



Glacial Gardeners' Grapevine

Glacial Gardeners' Master Gardener Volunteer Association

March 2009

GGMGA MEETING MINUTES



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Special points of interest:

- Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Lower Level of the Resource Center. Kathy will show a video at 5 if you want to come.
- April 25th, 2009; North Stars Garden Conference at the Florence High School
- Glacial Gardeners 10th Annual Spring Plant Sale—Saturday, May 30th from 9:30 to 1

March 17, 2009

Rebecca's Garden "Summer in the Garden" VIDEO was shown from 5:00-6:00 and was well-attended by those wishing to earn an hour of continuing education time.

We learned that Highlite Mimosa (bright yellow) is the Pantone color of the year during Keri's power point presentation on NEW PLANT VARIETIES.

Thank you, Keri.

Chairperson Kathy C called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Natural Resource Center in Florence with the following members in ATTENDANCE: Keri, Karen, Mary Jane,

Mary Jean, Linda, Gail, Roberta, Inga, Betsy, Mary Beth, Jean, Deb, Mary K, Kathy B and guest Pam.

Jean moved, Mary Jane supported and motion carried that Secretary Karen's

February MINUTES as published in the GGs' Grapevine, be accepted.

Betsy moved, Gail supported and motion carried that Treasurer Deb's report of ACCOUNT BALANCES be accepted.

Those who received "funny money" for bringing in their UP-TO-DATE VOLUNTEER

HOURS were Karen, Mary Jane, Mary

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Next meeting
April 14th at 6:00
Movie at 5 if you want to come.

Kathy's Corner

Yea for warmer weather. I can even take a few cold days now that I know the trend is upward. The mud has come, but the snow is gone for the most part. Now where did I put those mud shoes? *(By the time you get this we might need snow shoes again—SA)*

The greenhouse has warmed up nicely. Now if I could only get a tan while I am out there it would be great. The plants are loving it and, like Keri at the Spread Eagle Garden Center, I've got vents and doors open, fans running, and a tank top on trying to keep it cooler in there. It sure has cut down on the

heating bill in the attached potting shed because I can share the warmth. Many of the annuals that I took in last fall are making a come back. Surprise, surprise. I even have a petunia that is getting leaves on an old stalk. I love to experiment. Sometimes it works and other times it doesn't.

Some of the seeds I saved from last fall are in containers. I hope some of them germinate. It would be great to have plants from my own plants. Major seed starting is in force this week. It is hard to decide what to plant. I am also doing

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GG Grapevine newsletter
is available to view online at
<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastgardener/>

HOURS TO BE COUNTED

If you attended the before meeting video "Rebecca's Garden "Summer in the Garden" you can count 1 hour for continuing Education time.

Those attending the meeting 3/17/09 can count 1 hour of support service time plus their travel time getting to the meeting and home again.

Don't forget to be keeping track of seed starting and tending to time. It starts adding up really fast. Those tender green babies need care!



Keri giving a power point presentation on new plant varieties for 2009 before the March meeting

Kathy's Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

a plant sale at the Museum where I volunteer as their gardener. We dug up some perennial beds and put the divisions in the veggie garden over the winter. If they survived, they will be the basis for our Heritage plant sale Sunday of Memorial weekend. We will also be selling old-fashioned annuals and heirloom veggie seedlings. I'm going to have a crazy May I can tell already.

And, in the middle of it all, I'm getting my two grandsons for their Easter break. I really think it is their mom's Easter break. I offered to take the baby for the week, but she said that wouldn't be a break for her. See what I mean. The boys are so looking

forward to planting seeds with Grandma again. I'll admit that I am too. It is something they can do with Grandma.

Seems with the spring comes our big push of events. They give us a jump-start on the season with so many great ideas. Thank you to the folks who have been sharing information. Save your handouts from things you attend and share them with us. Something might just spark an idea, or provide a solution to a dilemma. So share what you learn.

Mary Jane, Jean and I went to Appleton Garden Expectations. I was surprised when one of the presenters stated that he didn't realize there was this much interest in gardening in the Fox Cities area. He thought that it was a state convention. I just chuckled. He had great information on rainwater collection systems. Google Aquascape. It is an amazing system.

