



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

JANUARY 2008

COMMITTEES

Education and Trips	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Event Planning	
Kathy Daniels	233-0410
Historian	
John Procknow	429-4797
Membership	
Chris Bellin	233-4968
Newsletter	
Linda Baeten	232-1224
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
SOP & Bylaw Committee	
Stan Meyer	725-6486
Sunshine	
Judy Harms	688-5523
Liz Ginke	722-8140
Time Keeper	
Shelley Aaholm	731-8570

OFFICERS

Co Presidents	
Mary Wiedenmeier	426-0991
Kathy Daniels	233-0410
Vice President	
Susan Bohn	685-0427
Secretary	
Linda Werner	725-8168
Treasurer	
Alice Graf	424-0252

SANCTIONED CORE PROJECTS

Community Education	
Vacant	
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
Paine Gardens	
Pat Behm	410-3290
Bob Potter	233-3349
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

BOARD MEMBERS

Linda Tobey	734-2264
Susan Bohn	685-0427
Linda Werner	725-8168
Marge Bolding	233-8668
Stanley Meyer	725-6486
Marline Miller	231-4339
Ken Hawk	426-1691
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Dorothy Gayhart-kunz	233-8468
Bob Potter	233-3349
Vacant position	

Business Meeting
January 8, 2008
6:15 PM

All members welcome to attend

MASTER GARDENER BOARD MEETING

December 18, 2007

Coughlin Center, 6 p.m.

Members present: Kathy Daniels, Linda Tobey, Bob Potter, Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, Audrey Ruedinger, Ken Hawk, Linda Werner, Mary Wiedenmeier, Roy Anne Moulton, Alice Graf, Sue Bohn, Curt Reese

The meeting was called to order by co-presidents Kathy Daniels and Mary Wiedenmeier.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: Alice Graf handed out a budget report showing a balance of \$5,314 as of November 30. Some of the Christmas party expenses are still out. Curt Reese will send Alice a format for the annual budget and she will prepare a 2008 budget for the next board meeting.

Christmas Party: A total of 65 people registered for dinner. It was a very nice event.

2008 Classes: Flyers on the 2008 class schedule have been mailed to all Winnebago County MGs. The Education Committee is now working on getting the information distributed to local media and other organizations whose members might be interested in attending. Articles have already been in *The Northwestern* and *The Post Crescent*. Roy Anne Moulton requested that someone sell cookbooks and worm casting at the Saturday morning classes and also provide information about joining Master Gardeners. Roy Anne asked any interested MG to contact her. Because the information about classes got out so late, walk-ins will be accepted at the January 12 class, although pre-registration is preferred. Individuals do not need to register for all of the classes and bus trips they are interested at once unless they are working to an environmental stewardship award. Registration will be an ongoing process.

Karen Wedde has contacted the Fond du Lac MG group and arranged for the Garden Expo bus to stop there as well as in Appleton and

Oshkosh. She said there seemed to be a lot of interest.

Membership: At least 36 members have paid their dues for 2008 so far. The deadline for dues is December 31, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Elections: Linda Tobey reported that she received an email from Barbara Kuhn withdrawing her name from nomination to the Board. Stan Meyer is the only remaining candidate. Chris Bellin is leaving the board creating one vacant seat.

Mary Wiedenmeier said she is trying to get a handle on individual board terms and will publish a list in the newsletter when she is finished. Roy Anne recently joined the board as the Education Committee Chairman. An amendment to the bylaws will be needed to officially add that position to the board composition. Stan will be contacted to arrange for that change.

Website: Roy Anne will contact Jean Reed about updating the website with the new class information. Sue Bohn has made a list of everything that needs to be updated on the website and will also send that to Jean. Board members were asked to think about other information that might be useful on the website and report back at the next meeting.

MG Advisor: Curt said that Chris Kneip informed him that an offer has been made for the advisor position. All of the individuals interviewed had more of a horticulture background than an agriculture specialty.

Membership: Roy Anne stressed the importance of capturing names of non-members who take MG classes or go on outings in order to increase membership. Alice is putting the information we have collected so far into a spreadsheet. Suggestions were made on what type of information should be included on the spreadsheet. Name, address, email address, phone number, how the name was obtained and the date it was entered were considered essential items to include.

The possibility of establishing both a membership committee and a publicity committee were raised to generate interest in the organization and its program offerings.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by,
Linda Werner
Secretary

BUSINESS MEETING MINTUES:

There was no Business Meeting for the General Membership in December

ADVANCED CLASSES FOR 2008

Please join us as we learn what we do, as gardeners, landscapers and citizens affects the environment around us. What part do we, as individuals, have in turning Lake Winnebago and the Fox River green? How can we greatly reduce our energy usage? Are alternate forms of power feasible? We know buckthorn and purple loosestrife choke out native plants, but can you positively identify them in the field? Why are butterflies good for the environment and how can we attract them? Why should we support sustainable agriculture and what are good ways to do so? Does environmentally friendly lawn-care really work? What is a "green" building?

