August Information

The Defiance County Master Gardener’s met at the Extension office on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 with 17 in attendance. Prior to the general meeting, several of us met to plan the County Fair Booth. See notes below.

President-Elect Jamie Walters called the meeting to order.

Secretary’s Report: The Secretary’s Report for June 19, 2018 was approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report: A request was made by Laurel Brehler to be reimbursed for charges for a plant and get-well cards that we sent to recovering members. Tammy Bowers moved and Doreen DeLisle seconded. Motion carried. Gwen Anderson was given the receipts for reimbursement.

Historian’s Report: Doreen DeLisle took lots of pictures at Riverfest. She is working on the tri-fold for the Fair Booth.

Communications: Remember to log in you volunteer hours. Weeding in the parks needs to be recorded as Defiance City Parks and not as Community Service. We have until October 31, 2018 to record this year’s hours.

Committee Reports:

Defiance: We will continue with weeding in the parks. Kingsbury really needs some attention. Remember that you can contact Rob Cereghin at 419-576-6016 to pick up weed piles or to bring mulch.

Hicksville: There are more flowers in the Business District. There are new vertical planter that look excellent.

Sherwood: None

Promedica: George reported that the last meeting in June had only 3 people. There will be no meeting in July or August. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 19th at 4:30, which is the day after our next meeting.

County Fair: The Defiance County Fair is August 18th to the 24th, with set-up at 10:00am on August 17th. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Diane Clark and Donna Hitzeman are the co-chairs this year. The committee also consists of Tammy Bowers, Gwen Anderson, Linda and Dale Bennett, and Laurel Brehler. Please contact Deb Walters at 419-782-4771 (8:30am-4:30pm Monday thru Friday) to sign-up if you haven’t already. We will man our booth in shifts as follows: 12:00-3:00; 3:00-5:30; 5:30-8:00. The theme this year is “Gardening With and Without Wildlife”. We have reserved 3 tables, but do not know yet where we will be.

No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden. - Thomas Jefferson
August Newsletter Continued

Old Business: Rain Garden Weeding Project was declined to Miller Contracting. Bruce did say that we could have accepted a donation for the work. We decided at the June meeting that we were having trouble working at the parks and that we should not take on another project.

Bulb Sale Fundraiser: The order forms were offered at the meeting. This is an easy fundraiser for us. Order bulbs for yourself and get a few friends to order. Bulbs are shipped directly to purchaser. Collect money and then write one check. Order forms should be turned in by the September meeting.

New Business: The MGV Convention is September 28th and 29th in Cincinnati. Diane Clark and Doreen DeLisle are both going. Diane has offered to share a room. In our Bylaws it is stated that we will cover the registration of officers who want to attend. Admission is $99.00.

We decided that on October 16, 2018 we will invite Williams and Paulding County Master Gardeners to a potluck with a “Seed and Bulb” exchange. We will meet at the Extension Building at 6:00pm. Also, we will elect our officers for the following year. Jamie Walters volunteered to invite the groups.

Tammy Bowers made a motion that we give $200.00 to the Extension office to cover supplies that we get from Deb over the year. Dale Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

Our next meeting will be August 14th, 2018 at Strait Gate Greenhouses located at 2298 Arrowsmith Rd, Hicksville, OH 43526, Ph. 419-487-1027. Come early to shop. Meeting begins at 6:30pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gwen Anderson and seconded by Mary Kasuga.

Following the meeting, Doreen DeLisle shared how to flavor vinegars. She made a simple salad so we could try a vinegar she prepared. She also shared blueberries and mint so we could make our own vinegar at home.

Horticultural Moment: Rosalee Rosebrock did a demonstration on how to prune a rose bush.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel Brehler, Secretary.

August Is Tree Check Month: Public’s Help Needed to Find the Asian Longhorned Beetle

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is reminding citizens that August is Tree Check Month. This is the best time of year to check your trees for signs of the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) – a destructive invasive pest that kills trees.

“Asian longhorned beetle infested trees are safety hazards. You don’t want them on your property because they can drop branches and tree tops, and storm damage becomes much worse,” said Josie Ryan, APHIS’ national operations manager for the ALB eradication program. “So to make sure your trees are healthy, now is the time to go outside and look at them for signs of the beetle.”

“Infested trees do not recover, nor do they regenerate. Foresters have observed ALB-related tree deaths in New York, Illinois, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Ohio,” added Ryan. “It’s possible to find and eradicate this destructive pest, as we have done in Illinois and New Jersey, but we need the public’s help.”

The beetle has distinctive markings that are easy to recognize:

- Long antennae with black and white bands, longer than the insect’s body.
- A shiny, jet-black body, about 1” to 1 ½” long, with white spots.
- Six legs with possible bluish-colored legs and feet.
- Signs of infestation include:
  - Round exit holes, about the size of a dime or smaller, in tree trunks and branches.
  - Shallow oval or round scars in the bark, where the adult beetle has chewed an egg site.
  - Sawdust-like material, called frass, on the ground around the tree or in the branches.
  - Dead branches or limbs falling from an otherwise healthy-looking tree.
- After seeing signs of the beetle:
  - Make note of what was found and where. Take a photo, if possible.
  - Try to capture the insect by placing it in a container and freezing it, so will preserve it for identification.

Report findings by calling 1-866-702-9938 or online form at www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com