

June 2016

GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENERS



Next Meetings

June 8

6:30 p.m.

Field Trip

Topic: Unusual Plants
for Your Home Garden

Location:

Soules Garden
5809 Rahke Road
Indianapolis

July 13

6:30 p.m.

Topic: Bees

Speaker: Fred Kidwell
GPMGA Annual Picnic

Meetings occur the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Garfield Park unless otherwise noted.

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/ equal access/affirmative action university.

If you require an accommodation or special assistance to attend these programs due to a disability, please contact Steve Mayer at 317.275.9290. Some accommodations may require 2 weeks' notice.

Newsletter Editor:
Oren Cooley
pastpfct@aol.com

Learn more at:
IndyMG.org
IndyHorticulture.org

Garfield Gardener

President's Letter

Hi Fellow Gardeners:

I personally want to thank all the members who helped make the Plant Sale a success. All of you went beyond expectations to see through the difficult weather period. We seem to be able to keep expanding ourselves each year. A special "Thank You" to Christina Ferroli of the Extension Office for braving the weather and handing out information on nutritional values. Also, please keep a prayer for the mother of Kay Martin-Pence. We missed Kay at the sale.

For those members who missed the last meeting, just a quick update on the website. Nancy Boettner has been able to set up a website and will have more information for us very soon.

Gardening news is hard to come by when the weatherman isn't cooperating. Many fields south of the city are still too wet for the plow—although I have seen some fields with crops starting to pop up. Flowers are getting more than enough water as are the lawns. We may need to save some of the water later in the summer. My irises and roses have shown spectacular color this year. Even with all the wet weather, flower colors seem very vibrant.

For those of you who don't know, my portable garden is overflowing with radishes, lettuce and beets. This is the garden that I take to the classes I teach, the subject being "*Gardening in Small Places*". Hopefully, I'll be able to put a few onions in before the weather warms too much.

Our next meeting will be at Soules Garden. Chris and Cynthia have managed to add several wonderful new plants to the garden. Of course, if you are in need of a few hostas, they have an overabundance and will be more than glad to provide them on the spot.

Hope to see you at the Garden!

Boynton Robson
President, GPMGA

June Meeting: Field Trip Agenda

- Welcome
- Speakers: Chris and Cynthia of Soules Garden
- Break
- Committee Reports
- The Good and The Welfare



Garfield Gardener

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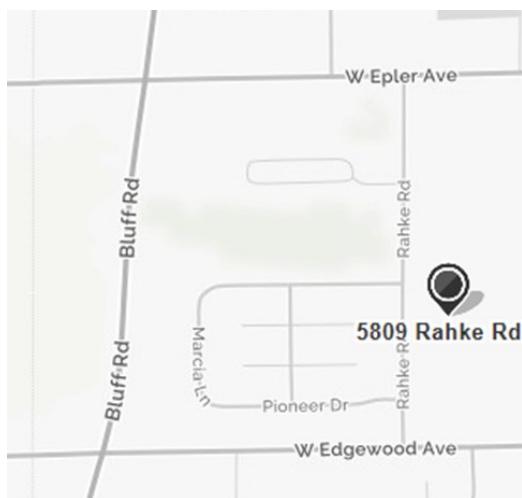
Please contact the officers and chairs of the Garfield Park Master Gardeners Association if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about the organization.

Questions about Reporting Hours
Debbie Schelske
dschelsk@purdue.edu

GPMGA Next Meeting: June 8

Topic: *Unusual Plants for Your Home Garden*
Speakers: Chris and Cynthia, Soules Garden

Soules Garden (5809 Rahke Road, Indianapolis) will host the next meeting of the GPMGA at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8.



Chris and Cynthia, from Soules Garden, will present "*Unusual Plants for Your Home Garden*". Afterwards, they will provide a tour of their gardens, which display more than 1,000 varieties of daylilies and 800 varieties of hostas. With more than four acres, Soules also offers many unique plants such as arisaema, ferns, woodland plants, hellebores and many other perennials.

And, of course, plants will be available to purchase.

