



Johnson County Master Gardener Thymes



October 2023

Project Coordinators

Click on a name to email the listed coordinator:

1876 Coralville Schoolhouse

Karen Martinek

Butterfly House at Fairgrounds

Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy

Demonstration Garden

Chris Sedrel, Laurie Roehl

Downtown City Gardens

Linda Schreiber

Ecumenical Towers

Michael Hesseltine, John Weeg

Fairgrounds Beautification

Chris Sedrel, Laurie Roehl

Firefighters' Memorial

Barb Schintler

Hortline

Mary Starry

Hospice Gardens

Melanie Haupt

Oaknoll Garden Project

Vicki Siefers, Deb Cassell

Plant Sale/Flea Market

Emil Rinderspacher

Plum Grove

Darlene Clausen, Lavon Yeggy, Carolyn Murphy

Rain Garden

Lavon Yeggy

Speakers Bureau

Megan Garrels

Thymes Newsletter

Melissa Serenda, Doug Geraets

Yard & Garden Info

Jackie Wellborn, Kay Mohling



Plum Grove Tomato Taste Returns

BY DARLENE CLAUSEN

The tomato tasting was held Thursday, Aug. 31, from 5:30 to 7 P.M., after a three-year pandemic pause. The weather was beautiful creating a magical feel for the event.

Event planning committee members were Darlene Clausen, Lavon Yeggy, Megan Garrels, and Melissa Close, with advisor Carolyn Murphy. Volunteers for the event included the planning committee and 20 MGs.

With a suggested donation of \$4 and 30 to 35 attendees, the event brought in \$128. Twenty-two recipe booklets from the Taste of the Heritage Garden at Plum Grove were sold for \$1 each.

MGs contributed 20 varieties of tomatoes with nine categories for comparisons including cherry tomatoes, paste tomatoes, and slicers with descriptions of the uses for each. Categories were further divided by color. An additional question asked voters to guess which tomatoes were hybrids.

Black Vermorel	2	Cherry Tomatoes	1. _____
Black Strawberry	3	Grow in a variety of small sizes and colors. These are generally dark colored.	2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. _____
Velvet Red	4	Cherry Tomatoes	4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. _____
Grandpa's Minnesota	5	Grow in a variety of small sizes and colors. These are red.	6. _____
Super sweet 100	6	Paste Tomatoes	7. _____ 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
San Marzano	7	Used for sauces. These two varieties are red.	9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10. _____
Speckled Roman	8	Slicer tomatoes	11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12. _____
Cherokee Chocolate	9	Grow in a variety of medium to large sizes and colors. These are dark colored.	13. _____
Cherokee Purple	10	Slicer tomatoes	14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15. _____
Jaune Flamme	11	Grow in a variety of medium to large sizes and colors. These are orange.	16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17. _____
Orange Woodie	12	Slicer tomatoes	18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yellow Brandywine	13	Grow in a variety of medium to large sizes and colors. These are pink.	20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 21. _____
German Pink	14	Slicer tomatoes	22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Red Brandywine	15	Grow in a variety of medium to large sizes and colors these are red.	Write the number(s)
Bella Rosa	16	Slicer tomatoes	
Celebrity	17	Grow in a variety of medium to large sizes and colors. These are yellow and red.	
Striped German	18	Unusual Slicers	
Texas Star	19	Grow in unusual shapes, not perfectly round.	
Reisetomate	20	Hybrid tomatoes	
Mushroom Basket	21	Which of all these tomatoes do you think are actually hybrid, not heirloom.	
Black Truffle	22		

Thank you for attending our tomato tasting in 2023!

Twenty varieties of tomatoes with nine categories for comparisons

MG Steering Committee Meeting

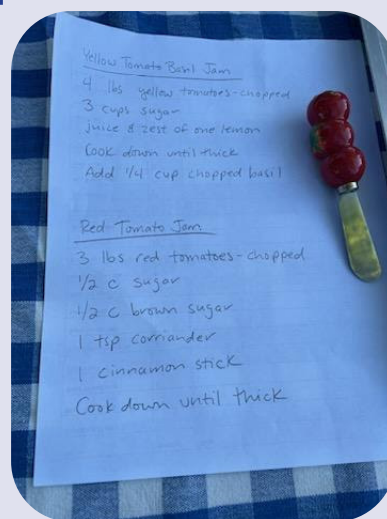
Next meeting **Wednesday, October 11, 6:30 P.M.**; hybrid meeting at Extension Office and by Zoom. All MGs are invited to attend; [contact Shannon](#) for more details!

