

# Master Gardener Volunteer's Newsletter

Master Gardener Meetings are held  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

*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.*



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



## February Meeting Information

*Submitted by Colleen McCoy*

**February 14th - Social 6:00-6:30 p.m.; Meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Program 7:30, Waupaca**

Marilyn Herman will be speaking on herbs. I had the pleasure to hear her speak on this subject before and she is awesome on the subject. Please plan on attending this program. I know you will not be disappointed. The program starts at 7:30 p.m.



## Library Committee Meeting

*Submitted by Patti Leiskau*

The library committee will meet at 6pm before the Feb. MGV meeting. Please bring your ideas and any books you want to preview.



## New Email Addresses

*Submitted by Greg Blonde*

MGV members please contact my secretary or me at 715-258-6230x12 with any changes regarding contact information. For example, send a change in name, email or mailing address, or phone number.

## *February in the Garden*

### Order Seeds

- \*Watch mail for seed catalogs and order seeds if not available locally.
- \*Look for disease resistant varieties. Consider purchasing varieties that have earned All-American honors.
- \*The less expensive packets of annual and vegetable seeds purchased at discount stores are not such a bad deal and annual flowers can be useful for fillers.

### House Plants

- \*Houseplants can use more light now. Turn them weekly to develop shapely profiles.
- \*Water houseplants when soil is dry. Over watering causes root rot.
- \*Clean large leaf plants with a moist cloth to remove accumulated dust.

### Outdoors In

- \*Bring a little bit of spring indoors by forcing branches of flowering shrubs and trees into bloom. Pussy willow, forsythia, and spirea (Bridal Wreath) work quite well.

### Bulbs

- \*Check stored dahlia tubers, gladiolus, and tuberous begonias. Mist if they seem dry. Throw away any soft ones.



## A Note From Our President, Kate Saunders

February is here and it is time for me to stop dreaming and start ordering those garden seeds and plants that I plan to grow in my garden this year. Garden catalogues have helped me pass the time on some of these recent bitterly cold days. I will check my sticky notes and earmarked pages as I make my final choices.

I also did a recent assessment of my volunteer hour's sheet and realized I needed to take advantage of some of the qualifying educational TV programs and gardening events being offered throughout the state. With our "new" August 31 deadline for hours, I need to be more conscious of meeting my gardening education goals before I'm too busy with spring and summer gardening chores.

I want to thank the membership committee for taking the time to update us on the value of our volunteer hours at the January meeting. Special congratulations to all members who have reached the 150-hour or more volunteer level. What an asset you all are to our MGV group and your respective communities. Thanks for you!

Kate



**All members are encouraged to  
submit newsletter information!**

**March articles are due by Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

## Upcoming Events

*Submitted by Pat Richie*

There will be a 1/2 day Compost and Natural Turf Workshop February 27 in Oshkosh in conjunction with a professional recycling conference. This workshop is open to everyone. They are bringing in a national speaker - Chip Osborne and a 2nd local speaker about Backyard Organics. If you have any interest in using compost in the landscape, this is a great opportunity. This workshop has limited space, so please register early at [www.arow-online.org](http://www.arow-online.org). For conference information and registration call 715-343-6311.

### AND

Northeast Wisconsin Unit of the Herb Society of America presents the 4th Annual Northeast Wisconsin HerbFest on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Gardens of the Fox Cities in Appleton on 1313 Witzke Blvd. Call 920-993-1900 or see [www.gardensfoxcities.org](http://www.gardensfoxcities.org) for additional information. The cost is \$3.00 for the whole day.

The presentations are: Herbs 101, Aromatherapy, Designing Your Herb Garden, Herbs for Health, Nourishment and Fun, Cooking with Herbs and Natural Cleaning Products to Make for Your Home.

There will also be ongoing demonstrations and vendors with herbal and garden products available, including a HUGE HERB PLANT SALE - courtesy of Thistledown Greenhouse, Bonduel WI.

Learn about herbs and all their uses with other herb enthusiasts.

For more information contact: Jackie Johnson, 920-246-7377, or [scentedgardens@msn.com](mailto:scentedgardens@msn.com)



## January Meeting Notes

Submitted by Peggy Kramer

I. The meeting was called to order by President Kate Saunders at 7:35 p.m.

Members Present: Greg Blonde, Leigh Braatz, Dort DeWild, Christann Dittman, Kay Durrant, Gloria Gruer, Dorrie Hipschman, Bill Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Suzanne King, Peggy Kramer, Terry Kramer, Deb Krogwold, Barb Lamb, Patti Leiskau, Sharon Lemmers, Hope MacIntyre, Agnes Marchel, Sally Marchel-Handrich, Colleen McCoy, Barb Nollenberg, Pat Ritchie, Tom Sanders, Kate Saunders, Joan Schmitt, Judy Shaw, Lee Shaw, Carol Spiegelberg, Jeff Weasner, Nancy Weasner, Rebecca Weber-Schmoll, Faye Wilson and Suzanne Wozniak.

