Greetings Gardeners!

Last month, we had a very successful Harvest Celebration. Many people received volunteer hour level awards. We had recognition of volunteers and projects, camaraderie, and great food. Thank you to all who made last month happen and to all volunteers for the wonderful job you have done all year.

This is going to be a special year for the Polk County Master Gardeners because we have three special projects that will help us be a better organization. Here’s a brief description of the projects. As they mature, more will be communicated. (These are not in any special order . . . .)

1) Developing guidelines for the Steering Committee. By developing guidelines, we can operate more efficiently and have an operating manual for new folks who join the committee.

2) Creation of a nominating committee. This committee will develop a process to find candidates to serve as officers and in the at-large positions on Steering Committee. The nominating committee will also layout an
election process. This should provide opportunities for more people to be involved in shaping the leadership group that guides our organization.

3) **Listening to YOU.** The Steering Committee wants your feedback about the organization. At a high level we want to know what you like about PCMG and also how we can make things better. For those with Internet access, you'll receive links to Survey Monkey. No Internet? You'll be provided a hard copy --or contact Ike for access to a computer for the survey.

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Every month, a Master Gardener will be profiled in this article.

The first one is **Rosie Surber.** Rosie received her 500 hour pin at this year's Harvest Celebration. She was a member of the 2009 Poweshiek County Master Gardener class. Her mother and father were instrumental in introducing her to gardening and farming and sparked that interest. Then her sister who lives in Houston and brother who lives in Wyoming took the class, told Rosie how much they loved it and she was hooked. When she moved to Altoona in 2015 she became a Polk County Master Gardener.

She now volunteers at the Enabling Garden, Discovery Garden, Greenhouse, Plant Sale, and is Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee. Whew! On top of that, she volunteers at her church and knits 40 scarves every year for a friend who teaches English as a Second Language classes in Polk County. Her two favorite things about being a Master Gardener are the people and the plants. If she could change one thing, she'd like to see more people stay with the program after their class.

**If there is someone you think should be profiled in the Green Thumb, reach out to me at bob@tsmcgrp.com or 515-224-6424 and tell me about that person.**

**Bob Helvey**  
**Steering Committee Chairperson**
Celebrating Milestones!

The Following Polk County Master Gardeners were Recognized at the Harvest Celebration:

**Lifetime Master Gardeners**

10+ years as a Master Gardener and 1500 or more volunteer service hours!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dean</th>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Stephanie</th>
<th>McAdam</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlene</td>
<td>Butz</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
<td>O'Connor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Ferrell</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Reeves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jen</td>
<td>Firzlaff</td>
<td>Jean</td>
<td>Roe</td>
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<td>Alda</td>
<td>Helvey</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Schmitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Helvey</td>
<td>Jean</td>
<td>Schustek</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Howell-Williams</td>
<td>Margaret</td>
<td>Spikes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Hurless-Banks</td>
<td>Sandie</td>
<td>Sydnes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean</td>
<td>Koch</td>
<td>Paula</td>
<td>Winslow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn</td>
<td>Magnani</td>
<td>Mary Lou</td>
<td>Woods</td>
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*Pictured from Left:* Patrick Schmitt, Sandie Sydnes, Paula Winslow, Charlene Butz, Ruth O'Connor, Stephanie McAdam, Bob Helvey, Jean Koch, Dean Brand, Jean Roe.

**Service Hour Recognitions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3000 Hours</th>
<th>500 Hours</th>
<th>500 Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn Magnani</td>
<td>Kent Freise</td>
<td>Eileen Robb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Hours</td>
<td>Rosie Surber</td>
<td>Don Doxon</td>
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</table>
Charlene Butz
Isabella Hurless-Banks
1000 Hours
Bruce Travis

Joyce Reiling
Michael Fuson
Jerry Marker
Debra Regennitter
Mary Rolfes

From left: Jerry Marker, Michael Fuson, Don Doxon, Kent Freise

Thank you John Hagen and Mark Riggs for taking photographs!

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Thank you to all who attended the Harvest Celebration!

From Left: Mary Poulter, Denise Essman, Bonnie McCaughey, Crystal McManus

It was fun with delicious food! Thanks to Ike for organizing!

Please reserve the following dates for 2.5 hours of education:

- Tuesday, Jan. 8: Tivon Feeley, DNR
- Thursday, Feb 28: Dr. Rosburg, Drake
- Thursday, March 28: not yet finalized
• 1 hour of education will be offered on Thursday, April 11: not yet finalized

We need soups to be donated. Please email Mary Poulter (poultermk76@gmail.com) if you are willing to donate a soup.

Watch the Green Thumb for more information

Still Need Education Hours?

