



Owen County Garden Club Newsletter

Autumn 2010

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PURDUE EXTENSION SERVICE ANNUAL DINNER

OCTOBER 2, 2010

TICKETS \$5

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE
DINNER CATERED BY PATRICKSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
LADIES AUXILLARY

Butterflies Galore This Summer!

This hot dry weather seemed to be just what the butterflies loved. Everyone had butterflies galore this year.



The County Fair

The display on container gardening was well received by fair goers. Thanks to all who worked to grow a container for the display and those who helped create the little green oasis in the Open Class building. A special thank you to Julie Coffin who was in charge of the project.

Congratulations to ribbon winners at this year's Floriculture exhibit: JoAnn Ligon, Grand Champion and Nancy Knapp, Reserve Grand Champion.

The shelves were lined with many beautiful flowers this year in spite of the less than perfect growing season. Thanks to Berta Medicus-Moore, Faye Ure, JoAnn Ligon and Annie Bright for checking in exhibits and assisting the judge. Also thanks to JoAnn, Faye and Nancy Knapp for coming in on Sunday while people picked up their vases and ribbons.

Bouquet or Arrangement?

The judge this year made an interesting comment concerning the 'arrangement' category. She said only a few of the entries could be called arrangements as most of them were really only bouquets. According to this judge, flowers placed in a container, but not anchored in a frog or floral foam, are not really arrangements. She suggested we have a class on flower arrangements before the Fair next year. If enough Club members are interested, we could invite her to a meeting in the spring to teach us how to arrange flowers.

Urns, Park & Triangle

The hot, dry weather has not prevented Club Members from creating spots of beauty around the town of Spencer. The folks who have continued to work on the various projects deserve a big thank you for pulling weeds, mulching and hauling water.

Something Different for the Spring Garden . . .

Have you ever grown alliums? Most people are familiar with the huge purple blooms that when dried resemble exploding fireworks. However alliums come in many sizes and colors. There is a short 4 " one with yellow blooms that is perfect for rock gardens and borders. And of course there is the 4' tall variety with huge purple blooms. They bloom through spring into mid summer and contribute great texture to the landscape and to cut bouquets. They prefer well-drained soil and sun. One of the reasons I like alliums is that the deer do not like to eat them. Maybe they taste like their cousin, the onion.

Puschkinia libanotica is another choice for early spring blooms. The dainty blue blooms are attractive in a bed and especially charming when they are naturalized. Imagine a light blue carpet spreading out under your shade trees next spring.



October Meeting

It is that time of the year again, the leaves are falling, frost is coming and it is time for our annual pitch-in at the Park. It is an evening of fun, food, and fellowship with other gardeners.

We will meet on October 6 at the CCC Nature Center in McCormick's Creek State Park.

The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. We will eat at 6 p.m. Short business meeting at 6:45 p.m., then the Auction begins.

The Club will supply the hot dogs, buns, drinks and tableware. You bring a dish to share.

Thanks to Connie McCain for once again putting this event together for us, and handling the grilling.

As usual, we will bid against ourselves for the treasures we donate for the Auction that caps off the night. Bring anything gardening related to donate to the Auction.



A Special Note to Master Gardeners

Jenna Smith, Purdue Extension Educator will give a short presentation on the Master Gardener Program with emphasis on Advanced Master Gardeners and how to track the hours we accumulate for credit. Individuals will be able to make an appointment with her to visit the Extension Office to learn how to create an account to track data.

The information you need is: date you complete the class and a current email account address.

Master Gardeners who do not belong to the Club are invited to attend the October meeting. Please tell your gardening friends.