

REMINDER: Underlined words are active links

'Community grant' garden highlights July meeting

by [Carolyn Barrette](#)

Landscaping and an entrance garden at Pine Glen Cemetery in Prescott will be the focus of our July 25 meeting. A 2018 SCVMGA grant was awarded to Carol Ahlgren, a Minnesota Master Gardener and to her sister-in-law, Mari Jackson, a Chippewa Valley Master Gardener. They inherited the care of the cemetery from their parents.

The cemetery is near Great River Road Visitor & Learning



Center and Freedom Park Gardens at [200 Monroe St., Prescott](#). Situated along the bluff line, the center offers a spectacular

view of the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers.

We will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 25 at Freedom Park, then head to the cemetery, located 5 blocks away. We can walk or carpool to the cemetery.

New Richmond Community Garden focus of August meeting

by [Carolyn Barrette](#)

The August 22 meeting will be at the Community Garden at the [St. Croix Human Services Center](#), 1752 Dorset Lane, (across from Walmart in New Richmond.) Sharon Reyzer, from the St. Croix County Public Health Dept., was instrumental in developing the garden on the St. Croix Services site and providing fresh produce to clients in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. She will tell how and why the garden started and relate the importance of the garden's produce to public health clients and what we can do to help.

. . . . Special Program Notice

Did we get your attention? Pique your interest? It's time again to tell the Program Committee what you'd like to learn at our meetings. Have a favorite topic? Please contact [Carolyn Barrette](#) or [Bridget Kelley](#). Your input would be greatly appreciated!

'Healthy Gardening with Kids' is this year's theme at fairs



by [Amanda Lawrence](#)

As the calendar turns to July, it's time to think about the St. Croix County Fair from July 17-21.

Our theme this year is "Healthy Gardening with Kids." We will have display gardens outside the Home and Community Education (HCE) building. The gardens will show how we can use different vegetables and herbs to make pizza, salsa, and smoothies. We will be creating recipe booklets on how to recreate the gardens at home and recipes on how to use the yummy ingredients.

New this year is our booth location. We will be located inside a commercial building. Please consider volunteering – it will be a delightful time! Signup is available through [Signup Genius](#) on our [website](#) or [email me](#). Thanks!



by [Kevin Ballman](#)

The Pierce County Fair starts Thursday, Aug. 8 and runs through Sunday, Aug. 11.

We have 3 shifts available each day except Sunday, which only has two since the fair ends that day at 4 p.m. Shifts are 10-1, 1-4 and 4-7. We would like to have two-three volunteers per shift. We need help on all shifts Saturday and Sunday. On Thursday, we have openings from 1-4 and on Friday 1-4 and 4-7. We could also use a little help Wednesday at 2 p.m. to put up the tent and on Sunday at 4 p.m. to take it down.

A planning meeting for volunteers is set for July 30 to distribute entry tickets and prepare for this year's theme.

Please call me at 651-385-0321 or 651-212-1982.

President's Message

I love this time of year! The sun rises early and sunset is late. The morning dew looks like diamonds on each blade of grass. Lift your face and feel the gentle breeze welcoming you to another beautiful day in our wonderful early summer climate. I love this time of year!



JoAnn Ryan

Lawnmowers and weed whackers – grass is growing again. Can't you smell it?

Fresh strawberries picked in the garden. Juice running down your chin.

Pick and eat from the garden – so crunchy and tasty. Makes a good mid-day snack. Or try **Karalyn Littlefield's** recipe for

creamed veggies (page 4).

Take the trash out? "Of course, I'll be glad to."

Check the mailbox? "No problem."

Bring the groceries in from the car? "Sure!"

No furnace or AC. It's so quiet. The windows are open.

I can smell the peonies. The whole house smells sweet.

Backyard Barbeques – yum – hot dogs with mustard.

Rain – a free carwash. Yippee! Vacations – maybe to the lake. Do a little fishing. Best of all – ice cream cones while walking in the park.

And don't forget – it's county fair time!

Amanda Lawrence and **Kevin Ballman** need volunteers. If you have a few spare hours, sign up to spread the word about our great organization.



