



# THE GARFIELD GARDENER

THE NEWSLETTER OF GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## September 2021 Next Meeting

September 8 (6:30 p.m.)

### Field Trip:

Demonstration Garden

**Speaker:** Steve Mayer,  
Retired, Purdue Extension  
Educator, Horticulture

October 13 (6:30 p.m.)

**Program:** *Not in MY Backyard*

**Speaker:** Jo Ellen Meyers  
Sharp, The Hoosier Gardener

*Programs are being planned  
on a month-to-month basis  
according to Purdue University  
Extension Office Guidelines*

### Future Meeting Dates:

Nov. 10

Dec. 8

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 Carey Grable at  
317.275.9279. Some  
accommodations may require  
2 weeks notice.

### Newsletter Editor:

Oren Cooley

[pastpfct@aol.com](mailto:pastpfct@aol.com)

### Learn more at:

[www.IndyGPMGA.com](http://www.IndyGPMGA.com)

[www.IndyMG.org](http://www.IndyMG.org)

[www.IndyHorticulture.org](http://www.IndyHorticulture.org)

## President's Letter

This is a good time to perform maintenance in the garden.

### Deadhead

Encourage reblooming of annuals by cutting back excessive growth, dead flowers and seed heads. Doing the same for perennials and flowering shrubs will also be beneficial.



### Pest Management

Look for signs of disease and insect damage. Remove damaged plants or prune affected areas. Treat infected and diseased plants with appropriate methods for the plants.

### Harvest Vegetables

Harvest ripe fruit and vegetables to encourage additional production. There is still plenty of time for many plants to produce additional crops.



Allowing produce to overripen will reduce further production.

Freeze or can any excess produce for future use.

### Weeding

Keeping up with weeding will help to minimize production of weed seeds—which can cause problems in the future. Mulching will also help.

### Remove Dead Plants

Plants that have died of disease, insect damage or other causes should be removed. Aside from being unsightly, they can harbor diseases and pests.

### Water

Water appropriately for weather conditions.

### Fertilize

Mid-summer is a good time to fertilize the landscape. Lawns and evergreens will benefit from feeding. It is also time to feed vegetables—like greens, tomatoes and peppers—which are still growing.

This is also a good time to reflect on the success and failures to help in deciding what to plant next year.

Enjoy the rest of summer!

Bill Bernstein  
President, GPMGA



## At the Conservatory

**September 11 (8:00—9:30 a.m.)**

### Urban Bird Walk

Garfield Park is an urban park yet remains a haven for wildlife—especially birds.



Come explore the park with a Garfield Park naturalist in search of that varied bird wildlife.

Whether one has never experience a bird walk previously or has become an expert birder, this walk will delight.

The cost is \$5 per person. Remember to wear comfortable walking shoes and to bring binoculars.

**September 11 (2:00 p.m.)**

### Gather in the Garden: Harvest

Come ready to harvest!

Join Garfield Park naturalists as they lead visitors through caring for one of park's raised bed gardens. Participants will learn about seasonal garden care and maintenance through this free, hands-on program.

# Garfield Park

## Next GPMGA Meeting: September 8

Come see what's new in the Demonstration Garden this year when we meet face-to-face on September 8 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Steve Mayer, retired Educator for Purdue Extension-Marion County, will lead the group on our field trip. The meeting starts at the usual 6:30 p.m. time, and no pre-registration is required.

The Fall Creek entrance to the Indiana State Fairgrounds is always open. Entry from 38th Street may, or may not, be open. Do not pay for parking; none is required for Purdue Extension events.

The Demonstration Garden is located 350 feet east of Discovery Hall, which houses the Purdue Extension-Marion County office. Discovery Hall is in the northwest corner of the Indiana State Fairgrounds. There is convenient parking in the lot by Discovery Hall.

Since this meeting is outdoors, social distancing will be easy to maintain. Masks will not be required so it is up to the individual to decide what is comfortably safe. We request that anyone exposed—or possibly exposed—to COVID not participate. Bottled water will be provided and tentatively some pre-packaged snacks. You also may want to have insect repellent with you.



Steve Mayer previously was with the Master Gardener program in Marion County. He retired at the end of 2020 after serving with the Extension since 1997. Steve was a regular contributor to publications such as both Marion County Master Gardener associations' newsletters. It will be good to see Steve again and appreciate his wealth of horticultural information.