Thymes Deadline

Information/articles for the *Thymes* should be sent to Melissa Serenda at jcmg.thymes@gmail.com. Please send news, volunteer opportunities, stories, pictures, gardening book reviews, etc., for the November issue by **Friday, October 27.**

Samples of Red Tomato Jam and Yellow Tomato Basil Jam on Brethren cheddar bread were served. Melissa Close made the jams and Lavon Yeggy made the bread.

Door prizes were drawn for four bouquets (made by MGs), the book *Ten Tomatoes that Changed the World: A History* by William Alexander (donated by Prairie Lights), two \$25 gift cards (donated by Hills Bank), and a gift bag of Plum Grove plum sauce, grape preserves, and jars of the tomato jams with recipe booklets from the Taste of the Heritage Garden in 2022 and 2023.



Yellow Tomato Basil Jam

- 4 lbs. yellow tomatoes - chopped
- 3 cups sugar
- juice & zest of one lemon

Cook down until thick
Add 1/4 cup chopped basil

Red Tomato Jam

- 3 lbs red tomatoes - chopped
 - 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1/2 cup brown sugar
 - 1 tsp coriander
 - 1 cinnamon stick
- Cook down until thick

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Record Your Hours!



To record your hours on the Volunteer Reporting System visit <https://mastergardenerhours.hort.iastate.edu/>. The final deadline is **Friday, December 29**, however it is important to not wait until the last minute. Thank you for your due diligence and please contact Shannon Bielicke, bielicke@iastate.edu with questions.

If you are short on educational hours or need information about reporting your hours please visit our Johnson County Master Gardener Program page www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson/master-gardener-program. Also, please visit the Iowa Master Gardener YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/@iamastergardeners/videos>, new videos have recently been posted.

From a Gardener's Bookshelf

BY MARY AND CARL HENSLEY

Planting the Natural Garden

By Piet Oudolf and Henk Gerritsen

In recent years, many JCMGs Hortline inquiries have involved native plants, prairie gardening, and natural-looking landscapes. The interest in these topics has driven an increase in seminars and continuing education on these and related topics.

An inspiring book for individuals enthused by these topics is *Planting the Natural Garden*, by Piet Oudolf and Henk Gerritsen, both pioneers renowned for their exceptional garden designs as well as their use of plants with excellent reliability, ease of maintenance, and beauty. Based in the Netherlands, both have authored other books you may find and enjoy.

You may have visited public parks with garden designs by Oudolf, including New York's High Line and Chicago's Lurie Garden in Millennium Park. In the United Kingdom, he designed Hauser & Wirth's prairie garden in Somerset, England. These gardens have been designed taking inspiration from nature.

Oudolf and his wife Anja have not only widely collected but also bred many plants. One of their earliest successes was the *Salvia verticillata* cultivar 'Purple Rain.' Their goal was to develop plants that retain natural wild beauty but behave in a way that they could be successfully grown in any garden. A demonstration of their efforts can be seen at their nursery in Hummelo, in the Netherlands.

Henk Gerritsen created the Priora gardens in the Netherlands, with a goal to achieve gardens that are as wild and natural as possible, yet sustainable. Thus, he has found that cultivars used by the Oudolfs also worked well in his garden designs. In the "Introduction" to this book, Gerritsen briefly describes the Dutch Wave that began in the 1970s. This movement reflected excitement among Dutch gardeners regarding new plant assortments and the style of garden design developed and used by the Oudolfs, himself and several others. This book has been translated into English by Susanne Tonkens-Hart.

We have found *Planting the Natural Garden* an inspirational book that is also practical and informative, providing ideas for designs and suggestions for plant selections and combinations. The "Plant Descriptions" section focuses on selected perennials and ornamental grasses, with details of species and cultivars that over time have proven to be reliable choices for this type of gardening. Throughout the book are beautiful photographs illustrating the featured plants and concepts, many of them taken by Anton Schlepers.

