

Wolf River Master Gardeners NEWS

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER - JANUARY 2014

November Meeting Highlights:

Janet sent around a Gardens Series Brochure from Green Bay MGs. If you have any interest in getting an email copy, please let her know.

Membership cards were distributed.

Darlane Kroening, Kathy Conto and Amy Damveld were recognized for 150 hours of service. Karen Childs, Todd Pamperin and Lorin Preston were recognized for 250 hours of service.

We are sending Qualheims a Thank You gift for allowing us the continued use of their conference room for our meetings.

The officers will have a budget planning meeting in January for the 2014 budget. Get in touch with Janet with ideas.

New Officers for 2014 are:

Vice President: Jackie Johnson
State Representative: Renee Elertson
Member at Large: Joanne Meisner
Treasurer: Don Publitz



Meeting Schedule

January Board Meeting	January 21 6:0 p.m.	Qualheims	Board meeting to establish 2014 budget
January Meeting	January 27 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Potluck Supper Catalog/Book Exchange
February Meeting	February 26 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Program: Bob Dumke of Wild Ones
March Meeting	March 24 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Intro into making a powerpoint by Jackie Johnson
April Meeting	April 28 6:00 p.m.	Navarino Nature Center	Tour of the Center by Naturalist Tim Ewing
May Meeting	May 19 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Living Wreaths by Karen Childs and Pat Gwidt
June Meeting	June 23 -----	Apple Valley Nursery	Tour - Karen Sojka
July Meeting	July 28 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Tour - Don Bublitz Garden
August Meeting	August 25 6:00	Maple Valley Nursery - Gillet	Tour - Pat Gwidt Chair
September Meeting	Sept 24 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Apple Tasting Dues are due
October Meeting	October 27 6:00 p.m.	Qualheims	Seed Exchange, Bulbs and 2015 Planning
November Meeting	November 24 6:00	Qualheims	Election of 2015 officers
November Church Dinner	November 25	1 st Presbyterian Church - Shawano	Details TBA



Upcoming in 2014

January 24-25 – Garden Vision Conference – U of Wisconsin – Marathon – Wausau

February 7-9 – WPT Garden Expo – Madison

March 28-29 – WIMGA Annual Conference – Appleton

April 15 – GBBG Spring Thaw Symposium – Green Bay Botanical Garden

June 14 – Rhubarb Festival – Shawano

June 15 – Shawano County Brunch on the Farm

July 12 – Safe Haven Garden Walk

August 12-14 – Farm Technology Days – Stevens Point

August 28-29 – Shawano County Fair



GARDENLINE:

June: 7, 14, 21, 18
July: 5, 12, 19, 26
August: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
September: 6, 13, 20, 27
October: 4, 11, 18, 25

FARMERS MARKETS:

June: 14, 21, 28
July: 5, 12, 19, 26
August: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
September: 6, 13, 20, 27
October: 4

GARDEN JOURNALS Jackie Johnson ND

As we quietly sit during the winter months gazing out the window at the white blanket of snow covering our gardens, we plan. We're gardeners, we can't help ourselves. Thoughts like "I wish I had put that there. I wish I could have found a XXX for that spot. I wonder what became of XXX, I know it was there" swirl through our heads.



As a once-in-a-while garden journal keeper I wish I had been better. I work outside the home and for years I had to carry a "Planner" with my old pages neatly in a box under my desk at work. Years' worth until they were accidentally shredded. I loved to go thru them, not to see what meetings were good, and which were disastrous, but because I diligently recorded the temperatures and precipitation amounts on each day (at least Monday thru Friday). A great delight of mine is just reading back and thinking - wow it was warm that day in January!

I would doodle a garden plan and generally carried it out. In another box at home, I have pictures - Many pictures of this plant or that plant (most identifiable). Now I have about ten years of pictures on my computer sorted by date taken by a handy little free program.

Often I wish the pictures could be with the information. I've even thought about taking a week of vacation and doing that but it hasn't happened so far.

What might one contain in your journal?

