



Sprinklings

ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

January-February 2017

Annual Open House Kickoff

Pizza, social hour, landscape designs for home gardens



by Carolyn Barrette

Christine McGinnis will start the 2017 year of Master Gardener meetings with a presentation on her beautiful gardens. A landscape architect by training, Christine re-joined SCVMGA two years ago bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge to share with members. McGinnis' home gardens (pictured above) were on the annual Artful Gardens tour several years ago. She also designed and developed the gardens surrounding the Hudson Hospital when it was built.

The January meeting is our 'meet and greet' new members when graduates of the last class are invited to join our association. Come for a pizza dinner and the chance to catch up with each other and meet new MGVs.

Annual Open House Kickoff

Thursday, Jan. 26

- 6 p.m. Pizza, social time
- 7 p.m. Business Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Christine McGinnis' presentation

First Covenant Church

1374 N Main St., River Falls 54022

(Entrance is on Quarry St.
Go east at Kwip Trip corner.)

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our Feb. 23 meeting will feature SCVMGA member John Ramstad who will share his experiences on hydroponic gardening. He grows one in his basement and will be telling us how to set up and run one of our own. The meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m. at First Covenant Church, River Falls.

MARCH MEETING

Professor Sonja Maki of the UW-River Falls Department of Plant and Earth Sciences will explain the environmental benefits and maintenance of an indoor portable green wall of plants at our March 23 meeting. The meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m. at First Covenant Church in River Falls.

When you're tired of combing through seed catalogs

Winter is a good time to earn MGV education credits online. Articles on invasive species, indoor citrus plants, living stones (*Lithops*), the espalier technique for pruning fruit trees, scents in the garden, winter shrub pruning, flowering maples, scarlet runner beans, and dozens more await you at the [Wisconsin Master Gardener website](#).

Videos on urban forestry, community gardens, and growing tomatoes, peppers and eggplants are also available for credit. [Click here for the video options](#).

President's Message

The new year is here and once again it has managed to sneak up on me. My list of completed projects from last year is pretty short. I did manage to get a fresh layer of mulch on one of my flower beds, but the perennials are still overcrowded.

The other flower gardens have gone rogue but should be easily brought back into control.

I think it's best to start the new year with a new list. Some of the things on my list are leftovers from last year, but there is always something new and exciting.

The new year always starts with winter. Winter is actually one of my favorite times of the year and yes, it is only 3 degrees outside as I write this.

It gives me a chance to recover from the busy fall harvest and the sometime hectic holi-

This year Trent Kowalchuk begins his new role as Board president of the St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association.

days. I get caught up with all the new plants and seeds in the catalogs that show up in January. The garden tools get a little cleaning

and maybe some sharpening. The fruit trees get some pruning. It is amazing how much a water sprout can grow in one summer. The lakes are frozen and the fishing can be great. The time spent peering down the hole in the ice waiting for a fish to bite has given me some of my best ideas. If the weather gets too cold, my mini dachshund Mater is always ready for extra snuggle time. Reading a garden magazine or watching a gardening show works just fine for him. The best part of winter is that it ends in spring and a fresh start.

As the new president, I look forward to the challenges and rewards of our great organization like the pizza kickoff meeting in January, Garden U, the plant sale, community gardens, garden tours, the awesome snacks at meetings and all the great people. Wow, 2017 is going to be just as exciting as last year.



Trent Kowalchuk

Now accepting 2017 grant applications

The Grant Committee is currently accepting applications for the 2017 SCVMGA Community Grant Fund.

The SCVMGA will consider applications for the following: beautification of public spaces, horticultural education of the public, community gardens, and/or youth horticulture education.

Applications are due Monday March 13, 2017. Grant awards will be announced by April 30, 2017. The application form is attached to this newsletter. For questions, please email [Phyllis Jaworski](mailto:Phyllis.Jaworski).

Join our Joint-Fair Committee!

We need two or three Master Gardeners from each county to decide on annual themes and activities to use at both St. Croix and Pierce County fairs.

More interactive activities for kids and adults, like the "Are you Smarter Than a Rutabaga" game with prizes will help engage our fair visitors.

Demonstrations, such as how to divide perennials or deadhead them for extended bloom times, will also draw visitors.

