



Winnebago County



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.



May 2015

## WHAT'S GROWING ON?

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

Oshkosh African Violet Show	May 2&3
Board Meeting	May 5/June 2
Garlic Mustard Pull	May 9
Business Meeting	May 12
Paine Spring Festival	May 16
Outagamie Plant Sale	May 16
Parkview Flowers	May 18
	June 29
Master Gardeners Picnic	June 9
Oshkosh Garden Club Walk	June 28



## SHARING YOUR TIME

By Kathy Gore



### NEENAH PARK

When I went to my first Master Gardener class in the fall of 2011 I went to the back of the room to a table to sit. The class was full and I sat there wondering what am I doing here. There were three women sitting around that table and we started talking and since then we have become great friends for life. One from Oshkosh, and two from Neenah, and me (I used to live west of Neenah). That is one of the best parts of becoming a Master Gardener, making friendships and exchanging ideas.

In 2013, the Neenah parks department asked the Master Gardeners if anyone wanted to take on the flowerbeds and turrets at Shattuck Park as a project. We, a Neenah/Oshkosh group of Master Gardener friends, decided to take on a new project with Mary Jo Maher as project lead. One of the Neenah ladies has moved out of state but we have picked up new people to help.

The flowerbeds were a challenge with poor soil and in need of some cleaning up and the turrets are large, high and hard to work in. You have to be a mountain climber at times. With Mary Jo's wonderful designs and our input we have turned around these areas to be a real showcase. The first year we put in hundreds of petunias. We spelled out NEENAH in one bed and created large flower petals in the circle bed with the petunias. They needed clipping to keep under control. Last year we used short yellow and bronze marigolds for the design and they were really spectacular. While weeding, water and trimming took a lot of time it was so wonderful to see it take shape.

For me, this project is so fulfilling and rewarding. We have had so many great comments about the flowerbeds and design from the public when they walked by. I have asked Mary Jo Maher, the project lead, to share her thoughts and add more insight to the Shattuck Park Project.

### NEENAH SHATTUCK PARK

By Mary Jo Maher

Neenah Shattuck Park was created in 1912 when Clara Shattuck acquired 1.6 acres of land along the Fox River in Neenah. This property was a rubbish dump and was thought a disgrace to the city. Clara developed the land as a park with a boathouse and in 1915 she donated it to the city, providing public access to the waterfront for generations to come.

Neenah is celebrating 100 years of Shattuck Park this year.

The city holds farmer's markets on Saturday morning; they host lunch in the park in the summer on Thursdays and Wednesday concert nights, all free to the public. During the summer this park is also used for wedding and graduation photos, yoga in the park, family reunions, and outside church services. There is also a newly added canoe and kayak launch.

In 2012 the city asked the Winnebago County Master Gardeners to take on the project of the four show case gardens, the entry round garden, the banner shape garden behind it, and the two turrets. Four members of the class of 2012 took on this project, Mary Jo Maher, Karen Dexter, Kathy Gore and Virginia Slattery.

## NEENAH SHATTUCK PARK - continued

We tried to create a garden the public would enjoy and appreciate. We submitted a plan that was approved.

We had a great time planning, planting and maintaining the gardens. We received many compliments from the public as worked on the gardens. The first year we planted 1417 plants. This consisted of mainly annuals. The second year we planted 1064 plants and 250 bulbs and we were lucky to have the added volunteers of Jennifer Footit-Tank, Eric Kropp, Tamara Erickson, Julie and Jay Birschbach, Nancy Karuhn and Jan Wetterau-Houge. 2015 is the 100 year anniversary of the park. We will plant over 1453 plants. The best time to work on the gardens is Sunday morning due to the activity of the area. We break down into groups and have a schedule of work weeks. If you are interested in volunteering, please email me at [mahermaryjo@yahoo.com](mailto:mahermaryjo@yahoo.com) or call me at 915-2506.



## CUTS AND CLIPS

BY MARGE BOLDING

**Source: 2008 Wisconsin Garden Journal**

*Month of MAY....*

### HOUSEPLANTS, PERENNIALS & ANNUALS

Water perennials the equivalent of less than 1-inch of rain per week. Continue this for June, July, August & September.

**WEEK 1-** Fertilize raspberries with 2 to 3 pounds of ammonium nitrate or 1-1/2 to 2 pounds of urea per 100 ft. of row.

- Harden-off annuals grown indoor or place in cold frames before planting outdoors.
- Set Easter lilies in garden.
- Add organic matter to flower beds.
- Inspect for iris borer larvae on iris leaves. Crush larvae.
- Divide and thin midsummer and fall-blooming perennials.