There is a useful section called "Good Neighbors," showing plant groupings that do well together, along with a few basic garden designs. There is also a valuable section discussing "Exceptional Properties of Plants" (for example, short-lived plants, weavers and climbers, as well as butterfly plants) plus a reference section providing practical guidance on "Plants per Square Meter."

In the "Uses" section, plantings are suggested to bring a certain characteristic or emotional feeling

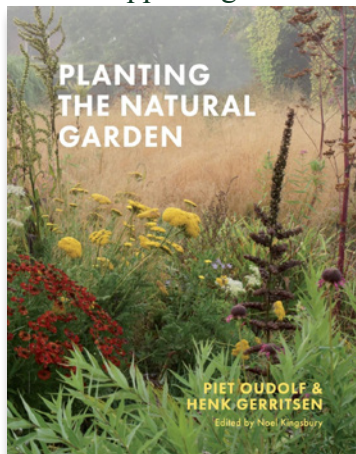
to the garden or landscape—with themes such as lush, airy, tranquility, exuberant, silvery, wonderful, or even gloomy. Should any of those themes or concepts capture your imagination, the authors provide lists of suggested plants.

The grassy theme was inspiring to us, as we have added a number of ornamental grasses to our garden over the years and been pleased with the results. There is year-round interest with these grass plantings: from light and airy inflorescences, to movement in the breeze, plus appealing architectural elements in winter. Color

is also a factor: for example, *Eupatorium maculatum* (Joe Pye weed) is among those grasses noted for beautiful autumn colors. We especially appreciate this plant as it attracts many butterflies, bees and other pollinators to our garden.

Planting the Natural Garden is available at the Iowa City Public Library. We

hope you will enjoy this book, and perhaps you will consider visiting these authors' gardens in your travels!



2024 JCMG Plant Sale & Flea Market Set for May 11

BY EMIL RINDERSPACHER

The 15th annual Johnson County Master Gardeners Plant Sale & Flea Market will be held **Saturday, May 11, 2024**, at the Johnson County Fairgrounds.

We rely on Master Gardeners for all our plants so as you work in your gardens this fall, be thinking about what perennials you can donate to the sale. Last year, MGs donated more than 2,000 perennials and woody plants from their gardens and started more than 1,000 pots of vegetables, herbs, and annuals for the sale.

Each of the last two sales has raised more than \$17,500 to support MG programs and operations including the Butterfly House at the Johnson County Fair, Kirkwood Horticulture Scholarships and 4-H awards.

Kiss the Ground Offers Solutions

BY LINDA SCHREIBER

Project GREEN recently partnered with area nonprofit organizations concerned about the environment and natural resources to host the documentary film *Kiss the Ground*. These organizations were 100 Grannies, Backyard Abundance, Bur Oak Land Trust, Iowa City Public Library, Johnson County Master Gardeners, and the League of Women Voters. The film was made available free of charge through a generous grant from Roco Films.

The film, narrated by and featuring Woody Harrelson, explored a viable, low-cost way to reverse climate change through soil regeneration. Modern, industrialized, mono-crop agriculture is killing microbial life in the soil that sequesters carbon. When soil loses its ability to sequester carbon it becomes dirt. What was once productive, healthy soil slowly becomes dry and infertile, a process called desertification.

The film showed in detail how healthy soil is the answer to address the climate crisis. Soil regeneration has the potential to sequester 100% of the carbon dioxide humans emit into the atmosphere. The film revealed how *regenerative agriculture* increases and improves soil life, helps store water and sequesters CO₂.

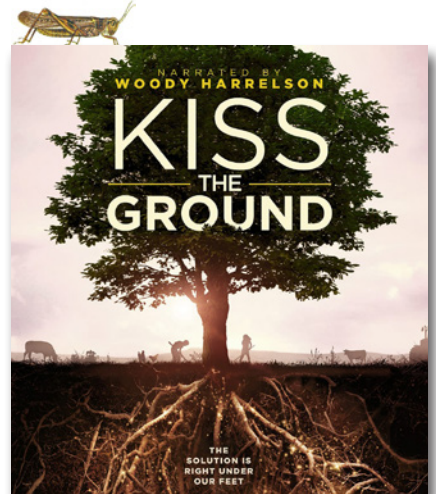
A global movement of activists, scientists, farmers, and government agencies are partnering to demonstrate and explain how *regenerative agriculture* can balance the climate, replenish water supplies, feed the world, and maintain profitability. The film tells their story and the powerful solution to one of our greatest challenges.

