



Waupaca County

Master Gardener Volunteers' Newsletter

Master Gardener Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the Month.

In the event that a meeting or event is canceled due to weather, please listen to WJMQ 92.3 and WDUX 92.7 for cancellation information. We will also attempt to notify members via email.

Unless otherwise stated, meetings and programs will be held in the lower level of the Waupaca County Courthouse.

**December 8, 2016
Christmas Party 6:30 - 8:30**

2016 Executive Board Members

President: Rebecca Weber-Schmoll
Vice-President: Sally Marchel/Handrich
Secretary: Deana Hirte
Treasurer: Bridget Kurth
Member at Large: Patty Tomczak-Virnig
Member at Large: Kathleen Daley
Past President: Susan Morack
State Board Rep: Pat Ritchie
UWEX Advisor: Greg Blonde

From Greg Blonde: MGV members please contact my secretary or me at 715-258-6230 extension 2 with any changes regarding contact information. For example send a change in name, email, mailing address, or phone number.
greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu

**December 8, 2016
Christmas Party 6:30 - 8:30**

Want to hear live music? Perhaps join in a gift exchange? How about enjoy a pot luck dinner? If you answered yes to any of these questions then grab your Christmas spirit, put on your holiday sweater, and join in the fun at the Master Gardener's Christmas Party.

January 12, 2017 Meeting
Marilyn Herman "Birthday Blooms: Special Flowers for Special People"

Secretaries Report

I. Call to order

The regular meeting of the UW-Extension Waupaca County Master Gardener Association was called to order by Rebecca Weber-Schmoll at 7:45 pm at the Waupaca County Courthouse. This meeting followed the program on Invasive Species by Steve Petznick. Seventeen members and two guests were in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes

A correction to the Oct minutes was given by Pat regarding the spelling of Carol Dahl's name. Ila motioned to accept corrected minutes and Jean seconded the approval of the October meeting minutes.

III. Treasurer's Report: Bridget

Bridget Kurth gave the treasurer's report. Kathleen motioned and Bridget seconded to accept the treasurer's report.

IV. Committee Reports: Sally and Connie

Membership: The membership committee shared that we still need a chairperson(s) for the 2017 Spring Plant Sale scheduled for May 20.

The membership committee reported on the 2016 Thanks! Giving Gardener award. *"With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it is time for our annual Thanks! Giving Gardener award. The membership committee wants to say thank you to an individual who was nominated by her fellow MGers. With her quiet demeanor and dry, witty sense of humor, she has been there whenever she was needed. She has chaired the Plant sale, worked with the children's garden, opened her home and fabulous gardens to our meetings AND garden walk— AND has worked on many, many more4 projects and committees. She has brought level-headed guidance to her 2 years as secretary, 2 years as treasurer AND now soon to be 2 years as president! TGG Rebecca Weber Schmoll!! WE appreciate your 16 years of humor, hard work and dedication...and look forward to more great President's Letters and very well run meetings!:-)"*

Program/Publicity: Sally reported the 2017 programs have all been booked other than July and August. At the meeting Barb volunteered her cottage for July meeting and Bridget volunteered her home for the August meeting.

Nominations and elections: Connie read the nominations as followed: President-Rebecca Weber Schmoll, VP-Sally Marchel Handrich, Secretary-Deana Hirte, Treasurer-Bridget Kurth, Board member at large-Susan Young. Pat moved and Ila seconded that nominees be accepted and elected to their respective positions. Motion carried.

V. State Representative Report: Pat

Pat reported she attended the state board and district meetings. Strategic planning was discussed with advisement of getting more information out to the membership. Nine counties are represented. Related websites: www.WIMGA.org and <http://wimastergardener.org/>

VI. Old Business:

S.O.P.: Kate presented the SOP's, sent out as of 11/6/16. An updated version will be sent to officers and will be printed for the January meeting for member binders. The

original SOP committee consisted of Bill, Pat and Kate.

By-laws: Bill asked if there were any questions or clarifications needed on the updated by-laws as they were presented at the last meeting or through the mail. There were none. A vote to ratify the bylaws was taken by hand vote with all in favor ratifying the by-laws as presented.

The next Executive Board Meeting will be held on the first Monday in December at Roylton Church at 6:30 pm. The budget will be considered and all money requests must be turned in by then.

Home Show: The show will be held March 4 & 5. A brief discussion was held. Pat moved we go forward with having a booth at the show and Patty seconded. Motion passed. Sue volunteered to chair this event. Patty, Barb, Pat, and Deana volunteered to help. Sue suggested "Garden Tool Care and Sharpening" be the theme for the booth.

Scholarship for new members/trainees. Our next MG training will be held this Feb thru May. Current cost is \$75.00 per participant. A motion was made by Connie and seconded by Ila to allocate up to \$900 annually to cover training with the stipulation that all criteria has been met before funds are disbursed to scholarship recipients. The executive board will make the final decisions. A motion for need-based scholarships was also entertained but not moved on.

Garden Walk: June 24th. Advertising has been sent to two advertisers. One garden is already lined up for this walk. A committee will be formed in January to continue garden walk planning.

Christmas Party: Patty shared the party will be held from 6:30-8:30 pm on Dec 8th. Please bring a dish to pass and wear Christmas/holiday attire. There will be a \$10-\$15 gift exchange and live entertainment. Guests are welcome.

