



Wolf River Current

Official Newsletter of the Wolf River Master Gardeners Association



Volume Number 1 Issue Nov-Dec 2010

Words From the Editor

The Gardening Economy

I hope all of you have enjoyed our summer and now fall. As usual, it has come and gone too fast and winter is just around the corner. As the summer has gone on, I had not heard much about the economy affecting the gardening industry, but as Fall blows in I am hearing more and more. First, as I was researching Heritage Roses, I found out Jackson & Perkins and Park Seeds had filed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy together on April 2, 2010. Jackson & Perkins is a 138-year-old well known name and supplier of roses. Park Seeds has been around 142 years, since 1870, providing ornamentals and edible seeds (vegetables). Two evenings ago, as I browsed through the "Shoppers Guide," I was sad to see an ad for a local business having a "Business Liquidation Sale" at Plants Galore on October 16, 2010. Tonight, as I searched for information regarding Jackson & Perkins, I am once again sad to learn that Weeks Roses and Iseli Nursery (one of my favorite unusual evergreen nurseries) filed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy on October 5, 2010. Fortunately, Chapter 11 allows the company to reorganize under federal bankruptcy laws. Hopefully, these companies, along with others, will reorganize and once again become successful as our economy seems to slowly be turning around. I don't think the gardening world would be quite the same without them as they are surely part of its history.

I am sure others are struggling as well whether its garden related, retail businesses, factories, farming, health care, and many, many others. Remember to support your local businesses, neighbors, and friends during these trying times. This is especially important with the holidays just around the corner. If you know someone or a family struggling reach out and help them if you can. It does not need to be hundreds of dollars, sometimes just a smile and a "how are you doing" is all someone may need to make it through a challenging day. I have a favorite saying I once read and would like to share as a reminder that "little deeds" are priceless:

You may not be the only person in the world, but you may be the world to someone. Author Unknown
Brenda Bartz, Editor

News & Announcements

Its Wolf River Master Gardener Planning time for 2011 and Officers' nominations and elections just around the corner, bring your ideas, your nominations and votes.

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Menominee-Shawano County Master Gardener Officers	
President	Patricia Gwidt
Vice President	Lorin Preston
Secretary	Karen Childs
Treasurer	Pat Pamperin
State Representative	Renee Elertson
At Large Members	Joanne Meisner/Brenda Bartz
County Agent	Katie Behnke
Historian	Brenda Bartz
Editors	Renee Elertson & Brenda Bartz

Club Volunteer Opportunities



2010 Core Activities: Our Organization Sponsored Activities For All Members To Participate In

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| Farmers Market | Chair: Lorin Preston | Answer questions at the Farmers Market. Mid June-Mid October. |
| Garden Line | Chair: Becky Reich | Assist UW Extension-Shawano. June through October. |
| Newspaper Articles | Chair: Mary Allbaugh | Write educational articles for local papers. Monthly January-December. |

2010 Affiliated Activities: Activities Our Organization Has Been Requested To Participate In

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Apple Tasting | Chair: Pat Gwidt | Assist with setting up, cutting, serving, clean up. |
| Community Gardens | Chair: Lorin Preston
Pat Gwidt | Provide assistance at a local community garden. |
| Gibson Island Plant Identification | Chair: Kris Doan | Assist with plant identification. |
| Huber Garden | Chair: Lorin Preston | Assist with production garden for the Huber Facility. |
| Shawano County Fair | Chair: Pat Gwidt | Assist the judges with plant check in, handling, etc. |

2010 Qualifying Activities: Activities Our Members Participate In On An Individual Basis

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Courthouse Memorial | Chair: Amy Damveld |
| Heritage Park Gardens | Chair: Karen Childs |
| Marion Library Gardens | Chair: Pat Pamperin |
| Mielke Theater Gardens | Chair: Joanne Meisner |
| Navarino Wildlife Center Gardens | Chair: Joanne Meisner |
| Pulaski Garden Walk | Chair: Sally Slezewski |
| Safe Haven Garden Walk | Chair: Pat Gwidt |
| St Michael's Gardens, Keshena | Chair: Pat Gwidt |
| Tigerton Gardens | Chair: Todd Pamperin |
| Wolf River Lutheran High School | Chair: Kathy Braun |

(Note: All Core, Affiliated, and Qualifying Activities must meet the requirements of the UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program).



