

VOL 18 NO 1



Sprinklings

ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
<http://scvmga.weebly.com>

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

President's Message

Happy New Year to all. Now that it is 2015 and I am officially President of the Saint Croix Valley Master Gardeners Association, I feel both hope and anxiety. It is a feeling I experienced once before, a number of years ago, when I assumed leadership for a wonderful professional organization that I highly valued. I committed to my colleagues then that I would do all that I could to keep the organization as strong and vital as it was when I began my service. Today, I make the same commitment to every member of our Association.



Barb Peterson

Our Association is an amazing organization. It provides each of us with opportunities to form friendships with others who share our passion for the land and its productive use. The educational experiences, based on research, that are available to us, help us expand our knowledge of horticulture and its practical application. The collective raising of funds through our annual plant sale and the resulting grants to community groups enables us each to have a much greater impact than we could do individually. The community gardens that we organize, make available to those who don't have the right space for a garden, and that we tend ourselves, make it possible for members of our communities to benefit from freshly grown vegetables, fruits and flowers. Thank you to all of you who worked so hard to build this organization.

Keeping our Association strong and vital throughout the coming year requires the efforts of every member. I look forward to working with each of you, getting to know you better and hearing your ideas and suggestions. Happy gardening!

P.S. Carolyn Barrette has organized a wonderful program for our January Open House; Debbie Lonnee is a great speaker. See you January 22.

New Year • New Members • New Gardens

Open House Kickoff set for Jan. 22

by Carolyn Barrette

Our Open House Kickoff will be held at the United Methodist Church in Hudson (see box for link to map).

We will welcome new Master Gardener Volunteers and returning members, as well as a speaker to excite our winter-worn senses and get us ready for the growing season.

Debbie Lonnee is a well-known local horticultural speaker who spent 20 years as a production coordinator at Bailey Nurseries, working primarily with the perennial and bedding plant crops,

as well as roses and woody plants. She currently is manager of the Planning and Administration department and is actively involved in new plant introductions. She is an avid gardener and has a collector's garden full of hostas, daylilies and perennials, as well as many new annuals. Lonnee is a member of the Perennial Plant Association, the Ohio Florists Association, and past president of the Board of Directors of the MN Nursery & Landscape Association. Garden writing is her second job; she is the horticultural editor for *Northern Gardener* magazine, and writes the 'Plant to Pick' article for each edition. She holds a B.S. in Horticulture from the University of Minnesota.

The meeting starts with pizza at 6 p.m. and a chance for new and returning MGVs to chat, catch up and get to know one another. Posters and pictures of the many MGV activities held during the year will be available to provide a chance to volunteer and sign up for the coming year's events and projects.

NOTE: A program of events for 2015 is attached to the end of this newsletter.

**OPEN HOUSE
KICKOFF**
6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22
 United Methodist Church
 1401 Laurel Ave.
 Hudson
[Click here for map](#)



Membership News

by Deb Pederstuen

NEW MEMBERS

Nineteen students will graduate from the Fall 2014 MGCV Level 1 training class in Ellsworth. They may register at the January meeting or on the SCVMGA [website](#).

INVITATION to JANUARY KICKOFF

Graduates (interns) of the 2014 MG Training Class are invited to join SCVMGA members at our January Open House Kickoff meeting. Interns are encouraged to register between 5:30 and 6 p.m. before the pizza party! Annual dues are \$10 for Fall 2014 interns. This meeting is at Hudson's United Methodist Church for its larger facility and parking area. *Please note: In case of bad weather, check our website. Typically, our meeting is canceled if schools are closed.*

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Memberships can be renewed at the January meeting. Remember to include the LATE RENEWAL fee of \$10 as stated in the schedule below. We are a growing association with 202 members at the end of 2014.

Annual Dues after Dec. 31, 2014:

Graduate of Fall 2014 MGCV Class-\$10
Individual member-\$25
Family (all must qualify)-\$30

NEED RIVER FALLS FARMERS MARKET COORDINATOR

If you'd like to see MGCV presence continue at the market through the growing season, please contact one of your Pierce County Representatives, [Kathye Beebe](#) or [Pat Tremaine](#). I'm sure Rick or Kari Hussey, 2014 Coordinators, will gladly offer their assistance too.

