



WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

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.

www.winnebagomastergardeners.org

1-920-232-1986

DECEMBER 2006

SANCTIONED CORE PROJECTS

Community Gardens	
Open	
Education & Eradication of Invasive Species	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Michael & Eileen Meeker	582-7309
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Farmers Market	
Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Paine Gardens	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
John Procknow	429-4797
Park View Cutting Garden	
Rob Robinson	231-1162
Park View Vegetable Garden	
Sue Steinhilber	235-1031
Al & Judy Harms	688-5523
Park View Flower Arranging	
Marlene Miller	231-4339
Plant Health Advisors @ UWEX	
Curt Reese	426-4992

OPEN / CLOSED SANCTIONED PROJECTS

Community Education	
Dorothy Kunz	233-8468
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Compost	
Stanley Meyer	725-6486
Lincoln School	
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Karen Wedde	235-7159
Park View Prairie	
Joel Eisch	231-0656
Refreshments	
Barbara Elmer	235-4381

COMMITTEES

Education	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745

Historian	
John Procknow	429-4797
Membership	
Chris Bellin	233-4968
Newsletter	
Linda Baeten	232-1224
Contributing Reporter	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Socials	
Lynne Goudreau	722-8233
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
SOP & Bylaw Committee	
Stan Meyer	725-6486
Sunshine	
Judy Harms	688-5523
Marlene Konsek	725-8856
Time Keeper	
Shelley Aaholm	731-8570
Trip Coordination by Education Committee &	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283

OFFICERS

President	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Vice President	
Susan Bohn	685-0427
Secretary	
POSITION OPEN!!!!	
Treasurer	
Marge Bolding	233-8668

MEETING NOTICE

**NO Monthly Business Meeting
in December, however, the Board will
meet December 12, 2006
at 6:00 pm
At the Coughlin Building
All members are welcome!**

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

Here we are in December. Can you believe it? Soon we will be talking about how great Christmas was and seeing the New Year in. This time next year we will be saying I can't believe it's almost Christmas, where did the time go. So, rather than look at what was or wonder about what will be; let's look at and be glad for what is now and who is there to share it with us. Tomorrow is an unknown and yesterday is a was; it is only Today that we can make what is. So, go out there and make it a great day for you and yours. Wow! How philosophical can one get?

I want to take this opportunity to welcome Susan Bohn to our group of officers. She will be a totally wonderful addition to our leadership group. A hearty welcome to Bob Potter, who is joining our Board to assume Sue Bohn's at large seat, as she is now sitting on the Board in the position of Vice President. We are very happy to have Audrey re-elected as a Board Member. Sadly, we are down one Board member now, as we have no Secretary, and Dorothy now sits on the Board as a past officer. Be that as it may, again I want to welcome new leadership members.

We are going to have a very exciting meeting in January. We decided last meeting to have a very short business portion of our meeting in January and concentrate on our Recipe Book. We want it ready for sale by the Home & Garden Show in March. To have it ready by then we must devote some time to it. We need help in all facets of the project and we are asking everyone to be involved. This is probably our big money raiser for the year and we need all the help we can get to make this a success. If you are unable to give us some of your time, please give us a recipe. We need more. Send them to Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz or to me, Linda Tobey.

Another thing for you all to know is, this year we are giving you the choice to belong to or not belong to the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association. Winnebago County, in the past, has always enrolled all of its members in the State Association. It has never been mandatory to join the State Association, however, so we are now giving you the choice. This year make your choice as you fill out the form. Another important thing when filling out your form is to remember many businesses and organizations ask for a copy of our membership role for their promotions. Make sure to sign the form and denote if you want your information shared or not. If you are a member of the state it will be shared with others if the state is asked for it unless you say no. If you don't want your info shared, mark no. To be on the safe side even if you opted out of the state membership mark and sign the sheet so the county must abide by your wishes too. We must have our dues into the state in the beginning of January so it is important for you to have your membership money and forms in to Marge Bolding by Dec. 27.

Well if we are going to have a Christmas party in a couple of weeks I better go to work on place cards for the tables. Just a reminder that the wait staff uses these cards to know what to serve where so to avoid the problems of last year please do not move the place cards. If you have seating preferences let me know by Dec. 1.

