



UW *Extension* Waupaca County

Master Gardener Newsletter

April 2006

**Master Gardener Meetings are held
the 2nd Thursday of the month.**

6:00- 6:30 p.m. Social

6:30-7:30 p.m. Meeting - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Program



*Unless otherwise stated, meetings and programs will be held in
the lower level of the Waupaca County Courthouse.*



*In the event that a meeting or event is cancelled due to weather,
please listen to WJMQ 92.3 and WDUZ 92.7 for cancellation
information. We will also attempt to notify members via email. If
you have any question about whether or not a meeting will be
held, please contact Susan Finkel at 715-752-4494 or
finkel@uwosh.edu*



NOTE DATE CHANGE OF APRIL MEETING

**April 20 – 6:30 p.m. - Presentation of the Waupaca
County Children's Gardens, meeting to follow.**

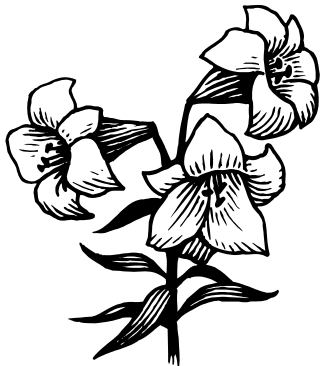
See Sue King's article in this newsletter on pond scum
and frog eggs!!

6:00 p.m. Plant Sale Committee Meeting



The following people are scheduled to bring goodies for
the April meeting. Michelle Molenda-Schroth, Sue
King, Nancy Weasner, and Sally Marchel Handrich.

The refreshment committee is no longer providing
soda, juice, etc. to drink. Bring your own beverage. A
pot of coffee will be made for the Courthouse meetings.



A Happy & Blessed Easter!

April in the Garden

Gardens

- Clean up garden as weather warms.
- Avoid the temptation to walk around thawing gardens, especially if the ground is wet. The weight of your footsteps will compact the ground. If you're not sure where you are stepping, the snapping sound of a hidden emerging plant can be extremely painful.
- Wait until new growth is established before removing winter protection.
- Cut ornamental grasses back to a few inches before new growth begins.
- Add a few inches of organic matter to your garden. Use compost, peat moss or aged manure. This organic matter will dramatically improve the drainage and workability of the ground. A good garden starts from the ground up!
- Check on your clumping perennials, such as daylilies and Siberian iris. While the dead foliage has provided a protective wreath for the plants over winter, it's important now to clear the brown leaves away in anticipation of green shoots. Be careful not to cut into new shoots while you're removing last year's foliage.
- Bareroot plants should be soaked up to 8 hours before planting. Trim off cleanly any broken roots or branches.
- Start pepper, eggplant, and tomato seedlings early in the month. Remember to harden them off by gradually exposing them to outdoor temperatures and full sunlight before transplanting them into the garden.

Lawns

- Rake the lawn. Remove leaves, twigs, and debris.
- Check for winter snow and salt damage
- Bare spots can be repaired once the soil dries. After raking the soil, scatter seed in the area. Lightly cover the seed and keep the soil moist. The seed will begin emerging in May.

Bulbs

- Fertilize spring flowering bulbs.



President's Letter

Submitted by Susan Finkel

The signs of spring are in the air. The neighbor's sheep have had their lambs. I saw that the drive-in in Hortonville is opening soon. Soon, the plant huts will be up in parking lots. The seeds that I ordered are waiting for me to plant them. I have lots of mud in my yard. I know that each day will bring more and more.



So, did you make it to the State Master Gardener Conference? I did, and was very impressed by many things: the sessions were incredible, food was tasty, people were friendly, and the vendors were fantastic. I came home with even more catalogues, great ideas, and a really cool iron rooster! I think I saw about thirty of our members there...just by my own account.

WOW! I can hardly wait til the 2007 conference which will be in Eau Claire. Here's my invitation right now: Our cabin is about 40 minutes from Eau Claire, so YOU ARE ALL invited to stay at our cabin for the conference. (Of course, we don't have plumbing or electricity, and we would have to fire up the wood stove!)

Looking forward to seeing you soon!
Susan



April Program

Submitted by Sue King

Do you like pond scum or frog eggs? The April meeting will feature an exciting program on the Children's Gardens of Waupaca County. WCMG's encourage children of all ages to learn and play in the garden.