Two facts in the film are particularly noteworthy.

- 2/3 of the earth's soil has been damaged; we have approximately 60 years to repair the damage to the soil and avoid a total loss of all of the soil's productivity.
- Millions of people migrate every year to avoid starving. Out-migration is partially due to soil productivity loss. The Russian-Ukrainian war has added to the global crisis creating food insecurity in the region and beyond.

More than 60 people representing our partner organizations and the public attended the screening to learn how regenerating the soil can restore our climate and our environment. Hopefully, the viewers of the screening will become active volunteers who will carry the message and spread the word about the importance of *regenerative agriculture and farming*.

Finally, all of our partner organizations have volunteering opportunities. According to the US Census, nearly 25% of Americans 16 years and older spent time volunteering during the pandemic (September 2020 and 2021). More than half helped their neighbors during the same period. Volunteering is beneficial since acts of kindness can protect your brain and help with cognitive functioning. We hope you can help these organizations with your time, your talents, and your resources. Remember, always be kind to each other to make everyone's day better.



Orchids Are a Scream 2023 10th Anniversary Show and Sale

BY LINDA SCHREIBER

The Eastern Iowa Orchid Society recognizes a connection between its namesake flower and the annual Halloween holiday. This relationship may be behind the date the society has selected for its 10th-anniversary show and sale, *Orchids Are a Scream 2023*.

The two-day show will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., and Sunday, Oct. 29, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.) at Elks Lodge Hall, 801 33rd Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids. The show is sponsored by the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society, Pepsico and Raining Rose.

The annual show, centers on a fall Halloween theme and features hundreds of blooming orchids beautifully displayed by exhibitors from regional orchid societies, amateur hobbyists and professional orchid growers around the Midwest. All orchids and exhibits will be judged by American Orchid Society judges.



Have you wondered what Halloween and orchids that represent glamour and grace have in common? I did. Members of the *Orchidaceae* family have adopted and adapted spooky characteristics as strategies to survive. Examples include:

- *Brassavola nodosa*'s ghostly white flowers emit a strong nocturnal fragrance to attract night-pollinating moths.
- *Mediocalcar deocatum*'s cute, not creepy

blooms resemble Halloween candy corn.

- *Brassia* species orchids and hybrids' visual mimicry and Arachnid-like looks trick spider-parasitizing wasps into spreading pollen. They are known as "spider orchids."
- *Laelia anceps*, native to Mexico, is used to decorate graveyards for the Day of the Dead (Día de Muertos) festivities.
- *Dracula vampira* just looks spooky. The black-striped flowers have a lip like a mushroom.



Dracula vampira

The show also displays orchid-related crafts and collectibles and a variety of orchid plants and collectibles will be available for sale by four regional vendors.

Volunteers will be available to answer questions about orchids. Visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite display, "The People's Choice Award." The family-friendly venue offers an "up close and personal" display of nature's most exotic flowers, plus some Halloween fun for all ages! Costumes are welcome.

For information about the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society visit <http://www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org>



Need a few more volunteer hours to finish out 2023?

The hours can be counted towards non-JCMG-approved project hours (when recording hours, mark it under other and then make sure to include location and a description of the task).

Grow Johnson County—Volunteering

Grow Johnson County—located at 4811 Melrose Ave., Iowa City—is a 5-acre diversified vegetable farm that works to create more fresh and seasonal food access to community members using 16 agencies throughout Johnson County. Another big part of their farm mission is education. Grow Johnson County runs a 5-month paid apprenticeship program training 2 to 4 growers each season on organic food production and environmentally sustainable farming practices like cover crops, no-till, organic production, and the benefits of additional insect and animal habitat.



The Grow Johnson County program is supported by a robust group of volunteers and is always looking for more people to get involved.

- Regular volunteer times on planting and harvest days are Mon/Wed/Fri from 8 A.M. to noon. Grow Johnson County will provide all materials and tools necessary as well as food safety training.

