



April 2016



Garden Clippings

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President's Message

Happy Spring! What an exciting time of year. I would guess that each and every one of us had been chomping at the bit to get out in our gardens and yard. With the warming temperatures starting the week of March 7th I've been able to get some work done and I hope you've been able to take advantage too.

I babysit for my great nephew (3 years old) on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. I pick him up and on our ride out to my house we noticed the blue bags on the maple trees on one property and the silver buckets at a different one. Each trip we talk about the people collecting sap to make maple syrup. He's very interested, asks the same questions each time and while I don't think he really understands he loves the discussion and will tell me "it's going to be maple syrup!"

I ran into Jim Fameree in Woodman's the other day and we talked about trees budding out and what's starting to peek out in our perennial beds. I've got a variety of bulbs starting and daffodils up about 6" on March 15th.

I'd heard robins days before I finally saw one and then I started seeing them everywhere. The red winged black birds came through in a huge flock. Sandhill Cranes are passing by in pairs and I had a pair of bald eagles right above the house on Saturday March 18th. That was especially cool.

The girls WIAA basketball tournament was held March 11 - 13 and we didn't have the annual ice storm that is associated with that event. We did have the snowstorm on March 23rd and 24th but most of the snow was gone in days. Spring seems to be here. Garden planning should be well underway. Enjoy it!

Sincerely,

Becky Brundidge, NEWMG President

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 Hegranes

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: March 9, 2016

Submitted by Doug Hartman

Present: Shirley Triest-Robertson, Becky Brundidge, Doug Hartman, Sue Roulette, Robert Dreher, Debbie Rodriguez, Barbara Brown, Karla Parmentier, Mary Sprangers, Becka Mertens, Lee Richardson, Roberta Schantz, Bill Stevens, Kathi Hegranes

Absent: Jo Ann Holloway, Kyle Gigot, Al Nass, Carri Buentzow, Julie Cole, Tim Freeman

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by MGV President Becky Brundidge.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Rob Dreher to approve January, 2016 MGV Board Meeting minutes. Seconded by Shirley Triest-Robertson. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Triest-Robertson presented report. See attached report for details. The checking account balance is \$30,365.38 and the endowment fund balance is \$189,579.10.

Shirley described to the members the budget format so that all understood her columns presented. She also highlighted the following:

Project Kick-off's expenses will come in at around \$400.00

The 50% advance money payment for the Urban Forestry Grant was received which was \$5195.00

Salaries were paid out as expenses in 2016 for the 2015 season. These costs will be reimbursed from endowment

A budget line item for Beekeeping was added

A grant for \$300.00 was received from the City of DePere for the Wildlife Pier project

Shirley also presented a summary of the current membership. 99 members are in good standing, 13 former members are not renewing, 5 members have dues outstanding and two new members (2015) did not meet volunteer hour criteria.

A motion was made by Karla Parmentier to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Barbara Brown and approved unanimously.

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NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

Advisor's Report: Vijai Pandian was not present but Becky Brundidge reported the following:

The Volunteer Coordinator position will be submitted to the Brown County Board of Supervisors for their approval at the April, 2016 county board meeting

The grounds supervisor position had been out for applications, but the county will go out for application again to solicit more applicants. Jeff Vandebusch, former Grounds Supervisor, will not be returning in 2016

Mary Platten, who tended the Mongin Perennial Garden, will also not be returning. How this vacancy is handled will need to be addressed by the board.

WIMGA Report: Doris Magyar was not present to report, but asked Becky Brundidge to report the following:

A new MG website will be up and running by mid-March.

WIMGA Board meetings to be considered on a face to face format at least once a year.

WIMGA website to be created and developed with a domain name of WIMGAssociation.org if possible.

The spring face to face meeting to be held at Hancock Research Station on Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. This meeting includes Board members and local reps. The agenda will include a discussion of the UW-Extension reorganization.

Endowment: Kyle Gigot was not in attendance, so a report was not given.

Project Committee Reports:

Debbie Rodriguez provided a re-cap of last month's Project Kick-off Meeting. She stated that there were 14 projects represented that shared their individual project goals/objectives, results from last year and plans for the future. There was good interaction between meeting attendees (44 people attended) and project leaders. Members were able to sign-up for projects they were interested in. There was also a speaker from Schroeder's Flowers on new perennials for 2016. Debbie felt it was a very successful event and she was applauded by the Board for her efforts in organizing this event.

