



Hoosier Organic Gardener

April 2014

Indiana Organic Gardeners Association

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IOGA MISSION:

To educate ourselves and others in reasons for and methods of environmentally friendly gardening; and to encourage the reduction of chemical dependency in gardens, lawns and farms.

Survival!

After the Winter of 2014, I feel like shouting that from the melting snow piles. Sometimes, it was all we could do to get out the door in the morning and make it to our destination relatively unscathed. The relentless snow and bitter cold took their toll on infrastructure, plants, animals, and sanity. Fortunately, we did not suffer loss of power or frozen pipes that others in our area did. But we did come down with a wicked case of cabin fever!



Lynne Sullivan
IOGA President

Now that the days are getting longer and the snow has mostly melted, we are starting to see the first glimmers of Spring. Rhubarb and brave flower bulbs are peeking through the semi-frozen soil and the Sandhill Cranes are making their high-altitude pilgrimage northward. The songbirds are beginning to practice their spring melodies and the Earth is beginning to take some shallow breaths.

What this growing season will bring is anyone's guess, but as an optimistic gardener (is there any other type?), I am diligently making plans for sowing my favorite seeds and making way for some healthy, organic plants to settle into their new home.

My compost bin is overflowing with all the kitchen scraps and shredded junk mail that I heaped onto it over the Winter. All it needs now is some warm days to wake up the hungry microbes that will help turn it into rich, fertile soil to nurture my plants.

I am anxiously looking forward to IOGA's annual Plant and Garden Auction on April 19, 2014 at the Zionsville Public Library. I never know what type of wonderful things will be available, as folks bring in a variety of organic seedlings, plant divisions, books, seeds, and other items. Last year, we had some wonderful donated items from Rosie's Garden Store, Sophia Organic, Akard Hardware, and Worm's Way. For more information about this fun event, please see the last page of this newsletter.

In the meantime, let your imagination go wild and plan for an exciting year!

Happy and Healthy Gardening!

-Lynne

Winnie the Pooh and Honey.

Well, Maybe Just Pooh

We all love honey but sometimes we forget that our personal taste for honey is nothing compared to the impact that honey bees have on our diets of fresh vegetables and fruits. This year California is worried about lack of water and endless drought and the affect on their huge agriculture industry. However, there is another concern, that being whether there are enough honey bees to pollinate the almond orchards, the peach trees, and all the many crops that require pollination from the honey bee.



The city of Los Angeles is moving towards changing its zoning laws so urban beekeepers can legally keep bees in residential areas. Part of the reasoning for doing so is that something needs to be done to help insure there are enough bees to pollinate urban gardens and urban agriculture in the face of colony collapsed disorder (CCD). When one third of what we eat is due to the assistance of honey bees as pollinators, honeybees must be protected if possible, especially in California.

CCD was first observed in 2006. Hives were found with honey and combs intact, but without any bees. Every year since, more and more bees have disappeared or died. Beekeepers once thought an annual loss of 10-15% was normal. Now there are reports of a loss as much as one-third from the 2012-2013 winter. If CDD continues, we may not only have less honey, but there may be a major impact on our food supply at a cost of millions of dollars to crops.

Neonicotinoids

No one knows for sure the cause of CDD, though many theories have been discussed. Possible causes range from the presence of the Varroa destructor mites, the Israeli Acute Paralytic Virus (IASV), the monoculture of corn and soybeans that offer little nutrition to bees, reduced non cropped rural lands, the stress of moving hives to pollinate commercial crops, and a new class of insecticides called neonicotinoids.

Neonicotinoids are derived from nicotine, a naturally occurring plant insecticide found in tobacco plants. This class of insecticides was developed to be less toxic to humans and mammals. Neonicotinoids are systemic insecticides that are absorbed by treated plants, protecting them against insects that feed on them.