SCVMGA tours are fun learning experiences

by Debby Walters

Our first tour was to Tavis's Wild and Exotic Mushrooms near Cumberland, Wis. The operation began in 1982. Tavis explained the process of inoculating logs with shiitake mushroom spore and then cribbing the logs in the forest. Logs will bear shiitakes for 3-5 years. Tavis also raises oyster and wine cap mushrooms. At the tour's end, we picked our own shiitakes. Eleven MGVs attended.



MGVs Bob and Faye Gartmann collect a basket of shiitake mushrooms.

The second tour is to Barbara Burgum's gardens/landscape in Wayzata. It will be Sunday afternoon, July 21. Barbara's gardens have recently been included in the Garden Club of America archives at the Smithsonian Institu-

tion in Washington, D.C. She has two acres of vegetable, rain, perennial and prairie gardens on the shore of Lake Minnetonka.



On Wednesday, August 14, River Road Honey Farm in Prescott is the destination. Audrey and Eske Bennetson will tell us about plants that provide their bees with food as well as information on beekeeping.

Please use SignUp Genius to reserve your spot.

Questions can be directed to Debby Walters or Anita Justen.

New SCVMGA apparel

It's now easy to order your new SCVMGA clothing! All you have to do is follow the instructions on our website. Click here.

The logo is on the upper left chest. You can choose among a V-neck (ladies cut) t-shirt, a crew or "rounded" neck (unisex cut) t-shirt, a long-sleeved round neck t-shirt or a polo shirt.



The logo is screen-printed on all shirts except the polo shirt, which will be embroidered.

All come in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL. A \$2 fee is added on to the XXL size.

All shirts, except the polo, require a minimum order of 12 before the order is processed.

Hudson Garden Club offers tour

The Botany Belles and Beaus Garden Club will host its second annual tour of four private gardens in the Baldwin and Hammond area on Saturday, July 13 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Several local businesses are offering specials to shoppers who wear the garden tour wristband. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the Windmill on Hwy. 63 or at any of the four gardens. Children under 12 are free. Proceeds will go toward community garden projects and student scholarships. Click here for more details.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Note: click on underlined names for direct email links.

BALDWIN-WOODVILLE

- Western Wisconsin Health (hospital)
[Rosa Magnus](#)
- * **B-W Giezendanner School Forest**
[Debby Walters](#)
- * **Viking Middle School**
[Debby Walters](#)

ELLSWORTH

- Pierce County Fair (Aug. 8-11)
[Kevin Ballman](#)
- Ellsworth Ambulance Hall
[Kevin Ballman](#)

GLENWOOD CITY

- St. Croix County Fair (July 17-21)
[Amanda Lawrence](#)

HAMMOND

- Hammond Community Garden
[Mike Deneen](#)

HUDSON

- Hudson Farmers Market Plaza 94
(Thursdays)
[Maria Scheidegger](#)
- Hudson Hospital Community Garden
[Karen Jilek](#)
- Octagon House gardens (Mondays)
[Jean Haut](#)
- * **Willow River Elementary School**
[Ramona Robinson](#)
- Willow River State Park
[Carol Hardin](#)
- Christian Community Home
[Deb Pederstuen](#)
- Hudson Public Library
[Joan Bushman](#)

NEW RICHMOND

- * **SCVMGA New Richmond Garden**
[Donna Cadenhead](#)
- Deerfield Gables Care Center
[Carolyn Craig](#) Reflection garden

OSCEOLA

- Butterfly Project
[Jennifer Berg](#)

RIVER FALLS

- Demonstration and Learning Garden
(Hoffman Park) [Diana Alfuth](#)
- * **Junior Garden U** (July)
[Diana Alfuth](#)
- Grow to Share Community Garden
(Hoffman Park)
[John Ramstad](#)
- Rain Gardens, City of River Falls
[Zach Regnier](#)
- Have a Heart Farm
[Bobbie Kuhn](#)
- River Falls Farmers Market (Saturdays)
[Laura Milano](#)
- * **Westside Elementary Garden**
[Becky Cunningham](#)

ROBERTS

- Cross Community Garden
[Mike Deneen](#)

SOMERSET

- Christ Lutheran Church
[Karen Nork](#)

TROY

- Town Hall
[Jill Berke](#)
- Glover Park Entrance
[Jill Berke](#)
- Glover Park Prairie Garden
[Jill Berke](#)

WOODVILLE

- Norseman's Manor (senior living)
[Becky Strand](#), 715-222-5521

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

- Hospitality
Bring treats to meetings. Contact [Helen Heggernes](#) or [Bev Schomburg](#)
- Vegetable Garden Education
[Catherine Engstrom](#)
- Sprinklings Newsletter
[Colleen Callahan](#)

* *Gardening with children*

New Richmond Garden Update

"Summer Stretch" students worked on June 27 and will return on Thursday, July 11. Peas and lettuces are ready to harvest, plus some weeding is needed. Contact [Donna Cadenhead](#) if you can help.

