

# Northeastern Wisconsin Master Gardener Association



October 2018



## Garden Clippings

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### ***President's Message***

*"I long for my garden to be complete – working in it is one of my joys, but it will never be finished because it is forever changing....." Mary Quant*

Actually, one of the things I love best about gardening is that I get excited about adding this, taking out that, always thinking that NEXT year I'm going to have the best garden ever. Then halfway through the year, I see something somewhere that inspires me to change it all up again.

So I've been transplanting, cutting back, and moving plants from one garden to the next, these last several weeks. Until my shoes were too soggy and the mosquitos drove me inside. There's still more to do, but still a lot of time to go back out there and try again. I'm not a quitter!

I am finally able to take in a composting class, something I have wanted to do since becoming a Master Gardener. Our own Shirley Triest-Robertson and Dan Mitchell will be demonstrating how to start and maintain a compost operation at home. This event is free, it will be presented at the Farmory on Thursday, October 4, 6 to 7:30 pm.

The volunteers we have in our group, like Dan and Shirley, continue to impress me. We have a lot of gardens for an organization of our size, and the talents you all share make a difference to each of those endeavors.

At our last Board of Directors meeting we were brought up to date on our 2019 Garden Series plans, and this group will not disappoint us next year. Last year's very successful year will be followed by amazing speakers again this coming spring. Many thanks to Helen Herliche, Deb Freeman, Barbara White, Cari Benzow, and Sue Roulette for your work on this. More information will follow once all speakers have been secured.

We also have a nominating committee working on finding a few board members and a new Vice-President and Treasurer. I appreciate Linda Gutske, Cari Benzow, and Steve Herro for saying yes to help with this. If called, please consider a term on the board. This is a great way to learn about the important work that goes into making our association what it is – successful! You're sure to make a lot of new friends!

Debbie Rodriguez is stepping back from managing our website and chairing our Project Kickoff event after many years of this service. We are so grateful to her for all the time she has put into these projects. Trisha Linssen has graciously volunteered to take on the website for us. We appreciate your willingness to use your talents to our benefit, Trisha!

Plans are underway for the Master Gardener Annual Dinner, this year to be held on Wednesday, October 24 beginning at 5:30 at the Botanical Gardens. Many thanks to Eileen Rueden and her crew for their planning. Hope to see many of you there!

Plant more gardens,

Birdie Schantz



## **2018 NEWMG Board of Directors**

### Officers

Birdie Schantz, President  
 Al Nass, Vice President  
 Karla Parmentier, Treasurer  
 Julie Cole, Secretary

### Board Members

Carri Benzow  
 Barbara Brown  
 Crystal Brown  
 Barb Brum  
 Rob Dreher  
 Nancy Fictum  
 Dr. Tim Freeman

Kyle Gigot  
 Linda Gutske  
 Steve Herro  
 Jo Ann Holloway  
 Trisha Linssen  
 Lee Richardson  
 Eileen Rueden

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

## **NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes: 09/12/2018**

**Present:** Birdie Schantz, Julie Cole, Lee Richardson, Al Nass, Barbara Brown, Kyle Gigot, Karla Parmentier, Trisha Linssen, Steve Herro, Tim Freeman, Barb Brumm, Eileen Rueden, Carri Benzow, Linda Gustke and Mary Sprangers. **Others Present:** Vijai Pandian, Jim Radey.

**Absent:** Jill Sobieck, Rob Dreher, Nancy Fictum, and Crystal Brown

**President's Welcome** -Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

**Secretary's Report** – The minutes with addendum from the July 11 2018, meeting had been sent electronically for review by board members. No additions or corrections were noted. *A motion was made by Tim Freeman and seconded by Mary Sprangers to approve the minutes. Motion carried. Agenda was corrected to read November 14, 2018, as our next meeting.*

### **Advisor's Report – Vijai Pandian:**

- Ground breaking on the new STEM UWGB building will be next Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. The project must be completed in the year 2019. Miron Construction is the contractor. It will include Bob Mongin Garden.
- The NEW Master Gardener class has 20 participants and will be completed the end of November. The horticulture secretary has left. They are planning on hiring a secretary within the next 2 months who will assist three agents.
- The Project Kick-off has been moved up to January, 2019.

