

July 2019

Muscatine County



**WORTHWHILE
DIRT**



Master Gardeners at Muscatine County Fair

Be sure to enter your vegetables and flowers at the Fair!

Bucket Brigade:

Join in the fun at the Bucket Brigade on July 16.

Bring buckets to Floral Hall 5:00-6:30pm

Judging at 7:00pm

Title: “Mixed Bouquet” (Flowers any colors but bucket must include 2 herbs)

Volunteers needed to help with setup, etc—See page 4

Floral Hall Coordinators:

Jan Koellner needs Floral Hall Coordinators (see page 4) for:

Saturday afternoon 1-5pm

Saturday evening 5-8pm

Sunday morning 10am-1pm

Sunday afternoon 1-4pm



See you at the Fair!

Upcoming Meeting & Event Highlights

Coordinated by Jane Hodge, Master Gardener



July 9, Tuesday – 6:00pm Muscatine Fair Grounds Tour will be led by Bill Koellner and Gretchen Nollman. Meet at the Floral Hall. Walking shoes are suggested. 101 N. Clay Street, West Liberty

July 13, Saturday – Weed Park – Dr. Cynthia Haynes - 9:00am (see page 5 for more information)

July 13, Saturday - Heather Haroun has invited Master Gardeners and other groups to tour her gardens. Her specialty is daylilies and they should be blooming in abundance. We are invited anytime throughout the day starting around 11:00 am and/or for a potluck around 4:30. Address 11723 239th Street W, Illinois City, IL. The property is flat for ease of walking and there is plenty of parking on site. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

July 16, Tuesday—Bucket Brigade at Muscatine County Fair Grounds (see pages 1&4)

July 29, Monday– Muscatine Island Research Farm tour at Fruitland at 6:00pm. Gardeners are invited to learn about growing cut flowers, sweet corn and tomatoes in the home garden during this year’s Demonstration Garden Field Days, hosted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and the Iowa State University

September 10 Member Meeting at 6:00pm at the home and gardens of Ed Moreno, 1330 100 Street, West Liberty. Matt McAndrew’s topic will be watershed protection and water quality.

November 12 Member Meeting at 6:30pm at ISU Extension – Melissa Baker ,Horticulturalist for Muscatine Parks and Recreation Department, will be presented about the hanging baskets she has planted and maintained throughout Muscatine.

SUMMER WEBCAST SERIES *Free and open to the public — bring a friend!*

* Monday, July 22, 2019 6:30-7:30 P.M. Gardening FAQ. From vegetables to flowers, explore the in-depth answers to frequently asked gardening questions with Aaron Steil, assistant director at Reiman Gardens.

* Monday, August 13, 2019 6:30-7:30 P.M. Ecology Plus Diversity. Explore how to create plant communities that mimic nature with Grant Thompson, assistant professor of horticulture at Iowa State.

Scheduled Events from Holly Howard

Lower Cedar Watershed Coordinator

Muscatine County Soil and Water Conservation District

Note: Several of these events may be of interest to Master Gardeners

July 12- Lark Farms Field Day 10:30-2 @ Lark Farms. Ann Werner will give us a tour of Lark farms. We will discuss why to implement conservation practices and enroll ground into CRP. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy.

July 17- Sustainability Field Day

9 am- 1 pm. Heckman Farms in West Liberty, Iowa is partnering with Soil Health partnership and Cargill to host this event. Soil Pit and rainfall simulator will be present as well as many presenters. Free lunch provided from 12-1.

July 23, 25, 30 August 6, 8- Annie's Project: Annie's Project (Ag Business Education for Women) @ Cedar County Extension- register by contact-
ing gbierman@iastate.edu<mailto:gbierman@iastate.edu> or 563-886-6157 \$

August 9: Pollinator Tour/Wendt Farm Tour

3 pm start @ Tipton NRCS Office: 205 West South Street, Suite 2, Tipton, IA.

Teresa Wendt, farmer and Soil Conservationist from Cedar County and WLL participant, will be our guide as we explore a series of established prairies. The focus of this driving tour is discovering the impact of timing for controlled burns. We will end up at Teresa's farm for supper and checking out her conservation work on her farm!

September 6: First Friday of September Grow & Share @ Gramma's Kitchen in Walcott. farm taxes. Event will start at 1 pm.