Come hear Lyle Mork and Chris Ross tell us about lola's Garden and their exciting plans on expansion. Listen to Kathy Erickson and Pam Nitke share their

beginning adventures at Swan's Park in Waupaca last year.

The New London Children's Garden is beginning its six successful year and they are ready and eager to start an advanced garden group.

We are all so ready for spring after a long winter so come and listen and get ready for the new season. We will share stories and information and garden schedules at the meeting.

Remember, WCMG's, these fun activities can be used for your volunteer hours and we will also be serving refreshments like "frog eggs" and "pond scum". I like to think that WCMG are growing great kids.

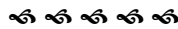
See you at the April meeting!



Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

Everyone is welcome to attend.

April 26, 6:30 p.m. - Coffee Klatsch in Weyauwega



April Birthdays

Submitted by Connie Jess Zolkoske

- Lyle Mork4/4
- Faye Wilson.....4/12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Waupaca County MG Plant Sale Policies and Guidelines

Submitted by Lyle Mork (per the Executive Board)

Waupaca County Master Gardeners shall have two plant sales each year. One plant sale will be held in the spring and a second plant sale shall be held in the fall.

The plant sales shall be held at the Waupaca County Fairgrounds in Weyauwega, Wisconsin. Each plant sale shall be co-chaired by two members of the Waupaca County Master Gardeners.

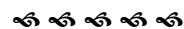
The spring assistant co-chair will become fall chair and the fall assistant chair will become the spring chair. A new co-chairperson shall be appointed for each sale. This will ensure that there will always be one experienced chairperson and one new chairperson for each sale.

Prior to the plant sale and during the morning of the plant sale, no member shall be allowed to make any purchases or to put aside and save any plant or item from the plant sale for purchase later. Members will be allowed to make purchases at 11:00 a.m. (shift change) on the day of the sale.

Regarding leftover plants and other sale items, a written request must be made asking for the return of those plants and items and these plants and items must be picked up by the end of the sale (2:00 p.m.).

Anything left over from the sale will be given to Waupaca County Master Gardener garden projects such as children's gardens, Courthouse planters, Fairground gardens, etc. A request in writing prior to end of the plant sale must be submitted. Requests must be given to plant chairperson. If any one does not want any item they have brought to be marked down to half price during the sale should also state so in writing.

Monthly reminder should be brought up orally at each monthly Waupaca County Master Gardener meeting..



March Meeting Notes

Submitted by Rebecca
Weber Schmoll,
Secretary



Attendance:

Akey, Kathy; Braatz,
Leigh; Brace, Lorry; Diley,
Joleen; Dittman,
Christann; Gruer, Gloria; Hinz,
Becky; Hipschman, Dorrie; Holly,
Cynthia; Johnson, Bill; Johnson,
Nancy; King, Suzanne; Kramer,
Peggy; Kramer, Terry; Lamb, Barb;
Leiskau, Patti; McCoy, Colleen;
Mork, Lyle; Nitke, Pam; Peterson,
Theresa; Rhodes, Glenda; Ritchie,
Pat; Schmitt, Joan; Shaw, Judy;
Shaw, Lee; Spiegelberg, Carol;
Weasner, Jeff; Weasner, Nancy;
Weber Schmoll, Rebecca; West-
Dahl, Carol; Wozniak, Suzanne;
Marchel Handrich, Sally.

Due to a work commitment,
President Susan Finkel was not at
the meeting. Vice President Pam
Nitke led the meeting. She
reminded the club members of the
“parking lot” idea for any difficult
subjects.

Secretary's Report: Secretary
Rebecca Weber Schmoll read the
March executive meeting minutes.
February meeting minutes were
approved by Gloria Gruer and
seconded by Pat Ritchie, after
discussion regarding the donation
to the Lola Children's Garden. Chet
Krause and not Krause Publication
should be noted as being the
benefactor of matching funds
raised. A question about donations
to the Master Gardeners in New
Orleans was also brought up.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer
Colleen McCoy gave the
treasurer's report. Members need
to remember that this money is all
budgeted for spending. There is
\$869 in the open fund account.
Checks not cashed in a timely
fashion make it difficult to balance
the checkbook. There are two
checks that are outstanding for five
months. It was discussed to stamp
the checks “null if not cashed in
thirty days.” Colleen will check with
the bank on this option. Barb
Lamb approved the treasurer's

report with Becky Hinz seconding
it.