I would like to extend the best of all wishes to you and yours from my husband and myself in this Holiday Season. May the New Year be good to you and may peace live in your hearts.

Happy Holidays,
Linda



We offer our condolences

To Marlene Miller. Her husband, Bob has been ill for several years and on November 24TH, the good Lord took him home.

To Karen Wedde, whose mother, Dora, passed away. May she rest in peace.

November Meeting Attendance

Linda Tobey	Janet Priebe	Curt Reese	Pat Behm
Susan Bohn	Ken Hawk	Audrey Ruedinger	
Marge Bolding	Bob Potter	Ralph Giessen	
Marlene Miller	Stan Meyer	Gale Davey	
Jerry Robak	Katy Daniels	Amy Asenbrener	
Bob Potter	Judy Harms	Sandy Giessen	
Barbara Ann Elmer	Al Harms	Linda Baeten	

We thank all of these members for coming and lending their voices to the meeting. Remember this is your organization and you do have a vote in what happens. Please come and add your voice to ours next month.

1. **BOARD MEETING:** The Next Board meeting will be **December 12, 2006** at the Coughlin Center at 6:00. This meeting will set our goals and budget for 2007. Feel free to come and add your voice to our decision. You as a member are always welcome to sit in on any board meeting. Your views are always welcome.
2. **ELECTION RESULTS:** Susan Bohn was elected Vice President. Audrey Ruedinger was re-elected to her seat on the Board. Bob Potter was appointed to finish Sue Bohn's term as member at large.
3. **JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING:** Bob Potter will be co-chair for the meeting. The meeting will be short and we will work on the recipe book.
4. **FUND RAISERS:** If you have an idea of a good fund raiser for the group let us know.
5. **PARK VIEW COUNTY FAIR WINNERS:** VEGGIES- 3rd place for Green Peppers / FLOWERS- 2ND & 4TH PLACE ON Fresh Floral Arrangement, 1st , 2nd, & 3rd on Floral Bouquets, 3rd on Zinnias (dwarf), 2nd on gladiolus, 3rd on Medium Marigolds, finally 1st on Fancy Sunflowers. Each of the divisions has 4 places with awards.
6. **RECIPES:** If you have a recipe for the book please send them to Linda Tobey, 1800 Midway Rd. Menasha, WI., 54952 or linda@americanpresstech.com or to Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, 1155 W. Linwood Ave., Oshkosh, WI., 54901 or email to dorothy.kunz@sbcglobal.net (this is a new email address for Dorothy)



**Master Gardener Board Meeting
Coughlin Center
November 7th 6:00 pm**

No Minutes to report. Dorothy was working at the voting polls.



**Master Gardener General Business Meeting
Coughlin Center
6:15 P.M.**

Linda Tobey, president, called the meeting to order.

MEMORIAL COLLECTION

A card and envelope were passed around. Karen Wedde's mother (Dora Wedde) passed away and members wanted to express their condolences to Karen.

CO-CHAIR

Jerry Robak was introduced as co-chair for the meeting.

ELECTION

Sue Bohn was elected to the position of vice-president by a show of hands. The office of secretary is still open.

BOARD SEAT

Audrey Ruedinger was re-elected as a board member by a show of hands.

The meeting was handed over to Jerry Robak. A MOTION to accept Marge Bolding's treasurer's report was made and passed. Marge reported an ending balance of \$8,088.44 as of 10/31/06. A MOTION was made and passed to accept the secretary's report which is published in the newsletter with one correction. (Stan Meyer not Stan Miller). (Sorry, Stan.)

MG GOALS REPORT

Sue Bohn presented a WCMGA 2007 Goals report. Everyone present got a copy. We need to review our goals and add new ones if necessary.

COUNTY FAIR WINNER'S

Many 'County Fair' winners were announced. These were for Parkway resident's who won awards at the fair.

OLD BUSINESS

Menasha Nature's Way Project

Gail Davey is chair of this project. A MOTION was made and passed to accept the Menasha Nature's Way Project as a certified Master Gardener project. A committee is being formed to serve this project. This can be a fun project where MG's can put in as much effort as they want. Many ideas and possibilities about the project were discussed. A sign up sheet for the project was passed around.

