Down Cheryl's Garden Path

*My Garden is My Sanctuary*

by

Marie Church

As I look out to my garden
I feel a sense of pride
It really is a lovely room
Except it is outside.

Where lovely things mix and match
And greenery fills the walls
The sound of trickling water
Coming from the gold fish pond.

I love the sight of stones and rocks
And driftwood and tree ferns to
The sounds of all my chimes
I know you would like it too.

With pride I walk around my garden
And savour each scent and smell
Colours of yellow, red and gold
Striped cushion on a bench.
The bird bath has its own domain
It's placed beside a wooden arch
Where all the birds come to bathe
And drink when they are parched.

Ladybirds can hide away
Sometimes they come out to see
What's happening around them
With caterpillars and the bees.

There's not much more that I can say
Except if you have your own
It won't take long to build it up
Seeds will bloom once they are sown.

Cheryl Fridl
Steering Committee Chairperson

New! Beaverdale Farmers' Market!

We'll have a small booth about once per month!

The Farmers Market Days in Beaverdale are Tuesdays evenings starting June 5th. Our schedule for Beaverdale varies a little but the dates are listed in the SignUp app!

If you're interested in helping with the booth, please sign up for a shift. Dates are listed on the registration--early shift will set up the booth, late shift will take down the booth. Contact a co-chair if you want more information.

The music is good, the food is great and everyone has a good time! Anyone and everyone is welcome to participate in this fun volunteer activity!

Beaverdale Farmers' Market Co-chairs:

Marietta Rives: mariettarives@hotmail.com
Susan Walkup: sjbdsw@icloud.com

Polk County Master Gardeners'
2018 Garden Tour

PCMG 2018 Garden Tour is Saturday, June 30!

We need help with garden prep for these tour gardens as requested on the following days and locations:

Dean Brand - 500 Clarks Ln NE Mitchelville
Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 4:30-6:30
Randy Campbell - 6795 NE Rising Sun Dr., Pleasant Hill
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday - 5:30 - ?

The Enabling Garden
Tuesday work nights beginning at 4:00 PM and Thursday mornings at about 9:00 AM

Please e-mail jodiemariehand@gmail.com if you would like to help out with garden prep at either of these locations.

We also need volunteers to sign up for shifts on the day of the tour. June 30th

Please sign up here.

We will be doing a pre-tour on June 23rd for all of the volunteers and host gardeners at 9:00 AM - meeting at the Polk county extension office. We plan to do a self guided tour and car pool together. All volunteers for the day of the tour will get an opportunity to tour the host gardens on the pre-tour day.

Master Gardeners can receive up to 1 hour of continuing education credit for attending the tour and participating in our exhibits and presentations.

Two Really Easy Ways to Help the Tour be Successful

1. **Tell your friends, neighbors, co-worker about this family-friendly event!** There are fun activities at every garden stop! Free make 'n takes for children--demonstrations for all ages. Adult (& youth 13 and above) tickets are only $10--children 12 and younger are free with a ticketed adult.

   Check out the details (and buy tickets) on the tour's website:
   
   [https://www.pcmggardentour.com/](https://www.pcmggardentour.com/)

   Or at these locations:
   Canoyer Garden Center - Grimes and Ankeny
   Goode Greenhouses
   The Woodsmith Store
   Hyvee - Altoona and Pleasant Hill
   Polk County Extension in Altoona

2. **"Like" our Facebook and other social media pages and share them with your friends. Word of mouth is FREE publicity and it travels so fast through social media!**

   [https://www.facebook.com/PCMGgardentour/](https://www.facebook.com/PCMGgardentour/)

   Instagram: pcmggardentour

Garden Tour Co-chairs: Eric & Jodie Hand

Primary Contact is Jodie:

- jodiemariehand@gmail.com  319-361-9224

Secondary Contact is Eric:
Master Gardener Bus Tour

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR THREE DAY TRIP TO THE ROCKFORD/JANESVILLE AREA

Friday - Sunday, July 20 - 22nd

Please send in your registration as soon as possible so that we know how many people will be joining us on the bus as we make our final preparations for the trip.

Our week-end will include visits to the following public gardens: Anderson Japanese Gardens, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden and the Nicholas Conservatory. The trip will also include visits to some very fun private gardens and nurseries in the Rockford/Janesville area.

The registration form is available on the Polk County Master Gardener website. The trip is open to the general public - you do not need to be a Master Gardener to register for the trip. Please send your registration form and check to Charlene Butz (her address is on the form).