FLOWER GARDEN DESIGN

Four openings are still available in JoAnn Ryan's 2015 Garden Group classes where you learn basic flower garden design principles. You also receive lists of perennials recommended for different growing conditions. There are only three classes - May, June, and July. If interested, contact [JoAnn](#).

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the November annual meeting, the association elected five members to the Board of Directors (BOD):

President - Barb Peterson
Vice President - Trent Kowalchyk
Treasurer - Jackie Daharsh
Pierce Co. Rep. - Pat Tremaine
St. Croix Co. Rep. - Barb Kolbe

Barb Peterson was new to the BOD last year as Vice President, just long enough to get her hands dirty. Now we're excited she's ready to dig in as President.

We welcome our newest BOD member, Trent Kowalchyk, who's demonstrated his leadership skills many times the past seven years. He's taught students how to plant the New Richmond Community Garden and he's taught us about Genetically Modified Organisms (2012) and Wildlife Food Plots (2014) at our monthly meetings. Trent is a fantastic teacher and he'll make a great VP.

We appreciate all the time and dedication our members give to our organization while serving on the BOD. Members serve a two-year term when elected, with the option to serve another two-year consecutive term. We're fortunate this year that three incumbents, Jackie, Pat, and Barb, will serve a second two-year term. A big salute to Duke O'Brien for serving as President the past two years (2012-2014).

Open House Kickoff ✓ Checklist ✓

○ Order name badges

January's meeting is the perfect time to order or

update your Wisconsin MGCV name badge. Only certified members are



eligible. The official state WI MG Program name badge has been redesigned and now comes with a magnetic clasp. Badges are \$9 and checks must be made payable to "UW-Horticulture." Group orders through Associations or County UW-Extension offices are preferred rather than individual orders. If you can't attend the meeting, and would like to order a badge, please email [Marilyn Gorham](#). Recent grads (2014 Interns) will need to contact [Diana Alfuth](#) to order their name badges.

○ Pick up, order apparel

If you've ordered SCVMGA apparel and haven't picked it up yet, you can do so at the January meeting. If you're unable to attend, please



make arrangements for someone to pick it up for you. Apparel orders and purchases will be available on site, as well. Please email [Kathye Beebe](#) if you have any questions.

○ Sign up to volunteer

There are many ways to accumulate volunteer hours. Committee coordinators will be on hand to answer all your questions.

○ Greet new members

Come early to welcome our newest members and catch up on the latest with old friends.

The complete list of 2015 Board of Directors and Committee Coordinators is posted on our [SCVMGA website](#).

Karalyn's Kitchen

by Karalyn Littlefield

Are you looking for a new recipe to use up the squash from your abundant harvest in the fall? I developed this recipe based on squash and available ingredients. Roasting the vegetables and fruit gives an additional dimension to the soup, but it also takes time. If you decide to skip the roasting, peel and chop all of the ingredients and cook in broth until soft before continuing with the puree step. And remember my number one rule of thumb while cooking: recipes are only guidelines.

Ingredients

1 or 2 squash (3-5 lbs)
 3-5 cloves of garlic
 1 large onion
 2 large carrots
 2 apples or pears
 5-6 cups of chicken or vegetable stock
 1 can coconut milk (not coconut cream)
 2 tsp dried thyme or 2 sprigs fresh
 1 tbsp minced fresh ginger or 1 tsp dried
 Olive oil
 Salt
 Ground black pepper
 Balsamic vinegar (optional)
 Chives or green onion tops (optional)



Split and seed the squash. If it is an easily peeled variety, peel and cut into 1-2 inch cubes. Otherwise, roast halves and scoop out flesh. Peel garlic cloves. Peel onion and cut into quarters. Peel carrots and cut into 1-2 inch cubes. Half apples or pears and remove cores. Place all prepared ingredients on a baking sheet, toss with olive oil, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast in preheated oven at 425°F until soft. Remove ingredients as they soften. Apples/pears will take 10-15 minutes and squash up to an hour. Place ingredients in a bowl to cool. Remove peels.

