



Sprinklings

ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

July 2017

MGVs nurture gardens at Pine Ridge Assisted Living



A favorite spot for Jackie Daharsh (left) and Bonnie Rohr is the waterfall garden where they positioned plants to add texture and help with drainage.

For four years a small, dedicated crew of MGVs has been tending two gardens at Pine Ridge Assisted Living, part of Christian Community Homes in Hudson, Wis. Trees were pruned, plants rearranged, and rock beds installed to divert rain. **Jackie Daharsh** and **Janet Quito** began weekly treks to Pine Ridge for two years, then reached out for more help. **Heather Lacke**, **Bonnie Rohr** and **Marianne Leverty** joined the team in 2015. One garden is flat and located outside the lunch room; it needed color and garden art. The other one, where the waterfall is located, is on a slope and quickly erodes after heavy rains. So the crew installed rock beds and barriers to divert the water. In areas where the irrigation system overwaters, they replaced dying plants with those that can withstand wet soil.

Together they volunteer about 80 hours each year, said Jackie. It makes their day, she said, everytime a resident waves from a window to say thank-you.

JULY 27 MEETING

Hosta gardens in Baldwin

by Carolyn Barrette

The July 27 meeting is another field trip chance to see one of our local nurseries and meet the owner and gardener. This month we go to Rock Landscape and Gardens located at 154 240th St, Baldwin. Rick Rock has been known for his lilies and hostas, and he has added garden areas. Parking is ample, but carpooling is advised. The meeting will start at 6:30 will a tour of his gardens, maybe a chance to purchase a few lily bulbs, and look around.



To get there: Take County Road E to 240th Street, north to 1054. Rock Landscaping is east of Hwy 63, northeast of Baldwin, south of DD.

Volunteers needed at St. Croix County Fair

There's still time to sign up! Our theme this year is "Feed the World, Start at Home,"

and will feature intensive gardening and containers for small spaces. MGVs will create a new outdoor booth site at the Home and Community Education Building with lawn improvements and a new floral garden.

To volunteer, email [Norma Rudesill](mailto:Norma.Rudesill@stcroixcountywi.gov) or call her at 715-688-2160, or you can use [SignUpGenius](http://SignUpGenius.com) on our website.

A great way to add to your volunteer hours!



Donna Davis welcomes MGVs to her gardens

Fourteen gardens surround Donna Davis's home in Houlton, and on **Tuesday, July 18**, everyone is invited to take a leisurely stroll. The tour begins at 5:30. For a preview of Donna's gardens, [click here](#) for the June 2016 issue of Sprinklings.

Don't miss this! [Click here](#) for a map or see directions at right.



DIRECTIONS

1374 Pine View Trail, Houlton

From south: Hwy. 35 north through Hudson. Right on County Road V to County Rd E. Left on E. Pine View Trail is first right. Take first paved street on left, then the next left. Donna's house is first on the right.

From north/west: Take County Rd E west. Continue one block after intersection with County Rd V. Pine View Trail is first right. Take first paved street on left, then the next left. Donna's house is first on the right. **PARKING** is available in the driveway and along the street.



President's Message



Trent Kowalchuk

The rewards of the hard work this spring are starting to trickle in. My planters around the house are bursting with flowers. The perennial flower beds are really starting to show their potential and the vegetable garden is producing. I have harvested some wonderful broccoli and the cauliflower put the grocery store stuff to shame.

Be sure to visit the St Croix and Pierce County fairs. The county fair is a great place to see the skills, talents and efforts of fellow gardeners, crafters and young 4-H members. The St Croix County

fair is just around the corner running from July 19-23 and the Pierce County fair is from August 9-13. Check out the Master Gardener booths at both fairs. The booth for the St Croix County Fair has a new location that should help us survive the summer storms and has lots of room for demonstrations.

On a side note, be sure to wash and look over your harvest carefully. My wife saw the first slug get washed off the head of cauliflower but the second slug on my plate really started and ended the cauliflower season for her. It is good thing my cauliflower is done as I don't think I could eat anymore.

What's happening?

WIMGA UPDATE

by Paul VanDenMeerendonk, Representative



The state [website \(wimga.org\)](http://wimga.org) is a work in progress; there are still some hiccups in formatting and missing information. Please

be patient as the webmaster works through all the details.