Your education committee has put together a series of advanced classes on environmental stewardship to help answer these questions. An excellent line up of speakers from the University of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, Greenville Public Works, as well as experts from private businesses will raise our environmental consciousness and enlighten us.

As for previous advanced class series (Trees and Shrubs, Flowering Plants, Fruits and Vegetables), an Environmental Stewardship disc will be given to Winnebago County Master Gardeners who attend ALL the environmental classes (bus trips excluded). To be eligible for

the disc, classes must be paid in full by March 1. No refunds will be given.

You should have received a registration form in the mail, and just in case you are still pondering, listed below are this year's offerings:

Saturday, January 12, 2007

8 a.m. – Noon, Coughlin Center, 625 E. County Road Y, Oshkosh

“Watersheds, FoodSheds, and Natives: Regional Considerations Beyond USDA Zones.”

Dr. Michael Lizotte, UW-O professor of biology and ecology will discuss how our interactions with the natural environment impact land and water in the Lake Winnebago region.

Fee: \$15

Saturday, February 23, 2007

8 a.m. – Noon, Coughlin Center,

“Jewels in Your Garden” Anita Carpenter will present on the ecology and life history of Wisconsin butterflies and how to attract them to the home garden.

“Green Building Basics” Annette Weissbach of the DNR will talk about the factors that went into the design of LEED-Gold Certified DNR headquarters building in Green Bay.

Fee: \$15

Saturday, March 15, 2007

8 a.m. – Noon, Coughlin Center

“Environmentally Friendly Lawn Care”

Dean Schiller, Greenville Public Works Supervisor will discuss the town's new ordinance banning fertilizers containing phosphorous.

Dan & Kim Dieck, owners of By Organics Healthy Lawns for Healthy Living, Greenville, will explain how to have a healthy, attractive lawn without environmentally harmful chemicals.

Fee: \$15

Saturday, April 12, 2007

9 – 11:30 a.m., Oshkosh Correctional Institution, 1730 W. Snell Road

“Vermiculture” A presentation and tour on vermiculture, a type of composting that uses

earthworms to create a natural soil fertilizer known as worm castings. The Institution has had a successful program for many years.
Fee \$15

Additional Offerings:

Tuesday, January 12, 2007

6-7 p.m., Coughlin Center

“The Benefits of Buying Locally Produced Food” Joy Perry, a lecturer in biology, botany and ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley campus, is the guest speaker. Free

Saturday, February 9, 2007

Bus trip to the annual WPT Garden Expo in Madison - leaves 6:30 a.m. , Outagamie County Extension Office, 3365 W. Brewster, Appleton - Leaves 7:00 a.m. , Coughlin Center, Returns 7:00 p.m. (approximately)

A full day of informative workshops & seminars. For more information, go to:

www.wpt.org/gardenexpo

Fee \$36, includes ticket to expo

Saturday, May 3, 2007

Plant buying bus trip to southern Wisconsin - leaves 6:30 a.m. from the Coughlin Center, Oshkosh, Returns 6:00 p.m. (approximately) Stops at include Koepke's in Oregon, and Ebert's in Ixonia. Fee \$30—Bring a brown bag lunch

Watch for future announcements on:

1. **Invasive species ID field trip, April**
2. **Weekend bus trip to view Minneapolis public gardens, June**

For more information contact:

Audrey Ruedinger, (920) 231-5745 or aud@vbe.com

Make checks payable to: WCMGA

Mail to:

Alice Graf, Treasurer
1270 Locust Street
Oshkosh, WI 54902

FOND DU LAC MASTER GARDENER GENERAL TRAINING FOR 2008

You also have the opportunity to take classes with the Fond du Lac MG's. Many veteran MGs can attest to the quality of their programs. If you are interested, below is the link to their Master Gardener Page where the brochure for the 2008 training is located. Click on the link for more information and to get the registration form.

http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/fonddulac/hort/documents/MG_GeneralTraining08Brochure.pdf

They will meet on Tuesday evenings from January 22 to April 15th

What Am I?

By Bruce Abraham



I am a native, perennial Wisconsin plant of the Family **Papaveraceae**; Genus **Sanguinaria**. My habitats are cliff; savannah; and the following forests: northern upland and lowland, southern upland and lowland, beech and boreal. I grow from 3" – 6" tall. I have basal leaves which are 4" – 5" wide and long with 5 – 9 major lobes. The upper side of my leaf is light green while the underside is whitish-green. I flower briefly from March through July. My white flower is 1-1/2" – 3" in diameter with typically 8 petals, but can have upwards of 16 petals. The fruit that develops is a two-part capsule with pointed ends with seeds in each side. A blood red juice can be extracted from my root that was used by Native Americans as body paint and dye. My root or juice has also been used for a myriad of health conditions from sore throats to cancer by Native Americans, early settlers, and herbalists. However, I am toxic and any uses of my parts should be avoided or done with extreme caution and care. What Am I?