State Representative's Report: Pat
Ritchie related that the email
message about the contaminated
mulch from New Orleans is a hoax.
“Joy of Gardening” is being held at
the Rotary Gardens in Janesville
on March 18. The Wisconsin Sate
Gourd Society is holding a gourd
conference at Mineral Point on
April 22. The Invasion Species
Organization is seeking nominees
for awards for “invasive species
heroes.” Fact sheets on different
plants were shared. Pat has more
time sheets if anyone needs
another time sheet. Pat is also
selling raffle tickets for the State
Convention. Prizes include a quilt
by Linda Murie, crane statue,
granite garden bowl, copper trellis,
copper sprinkler, basket, and
garden tools.

Gloria Gruer spoke about the silent
auction and the raffle. She was
concerned about items being
picked up and delivered to the
conference.

Old Business:

State Conference: At this time
there are 426 people attending the
conference. The Utility Committee
needs workers to sign up.
Volunteers are still needed to work
at the conference. Many local
businesses have made donations
to the conference. We, as
Waupaca County Master
Gardeners, need to thank and
patronize these businesses. Some
include: Thompson's Nursery
(three trees), Coffee Klatsch in
Weyauwega (6-pack of beer and
gift certificate), Liquidators (family
picnic basket), Lind Center
Greenhouse, Weyauwega Star
Dairy (an assortment of cheese)
and Rice's Green house (\$140 gift
certificates and plants).

Program Committee: Nancy
Johnson and Suzanne Wozniak
have volunteered to co-chair this
committee. The June meeting will
be a tour of Lorry Brace's garden,
Lyle Mork and his hosta gardens
will host July, and August will be

the Waupaca Children's Garden.
September, October, and
November are still open.

Library: Glenda Rhodes gave a
book review of the book, *Weeds:
Friend or Foe*, by Sally Roth.

New Business:

Carol Spiegelberg is asking club
members to purchase seeds to
donate to the five area food
pantries. Patrons of the food
pantries are given everything to
start a basic garden. This includes
seeds, bag of fertilizer, bag of
compost, onion sets, and tomato
plants. Master Gardeners are also
asked to plant an extra row in the
garden for “Food for the Hungry.”
Last year 61 families were served.

The new member survey will be
printed in the April newsletter.
Copies will be available at the April
meeting. Kathy Akey will tabulate
the results.

Susan Finkel, via email, asked for
volunteers for the June 24, 2006
Garden Walk in Waupaca.

Lyle Mork discussed the Spring
Plant Sale and what members
should donate. Lyle will bring to
the April meeting the labels, pots,
sign-up sheets, and posters. Lyle
will also review changes and new
pricing at the April meeting. The
spring sale is Sunday, June 4 at
the Waupaca County Fairgrounds.

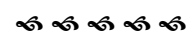
Joan Schmitt, Refreshment
Committee. Members are asked to
bring their own beverage
preference to the meetings. Coffee
will still be made for the
Courthouse meetings.

Gloria Gruer shared Cosmo seeds.

Becky Hinz and Barb Lamb were
photographed presenting the club
with two \$250 checks for
volunteering thirty hours. The
donation was from the Wal-Mart
Corporation Program.

Sue King adjourned the meeting
with a second by Joan Schmitt.

Respectfully, Rebecca Weber Schmoll





Spring Plant Sale, June 4

There will be a Plant Sale Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m., prior to the April meeting. All committee members are asked to attend.



Volunteer Hours Reporting

Meeting time and travel to and from the meeting counts for your hours. The time spent on Master Gardener business at a meeting is recording under Support Service and the presentation at the meeting (speaker or video presentation, etc) is Continuing Education time. So typically a meeting will be about 1 hour of service and 1 hour of continuing education. Remember also to count your time to and from the meetings.



Waupaca Are Garden Walk

Source, Shelly Graziano Christie

The Waupaca Area Garden Walk & Art Stroll will be held June 24, 2006. Three board members are Waupaca County Master Gardeners.

