



Winnebago County Master Gardeners

Newsletter

June 2018

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.

“The Earth laughs in flowers.”

**Sign up for the Door
County trip by June 29th.**

**Find information in this
newsletter!**



What am I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am an upright, native, herbaceous perennial, a member of the carrot family which grows in zones 3-8. I grow from 1 to 3 feet in height in sun or part shade and prefer moist sandy or sandy-clay soils. My branching, erect, reddish stems have lower leaves divided into threes twice and upper leaves divided once. I am noted for my attractive, bright yellow flowers which bloom in May-June. Each of my 1/8 inch long flowers has 5 sepals, 5 petals and 5 stamens and gather into a large, flat-topped flower head. Flowers give way to oblong, green fruit capsules which, along with my leaves, turn light purple in fall, adding to my garden interest.

Propagation is by seed or plant division. Plant stratified seeds in fall as they germinate best in cool soil. I am best massed in open woodland or prairie areas, wild or native plant gardens or rain gardens. My flowers are attractive to many kinds of butterflies and my plants are host for black swallowtails. I am an excellent source of accessible pollen and nectar to many beneficial insects with short mouthparts including native bees. I am moderately deer resistant.

WCMGA Contacts

Check your membership guide for contact information.

Co-Presidents: Linda Loker & Kathy Schultz

Co-Vice Presidents: Nancy Karuhn & Eric Kropp

Secretary: Ann Abraham

Treasurer: Joni Pagel

Advisor: Kimberly Miller

Newsletter Compilation: Anne Murphy

Garden Trivia

Why are pollinators important to us?

Worldwide, approximately 1,000 plants grown for food, beverages, fibers, spices, and medicines need to be pollinated by animals in order to produce the goods on which we depend. Foods and beverages produced with the help of pollinators include blueberries, chocolate, coffee, melons, peaches, pumpkins, vanilla, and almonds. Plants that depend on a single pollinator species, and likewise, pollinators that depend on a single type of plant for food are interdependent. If one disappears, so will the other.

Letter from your Presidents Linda Loker & Kathy Schultz

Next to May, we think June may be a gardener's favorite month. We hope you are enjoying the warm days, watching your favorites grow, and watching the rabbits feast on tender new plants. Well, maybe not that last one...

June also brings the June 12th picnic at Park View. There will be great food, a chance to look at the Parkview Prairie Garden, the vegetable garden and the flower garden. We call it a picnic, but it is held indoors just in case June showers happen that night.

We will also be able to enjoy Garden Walks at three lovely gardens this summer. If you have never been to one of our evening Garden Walks, please try to do it this year. Members open their gardens for us to come and see what they have growing and what their passions are. We have been very impressed with what our members can do. More information will follow closer to the dates, but be sure to mark your calendars and enjoy great summer evenings at the following gardens:

June 26 th	Petey Clark
July 23 rd	Lil Hansche
August 7 th	Butterfly Gardens at Mirvada

If you want to host a garden walk, please contact Kathy Schultz or Linda Loker – we'd love to have you share your gardens. And thank you to Petey, Lil and the Butterfly Garden crew for hosting this summer.

Just a reminder, there are no member meetings in June (but the picnic is that night), July or August. Everyone is out doing what they love to do!

Finally, it is with sadness that we learned that **Maria Talin**, Master Gardener since 2013, passed away unexpectedly in May. Maria was a very giving and talented lady, and she will be missed. We will be announcing at the Picnic what we will be doing for a memorial for Maria and other gardeners who have recently passed.

Enjoy your days in your gardens, and we hope to see you soon.

Linda and Kathy



Ask a Plant Health Advisor

“Had an individual send in a picture of their apricot tree that is oozing sap from near the base of the trunk. Is this cytospora canker and any suggestions on how to manage this problem? Appreciate any help. Thanks!”

[Find the answer later in the newsletter.](#)

Master Gardeners Present Scholarship



Jodie Weyland is pictured third from left. Scholarship Committee includes Jane Kuhn, Donna Kudlas, Vicki Daniels.

