

WHAT'S GROWING ON?

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

JANUARY 2016

Issue 14



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



The Biltmore

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Board Meeting January 5, February 2
- Business Meeting January 12, February 9
- Park View Flower Arranging- January 26
- Winter Escape and Summer Dreams at LaSure's- February 6
- Fond du Lac "Day in the Garden"- February 27
- Marinette Northern Lights seminars March 26
- Outagamie Master Gardener's seminars April 2

The President's Pen

From Kathy Schultz and Linda Loker

Happy New Year!

The hustle and bustle is done.....the merriment and memories have been made.....

Now we are ready to settle in for at least 3 more months of winter (isn't there supposed to be snow in winter?!). We can snuggle ourselves in nice and cozy with a mug of hot cocoa (or your favorite beverage may be something red or white!), a favorite blanket and the plethora of garden magazines coming our way! This is the season of summer dreaming and planning our gardens for spring.

Our Winter Escape Summer Dreams seminar set for Saturday, February 6 can help us do just that!

This year's seminar promises to bring us a virtual tour of the tropical gardens of Costa Rica, creative ideas for those who vegetable garden, information on good bugs/bad bugs in your yard, and how to help our migrating feather friends on their journey each year. Dr Susan Mahr, our MG state coordinator will be one of our featured speakers. We invite and encourage all of you to consider attending this wonderful and educational day. The silent auction will again return so set your sites on this fantastic event as well!

The Home and Garden Show has moved to January this year and will be held again at Sunnyview Expo. Cindy Meszaros and Joni Pagel (co-chairs for the event) will have more information at our January meeting.

We will have our Winnebago Co Ext Ag Agent, Daryl McCauley, speak at our January meeting.

This is a great way to start logging your educational hours!

Madison Garden Expo is February 12-14, 2016, and WCMGA will again sponsor a bus to the Expo on Saturday, February 13. This is a wonderful experience for anyone needing their education hours for certification, as there are always a wide variety of seminars and demonstrations for everyone to enjoy. Registration forms will be available at the January membership meeting, and are also found on the WCMGA website.

We are your new co-presidents and we want to welcome all new members to the board. We also wish to extend our very sincere thank you to all out going members who have done a great job over the last few years - we hope to continue this excellent leadership and we encourage all the membership to assist us along the way.

Our sincerest wishes for a healthy and prosperous new year,

Linda Loker and Kathy Schultz

SHARING YOUR TIME

By Kathy Gore

There are many committees involved in the Master Gardener program. The Committee Chairperson and members put in a lot of hours and hard work. The Education Committee is one of the Committees that have interested me and I wanted to know about it. I received this great information from Education Committee member Linda Werner and wanted to share it with you. – Kathy Gore

WCMGA's Education Committee

By Linda Werner

The WCMGA Education Committee is one of our longest running standing committees. Its role is to provide opportunities for Master Gardeners to earn continuing education hours and for community members to learn more about horticulture and how they can help create a more sustainable natural environment. Over the years, that mission has taken many different forms. One of the Committee's first tasks was to create the full content for the basic training course during a gap between MG advisors and before the training became standardized. Later projects included half-day workshops on topics such as pruning; trips to areas of horticultural interest locally, within Wisconsin, and nationally; and the annual Winter Escape Summer Dreams conference. Ideas for presentations and destinations come from within the committee and from the larger WCMGA group. Individuals recommend speakers or destinations that they feel have something to offer. Everyone on the Committee is always eager to hear suggestions! Committee members then try to assess what topics will have strong MG and local interest. Costs, timing and logistics are also factors in the final decisions on what to offer during any given year. Once an event is scheduled, the tasks required to make it happen are assigned...and it happens! The Committee is very fortunate to have dedicated members who consistently carry through on their commitments. The Committee meets monthly fall through spring.

The next big events are coming up in February with the Winter Escape/Summer Dreams conference on Saturday, the 6th and the bus trip to the WPR Garden Expo in Madison on Saturday, the 13th. Both will provide informative speakers and a chance to earn continuing education hours. The Committee is currently considering an out-of-state trip and one-day bus trips during the remainder 2016. If you have ideas for places to visit, speakers you would like to hear either at Winter Escape/Summer Dreams or a separate workshop please contact Roy Anne Moulton, chairperson, or any of the committee members listed below.