PARKVIEW

Linda Baeten reported that the construction at the site was behind at least six weeks. We'll have to wait to see when moving beds can be done.

THANK YOU

Jerry Robak thanked everyone for coming to visit his garden last summer. Thank you Jerry for having us.

NEW BUSINESS

RECIPE BOOK

A sign up sheet was passed around for helping on the recipe book. Linda Tobey and Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz are co-chairs on this project. We're hoping to make this into a money making project if we have enough recipes. We hope to brainstorm ideas for the cookbook at the January business meeting. Members contributed ideas for items to put into the cook book.

OTHER FUND RAISER'S

Several suggestions were made such as New Trips, Possible MG Garden Walk, Bake Sale and Plant Sale at the Farmer's Market or at our seminars, and Flower of the Month card. Roy Anne Moulton discussed plans for a bus trip to Madison for the Garden Expo and suggested ideas for several other trips. The Education committee will meet on November 30 to discuss trips.

Co-Chair for January meeting and New Board Member Bob Potter will be the co-chair in January. No meeting in December as our Christmas Party will take its place. Our thanks to Bob Potter who has taken over Susan Bohn's board position.

Our Holiday Awards Dinner is Monday, December 4th. at the Garden View Restaurant. Please send in your reservations.

A MOTION was made and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz,
MG secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Holiday Dinner and Awards Party will take place on December 4th at the Garden View Restaurant. Please be aware that the seating at the Christmas Party is arranged with name tags so the wait staff knows where to serve what you ordered. If you move around, there may be mass confusion. The Social hour begins at 6:00 and dinner is scheduled for 7:00. Reservations had to be made in advance.

REPORTS

Our November Meeting Guest Speaker, Nick Thill gave a wonderful presentation on bee keeping. He is a small operator who had learned the business from his Great Aunt. He had large close-up photos of bees, bee keeping equipment, and best of all, honey to share. It was very informative, and many of us came home with a jar of honey. You may have

noticed Nick at the Oshkosh Farmer's Market this past summer. I hope he is there again next year!

Linda Baeten



“What Am I?”

By Bruce Abraham



I am a native, perennial Wisconsin plant of the Family **Ericaceae**; Genus **Gaultheria L.** My habitat is ranges from a variety of forests (beech, boreal, northern upland and lowland, southern lowland) to cliffs, sand dunes, and shrub carr. I can grow 4” – 8” tall and have a fairly woody stem. My leaves are dark green, shiny, 2” long and whorled at the end of the stem. I bloom from July through September with pink-tinged white flowers that are ¼” – ½” long. This is followed by a deep scarlet fruit that is edible that persist through the winter. My leaves and fruit have an oil whose active ingredient, methyl salicylate, is produced in a synthetic form and is widely used in chewing gum (anyone remember Clark’s Teaberry gum, for one example), breath fresheners, candy, toothpaste, and medicines. When crushed, my leaves and berries emit the aroma of this oil.

What Am I?



How to Grow African Violets

By Lawanda Jungwirth

Like all houseplants, African violets do best when temperature, moisture and light conditions are as close as possible to those under which the plants grow naturally. For African violets, this means a temperature between 70 and 80 degrees F, moist air and bright but not direct light.

African violets need fertile, porous, well-drained soil. If you are a self-mixer, mix one part coarse sand or perlite, two to three parts loamy soil and three parts organic matter such as peat moss or compost. The soil should be sterilized in your oven for 45 minutes at 160 – 180 degrees F. Any commercial potting mix will work as well; make sure the bag states that it is sterilized.

Soil moisture should be checked before potting or re-potting. It should pack together slightly when squeezed. African violets are often potted in wide, shallow containers. They should be repotted when you notice excessive loss of lower leaves or development of a long “neck.” If you have to water violets frequently, they are probably pot bound and should be repotted.

Pot the plant with the crown slightly above the soil line to keep it from rotting. Water immediately from above to ensure good contact between the roots and soil. African violets grow and bloom best if they are repotted about once a year.

