

# March 2021 Newsletter Grant County Master Gardeners



Volume 1, Issue 1

March 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

### President

Vice President  
Marsha Schneider

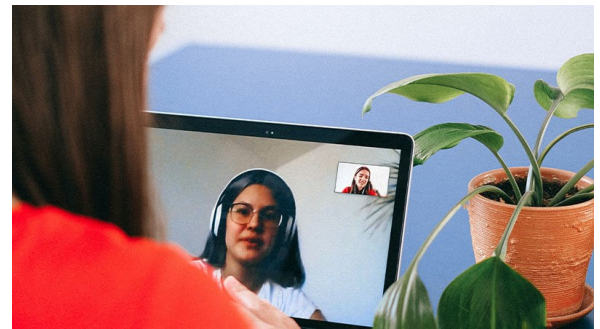
Secretary  
Natasha Rank

Treasurer  
Connie Larson

WIMGA Representative  
Karin Peacock

## Future GCMGA Meetings

The next GCMGA meetings are scheduled for March 18th, 6:30pm & April 15th, 6:30pm & May 20th, 6:30pm.



## Important Websites for MGVs: <http://wimastgardener.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://  
mastgardener.extension.wisc.e  
du/report-your-hours/](https://mastgardener.extension.wisc.edu/report-your-hours/)

## How to Brighten up your Winter!

I actually like winter! I enjoy the snow, the slower pace of things, and watching old reruns on TV. And yes, I even do not mind the cold.

However, I miss my gardens. I like sitting out on the lawn just looking at separate parts of the garden, wondering what I could do different next year. Like I would have probably cut down the Canadian



Thistle in the background, before it grew taller than anything else!!

To compensate, I turn parts of my very small house into growing zones, the east and west windows. I love growing Amaryllises. This year I had 4 bulbs and am getting ready to plant 2 more. The blossoms were big and bright and when I was really bored, I set one on the floor to see just how many blossoms were growing.





I love my Christmas Cactus, but until this year, it has never bloomed on Christmas. It was well worth the wait! I guess ignoring it all summer and fall did the trick!

Just a few suggestions for making winter not seem so bad! And to top it off, last week, I had the largest flock of ROBINS I have ever seen in my Crab Apple tree. What a lovely reminder that Spring is coming!!!

Melody



### **Garden Series at the Libraries:**

On April 22, Ellen Acierno, Sue Neuser, and Karin Peacock are planning a Zoom presentation, *"Let's Talk Dirt - Composting 101"*, at the Platteville Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for the free presentation and support Ellen and Sue. This was a topic they used during the Level 1 Training.

*Join in and sit back and enjoy the show on April 22!*

<https://plattevillepubliclibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?>



## STONE HOLLOW GARDENS & SHROOMERY

March 25, 2021

<http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/speaker-series-for-2021.html>

Christopher & Emily Appelman, Web of Life

Feeding their community with healthy, safe food in an environmentally sustainable way is the mission of Stone Hollow Gardens & Shoomery. Bioremediation & Mycoremediation builds nutrient rich soil & grows nutrient dense foods. This amazing symbiotic joining of fungi, soil & plant is the “Web of Life”. The Appelman family homestead is located in the Midwest Driftless Region next to the Little Maquoketa River. [www.stonehollowgardens.com](http://www.stonehollowgardens.com)



### Pruning Shrubs and Bushes April 15th Presenter Via Zoom at 6:30PM



My name is Ben Cooper. I have been passionate about our forests since a young age. I was introduced to all the wonderment of our natural world through numerous outdoor adventures. This ultimately steered my life in a direction to choose Arboriculture as a career and graduated from the University of MN with a degree in Urban Forest Management. I have worked in all aspects of commercial arboriculture; from new tree planting, to technical tree climbing, to management of company-wide safety programs. I am currently the general manager at Rainbow Treecare, responsible for oversight of our arboriculture, lawn maintenance and structural pest control divisions. I take great pride in the success of our employees. I also enjoy giving back to our arborist community through my volunteer work with the Minnesota Tree Climbing

Competition and the Saluting Branches, Arborists United for Veteran Remembrance.

### Seeking photos for website

Would appreciate members showcasing their gardens with some photos that could be posted on our gardening website. If you want, make your own photo show or I can put some photos together in a show.

Winter is a good time to look over your garden bones and the structure will pop out. You can tie these images into your spring or summer look as a before and after theme or use a seasonal melody.

A few suggestions to think about but not limited to:

- \* Show the feeling that your garden has a mind of its own.
- \* Show what color story you have in your garden.
- \* Show us your plant community.
- \* Show us what plants flourished with the temperature drops we had in 2021.

I need to mention that I would like plants identified and use high quality, in focus images. Send to me via email and thanks much! Karin

## Master Gardener Volunteer Week, April 5-9, 2021

The Wisconsin Master Gardener Program will be celebrating Master Gardener Volunteer Week April 5-9, 2021. Master Gardener Volunteers are an important part of University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Grant County. Volunteers make a positive difference in Grant County lives and communities at Platteville, Cassville, Fennimore, Bloomington, Montfort, and Lancaster through hours of community service by answering diagnostic questions, educating the public on horticultural topics, growing and donating food to local pantries, beautifying community spaces, conducting workshops, and more, these volunteers work tirelessly to make Wisconsin an incredible place to live.

Wednesday, April 7 is “Thank a Master Gardener Volunteer Day.” Extension wants to recognize all of our Master Gardener Volunteers for their dedication and contributions to Wisconsin. Join us by making a phone call, writing a note, or just saying “Thank you!” to a Master Gardener Volunteer on April 7<sup>th</sup>! To thank your local Master Gardener Volunteers, find us on [Grant County Master Gardeners | Facebook](#) or call the Extension Grant County office at 608-723-2125. If inclined, send a thank you card to Grant County Extension, 916 E Elm St Ste A, Lancaster, WI 53813. Find out more information about the Master Gardener Program at: [Master Gardener Program – University of Wisconsin-Extension](#)



Wednesday, April 7

### Volunteer Opportunity

Carylee Gressman at Sugar & Spice is looking for a presenters for summer tent talks May-July. Saturday's & Sundays. This would be your chosen topic, maybe 1 hour, presentation at 10am. If interested PM on Sugar & Spice Bulk Foods/ Facebook or email: [sugarandspice@tds.net](mailto:sugarandspice@tds.net).

So far she has presentations for composting, pollinator-friendly plants, herbs & uses..we're getting closer to spring!! Thank you! Marsha

Just a reminder to refresh yourself on what the COVID guidelines are set by the University for in-person speaking engagements as a MG volunteer during this time period.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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

*Myleen, Editor*