We have funds of \$150 per county in the annual budget for prizes and supplies. To volunteer, contact Trent Kowalchuk at trent.kowalchuk@diasorin.com.

Winter Garden Seminar at Eau Claire

Registration is open for the upcoming "Ready, Set, Grow" Winter Garden Seminar. The day-long event, sponsored by Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire.

The keynote speaker is Tim Johnson of Seed Savers Exchange, presenting on, "Tomatoes: Saving Seeds From

America's Favorite Vegetable (or are they fruits?)."

Participants have a choice of presentations in three breakout sessions during the morning and afternoon



Heirloom tomatoes (SeedSavers.com)

featuring speaker topics on roses, bats, invasive plants, rare edibles for the garden, water features and wise water use in the garden, wildflower plots, and a stained glass wind chime workshop.

The event includes lunch and snacks, many door prizes, and local vendors. Registration starts at 8 a.m. Cost is \$35/person before Jan. 15 and \$40 thereafter. Registration information can be found at <http://eauclairemastergardeners.weebly.com>.



Karalyn's Kitchen

Karalyn Littlefield, a MGV since 2013, teaches classes in Food Science and Animal Science at UW-River Falls. After receiving a master's degree in Food Science, Karalyn worked in the food industry.

Caramel Corn

As we enter into the new year of 2017, I create the possibility of contentment, abundance and ease for each of us. May we have abundance and be content with what we have, including our talents and families. Ease has been at the front of my mind for several days. I use ease as in free of disease and not as easy. The recent illness of my Uncle Fred has triggered the thoughts of ease as well as appreciation for my family. I honor Uncle Fred by sharing his recipe for caramel corn. Fred makes buckets full each Christmas. Even though he has not been feeling well, an ice-cream bucket of caramel corn was on the buffet table at our family celebration. I urge caution – once you start making this delicious ambrosia, it may well become a holiday tradition with your family.

Uncle Fred's Caramel Corn

modified by Karalyn Littlefield

- Mix together in a heavy sauce pan:
 - 2 cups brown sugar
 - 2 sticks of butter
 - 1/2 c. corn syrup
 - 1 tsp salt
- Bring to boil over medium heat while stirring constantly. Stop stirring. Boil for 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Add:
 - 1 tsp baking soda
 - 1 tsp vanilla or butter flavor
- Pour over 6 quarts of popped popcorn and 2 cups of roasted salted peanuts (more or less or none at all). Pour mixture on cookie sheets or other flat baking pans. Bake in preheated 200 F oven for 1 hour. Stir every 15 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool. Break apart large chunks. Store in closed container.

TIPS

- Use the largest popping kernel variety that you can find.
- Spray the mixing bowl and baking sheets with non-stick coating.
- Do not stir while boiling as crystals can form.
- For best results, make on a lower humidity day.
- Pour and mix quickly but safely to evenly coat popped corn. If it is difficult to get an even coating before the syrup sets up, try putting the baking trays with the uncoated popped corn in the preheated oven while you make the syrup. As it bakes and you stir, some more spreading action will occur.



Easy Herb Gardens

by Lisa Mosbey

Better with Bitters

The season of over-indulgence and bitter cold lead me to this month's topic. Ancient cultures revered bitter foods as an essential part of a regular healthy diet. Today, we know "bitters" as used in cocktails like Angostura. You may have even have enjoyed an Aperitif, an alcohol-based bitter beverage served before meals to aid in digestion. These tasty beverages all started from a beloved bitter herb.

Most, if not all, roots, barks, flowers, and herbs contain a complex degree of bitter flavor. Here's the short list of my favorite bitter herbs: artichoke, boneset, burdock, chamomile, cassia, chicory, coffee dandelion, hops, horehound, mugwort, orange peel, tansy, worm-wood, yellow dock, and yarrow.

When consumed, such plants naturally stimulate the production of saliva, gastric juices, and bile to balance the appetite and prime digestion. Bitters are cooling, drying and support the body to clear inflammation and infection from tissue. Try a teaspoon of herbal bitters in a glass of water before dinner and see if your digestive system feels just a bit better.

