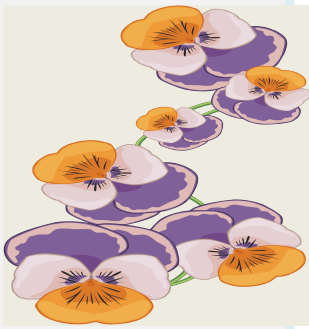


GARDEN VARIETY NEWS

MARCH 2013

Morgan County Master Gardeners

“Helping Others Grow”



OFFICERS 2013

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Ruth's Corner

This year is going to be an interesting one for gardeners. The winter was probably cold enough to lessen, if not eliminate, the tulip poplar scale that we had to deal with in 2012. What did the scale do to the trees and to the shrubs and plants under the scale laden trees? Will spring be early or “normal” in timing? After a second year of summer heat and drought, what effects will we see in our gardens? These are all good questions with maybe not so good answers.

On the up side, Garden Fest is around the corner. Diane Cockerham and Rae Craig have been at work getting the pansies and trees ordered and the vendors signed. Pat Schultz has four very interesting speakers lined up for the public education portion of the event. Pat, also, has been busy advertising Garden Fest in the newspapers and on the radio. Bonnie Kohl will be calling for volunteers to help before and during the event. Consider volunteering some time when Bonnie calls.

Carla Wright has been busy planning our meeting topics for the year. We will have a plant exchange in June on the patio/deck at the Foxcliff South Clubhouse. It will be a lovely location for the meeting. When you are working in the garden this spring, divide some plants to share in June. Carla is asking for a host location for the October meeting. If you would like to host the meeting at your home, let Carla know. Home meetings are always enjoyable.

The Foxcliff South Association has agreed to let us use their clubhouse for our meetings. This includes both the member and Board meetings. As a thank you for this privilege, we as Master Gardeners have some gardening duties on the grounds surrounding the clubhouse. We need to cut the tall grasses in the spring, clean up the daylily beds and do deadheading as needed during the year. Bonnie Kohl will notify us when we are needed for these tasks. Please consider helping when called upon.

As always, if you have any suggestions for meeting topics or locations contact a Board member.

We want to hear from you.

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**THE MORGAN COUNTY MASTER  
GARDENERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:**

## **GARDENFEST AND PANSY SHOW**

### **MARCH 22-23, 2013**

### **FREE SOIL TESTS**

### **FREE DNR SEEDLING TREES**

### **FREE ADMISSION**

### **6" POTS OF PANSIES FOR \$4.00**

**DETAILS ON PAGE 3**

## PANSIES AS A VEGETABLE?

Yes, pansies are edible and are healthy for you too. Pansies contain Vitamin C and Vitamin A. Pansies will make beautiful colorful garnishes for many vegetable dishes, salads, sandwiches and even desserts. Because of the beautiful and varied colors of the sweet little pansies, they can be matched to just about any tablescape you may want to create for a summer luncheon party or an evening dinner party.

Pansies are from the viola family just as their cousins; the violets, violettas and "johnny jump ups" are too. These are just a few of the many edible flowers that we have on our planet.

<http://recipes.wikia.com/wiki/Pansy>

For instructions on crystallizing pansies, here is a link to Martha Stewart video.

<http://www.marthastewart.com/915605/crystallized-pansies-cake-decorating>

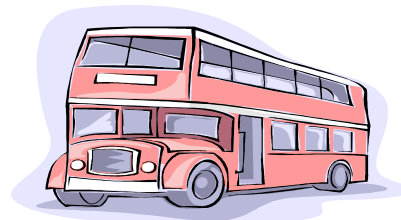
How to Pipe a Pansy:

<http://pinterest.com/pin/32088216067318654/>

This is a Martha Stewart pin of piped pansies:



## LOOK WHAT'S COMING.....!



**The 2013 Bus Tour will be July 12-13, 2013**

Highlights Include:

- Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens, Akron OH
- Secrest Arboretum, Wooster OH
- Kingwood Center, Mansfield OH

Information will be available by GardenFest

Day Trips:

We hope to have 5 trips: April, May, June, August, and September.

Committee members:

Cindy Vogel  
Doris Calvert  
Mary Ann Underwood  
Danna Van Osdale



**SWEET CREER IDEA:** These crystallized pansies are for sale on line for \$45.00.

# GardenFest 2013

Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Featuring the Morgan County Master Gardeners Annual Pansy Sale  
6" potted pansies \$4.00 each

## **30+ vendors of lawn and garden products and services including:**

|                  |            |              |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rustic Furniture | Composter  | Rain Barrels | Metal Yard Art   | Photocards         |
| Pond Supplies    | Daylilies  | Worm Bins    | Alpines          | Pineneedle Baskets |
| Homemade Breads  | Hypertufas | Shade Plants | Gourd Birdhouses | Herbal Soaps       |