Puree all vegetables and fruit with the stock until smooth. Pour into large stock pot and heat over medium heat. Add thyme and ginger. Simmer for 15 minutes. Add coconut milk, reserving about 1/4 cup. Taste and adjust salt and pepper. If the soup is too thick, add additional stock. If it is too thin, simmer uncovered until desired thickness is achieved.

Spoon soup into bowl, drizzle a decorative pattern on top of soup with a teaspoon of balsamic vinegar and a teaspoon of reserved coconut milk. Sprinkle with sliced chives or green onions. Enjoy!

Note: sweet potatoes, carrots or pumpkin can be substituted for the squash.

Winter Composting

by Suzy Naschansky

Why would anyone want to trek outside in sub-zero weather to add kitchen scraps to the compost bin when the gardens are frozen solid and the perennials are hibernating? Cold weather composting may be easier than we think, and Old Man Winter should not stop us from doing this rewarding activity. At a time when poring over seed catalogues or tending to our houseplants is the closest we can get to gardening, keeping up with our composting efforts will give our next batch of 'black gold' a great head start. Here are some tips to keep you going through the winter months:

- Insulate your compost pile. You can surround your bin with straw bales, or dig a hole in the ground (before the ground freezes!) to hold your compost. Fall leaves, loose straw, newspaper or cardboard can help insulate the top of your pile.
- Don't worry about turning the pile when it's really cold outside. Turning lets out valuable heat that the microorganisms need to survive. Watering the pile in the winter is unnecessary since it's mostly inactive.
- Collect a full bucket of compost materials before taking them out to the pile. This not only minimizes your trips outside in the cold, but also lowers the number of times you open the compost lid. You may want to keep a 5-gallon bucket with a lid just outside the back door for intermediate collection, to be carried to the compost pile on warmer days.
- Cut your kitchen scraps into smaller pieces. This will help them break down faster and take up less space.
- Make it a mini-adventure. If you have to take your dog out for a walk, he won't mind stopping by the compost bin first. Maybe you need to refill your bird feeders while you're already bundled up. Take your camera with you and look for opportunities to capture 'winter interest' photographs in your back yard. Check out the grounds of your property, inspect the gutters, or look for animal tracks in the fresh snow.

Don't forget that COMPOST HAPPENS whether you have a fancy tumbler or just toss your plant materials into a corner of your yard. There's no reason all of us shouldn't be doing our part to keep kitchen waste out of the garbage. Mother Nature and her workers know exactly what to do with it, and once the weather turns warm it won't be long until your compost is springing back into action!

*For other environmentally friendly ways to deal with plant-based waste during the long winter months, check out **Bokashi composting** or **Vermicomposting**.*

The Silent Lessons of Plants

by Margaret Smith

Plants teach great life lessons. Even though they're silent, they have a lot to tell us.

Living in the present

Plants live and grow each day, not bothered by worry or wondering what other plants think of them, how they look, or their "status." From seed to emerging growth, to flowers and seed again, each stage is in the present. There might be a "gawky" stage, an exuberant full bloom, or the dying back stage, but each has its purpose: life and growth for next year or the next generation. How can you learn to live in the present?

- *Stop and look. Look closely at the beauty of flowers, leaves, stems and the wholeness of the plant. This gives you a moment to be fully present. Learning to "stop and take it all in," without negative judgment, can become a daily practice of being fully present. No matter what stage you are in, or if your day is filled with sun, or clouds, or rain or snow, I'm sure plants would assure you that it is all part of the journey and wholeness of life.*

Reducing stress

Too little water, too much water, too much shade, too much sun, allelopathic compounds from other plants – all these can cause stress for a plant. When plants are stressed, suddenly disease can take its toll.

The same thing can happen to you. What can you do?

