



Winnebago County Master Gardener January 2014

Volunteer Newsletter

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to provide horticultural education, community service and environmental stewardship for our community in affiliation with the University of Wisconsin Extension Program.

Presidents' Letter

First of all, Mary and I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year! We had a good turnout at our annual awards banquet on December 3. We would like to thank Diana Dougherty for the wonderful door prizes, Linda Loker, Diane Iott, and Sue Egner for helping with registration and Michelle Peplow from the Winnebago County UW-Extension office for the great job on the Member's Booklet. Those of you who have not received your awards or membership booklet can pick them up at our January Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 14. There will also be extra copies available at the UW-Extension Office.

We would like to welcome the eleven newly certified members to Winnebago County Master Gardeners: Lynn Artz, Mary Thiel, LuWestenberger, Becky Tiles, Renee Donner, Jo Helf, Jeanne Callen, Kris Martin, Doug Michie, Sally Lindo, and Kristen Langkau. The Golden Trowel Award was also presented on December 3, 2013 to Arlene and Bob Kosanke for their many years of exemplary service to the WCMGA. Ruth Freye received a special award for completing 2500 hours. Congratulations to all our other members who have received cumulative hour awards! It is the volunteer service that MG's have provided over the years that make this program so exceptional.

Winter is a great time to pick up your continuing education hours. At our January meeting, Roy Anne Moulton will be doing a presentation on the "Gardens of Victoria and Vancouver" and at our February Meeting we will be learning about the new Oshkosh Food Co-op that is forming. These presentations can count towards continuing education hours if you need the hours. Winter Escape Summer Dreams which the WCMGA is presenting on February 1, 2014 at Reeve Memorial Union on the UW-Oshkosh Campus and the Madison Garden Expo on February 8(we have a bus going)are both excellent continuing education opportunities. If any of our new members have questions about the ten continuing education hours you must earn for certification, please contact Mary Shepard or Linda Petek or any of the board members.

Keep warm.....

Mary and Linda



Winter Escapes

Summer Dreams

Saturday, February 1, 2014

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

at Reeve Memorial Union

*University of Wisconsin
Oshkosh campus*

.....more information in newsletter

...from our Advisor

Last month I shared the summary of your volunteer hours in the county. Last week I received the state annual report and found, compared to other counties, Winnebago County Master Gardeners have the fifth highest total volunteerism. Considering your organization ranks ninth for the number of certified members in the state this is quite an accomplishment.

Regarding the entire state-wide Master Gardener Program, there are 2980 volunteers who certified or recertified for 2014. There are approximately 592 MGVs trained in 2013 through counties around the state who are now working towards completing their initial volunteerism. All total, 194,046 hours of volunteer service was performed by MGVs around the state. 12,071 hours were in Youth Education, 34,641 hours were in Community Education, and 147,350 hours were in Support Services. The average volunteer gives 61.5 hours of service annually.

The Annual Accomplishment Report of the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program has much more than numbers. Each local association provides a one-page summary of their annual activities including major projects accomplished and a highlighted project. If you would like to read about the types of projects our friends around the state are involved in, you can stop in the Master Gardener room at the Extension office to read the hard copy or read it online, downloaded from: <http://wimastergardener.org/?q=Accomplishments>.

Once again, your volunteerism is much more than typical. Thank you again for another year of helping the people of Winnebago County become better educated in horticulture and making our communities more beautiful one project at a time.

Kimberly



**Project Leads Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
5:00 eating.....5:30 meeting**

Last month you should have received an email from Mike Maddox (for those without email this will be new) about mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect for all UW-Extension personnel and volunteers. I am currently working on a letter that will be sent out in January with additional information that will help you gain a better understanding of this training. Keep in mind that this training IS REQUIRED of all Master Gardener Volunteers to complete by Sept. 1, 2014. We are doing everything we can to make this training easy for everyone to complete. Please be looking for your letter in the mail and in the meantime if you want additional information go to <http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastergardener/2013/12/03/mandatory-reporter-online-training/>.