Black Hawk County Fall Garden Symposium

Saturday, November 3, 2018
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1301 Kimball Avenue, Waterloo
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Cost: $30
Includes: morning snack with coffee, lunch and handouts

If you are interested in this symposium from Master Gardeners in Black Hawk County call

Susan Erickson, Iowa State University PLACE Program Coordinator, to register: Call (319) 234-6811

Some of the Speakers Include:
* Randall Cass, Iowa State University Extension Entomologist
* Andrew Coghill-Behrens, Eastern Iowa Orchid Society
* Dean Brand, Polk County Master Gardeners, Discovery Gardens

for more information on the schedule, CLICK HERE

Iowa Master Gardener's YouTube Page

A convenient way to complete your educational requirement is to view horticulture webinars from home or public library
Clock your hours AND record them by December 31st!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reminders of what is NOT allowed for continuing education</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listening to podcasts or radio programs, reading books, magazines, or websites is not allowed for continuing education credit per the Master Gardener Volunteer Manual. Also, touring gardens without instruction by a trained instructor is not appropriate for MG CEC.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Master Gardener Class Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following classes are open for Master Gardeners to attend and earn education hours:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 6 House Plants (2 hours CEC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 13: Soils &amp; Soil Fertility (2 hours --note this is a repeat from the Program in March)</td>
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**Building Soils and Society:**
Assuring Sustainability Through Organic Farming

**November 18-19, 2018**
18th Annual Iowa Organic Conference · Memorial Union · University of Iowa

Join us for these sessions and learn the latest techniques for transitioning to organic farming or for improving your current organic operation. Monday’s lunch will feature local and organic produce, meats, and dairy products prepared as a gourmet meal by award-winning University of Iowa executive chef, Barry Greenberg.

More information or to Register:

[Click here](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1131497053588&format=html&print=true)
It's time to order
Polk County Master Gardener
T-shirts & Sweatshirts!

Please pre-order & pay by December 13th!
CLICK HERE to print the form and instructions.

Pre-orders help us balance our finances AND you are ensured of getting the size and style you want. Prices range from $15 for a crew neck t-shirt to $40 for a hooded sweatshirt.

Please note that the v-neck t's run small and have a tailored fit. Consider ordering a size larger than usual if you want this style.

Need a new name badge? Prefer to have a magnetic clasp for your badge?
Use the same form to make those requests as well!

Demonstration Garden

The season has nearly come to a close and the gardens cleaned up for fall and winter.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers that assisted in spring and fall clean up, planting, weeding, watering, promotions and advertising,
education nights, Open House, flower sales, fall fundraiser, harvesting fruits and vegetables, etc.  
Your time in volunteerism is genuinely appreciated. We could not have achieved our lovely displays without you.

Our last activities for the season will be emptying the water lines and putting the roses to bed. Placing collars and mulched leaves around the roses will not take place until after a hard freeze, therefore the date has not been set. Generally this is completed some time in November. Watch for a This n That communication on the date and time.

We're Looking for Small Branch-Logs for the Garden
Last spring the Demonstration Garden framed up a portion of the Woodland bed with small wood pieces (planted on end). If you are pruning up (or taking down) any trees this winter, do keep us in mind. We are looking for wood logs that are 4 to 5 inches in diameter and 4 to 6 inches in length. They will be utilized to frame the exterior of the mulch pathway.

Demonstration Garden still has some clean soil available!
Please remove from the south side of the pile first (it is covering part of our vegetable area). Contact one of the co-chairs and we will give you instructions as to location and access.

Again, thank you to all volunteers that support the Polk County Master Gardeners in one or more of the various projects. We shall see you during our wintering rose event or next spring.

Visit our website and Like our Current Facebook page:

http://www.demonstrationgardenpcmg.org/
https://www.facebook.com/demonstrationgarden/

Demo Garden Co-Chairs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Doxon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rdoxon@gmail.com">rdoxon@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(515) 253-9115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandie Sydnes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sasydnes@gmail.com">sasydnes@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(515) 276-1497</td>
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Enabling Garden
While a bit windy on one of our Saturday clean-ups, in general, we have beautiful fall Iowa weather.

Thanks to all of our regular volunteers, MG Interns and MG Trainees that came out to assist!

We were able to wrap up our big fall tasks. Thanks for everyone who made time to come out and help.

The EG co-chairs would like to give thanks for all of our volunteers who participated in the Enabling Garden this year. Thank you for being there to write the grants, plant annuals, pull weeds, water, donate goodies, fundraise, and most importantly, bring a meal to work night. Your time and expertise are appreciated!

