



# A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

*Defiance County Master Gardeners*



## October MG Meeting

Meeting Minutes of Tuesday October 17, 2017. We met at the Extension Office. There were 15 in attendance. The meeting was called to order by Jean Bremer. The Minutes from September were accepted with one correction. Penny Diehl is not getting her yard certified. Mary Kasuga made the motion to accept. **Treasure's Report:** Linda Maag was not at the meeting. We did make a decent amount on the bulb sales. We would like to sell bulbs again next year. **Historian's Report:** Linda Hoffman said we need a committee to make new display boards. **Communications:** This year's Recognition Dinner will be on Tuesday November 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm. It is a pot-luck and spouses are invited too. Please RSVP to Deb so she knows how many tables to set up. (Laurel has volunteered to make phone calls to former members and invite them.)

### Committee Reports

**Defiance:** Diane Clark reported that the gardens at Promedica are doing well. There have been 7 to 8 employees and they seem very enthusiastic. They need education to help them maintain the gardens. They plan to plant a vegetable garden next summer to be used in the cafeteria. There are some roses that may need to be moved to get more sun. We will resume the panel discussions in February. George Stuckey will facilitate both the February and the March discussions. They were set up to be for a half hour, but some stayed for well over an hour.

Diane also reported on the Wacky Weeding Wednesdays. Rob Cereghin said that we were the best thing that has happened. The Mayor wants to return the park at 5th and Jefferson back to the neighborhood. Mike Nix commented that when sitting at the picnic tables at Kingsbury, you can't see the river.

**Hicksville:** Diane Clark went to a meeting of the Beautification Committee. She may propose a project for expanding gardens at the Rotary Park as something we may help with next year.

**Old Business:** The money we got from the state will be used to purchase a Michael Durr book on trees. It will be in our library. Also, FYI- there is a PA system available in the office, and 3 new tables in the storeroom. In January we will order new 2 sided banners.

**New Business:** Diane Clark handed out the program schedules for next year. She will send it to Deb to be posted on our website. Elections for new officers for 2018:

- President: Diane Clark, (she will not be able to preside for the Jan, Feb, March)
- President Elect: not yet filled. **Please consider serving in this position.**
- Treasurer: Gwen Anderson
- Secretary: Laurel Brehler
- Historian: Doreen DeLisle



**Planning Ahead**



**Happy Thanksgiving Nov 23**

**MG Recognition Potluck Extension Office Nov 28 @ 6:00pm**



**Merry Christmas Dec 25**

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**Officers**

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Defiance County Master Gardeners



- 11/3 Barbara Sinn
- 11/6 Mary Batt
- 11/7 Linda Carpenter
- 11/13 Chris Hammersmith
- 11/13 Linda Rutledge
- 11/18 Ginny Sterling
- 11/27 Tom Keller
- 11/30 David Parker

## September MG Meeting Continued

Thank you to all who have volunteered to serve. Motion to adjourn by Jamie Walters and seconded by Gwen Anderson. Mike Nix handed out an information sheet and gave a talk on Canna Lilies. Several of us took home a rhizome to plant in the spring, after storing in the basement. All education hours will count toward next year's totals.

Respectively submitted, Laurel Brehler



## Recognition Potluck

The Recognition Potluck will be at the Defiance Extension Office Nov 28th at 6pm. Please bring a passing dish (hot or cold) to share with everyone. Table service and drinks provided. Please RSVP with Deb or Bruce, 419.782.4771 so they can have enough tables & chairs setup.

## Planting Bulbs in the Fall

If thinking about the end of summer is getting you down, it's time to plan and plant your spring flowering bulb show. Autumn is the time to plant crocus, daffodils, tulips and many other spring bloomers. Don't be like me and skip the fall bulb planting, only to regret it in the spring! We all know that the fall chores are daunting, but taking a few hours to plant some bulbs will bring a smile to your face next spring. Do you remember where your daffodils are planted? Have you made notes in your garden journal? If the answer is "No", get that journal out when you start planting new bulbs! Spring flowering bulbs are planted in the fall to allow them to establish roots before top growth begins in spring. Planting too early may cause the bulbs to sprout this fall, only to be killed back by winter weather. Planting too late may not give the bulbs adequate time to root before winter. Bulbs should be planted in late September through October. Fall planting also ensures adequate chilling of the bulbs to promote flower bud initiation. Most species require 10 – 12 weeks of storage at 40 – 50 degrees F. According to a Purdue Extension fall newsletter, "Start your bulb garden out on the right path by planting only quality bulbs available from local garden centers or reputable online/email order sources. It's best to shop early to ensure the best selection of variety and quality. Select large, firm bulbs, and avoid those that are sprouting or molding. While many bulbs adapt to a wide range of soil types, none can tolerate poorly drained soil. Prepare the planting bed by adding organic matter, such as peat moss, well-rotted manure or compost. Depending on the specific site conditions, you may or may not need to add additional fertilizer. A soil test ahead of planting will determine needs for that site. Mix all amendments thoroughly with the soil in the bed before you plant the bulbs." The size of the bulb and the species will dictate the proper planting depth and spacing, generally the depth should be approximately 2.5 – 3 times the diameter of the bulb at its widest. Purchased bulbs should come with planting instructions. Twenty-two years ago I planted 125 tulip bulbs in a new flower bed in our front yard. The following spring, I had a huge showing of maybe 15 tulips blooming! The 25 daffodil bulbs I had planted as an "after thought" bloomed their little hearts out. When I head out to plant my daffodil bulbs I make a trip to the barn to grab the cordless drill and my bulb "auger". The snow fence is back up around the Bald Cypress tree in the lower yard to fend off rubbing bucks. I am sure that old "Baldy" is sleeping better tonight knowing he is protected.

Submitted by Faye Mahaffey

OSUE Brown County Master Gardener Volunteer

## MG Thank You

A "Thank You" to all of the Master Gardeners who volunteer their time back into the community with projects like community garden, city parks, Promedica, wacky weeding Wednesdays, YMCA, wrapping lilacs, Defiance fair booth and so many projects this year. Let's not forget the hundreds of thousands of hours that have been volunteered by previous Master Gardeners. We appreciate everything you have done and will do in the future, in keeping the Defiance Master Gardeners proud.

Thank you!

*A garden requires patient labor and attention. Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions or to fulfill good intentions. They thrive because someone expended effort on them.*