**WEEK 2-** Fertilize perennials.

- Divide or transplant Shasta daisies before 3 inches tall.
- Disbud several peony branches for bigger flowers & stake them.
- Plant tuberous begonias and tuberose outdoors

**WEEK 3-** Plant stored geraniums in well-drained soil after last frost. Keep moist and new growth should start in 1 week.

- Pinch off 1/2 of chrysanthemum when 6 inches tall, continue pinching until July.
- Remove faded flowers from spring-flowering bulbs; allow leaves to die down naturally.
- Stake delphiniums

**WEEK 4-**

- Plant dahlia divisions after danger of frost has passed. Stake plants
- Pinch annuals when 4-6 inches tall to promote growth.

### VEGETABLES & HERBS:

- Make starter fertilizer by dissolving 1/2 cup of 5-10-5 or 5-10-10 in a gallon of water. Use 1/2 cup of mix for each transplant.
- Take frequent garden walks to check for early damage from insect damage and weed, disease and fertility problems.

**WEEK 1-**

- Begin hardening off seedlings of vegetable transplants. Bring in at night, or cover with a cold frame.
- Plant broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage when air temp. stays above 40°F.

**WEEK 2-**

- Plant snap beans and pole beans, sweet corn and onion plants.
- Sweet corn planted earlier in the season has fewer pest problems.

**WEEK 3-**

- After last frost date- [May 15 in Madison area] plant celery, squash, melons, cucumbers, pumpkins and tomatoes. Plant tomato seedlings, removing lower leaves and burying stems a little deeper if needed, for stability. Protect from cold with Wall-O-Water™ or cut-open milk jugs.
- Extra seeds can be stored in a cool, dry location.
- Cover beans, cucumbers and melons with floating row covers after planting.

### LAWNS, TREES & SHRUBS:

- Mulch young evergreens with shredded hardwood bark mulch to keep out weeds.

**WEEK 1-**

- DO NOT mow lawn until it has grown at least 2 inches. Roots are being renewed in spring and grass needs vigorous initial top growth. Optimal height: 2 -1/2 to 3 -1/2 inches.
- If fertilizing lawn 2 times a year, apply in late May [near Memorial day] and late October [near Halloween]. Three time year, late May [near Memorial day], Early September [labor day] and late October.
- Fertilize trees and shrubs with slow release fertilizer if not done earlier.
- Watch birch leaves for birch leaf miner infestation. Consult your local Cooperative Extension office for treatment options.
- Plant and transplant evergreens before new growth appears.

**WEEK 3-**

- Prune junipers, arborvitae, yews and hemlock any time during the late spring or early summer.

**WEEK 4-**

- Prune hedges, pruning narrower at top, wider at base.
- Prune pines by cutting up 2/3 of new growth.[candles]
- Prune spring flowering shrubs (lilac, forsythia, honeysuckle, hydrangea, viburnum, spirea and weigela) after flowering. Apply annual application of fertilizer.

### FRUITS & BERRIES:

- Watch for blight on apples and pears [If found, branch tips wilt and leaves blacken.] Cut branches 8-12 inches below sign of infection. Sterilize instruments after cutting to prevent spreading of infection.

**WEEK 1-**

- Fruit trees can still be planted and need to be watered all summer long.

**WEEK 2-**

- Plant strawberries bush fruits and grapes.
- Pinch blossoms for newly planted strawberries in order to develop stronger plants, next year.
- Should frost hit while fruit trees are in bloom, gently hose branches with a fine mist of water before sunrise.
- Mulch between rows of raspberries.

**WEEK 3-**

- Record date of strawberry bloom. Ripe fruit follows bloom by 30 days.



## IT'S A GARDENER'S LIFE

BY VIRGINIA SLATTERY

### What am I?

I am a native herbaceous perennial which, when grown in masses, makes a spectacular show in spring, especially in the Midwest. My pink buds turn lavender-blue as they mature and form one-inch loose, tubular, bell-shaped flower clusters. On my 15-24 inch stems are blue-green leaves up to 4 inches in length. I am hardy in zones 3-8 and prefer light shade to partial sun in moist areas with rich loamy soil. I develop quickly in spring after danger of hard frost has passed and my foliage dies down by mid-summer.

I bloom well whether propagated by seed (March or April) or by divisions (March, April or October). If transplanting, it is necessary to wait until the plant is dormant in late fall or early winter to avoid losing a season of flowering. My stamens and stigma are spaced too far apart for self-fertilization and bees are rare pollinators due to the funnel shape of my flowers. Butterflies are my most common pollinator since they can perch on the edges of my flowers and enjoy the nectar. I am best massed in moist, shady woodland, wildflower or native plant gardens and in borders or rock gardens.