Special events coming up in October:

- **Sunday, Oct. 8, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.** Grow Johnson County will be participating in the City of Iowa City's "Get Outside" event. Grow will be showing people how to process garlic as well as doing a craft making garlic cordage bracelets. We'll talk about all things garlic from different varieties and types, to planting, harvesting and curing.
- **Monday, Oct. 16, 8 A.M. to noon.** Greenhouse plastic removal and adding new.
- **Thursday, Oct. 26, 3:30 to 5:30 P.M.** Community Garlic Planting (rain date Thursday Nov. 4, 3:30 to 5:30 P.M.)

Please RSVP to Lisa Stark at lisa@ivrcd.org or 319-325-9446 if you'd like to volunteer for one of these sessions..



Get Outside!

Join Grow Johnson County, Johnson County Conservation, Iowa City Bird Club and many other organizations for *Get Outside: An Outdoor Recreation Festival* on Sunday, October 8 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.



Project Updates

Downtown City Gardens

LINDA SCHREIBER, COORDINATOR

DCG volunteers ventured out last month to help pick peppers and learn about Grow Johnson County (see feature on page 6) and cut brush along the Sycamore Greenway trail in south Iowa City. The trail project offered a new experience for volunteers with a focus on conservation education and water quality.



Clockwise from left: cutting brush along the Sycamore Greenway trail, learning about Grow Johnson County, rows of crops at Grow Johnson County

Ecumenical Towers

MICHAEL HESSELTINE AND JOHN WEEG, COORDINATORS

Sunday, Oct 15, at 9 A.M. (rain date Sunday, Oct 22, 9 A.M.) we will dig a hügelkultur bed in the front yard of Ecumenical Towers downtown. This is a permaculture practice of burying wood below a bed to act as a water reservoir as well as to provide nutrients for years to come. As a nice side effect, we sequester carbon!

The bed at the demo garden has shown a definite advantage of water retention and it looks like a nutrient advantage too — I did not expect that until the second year.

Digging the bed will involve removing the grass, getting the soil out of the trench, layering the wood/manure/green, and replacing the soil mixed with compost. Final step is to mulch it all and let it rest over winter.

The bed at the demo garden took about three hours to complete. This one will be a little smaller, we will not go as deep, the ground is not as rock-hard, and we now have experience! I expect this to be an easy three-hour dig. But all are welcome to come for any length of time.

If digging is not your thing, JCMGs can help educate passers-by and residents from the Ecumenical Tower who come down to watch. We will have some refreshments available to keep all participants on their feet!

Yard & Garden Information

JACKIE WELLBORN AND KAY MOHLING, COORDINATORS

Yard and Garden Info volunteers were on hand at the Plum Grove Taste of Heirloom Tomatoes as JCMGs cut up the tomatoes and the event got underway. The volunteers handed out resources and answered questions during the event.



Volunteers Needed: Sycamore Greenway

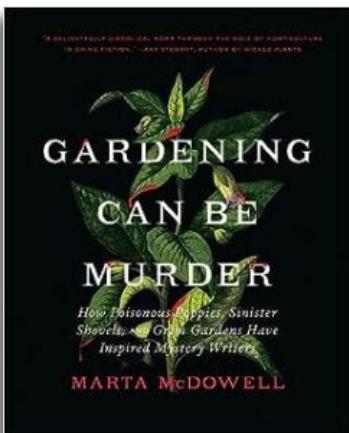
Volunteers are needed to help clear brush from the Sycamore Greenway trail in south Iowa City: the small trees and shrubs threaten to crowd out the native prairie flowers and grasses that line the trail. Workdays are scheduled for various Sunday mornings through November, from 9 to 10:30 A.M. The work will primarily involve using loppers to remove woody brush (a limited number of loppers are available to borrow if you don't have your own).

This work is done with support of the City of Iowa City; please visit the SignUp Genius link for more details and event dates: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48acab2fa4fdc25-brush4#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48acab2fa4fdc25-brush4#/) Email JCMG Melissa Serenda at msserenda@gmail.com with questions.



City of Literature Event: *Gardening Can Be Murder*

<https://www.iowacityofliterature.org/event/marta-mcdowell-gardening-can-be-murder/>



On **Wednesday, Oct. 11, at noon**, the Coralville Public Library will host author Marta McDowell to illuminate the many ways in which our greatest mystery writers, from Edgar Allen Poe to authors on today's bestseller lists, have found inspiration in the sinister side of gardens.