Linda Baeten	Marge Bolding	Diana Dougherty	Sue Egner
Diane Iott	Arlene Kosanke	Bob Kosanke	Jane Kuhn
Linda Loker	Marge Menacher	Anne Murphy	Linda Petek
Ivan Placko	Audrey Ruedinger	Mary Shepard	Linda Werner
Barb Harrison			

IT'S A GARDENER'S LIFE

BY VIRGINIA SLATTERY



LINDA LOKER – CO PRESIDENT

I was born in Berlin, WI to parents who re-located from Milwaukee to a farm near Eureka, WI to raise their family. I am number 6 of seven children. On our farm, we had milking cows in my very early years, but after selling all the livestock, my father focused on field crops, the vegetable garden, fruit trees, and grapes on his homemade (and very sturdy) arbor. I received my love for vegetable gardening from my father, and my love for flower gardening from my mother and my Uncle Bud, who tended her gardens when she could not.

I attended St Michael's Catholic grade school and the public high school, both in Berlin. I then attended UW-O before completing technical training in nursing.

I met and married a local boy, DuWayne, in 1973, and we established residency in Oshkosh. We have been here in Oshkosh for 41 years. We are blessed with 2 children. Jason, 38, is married to Lori and they have a bulldog named Lou. Megan, 36, is married to Dennis and they have blessed us with 2 grandchildren - Kai, 12, and Fallon, 9. They also have 2 dachshunds, Sancho and Maizie. The dogs vacation at our house almost as much as our grandchildren do!

I work as a nurse in Employee Health at Aurora Health Care, and have been there for 30 years now. Is retirement in my future.....hmmmmmmmm?!!

As for becoming involved with WCMGV, my son-in-law saw an ad in the Northwestern newspaper and asked if I would take the course with him. He is an avid garden enthusiast. We finished the course, however he began school to obtain his degree shortly after. I stayed with the group and now am in my 10th year!

I have met so many wonderful friends along the way who have shared their passion and expertise. I immediately began joining various projects and was very excited to start getting involved in this very important program in our county. I truly believe that my real education has come from working alongside all my fellow members.

My horticulture interests are many and are usually evolving (depending on what lives or dies in my yard!). I have a vegetable garden, several perennial beds and typically am a specimen gardener. I am a member of the Education Committee, and have been the Food Coordinator for several years.

I hope that I have what it takes to fill this role as co-president effectively. I invite and encourage our very important membership to provide their input along the way so that we can maintain the strong, friendly and involved organization that we are right now. We are an exemplary group!

IT'S A GARDENER'S LIFE

BY VIRGINIA SLATTERY



KATHY SCHULTZ - CO PRESIDENT

I grew up in Burlington, Wisconsin (before Roy Diblik or Tony Romo was on the scene). I arrived in Oshkosh as a student at Oshkosh State University. Yes, it was called that when I started, but I graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh.

I met my husband Karl there, and we stayed in Oshkosh after graduation, and raised our two children, Eric, now in Appleton and Anne in Whitefish Bay with husband John. Our first house was on Bismarck St. in the “High Holder” area of Oshkosh. Our house was an old homestead and came complete with abundant apple, pear and plum trees, a raspberry patch and fertile garden soil. It was a good thing that we also had wonderful neighbors willing to help us learn about gardening. I made everything apple and pear back then, and still gave bushels away.

We built our home on Montclair Place after Anne was born. Within the next few years, several Master Gardeners became our neighbors, and we quickly realized we had to up our game to keep the yard looking acceptable for the garden walks that were occurring.

While my husband enjoys landscaping, I enjoy the colors and textures of the gardens, and, like all of us, adjust and experiment to achieve that perfect look. Of course, it changes a bit each year, so I encourage my plants to not get too comfortable where they are because they will likely get moved.

After retiring from Affinity Human Resources in 2013, I took the Level 1 training and became certified in 2014. I've done buckthorn removal, Plant Health Advisors, the Farmer's Market, the Home and Garden Show, and watering and maintaining at the St. Raphael's project. During 2015 I have served as the association Secretary, and will be accepting the Co-President position with Linda Loker in January.

I look forward to continuing to learn about the world of gardening and working with the many knowledgeable and fun Master Gardeners.

WINTER ESCAPE- SUMMER DREAMS

Submitted by Lawanda Jungwirth

Join Master Gardeners for a Winter Escape

The Winnebago County Master Gardeners have been busy planning a one-day event that will let you escape winter for a day and begin dreaming of warmer weather. Three great speakers, a silent auction with wonderful prizes, a continental breakfast, and a delicious lunch complete the day.