Paperwhites and Amaryllis

By Lawanda Jungwirth

Two Christmas gifts advertised annually allow gardeners and non-gardeners alike to grow something pretty in the midst of winter. Paperwhites and amaryllis are easy to grow regardless of the greenness of your thumbs.

Paperwhites have delicate white, star-shaped flowers growing atop tall stems. Long, flat, strappy leaves look like those of daffodils. In fact, paperwhites are narcissus, the same as

daffodils. Paperwhites are sold in kits with everything you need for planting, which includes bulbs, potting soil and a pot.

To plant them, place two inches of soil in the pot. Place the bulbs close together, pointy side up, atop the soil. Fill soil in around the bulbs to hold them in place, leaving the tops exposed. Add water to just below the base of the bulbs.

Set the container in a cool place, 50-60°F, away from direct sun. Keep the water level just below the bulbs. Once a week, gently tug on the bulbs to see if they have begun to root. When you feel a little resistance, about three weeks after planting, move the pot to a sunny window.

Check water levels every day, but don't let the bottoms of the bulbs sit in water or they will rot.

Soon stems will begin to grow and then the plants will bloom, filling the room with the unique paperwhite fragrance.

Paperwhites grown indoors may need support with small stakes or hoops. After blooming once, they will not rebloom and will not survive planting outdoors, so toss them in the compost.

The other indoor flower bulb kit offered this time of year, the amaryllis, produces large white, pink, red or striped flowers. Red is most prevalent at Christmas time. Amaryllis bulbs are much larger than those of paperwhites and just a single bulb is planted in a pot.

Plant the bulb up to its neck in quality potting soil, letting the top of the bulb show above the soil. Take care not to damage the roots. Press soil firmly around the bulb.

Place the pot in a warm place, ideally 68-70°F, in direct light. Water lightly until the stem appears. As a bud and leaves emerge, water a bit more. The stem will grow rapidly and then

flowers will develop atop the stem. Flowers last 7-10 weeks.

Amaryllis can be made to rebloom the following year. Cut





FOOD FOR THOUGHT...
...L Loker

MINT BROWNIES

LAYER 1: 1 cup sugar
 1 cup flour
 4 eggs
 1/2 cup butter
 1/2 tsp baking powder
 1/4 tsp salt
 1 cup Hershey's chocolate syrup
 Blend together. Pour into greased jelly roll pan.
 Bake 350 degrees for 25 min.
 Cool 20 min.

LAYER 2: 1/2 cup butter
 2 cups powdered sugar
 6 drops green food color
 2 Tbsp milk
 1 tsp peppermint extract

Beat together until well blended and smooth.
 Spread on brownie layer.

LAYER 3: 1/2 cup butter
 6 oz semi sweet chocolate chips

Melt on low in microwave. Spread on layer 2.
 Refrigerate.

Note: Substitution: 4 Tbsp peanut butter for
 peppermint and food coloring.

2014

Flower Arranging schedule at Parkview Health center

Master gardeners meet on Mondays at 1:30

January 27 th	flowers from Garden Gate
March 24 th	flowers from Garden Gate
April 21 st	flowers from Garden Gate
May 19 th	flowers from Garden Gate
June 16 th	flowers from our gardens
July 28 th	their fair flowers from our gardens
August 25 th	flowers from our gardens
Sept 22 nd	flowers from our gardens
October 20 th	flowers from Garden Gate
November 17 th	flowers from Garden Gate
December 15 th	flowers from Garden Gate

Newsletter Contributions

To contribute an article or more to the
 Newsletter contact Diana Dougherty at
 233-7137 or email to
dldoug5@charter.net

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Plants, Pollinators and Pests Topics of Master Gardener Conference

Once the hustle and bustle of the holidays are over, there is still a long stretch of winter ahead in Northeast Wisconsin. The Winnebago County Master Gardener Association offers a great opportunity for gardeners to escape the winter cold for a day and prepare for the coming spring at its annual *Winter Escape~Summer Dreams* conference on Saturday, February 1, 2014. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Reeve Memorial Union, Oshkosh.