### **Volunteer Coordinator Report – Jim Radey:**

- Assisted Trisha Linssen get articles and pictures for the August newsletter.
- Assisted with Annual Banquet Committee to set up meeting, get location and contact speaker.
- Working with Garden Series Committee for speaker contact and arranging location.
- Helped Debbie Rodriguez with some website updates and arranged for Debbie's replacement when she ends her website manger role at the end of the year.
- Sent out reminders for turning in volunteer hours and continuing education requirements. Started

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recordkeeping of Master Gardener volunteer and education hours since there currently is no horticulture secretary.

- Passed on information to Master Gardeners when needed and answered Master Gardener questions (getting education hours, eligibility for emeritus status, taking a year off active status, etc.)

#### **WIMGA Report- Doris A. Magyar, WIMGA Rep:**

- A WIMGA Board teleconference call was held on Monday, September 10, 2018. After roll call, minutes and treasurer's report were completed and approved. A report was given by Mike Maddox regarding phase two reorganization being started which involves leadership covering Volunteer & Educational Coordinators. Mike also related that online reporting will be phased in by 2019. Also a less complicated background check is being implemented for those MGV who have not completed this task yet. The next item on the agenda covered discussion of the WIMGA Newsletter which possibly will be revamped and this will be brought up at the WIMGA Annual Meeting held during the State Conference in Eau Claire on Friday at 5 p.m. Speaker's bureau will be reviewed at the Face-to-Face meeting being held on Saturday, October 13, 2018, in Hancock, WI. WIMGA is still seeking a group to host the 2019 Conference. This will also be under consideration at the Face-to-Face meeting. A request was made for "Model" bylaws from WIMGA that local associations could refer to when revising their own. This will be programmed for another time. No other new business was brought up and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **Project Committee Report:**

- NEW Master Gardener Awards for Brown County Junior Fair contestants. Eileen Rueden reported that there were 3 winners: Sabrina Schmidt, Candra Carter, and Bandi VanPay. They each received a \$10 award.
- Locktender Project held a Pollinator Open House in August with 175 people attending, a huge success in educating the public on native plants that attract pollinators.

#### **New Business:**

- **Locktender Project Future – Al Nass** With re-construction by the Army Corp of Engineers on a large portion of our garden in November, 2018, we needed to decide whether we can continue on this project. In meeting with the City of DePere we offered a proposal to remove plants this fall, replanting them in the spring with the help of City of DePere. We (MG) are planning on meeting with the FRNSA and WDNR. It will then be decided by MGs' whether to replant the reconstructed center stretch or not. MGs' will still have the north and south parts of the garden. If re-constuction would be needed again in the future, we would not replant.
- **Nominating Committee** – Linda Gustke, Steve Herro, and Carri Benzow volunteered.
- **Garden Series 2019 – Barb Brown** The Garden Series, 2019, will be held February 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and April 6<sup>th</sup>. Speakers are being contacted by the committee. Hope to have speakers and program ready for October Annual Meeting.
- **Project Kick-Off – Jim Radey** Mindy Ward will replace Deb Rodriguez as project leader.

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Birdie Schantz and Barb Brown offered to help. Place, date and speaker to be decided.

- **Master Gardener Annual Dinner – Eileen Rueden** The potluck dinner will be held at the Green Bay Botanical Gardens October 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, dinner at 6:00, program at 7:00.

Newsletter – any additional articles for the newsletter should be sent to Trisha Linsen, [bluewaters2626@protonmail.com](mailto:bluewaters2626@protonmail.com) by September 30, 2018. She is looking for articles of interest to Master Gardeners.