There are six types of neonicotinoids used to protect plants (*imidacloprid*, *clothianidin*, *thiamethoxam*, *dinotefuran*, *acetamiprid*, and *thiacbprid*). These six are currently found in hundreds of products at agriculture supply stores and at garden centers. Neonicotinoids may be applied 1) as a spray, 2) a soil drench, 3) by directed injection, or 4) as a treatment on seeds. They are used on commercial field and orchard crops, ornamental plants in nurseries, on trees in streets and parks, and in numerous gardens and backyards throughout the country. Neonicotinoids can be applied in much greater concentrations in gardens than on farms. The garden products do not carry any warning about hazards to bees and other pollinators.

Two of the neonicotinoids, *clothianidin* and *thiamethoxam*, are extensively used as a seed treatment on corn and soybeans. Virtually every field corn seed planted in the Midwest is treated with one of these two neonicotinoids. Most soybean seeds are usually treated with *thiamethoxam*. *Thiamethoxam* rapidly breaks down into *clothianidin* inside the plants. ***Clothianidin* is one of the most toxic substances for honey bees.**

Continued on page 3

At Planting Time

A recent Purdue study looked at beehives near corn fields at planting time. The study found that the dust from the seed planting equipment contained large quantities of *clothianidin* that contaminated the soil on treated and adjacent fields. The dust also contaminated weeds near the treated fields (including dandelions that bees forage on). This contamination resulted in the direct killing of many bees outright and weakened, but did not destroy, the hives. *Clothianidin* was found in the pollen collected in the hives.

At Other Times

Other than planting time, bees come into contact with neonicotinoids through the pollen and nectar from treated plants. These sub-lethal doses of neonicotinoids attack the bee's nervous system and may make the bees disoriented and more susceptible to pathogens and parasites.

Persistence of Neonicotinoids

Most neonicotinoids break down slowly in the environment. Evidence suggests the neonicotinoid insecticides remain in plant tissues for months or more than a year. In addition, some neonicotinoids can persist in the soil for extended periods. *Clothianidin* has a soil half-life of up to three years, depending upon the soil type.

Banned in Europe

Neonicotinoids have been banned in Europe. The European and Canadian legal systems allow actions against chemicals that have the possibility of harm instead of the US standard where harm must first be proven before action can be taken.

No “Smoking Gun”

The problem is that there is no “smoking gun” as to the cause of CDD. CDD may be the result of many factors with neonicotinoids being an enabling factor. One interesting theory is that neonicotinoids found in corn syrup and used to supplement bee hives may be part of the problem. Thus, beekeepers may be unknowingly adding to the spread of neonicotinoids in bee hives.

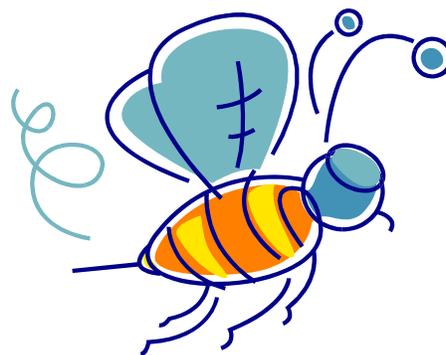
Conclusion

Because of 1) the high toxicity of neonicotinoids to bees, 2) the ubiquitous nature of neonicotinoids in the environment (including in the pollen and nectar that bees eat), and 3) the slow break down of neonicotinoids in the environment, bees find it exceedingly difficult to avoid detrimental contact with neonicotinoids. And, although in most cases the neonicotinoids do not directly kill the bees, they most likely weaken the hive and in combination with viruses and parasites increase the susceptibility of the hive to CDD.

Further Reading:

<http://ento.psu.edu/publications/are-neonicotinoids-killing-bees>

<http://www.extension.org/pages/65034/neonicotinoid-seed-treatments-and-honey-bee-health#.UxVObs7EHqJ>



January IOGA Meeting

The winter meeting of the Indiana Organic Gardeners Association took place January 18 at the Big Car Service Center for Contemporary Culture and Community on Lafayette Rd. in Indianapolis.

The meeting started with IOGA member Doug Rohde giving a presentation on native pollinators and pollination in general. Doug passed around his copy of Attracting Native Pollinators: Protecting North America's Bees and Butterflies: The Xerces Society Guide, which he feels is one of the best books available on this subject. Native pollinators include bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, moths, and even beetles, who are often accidental pollinators. Pollinators are looking for food and reproduction, and through the course of evolution, nectar and pollen relationships have developed.



