 each Tickets available at the following locations beginning June 1:

• Earl May Garden Centers (all Polk County locations plus Waukee)
• Goode Greenhouses
• Herndon’s Des Moines Seed & Nursery
• The Woodsmith Store Garden Center

❖ Or visit PCMGtour.com

❖ To protect the gardens, no strollers will be allowed. Children old enough to walk require their own ticket.
International Master Gardener Conference.

September 22-25, 2015 Iowa and Nebraska will co-host the

Registration will include renowned keynote speakers, delicious cuisine, local tours, goody bags, and dynamic workshops.

Do you have a group that wants to come? Howard County in northern Iowa is organizing a bus trip for community members and Master Gardeners to attend the conference.

One of the tour options will include a stop at Mills County's award-winning Glenwood Giving Garden, pictured below.

Watch for updates on the conference website, & sign up to "like" the conference on Facebook.

UPCOMING EVENTS

What: Plant Sale When: May 16, 8:00AM-12:00PM Where: Cedar Rapids
What: Patio Vegetable Gardening When: May 21, 6:00PM-7:30PM Where: Des Moines Botanical Garden
What: Trough Gardening When: May 27, 6:00PM-8:00PM Where: Des Moines Botanical Garden
What: Webinar: Design from Yard to Trough When: June Where: Locations across Iowa
What: Spring Luncheon and Lecture When: June 3 Where: Des Moines Botanical Garden Price: $95
What: Hardscaping Around Your House When: June 13, 10:30AM-12:00PM Where: Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden Price: $15
What: Garden Tour When: June 20, 9:00AM-4:00PM Where: Ankeny Price: $95
Who: Gardeners of North Iowa & The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs
What: Webinar: Water in the Garden When: July Where: Locations across Iowa
What: Webinar: Pollinators & Growing Herbs When: August Where: Locations across Iowa
What: Summer Seed Saving School When: August 28-30 Where: Seed Savers Exchange, Decorah Price: $200
What: International Master Gardener Conference When: September 22-25 Where: Council Bluffs Price: $330 for full conference by April 30th; daily registration also available

Please consider printing the flyers on the next 2 pages and hanging them someplace public or handing them to friends

Thank you
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FOOD, FUN, FLOWERS & FELLOWSHIP….

COME JOIN US ON A BUS TRIP
SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015

Some of the attractions we have scheduled include:

NEWTON ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS
SPECIAL LUNCH IN PELLA
SUNNY SLOPE GREENHOUSE
NEAL SMITH WILDLIFE REFUGE
QUILTED GARDENS & NURSERY

COST FOR THE ALL DAY BUS TRIP, LUNCH, & ADMISSION TO ARBORETUM
Only $50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE

You will have several chances to buy unique perennials & other great stuff!

To Register Contact: Greene County Extension Office
515-386-2138

Or Contact Tour Organizers: Renee Carhill 515-386-4995
Joan Conroy 515-386-2530

*Casual dress advised….*Good walking shoes important…
.*Lots of room under the bus for purchases.

Your payment will secure your seat on the bus.
Greene County Master Gardeners
13th Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 16, 2015
Commercial Building Greene County Fairgrounds
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Quality Plants from our Gardens
Miscellaneous garden items

Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions

Proceeds from sale used to provide Gardening programs for Greene County
Greene County
Master Gardeners

SAVE the DATE

Master Gardener Bus Tour Coming June 6th!

Interested in flowers, food, and fun? Join Greene County Master Gardeners on June 6th for a bus tour of Central Iowa attractions. Scheduled stops include Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, Sunny Slope Greenhouse at Leighton, Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge near Prairie City, Quilted Gardens & Nursery in Des Moines, and a special lunch in Pella. There will be several opportunities to purchase unique perennials and other treasures.

Cost for the all-day bus trip, lunch, and admission to the Arboretum is $45 until May 10th. After May 10th, cost is $50. Your non-refundable payment secures your seat on the bus. To register or for more information contact the Greene County Extension Office at 515.386.2138 or tour organizers Renee Carhill at 515.386.4995 and Joan Conroy at 515.386.2530.