Next Board Meeting: November 14, 2018      *A motion was made at 7:14 PM by Jo Ann Holloway and seconded by Lee Richardson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.*

*Julie Cole, Secretary*

## **Next NEWMG Board Meeting: 11/14/2018**

## **Winners of the 2018 N.E.W. MG Awards**

***Submitted by Eileen Rueden, Master Gardener, Plant & Soil Science Superintendent, Youth Fair***

Each year the N.E.W. Master Gardeners award participants at the Brown County Fair based on entering at least 5 entries under the categories of fruits, vegetables, house plants, plant craft or flowers for the Youth Fair. Youth must receive a combination of first and second place awards and have knowledge of their project. The Master Gardeners Association also supply the pots that Brown County 4-H clubs use for planting at least 60 days ahead of time. Jim Farmaree, a certified judge and Master Gardener, helped judge the pots. Premium (placings) on the pots are supplied by the Fair Association.

The winners of the 2018 N.E.W. Master Gardener Awards are Candra Carter, Rockland 4-H Club, for Vegetables; Sabrina Schmidt, Morrison 4-H Club, for House Plants, and Brandi VanPay of Rockland 4-H Club, for Flowers. Congratulations!



## ***ADRC Raised Bed Garden***

***Submitted by Lee Richardson***

The Aging Disability and Resource Center raised bed garden is still producing as fall weather rapidly approaches. Second planting of lettuce, spinach, arugula, and onions provide added nutrition to the menu at the Center.

A good harvest of peppers and tomatoes during this season is ending. Master gardeners Birdie Schantz and Mary Moore with help from ADRC volunteers were key to success of the project.

Four informal garden Q and A session were held during the year for ADRC Center visitors. Although attendance was sparse, it was a good opportunity to address the inquiries of the attendees. We hope to continue next year.

We will try to extend our season a little longer with some anticipated warmer days and nights. If not, this was a good year at the ADRC Garden and we look forward to next year and an even better garden.



## ***Bob Mongin Memorial Garden 2018***

***Submitted by Lee Richardson, Rob Dreher***



2018 marks the end of the Bob Mongin Perennial Garden located at the former Bellevue Extension Office. The Garden is being moved next summer to the UWGB site of the Extension offices. It is not known how many of the present perennials will be moved to the new site along with the Dedication Stone bearing his name.

The focus of the project was to maintain as much of the diversity and quality of the Garden possible for transfer in anticipation of abandoning the present site. To that end Dave Bonham, Sue Roulette, Rob Dreher, and Lee Richardson and other project members have participated in maintenance.

We were able to harvest and divide plants for the plant sale, prune shrubs, mulch, weed, and save many of the diverse groups. Unfortunately, some of the more exotic varieties were lost to weather, competition, or pests. What remains is still remarkable as it changes color and texture with the seasons. The Garden's ultimate fate has not been decided but hopefully, the visitors, teachers, and children have appreciated the Perennial Garden dedicated to the Master Gardener, Bob Mongin.

## YMCA Children's Garden 2018

**Submitted by Jo Ann Holloway**

This year has brought its challenges. In addition to the Summer Camp group of children, we added the spring and fall After School Program children. Our teaching sessions start in May and continue until the beginning of October. This allowed us to get the seeds planted earlier in spring and continuous harvesting later in the fall by YMCA members. The garden club members learned to plant seeds, thin seedlings, transplant plants, water, weed and make compost. This year all of the produce was used at the facility or taken home to the garden club members' families. In some cases I prepared the vegetables in multiple ways for their lunches. The Y assistants did the same.

This year the garden club members visited the garden three times a week to weed, water, replant and harvest. Each Wednesday morning a master gardener taught the summer camp children. Each Wednesday afternoon we taught the after school children during May, September and now October. We had very good attendance by the children; anywhere from 10 to 25 on a weekly basis.



The garden started out slow, mostly due to weather and baby bunnies, but picked up nicely mid-summer. The Japanese beetles were the worst ever, starting early and staying into September. Thankfully the children liked picking them and dumping them in a container of soapy water. We planted celery, cauliflower, butternut squash and large white onions for the first time this year and they all did very well, especially the celery and squash. Other plantings included spinach, radishes, beets, swiss chard, lettuces, chives, parsley, basil, pineapple sage, yellow beans, green beans, green peppers, several varieties of tomatoes,

egg plant, cucumbers, flowers and rhubarb. The rhubarb has preformed beautifully and is still producing new stalks as of this writing. Because the Y has been using the produce throughout the growing season it was not always weighed before being consumed. However it was weighed each Wednesday when a master gardener was there to teach. On average we harvested between 30 and 40 pounds on Wednesdays in the end of August and September. A lot of lettuce, spinach, beets, radishes and rhubarb had been harvested earlier in the growing season. There are a lot of tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, beans, squash and herbs still left to harvest.



