



# WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NOVEMBER 2009 - NEWSLETTER

(click here to go directly to website) [www.winnebagomastergardeners.org](http://www.winnebagomastergardeners.org) 920-232-1986

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## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

November brings us closer to the end of the fall season. The leaves are falling and we're busy finishing our garden chores before the snow flies. It also brings Thanksgiving when we pause to reflect and give thanks for the abundance in our lives. Among the many, many things I am thankful for is the rewarding experience I have had over the last two years as Co-President of WCMGA.

Kathy and I, along with several other WCMGA members attended the State Conference in Baraboo on October second and third. It was a nice educational opportunity, as well as a chance to visit with other master gardeners from throughout the State. Mark your calendars for July 23-24, 2010 for the next State Conference hosted by the Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association. View the brochure for details at their website <http://2010wimastergardenerconference.com/>.

We have received a letter of resignation from our Vice President, Steve Schueler, due to personal reasons. We want to thank Steve for his service to WCMGA and wish him the very best.

Please attend our November 10<sup>th</sup> business meeting to cast your vote at our annual election of Officers and Board Members. We will be voting for President, Treasurer (2-year terms); Vice President (to fulfill the 1 year remaining of Steve's term); and a Board Member (3-year term). Certified Master Gardeners in good standing (dues paid) are considered voting members. If anyone is interested in any of these positions, please contact any Board Member prior to November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We will not have a business meeting in December because of our Awards Banquet and busy Holiday schedules. Please note the Awards Banquet has been changed to Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, due to the conflict with the Advanced Class. The banquet details and registration form are in this Newsletter. We hope to see all of you there!

Happy Gardening,  
Mary & Kathy

## NICK'S NOTE

Over the past few months my thoughts and time have been occupied with a job requirement called the "tenure process". Through this process I must assemble a portfolio of scholarly work, which is a 2.5 inch thick binder of proof the education I provided is worthy of UW system expectations. There is a lot of jargon such as scholarly work, transformational education, and about four pages worth of acronyms that describe what UW Extension agents should be doing. I am very proud of the work the two Master Gardener Associations I have been advisor to have accomplished. There are many projects that make our communities more beautiful and help consumers become more knowledgeable. The communities served by Master Gardeners are better for it. With government agency budgets being tight, success is often judged by placing a dollar value on the accomplishment. It is hard for anyone to say something like, "the enjoyment the Park View Gardens brings to the residents is worth \$4,540.22" but at times that is what people writing government reports must do. I would like to share with you a few sentences I wrote in my portfolio document about the Master Gardener program,

"In my experience, a local Master Gardener Association is a premier example of transformational education within UWEX. New Master Gardener trainees are prepared to contribute to local projects such as the 36 hours of youth education, 1,484 hours of community education, and 3,661 hours in support services provided by the Winnebago County Master Gardeners in 2008. According to Independent Sector, ([http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer\\_time.html](http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html)), the dollar value of a volunteer hour increased as follows: 2005=\$18.04, 2006=\$18.77, 2007=\$19.51 and 2008=\$20.25. From 2005 to 2009, the Clark and Winnebago County Master Gardener Associations I collaborated with contributed a combined total of 17,093 volunteer hours to their community placed at a value of \$338,962."

With the hours time sheets turned in back in September and some recent conversations, I suspect there are Master Gardeners who are

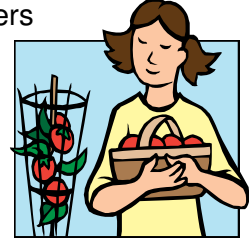
modest about reporting hours. They feel their volunteerism is “not a big deal” or “I just do it because I like to”. These are great reasons to do a project, but from a financial support perspective, we really need you to report any volunteer hours you might have. If you did even just a few hours but feel like you should not report because you did not have the full 24 hours, that is OK. We would still like to hear from you. To those people in government systems that say “So What!”, every hour reported helps us further justify providing education and service opportunities. There are a lot of people saying “so what” these days. Thank you all for your continued efforts!  
Nick

## PROJECT OF THE MONTH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Master Gardener Habitat for Humanity Project was new to the core project list this past season.

Our purpose is to serve as a plant resource for new Habitat homeowners in our county. We divided our group into pairs of volunteers working with each of 8 new homeowners

whose homes were completed in the '08-'09 building season. One house is in Oshkosh and the others are in Neenah or Menasha. After an initial visit to the property, we



suggested appropriate plantings for the future, helped the homeowner select a tree or shrub (purchased by WCMGVA), & assisted in planting.

We are also offering to remain as personal resources for those properties for one year, at which time we will begin with homeowners from the '09-'10 season. It is possible that some volunteers may continue the relationships begun in the project,



beyond a year; in that case, we will need more of us to get involved! Our group is also providing a monthly calendar of garden related "to-do" lists to each new homeowner. This is a

wonderful opportunity to act as plant educators to these new homeowners. While our work for this season is still very much in progress, the reception to our efforts has been very positive! Please consider joining our project.