"Masters at the Prairie" is the focus of the state conference Oct. 13-14 at West Bend Mutual Insurance Company's Prairie Center in West Bend, Wis. The event is hosted by the Washington County MGVA Association. This is a good start on education hours for 2018! Click [here](#) to download the brochure.



WIMGA Educational Grant applications will be due Oct. 1. The money is to be used to educate the public on a horticultural topic. There are three categories: \$100, \$250, and \$400 grants. SCVMGA can apply for up to two grants.

Please let your minds work, wonder and explore what programs you think the public would be interested in. Let a board member or **Carolyn Barrette** (see Page 7) know your ideas!

Questions to consider:

- The number of participants who will benefit from the program.
- Would there be a fee charged?
- Would the program be recorded via videotape or audiotape for future reuse?
- What would be the quality of the program and would there be a need for the program?
- What are the credentials of the presenters?

A day-trip for daylilies

The Wisconsin Daylily Society will have its annual Daylily Plant Sale on Aug. 19-20 at Olbrich Gardens in Madison.

More than 700 different cultivars, all of which are bare-root and Wisconsin grown, will be on sale. Below is just a very small sample of the types of plants.

After visiting the Daylily Sale, you can enjoy a stroll through the Olbrich Gardens outdoor display gardens, visiting the Thai Pavilion and Garden, the Rose Garden and other specialty gardens including the Perennial garden, Sunken Garden, and Herb Garden. Free admission to Olbrich Gardens. (www.olbrich.org)

And, while in the area, consider visiting the Badger State Dahlia Show at the Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa Street, Madison – less than a mile from Olbrich Gardens. (www.badgerdahlia.org)



WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Deb Pederstuen



Deb is a 1999 MGCV class graduate and our first Membership Director, beginning in 2000. Her mission has been to welcome and inform every new Master Gardener Volunteer.

Our Master Gardener Q & A table, draped with its red and white checkered tablecloth, is back at the Plaza 94 Hudson Farmers Market! Nestled among the vendors' trucks on Thursday, July 6, our new coordinators, MGCV intern **Patricia Henderson** and MGCV **Maria Scheidegger** began greeting customers. Also stopping by for an hour was MGCV **JoAnn Ryan**.

Patricia, a Hudson resident, was the first student to join SCVMGA from the Fall 2016 class. This spring, her organizational skills were quite apparent in our St. Croix County Fair Committee meetings.

Maria, a 2014 MGCV of River Falls, has volunteered in MGCV booths at Pierce County Fairs, River Falls Farmers Markets, and at two St. Croix Valley Home Remodeling & Garden Expos. However, the accomplishment she is most proud of is her redesign at the Willow River Elementary School atrium. With a 2016 SCVMGA grant, she replaced and revitalized plants to beautify the atrium.

We share in Maria and Patricia's excitement of coordinating together. They have recruited Master Gardener Volunteers for Thursdays in July and August, with mostly September shifts available. From 8 a.m. to noon, MGVs answer horticultural questions and promote Master Gardeners and SCVMGA.



PHOTO BY DEB PEDERSTUEN

At the June meeting, guest speaker Teresa Marrone (left) helped us identify weeds and how to manage them. Afterwards she signed copies of her latest book, "Weeds." Standing with her is Ken Kolbe. Sixty-four members, Diana, and three guests attended.

HELP NEEDED AT HUDSON FARMERS MARKET

If interested in a September shift or Thursday, July 20, email **Maria** (612-578-2658) or **Patricia** (651-2167041).

Tomato tie-up day at New Richmond Community Garden

Despite a sultry summer morning, 10 MGVs weeded and strung twine to support tomato plants on Saturday, July 8 at the SCVMGA Community Garden in New Richmond: **Donna Cadenhead, Carolyn Barrette, Barb Peterson, Mary Pat Finnegan, Shirley Terrien, Tom**

Kujawa, Gloria Bonse, Sue Ballard, Patricia Miller, and Mary Samuelson.

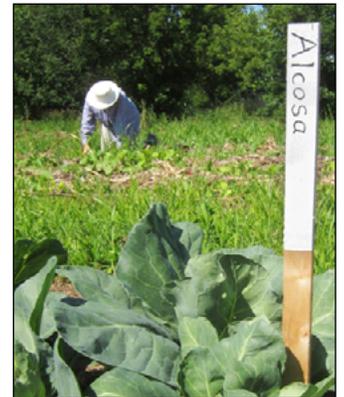
Tom had the task of untangling the twine. Patricia added a squash plant from her garden, and everyone spent extra time weeding.