Have a great day! Hope to see you at an event soon!

Bucket Brigade — Help!!!

Master Gardeners: The bucket brigade is in desperate need of volunteers. We have need for people for registration and tallying scores. We have at least 20 buckets coming from 4H. Anyone who can help please notify either of us. You should arrive by 5pm on July 16. Thanks. Barb and Linda

Linda Wells gardeninggranma@machlink.com Barbara Woods barbwoods@machlink.com

Floral Hall Volunteers — Help!!!

Earn Volunteer hours at Horticulture bldg during County Fair in West Liberty. Be a host in morning, afternoon or evening. Friday, Saturday, Sunday July 19, 20 & 21. Contact Jan Koellner at this email or see the sign up sheet at MG meeting on Tues. June 11 at Jane H.'s home. This is a fun, air conditioned way, to enjoy the flowers and visit with folks. Sign up soon with Jan Koellner — Text 319 631 9782 or email janetkoellner@lcom.net

Volunteer Opportunity — Senior Resources

Looking to get in a few extra volunteer hours? Linda Stoddard, a volunteers at Senior Resources on Mulberry Street in Muscatine, is looking for help at the Senior Resources gardens. A few hours here and there would really help her out! It would also be a great opportunity to add some education, like labeling, to the garden! Contact Linda at kurious_lady@yahoo.com<mailto:kurious_lady@yahoo.com>, put Senior Resources Help in the subject line (so she knows it isn't spam!).

Help Needed at Zoo Garden

The Zoo Garden team has been busy making preparations for the upcoming Saturday coffee on July 13th. With this hot weather it has been hard to work outside for a long period of time. If you can help us out by watering a bed, weeding or deadheading, just give me a call at 563-263-0846

We invite you all to the coffee on Saturday, July 13th from 9am – 11 am. Bring a friend because I am sure you will want to have a chance to meet Dr. Haynes. She is the Associate Professor of Horticulture at Iowa State. She has won many awards and special recognition for her work in horticulture. We are honored to have her at the coffee. **See page 5 for more!**
Maryrose

Saturday Coffee @ Weed Park Zoo Garden

July 13, 2019 9 - 11 a.m.



Featured Speaker:

Dr. Cynthia L. Haynes

Iowa State University Associate
Professor, Department of
Horticulture, Consumer
Horticulture Extension Specialist

Dr. Haynes is the author of *Plant Zoo*, the publication that inspired the creation of the Zoo Garden! Following Dr. Haynes presentation will be a tour of the garden.

Meet at the Sunrise Shelter. Light refreshments will be served.

FREE & open to the public. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!

For questions about the Zoo Garden or Saturday Morning Coffee's at the Zoo Garden contact Maryrose Peterschmidt at ankumini84@machlink.com.



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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach



Join us for a Field Tour!

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

(Rain Date: June 18, 2019)

Registration at 8:30 a.m.

Tour of Four Sites goes from 9 a.m. - Noon

Meeting site: Gary McCormicks, 19168 Landis Road, Anamosa

Visit four sites to see the full process of establishing high quality pollinator habitat. The tour features a site frost seeded a few months ago, plantings in their second and third years, and a mature high quality roadside planting. Drive along with us to see first-hand the succession of planting from seeding to high quality habitat.



Learn:

- The best trees and native plants for pollinators.
- Best practices for establishing a prairie.
- Best practices for maintaining a prairie.
- How to identify native and invasive plants.
- What resources are available for assistance.

More information and registration at:

www.TreesForever.org/CreatingABuzzFieldDay

Questions? Contact: Emily Swihart, eswihart@treesforever.org, 563-260-1000

Creating a Buzz is possible thanks to these partners:

Jones County Secondary Roadside Department



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EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
EMPOWERING WOMEN

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

WOMEN in AG *Courses in Iowa*

Annie's Project: Farm Business Management

A six session course created to guide women in making good decisions for their farm businesses

**Classes starting
Tuesday, July 23**

and continuing Thursday, July 25,
Tuesday, July 30, Thursday, August 1,
Tuesday, August 6 and
Thursday, August 8

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Meal at 5:45 p.m.)