David Leonard, project lead - 902-379-5860

## BIRTHDAYS OF NOVEMBER



**HAPPY**

**BIRTHDAY**

**Bruce Abraham, Pat Behm, Betty Kuen, Dorothy Bonnin, Diana Dougherty, Sandra Gollither, Lawanda Jungwirth, Arlene Kosanke, Curt Reese, Patty Schmitz, Barbara Kuhn, Cindy Meszaros, Rosemary Smith**

## Organic Gardening Tip of the Month

*From Lawanda Jungwirth*

Dry, crush and save eggshells over the winter. In spring when you plant tomatoes, toss a handful of crushed shells into each hole to provide calcium, which prevents blossom end rot

### Where is it?

Lawanda's articles – pg 6, 9  
What am I? – pg 4 (answer pg 5)  
Tree of the Month – pg 3  
MG of the Month – pg 4  
Project of the Month – pg 2  
Birthdays – pg 2  
Save the Date – 2  
Minutes – p7

**SAVE ! THE DATES SAVE !**

**Monday November 30 2009**

WCMG Awards Dinner

**Saturday February 13, 2010**

WCMG Bus Trip to Garden Expo in Madison

**Saturday February 27, 2010**

WCMG All Day Seminar featuring Malinda Meyer

**Watch the newsletter each month for more info on these events and more.**

## Park View Prairie Annual Report

The Park View Prairie has been in existence since 1984 as part of the Zboray Nature Center on the Park View Health Center grounds. The prairie was developed as a prairie plant identification area by Carlton and Marion Schneider.

In keeping with its original scope the project continues to concentrate on prairie and native plant identification. From the beginning, as is the case today, the majority of the plants in the Prairie are donated. A few have been purchased and some started by seed gathered at the Prairie and transplanted into the Prairie.

Once again the small Park View Prairie has provided continuous color throughout the growing season. This year there was a noticeable increase in prairie grasses such as Indian Grass and Big and Little Bluestem. Several new varieties and the reemergence previously identified plants were noted. Along with the color and spread of desirable plants is the influx of invasive and unwanted plant varieties. A continuous effort to remove invasives like honeysuckle, buckthorn, turf grasses, and goats beard occupied some of our time. Included in our efforts were the annual spring and fall cleanups. Removing heavier stalked plants in the fall allows other plants to add to the seed bank and provide winter cover, food, and interest. In the spring plant debris is more completely removed allowing the sun to warm the soil quicker.

All this was made possible by the time and effort volunteered by Marti Norton, Lawanda Jungwirth, Dara Sitter, and David Bultman. Also helping were those volunteers that responded to our calls for assistance at cleanup events. Thanks to all of you for your work and knowledge in helping make this another successful year in the Park View Prairie.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of the master gardener group to visit the prairie. I also encourage anyone who has an interest in prairie plants and would like to help with the Park View Prairie project to contact me. We would welcome the help in maintaining and improving our little prairie environment.

Ken Hawk  
Park View Prairie project lead  
920-426-1691  
kehawk@earthlink.net

## TREE OF THE MONTH - NOVEMBER

From: [about.com](http://about.com)

### Colorado Blue Spruce



#### Characteristics:

Colorado blue spruce trees can be grown in [zones](#) 3-7. Colorado blue spruce trees typically reach a height of 30'-60' and spread out 10'-20'. Their silvery-blue needles are prickly to the touch and aromatic. The pyramidal shape of Colorado blue spruce trees makes them a classic choice for Christmas.

#### Plant Care:

Colorado blue spruce trees don't need to be pruned, but they can be pruned if you wish to promote denser foliage. Prune off half of the fresh growth on each candle (i.e., growing tip) in spring.

#### Sun and Soil Requirements:

Plant Blues in full sun to partial sun in a location with moist, fertile soil. They can be planted in rows to form windbreaks. But they're equally effective as specimen trees.

#### More on Colorado Blue Spruce Trees:

Colorado blue spruce trees are valuable in deer country, as their prickly texture and strong aroma render them conveniently deer-resistant. In the snowy North, where landscapes can look barren in winter, evergreens such as Colorado blue spruce trees can provide much-needed winter interest. Speaking of winter, a growing trend is to buy them live (in containers) for indoor Christmas decorating, then plant them outside as landscape plants after the holiday. Dig the hole in the ground for planting well before December, so you won't have to dig through frozen dirt. Bring the excavated dirt inside, to keep it from freezing; you'll need to keep it loose so that you'll have workable dirt with which to fill in around the new specimen after planting it in its hole.

A gardener learns more in the mistakes than in the successes.