Above: **Mary Pat Finnegan** (left) and **Gloria Bonse** tie twine around posts. Right: **Tom Kujawa** untangles yards of twine.



Above left: **Patricia Miller** (right) plants squash while **Sue Ballard** weeds. Above right: **Shirley Terrien** weeds behind an **Alcosa** cabbage patch.



Native American plants take center stage at UW-Extension Demonstration and Learning Garden



Grown from ancient seeds, a “Gete-Okosomin” squash was planted in the Native American garden plot by Leroy Clark and Katie Mastny Byboth. The seed was brought back from Green Bay, Wis. by MGV Ginny Drath. Its name means “Big Old Squash” and produces orange squash up to 30 pounds.

MGVs **Leroy Clark** and **Katie Mastny Byboth** are turning the soil over to heirloom Native American plants in one of the plots at the Demonstration and Learning Garden in River Falls. Using ancient planting methods, they used the “Three Sisters” approach, planting corn, beans, and squash close to one another. Four Dakota Ivory corn stalks were planted in a circle to honor the four directions (North, South East and West). Hidatsa Shield Figure Beans were planted next to the corn stalks, which act like bean poles. Lakota squash were then planted around the beans, with their big leaves serving as mulch to preserve moisture content. Each plant supports the other, giving the method the “Three Sisters” name.

One squash has its own special spot: “Gete-Okosomin,” an ancient Native American variety. Its blossoms will need to be covered to prevent cross-pollination from neighboring plants. To continue its long history, it will be self-pollinated by hand, using a Q-tip.

Katie also planted Lemon Queen sunflowers and bee balm. The sunflowers are part of [The Great Sunflower Project](#) where groups are monitoring pollinator visits over several years. Katie hopes to enlist MGVs to help with her project later this summer.

A busy, informative, fun morning at Junior Garden U



Twenty-one kids learned three weeding techniques, using stones, sticks, and trowels at Junior Garden U on Saturday, June 24 at the UW-Extension Demonstration and Learning Garden in River Falls. **Marilyn Gorham** explained how Native Americans used ancient tools to weed (*left*) and then gave everyone a trowel to compare (*middle*) and take home with them. **Diana Alfuth** helped students (*top right*) plant lettuce, radishes and beets with a hydroponic solution. After a lesson on wildlife in the garden, the students painted terra cotta pots to create toad abodes (*bottom right*). Other MGVs who helped with snacks, lessons, and questions were **Merry Hines, Barb Kolpin, Laurie Green, Brenda Bodelson, Margaret Smith, and Mitzi Roy.**



Hollyhock Weevil

by Jerry Bridge

I'll admit at the outset that the Hollyhock weevil (*Rhopalapion longirostre*) is one of my favorite insects in the garden. The adult is greyish in color with orange legs and about 4 mm (1/8 inch) in length. Both the male and female have long snouts, directed forward; the female has a longer snout, up to half as long as the body. The longer snout of the female apparently is used to chew into the developing ovary of the young flower bud to lay eggs. The weevil feeds on the leaves, seeds and buds of only hollyhocks. This weevil is a beetle native to Eurasia and was first observed in this country in Georgia in 1914; it is now widespread throughout much of North America.

The weevils belong to the largest family of beetles, over 3000 species in North America. (Present classification gives six different families of weevils, the largest in number by far being the family Curculionidae which includes the apple curculio and the plum curculio.) Different species of weevils have different snout types, with some species having no snout at all. Most weevils have a fairly long snout on the head for feeding which contains the chewing mouthparts. A number of species are

parthenogenic (producing young without fertilization of eggs) with males never having been observed.

Hollyhock weevils at times can be a major pest on hollyhocks. By shaking the plant the weevils fall off and they can be collected and destroyed. Removing seed pods on a regular basis will help remove developing larvae. Many common insecticides described for use on beetles, such as pyrethrins and pyrethroids, are available as well as horticultural oils and insecticidal soaps. One problem that develops with infestations is that the seeds are destroyed and the plants have difficulty reseeding, hollyhock being a biennial.

This can greatly reduce the number of plants over a period of time. Manual removal of the weevils is also an option when the numbers are not too great. At demonstrations kids get fairly excited seeing this strange looking insect under the microscope.