VII. New Business:

Magazine article: Sally's garden was featured in the Wisconsin Gardening magazine. The story, written by Rob Zimmer, was a tribute to her mother. It features plants that her mother grew and tended to.

Money received: Patty received \$250 state MG grant to purchase a camera to continue our MG historian work.

VIII. Adjournment:

Rebecca Weber-Schmoll asked for a motion to adjourn. Jean motioned, Patty seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:34pm

Minutes submitted by: Deana Hirte

Home Show in March 2017

We have signed up to be part of this event on March 4 and March 5.

Items that we will need:

Garden tools to be sharpened
Horticulture books for reference
Table covers and/or table skirts
Tables(one 4' and one 6')
Adaptive Tools display
County Fair 2016 display
Pruning display

Do you know how to sharpen and store tools? Or do you know of someone who is well-versed in tool care? We plan to do a display with this information and maybe a demonstration as well.

A sign up sheet can be found on the attendance table during the meeting in December. Thank you for your consideration.

December 2016 President Letter

So, I sit down to write this letter to beat the deadline that Tom has given me. Inspiration has not hit me. Maybe that is due to the chaos that surrounds me right now. The Christmas tree is up with the lights hung, but not decorated. Several boxes of Christmas decorations are sitting in the living room. Furniture has been moved around. I have several soap projects going right now. When I glance out the front window, I can see all the pumpkins, gourds, and broom corn that I have used to decorate the front of the house. In other words, I have too many projects going on right now and feeling the beginning of holiday stress. Can anyone relate to this?

How do you cope with the stress that we all too often put on our self? Well, most of the year I can spend a little time outside with my flowers and garden. I find nature to be calming,

and research backs this belief. Now a walk or a hike at Mosquito Hill will help me deal with stress.

Another way to deal with the holiday stress this month is to join together for our December Master Gardeners' Christmas party. After a very brief business meeting, we will join together for our potluck meal and visiting. Patty has hinted that we will have entertainment for our party. There is also a gift exchange (optional) to enjoy. I have a new ugly Christmas sweater bought at super clearance to wear for our party. I am smiling just thinking about our evening together.

I need to thank the membership for awarding me the Thanks Giving Gardener Award. I was totally surprised by this. In fact I had not even once thought about this annual award. I guess the mild November weather had me thinking it was still September so I was not thinking November at all. I should have been suspicious when Membership did not ask me for suggestions on who should receive this award. What a pleasant surprise. Thank you so much. Those chamber bucks are now burning a hole in my purse.

So, this Thanksgiving meal I baked two pumpkin pies from total scratch, even using lard for the pastry. I used honey in the pie filling. But I did not use pumpkin for the pumpkin pie. I used an heirloom squash called Marina di Chioggia. I had bought the seeds from Seed Savers, and the seeds produced a bountiful harvest. This is a beautiful heirloom winter squash from Italy. It is a large grey-green bumpy turban that must have weighed ten pounds. It was not until people had tasted the pie that I confessed to using squash and not pumpkin at all. Pumpkin is just a generic term for a winter squash. I understand that all pumpkins are squash, but not all squash are pumpkins. Whatever, it was a darn good pie, especially with the real whipped cream topping.

Until those Thanksgiving leftovers are just a memory.....*Rebecca.*

December Birthdays:

12/3 Peggy Kramer
12/26 Laurie Sloma



MG General Training Program Updated News Release

Are you thinking about a unique gift idea for the gardener in your family? Why not give a gift that continues long after the holidays? A limited number of seats are available for the UW-Extension Master Gardener training program according to Greg Blonde, Waupaca County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent. The training program runs twelve consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning February 7th, 2017 at the courthouse in Waupaca.

According to Blonde, "Master Gardener volunteers are local residents with an interest in gardening or landscaping who participate in the UW-Extension training program covering a broad range of horticulture topics from fruits, flowers, vegetables, lawn care and landscaping to annuals and perennials, insect, weed and disease management, and even backyard wild life. In addition to the training, Master Gardener's agree to provide volunteer support to the local UW-Extension Master Gardener association. Fortunately, Waupaca County has a very active local UW-Extension Master Gardener Association with many volunteers who provided several thousand hours of time to locally approved projects, including organization and support for children's gardens, growing produce for local food pantries, hosting their annual spring plant sale, helping with plant science exhibits at the county fair, or giving presentations to community groups on a topic of personal interest or expertise."

To become a local UW-Extension Master Gardener volunteer, participants complete 36 hours of instruction (including group classes, as well as one-line lessons from home), pass a take-home written exam, and then contribute at least twenty-four hours of volunteer service each year in support of the groups various community projects. Master Gardener volunteers also complete at least ten hours of continuing education each year, often included with the groups monthly local meetings (held the second Thursday of each month).

Registration for the training program is \$75.00 per person, and includes a training manual. Class size is limited, so registration

will be accepted first-come, first-serve. The brochure and registration form are available at the Waupaca County UW-Extension Office at the courthouse in Waupaca, or on-line at <http://waupaca.uwex.edu>. The registration deadline is Monday, January 9th. For more information or to accommodate a disability to participate in this program, contact the Waupaca County Extension Office at (715) 258-6230 or use TTY 800-947-3529 for the hearing impaired.

