

GALLATIN GRUBBER

August 2019

Autumn Meetings

Our regular Monday monthly meetings at the Hope Lutheran Church will resume in September.

Sept. 9, 7 p.m.— Mac Burgess's MSU market gardening students will make presentations on research they've been conducting. These students participate in the Towns Harvest Garden, our neighbor at the MSU Horticulture Farm. (Note this meeting is a week later than usual, due to Labor Day.)

Oct. 7, 7p.m.— Our traditional "What Worked and What Didn't Work" meeting, presented by all of us discussing our gardening successes and challenges in 2019. This is always one of our most interesting meetings, and so plan on attending!



Kareen Erbe discussing permaculture techniques

Market & Garden Report

The market garden is looking better all the time after a challenging spring and early summer that included many cold, wet days, high winds and a major hail storm about June 13. These events particularly affected the growth of our transplanted cole crops and the germination of beans, carrots, beets, lettuce and other crops. We replanted what we could, but across the board plant development is at least two weeks later than normal. But, we are finally seeing carrots, beets, and beans that are almost ready to harvest. Gladiolas and sunflowers are doing well and may be our best sellers this year. And, our tomato and pepper crop in the hoop house may be the best ever with the cherry types just ripening and the "big red ones" not too far off. One of our best crops so far has been the white Japanese salad turnips. They have grown well in our raised beds and sell very well. The same is true for our Romaine-style head lettuce.

We participated in the Tuesday "Bogert" market at Lindley Park on July 23 to replace the Saturday market we missed due to the Big Sky Country State Fair. We sold almost everything we brought with us and wish we'd had more. The last Saturday market will be on Sept. 14 at the Fairgrounds.

Our crops for sale to the Community Food Co-op kitchen will be peppers, fennel, and cauliflower. In September we also plan to deliver red onions to the Town and Country Market on South 11th Ave. and shallots to Heeb's Grocery. One bright spot has been that we've had great turnout for our Tuesday morning weeding parties and Friday afternoon harvests. Thanks to everyone who has helped out!

Summer Tours

Enthusiastic permaculture advocate Kareen Erbe gave club members and friends a tour of her interesting yard and gardens on July 18. We are hoping to tour the new Story Mill Park in late August or early September, but are still working on arrangements. We will notify club members by email as soon as a date and time are finalized.