Barbara Dodge Borland

## November - What Am I:

I am a native, perennial Wisconsin plant of the Family Fagaceae; Genus Quercus L. I am found naturally in the following habitats: savanna, pine barrens and beech, northern upland, southern upland and lowland forests. I grow from 50' – 75' tall – initially, pyramidal-shaped, but with a wide spreading crown in my later years. I have been known to live for 500 – 600 years, if left undisturbed. My woody stem is light ash-gray – from smooth to fissured and scaly. My broad, flat, simple, alternate greenish-blue leaves have 7 – 9 finger-like, rounded lobes and are 4" – 7" long. In fall my leaves turn to reddish-brown. As a young plant I have a long taproot that is used to transport water to me in extremely dry periods, but as I age my taproot slowly disappears to be replaced by an extensive fibrous root system with tapered laterals. My woody stem is valued for furniture, flooring, staves for barrel-making, pallets, and cabinets. My 1" fruit, known as an acorn, is valued as an excellent food source for many wildlife and was ground into flour by Native Americans. What Am I?

## New Leads - Announced

### New Membership Lead:

The new Membership Lead is Dawn Kent. Dawn will begin her duties as Membership Lead by putting together the membership booklet for 2010. The booklet can be expected by membership at the November meeting. You will have until the first of October to get your dues paid and renew your memberships. Dawn will begin then to prepare the booklet. Good Luck and that you to Dawn.

**New Hours Lead:** The new Hours Lead is Bruce Abraham. You all know Bruce from his "What am I?" column in our newsletter. Bruce will begin His new position with our group after the first of the year constructing the 2010 hours form. He will not be able to begin until we know what the main projects are for the year. Bruce will be leaving his position writing "What am I?" for the newsletter. We give our thanks and well wishes to Bruce as he begins his new MG adventure.

**What am I?** We have one of our newer members to replace Bruce as our What am I editor. Jane Kuhn has stepped forward to take over for Bruce Abraham. Jane will begin her participation in the newsletter by continuing the "What am I?" columns, but has free reign to take the column wherever it may take her. Lets all support Jane in her new roll with the group. It is wonderful to see a newer member step up to be an active member. Jane, we are all behind you.

## MG of the Month-November

David Leonard

I am completing my third season of volunteering with Master Gardeners. During that time, I have worked on the raised bed garden structures at UW Fox Community Gardens, Plant Health Advisor, Parkview Vegetable Garden, seed trials and worm casting bagging. I am currently serving as project lead for Habitat for Humanity landscaping. I have enjoyed learning new things during my certification training and at garden walks and workshops. I even tried the "apples in a bag" idea presented at one of our meetings....very labor intensive, but quite successful! I have been interested in plants of all kinds since I was a teenager, working for a landscape company in Manitowoc, especially enjoying growing organic fruits and vegetables for the family table. The French intensive raised bed concept appealed to me in the early '70's and I still use it today. Since retiring from the Neenah Schools music department in '05, I have had much more time for volunteering, concentrating on Habitat for Humanity, where I do trucking and construction, and Oshkosh Area Food Pantry, where I generally organize meats or produce (imagine that!). The remainder of my "free time" is spent managing our tree farm, on which we are raising over 20,000 trees of 13 different species. It is incredibly rewarding to look at the forest that grew out of a cornfield, just 20 years ago! Other activities include biking, traveling, performing with the Water City Chamber Orchestra, judging music festivals and spoiling our young grandson. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our granddaughter in December, from the second of our grown daughters. Our two grown sons have yet to start families. Visitors to our farm are always welcome...just wear your MG badge.



## Answer to What Am I:

I am a perennial tree - Taxon: *Quercus alba* L.;  
common name: white oak

References: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/> and associated links



## LINCOLN SCHOOL - 2009

Lincoln School Master Gardeners had a very successful year. October 12 was our final working Monday with removal of annuals, trimming a few perennials and of course weeding.

This year we recognized the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Lincoln. We had annuals with a patriotic red, white and blue theme.

There was a banner on the

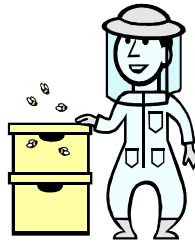


Monument for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July also. The banner was stolen shortly thereafter, but we had many comments about how nice it looked.

We continued to enhance the site throughout the summer with additional perennials. Our Master Gardener signage was placed at the site and also later stolen.

Our group faithfully brought in water to keep the flowers blooming. A special thank you to our supporting members – Pat Behm, Linda Christensen, Mary Haave, Maureen Muldoon, Joni Pagel, Janet Priebe and Karen Wedde.

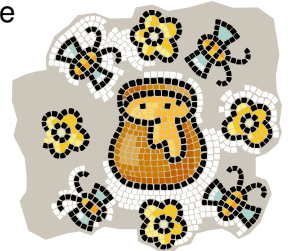
## What's the Buzz about Bee's, with Beekeeper Andy Krueger - November.10



Have you given the benefits of Bees much thought; or Bees at all for that matter? We are not talking about the wasps that invade our picnics or the bumble bees that make nests in the ground; but rather wonderful, beneficial *Apis Mellifera*, the Honey Bee.