Winter Escape~Summer Dreams will be held Saturday, February 6 at LaSure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S. Washburn, Oshkosh, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Speaking first is Megan Cane, owner of a gardening education business called "The Creative Vegetable Gardener," which is also the title of her presentation. Megan will describe how to elevate an ordinary vegetable garden to the extraordinary with plenty of beautiful and inspiring photos. She will discuss how to design a joy-inspiring garden, talk about some fun and unique vegetables, offer tips for adding artistic touches to your garden and suggest some helpful techniques. She will also comment on the best vegetables for easy preserving, and provide instruction for preserving in-season food with the fewest possible steps.

Next up is Dr. Susan Mahr, the Wisconsin State Master Gardener Coordinator. She has degrees in Biology, Entomology and Plant Pathology. Her presentation, "Bugs in the Backyard," will introduce us to some common backyard inhabitants, help us distinguish the good guys from the bad, and discuss their roles in the backyard ecosystem.

After lunch, Kim Grveles, DNR Avian Ecologist, will present "Threats to Migratory Birds, Their Habitat Needs, and How We Can Help." Kim will speak about how gardeners can assist the tens of millions of migratory birds that sweep through the Great Lakes region on the way to their breeding grounds in the far north. Stopover sites that provide food and shelter help to mitigate the loss of habitat that poses a threat to the health and stability of these bird populations. Kim has degrees in Biology and Conservation Biology and has years of experience with the International Crane Foundation, Nature Conservancy, Wisconsin Bird Conservation, Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory Program and other related organizations.

Dr. Susan Mahr returns as the final speaker of the day to present "Tropical Treasures: Lessons in Horticulture, Biodiversity, Endemism and More from Costa Rica." We'll learn about an ecosystem different from our own, understand the ecology of rain forests, and consider a different perspective on growing in our own temperate climate.

Cost for Winter Escape~Summer Dreams is \$40 through January 26, 2016; \$45 thereafter; and includes breakfast, lunch, four presentations and time to explore the silent auction.

For a brochure and registration form, see www.winnebagomastergardeners.org and click on "[Winter Escape~Summer Dreams](#)" near the bottom of the page, or call Linda Baeten at 920-379-8377. Make checks payable to WCMGA (Winnebago County Master Gardener Association) and mail to 1112 Merritt Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901. Registration confirmation and parking instructions will be sent via e-mail or U.S. Mail.

The Latest Dirt

Latest news of the Winnebago County Master Gardeners

Upcoming events:

“Winter Escape, Summer Dreams”- February 6 at LaSure’s in Oshkosh

Get your registration form on our web site and send it in! You’re sure to learn something fabulous from one of the four sessions and find a treasure at the silent auction! All proceeds go back to the WCMGA to further our mission! Hope to see you there! [Brochure/Registration](#)

Fond du Lac County “Day in the Garden” – February 27

Speakers: Jeff Epping from Olbrich Gardens on Proficient Pruning and Ron Zimmer on Fun Ways to Grow Food

Marinette County Northern Lights Spring Conference- March 26

Speaker Melinda Meyers and breakaway sessions

Outagamie Master Gardener’s seminars- April 2

Speaker Jeff Ebbing from Olbrich Gardens, Ron Zimmer and others.

Project Lead Meeting

On February 16 at 5:30 Project Lead Training will be held at the Coughlin Center. Training is for leaders of both Core and Small Group projects and for others that may be interested in leading projects in the future. New topics for this year will be how projects can help each other, publicizing projects and seeking grants. Make note of the date for now. More information will be coming.

Flower Arranging Schedule at Parkview Health Center 2016-Mondays @ 1:30

January 25 th	flowers from Pick N Save
February	no flower arranging
March 21st	flowers from Pick N Save
April 18 th	flowers from Pick N Save
May 16 th	flowers from Pick N Save
June 27 th	flowers from our gardens
July 25 th	flowers from our gardens
Parkview’s fair	supplements from Pick N Save
August	no flower arranging
September 19 th	flowers from our gardens
October 17 th	flowers from Pick N Save
November 14 th	flowers from Pick N Save
December 12 th	flowers from Pick N Save

The News Crew

Editors; Kathy Gore, Virginia Slattery, Eric Kropp, Mary Jo Maher

Contributors; Anne Murphy, Lawanda Jungwirth, Jane Kuhn, Marge Bolding, Lynne Slat and Renee Donnor

Photographer; Nancy Karuhn

Please submit items for the newsletter by the 15th of the month to one of the editors

CUTS AND CLIPS

By Marge Bolding

Source- Wisconsin Garden Journal

January Tasks

Houseplants, Perennials and Annuals

Give houseplants a monthly shower with tepid water.

