



February 2016

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**President’s Message**

Happy New Year and warmest greetings to each and every one of you!

Let me take a moment for a quick introduction. I was certified as a Master Gardener on October 15, 2013, volunteered in the YMCA garden project for 2 years, helped with the Healthy Kids Day event the last 3 years, have served on the board of directors for 2 years, am the editor of the newsletter, started the Master Gardener’s Facebook page in July of 2015 and just began my term as President this January. It is an honor to be your president.

When I began my training there were 6 project options for new volunteers to sign up for. This year we have 10 garden projects established, requests for 2 more that are being reviewed by board members and a request for teaching assistants at the NWTC teaching garden. We also have many on-going projects that we volunteer for like the YMCA sponsored Healthy Kids day event, also the on-going Grounds Committee that maintains the grounds around the UWEX offices, the Plant Diagnostic Lab team and the Plant Sale Committee. All these projects need volunteers to support them, which is why we are sponsoring a Project Kick-off meeting on February 25th (see details further down in the newsletter).

We are excited that we have so many projects. It’s a testament to the amazing work our volunteers accomplish each year. Our visibility in the Brown County gardening community continues to be very positive. This year we would like to celebrate our gardens by hosting a mid summer event. Watch for details in a later newsletter. Finally, we’ll all come together in October to recognize our newly certified Master Gardener Class of 2016 and further celebrate our garden project successes at our annual October banquet.

As president I plan on coming back to the mission statement and goals as I guide our association through this new year.

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## ***President's Message (continued)***

The mission of the N.E.W. Master Gardener Association is to provide horticultural support and leadership to individuals, local organizations and community programs through volunteerism, education and environmental stewardship. The association's mission is also to assist the local University of Wisconsin-Extension (UWEX) horticultural program.

Goals:

1. Contribute to the education of community through demonstration gardens in the community and other educational opportunities as they arise.
2. Increase volunteerism of current NEWMGs and encourage new members to join.
3. Provide university based information regarding horticultural topics.
4. Encourage participation of our youth in horticultural projects and education.
5. Generate funds to allow self-sustaining status for NEWMG group. Fundraising will consider limited volunteer resources and those activities that allows accomplishment of our other NEWMG goals.
6. Participate in demonstration projects that will improve horticulture in our area.
7. Promote environmental stewardship in all our activities.

Sincerely,

Becky Brundidge, President  
NEWMG Board of Directors

## ***Think Spring—Project Kickoff Meeting***

**Thursday, February 25, at the Ag & Extension Service Center**

As we peruse our plant and seed catalogs, fill our birdfeeders, and shovel the snow that continues to fall, your board would like to invite you to "Think Spring" at our Project Kickoff Meeting to be held Thursday, February 25, at the Ag & Extension Service Center beginning at 5:30 PM.

This will be your opportunity to check in on each of the 2016 NEWMG gardens to see what progress was made last year and to sign up for your favorite project if you are still looking for your niche. A light dinner will be enjoyed during a don't-miss presentation and Q&A session.

There is no charge to attend, so we hope to see everyone there! Please RSVP\* no later than Thursday, February 18, by emailing or calling Debbie Rodriguez at [cybermex@flash.net](mailto:cybermex@flash.net) or 920-664-2720.

\*RSVP is important so we can plan the meal appropriately. Thank you!



## **2016 NEWMG Board of Directors**

### Officers

Becky Brundidge, President  
Debbie Rodriguez, Vice President  
Shirley Triest-Robertson, Treasurer  
Doug Hartman, Secretary

### Board Members

Carri Benzow  
Julie Cole  
Barbara Brown  
Robert Dreher  
Tim Freeman  
Kyle Gigot  
Kathi Hegrans

Jo Ann Holloway  
Becka Mertens  
Al Nass  
Karla Parmentier  
Lee Richardson  
Sue Roulette  
Roberta Schantz

Mary Sprangers  
Bill Stevens  
Doris Magyar,  
WIMGA Rep  
Vijai Pandian,  
Advisor

## **NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes: Jan. 13, 2016**

### ***Submitted by Doug Hartman***

Present: Shirley Triest-Robertson, Becky Brundidge, Doug Hartman, Sue Roulette, Robert Dreher, Debbie Rodriguez, Jo Ann Holloway, Barbara Brown, Tim Freeman, Kyle Gigot, Karla Parmentier, Mary Sprangers, Carri Buentow, Julie Cole, Becka Mertens, Al Nass, Lee Richardson, Roberta Schantz, Bill Stevens, Vijai Pandian

Excused: Kathi Hegrans

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM by Becky Brundidge. Board members introduced themselves and new board members were welcomed.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Tim Freeman to approve November, 2015 MGV Board Meeting minutes. Seconded by Jo Ann Holloway. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Triest-Robertson presented report. See attached report for details. The checking account balance is \$25,205.38 and the endowment fund balance is \$189,579.10.