Did you know they are the only insect that produces food? Can you believe that honey never goes bad? Were you aware that it is used as an antiseptic treatment when treating wounds, yet today? Could honey be the answer to the concern of over-use of antibiotics? The answers to these questions and more will be discussed.

Beekeeping is a great hobby to get involved with; it allows you to see nature in a new light. Honey Bees are essential for us. It's estimated that 1/3 of all of the food that we eat is directly attributed to honey bee pollination. A decline in bee pollination would affect more than fruits and vegetables; but also the animals that need them for food to survive.



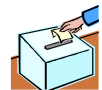
What is stopping you from owning a hive or two? They will be a treasure in your gardens. The sweat harvest will then be a treasure in your kitchens. Trade sugar for honey and reap some incredible rewards. Use it in soaps, lotions, lip balm, and as a facial toner.

Come listen to learn more about the Honey Bee, the benefits, and how to get started!

### At our own Master Gardener Meeting Tuesday November 10



### ELECTION TIME



Election for President, Treasurer, one Board seat and now an unscheduled vote for Vice President, to finish Steve's term will be held at our meeting on November 10.

To place currently certified members in nomination contact any board member by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE**

## Rodent Deterrence

by Anne M Quinn-Ross

### EXTREMELY IMPORTANT & VALUABLE INFORMATION.

Do you want poisons to enter our ecosystem, food chain, local & ground water systems? If not, then *please* DO NOT USE MOTH BALLS (these are caustic to our environment) or harsh chemicals to deter rodents. Use only in your garage, house or basement areas.

**Using plant material as repellants** is a great natural way to deter rodents of many species. These plants are as follows; to repel with ground covers; Herb: oregano (hardy in WI)

***Adjuqa***, carpet bugle, cape weed, chamomile, Indian rock strawberry & creeping speedwell; these are sun to part shade ground covers. Rodents do not like to live in or be around these varieties.

Other plant varieties of spring blooming bulbs that give off repulsive scents are; ***Daffodils***, hyacinths & scillia.

The *allium* family is another that includes garlic & onions, so you can inter-plant these in small clumps throughout your gardens.

Another alternative would be *a must grow* is the peppermint plant. (Peppermint is not native, so *catmint* would be an acceptable substitute) Yes, plants in the mint family can be very vigorous (invasive), but if you give it enough room & plant those around your property these will act as a repellants, especially to mice. (SO PLANT THESE AROUND YOUR BULDS) \*One can also sink a large plastic container in-ground to keep them contained.

**Milorganite** is a processed sewage sludge that originates from Milwaukee. Sewage sludge's are residue of organic matter generated as a byproduct of wastewater treatment. After wastewater treatment, the water is removed and the waste is heated and dried, then made into small granules. The heating process kills viral and bacterial pathogens.

Milorganite keeps mice and some moles and voles by 65% from smelling those tasty tubers and bulbs when planting them yet these critters are hard to control in late winter when hunger strikes. Combine milorganite and repellent plants to help limit damage to your favorite spring flowers. It should be sprinkled every 2-3 weeks in the spring, summer and fall (when soils are not frozen or too cold) to be effective.

### Extra Tip for Deer

If deer are a nuisance Milorganite helps control deer damage by 70%. It is, however, not effective in winter.

## Bulb Planting Tips

Plant spring flowering bulbs in fall (Halloween /Thanksgiving) for a spring bloom. Plant bulbs in well-prepared soil; planting many bulbs together in beds at their required depth for a continuous spring show. Place bulbs right side up, cover with soil using flat end of rake and tamp soil firmly. There are also fall blooming bulbs that can be planted in spring, like cyclamens (species specific) these are planted using the same technique. When planting tulips (deer's' favorite) plant in the middle of a daffodil & crocus bed (these bulbs are bitter tasting & poisonous) which help stop deer and squirrels from eating them. RULE OF THUMB: dig a hole 3x's deeper than the height of the bulb.



## My Garden is Moving!

By Lawanda Jungwirth

My vegetable garden is a large rectangle running east-west along the northern boundary of our property. Over the years, the open field north of our fence has grown up into a wooded area. In mid-summer, even though the woods are north of the garden, it casts quite a bit of shade. The garden once got 14 hours of sunlight a day but now gets only 6 hours, not enough for good vegetable production.

After considering several plans for moving the garden to a sunnier spot, I decided to rotate it 90° so that the rectangle runs north-south. It will be exactly the same size, so it seemed at first a simple matter of lifting about 2/3 of the fence and changing the shape. Well, the fence doesn't come out so easy. I don't know why we thought we needed rebar posts with anchor plates to support a chicken wire fence.