Old Business:

Urban Forestry Grant – Doug Hartman reported that he has solicited prices for the 18 tree and 8 shrub species that are proposed to be planted on the Extension grounds. All area nurseries were contacted and encouraged to submit pricing. Not all did, but most species should be able to be obtained locally. Doug explained that while the Grounds Committee will be the primary source of help for this project, it probably should be considered a stand-alone project rather than a sub-committee of the Grounds Committee.

Volunteer Coordinator – Position will be going before the Brown County Board of Supervisor's in April for final approval.

MGV Project Reporting – Discussion took place on a standardized reporting format for the project leaders. This reporting document would include reporting line items that meshed with our organizations mission and goals as well as provide a consistent reporting platform for leaders. This reporting document would be filled out before board meetings so they could be reviewed and determine progress of project. Photographs would be encouraged. A board

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NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

committee should be formed to start developing ideas for reporting content/format. Sue Roulette and Barbara Brown will begin this effort as well as begin looking into a summer meeting agenda.

New Project Requests –

Tank Garden at Heritage Hill – Karla Parmentier, Kyle Gigot and Jo Ann Holloway meet with Heritage Hill staff regarding the specific details for this project request. The Heritage Hill staff was very flexible and overall the project seemed viable. There was discussion on whether the organization had enough MGV's to carry out the project. The topic was tabled until Karla could get leader commitments as well as project member commitments from our organization. She will put info together and get back to board.

Aging Disability and Resource Center (ADRC) – Lee Robertson reported the details on this project request. The basic premise is that this would be a project requiring more of an advisor role than a “do all the work” role. The ADRC has their own volunteers, they just need MGV expertise. This project would only require 2-3 MGV's and wouldn't require a lot of time commitment. A motion was made by Shirley Triest-Robertson to accept this project. The motion was seconded by Barbara Brown and approved unanimously.

Audit Committee – The committee will meet next week to conduct a financial audit for 2015 fiscal year.

New Business:

Website Update – Debbie Rodriguez reported that we will be moving the website. A new vendor for website services is being evaluated which could be a cost savings yet provide the necessary services. The domain move should be finalized in about a month. Our website is still functional during this time.

UWEX Perennial Garden – As discussed previously, Mary Platten will not be returning to tend to the Mongin Garden. This had been a paid position. Discussion ensued and a possible solution would be for MGV's to take on the maintenance role as we do with other UWEX display gardens.

Storage Area on Stage – The area designated on the UWEX stage area for MGV project material storage needs to be cleaned and organized. There was concern that the current members who would volunteer to do this don't know if the materials in storage are still needed or not. There will be a communication sent out to the membership to let the clean-up crew know what materials they want saved.

Bee Keeper Opportunity – There was interest indicated by several MGV's in learning more about, and assisting with, the bee hive in the UWEX orchard. Kathy DeChamps, UWEX Horticulture Administrative Assistant's husband manages the hive on site. Contact will be made with Kathy's husband to discuss the possibility of MGV member assistance.

Newsletter - Any articles for the newsletter should be given to Becky Brundidge by March 28th.

The next board meeting will be held May 11th at 6:00 PM at the Extension Office.

A motion was made at 7:30 PM by Rob Dreher and seconded by Barbara Brown to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

***The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, May 11, at 6 PM
at the Ag & Extension Service Center.***

Project Kick-off Meeting

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

We hosted a very successful Project Kick-Off meeting at the end of February. We had representatives from all projects there to meet with members to show what the different projects are all about and answer specific questions about the project. We also hosted a speaker and finished the meeting with a catered meal.



Volunteer Projects

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

If you haven't signed up for a project, take another look at the list. We've got some great project opportunities! If you can't find one that suits you, an idea that came up but doesn't have a leader is "Master Gardener's Cook from their Gardens." Interested? Contact me at bbrundidge@new.rr.com and we'll get you going.



NEWMG Annual Banquet

Submitted by Becky Brundidge & Eileen Rueden

Mark your calendars! The NEWMG Annual Banquet is scheduled for:

Wednesday, October 12

The banquet will be held at the Ag & Extension Service Center. Watch for details in the next newsletter.



NEWMG Annual Plant Sale

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

The plant sale will be held on the Friday and Saturday of Memorial Day weekend again this year, May 27-28. We're in the beginning stages of planning the event but know already we'll need help from our members.

We're looking for the following items to be donated:

- ◆ 1 gallon and ½ gallon pots, rinsed and ready for potting
- ◆ Boxes for customers to use for shopping
- ◆ Perennial plant donations

Each year we ask our members to donate perennials from their gardens and we're asking again this year. One thing we'd like to remind you to do is dig and pot the plants 2 weeks before the sale so they look really good on the dates of the sale. We really appreciate the extra effort. Without your donations our sales wouldn't be nearly as successful as they have been, so I want to thank you in advance for your help.