### *Vicki Daniels*



I was born in Monroe, WI and grew up mainly in Brodhead. I followed in my father's footsteps and became a teacher. I received my bachelor and master degrees from UW-Whitewater. I was a special education teacher and 4K Behavior Specialist for 38 years. After retiring in 2011, I did some behavior consulting for various districts.

I will become a grandmother in June and am very excited! My daughter, Erica, and her husband live in Eden Prairie, MN.

I am a newly certified 2013 MG graduate. I've tried several projects so far including: Park View Flower Arranging, Park View Cutting Garden and Vegetable Garden, and last summer the E. Cook Light House School Project. To see the joy that the gardens and flowers bring to the Park View residents brings me back on a regular basis. It was fun to work with the students at E. Cook in hands-on gardening activities.

In 1994 I purchased a small house with a small yard in Oshkosh. At first, I did mostly container and annual gardening and then gradually tried some perennials around the house. After taking the MG course, attending seminars and visiting greenhouses—and spending time with other MGs, I've reshaped my goal and plan to become an "intentional" gardener.

In August of 2014, my boyfriend of 7 years (we met on eHarmony!) and I bought a house in the country. Our yard is 1¼ acres of blank palette. As I ponder the garden and spaces I want to create, I must remind myself that slow and steady is best. I look forward to learning more and thank those who have inspired me!

## LAWANDA'S GARDEN PATH

By Lawanda Jungwirth

### In Gardening, Old is Still Good

When my husband and I decided to attack the long overdue task of cleaning out our file cabinets, he found some old papers he'd brought home from work years ago that had been printed on a dot matrix printer, on that continuous feed computer paper with the holes down the sides. He took a photo of the old documents with his cell phone and had a great time joking back and forth about it with his geek co-workers on Facebook.

Later, he commented that it was too bad my gardening friends and I couldn't make the same kinds of jokes because nothing ever changes in gardening. Not that I care; I didn't even understand their geek-talk, but he was right. The basics of gardening don't change. No Wi-Fi, smart phones, tablets or tweets are necessary. A seed, sun, soil, water and air are still all that are needed.

Yes, there are new plant cultivars, hybrids, fertilizers, pesticides and tools on the market every year. But more and more, people are realizing that the old ways, the ways our grandparents and great-grandparents did things, are best. That is, best for our personal health and the health of our planet.

Certainly the tools I got from my grandpa are the sturdiest, most well made tools in my garden shed. I have a pile of newer tools that didn't last a season before they bent, rusted or fell apart.

Heirloom plants, those that, depending on which definition you like, have been in existence for 50 or 100 years, or since the end of WWII, or since 1951 when hybrid introductions became widespread, are back in vogue. Gardeners are realizing that heirloom plants adapt over time to the climate and soils in which they are grown, making them more resistant to local pests, diseases and weather extremes. And that heirlooms taste better. And that you can save seeds from year to year and the new plants will come true to their parents, something that won't work with hybrid plants.

People are also realizing that organic gardening, gardening in tune with Mother Nature rather than constantly battling her with synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, results in healthier people, soils, food, plants and animals. Organic gardening was a way of life until after WWII when technology that was developed for use in the war was brought home and applied to farming methods.

Your great grandpa knew how to compost, although he didn't use a fancy plastic bin. He knew the importance of mulch, although he didn't buy it in bags at the big box store. He knew that rotating crops, inter-planting crops and planting cover crops would deter pests and diseases and improve the soil. He used many of the techniques today's organic gardeners embrace, although he may never have spoken the word "organic."

Just like when Grandpa was young, what defines gardening is the wonder of planting a seed, seeing it germinate, and watching it grow until it fulfills its promise.

Do you know we have a face book??? We do! We are in need of a FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATOR! Our Facebook page has been in existence for several years, and our hope was that it would be a place for Master Gardeners and members of the public alike to share photos and gardening tips, ask and answer each other's questions, and as a place for our organization to promote our events and activities. Unfortunately, our Facebook page hasn't been used as extensively as we envisioned.

Would you like to be the person who brings our Facebook page back to life? Take a peek at Outagamie County Master Gardeners' Facebook page to see what an active, well-managed account looks like and go from there!

If you (or you and an MG buddy) would like to take over as administrator(s) of our Association's Facebook page, please contact Lawanda Jungwirth at [ljungwirth@new.rr.com](mailto:ljungwirth@new.rr.com). The time you spend setting up and maintaining the page counts as volunteer hours.