While my husband struggled with moving the fence, I laid down large pieces of cardboard from every appliance we had ever bought over the grassy area which is to become garden. Over the cardboard I spread a thick layer of straw. The cardboard will kill the grass underneath and in spring the whole area will be tilled. Meanwhile, I am tossing items which would normally go in the

compost into the new garden so they can compost in place and improve the soil. After I rake in fall I will shred the leaves and spread them over the straw to add even more organic matter.

The part of the old garden which will become lawn next spring holds three raised beds. The boards holding the soil in place will be moved to the new area this fall, but some of the plants inside them will have to wait until spring. There is a yucca plant, the herb lovage, some pretty Asiatic lilies, strawberries and a small blueberry bush.

I will move the soil from the old raised beds to the new ones and with the soil will come seeds of flax and calendula which will germinate next spring. There are wood chips surrounding the raised beds, so those will be raked up and moved to the new pathways.

On the west edge of my current garden are peonies, raspberries and rhubarb. After the move, these three will be orphaned in the middle of the grass. The rhubarb can be moved in early spring just before it starts to grow. June-bearing raspberries are biennial plants, so the ones growing now will produce next year. The producing plants will stay where they are next summer, but any new plants will be moved to their new location as soon as they sprout up. After raspberry season, the old plants will be cut down and then that area can be planted in grass. Peonies should be transplanted in September so they will stay where they are until next fall.

Moving my garden is a year-long project but eight additional hours of sunlight will be the reward!

## Winter Escape – Summer Dreams Coming in February



February 27, 2010 is the date and LaSure's Banquet Hall in

Oshkosh the place for a daylong gardening seminar planned by the Education Committee. *Winter Escape ~ Summer Dreams* is now officially the name of this event. Congratulations to Lawanda Jungwirth for submitting the winning title. She will receive a \$25 gift certificate of her choice for coming up with *Winter Escape ~ Summer Dreams*. It seemed to best fit the spirit of the seminar, which will feature two presentations by nationally known garden expert, Melinda Myers, and a tour of English gardens by Education Committee Chair Roy Anne Moulton. Melinda Myers is the author of over 20 gardening books, a frequent speaker and the host of Great Lakes Gardener.

A brochure with full details on the day's events will be distributed in November, but be sure to mark the date now for this winter get-away. If you would like to sign-up to help with planning and for the event, please contact a sub-committee lead to find out what needs to be done. They are all listed in the member directory.

Publicity: Roy Anne Moulton or Linda Werner  
Registration: Diane Iott and Audrey Ruedinger  
Food, Door Prizes, Decorations: Linda Loker, Arlene and Bob Kosanke  
Book Sale: Linda Baeten and Marge Menacher

## MASTER GARDENER BUSINESS MEETING

October 13, 2009

COUGHLIN CENTER, 6:15 PM

A Special Program was presented to the Membership this evening. Steve Schueler, Carol Dorsch, (both Master Gardeners) and a member of Stuarts Staff who are all employed at Stuart's Landscaping and came to share with us their gardening expertise. The Business meeting followed.

### Members Present:

Jerry Robak, Linda Loker, Stanley Meyer, Linda Baeten, Jane Kuhn, Carole Dorsch, Linda Tobey, Roy Anne Moulton, Bette Hoytink, Kim Scharpf, Bob Potter, Marge Bolding, Joni Pagel, Cindy Meszaros, Lawanda Ju8ngwirth, Audrey Ruedinger, Synda Jones, Patty Schmitz, Ken Hawk, Linda Christensen Anne Murphy, Marge Menacher, Marty Sacksteder, Bob Kosanke, Arlene Kosanke, Alice Graf, Kathy Daniels, Steve Schueler, Nick Schneider, Janet Clark.

The Meeting was called to order by Co-President Kathy Daniels after the presentation.

A Thank you note was read from Wanda Kunde. She thanked us for sponsoring the Cut Flower event at the County Fair. Her arrangement did very well.

### Treasurer's Report – Alice Graf

The balance as of 09/30/09 is:

Cash On Hand	\$100.00
Checking	\$13,669.48
CD Renewal 2/22/10	\$ 5,072.34
Total all Accounts	\$18,841.82

A handout was available with the details.

## **Secretary's Report:**

There were no corrections to the September Minutes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**State Convention:** The Convention was attended by some of our members who felt it went well. Marge Menacher especially liked the events that took place the day before the convention, including the Goose Pond Wetlands tour with the Audubon Society. There was also a stop at Wollersheim Winery, and the International Crane Foundation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Nominations**

Nominations are being taken for President, Treasurer and Board Member at Large. At this point, Linda Loker, Audrey Ruedinger, Linda Tobey, and Ivan Placko are interested in being Board Members. We vote next month.

### **Awards Banquet**

The Awards Banquet date has been changed to November 30<sup>th</sup>. An invitation will be sent to the membership, and an article will be posted in the Newsletter.