- *Breathe. The exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide is essential to plants and to you. Plants give a gift of life through oxygen itself. Breathe in this gift; breathe out worries and negative thoughts. Even if you can do this for only a minute or two a day, your mind will be fully in the present as you concentrate on breathing in and breathing out.*
- *Be flexible. Trees grow strong trunks in response to swaying in the wind during storms or gusty weather. Life has lots of storms, some gentle, some dramatic or even catastrophic. Learning to be flexible and bending with storms is a way to discover new strengths within you.*
- *Test your "inner soil." Walnut trees are well known for their roots' allelopathic compounds making it difficult or even impossible for many plants to live near them. It is difficult to reduce stress when you have "allelopathic" or negative people or situations in your life. Conversely, you may be the allelopathic person making it difficult for others to live with you. Look deeply and do your own "soil test" for the kind of positive or negative energy you send and receive.*

*Life's lessons,
disappointments,
joys, sorrows, and chaos
are the compost
for your growth.*

Living a healthy life

Plants need water and the right nutrients for strong, disease-free health. Plant health suffers when these are out of balance or unavailable. Your health also depends on clean water and the right nutrients. What can you do?

- *Keep hydrated. Drink plenty of clean water. Just like plants, your body needs clean water for its most basic cell activity and for life itself.*
- *Eat a balanced diet to get nutrients your body needs. Unlike plants which take up nutrients from the soil itself, you get essential nutrients directly from the food you eat.*
- *Get fresh air and sunshine. Absorb Vitamin D by being outside and taking in the energy of the sun. Unlike plants, your skin (hopefully) doesn't have a thick waxy coating or a layer of reflective silver hairs to protect you against too much sun. Use sunblock instead.*
- *Exercise. Not all plants run like obedient plant (or goutweed, sumac, ostrich fern, or creeping Charlie)! Pick the exercise that best suits you.*

Just as you tend and care for your plants, they tend and care for you.



Finding the garden variety that fits your needs

by Peg Wastell

SCVMGA Seed Trials Group Coordinator

SEED TRIALS

The purpose of seed trials is discover the individual characteristics of plant varieties to help gardeners in their selection of vegetable, herb, or flower varieties. Evaluation data includes germination rate, growing habits, flavor, size, color, and texture.

Results from MGVs have more “weight” because of our training and experience, which is why these trials are open only to MGVs. MGVs also receive service volunteer hours for time spent filling in evaluation forms.

SEED TRIAL GROUP

Input from many MGVs was used to develop guidelines for SCVMGA Seed Trials. We limit ourselves to eight different kinds of plants each year with about four varieties of each plant type.

Our group decided on six vegetables, one herb and one flower each year. When picking varieties, we try to include tried and true, middle of the road, new, and open pollinated. Different plant families are used in trials for greater variety. Recognition of plants favored by gardeners and space limits in home gardens are also reflected in our seed choices.

MGVs who helped develop the guidelines are **Marc Battistini, Peg Wastell, Carolyn Barrette, Donna Davis, Sandy Madsen, Sue Klatt, Robyn Wefel, Trent Kowalchyk, LeRoy Clark, Karen Jilek, Linda Bertram, Grace Louks, Norma Rudesill, Pat Klass, and Marilyn Davis.**

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Back in 2012, the MN Dakota County Master Gardeners hosted an educational event, “Super Tuesday,” at the Dakota County Fairgrounds. Carolyn Barrette and I, along with several other MGVs, took a road trip over the river to view demonstrations of various horticultural topics. Part of the grounds included lovely gardens and a vegetable trial garden. Marc Battistini, MN Master Gardener, answered our questions concerning vegetable trials. The results of their trials from all over MN are published each year in the March/April issue of

Northern Gardener. We all thought it was a wonderful idea.

During our ride home we decided to see if there would be an interest in home gardener trials here. Thus, the idea to have a Seed Trials Group was one of those brainstorms that happen when you put a bunch of excited Master Gardeners together. We conducted our first seed trials the next year.

EXPANDING THE DATA POOL

In 2014, we invited MGVs from The Western District to take part in our seed trials as growers. We had 40 MGVs from our Wisconsin MG Association grow, evaluate, and send in results to UW-Extension in 2014. Using a small amount of seed for each trial enables home gardeners to take part and keeps trials affordable.