New Years Resolutions for Master Gardeners

By Lawanda Jungwirth

- 1. Resolve to keep ahead of the weeds in May and June so that you can relax about that task in July, August and September.*
- 2. Resolve not to get too stressed about weeds. A few weeds don't hurt anything and many provide food and cover for wildlife.*
- 3. Resolve to cut down or eliminate synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. Be kind to the earth and its creatures.*
- 4. Resolve to learn which plants are invasive and eliminate them from your property no matter how pretty they may be.*
- 5. Resolve to conserve water. This could take the form of drip irrigation, spot watering, a rain barrel, using kitchen waste water to irrigate plants, letting the lawn go dormant when rain is scarce, or catching the water that would go down the drain when waiting for it to warm up for your shower.*
- 6. Resolve to look first to native plants when buying new plants. Natives are adapted to local conditions and need less water and fertilizer.*
- 7. Resolve to plant something new, first learning about what conditions the plant prefers and making sure you can provide those conditions.*
- 8. Resolve to start or add a compost pile. Reduce, re-use, recycle!*
- 9. Resolve to volunteer more hours this year than last, both within the Master Gardener program and for other worthwhile causes.*

Answer to What Am I?

I am an erect, perennial forb/herb -

Sanguinaria canadensis L.; common name:
bloodroot

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



NEW MASTER GARDENER MANUALS

At the last business meeting, it was brought to our attention that a new, updated **MG HANDBOOK** has become available. The price of the book is at cost which is \$25.00, worth it to every Master Gardener. This book will give you updated information on many things. In fact, even the way the old book tells us to plant a tree has been found to be incorrect in the last few years. The

updated information alone makes it worth the price. Some of us have already requested the new book. Others will have a chance to sign up at the January Business Meeting, or contact Bob Kosanke to be put on a list. Bob will have samples at the meeting.

JANUARY TASKS

Houseplants, Perennials and Annuals

- Give houseplants a monthly shower with tepid water
- Start seeds for ageratum, begonia and petunias. Sow all seeds in a sterile seed-starting mix to avoid damping-off disease.
- Use discarded Christmas tree branches as mulch on perennial beds or as shelter for songbirds near bird feeders.
- Begin planning your garden. Consider cold hardiness when selecting plants.
- Make plant labels for perennial and annual flowers.
- **Week 4.** Start delphinium seeds now for late summer bloom.

Vegetables and Herbs

- Begin planning your garden. Rotate crop locations each year.
- Before ordering seeds, check last year's seeds for viability by placing a few seeds between moist paper towels for several days.
- Select disease and pest-resistant varieties and varieties suited to Wisconsin's shorter growing season. See "Recommended Vegetable Cultivars For Wisconsin," #A1653, at www.horticulture.wisc.edu/freshveg/index.htm.
- Don't use seeds with poor germination rates.
- Make plant labels for vegetables.

Lawns, Trees and Shrubs.

- Check trees and shrubs for wildlife damage. Fence with ¼ inch hardware cloth if needed.
- Scout oaks and ash for gypsy moth egg masses.
- Spread sand or kitty litter (non-clumping) to provide traction instead of ice-melting chemicals on icy walkways; salts can burn the lawn and other plantings.
- Remove excess snow from ornamentals by placing a broom or rake under the branch and bumping it lightly.
- Do not try to remove ice from ornamentals.

Fruits and Berries

- Check stored apples and discard any spoiled fruit.
- Prune apple, pear, quince and bramble fruit. This can also be done in February and March.
- Check rodent guards at base of fruit trees for damage and replace if necessary.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☞ GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

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

☞ PAINE GARDENS

Contact Pat Behm or Bob Potter

☞ PARK VIEW CUTTING GARDEN

Contact Rob Robinson.

☞ PARK VIEW-MG LIASON

VACANT!

☞ PARK VIEW VEGETABLE GARDEN

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

☞ COMMUNITY GARDENS - Menasha

Contact Ruth Freye

☞ COMMUNITY GARDENS – Oshkosh

Contact:

☞ PLANT HEALTH ADVISORS

Contact Curt Reese at 426-4992.

☞ BE A GUEST SPEAKER

Contact Linda Toby.

☞ TRIPS

Contact Roy Anne Moulton of the Education Committee

☞ INVASIVE SPECIES ED & CONTROL

Contact Lawanda Jungwirth.

☞ MENASHA NATURE'S WAY PROJECT

Contact Gale Davey

☞ LOOK FOR MORE PROJECTS TO COME!



JANUARY 2008

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
		1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 6:15 MG BUSINESS MTG NEW MOON ●	9	10	11	12 8-12 Class @ Coughlin Ctr: "Watersheds, Foodsheds and Natives"
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 FDL basic training: "Intro to MG Program – Vegetable Crops FULL MOON ○	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 FDL basic training: Intro to Turf Management	30	31		

2008 Winnebago County Master Gardener Renewal Form

NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

\$30.00 single membership

\$55.00 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 the NO box below. Check appropriate blank, sign and return this slip when renewing your membership.

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

SIGNATURE: _____

MAIL TO: Chris Bellin
2415 Hamilton St.
Oshkosh, WI 54901