Cedar County Extension Office
107 Cedar Street
Tipton, Iowa

Please Register by July 16, 2019

“ Even if you think you know a lot, **you will always learn something**. What you learn at Annie's Project can help you fine-tune your operation. ”

Julie — Oskaloosa, Iowa



For more information on this program, go to: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/womeninag/>

Master Gardeners are enthusiastic and willing to learn. Prior gardening experience is not required.

Volunteer in the Garden



Details

- ▶ 25 locations across Iowa
- ▶ 40 hours of training taught by Iowa State University educators and local experts
- ▶ One, all-day workshop, October 19 at Iowa State University, Ames

Master Gardener Training

\$195 fee for 40-hour training course. Participants must provide 40 volunteer hours upon completion of the course. To maintain active status Master Gardeners must complete 10 hours of continuing education and 20 volunteer hours each year.

www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener



Applications are due August 1, 2019

Contact your ISU Extension and Outreach county office:

Muscatine County ISU Extension and Outreach

Contact: Krista Regennitter, KristaR@iastate.edu, 563-263-5701

Dates:

Kick-Off August 19, 6-7:30 PM

Saturday's, 9 AM - 1 PM: 8/24, 9/7, 9/21, 10/5, 11/2

Class at Iowa State University: 10/19

Locations will vary based on topic. Schedule will be provided upon registration.

Apply Online: <http://bit.ly/2GBpQFW>

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, programs, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or status as a U.S. veteran, or other protected classes. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to the Diversity Advisor, 216 Olden Hall, 515 Merrill Road, Ames, Iowa 50011, 515-284-1482, adiversity@iastate.edu. All other inquiries may be directed to 800-262-3824.

MG017 March 2019

FARMERS' MARKET UPDATE

By Susan Cradick, Master Gardener

The Farmers' Market is a flurry of activity, great fresh produce, fresh baked items and many other vendors to pique your interest. Join in by staffing the Master Gardener (ISU) booth and introduce market-goers to the many benefits of ISU and their website, which has a wealth of information. Call out to those who may enjoy and benefit from our intern classes this fall.



We have slots open for July 27, August 10 and 7 and September 14, 21 and 29. Most of the taken slots are filled by one person only so if you want to partner with one of them, I'm sure you'd be welcome. The four volunteer hours you receive by manning a booth are very enjoyable hours in a "non-weeding", less strenuous way!

Phone me at 299-9114 and leave a voicemail or text or e-mail me at cradicks45@yahoo.com. I very seldom carry my phone and will call you back if I don't think you're a telemarketer!

Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!

SAVE THE DATE

A special invitation to fellow gardeners and outdoor enthusiasts

Saturday, September 28th 8a.m.- 4p.m.

Adler Auditorium, Genesis Heart Institute

1236 E Rusholme Street

Davenport, Iowa

*The Scott County Master Gardeners invite you to spend "A Day with Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy", the nationally recognized authors of **The Living Landscape**. This exclusive event will inspire you to continue to provide an easily manageable garden space for all living creatures, from birds and bees to mammals. Your garden will thrive and provide enjoyment for you and your family all year round.*

The Growing Along the River -- Focus on Fall Gardening Conference is a great resource to all gardeners, new and experienced. For further information call 563-359-7577. Register at www.eicc.edu/focusonfall \$45. The registration fee includes lunch.

News from the Chair

By Mary Danner
Master Gardener



I'm always a bit sad when June is over. It seems we just get things planted and the realization that the days are getting shorter and summer is screaming by. But a lot of great things happen in July and we have many opportunities to tour gardens & volunteer yet to come.

I want to thank everyone that came out to walk my gardens and share in the beauty of a rare beautiful day squeezed between monsoons; it turned out well & everyone enjoyed the night and sharing of garden ideas. It was a perfect time when the plants looked fresh and before the Japanese beetles immerge; I have seen one since. John & I really appreciate those who drove out to our nick of the woods.



There is a lot coming up in July, all noted in this newsletter. I am especially excited to

share the Monkey Garden with Dr. Cindy Haynes joining our 'Coffee in the Zoo Garden' on the morning of July 13th. Then it's off to visit Heather Harroun's garden in Aledo; what a great way to spend a summer day. Plus the walking tour of the Muscatine Co Fair grounds on July 9th and the Bucket Brigade on the 16th, where help is still needed if you are available, then finish the month at the demo garden tour at the ISU Research Farm in Fruitland on the 29th. I believe July will fly by just as fast as June.