## **Educational programs on Saturday:**

- 10:00 a.m. "Frogs & Toads in the Garden"  
Karen Gotshall, Retired Biology Professor, Frog Researcher since 1989
- 11:00 a.m. "The Wonderful World of Birds"  
Dr. Douglas Skinner, Semi-retired Veterinarian & Researcher
- 12:00 p.m. "Attracting Beneficial Bats to your Garden"  
Caroline Byrne from The Center for North American Bat Research and Conservation
- 1:00 p.m. "A Pictorial Life of the Monarch Butterfly"  
Edie Dyer-Wilson, Professional Photographer, Operator of Certified Monarch Waystation

- ~ Question & Answer Booth hosted by the Morgan County Master Gardeners
- ~ Bring a soil sample for a free basic soil analysis while you wait
- ~ Free DNR tree seedlings while supplies last

**Food Service provided on Friday & Saturday By:**

**Blustone Catering**

Harold Adkisson and Jean Adkisson

*Sponsored by the Purdue Extension and  
Morgan County Master Gardeners Association*

*Gardenfest 2013 will be held at:  
The National Guard Armory  
1900 Hospital Drive  
Martinsville, IN 46151*

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By TOM FLATT

### **Committee meeting**

12/13/12 to discuss several Association activities that are connected to membership. Committee members present were Lynda Funk, Ruth Pelouch, Bonnie Kohl and Tom Flatt. Association Communications were discussed in terms of membership services that include the newsletter, website and e-mails. Also discussed was the overall mission of the membership committee, which is to facilitate membership involvement in the Association and the Master Gardener program. The best measure of that is number of members that have obtained or have maintained their Master Gardener certifications. Decisions regarding each membership activity will be discussed below as well as an update for that activity.

### **Membership List**

The membership chair will maintain and periodically update the membership list. Currently the Association has 72 paid members, 24 members that have turned in 2012 hours and 23 potential new members from the 2013 class.

### **Membership Directory**

Since the membership chair has access to the membership list it is easiest for the chair to produce the directory with committee members doing the editing. The directory was produced at the Extension Office on Feb. 4 with the indispensable help of Betty Kenworthy. The directory was then distributed at the Feb. 7 Association meeting and mailed shortly thereafter to members that did not attend the meeting.

### **Membership Card**

Lynda Funk again produced the membership cards this year. The card was attached to the back page of each membership directory. The membership

cards are to be used as name tags by interns and members that forget their name badges. The membership chair will have tag holders available at each meeting.

### **Sponsor Discounts**

Bonnie Kohl secured our sponsors this year. They include Ace Hardware, Greendell Mulch and Mix, Jones Mulch and Orchard Country Store. These merchants will give a 10% discount on regularly priced items to any member presenting a 2013 membership card. These merchants are listed on the back of the card.

### **Association Internal Communications**

The membership chair will continue to coordinate internal communications with the membership. He will pass on information by e-mail group send from Association officers, committee chairs and the Extension Educator. There was discussion about getting an Assistant membership chair to make sure these communications remain timely when the chair is on extended travel. However, it was decided this could be handled easiest by the Association President.

### **Newsletter**

It was decided that the newsletter was still relevant for three reasons. 1) It still serves as the primary internal communications vehicle on Association activities for those members without internet access. 2) It is an opportunity for Officers and Committee Chairs to expand on their activities and future plans. 3) It gives Association website users a more in-depth look at what the Association is all about. Most years there will probably be three newsletters, one prior to the Spring Fest, one prior to the County Fair and one prior to the Association's Fall election.

### **Website**

Lynda Funk will continue to maintain and develop the website. The website is growing and is very important for both internal and external communications. Members are starting to refer to the website for information on meeting and activities and non-members access the site for information about the Association and the Master Gardener program as well as links to horticulture information. Again, efforts need to increase on up-dating content to the website.

### **New Member Booklets**

Bonnie Kohl will put together 20 booklets to distribute to new class members when they attend their first Association meeting. The class will be told about the booklets near to their last training meeting as an incentive to continue with the Association.

### **Member Ride Assistance**

The Association leadership needs to let the membership know anytime they are involved with meetings, training or community service activities that we will try to arrange ride assistance to any members that otherwise could not attend. This service just needs to be reiterated from time to time.

### **New Class**

The Association President will speak at least once to the new class about what the Association does and can do for them. The Membership Chair needs to meet at least once with the class toward the end of their training to give them a copy of the Directory and their complimentary membership cards in the Association. They will also be told about the importance of getting their certification and how to record and submit their hours for certification.

### **Membership Dues Increase**

It is recommended that dues be increased to \$15 in 2014. This is to increase revenues

and to put more value on participation in the Master Gardener Program.

### **SPEAKERS BUREAU**

#### **TOM FLATT**

The Speakers Bureau Committee had a kick-off meeting on Feb. 19. Attending were Cindy Vogel, Judy Turner, Ruth Pelouch, David Mow, Terry Bunton and Tom Flatt

The group decided that minimum credentials for speakers are current Master Gardener certification and relevant personal experience on the topic being presented. All Association members will be encouraged to develop presentations in their particular areas of expertise. Members being able to directly educate the public about horticulture gets to the heart of the Master Gardener program. The committee decided to develop abstracts for their presentations and pass these along with a recommended process to the extension educator. The Association has already set aside \$600 to purchase AV equipment once the Bureau is established.