Neil Diboll, owner of Prairie Nursery, Westfield, Wisconsin, an international expert in ecological and natural landscape design, will be the keynote speaker. His lead presentation will be "Prairie Plants for Pollinator Gardens" in which he will offer advice on the best plants to attract the pollinators that are so important to the health of gardens and the planet. His second topic is "Strategies for Controlling Invasive Plants." Neil's tips will be helpful to any gardener who has ever gone "mano-a-mano" with fast-spreading invasives that can overrun a garden or the landscape.

The second speaker of the day is Kimberly Miller, Horticulture Educator for UW-Extension, Winnebago County, and an Urban Forestry Assistant for the Wisconsin DNR. Her topic will be "It's Here: The Emerald Ash Borer in Wisconsin." This pest is now threatening the survival of our ash trees. She will discuss what can be done to slow the spread or perhaps save a special tree.

The *Winter Escape~Summer Dreams* conference is open to the public. The registration fee is \$40 through January 20, 2014 and \$45 thereafter. It includes free parking, a continental breakfast, time with vendors, a Q&A session with the speakers and lunch. For more information or to register, go to www.winnebagomastergardeners.org or contact Audrey Ruedinger at (920) 231-5745.



Fond du Lac County Master Gardener Association

Presents

“Day in the Garden”

March 1, 2014

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Join us for a day of education and information.

Gardening experts will speak on a variety of topics.

Birdscaping

Ornamental Grasses

Floral Arranging by Haentzes

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

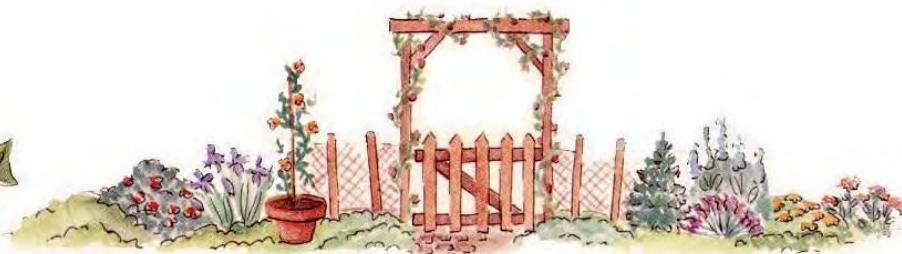
Meet other Gardening enthusiasts.

Share your gardening trials and triumphs.

Vendors, Raffle, Silent Auction

For more information and Registration Forms

Call 920-929-3172 UW-Extension



Invasive species-Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard-

North High Conservancy Park 2013 – Sue Egner

In May we were able to gather twice. The prairie area was cleared of buckthorn.

The city parks department then came in and cut down all the growth, which was the first step in the restoration project. Garlic mustard was noticed in several areas throughout the park. Round-up was used due to lack of man power.

Member hours in May were 18. Thank you to Debbie Drake, Mary Rebman, Betty Kuen, and Sue Egner. Non-members (neighbors and family) totaled 12 hours.

In November the buckthorn removal restarted. Many (thousands) of new trees have grown since the start of this project a few years ago. We went over the areas that were done previously. They were from a few inches to 5 feet tall. Thank you to Debbie Drake, Carole Dorsch, Jennifer Footit-Tank, Linda Baeten, Linda Petek, Kathy Gore, Jeanne Callen, Audrey Ruedinger, Linda Loker and Sue Egner. Also three from the class of 2013-Jan Wetterau-Houge, Nancy Karuhn, and Kathy Schultz. Member hours totaled 61 and the neighbors and family members totaled 50 hours.

Total hours for members were 79 and non-members were 62. Thank you everyone for your help!

GREETINGS FROM SHELLEY RYAN

I wanted to take this season (and a slower time of year for most gardeners) to express my thanks to Master Gardener Volunteers, Extension Horticulture folks and Public Garden staff throughout Wisconsin for all their support of myself and **The Wisconsin Gardener** television series over the past many years.