Their private gardens were located in Amery, Baldwin, Balsam Lake, Barronett, Bay City, Beldenville, Centuria, Chippewa Falls, Colfax, Elmwood, Glenwood City, Hager City, Hammond, Houlton, Hudson, Menomonie, Onalaska, River Falls, Roberts, Somerset, Tomah, and Viroqua. More MGVs growing vegetable, herb, and flower trials gives us a larger pool of data, resulting in a greater scientific basis for compiled evaluations.

Diana has pointed out that even “bad” results such as crop failures are worth compiling so all growers who turn in evaluations are adding to results. Diana suggested we retrial one type of plant each year to add to our body of scientific information and to make up for poor growing years.

2015 SEED TRIALS

Veggies:

Bush green beans (retrial)
Brussels sprouts
Slicing cucumbers
Bunching onions
Smooth-leaf spinach
Colored cherry tomatoes

Herb:

Dill

Flower:

Salvia

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

SCVMGA donates seed to community gardens, who then plant seed trial gardens. These gardens are open to the public. Each community garden has a sign and yearly updated seed trial information. Participating community gardens are Baldwin Community Garden, Houlton Elementary Community Garden, Hudson Hospital and Clinics Community Garden, New Richmond Community Garden, and UW-Extension Demonstration and Learning Garden in River Falls.

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Actually seeing four varieties of the same kind of plant growing next to each other allows visitors to notice differences. MGVs have used these gardens as a way to educate the public on vegetable growing and how to select good varieties. Students from St. Ann's School have enjoyed participating in taste evaluations at New Richmond Community Garden.

Last fall the public learned about our work in *Home Front*, an Eau Claire Leader-Telegram magazine article: "Growing Wisdom – Area Gardeners Conducting Plant Trials."

RESULTS

Results for 2013 are posted online per individual plant. We also reach out to the public via our community trial gardens and displays at Pierce County and St. Croix County Fairs. Thank-you to all the MGVs from SCVMGA who participated as growers and turned in their evaluations!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Growing instructions and evaluation forms are sent out with seeds and are also available on the website.

The 2015 evaluation forms are easier than ever to fill out, so check them out and decide if you can grow and evaluate a trial or two, or even all eight.

There are many opportunities to participate in the Seed Trials Group other than growing and evaluating plants. Every October we meet to decide which varieties to trial in the next year. Volunteers are needed to write growing instructions and evaluation forms for each trial.

Every February/early March, as soon as all seed is received, we divvy up seeds into individual packets, fill orders, and prepare mailings. Having more volunteers make these tasks go more quickly. Please let Peg Wastell know if you would like to volunteer – especially for a Saturday of counting seeds with a fun group!

An MGV at one of the county fairs mentioned how growing and evaluating seed trials made her feel more like an MGV. Sharing our observations and growing wisdom is why many of us became MGVs.

So sign up and share your wisdom!

*Note: A Seed Trial order form is attached to this newsletter and also available online. **Hurry – the deadline is Jan. 31.***

SCVMGA Community Grants

Community grant applications are now being accepted. The forms are attached to this newsletter as well as available online.

**Grants are open to the public,
so please spread the word!**

Deadline is March 9, 2015

[Click here for the application form online.](#)

[Click here for the evaluation form online.](#)



NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING

Among the grant presenters at the November meeting were [from left]: Grace Louks, Hudson Community Hospital; Lizzie Shousek, Girl Scout project; Karen Jilek, Hudson Community Hospital; and Julie Hawley, Glenwood City. Not pictured are Kathy Gerats, Barb Nelson and Debby Walters.

Lilies in February



Our February meeting will feature David Zlesak, Associate Professor of Horticulture at UW-RF, who will discuss different classes of lilies available, and some tips on general lily care.

We know him as an expert on roses, but Zlesak earned his Ph.D. studying lilies. We will hear about a survey of Northern-Adapted Garden Lilies.

The meeting returns to the Unitarian Universalist Society Church at N8010 Hwy 65, south and east of River Falls, starting at 6:45 p.m.