This year we won't be starting our own vegetable seeds but will be acquiring plants from local nurseries. We'll still try to provide a wide variety of tomato and green pepper plants.

As we get closer to the sale dates and have more details we'll get those out to everyone.

Grounds Committee

Submitted by Dave Bonham

We will have a work day on Thursday, April 21, to accomplish the following:

- ◆ Open up perennial garden, removing marsh hay, and general clean up
- ◆ Apple orchard pruning
- ◆ Possible work in rose garden



If we get enough volunteers, we can knock out quite a bit. I will host a brief meeting at 3:30 pm.



I will have a cake and some ice cream as Bob Mongin is turning 94...his birthday officially is Sunday the 24th.

Trading Post

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

This new section is available for members to post items for sale, trade, or swap. If you'd like to post something, send your request to bbrundidge@new.rr.com at anytime and I'll get it in the newsletter. Send pictures if you want.

2016 Horticulture Classes



NEWMG and Brown County UW-Extension have lots of great classes scheduled! Check out the topics at www.browncountyextension.org (click on "Urban Horticulture & Natural Resources"). Upcoming classes include:

Pruning Trees & Shrubs – Thursday, April 14; 6-9 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Dan Mitchell and Doug Hartman, Master Gardener Volunteers, along with Vijai Pandian, Horticulture Educator, will demonstrate the basics of pruning fruit trees, shrubs, and shade trees. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to Brown County Treasurer. .

Vegetable Gardening for Beginners – Wednesday, April 20; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: This class will cover the basics of vegetable gardening including planning your vegetable garden, prepping your garden soil, selecting vegetables, and growing requirements. Cost is \$5 payable at the Brown County Treasurer.

Proper Tree Planting – Wednesday, April 27; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Vijai Pandian, Horticulture Educator, will demonstrate proper tree planting techniques. Learn how to ensure the health and longevity of your tree. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to Brown County Treasurer.

Sustainable Lawn Care Practices – Thursday, April 28; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Learn up-to-date basics of lawn care from Vijai Pandian, Horticulture Educator. Learn when, what, and how for fertilizing, weed control, maintenance, and grass seed selection. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to the Brown County Treasurer.

Growing Blueberries in Containers – Monday, May 2; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Our soil in Northeast Wisconsin generally is too basic to successfully grow blueberries. Contained blueberries offer the chance to keep the medium blueberries are in at a level they can thrive. Vijai Pandian, Horticulture Educator, will help guide us to tasty results. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to the Brown County Treasurer.

Native Prairie Plants – Thursday, May 5; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Join Master Gardener Volunteers Claudia Schultz, Al Nass, and Annette Weissbach as they introduce you to using plants native to our area in your landscape. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to the Brown County Treasurer.

Tree I.D. – Wednesday, July 13; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Learn how to identify common trees in our area! Cost to attend is \$5 payable to the Brown County Treasurer.

Composting 101 – Wednesday, October 5; 6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center: Learn how to effectively manage yard trimmings, food wastes, and other organic materials generated at home. Cost to attend is \$5 payable to the Brown County Treasurer.

Pre-register is required for all of the above classes. Send your contact information and payment to: Hort Dept., Brown County UW-Extension, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay, WI 54302.

Member's Corner

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

This section is for you to show off your lawn or garden. Please send a picture of your project and a brief description of what it is. We'd love to show members what we're doing at home! Send to bbrundidge@new.rr.com at anytime and I'll get it in the newsletter.

Calendar of Events & Opportunities

For more information, visit www.NEWMasterGardeners.org or the "Urban Horticulture & Natural Resources" page at www.BrownCountyExtension.org

Date	Event / Opportunity
April 14	Pruning Trees & Shrubs—6-9 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 20	Vegetable Gardening for Beginners—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 27	Proper Tree Planting—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
April 28	Sustainable Lawn Care Practices—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
May 2	Growing Blueberries in Containers—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
May 5	Native Prairie Plants—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
May 27 & 28	NEWMG Plant Sale— <i>More details will be coming soon!</i>



Contact Kathy at 391-4653 or kathy.dechamps@ces.uwex.edu for more information on the above events.



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Phone 920-391-4610; Fax 920-391-4617; 711 (WI Relay)
www.BrownCountyExtension.org



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