Chair:
Laurie Barrick barrick8792@msn.com tel: 515-278-8792

Demonstration Garden
The heat of May presented its challenges. **Thank you to all our volunteers** that braved the weather, assisted in getting all our plantings completed, weeded and watered our new transplants. **We also give a shout out to the Greenhouse and Plant Sale team** for seeing that our 2018 plant requests were fulfilled. Thank you.

May was a productive month, in addition to the planting of annuals the paver path connection was completed, the central Woodland bed was edged with wood slices and significant progress has been made on the stone edging near the new pathways.

The early onset of summer heat has created its challenges. **We are in critical need of volunteers to assist in watering and also weeding within the various beds.** Despite the lack of rain, they keep on coming. **Join us during our Monday evening work nights or contact a co-chair if you have daytime, evening or weekend availability.**

Yoga in the Garden Fundraiser closed out the month of May. June brings the onset of our free lecture series. **Join us at 7pm on Thursday evenings, simply bring a lawn chair. Invite your family and friends to join us.** The June programs include the following:

June 7 - Invasive Species  
June 14 - Organic Fertilizer (Worm Castings)  
June 21 - Water Features and Gardens for Small Spaces  
June 28 - Tabletop Creations

**View the full flyer for the lecture series here.**

**We look forward to meeting you in the garden during the 2018 growing season.**

Visit our website and Like our Current Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/demonstrationgarden/](https://www.facebook.com/demonstrationgarden/)

**Demo Garden Co-Chairs:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<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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**Discovery Garden**
Wednesday Work Nights continue from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm; however, if you prefer to work in your garden bed during the day - please know that this is just fine. We are appreciative of you sharing your talents with the Discovery Garden. Interested in joining our Discovery Garden Team? Just contact a Co-Chair and thank for your consideration.

Spring/Summer Educational Sessions at the Discovery Garden:
Educational Sessions begin at 6:00 pm immediately following the Wednesday Work Night. Please bring a lawn chair and a water bottle to stay hydrated.

- **Wednesday, June 13th** - *Pollinators and Beneficial Insects* followed with a Q & A on pest and disease, and a walk through the Discovery Garden to look for insects with Sadie Todd. Sadie is an Entomologist with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.
- **Wednesday, June 27th** - *Grow Food Not Lawns* with Jenny Quiner, an urban farmer in Des Moines and owner of Dog Patch Urban Gardens, 5085 Meredith Drive in Des Moines.

Friday, June 29th, Saturday, June 30th and Saturday, July 1st - Good Guys Car Show, the Iowa State Fairgrounds will be closed without a pass. If necessary, please contact a Co-Chair.

**Co-Chairs:**
Dean Brand  drbrand@mediacombb.net  tel: 515-360-0774  
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/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/discoverygarden/)  
View our website:  [www.discoverygardenpcmg.org](http://www.discoverygardenpcmg.org)
Enabling Garden

Our Season of Learning continues this month with our special guest, Patrice Petersen-Keys, who will be speaking about Wild Edibles. Come take a walk on the wild side! Patrice will provide us with pointers to identify the common edible plants around you. Be prepared to sample a variety of edible plants. So grab a lawn chair and your sense of adventure and join us in the garden at 7:00PM on Tuesday, June 26th.

The Enabling Garden is proud to be a stop on the PCMG Garden Tour this year, on Saturday June 30th, between 9AM - 4PM. Plan to tour beautiful personal gardens of Master Gardeners in East Polk County and then round out your tour with a stop at the Enabling Garden. If you haven't been in the EG for a while, stop by and see what has changed!

Once again, the Enabling Garden will be the site for Altoona's Wine and Craft Beer Fest, sponsored by the Altoona Area Chamber of Commerce and the Altoona Hy-Vee on Saturday, June 8th between 5:00 - 8:00PM. Get your tickets today for this awesome event! Tickets are $17 in advance and $25 at "the door" and can be purchased at Altoona Hy-Vee or the Altoona Chamber of Commerce.

The cost of admission gets you:
- an evening of wine & beer samples
- gourmet cheeses
- fruits and crudités
- entertainment

Click this link to find more information!

Last but not least, regular work nights at the Enabling Garden are underway on Tuesdays. Plan to join us on any Tuesday late afternoons starting 5:00PM, weather permitting. Please join us for fun, food and fellowship in the garden.

