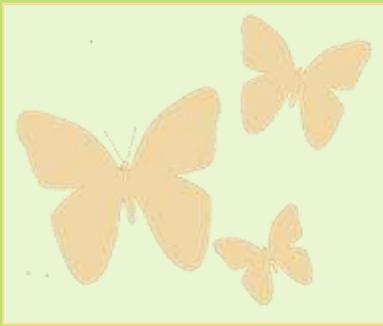


## Winnebago County



October 2015



Issue 11

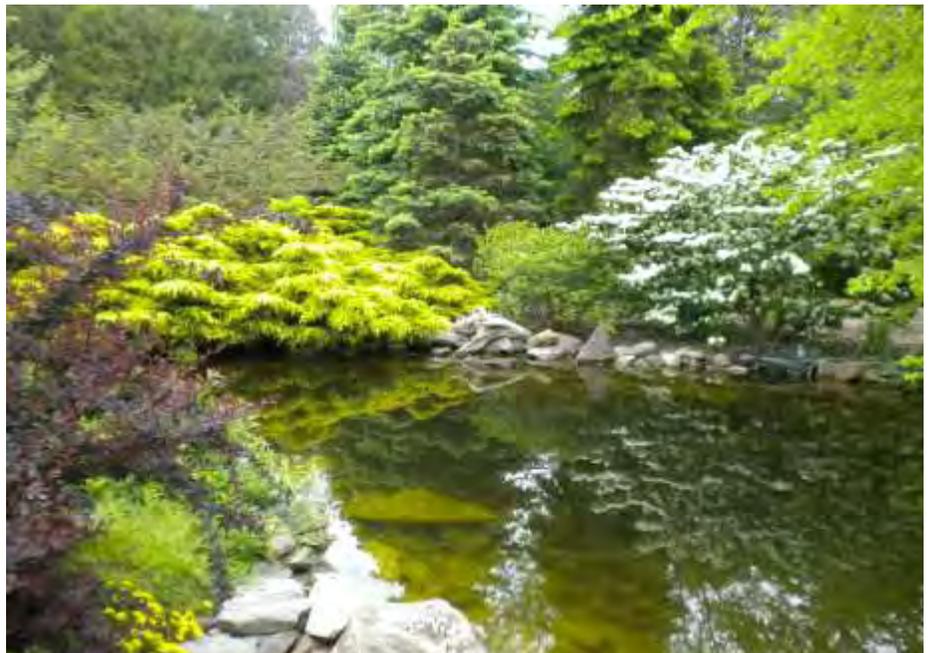


Photo: Northwind Perennial Farm, Burlington WI

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.

# WHAT'S GROWING ON?

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Board Meeting	October 6
Business Meeting	October 13
Parkview Cut Flowers	October 6, 13
Tree Pruning Workshop	October 14
Parkview Flower arranging	October 19 November 16
Board Meeting	November 3
Business Meeting -Elections	November 10

## What Am I?

My showy autumn foliage adds to the beauty of this multi-season delight. I am a dense, mounded, deciduous shrub which grows up to ten feet tall and wide and am noted for being one of the best summer-flowering shrubs for shade. In midsummer, masses of 8-12 inch white flower spikes with red anthers and pinkish filaments appear, poking up and out in all directions. When fall arrives my showy leaves turn yellow and light orange. I grow well in sun or shade in a moisture-retentive, slightly acidic soil in zones 4-8. My flowers give way to glossy, pear-shaped nuts (seeds), which are poisonous to humans. However these nuts are infrequently produced in cultivation in the northern parts of my growing range.

Since I am a slow grower, pruning is usually unnecessary. Commercial propagation is done with root cuttings. I am an excellent specimen plant or in a group or mass in shrub borders, woodland areas, shade gardens or as a screen. I attract butterflies and hummingbirds and have no serious insect or disease problems.

## SHARING YOUR TIME

By Kathy Gore

### Plant Advisors

*I work in the Paine gardens and we get so many questions from visitors about the kind of plants, trees and flowers that are in the gardens. I certainly don't have all the answers and could use a plant advisors input on how they answer questions that come to them. So I have asked Project Lead Ann Gratton to explain the role of Plant Health Advisor.*

*Kathy Gore*

#### PLANT HEALTH ADVISORS

*Ann Gratton*

Plant Health Advisors (PHA) play a vital role in our community as we assist people with questions via phone, email or walk-in about a wide range of gardening or environmental subjects. You will have the freedom to volunteer from the office at the Coughlin Center and/or from your home. You may also pair up to work with more experienced PHA members to "get the hang of things". We have found this very fun and educational to both interns and experienced members as we all have so much to learn from each other!