A question was raised concerning the endowment fund. Kyle Gigot explained that the primary components for funding from this account were for 1) scholarships and 2) to supplement the salaries of the grounds maintenance supervisor and student intern. This fund is managed by the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation who invests the money and also distributes it to the MGV once requested.

Shirley reported that she has filed the annual report with the State and will be filing with the Federal Government shortly.

Shirley reported that she will be mailing in dues to the State MGA, although not all of our members have paid for 2016. Shirley will send out another reminder to members who have not paid. To date 51 members paid and 37 have not. The 2015 class of MGV's had paid dues as part of their enrollment fees and are not included in the above numbers.

There was discussion on the need for business cards for Board members. Shirley said she could have some printed and the cost would be taken from her MGV budget account.

A motion was made by Rob Dreher to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Bill Stevens and approved unanimously.

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## ***NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes (continued)***

Advisor's Report: Vijai Pandian was present and reported the following:

Registration is a little behind for the Garden Series educational programs coming up. If you want to volunteer to help set-up for these meetings, please call Vijai.

Level 1 training for new MGV's will begin in February. 21 people have signed up.

Level 2 training for existing MGV's who want to volunteer at the diagnostic help desk will focus on "trees". Info on dates and times will be out shortly.

Vijai reported that there are big changes coming to the UW-Extension System. The system will be completely reorganized with rural counties merging into groups of 3-4 counties and there will be 4 Metro Areas (Brown, Waukesha, Madison and Milwaukee). Staff will be reduced significantly and some required staff positions will not be funded by the state. This reorganization will be implemented at the end of this year or beginning of next year.

Mark Konlock, the GBBG Horticulture Director gave some seeds to Vijai and if you would need some of these seeds for your community projects, please let Vijai know.

WIMGA Report: Doris Magyar was not present to report, but asked Doug Hartman to report the following:

Save the Date: Upper Midwest Regional MG Conference, Sept. 14-17, 2016 at Wisconsin Dells

Listed in the January, 2016 WIMGA Newsletter:

1. The ten new perennials for 2016. Review your copy for all the details.
2. Don't forget to vote your choice for WIMGA Board Member at Large. Additional information listed in this issue.

Committee Reports:

Jo Ann Holloway wanted to have Healthy Kids Day as a separate committee/project listing. This event takes place the first Saturday in May and Jo Ann will be the contact for this committee.

Discussion involving the St. Phillip's Community Garden took place. Sue Roulette will look into this with St. Phillip's staff to make sure we know what the status is of this project is and whether there is a desire to continue it or to disband this project.

Old Business:

Urban Forestry Grant – Doug Hartman reported that the grant had been approved by the WDNR. For the new board members, he explained that the grant would focus on creating awareness of other trees that can be planted besides ash and maple and increasing the urban tree canopy by presenting a workshop on tree planting that will give trees to participants to be planted in their yards. The Grounds Committee of the MGA will assist in the procurement and planting of demonstration trees on the UW-EX grounds that will show the general public alternatives to ash and maple.

Greenhouse – Bill Stevens reported that they have a solid committee established for this project and have already met several times. The greenhouse will likely be 18' x 36' and the committee is close to finalizing the style/features of the structures. The greenhouse structure is almost ready for bids which will be administered by the County. The

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## ***NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes (continued)***

committee is also planning to get bids on the concrete slab for the structure as well. Total cost of the project will be at the \$30,500 budget figure and everything should be out for bids by early spring.

Volunteer Coordinator – The position description has been developed and the approval process is going through appropriate county departments. When everything has been approved by the County and applications have been accepted, Vijai will let the MGV Executive Committee know so they can participate in the interviewing/selection process.