From the cozy to the hardboiled, the literary to the pulp, and the classic to the contemporary, *Gardening Can Be Murder* is the first book to explore the mystery genre's many surprising horticultural connections. Meet plant-obsessed detectives and spooky groundskeeper suspects, witness toxic teas served in foul play, and tour the gardens—both real and imagined—that have been the settings for fiction's ghastliest misdeeds. A New York Times bestselling author herself, McDowell also introduces us to some of today's top writers who consider gardening integral to their craft, assuring that horticultural themes will remain a staple of the genre for

countless twisting plots to come.



MG Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities

*****Check organization website for cancellations prior to event date.*****

October 2023



100 Grannies

<http://www.100grannies.org>

No events listed this month.



Backyard Abundance

<http://backyardabundance.org/events>

Friday, Oct. 27, 6:30 to 8:30 P.M.

FULL MOON FOREST THERAPY. Oakland Cemetery, 1000 Brown St. Iowa City. Immerse yourself in a hauntingly serene experience this Halloween at our mystical forest bathing event in the enchanting Oakland Cemetery. Under the luminescent glow of a full moon, discover the ancient practice of forest therapy amidst the ethereal beauty of autumnal foliage and whispered tales of the departed. Forest therapy is a guided immersion in natural environments that promotes the well-being of people and the land. [Research](#) shows numerous therapeutic benefits. Register: <https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/ForestBathingCemetery>



Bur Oak Land Trust

<https://buroaklandtrust.org/events/>

Thursday, Oct. 19, 6 P.M.

GOLDEN HOUR: A BUR OAK LAND TRUST FUNDRAISER. The Webster, Iowa City. Golden Hour, Bur Oak Land Trust's fall fundraiser returns this year with a special dinner. Just as golden hour shows us the light of day isn't quite gone but night is nearly here, the mighty mushroom is a connector between the end of a cycle and new beginnings. Chef Sam Gelman and staff will serve a five-course dinner with a mushroom theme along with a wine pairing. Tickets are \$225 per guest. Thanks to our wonderful business sponsors, 100 percent of each ticket sold will go to Bur Oak general funds to support our conservation mission. Register: https://buroaklandtrust-bloom.kindful.com/e/golden-hour?fbclid=IwAR1licX-uWAbiOonOji0XanKFru_tMpRBe9W4IdudNd_HZYbXdIb81_Z1g0. Silent auction: new.biddingowl.com/buroakartforconservation



Eastern Iowa Bird Watchers/IC Birds

<http://www.iowacitybirdclub.org/events>

Sunday, Oct. 8, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

IOWA CITY: GET OUTSIDE EVENT. City Park, 200 Park Rd, IC. This family-friendly event is sponsored by Iowa City Parks and Recreation and will feature a range of activities from canoeing, bird walks, and archery to LARPing, plein-air painting, and yoga. Attendees will also be able to grab food from local food trucks and other prepared food vendors. We will provide guided bird walks at 10:15 and 11:15 A.M. and 1 P.M., and host a table with information and a bird activity for kids. No admission fee or registration required. Drop in anytime from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M..

Sunday, Oct. 22, 7:30 and 10:30 A.M.

RIVER VALLEY WETLAND * ALTHEA SHERMAN SWIFT TOWER TOUR. We'll visit River Valley Wetland in Cedar County for a guided bird walk with Mark Brown. Target birds are late fall migrants such as Orange-crowned Warbler, Hermit Thrush, Fox Sparrow, Purple Finch, and Rusty Blackbird. Then we'll head to Bickett-Rate Preserve for a 10:30 A.M. guided tour of Althea Sherman's Chimney Swift Tower with Barbara and Mike Boyle. Return time is around 12:30 P.M. Options for meet-up: 7:30 A.M. Bird Hike meet at the North Dodge Hy-Vee parking lot near the gas pumps (1125 N Dodge St., Iowa City) to carpool to the bird hike. For tour only, meet at 10:30 A.M. at Bickett-Rate Preserve (600 225th St., Tipton).



IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Iowa State Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/>

No events listed this month.



Johnson County Conservation

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx>

Wednesdays, Oct. 4, 4:30 P.M.; Oct. 11, 4:30 P.M.; Oct. 18, 9 A.M.; Oct. 25, 10 A.M.; Oct. 25, 5 P.M.

PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST-VOLUNTEER EVENTS. F.W. Kent Park, 2048 HWY 6 NW, Oxford. Help harvest prairie seeds and take up an active role in the restoration of our county's native ecosystems; all collected seed is used for JCC's restoration projects for the next year. The task itself is easy for all ages of volunteers, and no background experience is necessary. Some events require hiking between one and two miles over uneven and mildly sloped terrain. For anyone with mobility limitations, the Senior Seed Harvests are best, and will feature harvest options very close to parking areas. All locations are subject to change based on seed conditions. Updates will be shared via email with all registered participants. Events dependent on weather and dry seed conditions. Event locations are varied between Kent Park, Cedar River Crossing, and Williams Prairie. Details are found in the "ticket" link for these free events. Registration closes 24 hours in advance. If you are fully registered, you can expect to receive an email "receipt" from MyCountyParks after registration. You will also receive an email from the leading naturalist a couple days in advance of the program. If you do not receive these emails, you may not be registered; call 319-645-1011 for assistance in this case.

JOHNSON



Johnson County-ISU Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson/>

No events listed this month.



Linn County-ISU Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/>

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 6–8 P.M.

PRESERVE THE TASTE OF SUMMER: FERMENTATION. Kirkwood Co. Regional Center, 1770 Boysen Rd, Hiawatha. Preserving food can be quicker and easier than you expect. Join this hands-on workshop to learn how to ferment vegetables safely at home. Leave with a jar of sauerkraut to ferment at home. Contact: Kelsey Salow, ksalow@iastate.edu, 563-9274201.



Project GREEN

<http://www.projectgreen.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/www.projectgreen.org>

No events listed this month.



Seed Savers Exchange

<https://www.seedsavers.org/events>

No events listed this month.



Trees Forever

<https://treesforever.org/events>

No events listed this month.



Tree Tours on the Pentacrest

Saturday, October 14, 12 to 1 P.M.

Join the Pentacrest Museums in partnership with UI liveWELL and UI Facilities Management for guided strolls on campus featuring the ecological diversity, symbolism, history, and lore of our trees. We'll dedicate some time once each season to these nature walk & talks for discovery in a program—designed for you—with resilience and curiosity in mind.

- Meet outside near the main entrance to Macbride Hall, at the bottom of the stairs on the eastside of the building.
- Rain, snow, or shine (we reschedule when there's lightning).
- ALL are welcome (students, staff/faculty, community).

West Campus Tree Tour

Friday, October 20, 12 P.M.

Join the Pentacrest Museums in partnership with liveWELL and UI Facilities Management for guided strolls on campus featuring the ecological diversity, symbolism, history, and lore of our trees. We'll use the lunch hour once in the spring (on Arbor Day!), summer, autumn, and winter on these nature walk & talks for discovery in this program—designed for you—with resilience and curiosity in mind.

- Meet at the Field House parking lot, just outside the double doors.
- Rain, snow or shine (we'll reschedule if lightning).
- All are welcome (students, staff/faculty, community).

JCMGs Help Maintain Extension Office Grounds

On a sensational September Saturday, JCMGs attended to some overgrown shrubs on the north side of the parking lot at the JC Extension Office Grounds! Shannon's organization was effective in assembling a group and recruiting two pick up trucks to carry away all the cut out branches and debris. DNR Forester Mark Vitosh helped educate the crew about the health of the shrubs.

Photos by Bonnie Penno.



Happy Halloween!



MG Birthdays

October 2023

Jeff Baker
 Connie Funk
 Janice Hining
 Kristin Ho
 Marge Jensen
 Roger Jensen
 Ramona McGurk
 Ann Ruppenkamp
 Mary Starry
 Jeff Walberg

2023 JCMG Steering Committee Officers

Chair..... Doug Geraets
 Vice Chair Jackie Wellborn
 Secretary Barb Robinson
 Treasurer Jean Holzhammer
 Past Chair..... Sharon Jeter



The Johnson County Master Gardener Thymes is published monthly, except January and August. It is distributed under the auspices of Iowa State University.

Mail can be sent to:

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
 Johnson County
 Attn: Master Gardener Newsletter
 3109 Old Highway 218 S.
 Iowa City, IA 52246

**IOWA STATE
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