- 1 - Where and where you planted what. When it germinated. How it grew.
- 2 - Ideas on what you want to plant - maybe pictures you've taken, or pictures from magazines. Plans and dreams for future gardens.
- 3 - Temperatures, sun/rain amounts, any major climate occurrences (big storms, tornadoes, winds, the day the tree fell on the house, etc.), moon cycles, what time it gets dark, what time the dew really dries.
- 4 - What worked and what didn't. Great successes, colossal failures (like when someone gives you crown vetch for the ditch so you didn't need to cut it and you actually planted it and have been plagued with it ever since).
- 5- What was ready to harvest when.
- 6 - What weeds popped up - this has become important to me, since I'm into "foraging" and a lot of those weeds now make it onto the table. (We use no chemicals in the yard - and it looks like it - this is not a beautifully landscaped city lot with a sign that says stay off the grass due to chemicals.)
- 7 - How they taste. (I'm an herbalist - what can I say?)
- 8 - Disease problems encountered.
- 9 - Costs - of plants, of fertilizer, of tools (and how you liked them or didn't), of seed.

Just think if we had all this information carefully documented for as many years as we've been gardening. My auditor's mind is thinking spreadsheets, tracking, trending!



With technology comes change and that includes our journals. I've seen some beautiful journals done by scrap bookers. Many are available for purchase. The Madison Area Master Gardeners has a great one that includes all sorts of tips, tasks, grids and recipes for about \$15.

Your journal can be as simple as a spiral bound notebook to write in, or a three ring binder you can add extra pages too. For those computer savvies, a running diary kept online is effective and can include scanned in hand drawings, pictures, etc.

I've searched the internet several times getting ideas for that three-ring binder. Following are some websites that have templates you can print out and use, or at least give you an idea of what you like and don't like. And don't forget those pictures - photos or from magazines etc.

Garden Journal pages - free from these websites. (These are Control-click to open or cut and paste - hold your mouse over the website address.)

- Nice Garden Journal Pages, www.northerngardening.com
- Plain Garden Journal Pages, www.homesteadgarden.com
- Lovely Garden Journal Pages, www.Lowes.com
- Practical 24 Page Garden Journal, www.arbico-organics.com
- Gorgeous Garden Journal Pages, www.blueboardwalk.com
- Cute Garden Journal Pages, www.gardentracker.com (click on worksheets in the left menu)

While we watch the deepening snow, it seems a good time to develop a journal. I know I'm going to and hopefully others will do the same and we can compare notes next winter while we wait for spring.



CATALOGS

1. Mountain Valley Growers, CA
www.mountainvalleygrowers.com
2. John Scheepers Kitchen Garden Seeds, CT
www.kitchengardenseeds.com
3. Well-Sweep Herb Farm, NJ
www.wellsweep.com
4. The Natural Gardening Company, CA
www.naturalgardening.com
5. The Cook's Garden, PA
www.cooksgarden.com
6. High Country Gardens, NH
www.highcountrygardens.com
7. Hauser's Superior View Farm, WI
www.superiorviewfarm.com
8. Seeds from Italy, MA
www.growitalian.com

9. Nichols Garden Nursery, OR
www.nicholsgardennursery.com

10. Pinetree Golden Seeds, ME
www.superseeds.com

11. Abundant Life Seeds, OR
www.abundantlifeseeds.com

12. Johnny's Selected Seeds, MA
www.johnnyseeds.com

13. Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds,
MO www.rareseeds.com

14. The Growers Exchange, VA
www.thegrowers-exchange.com

15. The Seed Savers, IA
www.seedsavers.org

16. Richter's Herbs, Canada
www.richters.com

17. Totally Tomatoes, Wisconsin
www.totallytomato.com

18. Burgess Seed & Plant, IL
www.eburgess.com

19. Jung Seeds & Plants, WI
www.jungseed.com

20. Farmers Seed & Nursery, MN
www.farmerseed.com

21. R.H. Shumways WI
www.rhshumway.com

GBBG Garden of Lights

Green Bay Botanical Garden – Garden of Lights will be each weekend in December – Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Over a quarter of a million lights transform the Garden into a Winter Wonderland. Walk the trails or take a ride in a horse drawn carriage. Music in the main hall along with refreshments. For exact times, days and costs: www.gbbg.org

They're always looking for volunteers to help with everything from greeting to parking cars to helping with refreshments. It takes nearly 100 volunteers each night to pull this off. (Volunteer hours should count for MG hours.)

Last year there were over 50,000 people who went thru the Light Show – making this their largest fund raiser. This is the largest Holiday Light show in the region, if not the State.