GPMGA Meeting Minutes: May 11

Program

- *Sharing Gardening Secrets and Tips* by Carol Michel, author of the blog, *May Dreams Gardens*

Business Meeting (Board Reports)

- Vice-President-Nancy Boettner: New member Amber Ternet introduced
- Secretary-Nancy Boettner: Minutes accepted as printed in newsletter
- Treasurer-James Scherschel: Checking balance per statement \$4,559.17, Ins and outs approximately balanced; Contact James if members have not received their membership cards yet
- Historian-Ed Myers: *Looking Back*—In May 2009, meeting on honey bees was presented by Rob Green; Plant sale was May 30
- Hospitality-Cira Coates, Sue Hoyt, Lane Judkins: June snack providers needed; Picnic (July 13) to have pulled pork and chicken provided, sign-up to bring sides
- Newsletter/Communications-Oren Cooley: Flyers for Plant Sale available
- Conservatory Tours-Boynton Robson: Guides needed for July 9, August 27
- Plant Sale (May 14) – Kay Martin-Pence: Plants, volunteers, wagons, tents, bags, boxes, push brooms needed
- Programs-Cira Coates, Kay Martin-Pence Field trip in June

Other Business

- Web Page-Nancy Boettner: Domain name indygpmga.com purchased
- Club's Historical Documents-Boynton Robson: Purchase of cart for historical documents and hospitality supplies approved (Moved by Nancy Boettner, seconded by Judy Martin)
- Volunteer Report: Betty Johnson reviewed her role as Garden Guide at Indianapolis Museum of Art—volunteers asked for 3-year commitment; GPMGA seeking other members to share their volunteer efforts
- Review of Board Responsibilities: Cira Coates on duties of Pitch-in Coordinator—including purchase of products for meetings and pitch-ins
- Give-Away-Ed Myers: Several plants distributed; All welcome to Irvington Garden Club's nursery (156 S. Downey) on Saturday from 2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Additional Volunteer Opportunities

- President Benjamin Harrison Home-See Rosalie Fletcher for details
- Indiana War Memorial-See Lane Judkins for details

—Nancy Boettner

Garfield Gardener

Foundation Launches Garden Tour

Lion's Tails, Tiger Lilies, and Bear's Breeches Oh My! . . . Follow a horticultural path of beauty at the inaugural Eagle Creek Park Foundation Garden Tour on Saturday June 11 (from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)



This self-directed tour leads participants throughout the Eagle Creek Park and around the city's westside. Highlights include a reservoir waterfront with a classic British heritage, a whimsical Brownsburg hideaway, a woodland gem nestled deep inside West 86th, and a professional design by Eagle Creek Nursery in the Golden Hill neighborhood.

The tour's centerpiece, though, is the Eagle Creek Park's world-class nature center: the Earth Discovery Center (EDC). Maintained and hosted by the Eagle Creek Park's volunteer gardeners, the EDC features a native prairie entrance, butterfly garden and a geothermal pond.

The cost is \$20 per ticket—\$15 for Eagle Creek Park Foundation Members. 100% of the proceeds from this event directly benefit the Eagle Creek Park Foundation to help preserve, protect and enhance the park.

Participants will receive their tickets and maps prior to the event date. During tour hours, each garden will have volunteers present to check tickets. Since tickets cover admittance to the park for the entire day, participants also may enjoy the many other amenities that Eagle Creek Park has to offer after completing the tour,

Since many people learn things on a garden tour, the Purdue Extension – Marion County Office is allowing volunteer hours for master gardeners who assist with this event. To count, people must wear their master gardener name badges in order to be identified as a master gardener.



For more information about this event, visit <<http://eaglecreekpark.org/event/garden-tour/>>. To sign up to volunteer, visit <<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0448aaaf2ea6fd0-eagle>>.

GPMGA Plant Sale A Success

The Garfield Park Master Gardeners Association's Annual Plant Sale last month raised more than \$1,300.

"I want to thank everyone for all of their hard work leading up to the sale and on the day of the sale," said Kay Martin-Pence, Plant Sale Chairman. "We were very successful due in a large part to everyone's dedication."