Start seeds for ageratum, begonia, and petunias. Sow all seeds in a sterile seed-starting mix to avoid damping off disease.

Use discarded Christmas tree branches as mulch on perennial beds or as a shelter for songbirds near bird feeders.

Begin planning your garden. Consider cold hardiness when selecting your plants.

Make plant labels for perennial and annual flowers

Week 4 - Start delphinium seeds now for later summer bloom

Vegetables and Herbs

Begin planning your garden. Rotate crop locations each year.

Before ordering seeds, check last year's seeds for viability by placing a few seeds between moist paper towels for several days. Don't use seeds with poor germination rates.

Select disease and pest resistant varieties suited to Wisconsin's shorter growing season. See ["Recommended Vegetable Cultivars for Wisconsin" #A1653](#) from the UWEX Learning Store.

Make plant labels for vegetables

Lawn, Trees, and Shrubs

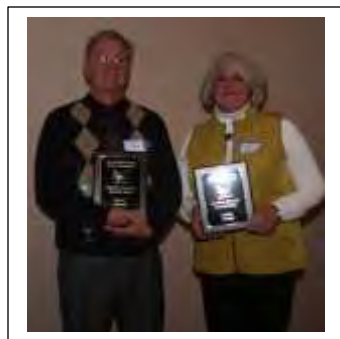
Check trees and shrubs for wildlife damage. Fence with ¼ x ¼ inch hardware cloth if needed.

Scout oaks and ash for gypsy moth egg masses.

Spread sand or kitty litter (non-clumping) to provide traction instead of ice melting chemicals on icy walkways, salts can burn the lawn and other plantings

Remove excess snow from ornamentals by placing a broom or rake under the branch and bumping it lightly. Do not try to remove ice from ornamentals

Winnebago County Master Gardeners Awards Dinner 2015



Food For Thought

By Renee Donner

Source unknown

Amazing Apple Pizza

1 can (12.4 ounces) refrigerated cinnamon rolls
1 can (21 ounces) apple pie filling
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 tablespoon melted butter

Open cinnamon roll dough. Set aside the icing. Separate dough into individual rolls. Roll each into a 4-inch circle with a rolling pin. Spray a 12-inch pizza pan w/cooking spray. Lay rolls in the pan, overlapping edges. Bake @ 400 degrees for 4-5 minutes. Spoon the apple pie filling over the rolls to within 1/2 inch of edge. Combine brown sugar and butter and sprinkle over the apple pie mixture. Bake another 5-8 minutes longer or until the crust is golden brown. Drizzle with the icing. Cut like a pizza and serve warm.

Grandkids Love!!!

CHERRIES IN THE SNOW DESSERT

Submitted by Linda Loker

1 pkg graham crackers - crushed fine
1/4 cup butter
1/4 - 1/2 cup sugar
Blend together well and press into 9X9 pan. Refrigerate.
3 oz cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla
1 cup heavy cream, whipped
1 cup mini marshmallows

Beat cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until fluffy. Add cream and marshmallows and blend well.

Remove crust from refrigerator and spread cream cheese mixture over it.

Spoon 1 can cherry pie filling over top.

Refrigerate.

This can be frozen for future use.

This recipe is one my Aunt Omy found in the Winnebago County, a state newspaper at one time.

WHAT AM I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am a deciduous shrub, which adds winter interest to the garden. I grow up to 15 feet tall with upright, spreading, arching branches and gray bark that has a rough, scaly texture. My leaves are opposite, deeply three-lobed, 2 to 4 inches long with serrated margins, similar in appearance to many maple leaves and become yellow-red or reddish-purple in fall. My flowers are white while my fruit is a berry-like red drupe, about half inch in diameter with a single, flattened stone/seed. I am a native widely distributed across north-central North America including Wisconsin.

My seeds are difficult to germinate. In the wild they don't germinate until the second spring following the ripening of the fruit. I can be propagated through hardwood and softwood cuttings, layering and crown division. I am easy to grow, adapt to a variety of soils and acidity, but prefer consistently moist but well-drained soil. Although I am shade tolerant, I do best in full sun. Occasional pruning will keep me from becoming leggy. My bright red fruits often persist on the plants throughout the winter, good for ornamental value but suggesting that they may not be especially palatable for wildlife. While known to be eaten by deer, raccoons, squirrels, mice and rabbits, they are not normally eaten by birds until after they have frozen and thawed several times.