We are looking for volunteers to help the day of the event and since this event is based on educating our public about gardening and plant material, it would count toward MG volunteer hours. We usually schedule 4 hour shifts. The day of the event is June 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm.

More information about the Garden Walk will be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

Please contact Shelly if you are interested in helping.
shellychristie@sbcglobal.net
Home phone & fax: 715-256-4145
Cell phone: 920-427-8700



Upcoming WCMG Programs

The June meeting will be a tour of Lorry Brace's garden. Lyle Mork and his hosta gardens will be featured in July, and August will be at the Waupaca Children's Garden. September, October, and November are still open.



Arbor Day – Friday April 28

Plant a tree to fight climate change; cool and clean the air, land and water; provide shelter for wildlife; add beauty to the landscape or by remembering a loved one.



Waupaca Library Volunteer Opportunity

Each spring the Waupaca Area Public Library puts bedding plants in the outdoor planter in front of the library. If any member(s) would be interested in planting and caring for this small bed as a community service, please contact Sue Abrahamson at the library.
sabraham@mail.owls.lib.wi.us



Gardeners Calendar

April 8, 2006

Spring Educational and Bulb Sale

Hosted by The Wisconsin Regional Lily Society, 9:00-5:00 p.m. at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center 1616 Bellinger St. Eau Claire, WI. Agenda includes: 10:00 - How to prepare your lilies for showing (Betty Holmes and Sue Kaul); 11:30 - Bark, Berries, and Grass (Jeff Epping-Olbrich Gardens); 1:00 - English Design Gardens (Jeff Epping-Olbrich Gardens). Free admission. For more information or for a Bulb Sale Order form, contact Sandy 715-723-8168. schleyzelm2@charter.net

April 22, 2006

Gourd Festival, Mineral Point

The Wisconsin Gourd Society will be having its Wisconsin Gourd Festival on Saturday, April 22 from 9-6 p.m. at Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts in Mineral Point. Members of the Wisconsin Gourd Society are

planning a great day of gourds. Gourd artisans and crafters will be instructing workshops and doing free demonstrations for anyone interested in learning gourd art and craft techniques. They will also be selling their unique pieces--bowls, birdhouses and beyond. There will be an art exhibit and competition, silent auction, raffle and door prizes. Gourd farmers will be selling seeds for growing gourds and dried gourds for arts and crafts. The Kids Korner will be providing fun gourd crafting and educational activities for children. Please visit www.wisconsinourgourdsociety.org for event details and updates.

April 28, 2006 (12:00 noon) Organic Apple Production for Homeowners

Brown Bag Program (contact your local UW County Extension Office for access). Organic production involves a system that uses a combination of management techniques to maintain soil quality and fertility, and control weeds, pests and diseases. These are not without challenges; apple scab, rusts, apple maggot, codling moth, and curculio all have an impact on whether organic production is feasible. Each year these pests present themselves during the growing season and degrade fruit. Newer cultivars, with improved quality and hardiness, protectant products, and physical barriers are making organic growing ventures less risky. At present, organic production should be considered only on a trial basis. Join Bob Tomesh and Judy Rozell in a review of an organic system plan for a homeowner organic apple production.

April 30, 2:00 PM/central "Planting Beauty for your Yard & Garden" WPT

Learn about great ornamental crabapple trees for the backyard, how to divide perennials and how to design and create a beautiful hanging basket. Also Phil Pellitteri talks about wild silkworms and we visit lilacs in bloom at the UW-Madison Arboretum.



UW Plant Disease Diagnostics: www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/

InfoSource: <http://infosource.uwex.edu>

UW Publications Web Site: <http://www1.uwex.edu/ces/pubs/>

MG Web Site: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener>

UW Garden Facts: www.wihort.uwex.edu/

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Spring Plant Sale, June 4

*Submitted by Lyle Mork,
Spring Plant Sale Chairperson*

Please remember to bring all of your extra empty pots to the next meeting to share with others for the Spring Plant Sale. We need pots of all sizes, 4", #1 promo gal, gallon and larger sizes.



The pots can be any color and it does not matter if they have writing on them. We also need trays to put the pots in.

Our Goal is to have the appropriate plant in the appropriate pot.



***UW* Extension** Waupaca County

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