

June 2018 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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Important Websites for MGVs:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

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

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



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

4 months

Use Our Website!

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

You will find registration for the State Conference, Horticulture Therapy Day, and the bus trip. There are links to other events relating to gardening posted. Note: New WIMGA address is www.wigma.org.

Help, I Need An Antique Toy



Please read Marsha's description of an item wanted for the Fennimore Doll Museum. Marsha is designing and beginning to revamp the gardens at the museum. I hope that she will attend the June meeting as she would like to request funds, present her plan and open it up for suggestions.

ISO: A toy-themed item that will be used as a planter for annuals. This item will go below the

currently placed sign to the right of the stairs at the north entrance of the building.

The space available for decorative/toy-themed planter:

36" H - bottom of sign to ground

5 1/2 ft. W- inside post to post

4-5 ft. D- E to W orientation

Questions? mmschneider@tds.net

Our Very Own MGTV TV Star

In case you missed it, Discover Wisconsin aired the episode of Platteville and surrounding areas tour sites in May. Julie Pluemer represented the Grant County Master Gardener Volunteers in her interview about Katie's Garden in Platteville. What a great opportunity to highlight our organization.



Half Way Full!

The bus seats are filling fast. We have 24 reserved seats. If you are going, please reserve a spot by downloading a form from our website. It really causes the planning committee less stress if you sign up early! The trip will count towards educational hours.



And We Still Have Spots For June 8



We are excited to be hosting the Horticulture Workshop along with Crawford County on June 8 at the Lancaster Youth and Ag. Building. The cost is \$15.00 for the day with registration beginning at 8:15AM. Mike Maddox, our state MGV director, will be leading the class. Check our website for registration. This will count towards

educational hours.

Wow, We Have Been Busy in May!



Flower Station

Corey, Mary R. and I had a great experience during the Lancaster Hospital Focus on Health Week. Each day was a different theme and Wednesday, May 8 was GOING GREEN WITH MGV. Over 30 workers participated in the event. Pots, soil, water, flowers and vegetables were

available for planting. Corey, Mary and I helped with questions about care and pot combinations. During a thirty-minute educational discussion, Corey discussed tools to use and exercises for gardeners. We all provided tips we use in our own garden. Handouts were available. What a great group to work with.



Our May 12 Plant Sale was a success. We were all wondering what we would have to sell two weeks before but spring did show up and we had a great variety of items. The total amount collected was \$1,498.00. Connie tallied the sales slips kept and had 72 with the average of \$20.00 spent. Nineteen members donated plants and we had four non-members donate plants. Our working crew was great! Shirley had a fantastic display of Coleus along with her educational board and handouts!

Thank you to all who contributed! Would anybody like to take over storing signs, handing them out and collecting them again? I have been doing it for four years now and would like to pass the job along. Let me know if you can help! Remember to add your hours



for volunteering for the plant sale. Count the hours you dug, potted, labeled, your plants and hours you helped at the sale.

On May 13, Connie Larson and I assisted at the Kids Potting Area on Vesperman's Farm. It was enjoyable to watch the faces of the little ones as they dirtied their hands and prepared a special pot for their mother, grandmother, or both!



Chris Swan is busy is Boscobel at the Early Head Start site building and planting raised beds for a food project with Food Wise. It will involve weighing the produce harvested, recording number of families involved, and education. Through the Food Wise grant, tools and some supplies were provided. A sign will be donated with all the stakeholders names included. Chris will hopefully give a report at our June meeting and is requesting some funds for the project.

Chris Carl has been in touch with the Lancaster Gardens and they have all been rented. Connie Landon helped ready the plots with Chris. Chris will remain in contact with the city to help with any other areas needed in the gardens such as figuring out a plan for composting material. Next year I think MGVA should rent at least one spot for a demonstration garden! Hey at \$5.00, it's a bargain!

Corey has spoken to the City Manager regarding weeding and watering at the Lancaster Golf Course. A \$500.00 budget from the city is designated for a new flower

bed. Contact Corey if you are available to help him plant!

Cindy Arndt presented a program about Fairy Gardens at the Wisconsin Early Childhood



Association on May 11 with a fairy literacy theme. The Fennimore World of Variety owned by the Muddler's and Connie Larson donated soil. Donations of stones and fairy supplies accommodated over thirty attending the class.

The gardens are growing at the Highland school gardens. Marilyn reported it was a sunny day for digging in the dirt and the students enjoyed the outdoor learning opportunity! Families will take turns caring for the gardens over summer.

Keep up the great work you are all doing throughout the county!

WIGMA GIFT REQUEST

The Chippewa Valley MGVA will host the WIGMA conference. The dates are September 21-22. It is being held at the Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire. Registration information is on our website. Each MGVA Association is asked to donate a gift for the silent auction or a monetary donation of \$50.00 or more. If you have suggestions for a gift, please let me know before our June meeting. Otherwise, I will suggest we donate \$50.00.

<https://www.wimgaconferences.com/>

Capturing Plants With Animal Names

Melody Bahr and Mary Rasmussen are planning an Animal theme plant display for the fair running from August 14-19 in Lancaster. Sign up information was out at the plant sale but more plants are needed. Call Melody at 778-3080, she will have the list to add names to. The fair is in August. Pot your plant now in at least a quart size container. Last year, we spray painted plain containers for color. Thank you to all who signed up! Is it possible to get 100% participation? This is a great opportunity for the community to view our talented member's creations. Remember, you will receive volunteer hours for potting, labeling and caring for your plant! Here is a list of suggested plants: <http://www.cmzoo.org/index.php/animals-plants/plants/plants-with-animal-names/> A non-member donated Snake and Goosefoot houseplants. These will be used for our educational kid's event on Saturday.

Listed below are plants members picked.

Corey	Hens and Chicks
Terry	Turtle Head and Pussy Toes
Mary R.	Snap Dragons
Julie	Spider Wort
Karin	Ostrich Fern, Lambs Ear
Jean	Butterfly Milkweed
Jo	Foxglove
Peggy	Cranesbill Geranium and Tickseed Coreopsis
Melody Bahr	Toad Lily

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 21. Attracting Butterflies by educator Kristen Rush (Marilyn's daughter). It will be held at the Youth and Ag Building, Lancaster, beginning at 6:30 PM.



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



Terry Wood, President

Myleen, Editor