

# Winnebago County Master Gardener July 2013

## 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

The MG picnic was a huge success! Kathy Daniels and Mary Wiedenmeier organized the event – this will be their last time in that role, so please be sure to thank them. In addition, I have heard many glowing comments about the music provided by Jerry Robak's band. The lovely table decorations of pots with flowers or garden tools were created by Diana Dougherty. The Parkview staff were very helpful in providing a venue and helping set up. The Parkview staff really appreciate all the efforts of the MG teams that work there year round. Many gardeners enjoyed the tours of the flower and vegetable gardens and prairie – all the gardens looked great!

The next Business meeting will be September 10. In the meantime – after you "finish" tending to your own gardens – you can wander around and visit the various Winnebago County Master Gardener projects. Also, Linda has set up garden tours on July 9 and August 14 – see the article elsewhere in newsletter .

Lots of questions have been coming in to Extension and to the Plant Health Advisers regarding weed ID, anthracnose, EAB, turf grass issues... You can certainly see the impact of the weather we had last year and are having this year.

Enjoy the summer – hope to see you at the garden walks.

Stay well.

*Mary and Linda*



The next Master  
Gardener Business  
meeting will be  
September 10

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### From the Advisor...

*This is the busy time of the year for all of us. I apologize, but I just didn't have time available right now to do more than wish you all a wonderful summer and happy Fourth of July. In addition, it was a pleasure seeing many of you at the recent picnic, and I am looking forward to seeing you all throughout the summer.*

*Thanks,  
Kimberly*

### Parkview Flower Arranging

A group of Master Gardeners brought flowers from their gardens, a cutting tool, and a smile to Parkview Health Center on June 17th. We also purchased flowers from the Farmer's market and Pick N Save to make about 60 bouquets for the residents. Our group of bouquet makers include: Kris Martin, Dorothy Gayhart Kunz, Renee Donner, Patty Schmitz, Synda Jones, Dorothy Bonnin, Helen Parker, Janet Priebe, Pat Behm and Lil Hansche. In July we meet two times, on the 15th and on the 29th.

# Plants are Fierce Competitors

By Lawanda Jungwirth

Competition in the plant world is fierce. The techniques plants use against each other to ensure their own survival make the conniving in corporate boardrooms and reality TV shows look like child's play.

Some plants develop extremely dense or deep roots systems so they can steal water and nutrients from seedlings of any other species that might be trying to establish nearby. Others produce hundreds of seeds per plant to saturate the surrounding area with their offspring. Still others leaf out early and grow extremely fast in an effort to starve competitors of sunlight.

The most insidious method plants use to prevail over competitors for water, nutrients, space and sunlight, however, is chemical warfare. They emit chemicals into the soil from their roots that inhibit the germination or growth of other plants. The phenomenon is called allelopathy (pronounced a-LEE-la-path-ee).

The plant most famous for this is the black walnut tree, which emits a chemical called juglone. Actually the black walnut does more than just secrete juglone from its roots. It is exuded from the bark, stems, leaves, roots and nuts, and is even in rainwater that drips from the tree.

Juglone does not move far once in the soil, but even small amounts may injure or kill sensitive plants. Plants whose roots get within a half to a quarter inch of walnut roots may encounter juglone. Roots of walnut trees can extend far beyond the tree's drip line so they really keep their rivals at bay.

Other trees that produce juglone are red oak, tree of heaven, black cherry, sugar maple, hackberry, American sycamore and cottonwood.

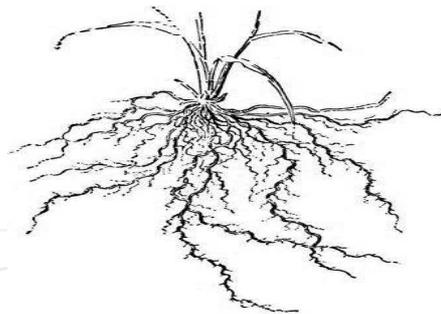
What if you love your juglone-producer and don't want to cut it down? As a side note, it might not matter anyway, because juglone persists in soil for 5-20 years, depending on conditions, after a tree is felled.

To start, there is a long list of plants that can stand against juglone and do just fine. You can find a list of the most juglone-sensitive and the most juglone-tolerant plants here: <http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/black-walnut-toxicity>.

If you must locate your garden near a juglone emitter, a raised bed constructed to minimize root penetration will help. Still, you must take care to keep the beds free of leaf litter and nuts. Studies show decreased juglone toxicity with well-drained soil so anything you can do to increase drainage such as adding organic matter or replacing the current soil with a lighter type will help.

