

Newsletter
of the St. Croix
Valley Master
Gardeners
Association



SCVMGA Monthly Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 27

**Location: Unitarian
Universalist Church**

**Pizza at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

**Guest Speaker at 7:00 p.m.:
Jim Madson on Gladioli**

**Jan./Feb.
Meeting
Notes**

&

**Jan./Feb
Speaker
Notes**

The January and February meetings were cancelled due to bad weather and/or unsafe travel conditions.

Important Announcements

St. Croix Valley Master Gardeners Grant Applications Being Accepted

St. Croix Valley Master Gardeners Association is now accepting grant applications for gardening projects serving St. Croix or Pierce Counties. The deadline for submission is March 10, 2014.

Each year SCVMGA makes funds available for projects contributing to horticultural education, beautification/improvement of parks and community spaces, dissemination of horticultural information, human services such as growing food for local food shelves, and environmental stewardship such as prairie restoration.

Key criteria considered in awarding the grants are:

- 1) Does the project benefit the public as opposed to private individuals?
- 2) Does the project provide an opportunity for youth to learn about and appreciate horticulture?
- 3) Is this a first time request for grant funds?

SCVMGA requests that grant recipients provide a final summary of their project, with:

Photos of the project by October 1, 2014. Project participants are also encouraged to provide a brief presentation of their project in October or November 2014.

Past projects have included: rain and butterfly gardens created by students and teachers to manage roof runoff; planting of large flower pots to beautify downtown areas; window box plantings at social service organizations; planting of native perennials and woodland plants at various parks; restoration of prairie landscape; assistance in the development of community gardens in various communities; and beautification of park entrances and public buildings with perennials and native plants.

More information, including the *complete grant application, is available on line at:* <http://scvmga.weebly.com/>. Please contact Phyllis Jaworski (pjaworski2001@yahoo.com; (715) 222-8914) or Dianne Wright (diannemwright@gmail.com; (715) 386-9128) with any questions.

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Membership News from Deb Pederstuen, Membership Director

New Members

Please welcome Dorothy Seebach of River Falls. Dorothy is a graduate of the Fall 2013 MG V Level 1 training class.

I want to remind all new members they can register by mail, at our Garden U seminar at Ready Randy's in New Richmond, or at the March 27th meeting at the Unitarian Church in River Falls. It's best to arrive between 5:30 and 6:00 before the 6:00 pizza party. Registration forms are available on our Weebly website at <http://scvmga.weebly.com>.

2104 Membership Dues & Renewal

You can still renew your 2014 membership. Don't forget to include the EXTRA \$10 RENEWAL FEE assessed after December 31, 2013. Send a check payable to SCVMGA to:

**Deb Pederstuen
470 Green Mill Lane
Hudson, WI 54016**

ANNUAL DUES

\$10 - GRADUATE of Fall 2013 MG Training Class

\$15 - Individual NEW MG V

\$25 - RENEWAL --Individual MG V

\$30 - RENEWAL--Family (all must qualify)

If you have questions or circumstances that prevent you from renewing, please notify Deb Pederstuen at 715-385-6681 or debnrick@gmail.com.



Volunteer Opportunities



ALL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE
POSTED ON-LINE AT:

www.scvmga.weebly.com

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Pauline Goerd (pleen117@hotmail.com) if you have projects in need of help.

- Baldwin** Community Garden 1650 8th Ave philpark@hotmail.com 715 688 2851
 . *Supervise & assist gardeners *maintain garden areas *harvest and donate
- Ellsworth** Pierce Co. Fair cimicifuga2@hotmail.com
 . Aug 7-10 *Need Coordinators *man booth *help with displays *planning * set up
- VFW Post 154 S Plum St Carol 715 262 5232 matzek@centurytel.net
 *help mulch and edge landscape *perennial care
- Glenwood City** St. Croix Co. Fair nurseonloose@baldwin-telecom.net jdproctor33@hotmail.com
 July 17-20 *man booth *help with displays *planning *set up
- Hammond** St. Mary's Community Garden 1420 Fithian St. Mike 715 386 9792 mandb1973@aol.com
 . * Sunday school garden *Grade School garden *coordinate or help
- Village Community Garden Ridgeway Road Mike 715 386 9792 mandb1973@aol.com
 . *growing community food, flowers & orchard *coordinate or help
- Hudson** Hudson Hospital 405 Stageline Road Jean jean.m.weiler@hudsonhospital.org
 . *Indoor plant caretaker *Community garden *coordinate or help
- Octagon House 1004 3rd Ave Jean 715 377 0645 jahaut@comcast.net
 *general garden maintenance *Monday workdays
- Christian Community Home 1320 Wisconsin St. 715 386 9303 shelly.destasio@cchudson.org
 *Memory care gardens maintenance *monthly maintenance 2-5 hours
- YMCA Camp St. Croix 532 Co Rd F 612 465 0561 stephanie.lentz@ymcatwincities.org
 . *landscaping help *flower gardens help *vegetable garden help *greenhouse help
- Humble Acres 433 East Cove Road Diane 612 290 5004 www.humbleacres.com
 . *answer questions *assist with workshops
- SCVMGA Plant Sale 1004 3rd St. Corky cweeks@presenter.com June 7
 . *donate plants *unload, sort & mark plants on 6/6 *set up *sale *answer questions on 6/7
- Farmer's Market Plaza 94 June – Oct Thursday 8-12 dbutler1@presenter.com
- Willow River State Park Cty Rd A Lauren 715 386 9340 *tours *maintenance
- New Richmond**
- Deer Field Gables Care Center 575 Hospital Rd Carolyn 715 246 6242 cacraig@frontiernet.net
 . *help plant new gardens *maintain gardens