Doug Rohde (left) and Tim Caldwell (right) Presented Pollinators and Honey Bees Respectively at the January IOGA Meeting

There are many kinds of pollinating bees. Sweat bees, only about ¼" long, are quite pretty in detail. Honey bees, originally from Europe, or even earlier from Africa, are more specific as to what flowers they will pollinate. Bumble bees are probably our most important pollinators. They will come out during cool, wet weather, while honey bees tend to stay in the hive during inclement weather. Carpenter bees, common around here, have shiny bottoms whereas bumble bees are fuzzy.

Pollinators go to a variety of plants, trees and shrubs as well as to smaller flowering plants. In the garden it is important to have a continuity of blooming plants so the pollinators always have a source. Environmental safety groups have expressed concerns about pesticides and honey bees. In addition to affecting the nervous systems of children, these chemicals affect the immune systems of insects.

The next presenter was Tim Caldwell, a professional beekeeper, who gave us the basics on honey bees. Tim had brought three types of beehives, each constructed of wood. The first was the most common, box type Langstroth bee hive. The second was a flatter, top bar bee hive which is simple to make. The third type was a Warré bee hive that looks like a little house. The Warré bee hive is foundationless and frameless, can be moved easily, and recycles the wax every eighteen months.

Tim gave us some interesting information about honey bees, which are not aggressive toward people. The queen and workers are all female, and the drones, the males, have only one set of chromosomes. The queen will mate during her maiden flight, and then will lay over a million eggs during her 4-5 year reproductive life in the hive. The worker bees live about six weeks. They do not eat the pollen they collect but rather pack it in the cells in the hive. The pollen is the protein and the honey is the carbohydrate that is fed to the larvae.

Gardeners should provide plants that bees can thrive on. Sweet clover is one of the best plants for all bees, including honey bees. Honey bees are not able to pollinate red clover whose flower is too large. Herbs such as lavender, oregano, and basil that are allowed to go to bloom attract honey bees. Bees need an acre of blossoms a day to keep a hive going. Trees such as basswood and black locust lead to lots of good honey production. Bees can travel up to six miles away and still make it back to the hive.

Bees are remarkable communicators. They navigate with the sun, but since they have ultraviolet vision, they can also navigate without sunlight. Inside the hive bees will do a figure-eight or circle dance to tell other bees the direction and distance to a nectar source. Some bees will be sent for water if more is needed in the hive.

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The taste and thickness of honey depend on what the bees have foraged on. Commercial honey has been blended so there is consistent taste in the products. Commercial honey must be USDA inspected, but individuals can sell their honey privately without an inspection.

The Central Indiana Beekeepers Association (CIBA) will hold a one-day conference on Feb. 22 at Decatur Central High School. Those interested can go to the CIBA website to sign up.

The business meeting took place after the delicious pitch-in luncheon. First, Pres. Lynne Sullivan



Three Types of Bee Hives: A Warré Bee Hive (front), a Top Bar Bee Hive (middle), and a common Langstroth Bee Hive (back) introduced the current officers, which include Vice-Pres. Karen Nelson, who put together today's program; Ron Clark, Treasurer; and Margaret Smith, Secretary. Ron and Claudia Clark also put out the Newsletter. Lynne then announced that our Annual Plant Auction will be on April 19 at the Zionsville Public Library.

We will again partner with Fall Creek Gardens to offer a winter gardening workshop this year. The four classes will include soil (January), Seeds (February), Sustain (March), and Save (April). These classes are free and open to the public, but participants do need to sign up before each class. More information is available on the Fall Creek Gardens' website.

We currently cannot upload our newsletters to the IOGA website, gardeningnaturally.org.

An effort is being made to reconstruct the website. (If any IOGA member has expertise in this area and would like to help in this endeavor, contact Lynne.)