Hollyhock Weevil

(adult female)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA

Jerry has been a SCVMGA member since 2013. With a background in biological sciences and mathematics, he was an education consultant in a former homeland of South Africa. His interest in insects began many years ago in subarctic Canada.



Karalyn's Kitchen

Karalyn Littlefield, a MGVA 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.

Baked Beans

We have recently celebrated the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of our country on the Fourth of July. There are still many things to celebrate and fairs to attend, and what a better way than with baked beans.

Dry beans are high in starch, protein and fiber. They are eaten world-wide as a source of protein. Bean recipes are as numerous as the people who make them. In one theory, the Native Americans cooked beans with fat and maple syrup, which was then adapted by European settlers by adding pork and molasses. The recipe that I am sharing comes from my Aunt LaVonne. Aunt LaVonne is no longer with us. Her bean recipe lives on.

We have modified the recipe to be crock-pot friendly. Start them before you go to bed and they'll be ready when you wake up. You can even start your day with them as they do in the United Kingdom.

Baked Beans



- 1.5 lbs. Great Northern dry beans (or other small white beans)
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1/2 lb. raw bacon, diced
- 1/2 c. packed brown sugar
- 1 c. Ketchup
- 1/4 c. molasses
- 1 1/2 T. prepared yellow mustard
- 1 T. worcestershire sauce
- 2 tsp. salt (added at end of cooking)

Rinse and sort beans. Add beans, onion and bacon to crock pot. Mix next five (5) ingredients in a bowl until well blended. Add to crock pot. Mix well. Heat water to boiling and fill the crock pot. Stir mixture. Cover. Cook on high, overnight. When beans are soft, add salt. Enjoy. Serves 25 as a side dish.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you have a project that you would like to include on this list, please contact [Mitzi Roy](#), Volunteer Coordinator.

Note: click on underlined names for direct email links.

BALDWIN-WOODVILLE

Baldwin Community Garden

[Wendy Kramer](#)

B-W Giezendanner School Forest

[Debby Walters](#)

control invasive species

Viking Middle School

[Debby Walters](#)

maintain prairie restoration project

ELLSWORTH

Pierce County Fair (Aug. 10-13)

[Leroy Clark](#)

plan, setup displays, staff booth

Pierce County Fairground Gardens

[Karen O'Brien](#)

Ellsworth Ambulance Hall

[Kevin Ballman](#)

ELMWOOD

Personal Property Plant ID Project

[Teresa Davis](#) *Work as a team to identify plants in people's yards*

GLENWOOD CITY

Glenwood Community Garden

[Barb Nelson](#)

Glenwood City "Welcome Cows"

Bonnie Walters

help 4-H club with maintenance

St. Croix County Fair (July 19-23)

[Norma Rudesill](#), 715-688-2160

plan, setup displays, staff booth

HUDSON

Hudson Farmers Market (Plaza 94)

Tuesdays 8 a.m.-noon (June-Oct.)

[Maria Scheidegger](#)

Volunteers will set up, tear down table, answer questions

Lakefront Park (April-Oct)

[Ramona Robinson](#)

Octagon House (Mondays)

[Janet Haut](#)

Willow River Elementary School

[Ramona Robinson](#)

Willow River State Park

[Melissa DuPont](#)

Hudson Middle School

[Mike Deneen](#)

Birkmose Park Indian Mounds

[Marianne Leverty](#), 715-549-5528

maintain native plantings

Homestead Gardens, Perch Lake

(April-Oct.) [Justin Townsend](#)

plant annual garden, bring ideas for beautifying park

Christian Community Home

[Deb Pederstuen](#) *Weekly 2-hour maintenance of courtyard gardens*

Healing Waters Health Center

[Nancy Lawton-Shirley](#)

NEW RICHMOND

New Richmond Community Garden

[Donna Cadenhead](#)

plant, weed, harvest, donate produce

Deerfield Gables Care Center

[Carolyn Craig](#)

Cancer Center of Western Wisconsin

[Julie Walsh](#), 715-246-9999

Leadership Trust Initiative

[Kristin Thompson](#)

PRESCOTT

Great River Road Visitor Center

[Deb Kittilson](#)

Prescott Public Library

[Danielle Welch](#)

planting community garden for Summer Reading Program

Downtown Prescott Flowers

[Miranda Green](#)

watering flowers Mon, Tues, Wed.