In 2013, the PE-MC Demonstration Garden became an official All-America Selections Flower and Vegetable Display Garden. It is the only AAS Display Garden in Indianapolis and one of less than a half-dozen in Indiana. An AAS Display Garden provides the public an opportunity to view the newest AAS winners in an attractive well-maintained setting.



## 2021 GPMGA Officers/Committee Chairs

### President

Bill Bernstein  
billbe19@comcast.net

### Previous Past President

Lane Judkins  
APJ44@sbcglobal.net

### Vice President

Nancy Boettner  
nancyboettner@sbcglobal.net

### Secretary

Teresa McCurry  
tmccurry@iupui.edu

### Treasurer

Cindy Maude  
cmaude@sbcglobal.net

### Program Director

Debra Boyer  
idealgardenspace@aol.com

### Hospitality—Snack Coordinator

Jayne Queck  
jaqueck@aol.com

### Hospitality—Pitch-In Coordinator

Teresa McCurry  
tmccurry@iupui.edu

### Hospitality—Set-Up Coordinator

Carrie Alumbaugh  
carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com

### Extension Office Contact:

Barb Rusin  
rusin0@purdue.edu

### Newsletter/Publicity Director

Oren Cooley  
pastpfct@aol.com

### Plant Sale Chair

Carrie Alumbaugh  
carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com

### Conservatory Tour Coordinator

Victoria Metheaux  
methx@comcast.net

### Historian

Becky Walker  
otisdog2@hotmail.com

Please contact the officers and chairs of the Garfield Park Master Gardener Association if you have any questions or suggestions.

## From Good to Better, from Better to Best

Author Carol Michel provided some tips, tricks and tidbits to help gardeners go from good to better and from better to best (and beyond) at the GPMGA meeting last month.

She offered the following helpful tips as she humorously extolled the secrets of successful gardening:

- Grow the plants you love.
- Love the plants you *can* grow.
- Garden for your garden zone.
- Have good plant buying techniques/habits.
- Feed your soil.
- Size your garden for the resources you have.
- Ask for help when you need help.
- Buy good gardening tools.
- Be diligent in checking your garden daily.
- Pull weeds when they are small.
- Conditions do not have to be perfect for plants to grow and blossom.
- Listen to fun podcasts about gardening; read books of gardening humor.



Carol is the award-winning author of several books including: *Potted & Pruned: Living a Gardening Life*; *Homegrown and Handpicked: A Year in a Gardening Life*; *Seeded and Sodded: Thoughts from a Gardening Life*; and *The Christmas Cotton-tail: A Story for Gardeners of All Ages*. She offered free copies of her latest book, *Digging and Delighted: Live Your Best Gardening Life*, to those Master Gardeners who attended the meeting.

In addition, Carol has written for several gardening magazines and regularly writes for her award-winning garden blog, [www.maydreamsgardens.com](http://www.maydreamsgardens.com). She also shares about gardening on a weekly podcast, *The Gardenangelists: Flowers, Veggies and All the Best Dirt*, available on Apple Podcasts and other podcast streaming services.

## GPMGA Meeting Minutes: August 11

### Program:

The GPMGA Officers decided on Tuesday, August 10, to hold the meeting on Wednesday, August 11, virtually—rather than in-person—due to concerns over rising local COVID-19 infection rates. Thanks to Kay Martin-Pence for setting up the Zoom meeting for everyone on short notice.

This month's meeting started with Carol Michel's excellent presentation of *Live Your Best Gardening Life!*

### Business Reports

- Bill Bernstein—President: Thanked everyone for joining us at the July pitch-in, Good times were had by all; Chatted about upcoming Indiana State Fair dates and Master Gardeners volunteer shifts
- Cindy Maude—Treasurer: Current bank balance: \$7,583.74; Grant request for \$300 submitted by GPMGA member Mike Brown to create new garden at entrance of Southeastway Park
- Oren Cooley—Newsletter/Communications: Currently reviewing T-shirt designs; Carey Grable to send new logo design from Extension Office
- Carrie Alumbaugh—Hospitality: Will confirm current supply stock on hand in conservatory classroom for future meetings
- Debra Boyer—Program Director: Field trip to Purdue Extension Demonstration Garden at Indiana State Fairgrounds in September if current COVID guidelines in place at that time allow

—Teresa McCurry, GPMGA Secretary  
(with help from Nancy Boettner)

## Garfield Park Master Gardener Association

in association with



### Purdue Extension - Marion County

Discovery Hall, Suite 201  
Indiana State Fairgrounds  
1202 East 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Phone: 317.275.9279  
FAX: 317.275.9309

E-mail: [cagrabl@purdue.edu](mailto:cagrabl@purdue.edu) or  
[rusin0@purdue.edu](mailto:rusin0@purdue.edu)  
Answerline: 317.275.9292 or  
[marioncountymg@gmail.com](mailto:marioncountymg@gmail.com)

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

If you require an accommodation or special assistance to attend programs due to a disability, please contact Carey Grable at 317-275-9290 or Barb Rusin at 317-275-9279. Some accommodations may require 2 weeks notice.