Happy Gardening,
Mary



Director's Input

By Krista Regennitter

Muscatine County Extension Director, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Telephone 563-263-5701



Hello Master Gardeners!

Happy Summer to you all. We are busy getting ready for fair here in the office, and for our move! Things are progressing nicely with the building, hopefully you are keeping up to date by

watching our Facebook

<<http://www.facebook.com/MuscatineExtension>> page! Throughout the newsletter you will find information about the remaining Summer Webcasts and the Saturday Coffee @ Weed Park Zoo Garden featuring Dr. Haynes. Please be sure to share both of these opportunities with your garden loving friends outside of the Master Gardener Association!

Registration is now open for the Fall Master Gardener training<<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/muscatine/news/2019-master-gardener-training>>! Please help us recruit by sharing this with your networks!

Also please be sure to mark August 19th on your calendars. That evening at 6 pm we will be kicking-off the fall Master Gardener training and we would love to have you join us in welcoming our new recruits! That will most likely be the last Master Gardener event at our current building!

I know you also receive our Muscatine County Extension Newsletter (if you don't please let me know), but wanted to highlight that we have an open position at the Extension Office for a Latino Outreach Coordinator<<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/muscatine/news/latino-outreach-coordinator-open-position>>. If you know someone who is bilingual English/Spanish and enjoys working with middle school/high school youth and their parents please encourage them to apply!

Hope to see you at the fair!

Krista

Summer Webcast Series:

(Here are some free Education Hours at Muscatine County Extension Office)



* Monday, July 22, 2019 6:30 P.M. Gardening FAQ. From vegetables to flowers, explore the in-depth answers to frequently asked gardening questions with Aaron Steil, assistant director at Reiman Gardens.

* Tuesday, August 13, 2019 6:30 P.M. Ecology Plus Diversity. Explore how to create plant communities that mimic nature with Grant Thompson, assistant professor of horticulture at Iowa State.



Muscatine County Extension Photo Contest!

Help us decorate the new Muscatine County Extension Office! You are invited to submit up to three digital pictures to Krista Regennitter at KristaR@iastate.edu by August 15, 2019. Pictures do not need to be from the last year. We are looking for photos that highlight Muscatine County Extension and Outreach programming (4-H, Master Gardeners, Master Conservationist, Ag programming, Human Sciences, etc.). Photos will be selected to decorate the Large and Small Meeting Rooms in our new office at 1601 Plaza Place, Muscatine. Contact Krista or Lindsay with questions, 563-263-5701.



From Dave Cooney's Facebook page: Muscatine Pollinator Project — "Pollinator Park is looking great!"

Member Meeting and Garden Tour at Jane Hodge's Home on June 11

We had an excellent presentation on aquatic vegetation along the Mississippi River and floodway by Jessica Bolser, botanist for US Fish and Wildlife at Port Louisa. This presentation was especially pertinent as we enjoyed a panoramic view of the river from Jane and Don's gazebo. Jessica related some of the many challenges of operating Port Louisa, especially during this year 2019 with its perpetual flooding.

Following Jessica's talk and Q&A; Mary conducted our business meeting; and then we enjoyed a delicious potluck meal. While storms were threatening, they held off and allowed many of us to wander several of Jane's trails to view beautiful gardens, trees and shrubs.

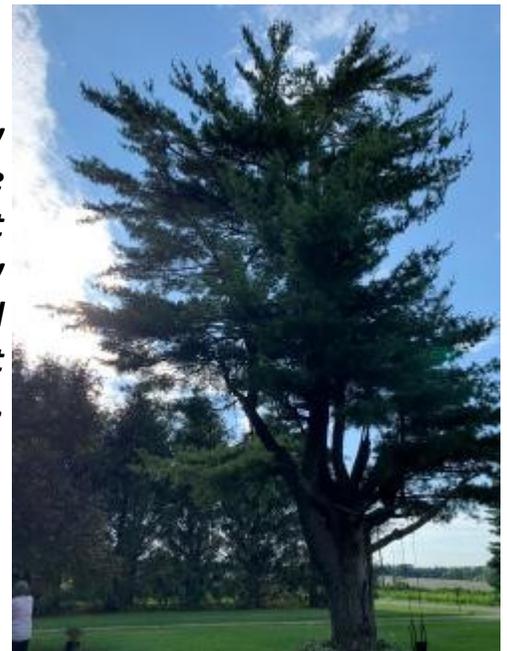


Mary Danner's Garden Walk — June 20

There was great attendance and a beautiful evening to visit Mary's gardens



Unfortunately this huge tree is on its last leg and Mary says it will have to be cut down soon.