There are excellent on-line resources through the UW Extension services and a great supply of reference materials located in the Master Gardeners office to help all of us answer questions. Don't worry! You don't need to know everything to be a PHA. You just have to be willing to "dig" up some information!

A training/review session will be scheduled sometime in March or April at the Coughlin Center to discuss the procedures for the Plant Health Advisors for the 2016 growing season. There will also be a free one-day seminar "Responding to Horticulture Inquiries" (usually offered in May) that will cover insect, weed, and disease updates, as well as how to respond to horticultural questions. This training is a wonderful program for any Master Gardener.

I have been chairing the PHA since 2009 and I have really enjoyed learning and sharing horticultural knowledge with the community. The PHA chairmanship position will be open this fall as I have decided to cut back on some of my volunteer activities. If you are interested in joining or leading this project please contact Kimberly Miller.



# CUTS AND CLIPS

BY MARGE BOLDING

Source -Wisconsin Garden Journal

## October Tasks

### Houseplants, Perennials, and Annuals

**Week 1** - For poinsettia bract coloration, place in darkness for 15 hours (overnight) for eight weeks. Keep them at 55 degree F at night, and keep soil moist.

Seed perennials like oriental poppy, Iceland poppy, gas plant, primrose, scabiosa, phlox, pansy, and penstemon.

Plant spring-flowering bulbs. Save some bulbs for indoor forcing. Bulbs can be planted up to six weeks after first fall frost.

Fertilize existing bulb beds by top-dressing with a balanced fertilizer.

**Week 2** - Remove iris leaves to prevent overwintering of iris borer eggs. Cut leaves to 4-inch fans.

Store tuberose at 45 degree F, caladium at 60 degree F, and tuberous rooted begonias at 45 to 50 degree F.

**Week 2-4** - Plant spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, Asiatic and Oriental lilies, etc.

**Week 4** - After a killing frost, strip rose bush foliage and clean old leaves from bed. Shortly before ground freezes, give roses a deep watering. Spray bed with lime-sulfur if heavy black spot disease is a continual problem. Prune branches enough to prevent whipping around in the wind or to fit under rose cones.

Sow seeds of hardy annuals: cleome, pinks, candytuft, larkspur, bachelor buttons, and calendula.

### Vegetables and Herbs

**Week 1** - Prepare vegetable garden soil for early spring planting. Remove old stalks to prevent insect and disease problems next year. Spread manure, incorporate into soil, and mulch with straw.

Rejuvenate rhubarb by dividing into quarters and replanting.

Mulch Brussels sprouts to prolong harvest.

Water plants well for greater cold tolerance.

**Week 3** - Plant garlic in rich, well-drained soil 5 inches apart and 1 to 2 inches deep. Select larger cloves for large bulbs.

Break bulbs apart into individual cloves. The end of the clove that was broken from the bulb should be planted down. Cover with 4 to 6 inches of straw mulch.

Plant Jerusalem artichokes.

Clean and sharpen garden tools to be ready for spring.

### Lawns, Trees, and Shrubs

Rake, chop, and compost leaves.

Plant dormant deciduous trees and shrubs from now until ground freezes. A 2-inch layer of mulch reduces freezing and thawing that can damage roots.

**Week 3** - If fertilizing lawn once a year, apply fertilizer now; if fertilizing twice a year, apply in late October and late May; if fertilizing three times a year, apply in late October, late May, and early September.

Water evergreens and foundation plantings before ground freezes.

Protect woody ornamentals and fruit trees against mice. Be sure rodent guards (placed at the base of fruit trees) are undamaged and high enough to account for snowfall.

### Fruits and Berries

Harvest nuts as they mature and drop from trees. Store at 35 degrees F or freeze.

Rake and dispose of fallen fruit in orchard.

**Week 3 or 4** - Mulch strawberries and bramble fruits after the ground has frozen, but before the temperature dips below 15 degrees F. Apply 2 to 4 inches of marsh hay or straw mulch.