The first Glacial Gardener workshop at Keri's was a big success. Loved it when one of the ladies came up and said, "I love these workshops. I learn something new at every one. Keep up the good work." Makes it worthwhile to present information. Our next one is on Thursday, Mar 26th. It is full and we will need help. No teaching involved except one-on-one questions from participants. Jean helped with the last one to get her feet wet. Thanks Jean for the assist. Hopefully more of you can make it for the next one. Be there at 6pm if you are helping so we can clue you in on the proceedings.

The North Stars Garden Conference is filling up. Talked with Kathy B yesterday and she sent information out to Forest County and several other clubs in a little wider circle. I left some brochures in Appleton and we will be taking them to Marinette and

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Hi everyone,
wanted to remind you all that our first underwriting episode of Victory garden starts Saturday March 21 at 11:30 am on TV13!!! Pretty exciting. If you are busy this Saturday remember you can always tune in each Saturday after to see and hear all about our club!
Deb

You can also see at 4:00 on Thursdays Garden Smart. Good for Continuing Education Hours

***Saturday, April 4 2009** Garden Conference 8-4 pm \$35, Heri University Center, Escanaba, MI For more info call MSU Extension office at 906-786-3032 or www.msue.msu.edu/delta. Registration deadline March 13th, 2009.

GGMGA MEETING MINUTES (continued)

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Jean, Linda, Roberta, Inga, Betsy, Mary Beth, Jean, Deb, Kathy B and Kathy C.

UWEX REPORT – Kathy B reported 51 people have registered so far for the NORTH STARS SPRING GARDEN CONFERENCE to be held Saturday, April 25. Brochures and flyers are available. Volunteers are needed Sunday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m. to put stickers on Conference folders and stuff them. Conference cookie decorators are needed for the beginning of Conference week to meet at Kathy C's home with lunch to be provided. Conference workers are needed, especially for Saturday to clean up after the conference is over.

WIMGA REPORT – Purdue University has openings in their 2009 Gardens of France MG STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM, June 30-July 11. For more info <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/France>. Members were encouraged to sign up for the electronic version of the WIMGA NEWSLETTER. Anyone interested in representing GG at the Face-to-Face Board Meeting in Hancock, WI, April 4, contact Fleurette or Kathy C. We still need a WIMGA REP for our group.

Plants have been selected and the butterfly garden plan will be completed next week for the RECONSTRUCTION of the LOWER RESOURCE CENTER GARDEN. Mary K reported that 6 YOUTH GARDEN GRANT applications have been received from Pathfinders 4-H Club, 2 from the Niagara Elementary Schools, Norway/Vulcan School, Forest Park School, and Florence High School. Mary Beth moved, Mary Jane supported and motion carried that all grants be funded at some level. Food, Fun and Fitness is looking for help. Keri is getting info on "Planted by" SIGNS for grant projects.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Deb moved, Kathy B supported and motion carried that a \$75 scholarship (difference between WI and MI training) be awarded to Mary Jean who will be taking the Michigan MG training which begins this week.

Mary Beth of the FINANCE COMMITTEE and coordinator of the Spring Plant Sale Daily News AD CAMPAIGN, presented an overview of how the campaign works. Cost of ads is the same as last year. The ad page will appear in the April 18th issue of the Daily News.

Kathy C has GREENHOUSE SPACE available for anyone needing a place to grow plants for the Spring Plant

Sale.

Keri could use help with the upcoming SEED STARTING WORKSHOP March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

The registration deadline has been extended to mid-April for the NORWAY GARDEN CLUB overnight trip to the Duluth area July 10-11.

The GARDENING ANGELS garden trip will be June 13-14 to the Green Bay area; registration due May 13.

Jean gave us a handout and told us about the "NO-TILL" GARDENING workshop she took at the Garden Visions Conference in Wausau.

Mary Jane told us about the DWARF CONIFER conference workshop she took.

Those planning to attend the MARINETTE CONFERENCE on March 28 are Kathy C, Deb, Mary K, Arlene and Karen. Mary K will drive.

Those planning to attend the ESCANABA CONFERENCE on April 4 are Jean, Mary Jane, Kathy C, Roberta, Fleurette and Kathy B. Kathy C will drive.

A proposal was received from HARBOUR HOUSE in Crystal Falls re: a joint fundraiser to be held at Harbour House the end of Summer having to do with vases of cut flowers. Karen will try to get details for the April meeting.

Mary Beth told us about the HOME DEPOT GARDEN CLUB and membership cards were passed out for those who wished to sign up.