Happy Veteran's Day and have a Beautiful Thanksgiving.

Thank you

Please connect with us on our website . . .

www.enablinggardenpcmg.org

. . . or keep up to date on current pictures, upcoming activities, or potential changes due to weather on our Facebook Group

Enabling Garden Co-Chairs:

- Sandie Hamilton - bhamil7132@aol.com
- Paula Winslow - peaceinthegarden@aol.com
- Christine Barker - ccbark1989@aol.com
- Sharon Schoonoer - schoony35@aol.com

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Discovery Garden

Rotunda Bed at the Discovery Garden. Photo courtesy: Dean Brand
"And the sun took a step back, the leaves lulled themselves to sleep and autumn was awakened."
~ Raquel Franco ~

The Discovery Garden would like to thank all of our Discovery Garden Master Gardener Volunteers, Bed Team Members, State Fair Volunteers and MG Trainees for a wonderful 2018 Season - there was a lot of positive feedback and we appreciate you sharing your time and talents to make our Garden a success!

We would also like to welcome and announce a new Co-Chair for our Discovery Garden. MG Earl Hinnenkamp will join - Dean Brand, Jean Roe and Patrick Schmitt as the Co-Chairs for the 2018-2019 season.

In 2018, we completed a number of considerable changes:

- The Crab Apple tree was trimmed along with other miscellaneous trees and shrubs.
- A relabeling process for our trees and shrubs was started by the DG Communications Team. Gloria Morris, from our DG Communications Team, will be championing an ongoing project for these permanent plantings.
- The permeable pathway was resealed.
- The Pond Pump underwent a rebuild.
- A new AAS Sign was added.
- A Barbara Hans Memorial was completed with research accomplished by Nancy Bodine, from our DG Communications Team, and purchased with monies which were specifically donated in Barbara Hans honor for the Discovery Garden. The memorial is currently being stored at Co-Chair Patrick Schmitt's home for the winter.

As we look toward 2019, we are especially excited to announce that the Rose Bed will be given a complete overhaul with new rose bush plantings and an enhanced garden bed. By the time our Iowa State Fair rolls around, we invite you to come and visit this improvement to our Discovery Garden.

Looking forward to the Iowa State Fair in 2019 - August 8 through 18, 2019

Co-Chairs:
Dean Brand  drbrand@mediacombb.net  tel: 515-360-0774
Earl Hinnekamp  19earl53@gmail.com  tel: 515.443.0010
Jean Roe  ljroe@q.com  tel:515.205.8706
Patrick Schmitt  schmittpatrickj@gmail.com  tel:515.279.9645

Like us on Facebook:  https://www.facebook.com/groups/discoverygarden/
View our website:  www.discoverygardenpcmg.org
Garden Tour 2019
It's time to plan next year's tour!

If you are interested in helping to plan next year's tour please contact Jodie Hand by e-mail for more information. We will have a Spring meeting sometime in February or March of next year. Stay tuned for details!

Our target area for the 2019 Tour will be Ankeny and Bondurant, with a tentative date of Saturday June 29th, 2019. If you are an active Master Gardener or Intern or will be in Spring 2019 and live in Ankeny or Bondurant and would like to be featured on the tour please let Jody know. We will be selecting gardens for the tour this Fall and will continue to make our tour selections this Spring. If you have any questions about being a host garden please contact Jodie by e-mail.

Thank you!

Garden Tour Co-chairs:

Jodie Hand (Primary) - jodiemariehand@gmail.com
Eric Hand (Secondary) - eric.hand@caseys.com

Participate in a Research Study
Exploring the gap between public understanding of pollinators and pollinator needs

You are invited to take part in a survey from Oregon State University that will generate useful information on the public's understanding of pollinators to help modify outreach and education documents in the future. The survey takes approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. For more information or to take the survey please click the link below:
http://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bw2OqokCObh83rv

Thank you in advance for your time!

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Construction on Adventureland Drive

The stretch of Adventureland Drive between Hubble Ave. and 17th St. is undergoing construction, expected completion is mid-May 2019. The two lanes on either side will be reduced to one lane each way for most of the project. Access to the Extension Office is NOT expected to be blocked at any point.

Thank you for your patience while the roadway is improved!

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November note from Ike

A special thank you to my co-worker Kalsa Parker Browning who helps me get the Green Thumb ready each month!!!
Kalsa Parker Browning

Phone: 515-957-5761
by email: nancyike@iastate.edu

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

Polk County Master Gardeners, 1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A, Altoona, IA 50009

SafeUnsubscribe™ (recipient's email)
Update Profile | About our service provider
Sent by nancyike@iastate.edu in collaboration with

Try it free today