### Perennially autumn

Asters, along with mums, are perennial favorites in the autumn garden. Aster novi-belgii and its cultivars flower continuously in both sun and shade. Asters require the same care as mums; stake the taller species and divide them every two to three years. Golden solidago, or goldenrod, provides a lively contrast to the deep purple shades of the mums and asters. 'Fireworks' is a well-behaved clump-forming goldenrod recommended for the home garden.

Another fall perennial, Anemone tomentosa or wind flower, is an excellent plant to add extended color to the season. It has graceful flowers, attractive maple-like foliage, and a mounded habit; it thrives in sun or part shade.

A late-blooming treasure for full or part sun is the ornamental onion Allium thunbergii 'Ozawa'; its red-purple flowers appear in September and October and its attractive chive-like foliage turns bronzy-orange after a frost. For shadier areas, the toad lily (Tricyrtis) graces the garden from late summer to frost with its mottled, orchid-like blossoms.

'Autumn Joy' and other fall sedums (Brilliant, 'Matrona,' and 'Bertram Anderson') add clusters of color to the autumn landscape and are easily grown.

## IT'S A GARDENERS'S LIFE

BY VIRGINIA SLATTERY



### Biography of Jeanne Jacobs

I was born in Milwaukee. I attended St. Mary's Academy and was involved in a lot of sports. I graduated from U.W. Parkside with a degree in Business Administration. I worked at UPS for 21 years. Since 2005, I've worked for J.J.Keller in a supervisor position.

Both my mother and grandmother were gardeners. Mom always had a flower garden and I would often help my grandmother in her vegetable garden. When I was still living at home, my parents would rent a plot out in the country and we would plant a vegetable garden. I enjoyed the entire process of planting seeds, watching them grow, and harvesting the crop. Being able to harvest and eat what you grow was fulfilling.

I am from the 2013 Master Gardener class and have been involved with the Oshkosh Farmer's Market and the Oshkosh Area Humane Society.

I live in Oshkosh. I like to walk my two dogs, golf, and kayak. I have sun and shade gardens plus plant a small vegetable garden. I grow mostly tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers. I have two pear trees, a hazel nut tree, and a goji bush. One of the favorite things I enjoy growing are many types of herbs. Last year, I made two 4 by 2 garden boxes around my patio for my herbs. I was able to make a lot of basil and parsley balls for the freezer. I grind the leaves in a food processor with a little olive oil and place them in ice cube trays. Once they are frozen, I put them in freezer bags for use throughout the winter.

# Lawanda's Garden Path

By Lawanda Jungwirth

## Moving Brings Surprises and Challenges

After 24 years on a beautiful acre in the Town of Clayton in northern Winnebago County, my husband and I have moved. Just a half hour's distance by car and only ten miles as the crow flies, everything is very different.

Our new home sits on a ¼ acre of land. It is waterfront, so the property is narrow and deep. For the first time in my life, my home is not oriented on the north/south, east/west axis. The Fox River doesn't flow in a straight line, so the house is off-kilter to the sun. You wouldn't think an experienced gardener would be confounded by a simple 45-degree turn, but I am. Add to that the fact that I can't even guess where the sunlight will land in spring and early summer and I am totally unsure of which plants should go where.

A real shocker is that I am not familiar with the weeds that are thriving in my new yard. They aren't ones I've encountered before.

My favorite hiking place in Clayton was the Wiouwash Trail and over the years, I identified just about every plant I came across. I felt confident in my plant identification knowledge until the first day on my new hike, the Butte des Mort Conservation Club's Terrel's Island trail, and noticed three flowering plants that I had never seen before. Just a short geographic move and I don't recognize the vegetation!

In Clayton, I had a large vegetable garden, a pond, an herb garden, and apples, pears, asparagus, grapes, gooseberries, currants, rhubarb, raspberries, strawberries and more. Now I have one pear tree that appears to be on its last legs.

The soil on our new property is dark in color, but very hard with deep cracks, even after rain. A check of the Winnebago County Soil Survey told me that my new garden would be attempting to grow in "Poy silty clay loam." The surface area is hard muck, permeability is very slow, runoff is very slow, available water capacity is low, and tilth is poor. That doesn't sound promising at all!

