



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners



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Officers

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

President Elect:
Jamie Walters
j.walters1054@yahoo.com
419-438-7335

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

Historian:
Doreen DeLisle
ddelisle@chasebrass.com
419-572-0747

Treasurer:
Gwen Anderson
andgwen@roadrunner.com
419.782.0578

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



- 11/3 **Bobbi 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**



Planning Ahead

**MG Meeting
Extension Office
Nov 20 @ 6:30pm**

**Homecoming
Potluck
Extension Office
Nov 27th @
6:00pm**

**Happy
Thanksgiving
Nov 22nd**



**Homecoming Potluck
All MG Classes Welcome and Guests
November 27th @ 6:00pm**

Please RSVP with Deb Walters at 419.782.4771
Bring a hot/cold passing dish to share with everyone

November Information

The Defiance County Master Gardeners met in the Extension Conference Room on October 16, 2018, for a joint pot-luck/seed and bulb exchange with Master Gardeners from Williams and Paulding counties. There were 22 in attendance. Prior to the meeting, several of us met at the Pollinator Sanctuary where Jamie Walters gave an educational talk about the facility and the hives. Those attending will count as 45 minutes of continuing education. After the meal, we went around the room to introduce ourselves and everyone took turns selecting seeds/bulbs we brought.

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Clark.

Secretary's Report: The September 17th Minutes had one correction. Penny Diehl and Doreen DeLisle attended the MGV Convention, and not Donna Hitzeman.

Treasurer's Report: We made some money on the bulb sales, but not as much as last year.

Historian's Report: Doreen is grateful for photos we send to her and also newspaper articles, so please continue.

Communications: Volunteer hours for this year should have been turned in by October 15th.

Committee Reports:

Defiance: Laurel Brehler, Diane Clark and Jean Bremer did some weeding at the Depot, and also planted some bulbs and daylilies.

Sherwood: None

Hicksville: Donna Hitzeman said the La Fleur de Terre Garden Club is looking for someone to do a program next year on May 9, 2019 on the topic of "Almost Weedless Gardening", as well as fertilizing and general gardening tips. Text or call Donna Hitzeman if you are interested at 260-515-6929..

Old Business: None

New Business: Jamie Walters said there will be a Bee class on Saturday January 12th from 9:00am - 3:00pm.

"Gardening: the fine art of Soul to Soil." ~ Jan Bills

November Newsletter Continued

The slate of officers to be installed for next year are:

President –Jamie Walters

President Elect—Marge Wilson

Treasurer—Gwen Anderson (2nd term)

Secretary—Laurel Brehler (3rd term)

Historian—Doreen DeLisle (2nd term)

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel Brehler



Next month we will meet November 27th at 6:00pm for the Homecoming Potluck in the Extension Conference room. All MG Classes and Guests are welcome. Please invite your spouse/partner to join us. Please let Deb know if you will be able to attend.

Master Gardener Pollinator Sanctuary Visit



5 Ways to Prepare Your Garden for Winter

#1. **Prepare your soil for Spring** - Despite the fact that most people reserve this activity for the spring, fall is a great time to dig in soil amendments like manure, compost, bone meal, kelp, and rock phosphate. In most climates, adding nutrients at this time of year means the additions have time to start breaking down, enriching your soil, and becoming biologically active.

#2. **Plant cover crops** - late summer or early fall is a good time to sow cover crops like rye, vetch or clover. These crops help prevent soil erosion, break up compacted areas and increase levels of organic matter in garden beds. Cover crops also add nutrients. Planting legumes in your garden such as clover or field peas can increase the levels of available nitrogen for garden vegetables.

#3. **Divide and plant bulbs** - Three to four weeks after that glorious array, it's time to dig up and divide any plants that appeared crowded or straggly during the growing season. Dig 4-8 inches away from the plant's growing stalk, carefully loosening the soil. Lift bulbs gently and separate bulblets for immediate transplanting elsewhere in the garden.

#4. **Replenish mulch** - Mulching in winter has many of the same benefits as summer mulching. These include reducing water loss, protecting the soil from erosion, and inhibiting weeds. Adding a thick layer of mulch to the soil surface helps regulate soil temperatures and moisture and ease the transition into winter. As the mulch breaks down it incorporates fresh organic material into your soil.

#5. **Clean and sharpen tools** - Fall is a great time to rejuvenate your tools' lifespan by giving them some attention. Begin by washing tools to remove dirt and debris. If rust is present, remove with sandpaper or a wire brush. Sharpen hoes and shovels with a basic mill file. A whetstone works well for pruners. Finally, rub the surfaces of your tools with an oiled rag coated in light machine oil.

Homecoming Potluck

Save the date for the 2018 Homecoming Potluck on Nov. 27th, 6:00pm, at the Defiance Extension Office. All MG Classes and Guests are welcome. RSVP with Deb Walters at 419.782.4771. Hope to see you there.