Winnebago County Master Gardeners Association recently presented its annual \$1000 scholarship to Jodie Weyland, a senior at Winneconne High School. Jodie plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College to pursue a degree in Agribusiness/Science.

Jodie's outstanding qualifications include leadership, involvement and many hours of service through her high school career. Jodie serves as president of FFA, Miss Rural Winnebago for two years, Wisconsin FFA Proficiency Winner in organic Agriculture and received national and state FFA grants which, through purchase of a hoop house, growing stand and heating mats, have led to her future career goals. Her goal is to continue the family farm into the next generation and to diversify the dairy farm with vegetable production.

The Master Gardener Scholarship Committee developed the process and criteria for this scholarship which was open to high school seniors residing in Winnebago County who are enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution in an area of study including horticulture, landscaping, agriculture, forestry, conservation or other similar areas approved by the committee and board. Plans are to continue offering this scholarship annually with information coming out in January of each year.

Planting Tips

By Lawanda Jungwirth

By the time you read this, it will likely be safe to plant flower and vegetable transplants and seeds. Do check the forecast for at least the next week before planting though, just to make sure a cold snap isn't imminent. Here are a few planting tips.

When planting transplants from the nursery, first give the plants a good watering, thoroughly soaking the soil in the nursery pots. Make your plan and dig the holes before removing the plants from their pots so they don't dry out while you are designing and redesigning your garden. With the exception of tomatoes, flower and vegetable transplants should be placed in the ground at the same level they were growing in their nursery pots so dig holes accordingly.

Tomatoes should be planted much deeper than they were in their nursery pots. Pinch off all the leaves below the top canopy of foliage. Place the plant in the hole so the canopy is just a few inches above the soil line. Roots will develop below ground along the entire stem making the plant much sturdier and healthier.

To remove a plant from its plastic nursery pot, spread your fingers on either side of the stem, tip the pot upside down, squeeze or shake the nursery pot, and catch the plant in your hand as it releases from the pot. Turn the plant upright and use your thumbs and fingers to gently tease the roots apart. If the plant is especially pot bound and you see more roots than soil, use more force to loosen the roots.

Place the plant in its hole and fill in with soil around the roots. Firm the soil around the plant with your hands. Water gently but thoroughly. Depending on the sturdiness of the plant, watering may knock it down. Either use your fingers to "fluff" the plant back up afterwards, or better yet, gently hold the plant by one of its leaves while watering so it isn't smashed into the soil.

This next tip is especially important for tomatoes but will benefit other transplants as well. Place a mulch such as straw or pine needles close to, but not touching, the plant's stem immediately after planting. This will give it some support if heavy rains fall, prevent soil from splashing onto the leaves, or in the event of no rain, keep moisture from evaporating from the soil.

If you are planting seeds, the seed packet is a goldmine of information as to planting depth and spacing. It is important to have good seed to soil contact, so once the seeds are planted and covered with soil, use your hands or the flat side of a hoe to firm the soil over them. Some gardeners water immediately after planting, while others sit back and wait for rain. If you are in the water immediately camp, keep the seeds continuously moist until they germinate. In my experience, that doesn't seem as necessary if you allow rain to do the initial watering.

Member Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2018

Treasurer's Report: The report was read into the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Once the minutes are approved they will be online.

Scholarship Committee: This year's winner is Jody Weiland from Winneconne High School. She will Attend Fox Valley tech and major in Agriculture science.

Project Leads Update: We still need project leads for the Prairie Gardens at Parkview and Shattuck Park. The current leads will be there to help you out until the end of the year.

UW Extension Updates: Changes are coming with the merger with UW Madison. Watch for them with more information coming in the fall meetings. The Hours reporting system is changing this year. It is more user-friendly with no downloading to be done. No paper forms just online recording. Members who don't have access to a computer can come into the Coughlin Center to enter any information needed. There will be training sessions to help get members through the process if needed. This is a statewide computer system. All the criminal background checks and training will be done on this system going forward. This summer we will be creating logins and passwords for this system, and then begin using for hours for the 2018-19 year.