Hy-Vee Main Street Donation Garden



The Hy-Vee Main Street Donation Garden is progressing very well. Here are some recent photos but, even better, drive by 5th and Mulberry and see for yourself. A special thanks to the children from Flickinger Learning Center for their gardening assistance.



Zion Lutheran Donation Garden



Terri Hanson's donation gardens (upper three photos) are progressing very well . The bottom two photos show her neat Pollinator Gardens.

Church of Christ Donation Garden



Harvesting is underway for lettuce and spinach (and of course for rhubarb)!

Weed Park Zoo Garden(s)



Here are some views of the many Zoo Gardens at Weed Park. Thanks to all the Master Gardeners who keep them so well tended.

Muscatine County Fair Ground Plantings



Several of the Fair Grounds buildings have been refurbished and the grounds are all decked out for the Fair!

Member Photos



Maryrose Peterschmidt is offering some beauty from her home garden.



Member Photos

Here is some of the beauty we get to enjoy at our home. You are welcome to stop by and enjoy it with us. Emma Mae and Lynn Pruitt



Tips for Mulching Vegetable Garden

By Mary Danner, Master Gardener

First picture: Garden cleaned up, hoed & weeds pulled.



Here are some of my thoughts on mulching vegetables using a patch of tomatoes and onions



Second picture: Lay down 2 layers of newspaper dampened in bucket of water between plants & around border. (Wet papers won't blow away!)

Third picture: Top with clean straw (oat straw used here) or untreated grass clippings (no herbicides used) approx 2-3 in deep. Sprinkle with water to settle mulch. Then add tomato cages & secure with stakes. Take care to not bend over onion tops-may slow growth.





Bacterial Diseases in Plants

By Gretchen Nollman, Master Gardener Intern,
and William Koellner, Lifetime Master Gardener



Many different kinds of organisms can cause plant disease, including: bacteria, fungi, and viruses. This article will focus on bacterial diseases. The bacterial diseases in plants are of concern to the farmers and gardeners locally and worldwide. It is a concern because reduction in the yield of crops can and will affect the agriculture economy.

So to start off with, an organism that causes plant disease is called a plant pathogen. Plant pathogens are considered plant pests. Plant pathogens spread in various ways, including by insects, water, soil, air, people and other animals. Pathogenic bacteria cause many serious diseases on vegetables in the garden and in field crops. They do not penetrate directly into the plants tissue but enter through wounds or natural plant openings. Wounds can result from damage by insects, other pathogens, and tools during operations such as cultivating, pruning and picking. Bacteria can become active and cause problems only when factors are conducive for them to multiply. Some factors conducive to infection include: high humidity; crowding; poor air circulation; plant stress caused by overwatering, under-watering, irregular watering; poor soil health; and deficient or excess nutrients. Bacterial organisms can survive in the soil and crop debris, in seeds and other plant parts. Bacteria can spread in infected seed, propagating material and crop residues, through water splash and wind-driven rain, on contaminated equipment or workers' hands. There are many different types of diseases caused by bacteria in plants such as wilting,

blights, brown spot, and crown gall which will be each touched on in more detail.

One type of bacteria is called wilting diseases. Vascular tissue of plants is attacked by the bacteria in wilting disease. This bacterium grows in the tissue of plants and affects the water transport system. This blockage of the system which transports water in plants, leads to wilting. The wilting of leaves is one of the early symptoms of this disease. Later on, the disease spreads to other parts of the plant; finally, the whole plant wilts and dies. It is not possible to treat the plants affected by bacterial wilt. Using the varieties of cucurbits plants less susceptible to bacterial wilt is the only way in mitigating the problem.

Another disease is blight and is marked by the chlorosis of different plant tissues. Flowers, leaves, and twigs of the affected plants produce fewer amounts of chlorophyll and thereafter browning takes place. The blight disease can also cause death of plants. Fire blight is one such disease found in pear and apple plants. In this disease, the affected areas of plants become sunken and appear to be scorched; the surface of these plants blackens; cracks are also observed on the surface.