With limited space for gardening, I will be removing a heavy layer of river rock from the northeast side of the house and installing a garden there. The weight of the rock makes the soil underneath even more compacted than the Poy silty clay loam already is.

The solution to improving the soil's many problems is a generous application of compost. Unfortunately, my compost bin didn't make the move with us, but I did set up a new one within days of moving in. It will be quite some time, though, before this new compost is ready. Perhaps in-ground composting will be faster.

The gardening part of the move has been a real confidence shaker, but I am looking forward to the challenges of gardening in a new spot and sharing my experiences with you from a different point of view.

## 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



## **Winnebago County Master Gardener Elections**

**Elections for President, Treasurer and two Board members** will be held at the November Business Meeting. Members of the nominating committee are Patty Schmitz, Linda Loker and Kathy Schultz. The nominating process and elections was discussed at the September Business meeting. Nominees will be introduced at October and November meetings. If interested in serving contact one of the nominating committee members.

### Good Reads

#### **“Old Time Gardens “** by Alice Morse Earle

This book was first published in 1901. This book describes plants and gardens of the colonial era and of the Victorian era along with plants of the new born twentieth century. This was one the most influential books of the twentieth century.

### **Answer to “WHAT AM I”**

By Jane Kuhn

I am Bottlebrush buckeye. Order: Sapindales. Family: Hippocastanaceae – horse-chestnut family. Genus: Aesculus L. – buckeye. Species: Aesculus paryiflora. Common name: bottlebrush buckeye. The species is native to southeastern United States where it was first noted by naturalist, explorer and plant collector William Bartram in the 1770’s. It has naturalized in scattered locations in northeastern United States. As a fine landscaping subject, it is widely appreciated in Europe and said to be too little used in the United States.

References: USDA Plants Database and associated links.



SHOW US YOUR BLOOMERS!!!

Photos from the members

Submitted by Jane Kuhn

## **Monarch Butterfly News from Parkview Gardens**

September 1: Eight Monarch caterpillars including the one in photo were observed on red milkweed in the garden. We watched them eating non-stop.



September 22: Dozens of Monarchs on various flowers in garden. Residents and Master Gardeners thoroughly enjoyed watching them.

September 23: Monarchs had left the gardens.

## WHO KNEW?????



By Mary Jo Maher

## What is the difference between the Monarch Butterfly and the Viceroy?

*Source:* networkofideas.wordpress.com



**Viceroy butterfly**  
(The mimic - palatable species)



**Monarch butterfly**  
(The model - distasteful species)

The Monarch butterfly and the Viceroy butterfly are nearly identical and often mistaken for each other. However, the Monarch is toxic due to its diet of milkweed, while the Viceroy is non-toxic. Because they are so similar, a predator often mistakes one for the other and avoids both since it assumes they are poisonous. In this case, the Viceroy is known as the “mimic”. While the Viceroy is not poisonous, it benefits from looking like the Monarch butterfly and is able to avoid predators. If a bird eats a Monarch first and discovers that it is poisonous, then it will avoid eating Monarchs and Viceroy in the future. However, if a bird preys on the non-poisonous Viceroy first, then it will continue going after the butterflies until it happens to prey on a Monarch. Thus, the population of Viceroy is actually higher than Monarchs.

### Why is this significant?

Like butterflies, some people are Monarchs while others are Viceroy.

1. From a *prey's* point of view, it is strategic to mimic someone more capable than yourself. If the Viceroy just allowed itself to be a victim, then it would not have survived.
2. From a *predator's* point of view, getting to know people is not black and white.
3. From a *biology* point of view, the Viceroy has produced more offspring's than Monarchs through this strategic form of mimicry.

## Buzzing Around

By Mary Jo Maher



Sometimes you just get lucky and explore a place that takes your breath away. That is how I felt the first time I visited Northwind Perennial Farm. It is located in Burlington WI at 7047 Hospital Rd.

I decided to visit there after hearing Roy Diblik speak at a conference. He was a great speaker and was so interesting I decided to take a road trip there. I was amazed at the wondrous ways he used grasses. Throughout these pictures you will see why Roy is a plant expert, grower and designer. He has over 35 years of knowledge on Midwest native perennials. His specialty is sustainable plants for all seasons that will reduce maintenance. He has designed gardens at Shedd Aquarium, Louis Sullivan Arch, Art Institute in Chicago, Mitchell Park Domes in Milwaukee, just to name a few!

