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Shawano & Menominee Counties

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Wolf River Current

Official Newsletter of the Wolf River Master Gardeners Association Volume Number 1 Issue Sept/Oct 2010

Words from One of Our Members

Windswept Acres - August 19, 2010

On August 19th the Wolf River Master Gardener Association members enjoyed a lovely tour of Windswept Acres on Hwy 117 just south of Cecil. The weather was beautiful and it was an enjoyable evening to be outside. The owners, Reed and MaryLee Johnson, were wonderful hosts and we could see they have a passion for their work. They moved back into the area in 1998 and started their specialty cut flower business. MaryLee commented that the weather we have been having has made many later season crops bloom early. They grow a wide variety of flowers such as Alliums, Dahlias, Cattails, Kiss-Me-Over-The-Garden-Gate, Lobelia, Phlox, Queen Anne's' Lace, Rudbeckia, Salvia, Sunflowers, Tansy and Zinnas. They also have Ninebark and many types of grasses including Canada Wild Rye, Ribbon Grass, Wheat Grass and a variety of Millett. The tour included a peek at some of their beautiful cut flowers and grasses which was in their refrigerated delivery truck. We also got the privilege of going inside their large walk-in cooler which is kept at a cool 39 degrees. The walk-in cooler and the refrigerated truck keep their cut flowers at just the right temperature to prevent them from opening too soon. They sell their cut flowers and grasses to florists in areas throughout Wisconsin including Milwaukee and Sheboygan. Our members thoroughly enjoyed the tour and were surprised that this cut flower business with such a huge variety of flowers, branches and grasses is virtually in our backyard.

-Submitted by Renee' Elertson

News & Announcements

Ms. Kathleen (Katie) Behnke has been hired as the new UW-Extension Agriculture Agent for Shawano County. She began work at the Shawano County UWEX Office on July 15, 2010. Katie can be reached at the UW Extension office at their regular office number: 715-526-6136. Katie recently finished her Master's Degree program in Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During her program she researched the impact of ethanol plants on local corn prices. She also worked at the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives and taught a course on grain marketing in the Farm and Industry Short Course program. Wolf River Master Gardeners welcome Ms. Behnke to Shawano County.

Menominee-Shawano County Master Gardener Officers

President	Patricia Gwidt
Vice President	Lorin Preston
Secretary	Karen Childs
Treasurer	Pat Pamperin
At Large Members	Joanne Meisner, Brenda Bartz
State Representative	Renee' Elertson
County Agent	Kathleen (Katie) Behnke
Historian	Brenda Bartz
Newsletter Editors	Renee Elertson & Brenda Bartz

REMINDER: Bring your Time Sheets and Dues to September's meeting.
Record your time – It's valuable to the MG Program and You!

Club Volunteer Opportunities

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.

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: Chris 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.

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

WIGMA Annual Conference 2011
The next conference will be
Aug 5-7, 2011 in Madison.

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

Club Educational Growth Opportunities

September 9, 2010: Apple Tasting at Qualheim's True Value at 6 p.m. Taste and learn seasonal apples.

October 7, 2010: Apple Tasting at Qualheim's True Value at 6 p.m. Taste and learn seasonal apples.

Quarterly Publication:

Club Fundraising Events

September 9, 2010 Apple Tasting at Qualheim's True Value

October 7, 2010 Apple Tasting at Qualheim's True Value

<http://wimastergardener.org/>

WIMGA Educational Grant

The WIMGA awards several grants annually to MG groups to aid their efforts in community education. Applications for each of the 3 levels of funding are due by October 1 (postmark date) of each year. Thirteen grants totaling \$3,250 were awarded in 2009. For more information, conditions, and application:

<http://wimastergardener.org/?q=EducationalGrants>

2 - \$100 2 - \$250 2 - \$400 Grants

Club Meeting Calendar For 2010

September

09/27/2010: Monthly meeting at 6 p.m. at Qualheim's True Value, 1345 E Green Bay St, Shawano, WI. Volunteer Report due and payment of annual dues.

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

September 16-18, 2010 Midwest Regional MG Conference, Rockford, Ill.

September 24, 2010 *Brown Bag 2010, Winterizing the Yard and Garden.

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 Alliums.

MIDWEST REGIONAL MG CONFERENCE

Sept 16-18, 2010

Rockford, IL

For more information visit the
[2010 Upper Midwest MG
Conference website.](#)

Windswept Acres Tour