Education Committee Updates: The Rain Garden workshop is June 21st. Winter Escapes ~ Summer Dreams update: We have Amanda Thomsen (author of Kiss My Aster) and Jeff Epping as our presenters for the day. Alternatives are being looked into to take place of the silent auctions at the event. Possibly doing vendors or being able to purchase items to take home. Any ideas are welcome.

Ascend gardening workshop is in June. The Montello trip went well. The Door County trip is coming up on July 30th and 31st still have some openings, but filling up fast.

Our new Co-State Representatives are Deby Voyles and Ed Dombrowski. To find when the next meeting is going to be, go to Wimga Conferences.com.

June 12th is the Master Gardener picnic at Park View at 6 pm . Come early and tour the gardens. Bring a dish to pass. Meat, buns, plates, silverware and something to drink are provided. All members are encouraged to attend. This is a lot of fun. There is no June meeting.

Surveys for the awards banquet received a good return of 35%, with a lot of favorable comments. We will continue having the banquet in December at LaSure's.

Jumping Worms Committee Updates: New pamphlets are out for the jumping worms. Be careful when cleaning up your yard if you have jumping worms. Make sure you put your yard waste into a garbage bag clearly marked invasive species and place it at the curb for pickup.

Tulip removal at the Paine Art Center will be at the end of May.

Money in accounts / reserves – the board is looking into what our organization needs to keep in reserve in our financial accounts. Our operating expenses need to be covered, and our scholarships also come out of this money. More updates will follow in the fall.

Butterfly Update: The Monarchs are on their way back up.

Garlic Mustard pull is postponed due to the weather setting things back, emails will be sent out when it is ready.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bette Hoytink , second by Mary Sheppard.

Events

June 12: MG picnic - Park View
June 19: Rain Garden presentation
July 30-July 31: Door County Trip - sign up now!
July 23: 1:30 Flower Arranging - Park View
Sept. 10: 1:30 Flower Arranging - Park View
Nov. 12: 1:30 Flower Arranging - Park View



Rain Garden Presentation - Thursday, June 21, 7 pm, Coughlin Center



Please join the Winnebago County Master Gardeners at 7:00 pm Thursday, June 21, for a presentation describing the why, where, and how of installing a rain garden at your home. A rain garden is a constructed depression planted with native shrubs, grasses, and flowers to collect runoff from impermeable surfaces like roofs, compacted lawns or pavement. The rain garden design makes it more effective than lawns or typical garden spaces in holding the water while it soaks into the ground. During that process, large quantities of nutrients, pollutants and sediments are kept from running into local waterways, storm sewers and lakes and streams.

Rain gardens incorporate native plants that, once established, don't need fertilizer and are quite low maintenance. The presentation will be held at the Coughlin Center, 625 E County Rd Y in Oshkosh There is a rain garden by the front entry of the Center and Master Gardeners will be available from 6 pm until the 7 pm presentation time to answer questions about the plants in the garden. The presentation is open to the public and there is no charge for attending and no pre-registration needed.

Master Gardeners Hold Terrarium-Building Workshop

Diane Iott led the workshop with help from Ruth Eberwine, Melissa Weyland, Jo Helf, Deby Voyles and Linda Werner. The workshop was held on Saturday morning, May 12 at the Coughlin Center. We had 21, 4-H members and six parents or grandparents attending. We all had a great time and each participant made a beautiful terrarium. Our hope is that tending the miniature gardens will help these youngsters learn more about how plants grow.



Answer to Ask a Plant Health Advisor: BACTERIAL CANKER

Mary Francis Heimann and Brian Hudelson,
UW-Madison Plant Pathology

What is bacterial canker? Bacterial canker is a common and sometimes lethal disease of trees in the genus Prunus including cherry, plum and peach. Bacterial canker is also known as “gummosis”, “blossom blast”, “dieback”, “spur blight” and “twig blight”.