Garlic



Planting Garlic



Garlic Scapes

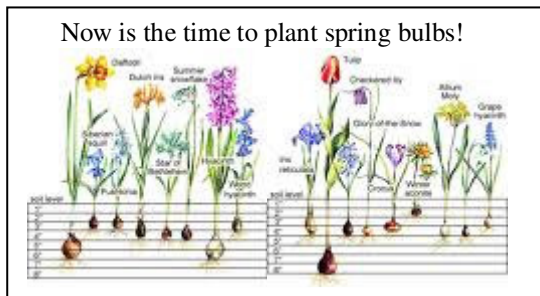
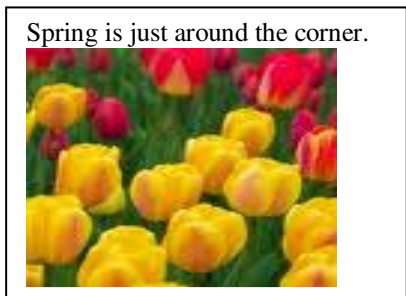
2010 Club Educational Growth Opportunities

No planned educational activities for the remainder of 2010 at this time.

Club Fundraising Events

No planned educational activities for the remainder of 2010 at this time.

Fall Gardening With Garlic - Garlic needs short days during early growth and a long growing season. Fall is the time to plant garlic in Wisconsin. Bulbs planted in the spring will generally be small and not mature at harvest time. Plant garlic 4-6 weeks in the fall before the ground freezes, mulch heavily after a hard freeze, and then harvest the following summer. This should produce good root growth, but no top growth before winter. Well dug beds with plenty of organic material and composts also promote larger bulbs, along with good drainage and full sun. Garlic is planted by planting the small cloves that are divisions of the large bulb. Do not divide the bulb until you are ready to plant it – early separation of the cloves produces small bulbs. Plant individual cloves 6 inches apart. Push the clove, root end down about 1-2 inches into the soil or place in a furrow and cover with 2 inches of soil. Space your rows 12-18 inches apart. After a hard frost mulch heavily with weed free grass clippings, hay, straw, or leaves. If you plant “hardneck” or “elephant” varieties they should be topped in early summer when they produce a round stem called a “scape” to encourage the bulb to grow. Consistent soil moisture is important and is critical during the bulging period which is in June. Withhold irrigation 2-3 weeks prior to harvest to hasten maturity. Garlic is a heavy feeder, apply 3 pounds 10-10-10 fertilizer per 100 square feet at planting time in the fall. Fertilizing in the spring will delay bulb production. Harvest in the summer when the bottom leaves begin to yellow (July-August). Don't leave in the ground too long or the bulbs will separate and rot. Dig with a fork with care. Brush off the soil or wash the bulbs. Cure in a warm, shady place with good air movement. Allow to dry until the neck is dry and the outer skin is papery, approximately 2-3 weeks. When cured remove the tops about 1 inch from the top of the bulb and store in a mesh bag in a cool dry place rather than the refrigerator. The best temperature for longest storage is 34 degrees F. Garlic is in the onion family and is usually free of pests. Information from the Ozaukee Cty UW- Extension MG Garlic publication.



Club Meeting Calendar For 2010

October

10/25/2010: Monthly meeting at 6 p.m. with organization planning for 2011 at Qualheim's True Value, 1345 E Green Bay St, Shawano, WI.

November

11/22/2010: Monthly meeting at 6 p.m. at Qualheim's True Value, 1345 E Green Bay St, Shawano, WI.

December

No meeting due to the holiday season.

Community Events & Educational Calendar

October 22, 2010 *Brown Bag 2010, Beneficial Insects.

November 12, 2010 *Brown Bag 2010, Growing Currants and Gooseberries.

December 17, 2010 *Brown Bag 2010, Growing Allium.



UW Master Gardener Program Offering

Plant Health Advisory Fall Session

Learn what questions to ask, how to collect specimens, how and where to research and find resources, how to compile the information, and provide your client with answers to their question. The fall session is from October 1, 2010 to January 15, 2011, and is accessible any day of the week and any time of the day during this enrollment period. The course takes approximately 8 hours plus about an hour for the final quiz. It also qualifies for 8 hours of continued education. For more details see the PHA Training page on the Wisconsin Master Gardener site. The fee is \$25.00, the course is an on-line, self-paced, and you must be a certified WI MG. <http://wimastergardener.org/sites/wimastergardener.org/files/training/PHA>

I took this course earlier in 2010 and it is one of the most informational courses I have taken. I would highly, highly recommend it to any Master Gardener. The information provided is invaluable. The course takes you step-by-step through how to collect specimens, identify plants/trees, diseases/bacteria/fungi, identify problems, document and assist your clients – it is extremely helpful. Brenda Bartz – Master Gardener Page 3

Why try to explain miracles to your kids when you can just have them plant a garden. ~Robert Brault