

June 2021 Quarterly Newsletter Grant County Master Gardeners



Volume 1, Issue 2

June 2021

The Extension Master Gardener Program educates, empowers, and supports volunteers to use University research-based info to extend the Wisconsin idea, making a positive difference in lives and communities.

2020-2021 Officers

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Important Websites for MGVs:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

[https://
learningstore.extension.wisc.edu](https://learningstore.extension.wisc.edu)

[https://www.wpr.org/programs/
garden-talk](https://www.wpr.org/programs/garden-talk)

<https://www.wimga.org/>

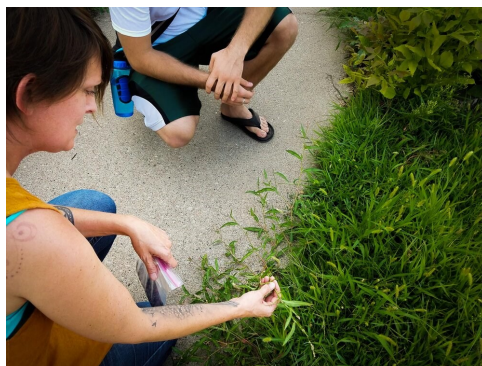
[http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/
insectlab/](http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/insectlab/)

<https://pddc.wisc.edu/>

[https://
mastergardener.extension.wisc.e
du/report-your-hours/](https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/report-your-hours/)

Future GCMGA Meetings

JUNE 17, 6 PM, KATIE'S GARDEN, PLATTEVILLE



The featured speaker will be Tamara Ambroz, owner of Driftless Wild in Galena, Illinois. She is a Clinical Herbalist, Gardener, Medicine Maker, and Educator. She loves to help people connect to Mother Earth through education about plants, plant walks, and explains custom herbal protocols to help people regain balance in wellness. She will take attendees on a short walk to learn more about medicinal aspects

of plants around them. The walk will begin and end at the gazebo in Katie's Garden, Platteville.

Please bring bug spray and a chair for your comfort.

Tamara's presentation will be open to the public. Address 275 W Business Hwy 151, Platteville, WI 53818. Katie's Garden is located next to the Platteville Regional Chamber and Travel Wisconsin Welcome Center.

Following the presentation, there will be a business meeting for Master Gardener members at 7:30 pm.

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

JULY 15 - 6:30 PM, NORTH ROOM, YOUTH & AG CENTER, LANCASTER

Adam Kramer, owner of Black Sand Granary, will be the featured speaker at the meeting being held at the Youth & Ag Building. Mr. Kramer and his wife began their business in 2015. Black Sand Granary is located at 12265 Hwy 35/133, Prairie du Chien. His business specializes in land management techniques, assessment of land usage, and crop management usage.

Mr. Kramer completed a Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University in Agricultural Studies with a minor in Agronomy.

His presentation will explain techniques home gardeners can use to preserve their soil and enhance it in sustainable methods. Last summer his sunflower field planted next to his business on Hwy 35/133 and visible from Hwy 18 were a beautiful sight during a very uncertain 2020 summer.



Following his presentation will be a business meeting for members at 7:30 pm.

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

AUGUST 19, 6:30 PM, VIA ZOOM



Dr. John D. Peterson, Associate Professor of Biology at UW-Platteville, will do a presentation on Frogs. He has been a faculty member since 2013. Dr. Peterson received his Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University and his PhD from Auburn University.

He will share his extensive knowledge about frogs and also specializes in reptiles. Frogs play valuable roles in any ecosystem. His talk will help explain the crucial role frogs play in our environment.

This will be a Zoom presentation.

Following the presentation will be a Master Gardener business meeting for members at 7:30 pm.

