



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners



March MG Meeting

Defiance County Master Gardener's March 21, 2017 meeting was held at the Defiance County extension office with 17 members present. The meeting was called to order by President Jean Bremer. The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. There being no changes, the minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer, Linda Maag, gave an updated report including each fund balance. A motion to approve the report was made by Rose Tadsen, seconded by Jamie Walters. Linda also presented a bill for community garden gate repair for \$16.09. A motion to approve the expenses was made by Tammy Bower, seconded by Dale Bennett. Motion passed.

Historian, Linda Hoffman, requested that any articles and/or pictures of events be given to her.

Reports:

Community Garden: The Defiance County Commissions approved \$1,000 for "new dirt" for the community garden. New mulch will be around the paths. Sign up meetings will be held April 19 at 9am and 7:30pm at County East Garage.

Sherwood and Hicksville: No reports.

Education Day: None planned. Jean passed out monthly meeting schedule with education plans for each month.

Fair: No report.

Plant Sale: Jamie has approval from State Bank for the plant sale on May 20. He will put up signs the second week of April. Jamie reminded everyone to label the plants you bring.

New Business:

April meeting will be at Diane Clark's home to plant containers for the plant sale. Gwen announced that she, Jamie and several of the new master gardener interns will be sharing information on plants and bees at the Defiance YMCA Healthy Kids Day on April 29. She asked for gallon milk cartons and seed catalogs. They can be delivered to extension office or to her home. Just put on front porch if no one home. A motion to adjourn was made by Rose Tadsen, second by Jamie Walters.

How to Check Seed Viability

Most vegetable seeds basically need two things in order to germinate - moisture and warmth. We can easily replicate those conditions and spark the seed into germination. Here's what you will need: Paper towels, misting bottle filled with clean water, old seeds to check, ziploc baggie, warm location and moisten a paper towel. First, lay a paper towel on a flat, clean surface and moisten it with the misting bottle. Place five to ten old seeds in the center of the wet paper towel and fold it to form a small square pouch. With the moistened seed pouch completed the next thing you need to do is place the pouch inside the sandwich baggie and seal it up. Place in a warm location and wait. Check out more at: <http://bit.ly/2kgM5bQ>



Planning Ahead

MG Meeting
Diane Clark's Home
April 18th @ 4:00pm

YMCA Kid Event
MG Booth
April 29th

MG Plant Sale
Eric's Icecream North
May 20th @ 8:00am

Volume 14, Issue 3

Officers

President:
Jean Bremer
jcbremer@bright.net
419-758-3283

President Elect:
Diane Clark
dianecl6@aol.com
419-670-2739

Secretaries:
Laurel Brehler
ljbrehler@gmail.com
248-515-1244

Historian:
Linda Hoffman
clhoffmani@hotmail.com
419-782-2005

Treasurer:
Linda Maag
MaagNet@roadrunner.com
419-784-3602

Keeper of the Garden
Bruce Clevenger
clevenger.10@osu.edu
419-782-4771

Garden Angel
Deb Walters
walters.269@osu.edu
419-782-4771

Newsletter
Jamie Walters
j.walters1054@yahoo.com
419-438-7335

Defiance County Master Gardeners



- 4/7 Kay Boroff
- 4/11 Kathleen Plush
- 4/13 Linda Hoffman
- 4/18 Donna Hitzeman
- 4/19 Nancy Westbay
- 4/26 Jane Clark
- 4/28 Ginny Lucarelli

Educational Presentation:

The meeting was followed by two presentations.

Mary Weaks gave a demonstration on how to sharpen all those garden tools. She used different types of files to sharpen the beveled edges of shovels, loopers, pruners, and etc. She used WD40 after the sharpening to clean and preserve the metal. (How many of you went home and got busy with your tools you forgot to clean and sharpen in the fall?)

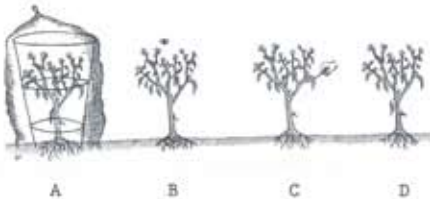
Finally, we had a very interesting and entertaining history lesson from Johnny Appleseed aka Bill Grimes. We walked with Johnny and his kin through the wilderness from MA to OH. He was born in 1774 in MA and died in 1845 in Ft. Wayne, IN. At age 18 he left home and started walking west. He learned about apple trees in PA and then decided to move west to Ohio Valley selling seedlings. (He sold in 50 tree lots for 3 cents a tree. If you wanted him to plant them, he charges 6 cents a tree). Thanks Bill for a very fun presentation!



Citizen Scientists needed to study insect pollination.

The Gardiner Lab at The Ohio State University Department of Entomology is seeking Citizen Scientists to aid in the study of insect pollination this summer! Our goal is to measure the amount of pollination provided to gardens in rural, suburban and urban landscapes. Measuring pollination is one way to gauge the health of our bee community. All that is required is a small garden space where you will be able to grow four sweet pepper plants and the willingness to follow an experimental protocol this summer! Some of you participated in this study in 2014. We learned A LOT about how to measure pollination from that study, and have a publication in review of our findings. We will post this on our website as soon as it is accepted. We have used this year 1 data to GREATLY SIMPLIFY our program as well, so if you thought that Pollination Investigators

was too time consuming, take a look at our revised protocol. Information on the Pollination Investigators experiment and details on how to sign up can be found at: <https://u.osu.edu/pollinationinvestigators/>. Toolkits will be distributed by mid-April, and we are looking for 200 participants from around the state, so feel free to forward this email to others who may be interested. Sincerely, Mary Gardiner, Department of Entomology, Ohio State University.



Agenda for April MG Meeting

April 18th - 4pm or anytime you can get there!

Host / Location: Diane Clark's Home, 3514 Gordon Creek Dr., Hicksville, (1/2 mile North of Hicksville School or Dari-Delite of SR 49N. 419-670-2739, dianecl6@aol.com

Program: Perennial planting picnic extravaganza - preparation for the May Plant Sale

Bring: A snack or dish to pass. Wine & cheese welcome, too. 5 gallon buckets to carry soil, old card table, & chairs for potting benches if you have any.

RSVP by April 11th to 419-670-2739

Lunch and refreshments furnished: Hotdogs, buns, condiments, soft drinks and sun tea.