Leaves, bark, and wood chips of juglone producing plants should not be used for mulch around landscape or garden plants. Even composting will not entirely remove the juglone.

You might have noted the use of the word "toxicity" in relation to juglone. Don't worry, it is toxic to plants, not to humans. However, horses may have quite severe symptoms when black walnut wood shavings are used as bedding and dogs can have gastric reactions if they eat the hulls from the nuts.



## Winnebago County Master Gardeners Association

Saturday, July 27, 2013 \* 6:45 am– 5:00 pm

The Winnebago County Master Gardeners will be having a bus trip to Solaris Farms, West of the Lake, Restoration Gardens and Pondsides Gardens, on Saturday July 27, 2013.



West of the Lake - This former street car right of way was purchased by John and Ruth West in early 1934. Subsequently, Mrs. West and her gardener hand spaded all 6 acres, removing weeds and establishing lawn and gardens. July will offer a variety of annuals, perennials, and roses along with a beautiful view of the lake.



Solaris Farms sells wide variety Liliun plants at the farm during summer bloom season. This group of plants has some of the showiest flowers of any plant genera and should be included in every northern garden.



Welcome to Restoration Gardens, located on 7 beautiful acres of an old farmstead, our Gift Shop & Garden Center take a unique and natural approach to business. Beautiful flowers can be found everywhere on our grounds. We offer a wide variety of perennials and shrubs along with heirloom vegetables & annual flowers. Stylish giftware, garden art, statuary and pottery can be found in our gift shop year round. Dining is available at The Blind Horse Cafe or at picnic areas on the grounds.



Pondsides Gardens offers a large variety of hostas – mini to giant in a cozy hillside woodland. The owners, Dennis and Diane Lenz have also created a wonderful “pondside” area to view.

Departure Site and leaving time: Oshkosh at the Coughlin Center, Cty Rd Y. Load at 6:45 am Leave at 7:00 am. Arrive back in Oshkosh at about 5:00 pm. Cost is \$30.00. Bring your own lunch, drinks and snacks or purchase your lunch at The Blind Horse Cafe. Please direct any questions to Linda Loker at [lloker@att.net](mailto:lloker@att.net) or call 426-1435 or Marge Menacher at [marmen4105@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marmen4105@sbcglobal.net) or call 920-233-3467.

Send your checks payable to WCMGA c/o Marge Menacher 4105 Westview Lane Oshkosh, WI 54904.

2013 West of the Lake Trip Registration Form

(copy as needed)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## **What Am I?**

I am an herbaceous perennial, one of about 57 genera of flowering plants with more than 500 species. I am the tallest and most architectural of my species with globe-shaped flower heads on 3- to 4-foot stems, blooming from late spring to early summer. My globes of intense purple flower heads (umbels) are 5 to 8 inches in diameter and are followed by attractive seed heads at the top of a leafless stalk. Some of my other species vary in color from burgundy, lilac, pink, blue to yellow and white. I prefer a sunny location with well-drained, even sandy, soil. I produce chemical compounds (mostly cysteine sulfoxide) that give a characteristic onion or garlic taste and odor. Deer, mice, chipmunks and related predators generally avoid me and there are no serious diseases or insect pests that bother me.

My bulbs should be planted more shallowly than comparably sized bulbs, just one or two times the diameter of the bulb depth. I rarely need transplanting or dividing, but if necessary, it can be done when my bulbs are dormant. I can be left untouched in the same area for years.

## **Flower Arranging**

2013 dates are:

July 15  
July 29 (the county fair bouquets)  
August 12  
September 23  
October 7  
November 18  
December 2

### *Newsletter Contributions*

To contribute an article or more to the Newsletter contact Diana Dougherty at 233-7137 or email to [dldoug5@charter.net](mailto:dldoug5@charter.net)

## **Thank You Garlic Mustard Pullers**

Thank you to these Master Gardeners who worked to help control garlic mustard on the Wiouwash Trail this year: Dorothy Bonnin, Jeanne Callen, Susan Forbes, Jo Helf, Lawanda Jungwirth, Betty Kuen, Marty Sacksteder, Becky Tiles and Mary Willadsen.

Members of the Wisconsin Geocaching Assn., the Sierra Club and the general public also contributed to the effort.

Approximately 175 hours were devoted to this project this year. Re-checking for missed plants continued into early June.

Winnebago County Parks Director, Rob Way, and Assistant Director, Loren Dieck, expressed appreciation for our work.

