

April 2018 Newsletter Grant County Master Gardeners



Volume 1, Issue 3

April 2018

Our purpose is to provide horticultural education, community service and environmental stewardship for our community in affiliation with the University of Wisconsin Extension Program.

2017-2020 Officers

President

Terry Wood
woodfam@centurytel.net
608-732-4651

President Elect

Dorothy Price
Dotpricebb@gmail.com
773-474-3590

Vice President

Wendy Johnson
wendyj18@lagrant.net
608-732-3893

Secretary

Karen L. Mahoney
klmahoney61@yahoo.com
608-748-5432

Treasurer

Connie Larson
bclarson@tds.net
608-725-5570

Dates to remember –

We want to encourage you to use the website for information. Rather than list dates, please go to our site

<http://www.grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com>

You will find registration for the State Conference, Horticulture Therapy Day, and soon, the bus trip. There are links to other events relating to gardening posted.

READY SET GROW

APRIL 7 Conference



Our April 7th conference, READY SET GROW, will accept walk in registrations at 7:45AM. The conference runs until 12:30PM. To view more information, go to our website

www.grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com , in the bar on the left of the home page, select

current event registration and all the material is posted. We have excellent speakers and new table displays.

April 19th Meeting Information

Our April meeting location is the Lancaster Hospital Education Room. We will begin with a business meeting. Corey W. will be giving us tips on exercise warm ups before gardening and we will talk about adapted tools. If you have any adapted tools such as large grips which you use, please bring them for show and tell. The Plant Sale Signs will be available to take. Remember to place them no sooner than Monday, April 30 and pick them out ASAP after the sale. This avoids the road crew from trashing them. Wendy will bring the work sign-up sheet for the sale. We will have some plant tags available.

Continued->



Important Websites for MGVs:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

This site has information on the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program.

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastergardener/>

This site is the Extension blog for Master Gardeners.

<http://www.wpr.org/programs/archives/all>

This site takes you to all the WI Public Radio archived programs. Listen for the Larry Meiller Show which airs live on Friday at 11:00 am and Saturday at 7:00 am.

<http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/>

This is our association's site for updates.

The plant sale guidelines are posted on our website. Look for Plant Sale, and then select 2018. A video I took of last year's sale is posted under 2017. Wendy is again chair and Terry is co-chair. Any questions? Please contact us!

Cassville Riverettes Meeting on Square Foot Gardening



Corey W. reported the attendance at his March talk about SQUARE FOOT GARDENING was very successful with an audience of over 18. If anybody else would like to present this topic, I have three SQUARE FOOT gardening books I picked up cheap at thrift shops. I also have a handout which includes directions of how to make a raised bed and has video sites listed. Corey would be happy to share his information also.

Kokodame presented by Marilyn Brewer on March 15, 2018

This moss ball or poor man's bonsai is a way to display plants by hanging or placing on a decorative plate, rock or wood holder. Marilyn demonstrated how to make this showy ball encased with moss.

A special soil mix is used. Luckily, Marilyn had this premade for our group. However, we did all get our hands dirty by making a dirt ball, placing the plant in the middle, wrapping with moss and finally keeping it all in tack by winding cotton string around the ball. To water, you place the **Kokodame** in a bowl of tepid water until no sign of bubbles emerging from the ball. (See right.)

Bus Trip Updates – *the suspense continues!*

The date, July 6, is set so mark it on your calendars and tell your friends. We will be headed to the Janesville area. On the list is a HOSTA GROWING business with displays, ROTARY GARDENS and one garden center.

Judy V. promises to finalize the information so we can have registration out the day of our Garden Conference, April 7.



New Partnership Potential

Wendy is meeting with Park Place in Platteville to determine if she can fulfill their need for improvement in their flower gardens. Remember, if you are going to take on a new project/talk/demo, please bring it up at our meeting or talk to Terry ahead of the actual date.



Still Up For Grabs

Chris Carl is working with her granddaughter employed by the city of Lancaster, to find ways to use the Lancaster Garden Plots which are located by the Ball Park. It is a fenced area and water is available.

A few ideas such as growing veggies for Corey's hospital project in July, planting perennials (I can get a good stock of rhubarb) or even growing mini pumpkins to give away were tossed around. Is there a member who would be interested in assisting Chris with this? Please let Terry or Chris Carl know.



Committee Updates

The Planning Committee gained one new member, Wendy J. Let Connie Larson know if you are available. They have been meeting in August and have the events all scheduled by the end of September. This is not a huge time commitment for those of you who need hours.

Melody Bahr is in need of at least one other person for the **Grant Co. Fair** preparations. Melody is a very talented crafty lady and has been educating others about Straw Bale Gardening. Melody grew up on a farm and has much experience as a gardener. Call Melody or let Terry know if you could help out.



**Countdown until your
volunteer hours are due:**

6 months



Terry Wood, President

Myleen, Editor