### **Golden Trowel Awards**

Stanley Meyer reported the Golden Trowel Committee is accepting nominations for the Golden Trowel Award. Nominees must have been a Certified Master Gardener for 5 years and should exemplify what a Master Gardener is. If you know of someone deserving of this award please contact either, Audrey, Stan or Roy Anne.

### **Other New Business**

#### **Education:**

- Roy Anne asked if anyone took pictures at last spring's Pruning Class to please send copies to her. She is interested in before and after shots.
- A sign-up sheet was passed around for members who are interested in helping with the February 27<sup>th</sup> all-day Garden Program. Melinda Myers will be our guest speaker.

**Newsletter:** Linda Tobey reminded us to send in biographies for the Newsletter or the MG of the month will no longer be a feature of the newsletter. Nick will ask the new class members.

**MG Apparel:** Marty will be putting in an order soon. Please contact her if you are interested in MG T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.

**Next Month's Program:** Audrey announced there will be a presentation on bee keeping at the

November meeting. There will be honey and other products for sale.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING – November 3, 2009**  
**NEXT BUSINESS MEETING – November 10, 2009**

Meeting adjourned: 7:40 pm  
Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Baeten



## **Bee Stings – Beware!**

*By Lawanda Jungwirth*

My husband was recently stung by a bee. He had never had any kind of allergic reaction in the past so he didn't think much about it, but an hour and a half later his throat swelled up very suddenly and we ended up calling 911.

Did you know that you can develop an allergic reaction to bee or wasp stings at any time, even though you've never been allergic before? And that if you do have a reaction, the next time you get stung your reaction is likely to be faster and more severe?

Every time you get stung by a bee, even if you think you aren't allergic, please go and tell someone immediately so they can keep an eye on you. If you do not have anyone to tell, keep a phone nearby for a few hours until you are sure you are safe.

## **High Hopes for a Little Insect**

The tiny *C. scrobicollis* has a life cycle of 1 year and produces one batch of offspring per lifetime. It lays its eggs on garlic mustard's leaf stems in the fall. When the eggs hatch in the spring, the larvae feed on the weed's root crown, the area from which the rosette's leaves grow and where nutrients are stored.



By feeding on the root crown, *C. scrobicollis* stops the flow of nutrients and water from the roots to the rest of the plant. It also damages the meristem, the area of the plant where new growth takes place. As a result, garlic mustard produces fewer seeds or, in areas with high weevil populations, dies prematurely in early spring without producing any seeds.



*C. scrobicollis* also appears to be monophagous, meaning it eats just one thing: garlic mustard. That means scientists won't have to worry about any unintended consequences when using this insect as a biocontrol agent.

During preliminary testing, CABI scientists believed *C. scrobicollis* was the best candidate to control garlic mustard. Putting the weevil's feeding data through Davis's life-cycle model confirmed their beliefs and created a stronger case for the permit process.

"The model gave teeth to the permit application to release this weevil in the United States," says Davis. "It provided a peek into the future as to the impact the weevil could have on the garlic mustard population here."

*C. scrobicollis* is currently in quarantine at the University of Minnesota. If all goes well, this beneficial weevil may soon be roaming North America to find a nice garlic mustard meal.

—[Stephanie Yao](#), Agricultural Research Service Information Staff. Reprinted from USDA-ARS Agricultural Research Magazine Vol. 57(6):8-9 (July 2009)

## Attracting Pollinators

By Lawanda Jungwirth



One out of every three bites of food we eat is provided through the work of animal and insect pollinators. The mysterious colony collapse disorder among commercial honeybees, disease and loss of habitat have severely affected pollinators that sustain our food crops and quality of life.

Other insects besides bees act as important pollinators. These include butterflies, beetles, moths, wasps, flies and even mosquitoes. Hummingbirds are also significant pollinators.

It is important to encourage pollinators in our yards and ensure their health so they are able to continue their important work. To do this, we need to make our yards and gardens hospitable to pollinators and their larvae. They need food, shelter and water, just as we do.

Butterflies generally are attracted to bright flowering plants in full sun, protected from the wind.

Some good shrubs for butterflies are spicebush, eastern ninebark and aromatic sumac. Perennial flowers include milkweed, daisy fleabane, tickseed, joe-pye-weed, sunflowers, sneezeweed, blazing star, bee balm, phlox, coneflower, heath aster and wake robin. Wet muddy areas provide butterflies with moisture and minerals they need to stay healthy.

Bees, wasps, beetles and flies are not as exciting or as pretty as butterflies. Nevertheless, it is increasingly important to make them welcome in our yards as the commercial bee population continues its decline.