### New Business:

MGV Project Reporting Guidelines and Evaluation/Awards Committee—Becky explained her vision to have MGV Committees have a standard reporting format that included updates that matched with the MGV goals of community impact, community education, etc. She was also wondering if there were ways that committees could be recognized for their efforts. She asked for volunteers from the Board to serve on this committee to develop a standardized reporting form and to consider recognition methods. The committee will be comprised of Becky Brundidge, Shirley Triest-Robertson, Carri Buenzow and Julie Cole.

Project Kick-Off Meeting—Becky brought forth her idea of having a February membership meeting that would “kick-off” the project year for the MGV. This meeting could 1) allow exposure of the various MGV projects to our membership and encourage members to participate in these projects, 2) entail a guest speaker for an educational opportunity, and 3) be a social gathering for the entire membership involving food and door prizes. Debbie Rodriguez, Jo Ann Holloway, Karla Parmentier and Barbara Brown will serve on the organizational committee.

New Project Requests—Vijai reported that he had the following new requests for MGV assistance:

Heritage Hill wanted assistance with maintaining the “Tank Garden”. MGV’s would be expected to plant, maintain and provide education related to the garden. Karla Parmentier, Kyle Gigot and Jo Ann Holloway will talk with Heritage Hill to gather more information and report back to the Board.

The Brown County Aging Disability and Resource Center wanted to have MGV’s build, plant and maintain raised garden beds that would be planted with vegetables for use at the senior center. Lee Richardson will check into the project details further and report back to the board.

NWTC wanted assistance with maintaining their “teaching garden”. There is no need for a separate committee to be involved with this effort – they just need some helping hands. The MGV membership will be given the contact information and they can participate on their own if they wish. Hours will count toward the 24 annual hours required by the MGV program.

Establish Audit Committee—Per MGA by-laws, the previous year’s budget must be audited annually. An accountant will provide technical assistance and two MGV Board members will review and approve the accountant’s report. A motion was made by Barbara Brown and seconded by Al Nass to establish a committee comprised of Bill Stevens and Rob Dreher to review/approve the audit. Motion carried.

Plant Sale—There is no where to start seeds this year at the Extension grounds so we have the option to 1) figure out where else to start seeds and transplant seedlings, etc. or 2) to buy seedlings from local vendor and sell these at the plant sale. It was decided to buy seedlings from a local vendor. This only has to be a one-time decision since the new greenhouse would be available for 2017 for seed starting if we want to go that route. Becky Brundidge, Barbara Brown, Claudia Schmidt and Kathi Hegranes will serve on the Plant Sale Committee.

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## ***NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes (continued)***

Meeting Date/Time/Frequency—It was decided that the board meetings will take place the second Wednesday of every other month starting in January and will be held at 6:00 PM at the Extension Office. This is a continuation of the current schedule.

Speaker Topics and Additional Membership Meetings—We will have 3 annual membership meetings. A “project kick-off” as previously discussed will take place at the end of February, there will be a summer meeting, possibly at an off-site location, and the annual banquet in October. Potential speakers topics for these meetings were discussed including ginseng production, growing grapes, tree topics, seed starting and mushrooms. A speaker will be incorporated into each of these three membership meetings.

Newsletter—Any articles for the newsletter should be given to Becky Brundidge by January 29th.

In the interest of time, the remaining agenda items were tabled until next board meeting.

The next board meeting will be held March 9th at 6:00 PM at the Extension Office.

A motion was made at 8:30 PM by Tim Freeman and seconded by Bill Stevens to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

***The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 9, at 6 PM at the Ag & Extension Service Center.***

## ***Howard YMCA Children’s Garden—2016***

***Submitted by Jo Ann Holloway, YMCA Garden Coordinator***

We have planned a lot of new things for the garden this year, keeping in mind repeat attendance means we have to keep them interested. To start, the children’s booklet “I can grow a Rainbow” needs to be updated and reprinted and the garden beds need amendment with improved compost. We will be starting many seeds indoors prior to the start of the growing season.

Seed saving will be one of the main focuses this summer along with their projects and curriculum. Some good websites to visit regarding teaching gardening and seed saving to children are: [Growingagreenerworld.com](http://Growingagreenerworld.com); Granny’s Garden School; [Howtosaveseeds.com](http://Howtosaveseeds.com)

Projects for summer 2016 include growing micro greens and sprouts, making refrigerator pickles from the garden, growing mushrooms, and last but not least, drying and saving seeds from their garden. Curriculum will include storing flower and vegetable seeds and learning what cole crops, greens and root vegetables are all about.