African violets should be fertilized with a liquid commercial fertilizer once a month. Use about half the rate recommended for other indoor plants. Be very careful not to get any liquid fertilizer on the leaves as it will burn them. Failure to re-bloom is often attributed to less than adequate fertilizing.

Soil should be kept moderately moist at all times, but water only when the soil surface is dry to the touch. Water thoroughly with room temperature water, wetting the entire soil ball. Avoid overwatering! To water from above, carefully pour water onto the soil, avoiding splashing the leaves, until water runs out the drain holes. To water from below, set the container in an inch or more of water. Water will seep up through the soil. When the soil

surface becomes moist, remove the container from the water and let it drain.

African violets won't flower unless they get the right amount of light. This may take some experimentation. They do best in a well-lighted spot that doesn't get direct sunlight. A north or east window is ideal. If in a south or west window, make sure the plant is not in direct sunlight.

The best temperatures for African violets are 70-72 degrees F in the daytime and around 65 degrees F at night. Lower night temps produce malformed and discolored plants. Leaves curl under and become brittle when exposed to cold. In winter, make sure the plants do not get cold drafts from walls or windows.

Since African violets like fairly high humidities and our homes are notably dry in winter, it is a good idea to place the pots on shallow trays with an inch of fine gravel in the bottom. Keep water in the trays almost to the top of the gravel. The water evaporates and humidifies the surrounding air.

Information from Extension bulletin #A1483

Answer to What Am I?

Answer: I am an erect perennial shrub - **Gaultheria procumbens L.**; common name: Wintergreen, Eastern Teaberry, Checkerberry

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

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

**BROWN BAG, DECEMBER 15,
12:00 NOON @ UWEX OFFICE
TOPIC: RIPARIAN ZONE...
WHAT IS IT AND HOW TO
PROTECT IT.**

By Haack



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN THE AREA OF EDUCATION

A letter from Jason Kruse

As most of you know by now, I will be offering the "Basic Training" for Master Gardener Volunteers beginning in January. I see this series of classes as a terrific opportunity to welcome our new members and begin making the connections throughout the group where we all become more comfortable sharing information with each other. I have scheduled the class topics for the training session, and would like to give EVERYONE in the organization the chance to teach (or team teach) a class. I will have presentations available for most, if not all, of the class topics. All you would need to do is familiarize yourself with the presentation, modify it if you like, and present it to the class. You would be able to come into the office to use the MG computer/office while working on the presentation if you would like. I will be there to help throughout the process. Please take a look at the schedule of topics below and let me know if you would be interested in teaching one of the classes. ANYONE in our organization can teach one of these classes. There are no prerequisites. You just need to let me know you would like to give it a try!!

Date	Topic	Speaker
Jan 24	Plant Propagation	
Jan 31	Soils and Plant Nutrition	Jason Dettman-Kruse
Feb 7	IPM Weeds	
Feb 14	Natives/Invasives	
Feb 21	IPM Entomology	Phil Pellitteri
Feb 28	IPM Diseases	Brian Hudelson
Mar 7	Herbaceous Annuals/Perennials	
Mar 14	Vegetables	
Mar 21	Trees and Shrubs	Mike Maddox???
Mar 28	Turfgrass	Jason Dettman-Kruse
Apr 4	Fruit Crops	
Apr 11	Backyard Wildlife	
Apr 18	Tour (Ideas for a location???)	
Apr 25	Plant Diagnostics/Resources/Office	Jason Dettman-Kruse

Please take a look at the list and let me know if you would be interested in teaching one of the available classes. I am also looking for ideas for the tour, and someone who could help make those arrangements.

Thank you for all of your help

Regards,

Jason

APPOLOGIES AND THANK YOUS

I would like to apologize for the incorrect numbering on the November Calendar in the last Newsletter, but I'm sure you have figured that out by now! I would also like to thank:

- * Marge Boldiing for providing the Tasks lists that have been included in the Newsletter since September.
- * Lawanda for her faithful supply of interesting and well written articles.
- * Bruce Abraham for the "What Am I" articles.
- * All the others who have contributed to this newsletter.

Your input makes our Newsletter better! If anyone out there would like to give a report, send an article or have a suggestion, please contact me by e-mail or phone. THANK YOU!