## There's a Lot to Love About Calibrachoa

*By Lawanda Jungwirth*

The first thing I love about calibrachoa is the way its name rolls up and down: Kal-a-bra-KO-ah. Secondly, its gorgeous!

Calibrachos look like mini-petunias, or petunias without their tattered petticoats. Each plant has hundreds of inch-wide flowers giving rise to its common name, "Million Bells."

It's an annual plant that comes to us from South America where it grows native in southern Brazil, and across Peru and Chile, in scrub and open grassland areas.

The flowers come in so many colors and combinations of colors that there's a place for calibrachoa in every landscape. Bloom colors are blue, bright pink, pale pink, purple, red, white, yellow, peach, orange, burgundy, coral, salmon, lavender, magenta, bronze, cream and orange. Flowers are produced continuously from May until frost and need no deadheading.

Like petunias, calibrachos are wonderful in containers and hanging baskets, alone or in combination with other plants. Have you heard that every planted container needs a "thriller," a "filler," and a "spiller?" Calibrachoa fits all three!

Calibrachoa can also be tucked into a rock garden or in the front of a border where it will spill over the edge.

Plants are 3-8 inches tall, and spread 12-48 inches depending on the cultivar. The plant does best in full sun. In partial shade it produces fewer flowers, but still looks pretty.

Calibrachos are drought-tolerant plants; too much water will lead to root rot. Water when the top inch of soil feels dry. Make sure the container has a drainage hole and that it isn't sitting in water.

If plants get leggy later in summer, pinch back the long branches, fertilize, wait a couple weeks, and enjoy a new crop of blooms.

Calibrachos don't have many pest problems, but look them over carefully before bringing them home from the nursery to make sure you aren't carrying insects home along with the plants.

Here is just a small sampling of the many calibrachos available:

- 'Cabaret Hot Pink' has bright pink flowers on 8-inch trailing stems.
- 'Can-Can Mocha' offers creamy flowers with chocolate-purple throats. It has a mounding habit and grows 15 inches wide and tall.
- 'Colorburst Chocolate' is a compact, mounding selection that boasts burgundy blooms brushed with chocolate brown.
- 'Million Bells Terra Cotta' offers orange flowers streaked with red and gold on stems trailing to 8 inches.
- 'Minifamous Double-Blue' shows off fully double velvety blue flowers on a trailing plant with 10-inch long stems.
- 'Minifamous Sun Violet Veins' bears soft blue flowers with violet-purple netting on vigorous plants that trail 10 inches.
- 'Superbells Dreamsicle' flaunts creamy orange flowers on a plant that trails up to 4 feet.
- 'Superbells Yellow' features large, clear yellow flowers and a low-trailing habit. It trails to 4 feet.
- 'Superbells Peach' offers salmon-orange blooms with a darker throat. It trails to 30 inches.
- 'Superbells Trailing Lilac Mist' bears creamy flowers with dark blue veins and has better heat and drought tolerance than other varieties. It trails to 4 feet.



## 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
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Treasurer	Sue Egner	231-1729
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### Members

Linda Baeten	232-1224
Pat Behm	410-3290
Carole Dorsch	589-5936
Diana Dougherty	233-7137
Marge Menacher	233-3467
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
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	Kathy Daniels	233-0410
	Mary Wiedenmeier	426-0991
Membership	Dawn Kent	410-8866
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 Bohn	685-0427
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 Education	Marge Menacher	233-3467
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
Home & Garden Shows	Joni Pagel	233-6619
	Cindy Meszaros	233-3550
Humane Society Reflection Garden	Dara Sitter	582-4405
Lincoln School	Linda Christensen	233-0044
	Mary Haave	231-2542
Octagon House	Jerry Robak	722-3311
Paine Gardens	Betty Kuen	558-9586
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
Washington & Webster Schools	Marge Menacher	233-3467
The Wild Center	Mary Wiedenmeier	426-0991

<i>July</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 <sup>th</sup> of July 	5	6 Farmers Market
7	8	9 Garden Tour	10	11	12	13 Farmers Market
14	15 Flower Arranging Parkview 1:30	16	17	18	19	20 Farmers Market
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Farmers Market  Bus Trip to West of Lake
28	29 Flower Arranging 1:30	30	31			

<i>August 2013</i>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Farmers Market
4	5	6 MG Brd Mtg 6:00	7	8	9	10 Farmers Market
11	12 Flower Arranging 1:30	13	14	15	16	17 Farmers Market
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Farmers Market
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Farmers Market