Sprinklings

Sprinklings is a newsletter publication of the St. Croix Valley Master Gardeners Association and is published eight times a year: monthly issues in May, June, July and August; and bimonthly issues in September/October, November/December, January/February, and March/April. It is emailed to members in PDF format, and archived on the association's website at <http://scvmga.weebly.com>

All SCVMGA members are welcome to contribute articles, information, book reviews, or ideas on any horticultural topic. Submission deadline is the first Friday of the publication month. The next deadline is **Friday, March 6** for the March/April issue. Please email submissions or inquiries to giverny@me.com.

Editor: Colleen Callahan

Communications Coordinator: Suzy Naschansky

Circulation Manager: Diana Alfuth



2015 St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Plant Trials

Order Form

The purpose of these trials is to grow specific vegetable, herb, and flower varieties, evaluate, and share information. Evaluation data includes germination rate, growing habits, flavor, size, color, and texture. Results from data sheets of selected vegetable varieties will be compiled and reported in the SCVMGA newsletter, the state WIMGA newsletter and local newspapers. Results will be used to recommend varieties to gardeners on what grows well in our western part of the state.

Each trial consists of four varieties of a particular type of vegetable, herb, or flower. Each trial comes with seed more than sufficient for trial and a data sheet consisting of growing directions and evaluations. You can grow the seeds in any method you wish – containers, square foot method, raised beds, or traditional garden rows.

Grow all four varieties of each trial using the same method and care so we have consistent results.

Order as few as one trial and up to all eight trials.

Please place a check mark next to trials you are ordering.

Vegetables

- 1. Green Beans, Bush (Blue Lake 274, Duke, Jade, Kentucky Wonder)
- 2. Brussels Sprouts (Franklin, Hestia Hybrid, Jade Cross, Long Island Improved)
- 3. Cucumber, Slicing (General Lee, Tasty Green, Straight Eight, Sweet Slice)
- 4. Onions, bunching (Evergreen White, Guardsman, Ishikura Improved, Scarlet Bandit)
- 5. Spinach, Smooth-leaf (Bolero, Red Cardinal, Space Hybrid, Unipack 12)
- 6. Tomato, Colored Cherry (Chocolate Cherry, Sun Sugar, Isis Candy, Yellow Mini)

Herb

- 1. Dill (Bouquet, Diana, Mammoth Long Island, Superdukat)

Flower

- 1. Salvia, Blue (Victoria Blue, Blue Bedder, Blue Angel, Gruppenblau)

Note: Plant Trial Group reserves right to substitute without notice any variety named above.

Data sheets with growing directions and evaluation form will be delivered with seeds. Data sheets also available online at scvmga.weebly.com

Ordered must be placed no later than January 31, 2015

Agreement

I agree to participate in the trials I receive, and will plant and grow the seeds to the best of my ability. Working in cooperation with UW-Extension, I will evaluate each variety for various characteristics such as germination rate, appearance, yield, quality, rank, and whether I would grow it again. Data sheets for each trial have specific evaluations that I will complete and return by the deadline approximately October 31, 2015.

Signature_____

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____, WI Zip_____

Telephone_____ E-mail_____

Plant trial seeds will be mailed to the above address if you pay for postage and handling. This method is quickest way to get seeds. Seeds will be mailed as soon as possible usually near end of February/early March. Seeds can also be picked up at March 26, 2015 Saint Croix Valley Master Gardener Association monthly meeting. Contact Peg Wastell, Seed Trial Coordinator, at p.wastell@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

Cost:

To help cover the costs of this project, there is a registration cost of \$1.00 per trial plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. For example if you decide to grow all 8 trials your cost would be \$8.00 plus postage and handling. Do not add postage and handling if you plan to pick up your trials at the March (April for plants) meeting.

_____ # of tests @ \$1.00 each	\$_____
\$2.00 for postage and handling	\$2.00
Total Enclosed	\$_____

Make Check Payable to S.C.V.M.G.A.