Our organization gets many speaker requests; so we may want to form a committee to create a list of our members who could make presentations to outside groups. Our mentoring program, in which a more experienced gardener is paired with a novice gardener, is going well. Anyone wanting to participate in this program should let Lynne know.

The Question & Answer (Q&A) session was next. Amanda Montes asked about a source for organic soil and compost. GreenCycle which advertises in Indiana Living Green magazine, was suggested.

There was some concern about putting non organic produce residue on your compost pile since it may contain pesticides. Your own garden scraps are ideal, but it is probably wise to wash off orange rinds and banana peels *etc.* before tossing them on the compost heap. You can test your compost by planting a few bean or cucumber seeds in it. If the seedlings die, you probably should not use that compost on your garden. Doug said you should be cautious about using horse manure if the horses grazed on fields that had been sprayed.

Karen Nelson asked about using chipped up pine needles on the garden. They can be used as mulch, but incorporating them into the soil would probably increase the acidity of the soil somewhat. It is important to know the pH of your soil, and Indiana soils do tend to be alkaline. Soil testing kits can be purchased at most gardening centers. Soil in an industrial area should be tested for lead, a contaminant that can be dangerous.

Another member asked how to use worm compost and castings. Making a compost tea is one way. Such a tea can be sprayed on plants as an organic fertilizer

The Farm to Fork Market at Normandy Farms (79th and Marsh Rd.) is the only all-organic farmers' market in Indiana. Open Saturday mornings from 9-12, it is a highly recommended shopping experience.

- Margaret Smith, Secretary

Tomato Blossom End Rot

Blossom end rot is a condition that affects the blossom end of tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and squash (e.g., zucchini). *Blossom end rot* is not a bacterial, a viral, or a fungus disease, but is caused by a lack of calcium in the fruit. This lack of calcium may result from a deficiency of calcium in the soil, but more likely is due to the inability of the plant to efficiently take the calcium from the soil and transport it to the fruit. Plants need calcium for cell wall development and growth. If a plant gets too little calcium while the fruit is developing, the cell walls of the fruit do not develop properly and *blossom end rot* results.



Blossom End Rot on Tomatoes

Blossom end rot is worsened by wide fluctuations in soil moisture that affect the ability of the plant to supply calcium from the soil to the developing fruit. *Blossom end rot* often occurs when rapidly growing plants are suddenly exposed to a period of drought and the roots are unable to obtain enough water and calcium for the rapidly developing fruit.

Excessive nitrogen fertilizer also contributes to *blossom end rot* by promoting vigorous vine growth with insufficient root development. The resulting root system may not be able to take up the calcium needed for the fruit during times of stress. Tomatoes planted in cold, heavy soil too early in the season can also develop poor root systems.

Cultivating too close to the plant can destroy valuable roots lessening the ability of the plant to take up water and calcium.

Tomato varieties differ in their resistance to *blossom end rot*. In general, elongated pear or plum tomatoes are most prone to blossom end rot.

Add Calcium to the Soil and Adjust Soil pH, if Needed

Test your soil to determine the amount of calcium contained in the soil and the pH of the soil. Add calcium to your soil and adjust the soil pH if needed. (Soil pH is a measure of how acid a soil is with a pH of 7.0 being neutral. Anything lower is acidic, and anything higher is alkaline.) Calcium deficiency is often associated with low soil pH. Soil pH should be between 6.0 and 6.5 for optimal calcium uptake. Tomatoes grow best with a soil pH between 6.0 to 6.8

If you need calcium and need to raise the pH of the soil, use calcium carbonate (powdered limestone). Other materials that can be used include egg shells, crushed oyster shells, bonemeal, and wood ashes. If you need calcium but the pH of the soil does not need to be raised, use gypsum. If the soil pH is too high, add sulfur, sawdust, leaf mold, oak leaves, pine needles, or wood chips to lower the soil pH. Adjust the soil pH levels gradually over several seasons

Prevention and Control:

Some things that you can do to prevent *blossom end rot* are the following:

1. Plant your tomatoes in loose, well-drained soil to encourage maximum root development.
2. Add organic matter to loosen the soil and improve its moisture holding capacity.
3. Do not cultivate too deeply around the base of the plants.
4. Apply a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch around the plants to keep even moisture and to control weeds.
5. Water evenly (if needed).
6. Use only a low Nitrogen fertilizer.
7. As a last ditch effort, spray the foliage with a solution of calcium chloride or calcium nitrate. Do not over spray or you may burn the plant. ([Bonide Rot Stop Concentrate](#) contains calcium chloride)
8. Remove affected tomatoes so other fruit on the plant will develop normally.