*Thank you! Your help is appreciated*



**Lawanda's Garden Path-cont.****Dry Year Gardening**

It's too early to tell yet whether the coming growing season will bring us abundant rain or if the dry weather trend that gave us a relatively easy winter will continue through the summer. As of last week, almost 50% of the Midwest was considered abnormally dry or under moderate drought conditions, with Winnebago County falling into the latter category. What if Wisconsin were to face a long-term drought like California is right now and our governor was forced to place restrictions on how much water we could use? Would you be prepared?

Whether or not they are needed this year, it's always good to have some strategies and tools for dealing with drought ready if necessary.

Long term, filling your landscape with drought-tolerant plants will ensure lower water needs for years to come. Be aware that drought-tolerant plants need plenty of water just like any other young plant until they become established. Using native plants, those that are adapted to our local climate and soils will ensure that you are prepared no matter what the weather.

Short of replacing an entire landscape, there are ways to help current plantings to survive drought. Many of these tips work in the vegetable garden as well.

Protecting plants and soil from drying winds goes a long way toward conserving soil moisture. An organic mulch like pine needles, wood chips, grass clippings, straw, or shredded leaves keeps the soil moist and prevents soil temperatures from wild fluctuations.

Wind breaks in the form of larger rocks, fences, boards, or any temporary thing you can rig up will also keep plants from drying out. The soil under and near large rocks remains moist and cool longer than open soil does.

To place water directly where it is needed at the plants' roots, punch several holes in the bottom of gallon milk jugs and fill them with water. Bury them up to their necks in the soil next to landscape plants, or between tomato or pepper plants in the vegetable garden. Add water by filling the jugs right in place.

A similar option is to fill medium-sized black nursery pots with gravel after lining them with a few pieces of newspaper. Bury the pots up to their rims next to thirsty plants and add water to the gravel-filled pots as needed.

Building a soil dike around plants will keep water from running off and direct it to the plant roots. The dike need be only an inch or two high to help. On sloping ground, a half-dike or a half-ring of rocks set into the soil below plants helps keep water in place.

When watering, water deeply and less often. Water evaporates quickly from the top couple inches of soil and most of it will not reach plant roots. Morning watering when the air is calm is best. Late afternoon is second best. A soaker hose laid among the plants allows water to seep slowly and deeply into the soil.

**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 Linda Looker

**Photographer;** Nancy Karuhn



## SEED FOR THOUGHT

BY ERIC KROPP

### Smart Phone Apps for Gardeners

I thought this would be easy. I thought I could spend a few minutes looking through the App Store and be able to quickly report on what is available and what it does. I found a confusing mess of information. My first inquiry was looking up “Gardening” at the App Store. There were at least 100 of them. Apps that sounded good got terrible reviews. I could not find Apps that people had recommended. There were so many Apps and not a good way to go through them all. The details were lacking. The best you get is a brief description, the date it was last revised and the devices it runs on. How do you find an app that may be useful for your gardening interest?.

Think of gardening Apps as an extension of your collection of gardening books but something that is easy to carry around. It appears that great things are being done. You can plan your garden, pick the plants based on your conditions, identify plants – particularly flowers, do landscape design, set reminders for gardening tasks and generally manage your gardening. It would be very handy to have the ability to identify a plant using the phone you always have in your pocket or to take your garden plan to the nursery and make changes based on the inventory and be able to verify that it fits into your plan. Other Apps will help you select what goes into your garden based on your zone, amount of sunlight and the amount of rain. There is at least one App that works with a moisture sensor to tell you that it is time to water. The App is free. The sensor will cost you something.

One area that interests me is plant identification. There appears to be many different approaches. If you are book based – no App is required; you can take a picture of a plant and look it up later or take your book to the plant and try to identify it. Some Apps take this approach but others go further. [LikeThat Garden](#) uses a picture of a plant and suggests possible names using feature recognition software. I have seen this work. It provides a number of suggestions and lets you work it out. A number of Apps have the user narrow the list by answering questions. Another approach (example [Flower Checker](#)) submits your picture to real people who identify the plant and provide additional information about it. However, this one may have additional charges (\$1.00 per inquiry) and may take a few hours but it is likely very accurate. I have a copy of The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers and use the first method to identify plants. There is an App that provides the same information but it received terrible reviews – mostly operational problems. It is too bad. I will just buy the new edition of the book and keep my flip phone.