Junior Garden U

Teaching kids about gardening is full of surprises. It's always a fun and rewarding experience for Master Gardeners. This year's event will be **Monday, July 29** from 6-8 p.m. at the Demonstration Garden in River Falls for kids in grades 1-6.

If you have time to help, please contact [Diana Alfuth](#).



MGV Marilyn Gorham at 2017 event.

'Grow to Share' garden tour

A 'Grow to Share' Garden Tour will be held Saturday, July 13 from 9 a.m. -noon at the River Falls garden plots in Hoffman Park. It's hosted by SCVMGA members **James Davis** and **John Ramstad**. John is the Grow to Share Garden Manager as well as our SCVMGA Volunteer Coordinator. James is a member of the Grow to Share Board of Directors, a non-profit in River Falls.

It's a great event and a fun opportunity to see what they are growing and sharing locally for the River Falls community! Meet the Board of Directors, tour the garden plots and grab a cup of coffee at their coffee station. Master Gardeners will be available for community members to ask gardening questions.

Creamy Vegetables

by Karalyn Littlefield

As our gardens produce the first vegetables of the season, we are excited to pick and consume them. Beans, peas, carrots, and potatoes are ready in small amounts. The first pickings of a little of each of these is a reason to celebrate the season with creamed vegetables. I remember working in my Grandparents' garden and looking forward to the first vegetables served as creamed vegetables. The carrots and potatoes were small, and the beans and peas were few. Gathered together, they made a dish.



Pick the vegetables that are ready to be eaten. Clean and cook them. Make a white sauce (béchamel), mix together, adjust seasoning and enjoy.

Creamed Vegetables

- 2 Tbls butter
- 2 Tbls flour
- 1 Cup milk
- Salt, white pepper, nutmeg

Melt butter in saucepan or skillet over medium heat. Sprinkle flour over melted butter and whisk to prevent lumps. Cook for a few minutes though not until flour colors. Whisk continuously and slowly add milk. Bring to a boil and let simmer a few minutes. Season with salt, white pepper and a scant pinch of nutmeg.

Scrub carrots and potatoes. Cut larger product in half. Shell peas and cut string beans in smaller pieces. Use other vegetables that may be available. Place potatoes in salted water and bring to a boil. Add carrots. When carrots and potatoes are fork-tender add beans, cook 2 minutes, add peas and cook until warmed through. Drain vegetables and add to white sauce. Taste and adjust seasoning. Serve as a side dish.

A Celebration of Insects

A two-day public event at the Kemp Natural Resources Station in Minocqua will take place July 26-27. Sponsored by the UW-Madison Department of Entomology, the activities are designed for families to celebrate more than 20,000 insects, spiders, and arthropods that thrive in the state. The highlight is The Great Wisconsin Bug Hunt. For more information, [click here](#).



SAVE THE DATE

State conference coming in fall

Eau Claire will be one of three sites for the annual fall conference of the Wisconsin Master Gardeners Association (WIMGA) this fall. All three sites will present the same topic and last one day only.

The emphasis will be on learning presentation skills and using social media to promote the Master Gardener program. The conference will count toward Continuing Education hours (CE).

Morning refreshments and lunch will be included.

The Eau Claire conference is scheduled for **Friday, Sept. 20**.



New SCVMGA banners created



Two vertical banners (*at left*) were purchased recently for indoor use. The banners use the same photograph used on our brochure covers.

Two small and two large banners (*below*) were also purchased to be used outdoors across the front of tables or hung on tents.

Both styles include the new logo.



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. All SCVMGA members are welcome to contribute articles on any horticultural topic. Please email submissions or inquiries to the editor.

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