Bitter Tonic Tea

- 1 oz. dried Dandelion leaf – *bitter, detoxifying cooling herb for the liver, kidney and digestive system*
- 1/2 oz. dried Burdock root – *bitter, detoxifying cooling herb for liver, blood & skin*
- 1 oz. dried Chamomile flower – *aromatic, calming, carminative (gas-dispelling), cool*
- 1/4 oz. dried orange peel – *aromatic, warming, stimulates qi (life-force energy), enhances flavor*
- 1 tsp fresh grated ginger – *aromatic, warming/stimulating, carminative, harmonizing*

Combine herbs in a glass mason jar, shake well. Steep 1 tsp. per 1 cup of water for 10-20 minutes.

Precautions: Because many herbs are potent, small amounts used regularly may be safest. Anything beyond culinary amounts may be too strong for certain individuals, such as women who are pregnant or nursing; individuals with some health conditions (e.g., liver disease); or those taking medications such as blood thinners and blood sugar-lowering drugs. For the science and studies on herbal remedies visit www.Pubmed.gov.



Lisa, who received her MG training in Nevada, is a Holistic Health Practitioner, Herbalist and Aromatherapist whose mission is to educate and empower people to use herb and essential oil plant remedies to aid their health and well-being. She writes a [blog](#) on herbs, gardening tips and recipes.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Deb Pederstuen

NEW MEMBERS

Three Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) interns from the 2016 Class registered through our website. We look forward to welcoming Rachel Baumer of River Falls, Patricia Miller of Houlton, and Nikol Shirts of Star Prairie. We have 173 members in our association!

ANNUAL KICKOFF & PIZZA PARTY

Twenty-one students attended the Fall 2016 MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15 Individual MG Renewal - \$25 Family MG Renewal - \$30

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you missed the Dec. 31 renewal deadline, you may still renew at the January meeting, but include the \$10 late renewal fee.

- New MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15
- Individual MG Renewal - \$25
- Family MG Renewal - \$30

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Six members were elected to the Board of Directors (BOD) at our annual meeting on Nov. 17.

President: **Trent Kowalchyk**

Vice President: **Barb Peterson**

Secretary: **Barbara Johnson**

Treasurer: **Julie Walsh**

Pierce County Rep: **Kerry Christopherson**

St. Croix County Rep: **Cindy Doty**

The complete list of our Board of Directors is posted on our website. You'll notice our President Trent Kowalchyk and Vice President Barb Peterson swapped positions! Together, they worked it out and everyone benefits! We appreciate the time and dedication our directors give to our organization. It's wonderful to have Kerry Christopherson back on the BOD. During her 2½ year service as Pierce County Rep (2010 – 2012), Kerry was instrumental in activating our UW-RF \$1000 Scholarship Grant Program in 2011 for junior and senior horticulture majors. Her ac-

complishment has made us very proud of this worthy project!

We welcome three new BOD officers: Barbara Johnson, Cindy Doty, and Julie Walsh. In early 2016, Barbara, a 2007 MG, worked diligently behind the scenes. She assisted Lisa Mosbey, our Volunteer Coordinator, by emailing project leaders about their new volunteers. Barb was a key link in our volunteer program! Cindy, a 2008 MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15 Individual MG Renewal - \$25 Family MG Renewal - \$30

Today, they are serving together on the Board of Directors. Julie Weinberg is in her second year as St. Croix County Representative. SPECIAL THANKS to retiring Treasurer **Jackie Daharsh** (2013-2016), St. Croix County Representative **Barb Kolbe** (2013-2016), Secretary **Karen Jilek** (2016), and Pierce Co. Director **Dot Seebach** (mid 2015-2016). We'll miss all of you!

FIVE NEW 2017 COORDINATORS

Our January meeting is the best time to give our new coordinators a hand by signing up for projects. You can also sign up on the SCVMGA website or contact the coordinators. Invite a MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15 Individual MG Renewal - \$25 Family MG Renewal - \$30 friend to join you. We're excited to announce **Rachel Baumer** of River Falls, one of our 2016 MG interns, as **Trina Frank's** new Hospitality Assistant. Contact Trina to volunteer your help for our