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 - ccbbark1989@aol.com
- Sharon Schoonoer - schoony35@aol.com

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Art in the Garden 2018

Saturday, August 4th, 2018 - Demonstration Garden
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Are you an artist or craftperson? Do you grow, create, or build something that no one else does? Please consider selling your wares at our Art in the Garden fundraiser.

Just as we did last year, we are going to have a booth filled with items made by our own MGs. You create, we sell. We will accept everything from plants, to food items (such as honey or jam), to handmade cards, to yard art. The MGs will keep a percentage of the profits. Contact Mary Howell-Williams for more information.

Art in the Garden takes place on Saturday, August 4th, at the Demo Garden and Valerius Elementary School in Urbandale. Like us on Facebook, and please share the event with your friends!

Please consider volunteering - we will start signing people up this month.

Hope to see you all there!

Art in the Garden Co-chairs:

Mary Howell-Williams: mhwphoto@mchsi.com
Katherine Howsare: howsarek@live.com

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Des Moines Downtown Farmers' Market 2018

The 2018 Des Moines Downtown Farmers' Market season begins this month!
Our first outing of the season at the Downtown Des Moines Farmers' Market-Saturday, May 19-was quite busy. Our feature topic was "Spring Planting," and over 200 Market Patrons stopped by our booth with gardening questions. Many visitors took advantage of our "free seed" giveaway, and a number expressed interest in becoming Master Gardeners.

Our remaining Downtown Farmers' Market outings of the season are scheduled for the third Saturdays of each month. Those date are:

- June 16
- July 21
- August 18
- September 15

At the moment, we have a full complement of volunteers for these dates, but that frequently changes as our outing dates approach. Please check Signup.com to see whether there are open slots if you are interested in volunteering to help. Also, if you have ideas about gardening topics we should feature at the Market, please share your suggestions with us!

Thank you!

DsM Downtown Farmers' Market Co-chairs:

Matt Doré: matt.dore@drake.edu
Sherri Soich: sherrisoich@gmail.com
Randy Campbell: campbellrd@mchsi.com

2018 Plant Sale

We are delighted to report that this year's sale was our most successful ever and that is definitely saying something, considering how well we did in our last three years at Victorian Acres! We do not yet have final figures but do know that they exceed 2017 by a healthy margin.

When you consider all of the possible drawbacks which could have negatively impacted the sale this year it makes our success all the more wonderful. We were working with a new location, road works and detours, crazy parking and a spring which was simply not cooperating! But Mother Nature smiled on us by providing perfect weather, the Greenhouse Crew and volunteers supplied us with great looking plants and, as always, Master Gardeners stepped up to the plate by going out and digging perennials to donate even if they were somewhat hard to find. And also, let's not forget the wonderful non-plant donations we had again this year.

One of the things which struck us the most was how patient everyone was on Friday night. Let's face it, the queues were long and there were two of them! But everyone remained good natured and we also got a great suggestion from one of our Master Gardeners to help speed things up which we can implement in future years.

So, a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to each and every one of you who played a part in this year's success no matter how big or small. An undertaking of this size is definitely a collaborative effort and, as always, Polk County Master Gardeners were up for the challenge.
We welcome your comments and feedback and you can contact us at:

Plant Sale Co-chairs:

Isabella Hurless-Banks: imhurless@aol.com 515-205-0577
Jen Firtzlaff: skiier13@mchsi.com 515-313-3418

Garden Talks & Other Continuing Education

Yes, Ike will have the annual one-page flyer of all garden talks and events this week!

It will be linked in the e-newsletter titled "Growing Connections". Copies will also be available soon at the gardens and at the Extension Office.

Tips on Entering Your Hours

Wonder why Some of your hours are approved and others not?

Thank you for volunteering AND staying fresh with horticulture education!

I also appreciate that you enter your hours regularly. There are a lot more of you than there is of me, so I sometimes get behind. I will do my best to stay more current!

However, when I find that hours are not entered quite right I sometimes will fix one of your entries as an example and approve that one--so look closely . . . you may discover the clue!

But even better, read my recently revised tip sheet that shows step by step how to enter volunteer hours: CLICK HERE

You can edit entries to fix them. Scroll to the left side of the screen and click on the tiny icon of a pen (or on the red, underlined number labeled as "HID"). The entry will open up so you can edit it.
Just remember to use the Save button when you are finished!

Call me if you have questions! --Ike

May Office Hours for Ike

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

Iowa State University
Extension and Outreach

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

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