2013 Marion County’s Best of Show Calendar

The 2013 full color ISU calendars are now in! Earlier this year Marion County Extension and the Marion County Development Commission joined together to sponsor the second annual Marion County Photo contest. The contest was open to all amateur photographers. Each person could submit up to 10 photographs. They could be all in one category or split between several. Categories included scenic, wildlife, and people having fun. All photos had to be taken in Marion County.

Entries were judged by a panel on their creativity, photographic quality and their effectiveness in portraying Marion County. Winners were announced at the Marion County Fair in July.

Now photographs from the contest have been used to create a new 2013 Best of Show calendar. Photographs were selected based on contest results, resolution, and seasonal appropriateness. The 13-month calendar is available at the Marion County ISU Extension Office. Cost is $5. Mechell Lewis’ Best of Show winning photograph is the calendar’s cover; other photographers include Elizabeth Edwards, Jeff Saltzman, Brittany Rempe, Chase Carter, Jessica Steenhoek, Diann Evans, Krestin Spriggs, Attlyssa Bailey, Terri Van Duseldorp, and Kim Molloy.

The 2013 Photo Contest is now open to all amateur photographers. For more information about the contest or calendar, contact Karen Ackley at 641-842-2014 or kackley@iastate.edu.
Beekeeping Classes Begin in January

2013 Beekeeping Classes begin January 15, 2013 on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM. There will be seven classes at the Marion County Extension Center (210 N Iowa Street, Knoxville). No pre registration is required. For more information contact Craig Greene at 641-842-2112 or cgreene@iowatelecom.net. Young people are encouraged to attend. This project is supported in part by Marion County Extension, Mahaska County Extension, and Back to Basics Bee Club.

Learn Something New…

√ Learn How to Grow Your Favorite Houseplants
Dr. Jennifer Bousselot (formerly the Iowa Master Gardener Coordinator) will be teaching Introduction to Houseplants as an online course January 14th through March 8th. Explore the science of growing houseplants. This course will cover the basic requirements for successfully culturing plants indoors such as light, irrigation, fertility, temperature, humidity, propagation, plant identification and selection, as well as common houseplant problems. By the end of this course, you will know how to keep your houseplants alive!

For more details and course registration information go to the Brenton Center for Agricultural Instruction & Technology Transfer website listing for this course.

√ Learn How to Preserve Heirloom Varieties
Seed Savers has webinars for seed savers preserving rare heirloom varieties, or gardeners trying to store leftover seed from this year's packets. Learn the conditions seed needs in order maintain a high germination rate for long periods of time, and the best way to accomplish this in your own home. Past webinars are now up and available on the site, watch them all for free at your leisure. Enjoy!

For more information go to www.seedsavers.org/Content.aspxsrc=webinars.htm. Webinars are under the education tab. Scroll down to see all of the available archived topics and new upcoming ones!

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right!
~ Oprah Winfrey

2013 Gardening Calendar is Here!

The 2013 full color ISU calendars are now in! This year’s title, Garden Bounty, celebrates garden bounty, whether it's an herb windowsill garden in winter, the first peas of spring, or brimming baskets of fruit and veggies in summer and fall.

This calendar offers homegrown beauty, local places to enjoy food festivals, monthly garden tips, and ideas to enjoy and preserve garden produce. Keep one for your garden journal.

The 2013 full color ISU calendars are now in!

Just $6, the calendars make great, affordable gifts.

“_The Green Scene_” is a tip sheet developed by the Marion County Extension Office to inform people of horticulture events, problems, and interesting ideas. Let us know if you want to be added to our mailing list. Recent issues are also available at [www.extension.iastate.edu/marion/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/marion/).

This material has been prepared by Karen Ackley, Agriculture Program Assistant.

If you have questions, please contact the office at (641) 842-214. Sincerely, Dale R. Miller, County Extension Program Director