Here are some things to think about when considering an App. Talk to people and see what they use and see how it works for them. Think, how could I use that App? Look up the Apps in the Apple App Store or Google Play for more information. Here are some thoughts about smart phone Apps:

- Apps are generally low cost or free. At least if you do not like the App you are not out much money.
- I would hesitate to buy an App that is more than a couple years old. Things are changing so quickly that Apps should be new and or recently revised.
- Use Google or similar to search “Flower Identification App”, “Garden Layout Apps” or “Gardening Apps”. Whatever you can think of that pertains to your gardening interests. You will find review articles that may lead you to specific Apps. I typed “gardening apps” and found these articles:

[Gardening Apps for Fabulous Flowers, Herbs and Vegetables](#), by Chenda Ngak; March 28 2014  
[Gardening Apps - These iPhone and iPad Apps Will Help You Plant A Plentiful Garden](#) Web search  
[8 Garden Apps for iPhone, iPad and Android](#) by Mavis Butterfield; May 14, 2014  
[The Top 10 Gardening Apps You Need Now](#) by Michelle Slatalla; April 24 2013  
[10 Best Garden Design Apps for Your iPad](#) by Jeanne Rostaing; September 5 2013

- Some Apps only run on an iPhone or the Android version is not maintained. Some were released for a phone that is now obsolete. Know your phones operating system revision. There may be operating issues with certain apps. Again, reading that part of the description may be helpful.
- Even though apps may be free or low cost, the company has to have an angle to make money or recover the cost. It will likely try to sell you something. Be prepared for some sort of pitch.
- Read the reviews if offered. If bad, it may be good reason to move on. If good, maybe give it a try. You may have something that is really helpful.





**SEED FOR THOUGHT-cont****LikeThat Garden – Flower Identification**[View More by This Developer](#)**By Superfish**

Open iTunes to buy and download apps.

[View in iTunes](#)**Free**

Category: Education  
 Updated: Mar 05, 2015  
 Version: 1.2.0  
 Size: 15.8 MB  
 Languages: English, Hebrew  
 Seller: Superfish, Inc.  
 © Superfish Inc.  
 Rated 4+

**Compatibility:** Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.

**Description**

LikeThat Garden, a free visual search app, allows you to take pictures to identify flowers. Use your mobile phone camera to find a flower just like that! Simply take a picture of a flower, and instantly get search results, similar looking flowers for inspiration and ideas and helpful information. It's as simple as: Snap It, Explore It, Find It.

Get access to thousands of high-resolution images of different species with one amazing app.

With LikeThat Garden you can:

- Instantly find visually appealing flowers and plants
- Explore and discover flowers for your home or garden
- Learn how to properly care for your flowers and plants
- Dream up your next garden with flowers you love

From the makers of apps featured in CNN, TechCrunch, and Mashable – visual search pioneer Superfish brings you LikeThat Garden, the third in the LikeThat suite. Popular apps include LikeThat Pets for pet adoption and LikeThat Décor for your home.

[Superfish Web Site](#) + [LikeThat Garden - Flower Identification Support](#) +

**What's New in Version 1.2.0**

- Improved Search Results

**iPhone Screenshot**

An example of an App Listing in the Apple App Store: It was recently updated, lists details about the operating system and version, received good reviews and is free. Maybe worth a try.

THE LATEST DIRT

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY  
PLEASE HELP PULL GARLIC MUSTARD  
on the WIOUWASH TRAIL!  
Saturday, May 9, 2015  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

*We will also be pulling garlic mustard on weekdays before and after this date weather permitting. Watch your email for notifications!*

Meet at Brooks Road parking area.

From Oshkosh, take Hwy. 45 (Algoma Blvd.) north to the Ryf Road exit. Turn right on Cty. T at the top of the exit ramp. Go just over 1 ½ miles to Brooks Road. Turn left and go about 1 mile to the trail.

Or from Oshkosh, take Hwy. 76 (Jackson St.) Go under Hwy. 41 and turn left at the frontage road - Green Valley Road. Turn right on Brooks Rd. just before Stuart's Landscaping. Go 3 miles to the trail.

From the Fox Valley, take Cty. II, Larsen Rd, Oakridge Rd., Cty JJ or Breezewood Rd. west to Hwy. 76. Turn left and go south to Green Valley Road (Hwy. 41 frontage road). Turn right on Green Valley and then right again on Brooks Rd. just before Stuart's Landscaping. Go 3 miles to the trail.

To find the Brooks Road parking area by GPS, use address 4151 Brooks Road, Oshkosh.

From the Extension Office:

The "Iris Borer" University of Wisconsin Garden Facts has been revised. It is currently available in the "Fact Sheets" section of my clinic website (<http://pddc.wisc.edu>) and will soon be available at the UW-Extension Horticulture website (<http://hort.uwex.edu>).