Plant Sale 2021

We had a successful plant sale despite Covid and the location change. We made just over \$1000 to put towards all our good work in the county! The Lancaster Library grounds turned out to be a great location. It was very visible being right in the middle of town. There was plenty of space and clean up was way easier! Christinna, who is charge at the library, was totally on board with having us there. The plant sale committee would like feedback, good or bad, about using that space. If things don't change with the insurance/liability issues, that space could be the



home of the sale. The only bad thing about having it there is that we are so dependent on the weather. Thank You again to all helped at the sale that day and to everyone who donated plants to sell. They all looked great.

On a side note, after VOLUNTEERING to help set up that morning, my husband has decided to start another group: The “Men of Master Gardeners Support Group”.



WIMGA Report

from Karin



Latest from WIMGA – If you did not receive the WIMGA newsletter, you can find it on their website, <https://www.wimga.org/> No password required for the newsletter. Resource rich for insights on ideas one can use. I wanted to emphasize the article from the president of WIMGA on the first page because she wrote about the confusion between WIMGA and UW-Madison Division of Extension and made it understandable.

It is time to start thinking about applying for one of the 2021 Educational Grants offered by WIMGA. for Educational Grants in the \$100 category; \$250 category and the \$400 category. Applications must be postmarked by **October 1**. Guidelines and requirements can be found on the WIMGA Webpage. wimga.org/grants. Let's coordinate who wants to apply.

Name Badge Order

Contact Amanda with your name badge request.

Mike Maddox puts together an order when an adequate number is needed to place a print job.

Kudos to Chris Swan

Kudos to Chris Swan for her presentation via Zoom for SWTC on beginner gardening. Her slides were very impressive with her own photos of her garden which gave a personal flavor and very organized. If a beginner gardener followed the advice of Chris, they would be very successful with a productive garden! I believe and know that she is ready for the speaking circuit and Melinda Myers has some competition.

This is what the Lunch and Learn coordinator had to say about Chris:

“Southwest Tech was very grateful to Chris Swan for sharing her expertise recently with its staff during the April 21st ‘Starting a Garden’ lunch and learn. The high level of engagement from participants was a testament of her knowledge of the content and Southwest Tech expressed its sincere appreciation for her willingness to share. Many staff have commented on how the presentation gave them the background and information they needed to put their lessons learned into action and staff are looking forward to reaping the rewards this fall.”

Entrance area at Eckstein Building, Fairgrounds, Lancaster by Mary Rasmussen and Karin Peacock

Project is a work in progress and we can say Divide and Conquer! We have been learning how to work and play in the dirt, in the rocks and in the sod and swapping this for that. Somehow the transition is looking good and our swagger is back.

- ◇ We are thankful for the \$100 grant from WIMGA and will be applying for funds from our local grant offering.
- ◇ Big acknowledgement to Connie Landon for donating three-four cubic yards of soil from the Landon Farm. Connie along with her husband and Mary delivered the soil from the Landon home farm with their Utility Vehicles with dump boxes. Such road warriors and scoopers.
- ◇ Thanks to Mary Penn for donating two Fine Wine© Weigela shrubs that she dug up from her yard. She was very cheery about donating the two shrubs so she could replace them with two rose bushes with fragrance. This is an item that we swapped with two other shrubs and a happier place was found at Katie’s Garden for Mary’s gift.
- ◇ Appreciate offering of edging from Cindy Arndt. Here was another swap, but Menards was happy and we made it easier for the lawn mowers.

This support from colleagues is awesome and husbands are certainly handy and so appreciative of them helping for tilling, loading dirt, and loading the truck with supplies when we have a work session.

Entrance area at Eckstein Building

Working around the pile of snow when we started.



Needed soil brought in to amend the soil that was rocky and lots of sod. Purchased compost from UW Platteville for boosting and possibly conserving moisture. We needed help to pamper this spot.



Summary of COVID-19 Guidelines as of June 1, 2021

Kimberly Miller, new hire as Program Coordinator shared the interpretation of the latest COVID Guidelines as of June 1. The seven-page document was sent to all the members on June 4 via email and also can be found on our web site: [Member Info/Forms - Grant County Master Gardeners \(weebly.com\)](https://www.weebly.com/member-info/forms-grant-county-master-gardeners) Link to video on Wisconsin's web site (<https://blogs.extension.wisc.edu/wimastergardener/>)

Wishing Tree is Back at Katie's Garden, Platteville!