Thank you to Sandy for providing shamrock COOKIES, also alyssum SEEDLINGS for anyone interested.

Inga moved, Mary K supported and motion carried that we ADJOURN at 8:10 p.m. Thank you Deb, for providing all the ingredients and handouts for us to make two kinds of ESSENTIAL OILS, an energizing blend and a relaxing blend. We all helped and each member took home a sample. (See photo below)





SEEDLING POTS II

Another thing one can do to not have to spend money on those seedling pots is to save all your empty toilet paper rolls all winter. (Ask Mary Jane about this one) Cut them in half, slice one end a few times up towards the cut end a bit and fold those slices inwards to make a flat bottom and then fill with seed starter soil and plant your seeds. Place all these little toilet paper roll pots into a rimmed flat plastic or metal container with the looks of a cookie sheet. Water the bottom of this container so that water soaks up to the seedlings. One has another great cheap way of starting their garden veggie seeds !

SEEDLING POTS I

Why spend money buying plant starter packs when you can make all you need from old newspapers? The added benefit of these newspaper pots is that they can be set right into the ground where the paper will eventually decompose and, in the process, the seedling's delicate root system won't be disturbed by transplanting. Paper pots can be placed side-by-side in a cardboard box tray with the sides cut down to about three inches. Amazingly, the newspaper boxes will hold water and

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The September conference in Ironwood will be on the 19th this year according to Lynn Adams of Range Masters MGVA

Photos in this issue by Roberta



Kathy's Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Escanaba. We increased the size of the conference this year. It would be great if we could keep growing. Club members, Keri and I are presenting this year. This is a new twist for us. We are looking forward to it.

Thanks for everyone who signed up for cookie decorating. I'm looking at Monday and Tuesday of the week of conference. I will have a definite date at the next meeting. Also, a reminder about folder stuffing April 19th at 6pm at the Resource Center. Many hands make light work. Let Kathy B or myself know if you didn't sign up at the meeting.

The pre-meeting continuing ed opportunity was very well attended. In fact when people showed up for the meeting they asked where everyone was. I will continue to show the Rebecca's Garden DVDs as long as there is interest.

Roberta started her new shared job of official club photographer at the meeting. Looking forward to seeing the pictures in the newsletter. Thanks for stepping up to that position.

I will have some room in my greenhouse for plants when you run out of room for seedlings. Please let me know before you come so I can be home. Don't have a phone in the greenhouse, yet. So call the night before or early in the day. Stopped at Sandy's and she showed me all the things she and her boys had started. Sure looked like spring at her house.

Already heard from someone about a relaxing bath in the tub using the salts we made with Deb's assistance. Kathy B suggested that if you take showers you could put them in a little piece of cheesecloth or other material and hang it from your showerhead. I'm going to try that one.

Mary Beth got plant sale ad information for us to be thinking about. We will start selling ads after next month's meeting. Those selling ads will have a full-sized ad from the previous year and possibly some pictures of the long lines at the sale. Inga, our ad queen, gave us a few pointers that have been successful for her. We also got our first batch of plant sale posters from Sandy. Hold off until after next meeting posting them. We want it to be fresh in people's minds. Sandy will have more for us next meeting.

The grants are awarded. We had six applications and we chose to fund them all at some level. It is such a great opportunity for us to work in the community and with kids at the same time. We will need volunteers to step up

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

I've made this twice now. Rick just loves it. Quick and easy. I've actually cooked some carrots and added a small can of peas when I didn't have any frozen ones. It is delicious. They gave a recipe for Creamed Dump & Stir Biscuits. Haven't tried those yet. Used corn bread the first time. This time I'm using Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits. Kathy C.

30-minute Chicken Pot Pie

adapted from America's Test Kitchen

Ingredients:

3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
 4 T butter or margarine
 1 onion, minced
 1 stalk celery, sliced thinly
 1/2 t salt
 2 T flour
 1/4 c dry white wine (vermouth, or any dry white)
 2 c low sodium chicken broth (or 2 c water/2 low sodium chicken bouillon cubes)
 1/2 c heavy cream (fat free half/half works too)
 1 1/2 t fresh minced thyme (or 3/4 t dried thyme)
 2 c frozen pea/carrot medley

Procedure:

Place 2 T butter in a heavy skillet over medium high heat. Salt and pepper one side of the chicken breast and place in the hot skillet. Season the other side while in the pan. Brown chicken on only one side for 5 minutes. Meanwhile, slice celery and mince onion, also fresh thyme if you are using it. When chicken is golden brown on one side remove from the skillet and set aside on a plate. Add 2 T butter to the same skillet. To this add the celery, onion and 1/2 t salt. Sauté for about 5 minutes.