## THE LATEST DIRT- cont.

**Submit your items for the newsletter by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

### **WANTED: Facebook Administrator**

Did you know that Winnebago County Master Gardener Association has a Facebook page? Didn't think so! Our Facebook page has been in existence for several years, and our hope was that it would be a place for Master Gardeners and members of the public alike to share photos and gardening tips, ask and answer each other's questions, and as a place for our organization to promote our events and activities. Unfortunately, our Facebook page hasn't been used as extensively as we envisioned.

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### *You are invited to the Winnebago County Master Gardeners Annual Picnic*

When: June 9, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Park View Health Center- Great Room

*Meat, beverages and utensils provided*

*Bring a dish to pass and a plant to exchange if you wish*

*RSVP with the number of attendees (you and up to one adult guest) to:*

*Donna Kudas 233-0367 or [dfkudlas@yahoo.com](mailto:dfkudlas@yahoo.com)*



The Oshkosh Garden Club [OGC] garden walk will take place on **Sunday, June 28, from Noon to 5:00 PM**. Sponsored by Stuart's Landscaping & Garden Center. There will be a raffle for 1-Red Maple worth ~\$300 to be planted & delivered for free, as well as 4- \$ 50 gift certificates good at the Stuart's Oshkosh or FDL locations. Our featured garden this year will be the Oshkosh West High School's Science Courtyard Butterfly Garden, along with 4 other beautiful private gardens. Proceeds from each of our walks support garden projects in our community. Tickets are \$8 at Stuart's Landscaping & Garden Center [in early May] \$10 on the day of the walk. [children under 18, admitted free.] For more information- go to [www.oshkoshgardenclub.org](http://www.oshkoshgardenclub.org)

## Buzzing Around



By Mary Jo Maher

### Going Local

So you are not one for long road trips? Let us not forget the wonderful garden shops in our own backyard.

### Oshkosh Area

**Stuarts Landscape and Garden Center**  
2957 Brook Rd, Oshkosh

**Steins**  
300 Koeller St, Oshkosh

**Fernaus**  
2975 Bowen St, Oshkosh

**Hrnaks**  
1307 W 9<sup>th</sup> Ave, Oshkosh

**Oshkosh House of Flowers**  
1920 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh

**Country Corners Greenhouse**  
4688 Cty Rd F, Omro

### Neenah Area

**Koeunes Green House**  
2015 Cnty Rd II, Neenah

**Wreath Factory**  
200 Main St, Menasha

**Pansies**  
833 E Cecil St, Neenah

### Appleton Area

**Kisser Stone and Garden**  
5475 W Prospect, Appleton

**Riverside Greenhouse**  
1236 Pacific St, Appleton

**Plant Station**  
1746 Northland Ave, Appleton

**Robinson Florist and Greenhouse**  
444 S Washington St, Kimberly

**Memorial Florist**  
2320 Memorial Dr, Appleton

**Steins**  
4860 W Wisconsin Ave, Appleton



**FERNAUS GREENHOUSE**

By Donna Kudlas

This property was the homestead of the Fernau family since 1853. Great Grandmother Fernau began selling apples and produce from the farm stand. The first greenhouse was put up in the 1950's to produce earlier crops. There are now eleven other greenhouses in operation. The vegetables and annual plants are started by seed and once large enough, they are transplanted in the containers they are sold in. We grow 27 hybrid, 37 heirloom tomatoes, and our popular sweet and hot peppers. A new pepper for us this year is the "ghost" pepper. Some of the other vegetables we offer are; tomatillos, kale, celery, and swiss chard. Planting begins in winter and continues through spring. We also plant a large variety of old fashion annuals, such as, stocks, 4'o clocks, nasturtiums, marigolds and petunias. We have a wide variety of different colored geraniums, as well as scented geraniums. We carry perennials from Proven Winners. There is a wonderful selection of hanging baskets and potted containers. We are open 7 days a week.



## Food for Thought

By Linda Loker

### Pumpkin Pie Squares

Source: Farm Journal's Homemade Pies, Cookies, and Bread (1983 edition)

Serve these pumpkin squares with coffee for a perfect dessert after a big meal or for evening refreshment.

1 cup sifted flour  
½ cup quick-cooking oats  
½ cup brown sugar, firmly packed  
½ cup butter or margarine  
1 can pumpkin (2 cups)  
1 13.5 oz. can evaporated milk  
2 eggs  
2 tbs. butter

¾ cup sugar  
½ tsp. salt  
1 tsp. ground cinnamon  
½ tsp. ground ginger  
¼ tsp. ground cloves  
½ cup chopped pecans  
½ cup brown sugar, firmly packed

Combine flour, oats, ½ cup brown sugar, and ½ cup butter in mixing bowl. Mix until crumbly with electric mixer on low speed. Press into ungreased 13x9 pan. Bake at 350 for 15 minutes.