The GPMGA also wishes to thank the local area nurseries that contributed to the plant sale or provided a discount that master gardeners used to grow the plants they gave to the sale.

Service & Training Opportunities

June 11 (10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.)

Eagle Creek Park Foundation

Inaugural Garden Tour

Park's Earth Discovery Center and multiple locations around Indianapolis
www.eaglecreekpark.org

June 18 (10:00 a.m.-Noon)

Healing Plants Workshop

Holliday Park

6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis
www.holidaypark.org

Garfield Park Conservatory Tour Guide Schedule

June 11 (2:30 p.m.)

Sue Hoyt

Judy Martin

June 25 (2:30 p.m.)

Arlene Bow

Oren Cooley

John Montgomery

Anyone interested in becoming a tour guide should contact Boynton Robson at roby2931@gmail.com.

Future Hospitality Help

The following GPMGA Board Members will supply snacks at the June meeting:

- Carrie Alumbaugh
- Judy Martin
- Ed Myers
- James Scherschel

If you wish to help with a future meeting, please contact Sue Hoyt at msue3@hotmail.com.

GPMGA Annual Picnic

The GPMGA will have its annual picnic at 6:30 p.m. on July 13 at the Pavilion near the Garfield Park Arts Center. The club will provide meats, breads and paper supplies. Please bring a covered dish to share with the group. In addition, drinks and ice, desserts, side dishes, appetizers or salads are needed. Please let Cira Coates (ciracoates@comcast.net) know if you plan to attend.

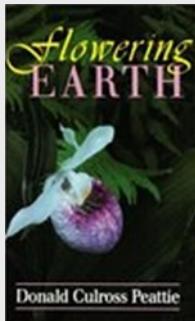
From the Bookshelf . . .

Flowering Earth
by Donald Culross Peattie

Even a diehard urbanite would likely be seduced by this extraordinary chronicle of the plant kingdom, originally published in 1939 and now back in print.

Part natural history, part biography and part philosophical reflection, *Flowering Earth* is written in a warm, lyrical style that made poet-scientist Donald Culross Peattie one of America's best-known naturalist writers. A botanist, the author meanders through the plant kingdom, recalling the marvels he has witnessed in vivid, evocative prose and explaining the workings of plants with clarity and imaginative thought. He writes of plants that inspire awe, like the mighty Sequoia tree, and of more ordinary greens, such as seaweed.

Much more than the fascinating story of plant life, *Flowering Earth* also is a book about the resilience of life itself and the power (and mystery) of the unseen energy appearing in the visible world in a marvelous variety of forms.



Donald Culross Peattie

On the Web . . .

My First Garden: A Guide to the World of Fun and Clever Gardening
<http://extension.illinois.edu/firstgarden/index.cfm>

Designed for 4th-grade students (and to assist their teachers), this website makes learning about gardens, flowers, vegetables and the principles of horticulture a really fun experience while teaching about the beauty of gardens, the care involved in nurturing and the benefits of gardening in a variety of places. It was adapted from *The Joy of Growing Your Own* by James Schmidt and Jane Scherer of the University of Illinois Extension—an outreach effort of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Do you know a great Website? Send info to Oren Cooley at www.pastpfct@aol.com.

Hosta Society's Summer Garden Tour

The Indianapolis Hosta Society's Summer Garden Tour will occur from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on June 11 - 12.

Eleven juried gardens have been selected as tour gardens for the 2017 American Hosta Society International Convention in Indianapolis. These gardens will be available for pre-convention tours this year on Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12.



The tour is limited to 300 visitors and ticket cost is \$20 per ticket.



Don't miss this special one-time-only garden tour! To purchase tickets go to: <<http://ihsgardentour2016.eventbrite.com>>.

IMA: Summer Solstice, Day of Flight

The Indianapolis Museum of Art this summer will offer three fun-filled events for the nature enthusiast.

The IMA kicks off the season with its Summer Solstice celebration from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 18. In partnership with the *Indianapolis Star*, the museum again will have its Second Annual Indy Art Swap, where participants may bring artwork of any kind to trade with fellow collectors. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic blanket and relax to performances by local musicians from Girls Rock! Indianapolis and Classical Music Indy. In addition, people may ride their bikes to the event and join in a traveling bike festival down the museum's Canal Towpath—lead by the organizers of the Reconnecting Our Waterways (ROW) and StreamLines projects.