social time. **Debby Walters**, 2015 MG, is taking the lead role as Tour Coordinator. She was **Deb Andazola's** assistant last year. Expect a survey from Debby in your email to help plan the best tours in 2017. Watch on our website for upcoming tours. **Denise Flaherty**, 2014 MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15 Individual MG Renewal - \$25 Family MG Renewal - \$30, was a new member on the Grant Committee in 2016 and this year, she will co-coordinate with **Phyllis Jaworski**. **Sue Ballard**, 2014 MG, will co-coordinate with **Donna Cadenhead** to keep our SCVMGA Community Garden in New Richmond flourishing. **Vickie Reschke**, 2010 MG, is taking over the reins from **Peg Wastell** to coordinate our 2017 Fall Workshop, also known as "Last Chance Workshop." We wish the best to all our new coordinators! SPECIAL THANKS to our "retired" coordinators who shared their time and skills in organizing the following MG/2015 MG Intern - \$15 Individual MG Renewal - \$25 Family MG Renewal - \$30 events or projects: **Deb Andazola**, Visual Communications/Tour Coordinator-2016; **Carolyn Barrette**, Community Garden Coordinator, 2005-2015; **Janet Jones**, Hudson Farmers Market Coordinator, 2013-2016; **Yvonne Koch-Proctor**, St. Croix Co. Fair Coordinator, 2014-2015; **Peg Wastell**, Fall Workshop Coordinator 2010-2016; **Dianne Wright**, Grant Committee Coordinator, 2009-2014, 2016.

COORDINATOR NEEDED

Looking for an easier way to get your volunteer hours? Consider being a coordinator for the Hudson Farmers Market at the Plaza 94 location on Thursday mornings from July-September. You would be responsible for scheduling volunteers. Email [Deb Pederstuen](mailto:Deb.Pederstuen@scvmga.com) or call her at 715-386-6681.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Our heartfelt appreciation to Diana Alfuth for writing a fantastic annual report of our Pierce and St. Croix County projects on pp. 59 and 69 on the [WIMGA website](http://www.scvmga.com). Find out how many hours we all donated last year!

Bot flies and the White-tipped Black Moth

by Jerry Bridge

Annual records kept by various individuals and organizations for Wisconsin detail the changes in population numbers for many species of insects as well as the presence of rare or before unrecorded species. We will look at two somewhat unusual occurrences from 2016. Bot flies, of the family Oestridae, appear to have significantly increased in numbers last year in Wisconsin, all in the genus *Cuterebra*. The White-tipped black moth (*Melanchroia chephise*) was recorded in Wisconsin for the first time.

Bot flies have larvae that are internal parasites of mammals and the adults are frequently bumble bee or honey bee mimics, so if seen they are often mistaken for bees. The outgrowth of tissue caused by the larva is often called a bot or a warble. The adults usually have underdeveloped mouth parts and do not feed. The 40 or so species in North America may be hosted by horses, sheep, squirrels, and other mammals. One species that is hosted by humans is mostly restricted to South America. Bot flies pupate in the soil and the adults are strong fliers (some of the fastest flying insects in the world), with adults frequently not being observed. It has been suggested that the warm winter



Adult Horse Bot Fly
(University of Florida)



White-tipped Black Moth
(Oklanature.com)

of last year helped their survival, hence the increase in numbers.

The White-tipped black moth is normally a species of the southern United States, but at times gets blown north by upper air currents. This is believed to be the case for the presence of this species in Wisconsin last summer.

As was discussed in a previous article a change in population numbers from year to year of a species is common, and there are a host of reasons that may cause this. Besides the two mentioned above others may be: number and kind of pathogens present, weather conditions, changes in the normal habitat of a species, decline or increase of preferred food plants, or change in predator populations. There are only a handful of species of insects that are monitored continuously from year to year, mainly agricultural pests.

The reports from Wisconsin last year were mostly of squirrel, rabbit or mice bot flies. The second and third were recorded from across the state, the first mainly from the Madison area. Both adults and larvae were observed and identified.

GARDEN U 2017

Landscaping with wild berries, wildlife, man-made materials

Garden U will take place Saturday, March 18 at the Hudson House Grand Hotel, 1616 Crest View Dr.



Teresa Marrone

Speakers include Minnesota author Teresa Marrone who will tell us about landscaping with wild berries and fruits. Author of a dozen cookbooks, including "Dishing Up Minnesota," Marrone

has just completed a book on weeds — always a popular subject with gardeners. Her first book, "Dressing and Cooking Wild game," was published in 1987 and is still in print today.

Lynn Steiner, well-known area garden writer, will present ideas for

landscaping with wildlife. A former editor of Northern Gardener Magazine of the Minnesota Horticultural society, Steiner has written several books on gardening in the upper Midwest.