Combine pumpkin, evaporated milk, eggs, white sugar, and spices in mixing bowl; beat well. Pour over

#### ANSWER TO “WHAT AM I?”

I am Virginia Bluebells. Order: Lamiales  
Family: Boraginaceae – Borage family.  
Genus: Mertensia Roth – bluebells.  
Species: *Mertensia virginica* (L.) Pers. Ex Link – Virginia bluebells.  
Common names: Eastern Bluebells, Virginia Cowslip, Lungwort Oysterleaf, Roanoke Bells.  
I will tolerate rabbits, deer and black walnut. I am named after German botanist Franz K. Mertens (1764-1831).



baked crust. Bake at 350 for 20 minutes.

Combine pecans, 1/2 cup brown sugar, and 2 Tbs. butter; sprinkle over pumpkin filling and return to oven. Bake for additional 15 to 20 minutes or until filling is set. Cool in pan on rack. Cut into 2-inch squares.

Makes 2 dozen squares.



**SHOW US YOUR BLOOMERS**

Submitted by the members



All above by Jeanne Jacobs



Jean Reed

Lynne Slatt



Pruning Work Shop  
Winchester Historical Society  
March 21, 2015



Photos by Nancy Karhun

A total of 17 Master Gardeners, Historical Society members and citizens participated on a cold and windy morning. The orchard of 20+ trees had not been pruned for several years. With expert guidance from Kimberly and Scott Tewes, phase one of the pruning process was completed by the end of the day. Phase two and three will follow in subsequent years. Many positive comments from everyone about the knowledge and experience gained. Sincere thanks from Mary and me to those who helped. - Sandra Mathison



## Winnebago County Master Gardener's Business Meeting

### April 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

**Treasurer's Report:** The March treasurer's report was accepted as read.

**Secretary's Report:** The board minutes are posted to the website, and the business meeting minutes are posted in the newsletter.

### Speaker:

Menominee Park Shoreline Restoration Project was presented by Chad Casper, Melanie Leet and Justin Mitchell. The presentation emphasized the importance of native plants for keeping shorelines from eroding, and the work that has been done at Miller's Bay in Menominee Park. Chad cautioned us about phragmites, a wetland plant that is very invasive.

The next area they will be working on is behind Webster Stanley School, on May 9<sup>th</sup> and you may volunteer to help.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### Projects:

Long Term Project Leads Julie and Matt Miller presented the Oshkosh Humane Society Garden project. Julie said they are working on the gardens on most Saturdays from 9:30 to noon. This year the focus will be on naming and marking what is planted. There will also be opportunity for anyone to adopt one of the gardens.

Long Term Project Lead Lil Hanschke presented the Park View Flower Arranging project. The group acquires cut flowers and work with the residents to make arrangements. The group meets most Mondays at 1:30 in the Great Room.

Long Term Project Leads Bill Weber – Park View Flower Gardens and Tom Weber – Park View Vegetable Gardens presented on their projects. Park View gardens offer many and varied types of gardening experiences.

Sally Lindo also announced that the Park View Prairie cleanup would be April 25<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Please bring a rake and cutting tools.

#### Paine Festival of Spring:

Ginny Slattery announced the Paine Festival of Spring would be on May 16<sup>th</sup>, with set up the day before. Please contact her to sign up for set up, Ask the Plant Expert or Plant Sale area.

#### Community Gardens Project:

Mary Shepard asked if there is interest in a project lead to coordinate the Community Gardens project in Menasha. This has been a long standing Master Gardener project, but the person leading it is no longer able to continue. There are five mostly shady beds to be cared for located in front of the Community Gardens at the UW Extension in Menasha. Please let Mary know if you would like to take this project on.

#### Photo Permission Requirements:

Please remember to get a signed release if you take any photos of children or patients in health care facilities.

#### Education Committee:

June 12, 13, an overnight bus trip will go to the Chicago Botanical Gardens, the Chicago Architectural boat tour, Lincoln Park Conservancy, Garfield Conservancy, Northwinds Perennial Farm (Roy Diblick) in Burlington, WI. Cost is \$200 and needs to be turned in to Marge Menacher.

July 25<sup>th</sup> a bus trip is planned for Green Bay Botanical Gardens, Rose Hill Gardens, May Flower Nursery and a possible home tour.

WIMGA Educational Grants: Sue Egner reminded members that grant money is available from the State Association for educational needs for projects. Please apply for the grant money by July. Contact Sue if you have questions.