Purdue does not endorse nor disclaim information that appears in this newsletter. It is intended only for informational purposes.

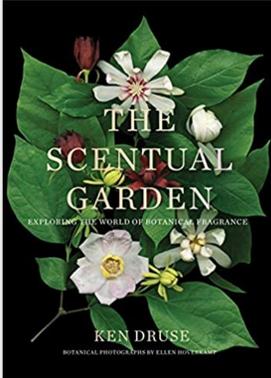
**Questions:** Contact Carey Grable at [cagrabl@purdue.edu](mailto:cagrabl@purdue.edu) or at 317-275-9290.

Helping Others Grow  
Sharing Knowledge  
Volunteer Commitment

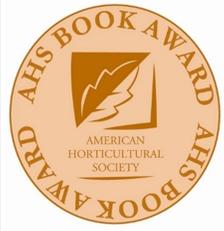
## From the Bookshelf . . .

***The Scentual Garden: Exploring the World of Botanical Fragrance***  
by Ken Druse (Author),  
Ellen Hoverkamp (Photographer)

Popular garden writer Ken Druse offers a complete illustrated survey of fragrance in the garden in this major new work.



He arranges both familiar and unusual garden plants, shrubs and trees into 12 categories, giving gardeners a vastly expanded palate of scents to explore and enjoy. He also provides examples of garden designs that offer harmonious scentual delights.



A brilliant and fascinating journey into perhaps the most overlooked and under-appreciated dimension of plants. Ken's well-researched information, experience and perfect examples will have gardeners now appreciating plants, gardens and designs in a fresh and stimulating way.

Ellen Hoverkamp contributes her artful botanical images of flowers and plants discussed in the text. These images, accompanied by Druse's award-winning garden photographs, create a book that is beautiful, informative and evocative to read.

Ken Druse is a celebrated lecturer and an award-winning author and photographer who has been called "the guru of natural gardening" by the *New York Times*. He is best known for his 20 garden books published over the past 25 years.

Ellen Hoverkamp won the Garden Writers Association's top award for photography for *Natural Companions* and has been using a flatbed scanner as a camera since 1997.

## Johnny Appleseed in Indiana

Each fall, thousands flock to their nearest apple orchard for autumn's bounty, and stories surface about adopted Hoosier, Johnny Appleseed . . .

Appleseed was a barefoot wanderer in tattered clothing, armed with a sack of apples and a tin pot for a hat. That image alone could give anyone the notion he was a mythical character of American folklore, like John Henry or Paul Bunyan . . .



Johnny Appleseed [though] was real. Born John Chapman near Leominster, Massachusetts, in 1774, he briefly settled in Pittsburgh where he planted an orchard. It was during this time that he acquired his nickname, Johnny Appleseed.

Chapman allegedly had no interest in money. He sold apples for pennies to get by or would barter for clothing. Some say Chapman would present travelers along the Ohio River with a packet of apple seeds from his orchard with the hope they would plant them on their way west.

Frontier law allowed settlers to lay claim to 100 acres of land through development of a homestead, but only by planting 50 apple trees on the land. Settlers needed a "crop", and the saplings provided the proof they were willing to remain on the land.



When Chapman himself traveled west, he harvested some of the apple, pear and peach saplings he planted and traveled down the Ohio River. Chapman stopped at open fields and glades and planted the saplings, laying claim to his own settlements, which he eventually sold to settlers.

What about that tin cap? In descriptions by local folks, he appeared to wear a pot on his head, but some indicate he fashioned a homemade visor to his hat which shielded him from the sun and gave the appearance of a pot. The image has worked well for the TinCaps baseball team in Fort Wayne, Appleseed's last home.