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- Community Garden 2050 Hwy 65 Carolyn 715 549 6438 tbarrett@presenter.com
*planting *weeding *harvesting *planning *supervise kids in May
- Garden U 1492 131st St Carolyn 715 549 6438 tbarrett@presenter.com March 15
*Make bars *help vendors *set up * man booth *registration help
- Prescott** Great River Rd Visitor Center 200 Monroe St. Jessica jessica@freedomparkwi.org
* April clean up * Plant Sale 5/17 *weeding *maintenance * 715 262 0104
- River Falls** Town of River Falls Parks Dan djrandall13@yahoo.com 651 775 6052
*entrance sign planting & maintenance at 7 different parks *3-4 hours per month
- Farmer's Market 2nd St. and Locust St. Bev wbhopper@yahoo.com
May–Oct Sat 8-12; Tues 4-6 *man booth *answer questions
- Demonstration and Learning Garden Diana Alfuth diana.alfuth@ces.uwex.edu
By Hoffman Park at Grow to Share Community Garden
*planning *layout *weeding *demonstrate in garden *scouting for problems
- St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity Susan 715 425 5623 susan.capparelli@scvhabitat.org
Working on Habitat for Humanity homes and the new gardens they are planting
- Grow to Share Community Garden Anna 715 426 0826 growtoshare@gmail.com
Hoffman Park *weeding *planting *watering *harvesting *delivering
- RF Community Garden Amy 715 307 7317
on RF High School property (Cemetery Rd) *weeding *watering *harvesting
- Roberts** Cross Community Garden 1246 Co Rd TT Mike 715 386 9792 mandb1973@aol.com
*growing community food and flowers *coordinate or help
- Somerset** Parnell Prairie Preserve 1823 45th St. Jean jeanh@me.com
*weeding and watering showcase area May – Sept @ 4 hours per month
- Spring Valley** Spring Valley Village Gardens Sue 715 778 4559 christensons@springvalley.k12.wi.us
*help weed and maintain village gardens
- Anywhere** We need people to write articles for the *Sprinklings* newsletter. If you have researched a topic or would just like to share your knowledge on a subject please feel free to write an article and submit it to our newsletter editor - deadlines are typically the first Friday of the month
Carol caroljeanwilcox@gmail.com

The Vernal Equinox is March 20!
Longer, warmer days are coming!

Vote for WIMGA At-Large Board Member

According to the WIMGA by-laws, 12 of the 15 Directors of the WIMGA Board are selected from the 6 districts from among the local reps in each district. The general membership will elect an additional three members from throughout the state, with terms staggered so that one At-Large position term expires each year. **This year, Matt Schmitz's term expires and he will need to be reelected to continue in that position. Matt does an excellent job of representing Master Gardeners in the Western District. Please don't forget to vote so that Matt can continue to be on the WIMGA Board.**

There are 2 candidates for the one open position this year. The candidates' statements are presented in alphabetical order. Please vote for your choice **by March 26, 2014** by either:

Option 1. Detach and mail the paper ballot below with your vote to:

Susan Mahr, MG Program Coordinator;
Department of Horticulture
1575 Linden Dr.
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706

Option 2. E-mail your vote (just the candidate name is fine) to Susan Mahr (semahr@wisc.edu).

Jill Botvinik, Outagamie Co. MGA

I obtained my MGV training in Vancouver, Washington in 2011. I have been a life-long volunteer, so combined with my passion for gardening, becoming a MGV was an excellent fit for me. I joined the Outagamie Co. MGA as a transfer soon after moving back to Wisconsin in 2012. In May of 2013 I became the new Outagamie Co. Seasonal Horticulture Assistant. I have been involved in many activities with the Outagamie Co. MGA, including the upcoming annual WIMGA conference. With degrees in Accounting and Arts Administration, and having served on other boards, I feel I have many skills that would be valuable to the WIMGA, as well as a different perspective on the MG program.

Matt Schmitz, St. Croix Valley MGA (incumbent)

Currently I am active in the St. Croix Valley MGA which has co-hosted two state conferences on which I served on the planning committee. I work in the horticulture industry and it has been very useful in the educational activities for MG program. During my time on WIMGA I worked on clarifying the responsibilities for the different positions that are part of WIMGA. Recently I have been elected Vice President and look forward to continued service in that position.

Ballot for WIMGA At-Large Board Member (1)
Return this ballot by Wednesday, March 26, 2014
Vote for ONE (1)

___ Jill Botvinik

___ Matt Schmitz

Wisconsin Master Gardener Association Update from Marilyn Gorham, WIMGA Rep.