LETTERS:



Bee Killing Neonicotinoid Pesticides Found in Common Garden Plants Sold by Top Retailers

Even though winter's not done with us yet, time to think about and order pollinator plant seeds. Some weeks ago, somewhere, I read about big box stores that will be selling "native" and other plants that may have neonicotinoids in the potting soil so it's better to grow native plants from trusted seed sources as well as your own potting/compost soil or potting soil from more knowledgeable garden stores.

Doug Rohde, Feb 20

(Editors' Note: Friends of the Earth-US and Pesticide Research Institute has found 54 percent of common garden plants purchased at top retailers including Lowe's and Home Depot contained neonicotinoid pesticides, which studies show can harm or kill bees and other pollinators, with no warning to consumers. Learn more at foe.org/beeaction about the Friends of the Earth BeeAction campaign to have top retailers stop selling neonicotinoid pesticides and plants containing neonicotinoid pesticides)

Plants Whose Flowers Attract Bees and Other Pollinators

Here is a list from Doug Rohde of plants whose flowers attract bees and other pollinators. The list comes from a [Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation](#) fact sheet entitled, [Upper Midwest Plants for Native Bees](#). The fact sheet states that it is important to provide a range of plants so a succession of flowers, and thus pollen and nectar, are available through the entire growing season. The fact sheet also emphasizes the following:

Use Local Native Plants: Local plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers. In gardens, heirloom varieties of herbs and perennials are good to plant.

Chose Several Colors of Flowers: Flower colors that especially attract native bees are blue, purple, violet, white and yellow.

Plant Flowers in Clumps: Flowers in clumps of one species attract more pollinators.

Include Flowers of Different Shapes: Plant different shapes as bees are all different sizes and will feed on different flowers.

Below are short lists of native plants and of garden plants that are suitable to grow in all of the Upper Midwest. There are many more plants that are bee friendly than those listed.

NATIVE PLANTS SUITABLE FOR THE UPPER MIDWEST

Aster	Lupine
Beebalm	Milkweed
Blazing star	New Jersey tea
Cup plant	Obedient plant
Fireweed	Prairie clover
Goldenrod	Purple coneflower
Giant hyssop	Rattlesnake master
Wild indigo	Penstemon
Ironweed	Spiderwort
Joe Pye weed	Steeplebush
Leadplant	Sunflower
Lobelia	Willow

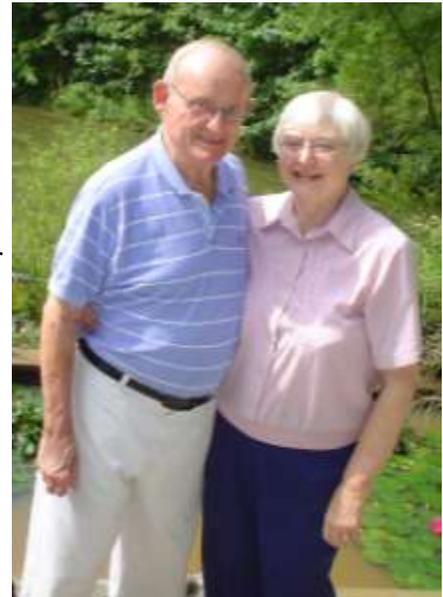
GARDEN PLANTS SUITABLE FOR THE UPPER MIDWEST

Basil	Oregano
Borage	Rosemary
Catmint	Russian sage
Cosmos	Spearmint
Lavender	Squill

Colby's Camp

Your editors drove many a country road in southern Indiana to find Anderson Woods Camp near Bristow, run by IOGA member David Colby and his wife Judy. The camp has operated for 35 years as a camp for special needs children and adults. The 175 acres of woods and meadows has an organic garden that furnishes all the vegetables for the campers. Friendly animals add interest for the campers, including the Babydoll Southdown Sheep that IOGA member Frank C. donated to the camp last year. Frank also loaned them a female ewe sheep with hopes of increasing the number of animals at the camp! The Colbys named the donated sheep Frank. The loaned sheep's name is Dolly.