II. Two corrections were noted for the minutes from the December meeting. Kate Saunders was present and Pat Ritchie is on the membership committee, not Patti Leiskau. Dort DeWild motioned that the minutes be approved with the corrections cited. Leigh Braatz seconded. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report: All bills are paid.

IV. State Representative's Report: Pat Ritchie reported that the Urban Forestry Organization is holding a conference in Middleton in February. She also reported that she received an update from the West Central Region about Forest Pests. The Waupaca office of the DNR is looking for part-time help at Hartman Creek State Park. If interested in any of these items, see Pat.

V. Book Review: None

VI. Old Business

Kate reported that she is in the process of editing the chair people's reports about committee duties and processes. These edited SOP reports should be available for review by the February meeting.

Suzanne Wozniak volunteered to chair the Fall Plant Sale.

VII. New Business

An executive meeting will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Weyauwega Coffee Klatsch.

There is a Spring Plant Sale meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Weyauwega Coffee Klatsch.

The membership committee will be presenting a monthly topic. This month they spoke about the importance of the properly recorded time sheet. Each WMGV must be accountable for 24 hours volunteer time and 10 hours continuing education time. Time is also used for Program justification. UWEX must justify funding from the state to assure ongoing success of the program. Individual Recognition is gleaned from the time sheets. Categories of recognition are in increments of hours spent volunteering. These are as follows: 150 hours, 250 hours, 500 hours, 750 hours and 1,000 and up. The following people accumulated these hours through the fiscal year of 2006-2007:

Kay Durrant	150 hours
Lorry Brace	250 hours
Bill Johnson	250 hours
Terry Kramer	150 and 250 hours
Robert Faulks	500 hours
Christine Faulks	500 hours
Gloria Gruer	500 hours
Pam Nitke	500 hours
Joan Schmitt	500 hours
Jeff Weasner	500 hours
Patti Leiskau	750 hours
Judy Shaw	1,000 hours
Carol Spiegelberg	1,000 hours
Faye Wilson	1,000 hours
Lyle Mork	>2,000 hours

The following people are Members in Good Standing for the fiscal year 2006 – 07.

Kathleen Akey, Julie Bosquez, Leigh Braatz, Lorry Brace, Alice Brown, Debra Calmes, Dort DeWild, Joleen Diley, Christann Dittman, Kay Durrant, Susan Finkel, Christine Faulks, Robert Faulks, Diane Fuhrman, Gloria Gruer, Dorrie Hipschman, Cynthia Holly, Bill Johnson, Carol Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Suzanne King, Peggy Kramer, Terry Kramer, Deb Krogwold, Amy Krolow-Maas, Barb Lamb, Patti Leiskau, Sharon Lemmers, Hope MacIntyre, Sally Marchel-Handrich, Colleen McCoy, Lyle Mork, Pam Nitke, Barb Nollenberg, Gerry Oestreich, Pat Pamperin, Glenda Rhodes, Pat Ritchie, Ila Sanders, Tom Sanders, Kate Saunders, Joan Schmitt, Dorothy Shaver, Judy Shaw, Lee Shaw, Carol Spiegelberg, Susan Thomas, Jeff

Weasner, Nancy Weasner, Rebecca Weber-Schmoll, Kathy Weiner, Carol West-Dahl, Faye Wilson, Suzanne Wozniak, Susan Young, Karen Zahn and Connie Zolkoske.

#### VIII. Other

Terry Kramer announced that if people from the various Children's Gardens would like assistance in designing a brochure, he will help them contact Connie Abert at the UW-Extension office.

Terry and Pat Phair are making a presentation to the city of Waupaca Common Council on January 15th about the Waupaca Community Garden. They will show a Power Point, hand out a list of the produce grown in the garden and share highlights of the past year. People are welcome to attend the meeting.

Kate Saunders stated that publicity is imperative. Make sure copies of any articles are brought to the monthly WCMGV meetings to share and give to the Historian.

Tom Sanders read Jesse Blum's UWSP transcript and thank you note. Terry will pay him the scholarship amount of \$250.00 and write him a congratulatory note.

The people on the refreshment committee for the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting are Patti Leiskau, Leigh Braatz, Nancy Weasner and Faye Wilson.

A motion was made by Lee Shaw and seconded by Colleen McCoy to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



#### Education Hours & More Activities

*Submitted by Pat Richie*

Remember, if you attend the **Garden Expectations** in Mosinee, the **Garden Expo** in Madison, or the **Wild Ones Meeting** in Oshkosh you can count the sessions that you attend as continuing education hours.