Mail your completed order form and check to:

SCVMGA Plant Trials Group
Peg Wastell
611 Laurel Drive
New Richmond, WI 54017

St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association 2015 Monthly Programs

Date	Speaker and subject	Location
Thursday Jan. 22 6 p.m.	<i>Open House Kickoff</i> Debbie Lonnee, Bailey Nurseries. “ <i>New Plant Introductions.</i> ” Debbie is a well-known local horticultural speaker who served as a production coordinator at Bailey Nurseries, working primarily with the perennial and bedding plant crops, as well as roses and woody plants. Now manager of the Planning and Administration department and actively involved in new plant introductions. She is an avid gardener, and has a collector’s garden full of hostas, daylilies and perennials, as well as many new annuals.	Methodist Church 1401 Laurel Ave. Hudson
Thursday Feb. 26 6:45 p.m.	Dr. David Zlesak, Associate Professor of Horticulture at UWRF. “ <i>Lilies.</i> ” David will give us some tips on general lily care. We know him as an expert on roses, but David earned his Ph.D. studying lilies. We will hear about a survey of Northern-Adapted Garden Lilies.	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Saturday March 21 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	<i>Garden U</i> Lise Wolff, Registered Herbalist Speaker on effect of climate changes on gardening; what can we expect? Prairie Plantings Lunch and break - plus our Garden Market Place with local garden-oriented vendors	Ready Randy's Hwy 65 & Co Rd G New Richmond
Thursday March 26 6:45 p.m.	Cathy Olyphant, St Croix Valley Bird Club. “ <i>Birds of St. Croix Valley.</i> ” Cathy will talk about the variety of birds of St. Croix and Pierce Counties and ways of attracting them to backyards.	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Thursday April 23 6:45 p.m.	Joni Garbe, St. Croix County MGV. “ <i>Mushrooms.</i> ” What to look for and where to find mushrooms. How to identify the safe mushrooms from the not safe. Cooking ?	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Thursday May 28 6:45 p.m.	Jerry Bridge, St. Croix County MGV. “ <i>Insects.</i> ” According to Jerry, “insects are the most successful group of animals on the planet. Most are very beneficial; however, some transmit disease and a few cause enormous economic losses. Many insects also have a good deal of success in our gardens! People may see some insects as garden pests and choose to manage or control them. It is helpful to know what kind of insect one is dealing with, as different actions of management are required for different insect groups. Insects can be a challenge to deal with--but they are beautiful and fascinating creatures.”	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Saturday June 6	<i>Annual Plant Sale</i>	Octagon House Hudson
Thursday June 25 6:45 p.m.	Colleen Callahan, St. Croix County MGV. “ <i>Nature's photographers.</i> ” Colleen will highlight the work of prominent nature photographers through the years beginning with William Henry Jackson in the 1870s. She will talk about the methods used (lighting, angle, distance, composition) that turn an ordinary landscape or object into a work of art.	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
July 15-19	<i>St. Croix County Fair</i>	Glenwood City
Thursday July 23 6:45 p.m.	Mike Hicks, the “Garlic Guru of Afton.” “ <i>Growing, storing garlic.</i> ” Mike raises large heads of hard neck varietal garlic. Mike will give us tips on growing garlic, how to harvest and store the garlic, and discussing planting for future years' growth.	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Aug. 13-16	<i>Pierce County Fair</i>	Ellsworth
Aug. 27	Possible Tour of <i>Madsen Gladiolus Farm</i> - 203 3rd St, Clayton WI <i>Check Website for further details</i>	TBA
Sept. 24	<i>Suggestions?</i>	Unitarian Church
Thursday Oct. 22 6:45 p.m.	Grant recipients’ presentations	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls
Thursday Nov. 19 6:45 p.m.	<i>Annual Wrap-up Meeting</i> Grant recipients’ presentations and a seed exchange	Unitarian Church N8010 Hwy 65 River Falls

Meetings are always subject to change – check <http://scvmga.weebly.com/calendar.html> website for updates.



ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2015

Eligibility Guidelines

Each application will be considered on its individual merits. The number of grant applications received may impact the amount of the grant awards and the number of applications funded. The primary purpose of the grant is to fund horticulture education.