**Budget:** The annual budget audit has been completed. Mary Shepard also reminded members that although it looks like we have a large balance available, it really is the amount needed to support what the group will typically spend throughout the year.

**Extension Update:** Kimberly shared that UW Extension offices are going through the budget cut process. If you want to share what the UW Extension sponsored Master Gardener program has meant to you, please share your comments at #because of UWEX. Please do not express any political view through this link.

Mike and Susan sent out a Thank You to Master Gardener Volunteers for the Volunteer Week.

**Master Gardener Vests:** Vests with the Master Gardener logo are being offered to members for \$24.00 to wear at educational events such as the Paine Festival or the Home and Garden shows. If you wish to purchase one, contact Sue Egner. A motion was raised to purchase a set of vests for the WCMG members to use at events. The motion failed.

**Group Project Monarchs:** Monarchs are reported to be on the way back. Mary distributed a list of Native plants that will be available for group projects.

#### Meeting Speakers:

May – Linda Werner will present Keukenhof Botanical Gardens, Amsterdam

June – Picnic June 9<sup>th</sup> at Parkview. You can sign up at the May meeting to attend, and please bring a dish to pass. We will be having a plant exchange that evening, so please bring any plants you have that will need a good home.

**New Business:** Eric Kropp shared that the Violet Show will be the first week in May.

The next business meeting will be May 12, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Schultz, Secretary



## Growing Pains

By Mary Jo Maher

**It is that time of the year that we have all been waiting for. Before going out, remember to grab your hat, sunglasses and sunscreen.**

### Sun-Safety Tips

By Ginevra Holtkamp- [MotherEarthLiving.com](http://MotherEarthLiving.com)

Most experts agree people should use sunscreens to protect their skin from the sun, but unfortunately many commercial sunscreens contain harmful ingredients.

- Don't rely on sunscreen alone. Clothing, hats, sunglasses and shade should be your first line of defense. Take extra caution between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun's UV rays are most intense.
- Avoid sunscreens with vitamin A, which may speed up the development of cancer on skin exposed to sunlight. Watch out for "retinyl palmitate" or "retinol" on the label.
- Avoid sunscreens that contain oxybenzone, a synthetic estrogen that penetrates the skin and contaminates the body.
- Skip sunscreens with insect repellent. Sunscreens should be applied liberally and often; commercial insect repellents should not. Read more about safe insect repellents in Natural Mosquito Control Methods.
- Opt for creams instead of sprays and powders, which cloud the air with tiny particles of sunscreen that may not be safe to breathe.
- Beware of sunscreens with SPFs higher than 50, which researchers suspect do not provide additional protection and thereby create a false sense of security. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends broad-spectrum sunscreens (which protect against UVA and UVB rays) with an SPF of at least 30. Apply sunscreen generously 30 minutes before going outside and reapply it at least every two hours—more if you're sweating or jumping in and out of the water.
- Look for mineral-based natural sunscreens with zinc and titanium dioxide listed as active ingredients. Although no ingredient is without some concern, the EWG favors mineral sunscreens because of their superior UVA protection.

### GOOD READS

**"The Lost Gardens of Heligan" by Tim Smit.** Until World War I, the estate gardens of Heligan were one of the glories of Cornwall, England. This book tells the story of the restoration of these gardens after 70 years of neglect, against the backdrop of local opposition and a lack of funding. [Amazon Link to Book](#); Pictures of the Heligan Gardens <http://heligan.com/explore/gallery/>

#### Tried and True

Submitted by:  
Virginia Slattery  
Slug Recipe

Source: Pondsides  
Gardens

1 cup ammonia  
5 cups water  
1-teaspoon Murphy's  
Oil Soap  
Mix and use a spray  
bottle to spritz on  
hostas  
Repeat every 2 weeks  
or after rain

#### Tried and True

Submitted by Lynne Slat

#### Deer deterrent information:

<http://justramblin.hubpages.com/hub/how-i-saved-my-garden-best-deer-deterrent-ever>

#### Deer resistant plants:

<http://www.almanac.com/content/deer-resistant-plants>



**May 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Oshkosh African Violet show and sale
3 Oshkosh African Violet show and sale	4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8	9 Garlic Mustard Pulling, Wiouwash Trail, 9:00 – noon
10	11	12 Business Meeting	13	14	15	16 Paine Spring Festival Outagamie Plant Sale
17	18 Parkview Flower arranging	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

**June 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board meeting	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 WMG Picnic	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Oshkosh Garden Club garden walk 28	Parkview Flowers 29	30				