Projects

Qualifying Activities:

Mielke Theatre - Joanne Meisner
Navarino Nature Center - Joanne Meisner
Wolf River Lutheran High School - Don Bublitz
Shawano County Courthouse Memorial - Amy Damveld
Marion Library - Todd Pamperin
Tigerton Gardens - Todd Pamperin
Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Linda Meisner, Joanne Meisner, Janet Kahlow
St. Michaels Keshena - Pat Gwidt
UW Loon Watch - Pat Gwidt
Community Garden Gresham - Deb Laehn
Purple Loostrife - Lois Bressette and Karen Sojka
Qualheims Seminar Garden Tips - Amy Dambeld
Farm Technology Days - Aug 12-14 - Stevens Point
Newsletter - Jackie Johnson
Huckleberry Harbor - Mary Nordrin



Affiliated Activities: (Activities requested by others)

Huber Gardens - Lorin Preston & Karen Sojka
Apple Tasting - Pat Gwidt
Community Gardens - Zion and St Michaels Churches - Lorin Preston & Pat Gwidt
Seminars - Karen Childs, Jackie Johnson & Darlane Kroening
Heritage Park Garden - Darlane Kroening, Karen Childs & Karenb Sojka
Shawano Statute Garden - Mary Nordin & Karen Childs
Safe Haven Garden Walk - Don Bublitz & Deb Laehn
Shawano Cty Breakfast on the Farm - Kath Conto
Barn Quilt - Karen Childs, Lorin Preston & Karen Sojka
Clintonville Farmers Markets - Kathy Conto

Core Activites (All members participate)

Farmers Market - Lorin Preston
Gardenline - Linda Meisner
Shawano County Fair - Pat Gwidt
Community Dinner - Janet Kahlow

Committees:

Nominating - Advisor
Audit - Mary Nordin & Lois Bressette
Program/Education - Jackie Johnson and Karen Childs
Bylaws - Officers
Budget - Officers



New Year's Resolutions for the Gardener:

Procrastination is never good, however, flexibility is. Following are ideas for your New Year's Resolutions, garden wise, made easy for you to pick, better late than never!

- I will only purchase plants I have a pre-determined spot for and not impulsively purchase one of everything (I am not a botanical garden).
- I will keep up with my weeding. (Enough said)
- This will be the year I thin out all those overgrown ones, pot them up and give them away to "good homes".
- I promise to nurture the plants I have before getting more.
- Before my spring enthusiasm takes over, I will research what plants are right for my yard, if they will give me what I want out of them, and do they have a good chance to live. (Low maintenance)
- I will actually take my soil in to be tested.
- I will trim those bushes, trees, hedges - at the right time of year.
- This year anything I purchase will be put IN the ground within 24 hours.
- I will spend my winter designing a garden plan this year and I will use it.
- I will make and use a garden journal from this year on.
- If I use containers, they will be the correct size, and I will regularly repot if/as is necessary.
- I will water when necessary; more often with those containers.
- I know what deadheading means; I will practice on a regular basis.
- I will use at least three days of vacation to work leisurely in the garden.
- I will keep on top of harvesting those that I intend to harvest.
- After harvesting, I will properly care for the "harvest" - freezing, drying, giving away, etc. IN A TIMELY MANNER.
- I will compost those things that can be composted.
- I will actually lay in that hammock, and enjoy my garden!



Jackie

Green Bay Botanical Gardens – Soup and Substances



Green Bay Botanical Gardens is offering an escape from the humdrum to an afternoon and evening of garden camaraderie. At 5:30 a warm meal of soups, breads and desserts all supplied by local restaurants and bakeries are served. From 6:30 – 7 – a garden related topic will be presented (and the hours count for MGs). The evening ends with live music from 7 – 8.

This year's dates and topics are (music will be announced later):

Friday January 31 – Herbal Remedies for Winter by Jackie Johnson of Planhigion Herbal Learning Center

Friday February 14 – Food Goodness Grapes – by Steven DeBaker of Trout Springs Winery

Friday February 28 – Freshwater and Rain Gardens by Justin Kroening of Stone Silo Prairie Gardens

Friday March 14 – Something's Brewing – Beer – By David Oldenburg of Titledown Brewery

Friday March 28 – Vertical Gardening – by Mark Dwyer from the Rotary Garden in Janesville

Costs: Presale Members: \$10 an evening Nonmembers: \$15
At the Door: Members: \$12 and Nonmembers \$17

Winter Garden Classes Nearby:



[Green Bay Botanical Garden:](#)

Classes 6 – 7:30 unless noted.