1. Grant application shall not exceed \$250.
2. Government or public agencies with tax-levying ability are not eligible recipients of SCVMGA Community Service Grants.
3. Projects that primarily benefit church organizations or groups are not eligible.
4. The project must benefit Pierce or St. Croix County residents.
5. The project should serve one or more of the following purposes: community and civic gardening; beautification of parks or schools; improvement of public spaces; horticultural education; area food projects; environmental stewardship; or other educational projects.
6. Submit proposals postmarked by **March 9, 2015** to one of the following:
 - ❖ Phyllis Jaworski, 616 Wisconsin Street, Hudson, WI 54016
pjaworski2001@yahoo.com; (715) 222-8914; or
 - ❖ Dianne Wright, 1419 Riverside North Hudson, WI 54016
diannemwright@gmail.com; (715) 386-9128.

All information is required for application to be considered. Please use additional pages if necessary.

Date of Application _____

Contact Information:

Name of Organization _____

Project Name _____

Name of each Applicant _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail address _____

Location of the project _____

Community or area to be served within St. Croix or Pierce Counties _____

Will the project be on public land? If not, how will the public be served? (The project should benefit a non-profit or community-based organization.)

Amount requested: \$ _____ Check made payable to: _____

Address to send check to: _____

Project Description:

1. Provide a general description of your project.

2. Check which of the following purposes will be served and explain who will benefit from this project.

- Community and civic gardening
- Beautification of park/school
- Improvement of public space
- Dissemination of horticultural information
- Area food projects
- Environmental stewardship, e.g., prairie restoration
- Educational projects

3. Who will be collaborating on this project? Please note if any of the people working on the project are Master Gardeners.

Project Details: Feel free to use additional pages if necessary.

1. Attach a proposed budget for the amount of funds requested.

2. Provide a list of plants and materials.

Acknowledgment

As a recipient of the 2015 SCVMGA community service funds, I agree that **I will submit my project report by October 1, 2015, with before and after pictures, an accounting of funds, and receipts.** This report can be submitted either by (1) by completion of the Project Evaluation Form available at <http://scvmga.weebly.com> or (2) a narrative containing substantially the same information.

Projects that do not submit a follow-up report will be ineligible for future grant requests for two years and funds granted must be returned. If grant money cannot be or is not used for the specific project, it must be returned to SCVMGA. Returning a grant will not affect eligibility for future grants.

Date _____ Signature _____



ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT PROJECT EVALUATION FORM 2015

Your grant project evaluation report may be submitted as a narrative or by filling out this form, and can be either paper or electronic format.

Submit your evaluation, receipts and photos, postmarked by **October 1, 2015**, to:

- ❖ Phyllis Jaworski, 616 Wisconsin Street, Hudson, WI 54016
pjaworski2001@yahoo.com; (715) 222-8914; or
- ❖ Dianne Wright, 1419 Riverside North Hudson, WI 54016
diannemwright@gmail.com; (715) 386-9128.

Date of Evaluation Report _____

Contact Information:

Name of Organization _____

Project Name _____

Name of Submitter _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail address _____

Project Description:

1. General statement of project outcome.

2. Which of the following SCVMGA purposes did your project serve and how did it do this?

- Community and civic gardening
- Beautification of park/school
- Improvement of public space
- Dissemination of horticultural information
- Area food Project
- Environmental stewardship, e.g., prairie restoration
- Educational projects

3. Who benefited from this project directly or indirectly? In what way(s)?

4. Address of project.

5. Funds Received: \$_____ Use of funds: Plants \$_____ Non-plant \$_____ Attach receipts.

6. List plants used.

7. List non-plant items used.

8. Describe whether or not your project was successful.

9. Please indicate whether the following have been included with your evaluation.

- Photos of the site before the project
- Photos of the site after the project
- Photos of the project as a work in process
- Photos of the community or other users enjoying the completed project
- Please include Parent/Guardian signature release for minors

10. Please provide any comments or suggestions you have regarding this community service fund.

11. Please indicate whether you will be able to attend one of the SCVMGA meetings listed below to share a 5-minute presentation on the results of your project.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Yes | No | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 22, 2015 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 19, 2015 |

Thank you for your participation in this year's SCVMGA Community Service Grant process.