Chapman moved to Allen County [in Indiana] in 1834 and purchased land along the Maumee River for a tree nursery. Fort Wayne has embraced his legacy, even making him a cultural icon with an annual festival.



Chapman died in Fort Wayne in 1845 at the age of 71. He owned more than 1,000 acres at the time of his death.

If you're reading this and crunching on a sweet orchard apple, Johnny Appleseed was not responsible for it. "Eating apples" that we are familiar with were brought to the colonies by the Europeans. Popular apples, such as Jonathan, Winesap or Honeycrisp, come from grafts.

Seed tree apples, such as the ones Johnny Appleseed planted, were acidic with high tannin content and good for little but making hard cider. They were called "spitters", because after one bite, you spit it out. A 176-year-old tree in Nova, Ohio, is thought to be the last known tree to be planted by Johnny Appleseed himself.

Hard cider was a favorite of William Henry Harrison, the former governor of the Indiana Territory. During his 1840 presidential campaign, he used the "log cabin and hard cider" platform to convince voters of his "everyman" status.

During pioneer days, water and milk were typically unsanitary. Cider was the most trusted beverage, despite the haphazard, primitive method in which it was made. Children drank it and it was on tap alongside whiskey and rum at the local taverns. Cider's popularity diminished in the 1840s, as German immigrants brought clean, almost hygienic beer-making techniques to America.

—Dawn Mitchell, *IndyStar*

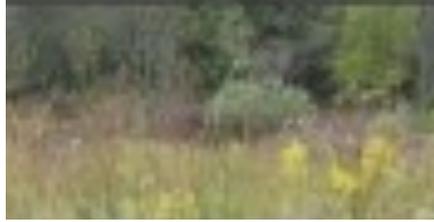
## Best Places to See Native Plants This Fall

The Indiana Native Plant Society recommends several places to see Indiana native plants this fall.

These beautiful natural areas cover a mix of geography, plant communities and terrain. All of these sites are open to the public and have trails (except one).

### Mongoquinong Nature Preserve (LaGrange County)

Fens are a rare and sensitive wetland community (fed by groundwater) known for incredibly diverse flora. Since they are usually quite small and sensitive, very few are open to the public. This preserve is an exception. This dedicated nature preserve in the Pigeon River Fish and Wildlife Area protects an alkaline fen community that is dominated by graminoids, *Carex stricta* (tussock sedge). In fall, visitors can see fringed gentians and grass of parnassus in flower, with scattered prairie docks. While there are no trails, the terrain is largely flat, though wet. Rubber boots are suggested.



### Hoosier Prairie Nature Preserve (Lake County)

This 1,500-acre nature preserve is in an otherwise urban setting (near Griffith) and has a spectacular array of plant communities, including prairie, oak savanna, marshes and sedge meadows. Asters like the flat-topped and azure aster abound. Two trails take visitors through the highlights of this preserve.



### Eagle's Crest Nature Preserve (Marion County)

Located on the west side of Eagle Creek Park, which is managed by Indianapolis Parks and Recreation, this preserve is an oasis of mature hardwood forest that features dramatic overlooks of Eagle Creek Reservoir and some very large trees. In October, those trees provide a colorful curtain along the lake. It has a very diverse understory, with species like blue-stemmed goldenrod blooming in the late summer and fall. A 1.25 mile loop trail passes through many of the preserve's highlights to let visitors see all the botanical treasures.



### Porter West Preserve (Monroe County)

A beautiful mature upland forest dotted with sinkholes and a karst spring awaits visitors to this preserve. It has a wonderful show of fall colors of species like red maple and fall asters like Short's aster. There is also a small historic cemetery from the early 19th century.



### Gladys and Al Wright Rock Creek Nature Reserve (Warren County)

Situated a mile southeast of West Lebanon, Rock Creek bisects the mostly wooded acreage. The creek runs over bedrock and forms tiny waterfalls in some places; while in others it has cut through sandstone leaving small sculpted cliffs. Eventually, the creek makes its way into the Wabash River. Native woodland wildflowers are abundant and varied here. In fall, the trees aren't the only colorful plants at which to look. Shrubs like maple-leaved viburnum light up the understory with their red leaves while bulblet ferns turn yellow.



For more information, visit [www.inpaws.org](http://www.inpaws.org).

## GPMGA Grant Awarded



The GPMGA recently awarded a grant to create a new garden at Southeastway Park.

This park, the third largest park in the Indy Parks system, is located on Carroll Road in Franklin Township, on the southeast side of Marion County. The park has many paved and unpaved hiking trails.