Good trees and shrubs to invite these pollinators are maple, service berry, pin cherry, black willow and linden. Helpful flowers are black cohosh, red columbine, yellow trout lily, gentian, alum root, cardinal flower, Virginia bluebells, foamflower and spiderwort. Herbs like mint, garlic, chives, oregano, parsley and lavender and annual flowers including zinnias, cosmos and single sunflowers also provide food for pollinators.

Plant flowers in groups for more efficient pollination. The pollinators learn where to find pollen in each type of flower and with several of the same species nearby they won't have to explore each new flower to try to locate it, in the process wasting valuable pollen as it falls off their bodies.

A little planning and attention to bloom season will provide your yard with beauty and food for insects from early spring to late fall. Plant a diversity of plants to provide food for different pollinators. Vary colors, fragrances and heights to attract different pollinator species.

To further encourage these insects, allow things to become a little messy – leaf litter, weeds and dead branches all provide shelter. Provide a pool, pond or even small containers of water for drinking. Sloping sides or stones for them to stand on will prevent them from drowning.

If you must use pesticides - which are extremely toxic to pollinators - use great caution, use as little as possible, and make sure you are using the proper pesticide for the problem you have.

There is a website you can visit to find more information on making your yard a haven for pollinators. Visit [www.pollinators.org](http://www.pollinators.org) and enter your ZIP code for specific plant recommendations.



## Rushford Town Hall at Season End

Monday May 18th at 6:30 p.m.—the prairie plants were ordered via Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery. The garden nursery shopping was completed by Diane Iott, Carole Dorsch and Audrey Ruedinger for the front shrub foundation plantings. The day had finally arrived for delivery and we all were eager to set the plants in place.

The entire front foundation planting was done by Ivan Placko, Linda Loker, Diane Iott, Joe Wichman, Ken Hawk, Terry Walotka, Carole and Audrey after Patsy Pomplun and Carole Dorsch removed all those nasty weeds on Sunday evening.

Oops! The native plants were not delivered until Tuesday a.m., so the gang returned on Tuesday evening to install all the prairie plants along the side of the building. All the plantings were well tended by Patsy Pomplun who lives near by and is an active member of the Town of Rushford.

To celebrate our wonderful hard working Master Gardener team, Carole and I thought it would be nice to meet at the Rushford Town Hall for a potluck on July 15th at 7:30. It would give everyone the opportunity to see how the project had come along, a nice social time and also an opportunity to discuss our involvement for 2010.

The town hall was built recently just out of Eureka on a corner parcel of farm land entirely void of vegetation.

Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery is donating \$10,000 in plants and labor. Zillges is donating equipment and labor to build a necessary berm before the retention pond can begin. The plan also includes two rain gardens and a huge prairie area surrounding the building on three sides. Per recent email from Jon Huser of Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery they have done a cover crop on the prairie and rain garden area this fall and will herbicide in the spring in order to better eliminate the noxious weed seed-back that still remains. The native seeding and plugging will follow.

I visited our project yesterday to view our shrubs and prairie plants; and yes indeed they are thriving. I noticed not one weed and Patsy has removed all the sunny annuals she planted in front.

I would say a few of the prairie plants are misplaced as many new plantings are. My favorite native grass prairie dropseed is slightly lost in some of the taller asters etc. We could relocate several of the prairie plants in spring.

Thank you, thank you team. We have had a wonderful team of eager enthusiastic Master Gardeners and it has been a pleasure working with such eager involved people. Again, Carole and I would like to acknowledge each of you and your contribution to the Rushford Town Hall Project: [Ken Hawk](#), [Linda Loker](#), [Ivan Placko](#), [Diane Iott](#), [Joe Wichman](#), [Terry Walotka](#) and [Susan Bohn](#).  
Co-chairs - Carole Dorsch & Audrey Ruedinger

## December Flower Arranging at Park View Health Center



We will be arranging artificial bouquets in gift bags on December 7th (a Monday) at 1:30 until about 3:30. All are welcome to join us we could use the assistance.

We bought many poinsettias and other Christmas type flowers to add to the gift bags last January. It'll be a beautiful centerpiece for the residents to take back to their rooms. There was music and we did a little singing as we made the bouquets last year and we anticipate the same this year. It's fun to watch the residents.

We hope you'll try to join us. If possible bring along a [wire cutter](#)...and a happy smile! These hours will count toward your 2010 volunteer hours.

Call Dorothy Bonnin-920-836-2868 or Pat Behm-410-3290 for more info! Let us know if you can make it!  
Thanks!