### Happy Birthday to You! February Birthdays

*Submitted by Connie Jess Zolkoske*

02/05 Verna Radtke

02/10 Nancy Weasner

02/18 Deb Calmes

02/24 Patti Leiskau

Best Wishes to All of You!



### Please Share Your Plants With Pat!

*Submitted by Pat Richie*

I am doing a workshop for 4-H on the last Saturday on February on houseplants and flowers. I am looking for houseplants that I can use for identification and judging contests. For the judging, I have to have 4 plants of the same variety, such as 4 spider plants. The specimens do not have to be large just in good condition. If you have anything you can help me with, please contact me as soon as possible, either by phone (920) 867-3074 or e-mail peritchie@core.com. Thank you for any help you can give me.

Happy Valentine's Day!

## Heirloom Vegetable News

Spring planting is just around the corner, even though the temperatures do not feel like it! As you plan your seed order consider adding a few vegetables to your garden. The Wisconsin Master Gardeners website has recently added an extensive article about heirloom vegetables. The article may be accessed at [www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/](http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/) under the Horticulture Info tab. The article begins with the following information and it continues by discussing a variety of vegetables in detail.

Heirloom vegetables are old, open-pollinated varieties that have been passed down from generation to generation. They are living artifacts and living history exhibits. They also are a reservoir of genetic diversity. They can be some of the finest vegetables ever known. Seed-saving gardeners have kept heirloom varieties alive, as has the Seed Saver's Exchange in Decorah, Iowa.

There is some confusion as to how old a variety must be to be classified as an heirloom. Some believe that any variety grown before 1951, when the first hybrids became available, is an heirloom. However, many heirlooms are 100-150 years old or much older. Native Americans have been saving seed since the pre-Columbian era while old European crops may be over 400 years old. Other heirlooms trace their ancestries back hundreds of years to Africa and Asia.

Open-pollinated cultivars mean that plants grown from seed will be true to type and will resemble the plant from which it comes. Some plants, however, can cross-pollinate and therefore careful practices must prevent cross-pollination to maintain those varieties. Species like cucurbits and cole crops must be isolated from other members in their families. This may be achieved by geographic isolation or by bagging the flowers to prevent cross-pollination.

Flavor is one of the key reasons people like to preserve heirloom seeds. Their flavor is exceptional. One downside is that heirloom vegetables often don't have a very long shelf life and are not resistant to diseases.

Potatoes, garlic, Jerusalem artichokes and other vegetables may be propagated vegetatively and the offspring is directly related to the parent. Garlic for example, has been found to be 5,000 years old and cultivars available today can theoretically be traced back to the Middle East centuries ago.



## Madison's Garden Expo

The 2008 Garden Expo will be held February 8, 9 and 10 in the Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. This is the 15th annual Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo. (Last year's event attracted 19,800 attendees.)

Visitors may choose to attend more than [100 educational seminars and demonstrations](#) on gardening, lawn, and landscaping topics and enjoy more than 400 different exhibitor booths in the 100,000 square foot area. Attend one of the many hands-on workshops and learn new skills while creating an art piece to take home.

Walk through the custom garden display, attend demonstrations and seminars, register for hands-on workshops and view the many different exhibitors. Meet [Shelley Ryan](#), master gardener and producer/host of The Wisconsin Gardener series, UW-Extension experts, and Master Gardeners.

The expo is open Friday 4-9, Saturday 8-6, and Sunday 10-4.

For more information see the WI Public Television website at: [www.wpt.org/gardenexpo/](http://www.wpt.org/gardenexpo/) .

## Chocolate Raspberry Crumb Bars

1 c. butter or margarine, softened  
 2c. flour  
 ½ c. packed light brown sugar  
 ¼ t. salt  
 2 c. chocolate chips  
 1 ¼ c. sweetened condensed milk  
 ½ c. chopped nuts (optional)  
 1/3 c. seedless raspberry jam

Beat butter in large mixer bowl until creamy. Beat in flour, sugar, and salt until crumbly. With floured fingers, press 1 ¾ c. of the crumb mixture onto the bottom of a greased 13 x 9 inch baking pan; reserve remaining mixture. Bake mixture in a preheated 350 degree F oven for 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are golden brown.

Combine 1 c. of the morsels and milk in small saucepan. Warm over low heat, stirring until smooth. Spread over hot crust.

Stir nuts into reserved crumb mixture; sprinkle over chocolate filling. Drop teaspoonfuls of raspberry jam over crumb mixture. Sprinkle with remaining morsels. Bake at 350 degree F for 25 to 30 minutes until center is set. Cool in pan on wire rack.

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 equal opportunities in employment and  
 programming including Title IX and ADA.

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Waupaca County **EXTENSION**  
 UW