Then, on August 27, the IMA will have its Indianapolis Day of Flight as well as the museum's Native Tree and Pollinator Plant Sale.

The Indianapolis Day of Flight will occur from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. that day at various places on the IMA grounds. Participants can start their day with the museum's annual hummingbird banding at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. Birds will be caught and given a thorough check to examine their health before being identified with a small band. Later, participants can catch a nature photography class or see various birds on display with expert Mark Booth. Other demonstrations include beekeeping and pollinator plants.



The Native Tree and Pollinator Plant Sale will occur from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. that day on the lawn by Newfield, adjacent to the main surface parking lot. This plant sale will feature native trees and pollinator plants as well as the IMA's horticulture experts, who will be on hand to help answer questions about the plants and provide gardening guidance.

For more information, visit www.imamuseum.org.

Indiana State Parks Celebrate 100 Years

Indiana State Parks are hosting a year-long birthday party in 2016 and you're invited.

When Indiana celebrated its centennial in 1916, Hoosiers received a memorable birthday gift — a brand new state park system. From the establishment of the first state park — McCormick's Creek — in summer of that year, and the purchase of Turkey Run later in 1916, the system has grown to 32 properties today that hosts about 16 million visitors each year. This year, Indiana turns 200 and Indiana State Parks celebrates a century of "making memories naturally" for visitors.



At this birthday party, however, the guest of honor is every member of the public that participates in the dozens of centennial celebrations throughout Indiana. Examples include *Arts in the Park* days that demonstrate traditional crafts (such as limestone carving and blacksmithing), guided hikes, heritage festivals, the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival and more.

Here's how to get involved in the year-long festivities:

- **Celebrate at one of the park's summer centennial events.** Each property is hosting a birthday party during the *100 Days for 100 Years* summer season. Visit <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2420.htm> for the complete schedule.



- **Check out a 2016 annual pass.** In partnership with the Indiana State Library, the State has placed one annual pass in each of Indiana's 240 public libraries during the centennial year. Check out the pass to visit an Indiana State Park.

- **Take the Centennial Fitness Challenge** and earn a souvenir and a chance at 2017 annual passes, camping gift cards and more.

- **Get a free entrance pass for a 4th grader.** The National Park Service is celebrating a 100th birthday too, and the Every Kid in a Park program offers a free entrance pass to national parks for every 4th grader through August 2016. Indiana State Parks and State Forest Recreation Areas are accepting those passes.

- **Enjoy Traditional Arts Indiana events**, and the new *Arts in the Parks* Program. *Arts in the Park* has been established in partnership with the Indiana Arts Commission.

Richard Lieber, who guided the efforts to develop a parks system, wrote in 1916 that their purpose would be to "refresh and strengthen and renew" tired people. "In conclusion, I hope and trust that the small beginning we have

made will have laid the foundation for a comprehensive system of State Parks which will not only stand forever as a token of the past, but which will bring health, wealth and happiness to our own generation and the many that will come after us."



For more information, visit www.INStateParks100.com.

GP Farmers Market

The Garfield Park Farmers Market occurs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday until October.



Located in Garfield Park—next to the tennis courts near the corner of Shelby St. and E. Southern Avenue, the market's mission is to support local sustainable farmers and producers while creating a community gathering place.

This market is one of the city's few "producer only" markets — meaning every single vendor grows or produces the products they sell.

Among the approved vendors are:

- Amelia's
- Becker Farms
- Bee Coffee Roasters
- Crossroads Cafe (AIM)
- D & S Kettle Corn
- Fond
- Grabow Orchard & Bakery
- Gram's Jams
- Heritage Meadows Farm
- Home Ec. Preserves
- Indiana Craft Jerky
- Litterally Divine Chocolates
- Naptown Flo
- Nicey Treat
- Pleasant St. Produce
- Risin' Creek Creamery
- Schacht Farm
- Shamrock Farm
- South Circle Farm/Big City Farms
- Tulip Tree Creamery
- Wildflower Ridge Honey

Garfield Park Farmers Market is the brainchild of Julia Woody and Ashley Brooks. "We settled on Garfield Park because it's an underutilized treasure in our city as well as a beautiful and welcoming setting for a market," said Woody. "This market also fills a geographic gap in Saturday markets in the city, as there's no others between Broad Ripple and Greenwood."