There is a garden shop on the premises that is artistically designed. The garden shop extends to the barn, silo and chicken coup. I have gone there several times and each time the silo holds a beautiful new creation.

If you are lucky enough to go during the summer, as we were, you might arrive on the Flea Market weekend. You will see vendors with antiques and miscellaneous garden items.

Please take the time to explore the wonderful paths that offer many artistic designed gardens, which will make you feel you are in the middle of nature.

Other garden centers in the area:

Shady Acres – New Berlin

Monches Farm – Oconomowoc

Milleager's – Racine

Yerke Frog Alley Greenhouse-  
Mukwonago

The Flower Factory- Stoughton

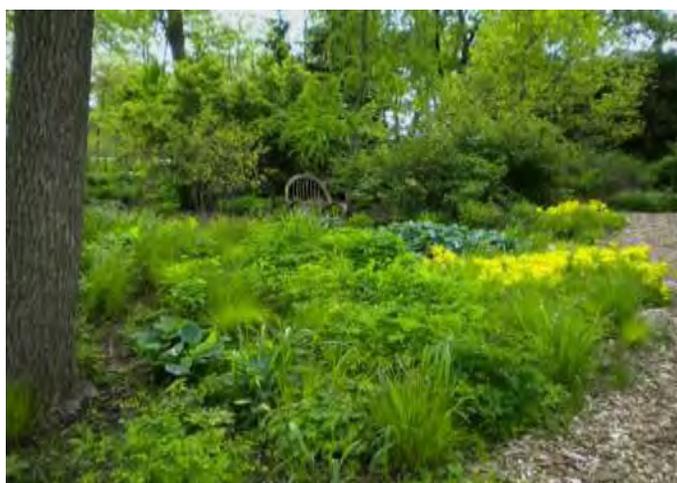


## ***NORTHWIND PERENNIAL FARM***





The above is a great stage area. I have been here while there was a play, yet another time, yoga, and another time massages. Picture on the right is in the silo.



This is a great path leading you around trees. Grasses are a constant part of the design. There is always a wonderful architectural structure somewhere on the path.



# Food for Thought

By Linda Loker

Submitted by Anne Murphy  
Source unknown

## Tomato/Zucchini Bake Dish

1-2 medium zucchini

Several tomatoes (used cherry, roma, beefsteak - whatever garden produced!)

Shredded mozzarella cheese

Basil (fresh or dried)

1# ground beef or turkey

1 onion

Seasoning

*Brown meat with or without onion. Slice zucchini in bottom of 9x13 pan. Slice tomatoes on top of zucchini. Slice onion on top of tomatoes. Add seasonings, basil, and flavor of liking. Put ground meat on top of onions. Sprinkle shredded cheese on top of everything. Put tinfoil on pan and throw in oven at 350 for 45 minutes or done to your liking. Yum!*

\*\*\*\*\*

Submitted by Jane Kuhn

Source unknown

## Oven Roasted Tomatoes

(Great to use garden bounty: tomatoes, herbs, onions, and peppers)

Tomatoes (various types and sizes)

Olive oil (enough to drizzle over tomatoes)

Herbs (fresh or dry) (basil, thyme, oregano) (quantity to taste)

Chopped garlic

Pepper

Optional: onion, sweet peppers

*Stem tomatoes and cut into pieces: cut cherry tomatoes into halves. Spread out on cookie sheet. If using onion and/or sweet pepper, chop and add to tomatoes. Pour olive oil into bowl and mix in herbs, garlic and pepper to taste. Drizzle over tomatoes and stir to coat. Bake in 400 degree F oven for 40-60 min. or until tomatoes are slightly browned and shriveled. Remove from oven and let cool. Can be stored in refrigerator for up to a week or can be frozen.*

*Uses: Over pasta with shredded fresh parmesan. In salads, quiche, salsas or on bruschetta. They add an intense, sweet tomato flavor.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Submitted by Linda Loker

Source unknown

This is a great recipe that my mother made every fall - it is fantastic on toast...and just served on crackers!

## Tomato Jam

3 Cups of peeled & cut tomatoes

3 Cups of Sugar

Mix well and cook for 5 minutes.