Monday, January 13 - *Be Healthier with Plants* by Loren Hansen from The Plant People. Indoor plants do more than just decorate your home. Studies show that the presence of plants in your environment will reduce stress. \$7/members \$14/nonmembers

Tuesday, January 14 – *Discover Your SLR Camera's Controls* (Beginner to Intermediate) by Marc Amenson from Amenson Studio. Unlock your creative potential by learning the features on your SLR camera. Bring your camera. \$15/members, \$23/nonmembers

Thursday, January 16 – *Get your Orchid Groove On* by Mary Stewart of Goin' to Pot Orchids. Learn to how to grow orchids successfully. \$9/members, \$16/nonmembers

Tuesday, January 21 – *Trilogy Bracelet Class* by Cindy Lubbers of Rock of Ages Jewelry and Beads. Choose one of three colors to create your own Trilogy Bracelet – no beading skill necessary. \$36/members, \$43/nonmembers

Tuesday, January 28 – *Pin It!* By Maribeth Frinzi, Sue Schinkten and Kelle Hartman of Green Bay Botanical Garden. Join us for a variety of our favorite Pinterest ideas from foods to crafts to horticulture. 3 stations allow you to create unique projects. \$20/members, \$27/nonmembers

Thursday, January 30 – *Intro to Smartphone Photography* by Marc Amenson of Amenson Studio. Get the trips and tricks to take photos on your Smartphone. We'll cover apps designed to edit and share directly from the phone. \$16/members, \$23/nonmembers.

Tuesday February 4 – *Great Beans!* By Judy Knudsen from Brown County UW Extension. All about the variety of dried beans, canned beans, pinto beans, chick peas, white beans, black beans. Recipes and tasting. \$9/members, \$16 nonmembers.

Thursday February 6 – *Herbal Remedies for Winter* by Jackie Johnson ND of Planhigion Herbal Learning Center. Make what our grandparents and their grandparents made – syrups, elixirs, oxymels – how and why they are made. \$17/members, \$24/nonmembers.

Tuesday, February 11 – *Build Your Own Whimsical Hanging Terrarium* by Candelaria Toutloff of Waterworks Garden Supply. Different plants to use in terrariums and assemble one. \$45/members, \$52/nonmembers.

Thursday, February 13 – *Photoshop It* by Marc Amenson – Amenson Studio. Discover the powerful creative tools of Adobe Photoshop – fixing color, removing unwanted areas, resizing etc. Bring your laptop. \$24/members, \$31 nonmembers.



Tuesday, February 25 – *Learn How to Grow the Great Tomato* by Lynn Clark of NEW Master Gardeners. Learn about the #1 home grown crop – research on selecting, growing, diseases, varieties, pruning and more. \$7/members, \$14/nonmembers.

Thursday, February 27 – *A Taste of Egypt and Middle Eastern Cuisine* by Ezzeldin Ismail of Egyptian Delights. Family recipes including sweets and savorys. Recipes and sampling. \$14/members, \$22/nonmembers.

[Gardens of the Fox Cities - Appleton](#)

Food Preservation 101 - Wednesday, January 22nd 5:30-6:30pm
Karen Dickrell (Department head for the Outagamie County UW Extension in conjunction with the Outagamie County Master Food Preservers) will discuss canning equipment, dehydrating, freezing, pickling, hot water bath, and pressure canning.

\$5 per person/ \$3 member price



Invasive Plants: What's in Your Backyard?

Wednesday, February 26th 5:30-6:30pm

Diane Schauer (Calumet County Invasive Species Coordinator) will highlight some of the most prevalent invasive species in and potentially coming to the Fox Valley and vicinity.

\$5 per person/ \$3 member price

The Emerald Ash Borer and the Crisis of Invasive Species

Wednesday, March 19th 5:30-6:30pm

Chris Johnson (Author of books and essays on nature and the environment and co-author of the new book *Forests for the People: The Story of America's Eastern National Forests*) will examine the Emerald Ash Borer, what biologists are doing to stop its spread, and highlight other invasive species that are threatening the Midwest.

\$5 per person/ \$3 member price

Hypertufa - Wednesday, May 14th 5:30-7pm

Loris Damerow will bring her expertise, and all of the supplies you need, to create a round 'faux' stone container for outdoor use. This unusual material looks and wears like stone and serves as a dish or small planter.

\$20 per person/ \$15 member price

Registration required at least three business days before each program. To register contact Rachel by phone at (920) 750-5462 or via e-mail at randerson@gardensfoxcities.org.

Wolf River Master Gardeners - 2014 Officers

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What is this Wisconsin Native?



Ahhhh, what is this?

Our next issue of the Wolf River MG News will be published in late February. Please send articles or information, especially about spring

- planting,
- starting seeds,
- recommendations,
- NON-recommendations,
- classes you went to and liked,
- upcoming classes you know about, etc
- good cultivars and bad ones for our area

to Jackie at scentedgardens@msn.com