Besides residing in the neighborhood, both Woody and Brooks have been on the Slow Food Indy board. Brooks, along with her husband Jonathan, owns the popular Fletcher Place eatery, Milktooth, and Woody managed a hydroponic farm as well as participated in multiple local farmers markets previously.

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Extension Horticulture Hints—June 2016

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, Purdue Extension-Marion County

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, for Purdue Extension-Marion County, serves as coordinator and instructor for the Purdue Master Gardener program in Marion County.

June Garden Calendar Tips

Note: Letters and numbers following the tip refer to Purdue publications on the topic. Other reference links may also be supplied.

- First Week: If you have questions about insect and disease problems, use the search function on the Purdue Plant & Pest Diagnostic Lab website: <https://www.ppdl.purdue.edu/> or contact Purdue Extension-Marion County Master Gardeners at (317) 275-9292 or e-mail: marioncountymg@gmail.com.
- Second Week: Established asparagus can be harvested for 6-8 weeks. Stop harvesting if three fourths of the spears have a diameter less than three eighths of an inch. Then fertilize after harvesting is complete. (HO-96) <https://hort.purdue.edu/hort/ext/Pubs/HO/HO_096.pdf>
- Third Week: Lightning can severely stress or kill trees. Research shows additional water after a strike may assist the tree in absorbing nutrients. Preventing pest problems may also help reduce stress. (FNR-FAQ-9) <<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/FNR/FNR-FAQ-9-W.pdf>>
- Fourth Week: Annual flowers may need additional applications of fertilizer every 4 to 6 weeks for best growth in some soils. (HO-99) <<https://hort.purdue.edu/ext/HO-99W.pdf>>

Follow me on Twitter @purduehortindy (or view at: <http://twitter.com/purduehortindy>) for more tips. You don't have to be on Twitter to simply view my comments.

Purdue Demonstration Garden Update

An additional garden tower was donated by the Garden Tower Project so we are trialing three garden towers in the demonstration garden this year.

On May 13, the cover crop was cut back with manual hedge shears. It was chopped into about four inch pieces completely to the ground. Tomatoes were transplanted into the remaining cover crop mulch on May 25 and will be compared to our normal tomato planting system at the demonstration garden.



Photo: Cover crop bed (Steve Mayer, 5/24/16)

We have another new feature in the demonstration garden: a vertical garden composed of succulents. Many thanks to MG Sue Draheim for installing this project!



Vertical Succulent Garden (Photo: Steve Mayer)

We will have some “blue and gold” flowers this year to celebrate the bicentennial. Here are the flowers in the vertical wall garden.



Vertical Wall Garden (Photo: Steve Mayer, 5/29/16)

Extension Horticulture Hints—June 2016

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, Purdue Extension Marion-County

The Question Box June 2016



Photo: Steve Mayer

Q. What was the name of the begonia that was in the Purdue demonstration garden last year? Some Master Gardener members took home some of the leftover plants at the end of the season.

A. The begonia cultivar in the demo garden that is shown above is Morocco. I have seen it listed under rhizomatous types or shrub-like begonias. It has been available locally for at least the last two years.

Q. I see you have planted hyacinth bean in the demonstration garden. Is it edible?

A. We do NOT recommend eating hyacinth bean even though there are references in the literature to its edibility after special preparations. The variety we purchased is Ruby Moon from Seed Savers. They also suggest to use it only as an ornamental vine: <<http://www.seedsavers.org/ruby-moon-flower>>

Hyacinth bean is found on some poisonous plant lists: <<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/all/dolichos-lablab-lablab-purpureus/>>.