RIVER FALLS

Boulevard Flower Plot

[Donna Reuter](#)

Demonstration and Learning Garden

(Hoffman Park) [Diana Alfuth](#)

plan, weed, give demonstrations, scout for problems

Grow to Share Community Garden

(Hoffman Park) [Megan Loga](#)

need board member, coordinator

Grow to Share Herb Garden

(Hoffman Park) [Heidi Nemcek](#)

Environmental Stewardship

(Grow to Share Gardens) [Kristin Wilson](#)

Have a Heart Farm

[Bobbie Kuhn](#)

River Falls Farmers Market

Tuesdays and Saturdays

[Elaine Baker](#)

staff booth, answer questions

St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity

[Dennis Schmidt](#)

Westside Elementary Garden

[Becky Cunningham](#)

guidance on seed, plant selection, coordinate student garden work

Westside Elementary Science Showcase

[Becky Cunningham](#)

VFW-Greenwood Cemetery

[Kathee Beebe](#)

City of River Falls

[Crystal Raleigh](#)

ROBERTS

Cross Community Garden

[Mike Deneen](#)

SOMERSET

Parnell Prairie Reserve (May-Sept)

[Jean Hoffman](#)

ANYWHERE

Hospitality Committee

[Trina Frank](#)

bring treats to monthly meetings

Sprinklings Newsletter

[Colleen Callahan](#)

contribute articles

Garden Book Collection

[Joni Garbe](#)

donate used gardening books

Visual Communications Team

[Leslie Holt](#)

take photos of SCVMGA events

MGV "Helping Hands"

[Gail Behr](#)

help fellow MGVs in time of need

Native Plant Study Group

[Gail Behr](#)

maintain demo garden, integrate native plants into SCVMGA sites

Sun & Country Messenger, Osceola

[Suzanne Lindgren](#), editor

write monthly garden column

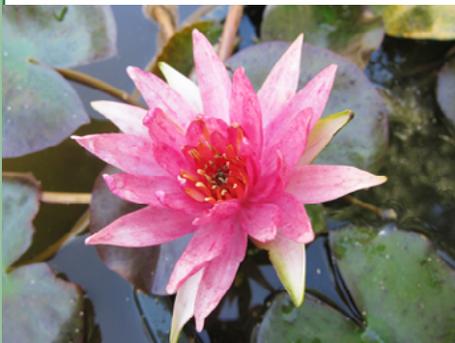
August meeting



Our August 24 meeting features Roger Olson, former president of the Minnesota Hosta Society. Olson has devoted many years to hostas and activities. His specialty is miniature hostas, but he'll tell us about his trip to Japan to seek out a new hosta variety, as well as talking about hostas in general. We will be back at First Covenant Church in River Falls. The meeting starts at 6:45 pm with the speaker at 7:15.

Name this plant CONTEST

Native to tropical East Africa, this plant is an aquatic rhizome.



Go to "Contact Us" on our [website](#) to enter the contest. You must give the genus name. **Deadline is midnight, July 25.** All correct answers will be entered in a drawing to be held at the July 27 meeting. This month's prize is a \$25 gift card from [Skyline Gardens & Ponds](#), River Falls.

Program ideas wanted!

by Carolyn Barrette

It's that time of year again - we're in the process of developing the 2018 program schedule for the monthly meetings as well as the special events we have such as Garden U - to be held on March 19, 2018 again at the Hudson House, and the September specialized training we've sponsored the past few years. We like to make the January meeting a special introduction for new members - and add some color in the dark days of winter. Any suggestions?

Is there a speaker you would like to hear? A subject you want to know about? A really fantastic garden person you think ought to talk to us? Our summer 'field trips' have been popular. We could visit garden shops, specialty gardens, produce centers, dining areas with special gardens - the possibilities are endless. The field is wide open and the best ideas come from our members.

Please forward the name and contact information to Carolyn Barrette at tbarrett@presenter.com or call 715-549-6438 or 612-201-5916. Or let someone else know and ask them to pass on the information. I just make the phone calls - you folks are the ones who come up with the great program ideas. Just a mention of a subject or person might lead further to someone or some place that might be a really great program.

These programs are put together so we can use them for the education hours we need, plus we get to learn all kinds of interesting things about plants, landscaping, indoor gardens, new garden techniques. The latest hot idea - or the 'weed of the year' - it's an opportunity to learn. Please send your ideas!

Sprinklings



[SCVMGA Website](#)

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 listed above.

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, Aug. 4** for the August issue. Please email submissions or inquiries to giverny@me.com.

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