Linda Baeten baeten@ntd.net 920-232-1224

DECEMBER TASKS

Houseplants, Perennials and Annuals

- Shovel heavy snowdrifts off low-lying perennial beds to prevent water logging during thaws. Don't shovel snow onto perennial beds. Disturbed snow is denser and can reduce oxygen to the soil.
- Early flowering tulips can be forced indoors after 13 weeks of cooling.

Week 1. Wash clay pots after soaking in 10% bleach solution.

Week 3. Check amaryllis to see if any are beginning to sprout; bring upstairs to bright area and water.

- Purchase holiday plants. Proper watering and lighting conditions are important. Keep them away from heat outlets.

Vegetables and Herbs

- Spread manure on next season's early pea and onion beds.
- Inspect stored vegetables. Anything showing signs of spoilage should be removed immediately and either used for discarded. Remove sprouts from stored potatoes and use up any sprouting onions.

Lawns, Trees and Shrubs

- Use a broom to bump heavy snow off evergreens. Tie up branches of upright arborvitae or juniper shrubs to prevent winter snow or ice damage.

Fruits and Berries

- Inspect fruit trees for damage after severe weather. Immediate repairs can save trees that might be irreparable if neglected until spring.
- After the ground freezes, mulch shallow-rooted dwarf fruit trees to prevent heaving roots during thaws.

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

1 cup sugar
2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese
1 can (16 ounces) pumpkin
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ginger
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
2 eggs
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup cool whip
walnuts chopped
graham cracker pie crust

Beat cream cheese and 3/4 cup sugar until well blended.

Beat in pumpkin and spices. Add eggs 1 at a time, beating well after each.

Pour into graham crust. Bake for 20-25 minutes at 350 degrees. Remove cake and raise oven temperature to 400 degrees. Mix sour cream, remaining 1/4 cup sugar and vanilla.

Spread over filling. Return to oven and bake for 8 minutes. Cool. Top with cool whip and nuts.

REMEMBER TO SEND
YOUR RECIPES
TO LINDA OR DOROTHY



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☞ GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Hours spent at the General Membership meetings count! Come and see how you can be involved.

☞ PARK VIEW CUTTING GARDEN

Contact Rob Robinson.

☞ PARK VIEW VEGETABLE GARDEN

The Vegetable Garden contact Susan Steinhilber 235-1031 or email steinsb@northnet.net

☞ COMMUNITY GARDENS

Discuss the 2007 Plan – Linda Tobey

☞ RESOURCE PERSON AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE

Contact Curt Reese at 426-4992.

☞ BE A GUEST SPEAKER

Contact Linda Toby.

☞ TRIP COORDINATOR

Contact Roy Anne Moulton of the Education Committee

☞ INVASIVE SPECIES ELIMINATION

Contact Lawanda Jungwirth.

☞ 2007 MASTER GARDENER TRAINING / TEACHING

Contact Jason Kruse

☞ MENASHA NATURE'S WAY PROJECT

Contact Gail Davey

☞ MG RECIPE BOOK

Contact Dorothy Kunz or Linda Tobey

DECEMBER 2006

(THIS CALENDAR CAN BE A HANDY WAY TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR HOURS)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 HOLIDAY DINNER AND AWARDS PARTY! GARDEN VIEW RESTAURANT 6:00 SOCIAL HOUR 7:00 DINNER FULL MOON ○	5 NO BOARD MTG IN DECEMBER	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 MG MEMBERSHIP MTG – 6:00 @ COUGHLIN CTR	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 NW MOON ●	21	22 WINTER BEGINS	23
24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27	28	29	30
31 HAPPY NEW YEAR!						

2007 Membership Renewal Form

NAME(s): _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

\$25.00 single membership without state membership

\$30.00 single membership

\$45.00 couple membership

amount enclosed: _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **WCMG**

If the State Office is approached by an outside entity asking for member's information it will be released unless you check no. Check appropriate blank, sign and return this slip when renewing your membership.

Do you want your personal information released? YES ___ NO ___

SIGNATURE: _____

Pay dues now even if you intend to take classes.

Dues are to be in by **December 27, 2006**

**MAIL TO: Marge Bolding
1138 Evans St.
Oshkosh, WI 54901**