Another plant we do NOT recommend eating is pokeweed although some people eat it after special preparations. Pokeweed is also found on some poisonous plant lists: <<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/poisonous-plants/phytolacca-americana-p-rigida/>>

Bottom Line: Never eat anything on a poisonous plant list. OK, some of you may argue with that. There might

be some exceptions for some plants. Rhubarb is also found on some poisonous plant lists: <<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/all/rheum-x-cultorum-r-rhaponticum-r-rhabarbarum/>>

Q. When do you start taking things to the food pantry from the demonstration garden?

A. Most of the produce is from mid- to late season. However, our first delivery this year was on June 3. Below are three small-size Katarina cabbage that were grown & donated. More info is at: <<http://all-americaselections.org/winners/details.cfm?WinID=632>>.



Photo: Steve Mayer

Q. Is it too late to plant potatoes?

A. Usually we think about planting potatoes early in the spring. However, it may not be too late to plant now. It depends on whether it is an early- or late season cultivar. Early-season potato cultivars are typically planted in early spring. Late season cultivars are often planted later. Purdue Extension publication HO-62 suggests planting late-season cultivars until about mid-June so the tubers will develop during the cool fall weather. Late cultivars are also recommended if winter storage of potatoes is needed. If you are wondering which varieties are early or late, check out the Purdue publication on Potatoes: <<https://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/HO-62W.pdf>>

Show / Event Calendar

June 8 (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
*21st Annual Indianapolis Garden Club
 Garden Walk*
 Five Fantastic Gardens
www.igcgardenwalk.com

June 11 (10:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.)
Rosefest!
 Hamilton County Fairgrounds
 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville
www.indianapolisrosesociety.com

June 11-12 (11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)
*Indianapolis Hosta Society's
 Garden Tour*
 The Eleven Juried Gardens Selected
 for 2017 American Hosta Society's
 International Convention
www.indianapolishostasociety.org

June 16-18
*2016 Purdue Master Gardener
 State Conference*
 Host: Tippecanoe MG Association
 Four Points by Sheraton
 1600 Cumberland Ave, West Lafayette
www.tippecanoemastergardener.org/2016-mg-conference.

July 9 (Public 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.)
*Indiana Daylily & Iris Society
 Daylily Show*
 Sullivan Hardware Do It Center
 6955 N. Keystone, Indianapolis
www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org

KIBI Event

June 18 (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)
Springdale Greenspace
(2319 Nowland Ave.) at Nowland Oak

Help neighbors begin hardscape installation at this new 2016 IPL Project Greenspace location in Indy's near eastside Springdale neighborhood! This once vacant and underutilized lot — though home to a beautiful chinquapin oak for some 200-300 years — is being transformed into an urban preserve that will offer a place for reflection and will provide a patio near the entrance for an artistic community.

For more information, contact Abby Dennis at 317-264-7555, ext.123, or at adennis@kibi.org.

Rare Plant Fossil from Indiana

This 38 mm long x 8 mm wide cone (or reproductive organ) is of a *Calamostachys schimper*, a member of the extinct genus *Calamites*, and was found in lower block shale in Crawford County, Indiana.

The whorls of small leaflets are arranged concentrically around a thin stem and are called Annularia or Asterophyllites. *Calamites* itself is the name originally given to a stem section but now applies to the entire plant.

These plants thrived in wet habitats such as along rivers and lake shores. Entire cones are found quite infrequently, making this a most unusual fossil since the bracts and sporangia are quite evident.



Calamostachys schimper
(Calamites Cone)



Great Horsetail

Calamites is a genus of extinct arborescent (tree-like) horsetails to which the modern horsetails (genus *Equisetum*) are closely related. Unlike their herbaceous modern cousins, these plants were medium-sized trees, growing to heights of more than 30 meters (100 feet). They were components of the understories of "coal" swamps of the Carboniferous Period (around 360 to 300 million years ago).

For more information on plant fossils, visit
www.fossilmuseum.net/plantfossils/Plant-Fossils.htm.

GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENERS
 THE SOUTH SIDE MASTER GARDENER
 ASSOCIATION IN MARION COUNTY

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