Summary of the WIMGA Board Meeting January 9, 2014 – WisLine

Susan Mahr will be out of the office the following dates: Feb 25 – March 17.

The Board conducted the following business at the December meeting:

1. Tom Wentzel from Outagamie County MGs gave a report about the upcoming **2014 WIMGA Conference**. He reported that registration has been available on-line for about two weeks and have 61 registrants to date. Tom wanted to remind everyone that rates go up \$5 on February 1 and again on March 1. If anyone is writing a check for the raffle tickets, to make it out to OCMGA. The dates and times for the face-to-face meeting and the WIMGA annual meeting will be verified by Becky Gutzman and a separate e-mail will be sent to all the reps.

2. The **2016 Midwest Regional MG Conference** will be hosted by Wisconsin. There has been no association that has volunteered to host this, so it was decided that a committee be formed to make this a joint effort statewide. E-mail will be sent requesting volunteers.

3. The **proposed SOP changes** have been adopted and the update version is on the website:
<http://wimastergardener.org/sites/wimastergardener.org/files/WiscmgFiles/SOP2013.pdf>

The 2015 International Master Gardener Conference will be held September 22 – 25 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. More information to come.

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Saturday, March 15 is the date for Garden U. This event will be held at Ready Randy's, Hwy. 65 & Co. Road G, New Richmond from 9:00-3:00. Featured guests include **David Zlesak** - *The best trees for your yard and how to save them*; **Dave Paulson** - *Display of trees info, opportunity for 'hands on' and questions*; and **Emilie Justen** - *What's new in the world of invasive weeds?* There will be lunch and a break - plus our Garden Market Place with local garden oriented vendors.

The **March 27 meeting** of the St. Croix Valley Master Gardener Association will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church south of River Falls. Our guest will be **Jim Madson**, speaking on **Growing Glorious Gladioli**. Glads are a perennial, sun-loving favorite with showy flower spikes. Madson, a NW Wisconsin expert, will cover the how-to's of growing techniques including hybridizing, diseases, and varieties. Madson grows six acres of specialty and varietal glads and hosted the National Glad Society 2013 convention tour last September.



HOW TO ORDER YOUR OFFICIAL WIMGA NAME BADGE



WIMGA name badges can be ordered anytime by certified MGVs, using the form below the link on the WIMGA website. You must be certified and current on hours (recertified) to receive a badge.

There is a \$2.00 charge in addition to cost of badge for individual orders. Dr. Mahr prefers group orders and doesn't place the WIMGA order until she has a large quantity of association and individual orders.

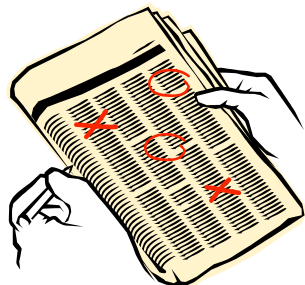
Our group order sign-up is at the January meeting. See Marilyn Gorham, WIMGA rep, at that time to place order and clearly print your name on the order sheet exactly as you want it on your badge. Payment at that time is requested.

The cost is \$6.50 per badge with no additional cost if it is included in the group order. Checks must be made payable to "UW-Horticulture". It may take some time for order to ship.

<http://wimastergardener.org/sites/wimastergardener.org/files/WIScmgFiles/MGV-NameBadgeOrderForm.pdf>

Gardener's Classifieds

If you're cleaning out and cleaning up don't forget that your junk may be a treasure for a fellow gardener. Post your trades, unwanted, and unneeded items in the classifieds for FREE!!



What New Vegetable This Year?

By Carol Wilcox

I have been planting vegetable gardens for over 35 years and each year I try something new. Some of the past choices include: salsify, flint corn (for grinding), tomatillos, rutabaga, garbanzo beans, bok choy, and okra.

Generally, the crop grows well and I am happy with the results but often I say to myself that I won't grow THAT again!

This year, I'm still undecided but am steering toward greens like chard and arugula. I am fascinated by colorful peppers and tomatoes too, so they might make an appearance. Or maybe red carrots! I enjoy perusing the seed catalogs for something that catches my eye and tempts my tastebuds, especially on a cold winter day!

I hope you, my fellow gardeners, will find your growing adventures fun and fulfilling and please send your stories or reports to me for others to read and enjoy in this newsletter. THINK SPRING!!!

***Sprinklings* March/April Issue Information**

The next issue of *Sprinklings*, a publication of the St. Croix County Master Gardeners Association, will be published in May. Submissions should be received by May 2, 2014 for the May issue. Our goal is to ensure members receive their copy of *Sprinklings* prior to that month's meeting.

You are welcome to contribute articles about your favorite gardening subjects, available volunteer and training opportunities for master gardeners, book reviews, or any other gardening related topic you find of interest, including recipes, tips and ideas! Please send submissions or direct questions to Carol Wilcox at caroljeanwilcox@gmail.com or phone 715-307-3879. Email attachment submissions are preferred.