What does bacterial canker look like? Often branch dieback is the first symptom of bacterial canker that homeowners notice. However, other more subtle symptoms of flowers, leaves, fruits and branches typically precede this dieback. Initially, infected trees are symptomless. Infected flowers often open, but then collapse. Infected leaves become spotted and yellowed. The centers of leaf spots often shothole (i.e., fall out). If spotting is severe, leaves may fall off. Infected fruits develop dead spots surrounded by water-soaked tissue. Spots can eventually develop into a fruit rot. Branch or trunk infections often occur at pruning sites and lead to cankers (i.e., sunken, dead areas). Cankers often produce a gummy, resinous ooze, and wood in the cankered area is typically discolored. Flower, fruit and branch infections can become systemic, leading to twig dieback, death of larger branches or even death of an entire tree.

Where does bacterial canker come from? Bacterial canker is caused by the bacteria Pseudomonas syringae pv. syringae (Pss) and P. syringae pv. mors-prunorum (Psm). These bacteria overwinter in cankers, in asymptomatic, systemically infected branches, and in buds of susceptible trees. Pss is also known to occur naturally on the leaves of many plants including many weed species. Both Pss and Psm can subsequently be

spread by rain splash, wind or insects. The bacteria can also be spread to healthy branches when contaminated pruning tools are used. Infections most often occur during cool, wet conditions.

How do I save a plant with bacterial canker? Prune infected branches at least 12 inches below cankers or other dead tissue, and dispose of branches by burning or burying them. Disinfect pruning tools after each cut by dipping them for at least 30 seconds in a 10% bleach solution or alcohol (spray disinfectants that contain at least 70% alcohol can also be used). Prune branches only during the winter (e.g., Jan. and Feb.) or during dry periods in late summer (e.g., Aug.). DO NOT prune during the cool, wet periods (e.g., spring and fall).

How do I avoid problems with bacterial canker in the future? Healthy trees are better able to slow the development of bacterial canker. Therefore make sure that trees are watered and fertilized properly. Keep weeds and other plants that may harbor bacterial canker pathogens from around the base of susceptible trees. Copper-containing sprays have been advocated for bacterial canker management. However, in many areas, copper-resistant strains of Pss and Psm are present and therefore copper sprays are ineffective.

Answer to What am I?

By Jane Kuhn



I am Golden Alexanders. Order: Apiales. Family: Apiaceae / Umbrelliferae – Carrot family. Genus: Zizia W.D.J. Koch – zizia. Species: Zizia aurea (L.) W.D.J. Koch – golden zizia. Other name: golden alexanders. The genus name honors German botanist Johann Baptist Ziz. Golden Alexanders is a hardy plant with few problems and is easy to grow and maintain. It can be seen in the rain garden located at the entrance to the Coughlin Center.

References: USDA Plants Database and associated links.



National Pollinator Week is a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what you can do to protect them.

Eleven years ago the U.S. Senate’s unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as “National Pollinator Week” marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown into an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles.

The Pollinator Partnership is proud to announce that June 18-24, 2018 has been designated National Pollinator Week.

What you can do for pollinators:

- Create a pollinator-friendly garden habitat in just a few simple steps.
 - Design your garden so that there is a continuous succession of plants flowering from spring through fall.
 - Check for the species or cultivars best suited to your area and gradually replace lawn grass with flower beds.
 - Plant native to your region using plants that provide nectar for adults plus food for insect larvae, such as milkweed for monarchs. If you do use non-native plants, choose ones that don't spread easily, since these could become invasive.
 - Install 'houses' for bats and native bees. For example, use wood blocks with holes or small open patches of mud. As little as 12" across is sufficient for some bees.
 - Avoid pesticides. Even so-called "natural" ones may be toxic if misapplied. If you must use them, use the most selective and least toxic ones and apply them at night when most pollinators aren't active.
 - Supply water for all wildlife. A dripping faucet or a suspended milk carton with a pinhole in the bottom is sufficient for some insects. Other wildlife need a small container of water.
 - Provide water for butterflies without letting it become a mosquito breeding area. Refill containers daily or bury a shallow plant saucer to its rim in a sunny area, fill it with coarse pine bark or stones and fill to overflowing with water.
 - Share fun facts, such as: a tiny fly (a "midge") no bigger than a pinhead is responsible for the world's supply of chocolate; or one out of every three mouthfuls of food we eat is delivered to us by pollinators.
-

Join the Winnebago County Master Gardeners for a 2-day motor coach trip to Gardens of Door County on Monday, July 30 and Tuesday, July 31

- **Cost is \$225.** (Includes motorcoach, travel expenses and tips, admissions to tours, and hotel - double occupancy. Meals are your expense.)
- **Cost is non-refundable.** (If you cannot attend you can find someone else to take your place.)

