



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners



Volume 13, Issue 2
Officers



Planning Ahead

Defiance Home & Garden Show
March 4th & 5th

MG Meeting
March 15th @ 6:30pm
Extension Office

Putnam County Spring Into Gardening Fair
April 9th

Toledo Seagate Convention Center Home & Garden
April 15th

Van Wert P. Allen Smith
April 16th

MG Meeting
April 19th @ 6:30pm
Extension Office

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February Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened by President Jamie Walters to 14 members and Bruce Clevenger present.

The treasurers report was sent by email. Jamie Walters reported that there are no changes, stands approved. Tammy Bowers talked about the ongoing process of obtaining grant money from OSU. This was a grant for \$250 towards the Education Day. Bruce brought up the pros / cons of having the Extension Office oversee our funds or becoming a 501C3. Jamie tabled this decision until March meeting.

Communications:

The 2016 State Master Gardeners Volunteer Conference is September 16-17 in Cuyahoga Falls, OH. It sounds interesting, check out the website: u.osu.edu/mgv2016

Our recertification as an OSUE Master Gardener needs to be completed. Go to <https://ohiovolunteersystem.org/UniversalLogin.cfm>

Jamie read the OSUE Abuse Recognition and reporting protocol. Everyone signed the education report.

Master Gardener State fees were due February 17th, 2016, \$10. If you have not paid, please contact Deb.

Committee Reports:

Teresa Johnson is looking for volunteers to identify and pull invasive weeds with the 4-H campers at Camp Palmer, July 17 / 21. Please contact Jamie if interested.

Plant Sale: May 14th, Jane Clark will head up our plant sale again. It will run from 8am till noon or we sell out. We will setup at 6:30am, more details to follow.

Community Garden: Frozen solid

Sherwood: Spring Fling is May 12th & 13th

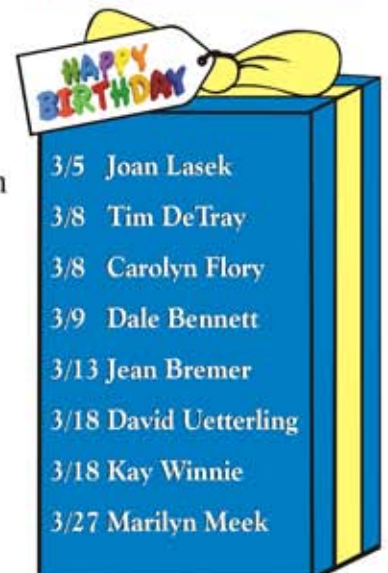
Hicksville: No report

Old Business:

We still have openings for educators at our monthly meetings. If you know of anyone that could or if you would like to share, please contact Jamie.

New Business:

The Ft. Wayne Home & Garden Show was February 25-28. The Toledo Botanical Garden presents "A Winter Gardening Horticulture Education Series 2016" go to www.toledogarden.org



- 3/5 Joan Lasek
- 3/8 Tim DeTray
- 3/8 Carolyn Flory
- 3/9 Dale Bennett
- 3/13 Jean Bremer
- 3/18 David Uetterling
- 3/18 Kay Winnie
- 3/27 Marilyn Meek

The meeting was adjourned by Dale Bennett, seconded by Dwyn Lichty.

Our education hour was presented by Bruce Clevenger. He spoke on selecting a high quality tree at the nursery and pruning young trees. For more information, go to www.treesaregood.org

Respectfully, Jean Bremer

Select a high quality tree at the nursery

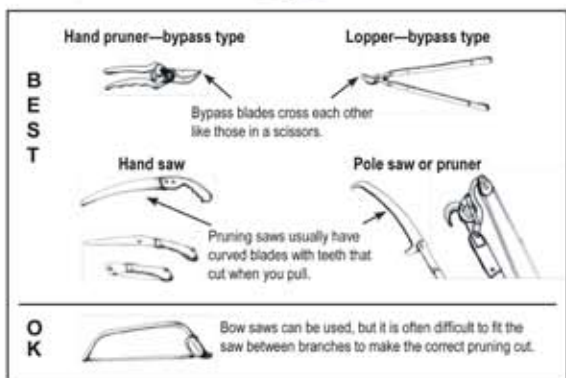
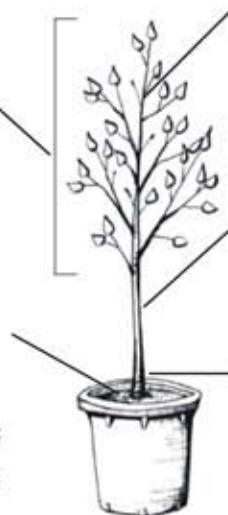
Crown height should be at least 60 percent of the total tree height for deciduous trees, 75 percent for evergreens.

One central leader is ideal. If not present, make sure that it can easily be pruned to one leader.

The bark should be free of scrapes or cracks (remove trunk wrap to check underneath).

There should not be more than 4 inches of soil over the roots. Use a metal kabob skewer or other heavy wire to push through the soil to find the depth to the first roots (roots that are at least as big around as a pencil).

The trunk should be centered in the soil and should not move independently of the root ball.



How to Hire an Arborist*

You can find arborists listed in the phone directory, usually under "Tree Service." When selecting an arborist, look for the following qualifications:

- Education** (degree in arboriculture, urban forestry, forestry, horticulture)
- Membership in Professional Organization(s)**
Organizations include the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA), and your state's arborist association. Such membership demonstrates a willingness to stay current on techniques and information.
- ISA Certification or State Certification/License**
Certified or State-licensed arborists are experienced professionals who have passed an examination and meet requirements for on-going education.
- Proof of Insurance**
A reputable arborist carries personal and property damage insurance (\$1 million per occurrence, \$2 million aggregate) and worker's compensation insurance (\$1 million). If an arborist is uninsured, homeowners could be held responsible for damages and injuries that occur as a result of the tree work. Request certificates, and phone the insurance agency to verify. Ask if the entire job will be performed by employees of the tree care company bidding the job. If not, ask for insurance certificates from all independent contractors as well.
- Necessary Permits and Licenses**
Some governmental agencies require contractors to apply for permits, a license, or both, before they are able to work. Be sure contractors comply with any local, state, provincial, or national laws.

Other Advice

- **Ask for references and speak to former clients.**
- **Get more than one estimate.**
- **Do not automatically accept the lowest bid.**
- **Never pay in advance.**
- **Be wary of door-to-door sales.** These are especially common after storms. Know that good arborists perform only accepted practices and wear safety equipment. For example, topping a tree and using climbing spikes for pruning are unacceptable. Safety equipment includes hard hats and ear protection.
- **Get it in writing.** When will the work be started and completed? Who will be responsible for clean-up? What is the hourly rate for additional work?

Life begins the day you start a garden. ~Chinese Proverb

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The Putnam County Master Gardeners are hosting their bi-annual "Spring Into Gardening Fair" at the Putnam County in Ottawa on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Information and registration is attached. Register early. Seating is limited.



Van Wert Blooms with P. Allen Smith & Friends.
Saturday, April 16th, 8am till 4pm
Guest Speakers: Pam Bennett, Irvin Etienne, Amanda Thomsen
Barbara Wise & Maria Zampini

Raffle Ticket Winners: Thank you, Mike Mix for the donation!
Jamie Walters, Gwen Anderson, Charlene Finch, & Kay Winnie

Next Meeting - March 15th, 6:30p.m., Defiance Extension Office
Speaker: Jamie Walters - Introduction to Honey Bees