Brown spot disease signs observed in this disease include the following: gray spots, cracking of leaves, brownish yellow leaf borders, etc. Hot and humid climate is favorable for the development of this disease. A white colored sub-

Continued next page, DISEASES

Continued from previous page, DISEASES

stance oozes out of the affected plants and spreads on the surface of fruits. Reduction in crop yield is observed in the brown spot. This disease mainly affects vegetable and ornamental plants. Use of resistant plant varieties should help in overcoming the problem of brown spot disease.

Crown gall disease is soil-borne and affects a variety of plants including roses, apples, cherries, raspberries, and more. The disease is named so because of the galls formed at crowns of these plants. The gall disease is treated or controlled with the use of both chemical and biological methods. The biological method of control is that of inoculating the cuttings and new transplants with bacteria which compete for growth with the pathogenic ones. This method automatically reduces the number of disease causing bacteria.

There are many different ways or modes of dissemination of disease causing bacteria. The use of planting material obtained from infected crops/plants helps in spreading diseases from one place to another. Tools and implements used for various agricultural works carry the disease causing bacteria from one field to another. Rain also plays an important role in the dissemination of pathogenic bacteria. The various bacterial diseases are treated using an integrated management approach. It is difficult to completely cure or reverse back the spread of bacterial diseases mentioned above. Right thing to do is change up or use resistant plant varieties. Use of chemical pesticides is amongst the commonly used measures for treatment of bacterial diseases

Sometimes symptoms of bacterial diseases may be confused with those caused by

fungus or viral diseases. It is important to have diseased tissue examined in a plant diagnostics laboratory to confirm the type of pathogen is causing the disease so that the disease can be appropriately managed. Disease management strategies aim to favor the host plant's growth and development while attacking vulnerable stages in the life cycle of the pathogen to prevent or restrict its development. The key means of bacterial disease management include:

- Monitor crops regularly
- Reduce pathogen levels by crop rotation
- Remove weeds and incorporate crop residues that can host the disease
- Protect the host plant by using resistant plant varieties
- Minimize mechanical damage to crops and damage by insect pests
- Avoid working in crops when they are wet
- Spray with a registered bactericide when weather conditions favor disease development to prevent infection
- Understand chemical resistance and rotation of chemical groups

It is so important when you have a diseased plant from bacteria, that all dead debris be removed from the plant area. Bacteria will carryover each year so that the plants next year will have the same issues that plants this year had. Removing debris and sometimes it is good to remove the top couple of inches of soil and replace it with new soil so that the bacteria are not resident. Burn all debris or bag it and dispose of the debris. Absolutely do not recycle foliage with bacteria from your yard. By keeping your plants disease free, treat all wounded plants immediately or remove them so that the bacteria has no place to reside. Do not over-plant areas, as lack of airflow creates an unhealthy environment. Our next two articles will address fungi and viruses in plants.

Muscatine County Extension Office

1514 Isett Avenue
Muscatine, IA 52761-4629
563-263-5701 or 800-992-0894

Krista Regennitter
Muscatine County Extension Director
Master Gardener Liaison

. . and justice for all

Iowa State University Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.

Iowa State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

* **Current Emails and Addresses** *
* As a reminder – keep both the Extension Office *
* and Lynn Pruitt current on any changes of e-mail *
* addresses, phone numbers, or mailing ad- *
* dresses. These need to be current to keep you *
* — our members — informed. *

Member Photo



*My Roses
have
done well.
This is
"Bonica"*

*From
Susan
Cradick*

2019 Muscatine County Master Gardener Board

Board Members

- Mary Danner (2019) Chair
- Heather Haroun (2020) Vice Chair
- Rachel Horner Brackett (2020)* Sec/Treas
- Kathy Haltmeyer (2020)
- Jane Hodge (2019)
- Ron Jensen (2019)*
- Ed Moreno (2020)
- Maryrose Peterschmidt (2020)

Gretchen Nollman (Intern)

*()Year term expires as of Dec. 31
* Going off Board Dec 31, 2019/2020 but
eligible for re-election*



Editorial Comments:

Please remember, this is YOUR newsletter. Your articles, photographs and other tidbits are welcome. Send them by the end of each month to pruit.lynn@gmail.com or call 563.260.0234

— Lynn Pruitt, Editor —