The bus will be at the Coughlin Center at 6:35 am, depart at 7:00 am and arrive in Sturgeon Bay at the Garden Door gardens and Wisconsin Extension Agricultural Station in Sturgeon Bay at about 9:00 am. We will divide into 2 groups: first group will have guided tour of the research station while the second group will have a tour with Door County Master Gardeners of the gardens they have developed there. Then groups will switch locations. After these tours, we will board the bus for our trip to Gill's Rock to take the ferry to Washington Island. Please bring your own lunch and snacks for the day as we won't have time to stop for lunch. I will provide bottled water, but if you want something else, please provide that. We will drive onto the Washington Island Ferry and take a leisurely ride over to the island and then drive to Fragrant Isle Lavender Farm to have a guided tour of the gardens and shop in their store. Then we will get back on the bus to tour Seaquist Orchard and Farm. We will have a 30-minute tour and some time for sampling their jams, fudge, and salsas along with an opportunity to shop. Next, we will travel to our hotel, Stone Harbor Resort in Sturgeon Bay. Dinner will be on your own either at the hotel or at one of the many restaurants within walking distance. A list and distances will be provided.

Breakfast will also be on your own at Stone Harbor or nearby bakeries. Tuesday will be spent touring homes and gardens on the Door County House and Garden Walk which will take us throughout Door County. I have a number of little places I would love to travel to as we wind around this area as time permits, like The Edgewood Orchard Gallery and Sculpture Garden and the Door Landscape and Nursery in Egg Harbor. The tour goes from 9:00 until 5:00, so it will be a full day. You will be able to purchase lunch at The Log Den in Egg Harbor. Return time to Oshkosh will probably be after 7 pm and I am still working on a dinner stop on the drive home.

Make checks out to **WCMG (Winnebago County Master Gardeners)** and mail form to **Marge Menacher, 4105 Westview Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54904**. Questions contact Marge at marmen4105@charter.net or call 920-420-8472. We need all **registrations completed and paid for before June 29th to secure hotel rooms**.

Name _____ Cell phone _____ Home phone _____

Address _____

Email address to receive more information _____

Name of person I would like to room with

_____ I would prefer a room alone at an additional cost of \$70.00.

WCMGA Projects

Check your Member Guide for contact information.

Project	Project Lead	Next Meeting
Butterfly Garden Miravida Living Oshkosh	Jane Kuhn	
Carter Memorial Library, Omro	Pat Behm/Linda Petek	
Octagon House, Neenah	Jerry Robak	
Invasive Species	Sue Egner/Valerie Stabenow	
Morgan House	Kathy Schultz	
Neenah Public Library	Tamara Erickson	
Oshkosh Area Humane Society	Julie Miller/Matt Miller	
Paine Gardens & Arboretum	Virginia Slattery	
Park View Cutting Garden	Bill Weber	
Park View Prairie Garden	Sally Lindo	
Park View Flower Arranging	Lil Hansche	July 23
Park View Vegetable Garden	Tom Weber	
Farmer's Market	Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz/Janet Priebe/Synda Jones/Patty Schmitz	June 2018
Plant Health Advisors	Patty Schmitz/Mary Shepard	
Shattuck Park, Neenah	Julie Gutsmedl	
Sullivan's Woods	Linda Loker	

Project Leads: If you'd like your meeting times listed here, please email information to Anne Murphy. Thank you!

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Board Mtg.	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 PICNIC - Park View 6 PM	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Rain Garden presentation 7 PM	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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