

April 2019 Newsletter

Grant County Master Gardeners



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

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APRIL MEETING



Our next meeting is April 18, 2019 at the Lancaster Youth and Ag Building. Our speaker is Jason Funkhouser. He will be sharing information about Divisions Cut Flowers CSA. Afterwards refreshments will be served by Landon and Jean Hopkins. We will be discussing the Annual Plant Sale; hand out road signs,

plant labels, bookmarks and posters; and review the work sign-up sheet that was e-mailed to all members. I hope to see you all!

<https://chateaufloralandhome.com/divisions/>

Important Websites for MGVs:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

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

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

What's *Bugging* You?

Brian Hudelson spoke to our MGV about the Science of Plant Disease Diagnosis. His slideshow reviewed how to look for common plant diseases in our gardens and landscapes. We were provided with great handouts to refer to. Brian left extra brochures, so if you are interested in learning more, let me know.



MGV Apron Order is In

In September of 2018, some of you ordered green aprons with the MGV logo on it. This order went through the Crawford County MGV. These just arrived and some were handed out the conference. I still have unclaimed aprons. Please look back at your checkbook to see if you ordered one. Maybe you can check your deleted e-mails to find out if you ordered one that way. I checked my deleted e-mails but could not find any orders. However, I just changed computers and some e-mails may have been lost. Let me know so I can deliver it to you.



Summary of 2019 *Ready, Set, Grow* Conference by Connie Landon

We had a very successful “Ready, Set, Grow” spring gardening conference on March 23, 2019, at Vesperman Farms in rural Lancaster. There were 90 paid participants, of those 29 paid at the door. Four guest speakers attended and two visitors.



Carol McDaniel of the Lafayette County Bluebird Society spoke about “The Passion of Blue Birding – How to Attract and Fledge Bluebirds in your Backyard”. Phillip Pellitteri, Distinguished Faculty Associate Emeritus of UW Madison Entomology, spoke on “Bugs in your Yard – Greatest Hits or One-Hit Wonders”. A 15-minute break was then held where guests could enjoy snacks and view the eight different display tables. Kevin Flynn, beekeeper from Dubuque IA, spoke on “How to Get Started with Beekeeping as a Hobby or a Sideline”. Inga Witscher, host and chef of “Around the Farm Table” on WI Public TV, was our last speaker and did an

educational and entertaining cooking demonstration for Smorgastrata, a Scandinavian style sandwich cake.

A total of 13 door prizes were given away during the gardening conference, most were donated by MGTV and some were handcrafted. Grant County Master Gardener committee members included Karin Peacock, Shirley Audetat, Connie Larson, Jean Hopkins, and Connie Landon.



Carol McDaniel of the Lafayette County Bluebird Society

Phillip Pellitteri, Distinguished Faculty Associate Emeritus of UW Madison Entomology





*Kevin Flynn, beekeeper
from Dubuque IA*

*Inga Witscher, host and chef
of "Around the Farm Table"*



Conference Committee Members

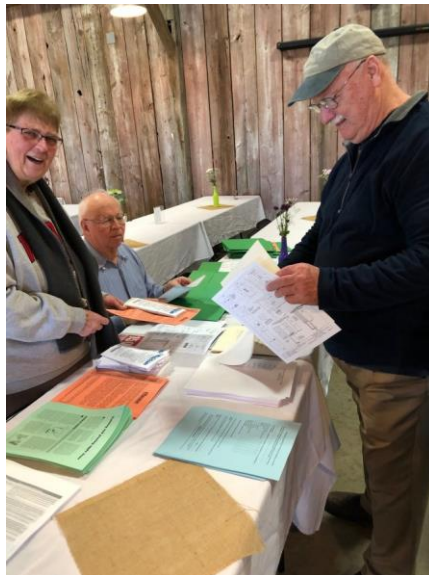
As conference chair, I am so lucky to work with such an incredible group of volunteers who gave their time to the 2019 conference.

When I said I would chair this committee, my intention was to seek "Succession Planning" for a chairperson for next year. I found that any one of the committee members could do the chairperson job. I know I am leaving the conference committee in good succession and they definitely will get it right!

My recommendation is to see two people co-chair and add another person to the committee for 2020. Do not hesitate to join this committee – it is an awesome experience. Moreover, you meet some remarkable people at the conference and work alongside of group of friendly leaders!

Thanks to all for making my job easy!

Karin Peacock, 2019 Conference Chair



President's note

One of the joys of passing the torch to somebody else is observing the growth of MGV members and our MGV to step up to the challenge of working together. Judy Vesperman has been the food hostess for us and made the table bottles which looked so springy with the fresh flowers. Our table displays were very professional and noted by two different MGV groups as such a great idea for MGV to share their knowledge. That was the original intention of these displays. Thanks to Myleen for designing our literature, Doreen for taking photos, our conference MGV who worked the registration table and all the other incidental jobs MGV took on to make the day a success. Brian Larson presence is always welcome as he lends a hand.

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It was said it would take us three years to build our conference from another MGCV group. Since we began at Vesperman's last year, I counted that as our first year! Well the second year, 2019, proved each year will bring growth. In comparing or attendance over four years, this year was the top. Our first year we had 89 as I recall. Also noted is that March attendance has been the best attendance.

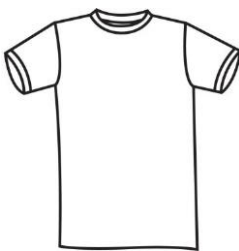
Karin is congratulated for allowing others to step up to the task by leading the group. The committee members deserve our thanks so be sure to tell them when you see them.

KID'S EXPO JULY 2019



Karin P., Melanie Reynolds, and Judy V. will be presenting a workshop in July to our area youth at the KID'S EXPO. They need a few items: succulent plants; two 8ft plastic table cloths; cardboard flats like we use at the plant sale; thumb-sized objects, such as a wine corks or round sticks to make a drainage hole; trowels or small shovels for mixing labelled with your name; one dozen 16 oz. solo cups; small decorative items to place on the rim of containers, such as buttons, tiles, beads, or thread spools; and four-cup plastic, pliable containers, any shape, for a plant container. Please let Karin P. know if you can donate supplies, or bring them to a meeting before July. Questions? Contact Karin.

TEE SHIRT REORDER



I inquired about another printing of tee shirts with our same saying, but in the fatigued green and cream words. I need a minimum of 10 shirts and have 4 now. It will only take 2 weeks to get them so if we get an order

in by our next meeting, you would have it to wear for our plant sale. Please let me know if you would like to order one. I do not have an exact cost yet, but the range is \$13-\$15 dollars. They are long or short sleeve. Please let me know if you are interested.

BUS TRIP HEADED TO SOUTH MILWAUKEE ON JUNE 22

Judy should have the completed brochure with the cost and pick-up times. I will pass around the flyer at our April meeting. We advertised the bus trip at the conference and 40/100 flyers were picked up! Bring your checkbook to the April meeting if you want to sign up to reserve your spot!



**Amanda Cauffman, Grant County
Agricultural Educator, MGCV mentor**

**UW
Extension**

*Terry Wood, President
Myleen, Editor*