Add flour to vegetable mixture to make a roux. Stir to coat vegetables and toast flour, about 1 minute. To this add 1/4 c white wine stirring to get bits from the bottom of the pan. Add broth and whisk if necessary to remove lumps. Add 1/2 c heavy cream and thyme. Bring to a simmer and put chicken back in the skillet, browned side up. Cover and cook 8-10 minutes. (meat should register 160 on a meat thermometer). Remove the chicken to a platter and let rest. To the sauce add 2 c frozen peas/carrots. Let mixture heat through for 3 minutes. Add all the juices from the chicken platter back into the broth and cut chicken into bite size pieces. Add them to the skillet. Turn up to medium and heat through. Season to taste, if needed.

While mixture is simmering make biscuits, either from scratch or packaged. Bake according to directions. Ladle into a serving bowl and top with biscuits, or put mixture into individual

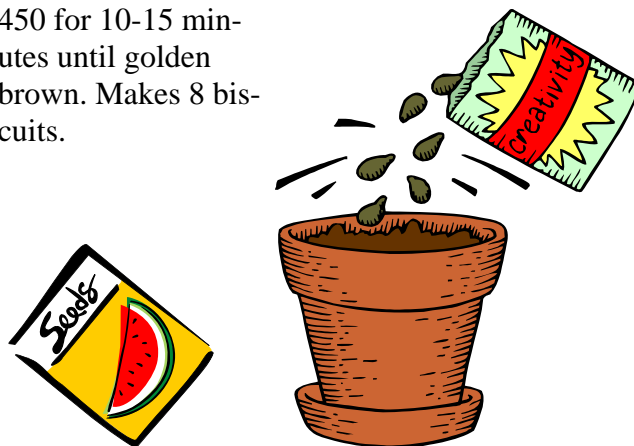
bowls and top with a biscuit. (And it does only take 30 minutes to make; unless you make some involved biscuit recipe) Makes enough for 4 adults.

Dump & Stir Cream Biscuits

2 c unbleached flour
 2 T sugar
 2 t baking powder
 1/2 t salt

Whisk together to distribute ingredients evenly.

Add 1 1/2 c heavy cream and stir. Dump out on lightly floured board and knead for a minute. Pat to 3/4 inches and use 2 1/2" biscuit cutter. Place on parchment lined sheet and bake at 450 for 10-15 minutes until golden brown. Makes 8 biscuits.



Kathy's Corner (continued)

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and be mentors for those applications that requested help, either with planning, teaching, or implementation. Those of us who worked on last year's grants can tell you what a great experience it was! Some of them are starting quickly. I will be emailing or calling when we finalize the monies.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."- Helen Adams Keller

Thanks for being such a great group to work with.---
 Kathy C

GLACIAL GARDENERS' MASTER
GARDENER VOLUNTEER
ASSOCIATION

Univ. of
Wisconsin.
Cooperative
Extension Office



[http://www.hort.wisc.edu/
mastergardener/](http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/)

SEEDLING POTS
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remain intact when wet.

Materials Needed:

Double sheets of 17" x 48" (when spread out) newsprint. Use smaller sized publications; most daily newspapers are too big in size to make a nice compact pot). Choose pages without color since the ink may be harmful to both the plant and the soil.

Stapler needed

Method:

Step 1: Begin with a double sheet of newspaper. Fold in half, making a sharp crease line.

Step 2: Aligning bottom and top edges, fold in half again.

Step 3: Bring left side edge to top edge in a diagonal fold. There will be a selvage edge left at right.

Step 4: Fold selvage edge to back.

Step 5: Bring right side edge to top edge in a diagonal crease.

Step 6: Flip over with selvage edge to front. Fold sides forward lengthwise in equal thirds.

Step 7: Open out and fold bottom and top forward in equal thirds.

Step 8: Open out and pleat bottom left corner (1) inward along diagonal crease line and fold behind front center panel A. Repeat with bottom right corner (2). Staple through all thicknesses at center of A.

Step 9: Repeat step 8 with top corners and staple to complete pot.

Step 10: Fill with soil and plant.