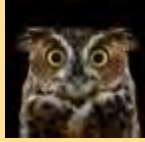
GOOD READS

Rich Harvest - A Life in the Garden by Don Hastings 2002

This is a book of gardening from one of Atlanta's legendary gardening families. This book is a departure from his usual how to books. It is a collection of memories, anecdotes and family history from his experience as one of the premier "plant men". This is full of garden wisdom, learned lessons and years of experience.

(This book is not available through the Oshkosh Public Library. It can be purchased at Amazon.com.)

WHO KNEW?



By Lynne Slat

By Lynne Slat

Credits: the Horticultural Department at Cornell University

I figure that I have to start somewhere, so here goes: I thought that for my first issue of “Did you know” - previously very well done by Mary Jo... that I would start at the beginning:

Do you know what the word HORTICULTURE means? Like plants that have botanical names, the word comes from the Latin: “Hortus”- that means garden and “cultura” that means culture or growing. Thus, the word horticulture is the broad division / umbrella in which includes flowers [Floriculture], fruits [Pomology], vegetables’ [Olericulture], maintenance of landscape plants [landscape horticulture] and maintain quality and prevent spoilage of horticultural crops [Postharvest physiology].

Origins of horticulture: Horticulture probably had its origins in the stone age some 60,000 years ago. There is evidence that the practice of funerals involved flowers. During the ice age that ended about 11,000 B.C. humans began to live a more settled life. Instead of eating all of the seeds they found, they were saved for planting so that they could be collected and eaten in the next season. This could be repeated year after year, enabling a more controllable source of food. That was the beginning of the domestication of plants, the earliest practices of Horticulture. The practice developed over time into a full-fledged science, taught by Universities and colleges around the world.

A list of the most famous noted colleges and universities includes:

- Auburn University of Horticulture
 - Clemson U. Dept. of Horticulture
 - Colorado State U. Dept. of Horticulture
 - Cornell U. Dept. of Horticulture
 - The Horticulture Dept, at Iowa State University
 - Texas Aggie
 - The Horticulture Dept. of University of Wisconsin-Madison
 - Kansas State University
 - Louisiana State University
 - Michigan State University
 - New Mexico State University
 - North Carolina State University
 - North Dakota State University
 - Ohio State University
 - Oklahoma State University
 - Oregon State University
 - Penn State University
 - Purdue University
 - South Carolina State University
 - UC Davis Ornamental Horticulture Research and Information Center
 - University of Arizona
- AND at least 10 others

BUZZING AROUND



By Mary Jo Maher

The Biltmore is located near Asheville, North Carolina. This is an estate built by George Vanderbilt in 1889. It is a National Historical Landmark and is the largest privately owned mansion in America. The land purchased by Mr. Vanderbilt was 125, 000 acres, the estate is 8,000 acres. The estate includes the mansion, gardens, a conservatory, farms, and woodlands. The mansion is four stories and has 250 rooms. It was of the first home to have an indoor swimming pool and its own bowling alley.



The Breakfast Room



The Dining Room



Fredrick Law Olmsted who is best known for designing Central Park in New York City designed the gardens. The Italian gardens have beautiful reflecting ponds that are a beautiful entry into a stunning world of garden paths. There is a four acre walled garden and an adjacent conservatory. Festival of Blooms is March 19-May 26 which shows 1,000 orchids, 15,000 daffodils and 75,000 tulips



Answer to What Am I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am American high bush cranberry. Order: Dipsacales. Family: Adoxaceae. Genus: Viburnum. Species: V. trilobum (Viburnum trilobum). Common names: American cranberry bush viburnum, American cranberry bush, kalyna or high bush or high bush cranberry, cramp bark tree, red elder, marsh elder. Although called high bush cranberry, it is not a cranberry. The name comes from the red fruits, which look like cranberries, and have a similar flavor and ripen at the same time of year. The fruits, sour and rich in vitamin C, can be eaten raw or cooked into a sauce to serve with meat or game.



References: USDA Plants Database and associated links.

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Parkview Flower Arranging	26	27	28	29	30

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5	6 Winter Escape
7	8	9 Business Meeting	10	11	12 Garden Expo	13 Garden Expo Trip
14 Garden Expo	15	16 Project Lead Meeting @ 5:30	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Fond du Lac A Day in the Garden
28	29					