The proposed garden will be located near the entrance to the one-way road/loop that leads to the park's six picnic shelters. The triangular-shaped site is 15 feet long on each side. Currently, it has 4 huge rocks (which will remain), park information signs and weeds covering the ground.

The grant will enable the purchase of at least one load of dirt via truck and the placement of landscape timbers along the sides to hold in the dirt. Black-eyed susans, coneflowers and blanket flowers will be planted. These species were selected because they are more drought resistant and the site is at a distance from a water source.

Mike Brown and Mike Logan (GPMGA members who volunteer at Southeastway park) and Larry Robinson (a Hancock County Master Gardener) will coordinate this project, which they hope to complete this September. In addition, three staff members at Southeastway Park (including the park manager) will help with project. The same park staff members also assist Garfield Park staff in planting tulips at Garfield Park each year.



## Altum's Opens Temporary Roadside Stand

Altum's Garden Center has closed temporarily to begin the huge undertaking of moving from their present location to larger quarters.

The garden center has vacated its longtime site at 11335 N. Michigan Road in Carmel and has opened a temporary roadside garden stand next to the Finley Creek Vineyards Event Center at 795 US-421 (N. Michigan Road) in Zionsville this month.



The stand will be open until December 24 as Altum's works to establish more-permanent operations in that location by April. Ultimately, Altum's expects to spend \$500,000 to open a 7,500-square-foot facility focused more on online sales.

The new location affords Altum's an opportunity to partner with Finley Creek Vineyards Event Center. Both organizations share a passion for sustainable gardening, respect for the earth and a mutual appreciation of nature.

Altum's has a rich, 50-year history. Its second-generation owner, Dana Altum, will continue this tradition at the brand-new facility. According to Altum, "We've thoroughly completed the 'conceptualization' phase and we're ready to begin the transformation. We're creating an atmosphere that's truly unique to the Indianapolis area."

The new location will offer an intimate setting that will allow customers to visualize products in their own yards. In addition, the new location will include a greenhouse with disappearing walls and roll-up doors, offering shoppers a view of the new store's wooded exterior.

The new location contains towering, mature trees that will provide lush foliage all around customers as they shop. The old facility was completely blacktop pavement with no trees at all.

Altum's also fought the west winds at the previous location. The new site is positioned to allow the covered shopping area to protect the outside sales area from those strong winds, thereby making shopping more comfortable.

## Harvest Days, Nights Return to Newfields

Harvest presented by JPMorgan Chase at Newfields is back with a month-long celebration this October!

At Harvest Days, guests are invited to explore the magnificently decked out garden with thousands of Indiana-grown pumpkins blanketing the campus. Enjoy a cornucopia of dynamic horticulture displays in the crisp fall air.

October at Newfields also will be filled with plenty of Instagram-worthy moments, art-making activities for small children, world travels via beer tastings, visits from local vendors and much more! The festivities will last from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day from October 2 until October 31.

Harvest Days will feature live music in the Beer Garden each day—from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and then from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Weekends will bring special activations from many of Newfields' most beloved partners such as Sun King Brewing Co., Half Liter, and Smoking Goose.



Harvest Nights also returns this year for visitors to enjoy their favorite spooky experience. This nightly ticketed event (from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.) features thousands of endless glowing pumpkins along a hidden path at Newfields. The spooky (not scary) outdoor walking experience guides guests around twists and turns of the enchanted forest, an eerie ghost train and a grand finale at Mischief Manor at the Lilly House mansion. Ghosts and friends alike can enjoy festive fall beverages and light snacks as they wander amongst glowing jack-o-lanterns.

For more information, visit [www.discovernewfields.org](http://www.discovernewfields.org).

## Upcoming Gardening Events

**Saturday, September 25 (1:00 p.m.)**  
**Fall Color from Natives**  
Indiana Native Plant Society  
Pike Branch Library  
6525 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis

Join the Indiana Native Plant Society for its first in-person program of the fall.

Myrene Brown will be promoting native plants that add color to fall gardens and attract native birds and insects—bringing sound and movement to enhance the garden while providing beauty and connection to nature.

Myrene Brown has been experimenting with native plants since her move to Indiana in 1989. In 1998, she started Myrene's Garden which offers garden lectures, garden coaching and design work for clients.

For more information, visit:  
<https://indiananativeplants.org/chapters/central-chapter>

