

September 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>
This site has information on the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program.

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastergardener/>
This site is the Extension blog for Master Gardeners.

<http://www.wpr.org/programs/archives/all>
This site takes you to all the WI Public Radio archived programs. Listen for the Larry Meiller Show which airs live on Friday at 11:00 am and Saturday at 7:00 am.

<http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/>
This is our association's site for updates.

Grant County Fair

Educational display during four days of Grant County fair offered info on pollinators in the garden. Burpee seed company provided us free flower seed packets to pass out that are pollinator friendly. The show stopper was the plantings of ground covers in a frame by Corey Weydert.



Monica Starrett looking over material on pollinators.



Grant Regional Health Center's Appreciation Week

During Grant Regional Health Center's Appreciation Week, fresh veggie stand by Corey offered free for the taking for healthy living food choices. This was a first time for offering fresh, locally grown vegetables and was a popular hit - every bean, eggplant, pepper, cucumbers, tomatoes, broccoli, onion, summer squash was gone in a short time. I think Corey has a blueprint here for a successful vegetable food stand.



Master Gardener Training Classes

Reminder - training classes are back and if anyone is interested in attending for continuing education hours or have a certain topic that interests you, don't hesitate to join us. Contact Terry or Karin to make sure plans have not been altered.

Schedule can be found on web site

at <http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/2016-level-1-training.html>.

Thank you from Mary Mayo

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

Thank you so much for visiting my garden, touring Grandview and making a donation to that site. We look forward to continued opportunities to get together, visiting and learn from one another. We are looking forward to the Uplands Garden Club's bus trip later in the month where some master gardeners might be joining them.



Four volunteers from Grant County joined their group on Saturday, August 20, where we visited Old World Wisconsin and after lunch we headed for Northwinds Perennial Farm. Peggy Thereault, Shirley Audetat, Karin Peacock, and Carley Borcharding had an awesome trip with the Iowa county group. We managed to be inside when a dark cloud passed over with some moisture. Peggy had her shopping list and pocket book ready when she shopped for her plants for her low maintenance project at Northwinds.

You can read more about Peggy's project on our website. She is working on using a method "*Know Maintenance Approach*" by Roy Diblik. She selected low maintenance plants for low maintenance for a drought tolerant area as described in Roy Diblik's book.

Read more about it at <http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/whats-happening-in-members-gardens.html>

September Meeting—*Monarch Butterflies*



Thursday, September 15th at 7PM. Business meeting at 6:30PM. Youth & Ag Building, Lancaster.

Lorri Cwyner, co-owner of *Nature's Gifts Greenhouse and Floral* located in Darlington, will be discussing the raising and releasing of Monarch butterflies, everything from egg to adult. Conservation efforts will also be covered.

Volunteer Hours and Dues are due Oct. 1, 2016

Please send form along with a total of \$10 payable to GCMGA (\$5 for state and \$5 for county dues) for recertification to:

Peggy Thereault, 12703 State Highway 60, Blue River, WI 53518, peggyt@mwt.net, 608-537-3565

This form can be downloaded from:

our web site, <http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/forms--reports.html>
county's web site, <http://grant.uwex.edu/agriculture/becoming-a-master-gardener/>
WIMGA, paper work, <http://wimastergardener.org/toolbox/>
or call Jenny at 723-2125 asking her to mail you a copy.

Class of 2015 will be receiving an email from Karin explaining the process on volunteer hours and dues that are due by Oct. 1, 2016

Trip and Tour to Old World Wisconsin and Northwind Perennial Farm

Upland Garden Club extended an invitation to our members to join them on a bus trip to Old World Wisconsin, Eagle, WI and Northwind Perennial Farm, 10-acre farmstead tucked away in the rolling hills of southeastern Wisconsin near Burlington, WI, that offers retail nursery, display gardens, garden design services and more. Four members from our county enjoyed the day of being a tourist and shopping. One can always find another must have plant!

Our journey back to the past at Old World Wisconsin was enlightening to see the re-creation of the working farmsteads and settlements established by European immigrants in America's heartland. We chatted with the tour guides while they showed us how farm folk prepared hearty meals over wood-burning stoves, and viewed the heirloom plants in the gardens. Strolling through the 1880s Villages and farmsteads was a journey back in time and learned about the spirit of early Wisconsin. Old World Wisconsin is definitely a must see destination as one of the historical sites of Wisconsin.



Photo by Shirley Audetat

Tour of Plant Diagnostic Labs



Off to the Plant Diagnostic Lab in Madison on August 2 for our first onsite tour for [Level 1 Training](#). First stop was Babcock Ice Cream and then across the street to Russell Hall. Temperature was recorded as 84 degrees (not mentioning the dew point) and was a clear, sunny day without wind blowing. We will look back on that beautiful warm day when we are inside this winter looking out at the white stuff and wish we were back to that day on the UW campus.

Dr. Brian Hudelson, Director of Diagnostic Services of Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab, showed us how they process samples, how to submit samples, gave us tips, discussed the Fact Sheets, and answered our questions plus other info such as tomato blights and powdery mildew. ([Read more about mildew recipe](#)) Of course, he wore his t-shirt showing his name as Dr. Death. The link to his diagnostic lab, which is an invaluable tool for gardeners, is <http://pddc.wisc.edu/>

Our take away message from Dr. Hudelson was “*Know what you know, know what you don't, and know how to find out.*” This sums up our role as Grant County Master Gardener's Volunteers.

Our second visit was with the "BugGuy" who showed us how he handles his research on identification services and answered questions from the group. Patrick (PJ) Liesch, director of the UW-Madison Insect Diagnostic Lab, is truly a friend of master gardeners. Check out the blog on what is crawling in the lab, and tweets, <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/insectlab/> Some links that are great tools for gardeners. <http://hort.uwex.edu/diagnostic-labs-and-identification-tools/>

Native Prairie and Oak Savannah Tour

The Crawford County Master Gardeners have been invited to a native prairie and oak savannah restoration project at the home of Jim and Joyce Czjakowski in rural Wauzeka. They have been working with several conservation groups over the past few years in identification of plants, prescribed burns, invasive removals and the like to bring their native prairie back to life. Jim says this year things are really looking great. There have been several species of endangered plants identified on the property. The property also includes an ancient oak savannah that has oaks documented by UWP professors/students to be dating back to the 1700's!

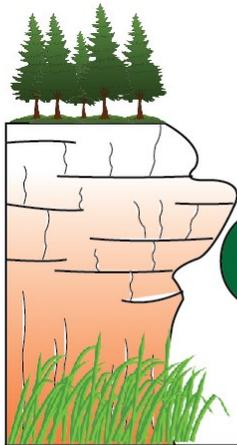


When: Saturday, October 1st (rain date is Sunday, October 2nd)

Time: 1:00 pm the walk will take 1-2 hours

Where: 33396 Pollander Rd., Wauzeka, WI

The hosts will provide a snack back at the house after the tour.



Helping Nature Thrive Gardeners at the Dells

2016 Upper Midwest Regional Master Gardener Conference

Gardeners At The Dells

The states of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, and Illinois, hold a joint conference every other year. The four states rotate hosting the event.

The next conference will be in Wisconsin Dells, WI September 14-17, 2016.

Learn more about the conference at:

<https://midwestmgconference.wordpress.com/>

Condolences to Laura and Randy Orth. Laura's mother passed away who influenced her passion for gardening.



Ted Bay
Crops & Farm Management Agent



Myleen, Editor