We are coming up on the Garden Expo season, when I look forward to seeing many of you in person, (it's a gardening family reunion!) but I will not be there this year and will greatly miss laughing, brainstorming and sharing with you.

As many of you know, I was originally diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008. I retired last January, 2013 when my cancer returned with a vengeance so that I could better focus on my health. Friends and fellow gardeners say they see me on television on **The Wisconsin Gardener** and are happy to see how well I look.

Ahh, the illusion of television! Sadly the shows you see on-air are repeats. Production of new episodes of **The Wisconsin Gardener** ended with my retirement.

Physically I am struggling now, my cancer has spread and I have visited the inside of the hospital more times than I'd like since retirement. I hope to be around for a while but we have discontinued chemo and I'm enjoying the rest from that treatment for the moment.

However, it gives me a wonderful opportunity to say thanks to all of you for generously sharing your time, your ideas, and your gardens with me for the past 22 years. Thank you so very much, all of you, for a wonderful 22 years. Literally, I couldn't have done it without you.

With love and friendship,

Shelley Ryan

Winnebago County Master Gardeners Board of Directors

Co-Presidents

Mary Shepard 235-9242

Linda Petek 233-5730

Co-Vice Presidents

Ivan Placko 721-9394

Jane Kuhn 231-3993

Secretary Mary Jo Maher 915-2506

Treasurer Sue Egnor 231-1729

Members

Linda Baeten 232-1224

Pat Behm 410-3290

Carole Dorsch 589-5936

Diana Dougherty 233-7137

Marge Menacher 233-3467

Roy Anne Moulton 915-9731

Anne Murphy 379-7132

Dara Sitter 420-0620

COMMITTEES

Education and Trips	Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	Linda Petek	233-5730
June Picnic	<i>(looking for volunteers!)</i>	
Membership	Linda Baeten	379-8377
Newsletter	Diana Dougherty	233-7137
	Anne Murphy	379-7132
	Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
	Jane Kuhn	231-3993
Refreshment Committee	Linda Loker	426-1435
State Rep	Sue Egner	231-1729
SOP & Bylaw Committee	Ivan Placko	721-9394
	Jane Kuhn	231-3993
	Alice Graf	203-8252
Sunshine	Diana Dougherty	233-7137
Hours	Patty Schmitz	420-1676
Home & Garden Shows	Joni Pagel	233-6619
	Cindy Meszaros	233-3550
Website	Jean Reed	729-9012



CORE PROJECTS

Community Gardens	Ruth Freye	734-5978
Education and Control of Invasive Species	Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
	Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
	Sue Egner	231-1729
Farmers Market	Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
	Janet Priebe	233-1898
	Patty Schmitz	420-1676
	Synda Jones	233-3228
Home & Garden Shows	Joni Pagel	233-6619
	Cindy Meszaros	233-3550
Humane Society Reflection Garden	Matt and Julie Miller	233-8370
Lincoln School	Linda Christensen	233-0044
	Mary Haave	231-2542
Octagon House	Jerry Robak	722-3311
Paine Gardens	Pat Behm	410-3290
	Dara Sitter	420-0620
Park View Cutting Garden	Bill Weber	231-2936
Park View Vegetable Garden	Tom Weber	233-3729
Park View Prairie Garden	Ken Hawk	426-1691
Park View Flower Arranging	Dorothy Bonnin	836-2868
	Lil Hansche	235-4740
Plant Health Advisors @ UWEX	Ann Gratton	231-3015
Shared Harvest	Ken Friedman	235-6766
ThedaCare	Diane Iott	379-4176
Washington & Webster Schools	Marge Menacher	233-3467

January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3	4
5	6	7 MG Board Mtg	8	9	0	11
12	13	14 MG Bus Mtg	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Parkview Flower Arranging	28	29	30	31	

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Winter Escapes Summer Dreams
2	3	4 MG Board Mtg	5	6	7	8 Madison Garden Expo
9	10	11 MG Bus Mtg	12	13	14 	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Project Leads meeting 5:00	26	27	28	