The Colby's lovely log cabin home uses a Rumford Fireplace that was first developed in 1796 that is very efficient at warming their home. The rocks for the fireplace were gathered by them on their own property.



David and Judy Colby



David and Judy's Main Garden

David was given a large pile of burlap bags and he is using them between rows in the garden to prevent weeds. He also has managed to get some corn despite being in a woods that includes lots of raccoons. He suggests some successful ways to manage raccoons are to use pepper spray or garlic spray on the corn silk and also to get dog hair clippings (from a kennel) and sprinkle them around the garden where the corn is growing.

Judy is in charge of growing the potatoes and she plants them on the surface of the ground (no digging trenches!) and puts a six inch layer of straw on top. Certainly makes harvesting easy! You just lift the straw off and there are the potatoes! Judy is also growing an unusual crop – celery. She ties a rope loosely around the stalks so they stay in an upright position. She cuts off stalks as needed and leaves the main plant in place.

David has some peach and apple trees and quite a few peaches were setting on during our August visit. He uses a dormant oil and Neem oil to prevent insect problems. Obviously he is successful judging by the amount of fruit even on small trees.

David and Judy have a lovely place in the woods and it is great they are teaching the campers and their families about organic gardening!



Babydoll Southdown Sheep Dolly (left) and Frank (right)

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Judy Even Grows Celery



Potatoes Easily Accessible After Being Planted Under a Layer of Straw



David Constructed a Cage for His Raspberries

50,000 Bees Die from a Neonictinoid Insecticide

June 17, 2013 in a Target parking lot more than fifty thousand bumble bees died, the largest native bee kill ever recorded ([Link](#)). The bees died after a landscaping company sprayed 55 blooming linden (basswood) trees in a Target parking lot in Wilsonville, Oregon to control aphids whose honeydew was dripping on cars below. The insecticide Safari (containing the neonictinoid dinotefuran) was sprayed on the trees whose flowers are highly attractive to bees. The aphids were not threatening the trees.

Mace Vaughan of the [Xerces Society](#) said, "My worry is that we're going to lose sight of the real message (in this incident) ... I think we're (using neonictinoid insecticides) all over the place, and people are doing it in their backyards without even knowing it."

Editors' Note:

Tell all your non-organic gardening friends to NOT buy any insecticides that contain the following neonicotinoids: *acetamiprid*, *clothianidin*, *dinotefuran*, *imidacloprid*, *itenpyram*, *thiacloprid*, and *thiamethoxam*. These are not brand names, but the active ingredients listed on the back of the bottle.

Also, when buying plants for your yard or garden, ask if neonicotinoids have been used on them. If they cannot tell you, shop somewhere else.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mark your calendar

IOGA generally meets quarterly on the third Saturday of the month. Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings.

April 19, 2014
(Plant Auction)
July 21, 2014
October 18, 2014
January 17, 2015



Good News Farm Bill

Organic farmers and fruit and vegetable growers are receiving increased benefits from a farm bill passed by Congress in February, 2014. The increased support for organic farmers and fruit and vegetable growers reflects changing consumer attitudes about eating healthy organic food and eating locally grown food. There was broad support from both political parties. Traditional crop subsidies were cut to \$23 billion over 10 years (a decline of over 30%). Funding for organic farmers and fruit and vegetable growers increased by more than 50% to about \$3 billion over 10 years.

Organic farmers and fruit and vegetable growers finally have more opportunity to get crop insurance. Even though funding for food stamp recipients decreased in total, there is now increased funding for assisting food stamp recipients to buy healthy foods like fruits and vegetables. Healthy eating is growing in importance as efforts abound to reduce obesity in both children and adults.