This year our garden planting vision includes flowers in the structure such as Teddy Bear Sun Flower, Pink Fizz Poppy, marigolds and flowering chives. In support of the curriculum we will plant beds of cole crops, greens, root crops and beds appropriate for seed saving crops. We will also be planting some “surprise” items in the two colorful tubs. In addition we are adding a new construction project which will be a cedar and plexi-glass viewing station similar to the one at the GBBG so the children can watch plant root systems develop.

## ***Master Gardener Level 2 Training***

### **Plant Diagnostic Training with Emphasis on Trees**

**Classes will be held at the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
Fri, Feb 26	2-4 PM	Tree Diagnostics 101	Mike Maederer, A Four Season Tree Care
Fri, March 11	2-4 PM	Deciduous Tree Diseases	Vijai Pandian
Fri, March 18	2-4 PM	Conifer Diseases	Brian Hudelson, UWEX Plant Pathology
Fri, March 25	2-4 PM	Tree Cavities	Brian Pelot, Assistant Forester, City of Green Bay
Fri, April 8	2-4 PM	Tree Defoliators & Borers	P.J. Liesch, UWEX Entomology (via Google hangout)
Thurs, April 14	6-9 PM	Tree Pruning	Vijai Pandian, Dan Mitchell, & Doug Hartman
Wed, April 27	6-7:30 PM	Stem Girdling Root & Tree Planting	Vijai Pandian & Doug Hartman
Wed, July 13	6-7:30 PM	Tree I.D. Class	Vijai Pandian

Participants will be eligible to volunteer in the UW Extension diagnostic office from mid-April through September, answering consumer phone calls and assisting walk-in clients.

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#### **2016 MG Level 2 Training Series Registration Form**

Registration fee: \$25 payable to Brown County Treasurer

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send with your payment no later than February 19 to: Brown County UW Extension / Hort Dept.  
1150 Bellevue St.  
Green Bay, WI 54302

Questions? Call Kathy at 920-391-4653.

## Spring Horticulture Classes



NEWMG and Brown County UW-Extension have lots of great classes scheduled! Check out the topics at [www.browncountyextension.org](http://www.browncountyextension.org). Click on "Urban Horticulture & Natural Resources" for details!

## Employment Opportunity

Green Bay Nursery is looking for talented individuals who would like to join their team. If you're interested in starting or continuing a career in the green industry, please go to the Green Bay Nursery website's employment page for more information.

## 2016 Garden Series

**To learn, experience, & enjoy all season gardening**  
**Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellevue Street, Green Bay, WI**



### "Beautiful & Easy Landscapes"

Saturday, March 5, from 10 AM to 12:30 PM

Guest speaker: Benjamin Futa, Director, Allen Centennial Garden

### "Smart Edible Gardening"

Saturday, April 2, from 10 AM to 12:30 PM

Guest speaker: Sharon Morisey, Consumer Horticulture Educator, Milwaukee County UW-Extension



**\$15 per session—choose the session(s) you will attend:**  March 5 session  April 2 session

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payable to: Brown County Treasurer

Send with payment to: Horticulture Program  
Brown County UW-Extension  
1150 Bellevue Street  
Green Bay, WI 54302-2259



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# Calendar of Events & Opportunities

For more information, visit [www.NEWMasterGardeners.org](http://www.NEWMasterGardeners.org) or the "Urban Horticulture & Natural Resources" page at [www.BrownCountyExtension.org](http://www.BrownCountyExtension.org)

Date	Event / Opportunity
February 25	<b>Think Spring! Project Kickoff Meeting</b> —5:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center <i>(Details inside this issue!)</i>
February 26	MG Level 2 Training—Begins today! <i>See details inside this issue!</i>
March 5 & April 2	<b>Garden Series</b> — <i>See details inside this issue!</i>
March 23	<b>Seed Starting 101</b> —6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 14	<b>Pruning Trees &amp; Shrubs</b> —6-9 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 20	<b>Vegetable Gardening for Beginners</b> —6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 27	<b>Proper Tree Planting</b> —6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center



Contact Kathy at 391-4653 or [kathy.dechamps@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:kathy.dechamps@ces.uwex.edu) for more information on the above events.



**Brown County UW-Extension**  
1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay, WI 54302  
Phone 920-391-4610; Fax 920-391-4617; 711 (WI Relay)  
[www.BrownCountyExtension.org](http://www.BrownCountyExtension.org)



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