Lynn Steiner

Dan and Sue Sandager of Abrahamson Nurseries in Stillwater, Minn., will share their professional experiences in landscape design and installation, including hardscaping that incorporates man-made materials. Prior to purchasing Abrahamson's, Dan received a degree in Horticulture from the University of Minnesota.

The daylong event will include

lunch, breaks, our Garden Market Place with area vendors, and a wonderful variety of gardening-related door prizes.

Don't miss out on this continuing educational opportunity!

More information will follow in the March/April newsletter.



Hardscaping incorporates hard materials into the landscape, such as pavers and retaining walls.

(Abrahamson Nurseries photo)



It's time to order seeds for Variety Plant Trials

by Peg Wastell

Our fifth year of trialing plants, evaluating, and reporting is here at last. That means at the end of this year our master gardener growers will have evaluated and reported on 40 varieties of plants. All of the completed evaluations with Diana Alfuth's summaries are available as a resource to share with each other and to use as a guide when interacting in our communities. And we are on our second year of evaluating and reporting on four varieties of Milkweed plants. All of this is possible because of dedicated MGV growers and the support of St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association members. A whole-hearted thanks for all the participation, encouragement and support. Let us begin a new season with as many participants as possible.

Look over the varieties being trialed (see center box) and find one, two, or more trials that you could grow in your garden. There is something for every size garden including container gardens. Variety Trial Order Forms are waiting for you to fill out. One is attached to this newsletter.

The cost is still only \$1.00 per trial because of the sponsorship of SCMVGA. Shipping and handling is \$2.00 per order. Our results are best if we have at least 20 growers that report their evaluations for each trial. Since we have weather and pests that can cause crop failure, the more growers we have the better chance we will have of receiving enough completed evaluations.

For those who are new to our organization you may want to know what are variety plant trials and why are we growing them? Trials are growing plants

2017

Variety Plant Trials

Veggies

Yellow bush beans
Mini cabbage
Mustard greens
Mini pumpkin
Roma/Plum/Paste tomato
Turnips

Herb

Basil (unique flavors)

Flower

Zinnia (12-18" mixed)

HURRY! Deadline for ordering seeds is January 31. Order form is attached to this newsletter.

and comparing them to each other. Our trials start with seeds. Each trial consists of four varieties of a particular type of vegetable, herb, or flower. Each trial comes with more than sufficient seed and a data sheet consisting of growing instructions and evaluations. The main point is to grow all four varieties of each trial using the same method and care so the results are consistent and send in your results to be compared with all the other results.

Why would you want to give precious space in your garden for variety trials? Do you look at plant catalogs and wish you could grow everything? Here is a chance to fulfill at least part of that dream by growing four varieties of a particular variety of plant for only \$1 per trial.

For example this year you could grow about three feet of each variety of yellow bush beans which would be twelve feet in total. You get this feeling

of connectedness to the other growers especially when you share problems and results via our monthly email. We find out how truthful those catalog descriptions are!

It feels good to make observations, report, and see how your results stack up to others. Or the composite average as it usually is in the compiled form. Your results are part of what will be used to make recommendations to gardeners in our communities on what does well. The veracity of our results is enhanced because of having only master gardeners as growers, evaluators, and reporters. *And you receive volunteer hours for filling in your evaluation forms.*

There are other ways than growing, evaluating, and reporting on a trial that you can do: You can help us sort our seeds for individual orders. This year our tentative date for our Seed Sorting Potluck is Saturday, Feb. 25. It is always fun because of good company and good food along with getting a head start on volunteer service hours. Sign up by contacting Peg Wastell at p.wastell@gmail.com or fill in your name on sign-up sheet at our January meeting. A dozen or more volunteers will help divide seed and fill orders in a few hours. And those hours will be filled with laughter and enjoyment of the company of other MGVs.

You can also volunteer at one of the community gardens that participate in growing our trials. Last year Houlton Elementary, New Richmond Community Garden, and River Falls Extension Demonstration and Learning Garden had trial display gardens that were open to the public to visit. SCMVGA (cont'd on next page)

(cont'd from previous page)

sponsors the cost of the trials for our trial display gardens. If you know of a community garden, school garden, or other garden that is open to the public that would like to grow our trials please contact Peg Wastell. We have a nifty sign for use in a new trial display garden.

