

November 2018 Newsletter Grant County Master Gardeners



Volume 1, Issue 10 November 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

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

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Beneficial Bats!

Four guests and twenty MGVS attended our October meeting about Bats. Kent Borcharding presented us with copies of BATS of the UNITED STATES and BATS in QUESTION.

Kent actively monitors 86 bat

houses. Kent's exhibit included a homemade bat house. He explained how over 80 bats can fit in one house.



AWESOME TOTAL FOR THE BOSCOBEL FOOD WISE PROJECT

Chris Swan reported at our October meeting that a total of 169 pounds of produce from two raised beds was harvested and given away. What great job Chris! The beds were planted behind the Boscobel Senior Center and adjacent to the Head Start Facility. Look for more details in the Wisconsin MGVS Yearly Report Booklet!



Important Websites for MGVS:
<http://wimastergardener.org>

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

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

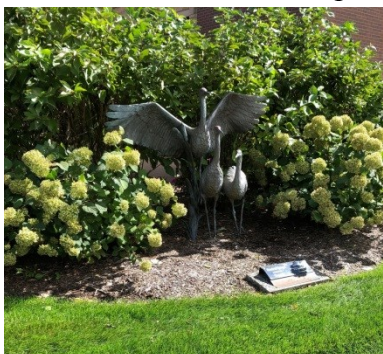


October 14 Grant Regional Health Center

Corey provided us with a picture of the fall planting he arranged in the donated plant boxes at the entrance of the Grant Regional Health Center. Corey intends to change the boxes each season.



“Autumn at the River” was a perfect theme for the 2018 WIMGA State Conference held at Eau Claire. Mother Nature provided the backdrop of fall and cool temperatures. To kick off the convention, we were offered three tours to choose. I picked the three-mile walking tour of Phoenix Park, which followed the downtown river-front and featured native plants and decorative rock. Next, we toured the grounds of the Mayo Hospital. To



bring nature inside the hospital, the atrium and healing garden has mature trees along with other plants. Our tour guide was involved with the planning and planting of the landscape around the buildings and parking lots so we were learning first-hand information. I thought installing the trees must of been a challenge for the crane operator.

The hotel, food, service, vendors, silent auction, door prizes, speakers, and the convention facilities were top shelf. The five host counties took two years to plan this event and their efforts were evident because they produced an amazing well-planned event.

Both keynote speakers, Mark Dwyer and Ben Futa, emphasized extending your seasons by using woody plants for foliage, and use of color. Moreover, keep visual characteristics of texture, color, form and composition in your landscape. One final note, from Ben was “Friends Don’t Let Friends Buy Annuals.”

Mr. Dwyer used this quote to remind us how to know where to plant, when and why to prune, and when to move. “Knowing your plants and knowing your site” is really the key to success.”

Mr. Futa covered the four main principles in designing with perennials. Grasses will add movement and he wants music to direct you on your plants’ movements and placement.

It was difficult to narrow down to three choices for my selection of workshops because they offered a variety of top-notch state speakers. I selected ones that would broaden my scope of learning and bring back information to our county’s plant enthusiasts:

Erin LaFaive – Preserving and Drying Herbs

Trent Kowalchyuk – GMOs: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly

Brian Hudelson – Basics of Plant Diseases & Management

Feel free to contact me if you missed the handouts and details about the workshops that I shared at the October meeting. I want to thank the group for sponsoring part of my registration fee for this great convention. It was an honor and pleasure to represent our county.

Save your seeds!

At our September meeting we voted to give away seeds from our gardens on the March 23, 2019 MGVS garden conference. The conference committee would like all members who saved seeds to give away at the March 2019 conference to bring them to the November 15, 2018 meeting. Here is a list of requirements:

- ✓ Please package the seeds in individual white envelopes size 6 ½ inches by 3 ½ inches.
- ✓ Each envelope should include a minimum of 10 seeds of the same kind.
- ✓ Label the envelope with the name of the plant, annual or perennial, number of days to germinate, sun or shade, height, color
- ✓ Please add a note: NOT FOR RESALE

So far, the committee has only received one seed donation. If you have any questions, please contact Karin Peacock, chair of the Conference Committee. Thank you for your cooperation.



Don't Be Afraid of These Beautiful Bees

Often called orchard bees or blue orchard bees, mason bees are smaller than honeybees, and often have metallic green or blue backs. They are most active in spring, and are able to fly at cooler temperatures compared to honeybees. Mason bees do not sting.

<http://bigbughunt.com/bug-guides/us-and-canada/mason-bee/>



All bugs aren't bad, don't step on them, throw them back into the gardens

Ground beetles emerge from shelter beneath mulch or shallow burrows at night to hunt soft-bodied slugs, smaller beetles, or other small creatures that come within their range. Their shallow burrowing helps break down organic matter.



<http://bigbughunt.com/bug-guides/us-and-canada/ground-beetle/>

November GCMGV Meeting

Thursday, November 15 at 6:30 P.M.

This is our last MGTV meeting until February of 2019! Appetizers will be served at 6:30PM with Build Your Own Ice Cream Sundae.

Meat Appetizers: Marsha S., Cindy A., Jean H.

Vegetable Appetizer: Wendy J., Jo R.

Fruit Appetizer: Connie Landon, Natasha

Drink: Chris C, Connie Larson

Sundae Topping: Terry (Chocolate), Karin P. (Strawberry), Nancy M. (Peanuts)

Ice Cream: Kathy K. and Ken K. (vanilla), Kathy K. (chocolate)

Silverware: Karin P.

Napkins and Cups:

Paper Plates and Bowls:

Table Decorations including Table Cloths: Myleen

Let Terry Wood know if you would like to provide anything.



SAVE THE DATES

March 23, 2019 is booked at Vesperman's for our Fourth Convention! May 11, 2019 is our Plant Sale and May 10 is the set up date.

PLANT SALE 2019

I have been walking through my garden noting what plants to divide and donate for the 2019 plant sale. There is enough room in my garden so I start a row with plants and shrubs that I will donate. I find it is much easier for me to do this in the fall then in the busy spring. So far, I have Hydrangeas, Peonies, Spirea, and a few miscellaneous items. You might consider doing this in your garden! Remember to save bulbs also!



Amanda Cauffman, Grant County
Agricultural Educator, MGTV mentor



Terry Wood, President

Myleen, Editor