The end of June the YMCA had an Open House/Neighborhood Party in the evening from 5:00-8:00 pm. The event included lots of things for families to participate in along with many food trucks. We were asked to be part of the event and were very happy to showcase the garden. We brought materials to hand out along with free homemade rhubarb cake (rhubarb from the garden). Children were allowed to taste test any vegetable they were interested in trying. Many parents brought their children and grandchildren through the garden and quite a few had questions or shared information. We had a little game for children to perform in the garden which had them identify the vegetables that grow below the surface of the ground, ones that grow above the ground and ones that grow on vines. It was eye opening for many of them.

All-in-all it was a successful year for the YMCA Children's garden.

## Vegetable Garden at Bellevue Gardens

**Submitted by Donna Trousil**

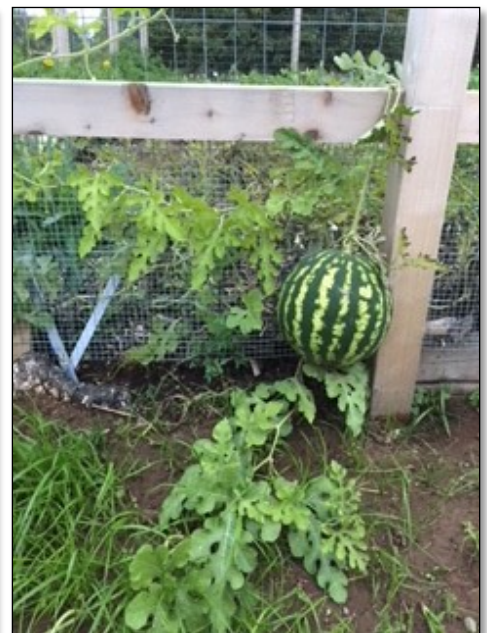
The garden space behind the former Extension location on Bellevue Street was used as a test vegetable garden this year. The area behind the greenhouse was planted with a variety of tomatoes, peppers, cauliflower, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, kohlrabi, and melons donated by several area greenhouses. The raised bed garden between the greenhouse and orchard was seeded with various other vegetables such as collards, beans, celery, cucumbers, potatoes, eggplant and corn.



Unfortunately, the garden got a late start. Because of the proximity to the East River, the garden needed protection from wildlife including deer and rabbits. Planting was delayed until the Green Bay School District completed construction of a large fence around both gardens. Once that was completed, planting was done, mulch was spread and a daily watering schedule was arranged.

As vegetables became ready for harvest, they were weighed and logged for production and then donated to local pantries/farmer's markets. A tasting event was held in late September with all Master Gardeners invited to try the 15 varieties of tomatoes and 7 varieties of peppers. Rain put a "damper" on that event which we decided should be held a few weeks earlier next year. Children in the Head Start program also had fun with some of the vegetables once school started.

We raised some delicious melons (Sugar Baby and Crimson Sweet watermelons, Sugar Melon cantaloupe), gigantic peppers (Giant Marconi) and a very heavy producing tomato (Stupice).



# The Children's Edible Garden

**Submitted by Trisha Linsen, MG Volunteer**

We just had our first fall clean-up party for the Children's Edible Garden at the Brown County Library. It has been quite an exciting summer! As Patrick Browne mentioned in the previous newsletter, this dynamic downtown urban garden sees a lot of life.

The library has dedicated staff using the garden for all kinds of educational purposes including learners of all ages - children, parents, school groups, library patrons and our urban residents. It's enthralling to see such dynamic activity in one little square patch of concrete and soil!

We have also seen so many different insects in this little city garden, it's almost as if all of the local urban insects for blocks around have found a cool garden oasis! And let's not forget the birds, and butterflies, oh my!