One of the constants of gardening is change. This year a warm welcome is given to **Ken** and **Barb Kolbe** who will be co-coordinating the Variety Plant Trials with Peg Wastell. Sharing resources, planning and implementation of a program makes it stronger so watch for new developments.

Sign up for a trial and participate in all the fun!



Donna Cadenhead (left) and Carolyn Barrette hold the Trial Display sign at the SCVMGA Community Garden in New Richmond. Below is the display board used at county fairs to educate the public. PHOTOS BY PEG WASTELL



Don't wait til spring – volunteer now!

- Help sort seed for the Variety Plant Trials at St. Joe Town Hall. A tentative date is set for Saturday, Feb. 25. Last year a dozen volunteers had a fun day sorting seeds and having a potluck lunch. Email [Peg Wastell](mailto:Peg.Wastell@scvmga.com) or call her at 651-261-3892.
- Join the new Joint-Fair Committee. Contact our new president, [Trent Kowalchuk](mailto:Trent.Kowalchuk@scvmga.com).
- Bring treats to our monthly meetings. Email our Hospitality Coordinator, [Trina Frank](mailto:Trina.Frank@scvmga.com).
- Write a book review on anything horticulture for *Sprinklings* or an article about gardens you've visited or share your gardening successes and failures. Email *Sprinklings* editor [Colleen Callahan](mailto:Colleen.Callahan@scvmga.com).

HOURS & HOURS & HOURS

by [JoAnn Ryan](#)

As we begin our Volunteer hours for 2017, it's a great time to start tracking them. Recording hours regularly and turning in our annual hours can become an easy job. Our 2017 year began Oct. 1 for 12 months. MGVs need just 24 hours – that's less than three hours a month. It sounds like so little, yet many times we scramble to make that goal at the end of our year.



Here's a helpful hint: Create a "diary of hours" and record them as you perform your MGV activities. It makes counting total hours for the year easy. At the end of the next MGV year, it will be fun to look back and appreciate what you've accomplished. Or you can access the official [Timesheet](#) on the Wisconsin Master Gardener website.

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 3** 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*



ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2017

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. The project must benefit Pierce or St. Croix County residents.
4. 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.
5. Submit proposals postmarked by **Monday, March 13, 2017** to:
 - ❖ Phyllis Jaworski, 616 Wisconsin St., Hudson, WI 54016
pjaworski2001@gmail.com; (715) 222-8914.
 - ❖ Denise Flaherty, denisemflaherty@gmail.com

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 2017 SCVMGA community service funds, I agree that **I will submit my project report by October 1, 2017, with before and after pictures, an accounting of funds, and receipts.**

This report can be submitted by completion of the Project Evaluation Form available at <http://scvmga.weebly.com>. Mail reports by email or United States Postal Service to addresses listed above in section 5.

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. Return of funds must be made out to St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association and sent to Denise Flaherty, 84 Co. Rd T, Hammond, WI, 54015. Please return funds by September 1, 2017.

Date _____ Signature _____

If the applicant is working for an organization as an intern or short-term employee manager's contact information and signature is required.

Managers Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Date: _____ Managers Signature: _____



2017 St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Variety 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. Bean, Yellow Bush (Carson, Gold Crop, Goldmine, Rocdor)
- _____ 2. Cabbage, Mini (Alcosa, Tiara, Caraflex, Omera)
- _____ 3. Mustard Greens (Florida Broadleaf, Red Giant, Southern Giant-Curled, Tendergreen0)
- _____ 4. Pumpkin, Mini (Baby Boo, Jack Be Little, Sweet Lightening, Wee-Be-Little)
- _____ 5. Tomato, Roma/Plum/Paste (Amish Paste, Plum Regal, San Marzano, Super Sauce)
- _____ 6. Turnips (Gold Ball, Just Right, Purple Top White Globe, Round Red)

Herb0

- _____ 1. Basil, Unique flavors (Cinnamon, Lemon, Licorice, Lime)

Flower

- _____ 1. Zinnia, 12" – 18" tall mixes(Magellan, Persian Carpet, Profusion, Zahara)

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.

Ordered must be placed no later than January 31, 2017

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, 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, 2017.

Signature _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____, WI Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

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	\$ _____
\$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