This project has been taken over by Betty Smith and is located in the garden area she has graciously embraced that is next to her original area at Katie's Garden. Now you know where and who – read more about this magical wishing tree. Better yet, place your wish on the tree the next time you visit.

[About Wish Trees | Wish Tree](#)



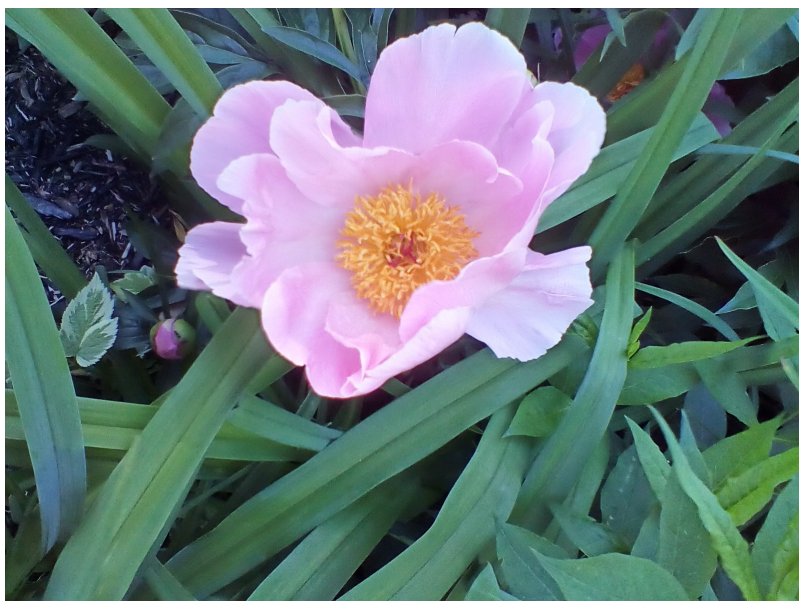
Marsden Park, Fennimore

Myleen posted a couple photos on our Facebook page from Shirley showing the work in progress that Cindy Arndt is doing at her plot at Marsden Park, Fennimore. The comments sure were favorable thanking Cindy for all she does with the projects in Fennimore. She is noticed and is appreciated!



From Shirley

There's a lot of information in this and projects being done. Marsha and Jo did work at the Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum this morning. Then Jo came down to help Cindy and I finished up work on the other bed of Cindy's with the roses and beautiful peonies, big peonies in Marsden Park. Weeding and mulching done with help from family and other MGs. Thank you ladies for all your work. The lion seems to like it and is working again.





Grant County Master Gardeners & Platteville Public Library present

Snipping & Pruning Tips for your Plants

June 16, 2021

6:30 pm

Virtual via Zoom, register to receive link.
plattevillepubliclibrary.org/signup
608-348-7441 x4



Marsha's project at the Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum.

http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/1/3/12130627/doll_museum_project.pdf

Project Opportunity from Natasha

I checked with Southwest Opportunities Center (SOC), <https://www.socinc.org/> in Lancaster and they are still working on implementing a volunteer opportunity for two projects but with the same focus; inclusion & education. First project is prepping, planting and maintaining the veggie garden and flower beds at the center. Second project is they have spoken for up to 6 raised beds at the Community Garden in Lancaster and the same principles apply there. Both projects are meant to include any client, no matter their ability, from SOC who wish to be outside and learn about all aspects of gardening. This would be an on-going opportunity throughout the growing season for volunteers to garden alongside clients & staff in both locations during business hours, 9am-2pm. The person in charge of this project at SOC doesn't have much garden experience but is willing to learn. SOC already has donated seeds and plants but no tools nor soil additives. Not sure on budget either but good questions for Tori. If interested contact **Tori Leeser** Prevocational Case Manager tleser@socinc.org.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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

Myleen, Editor