### **It's a Garden Party !!! Oshkosh Garden Club's Holiday Luncheon**

Tickets are still available for the Oshkosh Garden Club's Holiday Luncheon at the Oshkosh Country Club, 11 W. Ripple Road, on Saturday, Nov. 21. A gourmet lunch and entertainment (Glamorama Cabaret Musical Revue), raffle for themed baskets, and door prizes. 11:30 cocktails, lunch served at noon. All proceeds benefit OGC's scholarship fund and other community projects. \$20.00 per person. Tables of 8 and 10 may be reserved.  
**Contact Ann Gratton for tickets. 231-3015, [agratton@milwpc.com](mailto:agratton@milwpc.com)**

## SANCTIONED CORE PROJECTS

Community Education	
Marge Menacher	223-3467
Community Gardens	
Ruth Freye	734-5978
Education and Control of Invasive Species	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Farmers Market	
Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Lincoln School	
Karen Wedde	231-9696
Mary Haave	231-2542
Octagon House	
Jerry Robak	722-3311
Paine Gardens	
Bob Potter	233-3349
Park View Cutting Garden	
Bill Weber	231-2936
Park View Vegetable Garden	
Judy & Al Harms	688-5523
Park View Prairie Garden	
Ken Hawk	426-1691
Park View Flower Arranging	
Pat Behm	410-3290
Plant Health Advisors @ UWEX	
Barbara Kuhn	426-2920
Rushford Town hall	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Carol Dorsch	589-5936
Shared Harvest	
Ken Friedman	235-6766
Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity	
David Leonard	379-5860
Washington & Webster Schools	
Marge Menacher	223-3467

### OFFICERS / BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Wiedenmeier (PRES)	426-0991
Kathy Daniels (PRES)	233-0410
Steve Schueler (VP)	426-1363
Linda Baeten (SEC)	232-1224
Alice Graf (TRES)	203-8252

### BOARD MEMBERS

Susan Bohn	685-0427
Linda Werner	725-8168
Stanley Meyer	725-6486
Ken Hawk	426-1691
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Bob Potter	233-3349

## COMMITTEES

Education and Trips	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Event Planning	
Kathy Daniels	233-0410
Mary Wiedenmeier	426-0991
Historian	
Dawn Kent	410-8866
Membership	
Dawn Kent	410-8866
Newsletter	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Jean Reed	729-9012
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Jane Kuhn	231-3993
Refreshment Committee	
Linda Loker	426-1435
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
SOP & Bylaw Committee	
Stan Meyer	725-6486
Sunshine	
Liz Ginke	722-8140
Hours	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
<b>Bruce Abraham</b>	<b>231-3747</b>
Home & Garden Shows	
Joni Pagel	233-6619
Cindy Meszaros	233-3550
Website, Computer and Projector	
Jean Reed	729-9012

**November 3 - Board Meeting – 6:00PM**

**November 10 - Business Meeting  
6:15PM at the Coughlin Center**

**There will be no business meeting in December**

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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



**Winnebago County Master Gardeners Association**

**Awards Banquet**

Monday  
November 30, 2009  
6 pm Social (cash bar)  
7 pm Dinner  
7:45 pm Awards

Best Western  
Bridgewood Resort Hotel  
1000 Cameron Way  
Neenah



**Please wear your nametags!**

**Questions: Call Mary @ 426-0991**

**Please return by Wednesday, November 25, 2009**

Mail w/payment to: Mary Wiedenmeier, 1923 Northpoint St., Oshkosh, WI 54901

Make check out to: WCMGA (Winnebago County Master Gardeners Association)

Guests are welcome, please provide name and dinner selection.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dinner Choice**

For Me

- Fillet of Sirloin & Shrimp Scampi - \$ 21
- Wisconsin Stuffed Chicken - \$ 17  
(Stuffed with Cheese & Ham)
- Baked Salmon Fillets - \$ 17
- Vegetarian - \$ 15

For My Guest

- Fillet of Sirloin & Shrimp Scampi - \$ 21
- Wisconsin Stuffed Chicken - \$ 17  
(Stuffed with Cheese & Ham)
- Baked Salmon Fillets - \$ 17
- Vegetarian - \$ 15

All entrees include Vegetable Crudites, Caesar Salad with Homemade Caesar Dressing or House Salad with your Choice of Dressing. Chef's Choice of Potato or Rice, Chef's Choice of Vegetable, Home Baked Dinner Rolls, Coffee, Milk, Iced Tea and Holiday Dessert.

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



2009

**“In winter the garden sleeps so the gardener can dream again”**

unknown

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 <b>BOARD MEETING 6 PM</b> ADVANCED CLASS 6PM	4 BASIC CLASS 6PM	5	6	7
8	9	10 <b>BUSINESS MEETING &amp; ELECTION 6:15pm</b>  ADVANCED CLASS 6PM	11 BASIC CLASS 6PM	12	13	14
15	16	17 ADVANCED CLASS 6PM	18 BASIC CLASS 6PM	19	20	21 OGC luncheon
22	23	24 ADVANCED CLASS 6PM	25 BASIC CLASS 6PM  RETURN RESERVATION SLIP FOR AWARDS DINNER	26 <b>HAPPY</b>  <b>THANKSGIVING</b>	27	28
29	30 <b>AWARDS DINNER</b> 					

**This calendar is a perfect place to record your hours**