Add to tomato mixture the following:

1/4 Cup of Lemon Juice

3 TBSP of Lemon Rind

1/2 TSP Allspice

1/2 TSP Cinnamon

1/4 TSP Cloves

Cook for 10 minutes.

Add 1 small box of lemon Jell-O; stir well until all is dissolved.

**October 2015**

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

**November 2015**

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

## Winnebago County Master Gardener's Business Meeting

September 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

**Treasurer's Report:** The August treasurer's report was accepted as read. The June and July report was also available.

**Secretary's Report:** The board minutes for June and August are completed, but as of this date have not been posted to the website. Please check the website, as they will be posted in the near future. The business meeting minutes from the May Meeting are posted in the June newsletter.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Plant Exchange:* Donna Kudlas coordinated the plant exchange for tonight's meeting and members will be able to select plants after the meeting.
2. *Door Prize Quilt Show:* Val and Al Stabenow have donated two tickets to the Madison Quilt Expo and a special drawing was held. Kim Willman was the lucky winner.
3. *Nominating Committee:* Linda Loker, Patty Schmitz and Kathy Schultz are members of the nominating committee and are looking for members to consider running for the offices of President, Treasurer and three at large board positions that will be open in January. Please consider yourself or encourage a member you think would be interested in this type of service. Nominations will be announced at the October meeting and voting at the November meeting. You can contact any member of the committee.
4. *Projects:* Eric Kropp reported that there has been great work done this season, and encourages any pictures of projects be sent in. Project Pictures are used at the displays for Farmers' Market, Home and Garden Show and the Fair. Also, project reports will be due December 1 for the 2015 year. We are still experiencing problems with the fill in forms, so Eric suggests printing the filled in form before saving it. Applications and budgets will begin in January for the next season.
5. *Extension update:* Kimberly is teaching the new class this evening. Mary reported that the Extension office is now fully staffed. Two workshops are coming up – Invasive Plant and Earthworm ID September 15<sup>th</sup>, Tree Pruning workshop October 14<sup>th</sup>.
6. *Education Committee update:* This summer's trips to Chicago and Green Bay were successful and well received. A big thank you to Marge Menacher and Linda Loker for coordinating these events. Please note the December awards banquet will be on December 8<sup>th</sup> at LaSure's Hall in Oshkosh. This facility allows for ease of access and parking. WESD is February 6, 2016, and also at LaSure's. Three speakers have been secured for this event, Dr. Susan Mahr from UW, Megan Kane, topic of vegetables, and a representative from Flying Pig Garden Center. Silent Auction items: if you are collecting or making baskets, Diane Dougherty will begin accepting items after Christmas.
7. *Golden Trowel Award:* Ivan Placko will lead the Golden Trowel selection committee. Please contact Ivan or Stan Meyer with your ideas of what members exemplify outstanding, service, knowledge and community education for consideration for this award.
8. *MG Hours are due September 1:* Individual member hour's reports are due and should be sent to Patty Schmitz. WCMG needs to send this report to the State by October 1.
9. *Member Dues:* Dues for 2016 are due September 1 as well. Please find the form on our website and submit to Sue Egner or Linda Baeten. Please ensure your contact information is correct on the form you submit.
10. *Monarchs and Bumble Bees:* Mary reported that bumblebees are in trouble due to climate changes, which results in a compressed area that the bees seem to migrate. We may get a speaker to discuss bees for a meeting education topic.
11. *Chemicals and Gardeners:* Mary reminded gardeners to ensure proper labeling of containers, to read labels and take the necessary precautions when using any chemicals in the yard. It is up to us to ensure the safety of children, pets and ourselves when these substances are being used.
12. *Meeting Speakers:* Suggested future topics include the North central bee Association, Andrea Krueger, beekeeper, UW-O Bio-gester and the bi-product, a tour of the UW-O campus, which has been awarded a Green status, and rain barrels. If you have any other ideas, please contact Linda Petek.
13. *Other New Business:* Congratulations to the Octogon House team on a wonderful article in the Gannett newspapers.
14. Door Prize winners made their selections.

Up coming events:

September 15<sup>th</sup> Invasive Species and Earthworms workshop

October 6 Board Meeting at Coughlin Center

October 14: Tree Pruning Workshop

The next business meeting will be October 13, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Schultz, Secretary