The leading force in getting this bill through Congress was Sen. Debbie Stabenow, a Democrat from Michigan. Although traditional farming far exceeds organic farming, organics are the fastest-growing sector of the food business.

Ask us...!

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Local Food Guide

Again this year IOGA is helping sponsor the Guide to Local, Sustainable & Organic Food in Central Indiana that is distributed by The Food Coalition of Central Indiana. The guide includes listings for farms, farmers markets, CSAs, wineries, brewers, and food business and restaurants that source locally. The guide also highlights when local produce is in season with an annual harvest calendar created by urban growers in Indianapolis.

The Food Coalition of Central Indiana's Local Food Guide has become a much anticipated resource for families, chefs, and business owners. Check out the Central Indiana Local Food Map of markets, farms, wine/alcohol, businesses, and/or local gardens.

Earth Day Indiana

free outdoor festival

Saturday April 26 • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fun, Exhibits, Food, Children's Activities, Live Music

Celebration Plaza

at White River State Park

801 W. Washington St., Indianapolis

www.earthdavindiana.org

Visit the IOGA Booth



Treasurer's Report



1st Quarter 2014

Opening Balance Jan. 1, 2014	\$3724.78
Income	
Membership Dues	\$ 658.00
<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$ 65.00</u>
Total	\$ 723.00
Expenses	
Newsletter	\$ 125.00
Local Food Guide Sponsor	\$ 75.00
Liability Insurance	\$ 200.00
Stamps	\$ 46.00
Hosting Gratuity	\$ 50.00
Speaker Fee	\$ 50.00
Business Entity Report	\$ 7.14
Bank Service Fee	\$.....2.50
<u>Room Deposit</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total	\$ 655.64

Closing Balance Mar. 31, 2014 **\$ 3792.14**

Respectfully submitted by Ron Clark, Treasurer

New IOGA Member

Jeannine Mattingly, Carmel, IN 46033



How do I join IOGA?

Dues are \$10.00 per individual member, and \$12.00 for a dual membership (same address, one newsletter).

To join, please send your annual dues to:

Please include ALL of the following information:

I prefer my newsletter to be emailed mailed.



IOGA
7282 E 550 S
Whitestown, IN 46075

Full Name
2nd Name (if dual membership)
Address
Phone Number
Email Address

IOGA
Meeting
Sat. April 19
10:30 am

Annual Plant Auction at Zionsville Library

250 North 5th Street, Zionsville, IN ([Map](#))

317-873-3149

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 10:30 | Arrive with Auction Items |
| 11:00—11:45 | Great Pitch-in Lunch
(bring food to share plus table service) |
| 11:45—12:30 | Introductions & Gardening Q&A |
| 12:30—12:45 | Business Meeting |
| 12:45 | Auction Begins |

Plants, books, and garden items will be available for auction. Your donations are appreciated. Please label plants. Proceeds will be used to fund future IOGA programs. Each year the IOGA plant auction is attended by recently converted organic gardeners who are looking for plants and ideas, as well as those who have more experience and have lots of plants, tips and techniques to share.

For the pitch-in lunch, bring a favorite dish filled with food ("home-made" and/or "organic" appreciated) to share and your plate, fork, and drink.

From I-465 take the Michigan Rd./421 exit #27. Then go north 2.3 miles and turn left on E Sycamore (W 116th St.) and go 1.1 miles. Turn right onto S 1st St. and go 0.2 miles, taking the 3rd left onto W Oak St. Go 0.2 miles and turn right onto S 5th St. Park on the 5th St. side of the library (lower level). Or,

From I-65 take the Zionsville exit #130. Go east 4.8 miles on W Oak St. through Zionsville and watch for 5th St. Turn left onto S 5th St. Park on the 5th St. side of the library (lower level).

Everyone welcome! Remember to car pool, if possible.

Join us and bring a friend!

Hoosier Organic Gardener
Claudia and Ron Clark, editors
7282 E 550 S
Whitestown, IN 46075



Join us!
IOGA Meeting
Sat. April 19