I've always said that volunteer work really helps to build a community, for people of all walks of life, in all stages of life. Working with all of the volunteers at the Children's Edible Garden certainly adds credence to this! We have terrific, dedicated folks (both MG volunteers and library staff) helping to create this beautiful urban oasis in our community. Thank you!





## ***Neville Native Garden***

***Submitted by Claudia Schultz***

This September we MGs participated in the Free Wednesday event at the Neville Museum which centered around their new Bee Exhibit. We showed off our native garden and talked about it's support for native pollinators. We held a trivia quiz for kids and gave away bee finger puppets and native gaillardia seeds!!

Thanks to Val Soldat for making gaillardia seed packets from our garden. Soon we will be planting over 100 allium bulbs which were rescued from the Mongin Garden at the Extension last summer. Thanks to Sue Roulette and Val Soldat for digging out all the bulbs.



## Locktender Garden

**Submitted by Claudia Schultz**

We have changes coming up at the Locktender Garden. After four years of building, most of this garden will be torn down this winter!! The Army Corps of Engineers has to repair a major leak in the earthen dam upon which our garden is planted. We have had meetings with the De Pere Parks Department and also with the FRNSA (Fox Locks folks), both of which are HUGE supporters of this garden. After much discussion we have decided to rebuild with support from the above mentioned entities.

1. We will have at least two major dig-out work dates in October (dates tbd) to rescue as many plants as we can.
2. The City of De Pere will haul away the bagged plants to a location on city property to overwinter
3. We MGs will be caring for these plants like we did last year when we had a smaller dig-out
4. De Pere will return plants to site in spring. The city will also install new faucets on the Locktender building for water access so we can water in new plants. De Pere will pay for water use.
5. The city will rototill and amend 1/3 of the length of the destroyed property. We will replant rescues if they survive. We will rebuild this garden in a three year plan.
6. FRNSA will contribute \$800 per year for three years for rebuild the garden.
7. City of DP will contribute unnamed amount to support the rebuild for three years.
8. MG's will apply for City of DP \$300 beautification grants twice a year (\$600) to supplement the expenses of purchasing new plants if needed (if rescued plants don't survive the winter)
9. If ACOE decides they need to repair this earthen dam again in the next 5 or 6 years we MGs will NOT rebuild.



## St. Mark's Garden

**Submitted by Mary Sprangers**

St Mark's Garden had a very successful year being able to donate 471 pounds of vegetables and herbs to the church pantry.

This year we had amended the raised garden boxes and ground level garden with nutritious garden soil mix as well as had cover crops planted the fall before. This year we focused on more vertical gardening, careful pruning and monitoring of insects and disease invasion. Early organic treatment practices were utilized and we were able to keep the planting's in good shape. We had added a small animal fencing to the perimeter of the ornamental fencing which was successful in keeping the rabbits out which was a real problem last year. Our biggest challenge this year was the Japanese Beetles. Fortunately it was more of a cosmetic issue. New this year, we constructed a compost bin adjacent to the garden to use for next years garden. This garden's success was largely due to the experienced knowledgeable volunteers working on this project!





## Let's Celebrate!

NEW Master Gardener Annual Meeting & Potluck

*October 24, 2018*

**5:30 PM** Social **6 PM** Dinner

Green Bay Botanical Garden

2600 Larsen Road

Green Bay, WI

**Guest Speaker:** Angela Kowalzek-Adrians, Natural Resources Planner, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission

**Topic:** Managing Extensive, Well-established Invasive Phragmites in Brown County: Taking an Unmanageable Problem and Making It Manageable

Join fellow Master Gardener volunteers in celebrating this year's accomplishments. Please feel free to bring a guest, as well as your favorite side dish to share. Meat, drinks, and tableware are provided. Hope to see you there!

*Please RSVP no later than October 17 to Jim Radey, Volunteer Coordinator, at 920.360.3891.*



**Brown County UW-Extension**  
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[www.BrownCountyExtension.org](http://www.BrownCountyExtension.org)

