



# Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers Newsletter



Volume 20, Issue 3 April , 2016

## Wood County Events:

This Issue:

<i>Wood County Events</i>	1
<i>President's Message</i>	2
<i>UW-Extension Updates</i>	3
<i>Worm Castings Information</i>	4
<i>Minutes from last month's meeting</i>	5
<i>News &amp; Announcements</i>	6
<i>Madison Area Bus Trip Information</i>	7
<i>Continuing Education Opportunities</i>	8

If you have questions/concerns please contact:

**President** - Ruth Cline  
stonegate@tzn.net.com  
715-569-4202

### May 24th

#### **Tour of Gary and Micky Erickson's Gardens**

*You may also wish to bring a chair for the business meeting.*

6846 Meadow View Lane, Rudolph & Business Meeting/Annual Plant Exchange

#### Driving Directions to the meeting:

Gary and Micky's garden was featured as one of the Rudolph Gardens for the 2013 MG Garden Walk. We return to their gardens to see it three years later with some garden expansions, green house modifications, and new plant selections. Micky also grows a vegetable garden with her garden partner, Doc, and parts of the garden will be producing for this visit. Parking will be on Meadow View Lane and adjacent cross streets.

The Erickson's are located in the Village of Rudolph. Drive to Rudolph using Hwy. 13/34. At the intersection of the highway and C.T.H. "C", turn to the west. Travel one block and then turn south on Meadow View Lane. Their house is the fourth house on the left side of the street.

If you are traveling from Wis. Rapids, you can also turn left onto Maple Road and right onto Meadow View Lane.

Also, start marking those plants that you are preparing to share with other members of the Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers to use either on their projects or at home. What an amazing way to supplement your gardens for no cost. Be sure to mark the plants you are sharing with the correct name and helpful growing information.

**For more information about the Master Gardener Program please visit:**

**Wisconsin Master Gardener Website**

**<http://wimastergardener.org/>  
Wood County Extension**

## President's Message

### From the President's Notebook...

The March membership meeting was a success in many ways; with 60 in attendance, educational signage, brochure holders, handouts, sign-up sheets with many opportunities for members to choose from and the new WCMGV cookbook to purchase. It was an honor to announce that 26 members received awards for accumulating enough volunteer hours to meet certain milestones. Check out the awards list in this newsletter; if your name is on the list and you didn't attend the March 22 meeting; I will be bringing those awards to the April 26 meeting. The hospitality committee made the awards event very special with a super "awards cake" and beverages. March 22 was Teri's last meeting with us as she resigned her position as Horticulture Educator at UW-Extension Wood County. Thanks very much to all of the members for helping in many ways to make Teri's last meeting with us very special. Teri shared her thoughts with me that she was completely surprised and overwhelmed with the celebration...along with a few tears and a wonderful social time we made her evening special. Teri presented us (WCMGVA) with a copy of our very own Ortho garden book signed by Teri...we will never forget her!

We are entering a very busy year. Our hard working committees, project leaders and teams have been very busy planning and organizing garden events, programs and garden site work for 2016. April 26 membership meeting will be held at the Marshfield Zoo. Check out this newsletter for more details and directions to the zoo. We will have the project/committee/ team sign-up sheets available for members to review/sign-up in areas which interest them. After the April sign-up, the sheets will be updated and made available to all members via email.

Several questions have come up regarding the new teams/meetings that Teri organized prior to her leaving. We will start discussing the new teams at future membership meetings. This is a pilot year for the new teams therefore no funds have been budgeted for 2016. Several new teams that attended an initial/ informational meeting with Teri have had their first team meeting to do some brainstorming. Teams are open to all members with an interest in that team's particular topic. Contacts for each new team will be made available as known.

Do you need new plants for your project or your own garden? The Wisconsin Rapids Plant Sale committee has been planning since late 2015 to make this May 14 event extra special with new plant varieties plus some old favorites. Read flyer in this newsletter for details. May membership meeting site will take us on a road trip to our very own MG, Micky Erickson's garden. Newsletter has details for both events.

Thanks very much to the WCMGV Board, committees, teams, project leaders/teams, membership in general for stepping forward to help WCMGVA move forward in 2016. Together we will succeed. With many changes ongoing at UW Extension in 2016, Teri's and Amanda's position both being open at this time, many questions may come up. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I will try and answer your questions or give you a contact person to help provide information. At this time I would like to thank the UW Extension staff for their continued support of the WCMGVA. We are here to provide horticultural education, and information, for both our members and the community. We also promote the UW Extension.

See you in the garden... Yes, spring is really here! Ruth Cline

Footprints in the Snow

Spring tiptoed through the town last night,

Disguised in robes of winter white.

This morning she seems far away.

The wind so cold...the skies so grey...

But there are signs that prove it so,

Small crocus footprints in the snow!

By Helen Lowrie Marshall

## A note from Matt Lippert UW Extension Ag Agent

We have been so fortunate with Teri Lessig as the Horticulture Educator in Wood County for ten years. Teri made it feel like months or even weeks! Her approach was always sincere and fresh. Based on that positive experience Wood County and the University are going forward to refill the position. There is uncertainty as Extension reorganizes and downsizes in response to budget constraints. What is exciting is the Wood County Horticulture Educator position is entirely county funded so we can go ahead with recruitment and screening. How fast will it be filled? It depends on our ability to find qualified individuals for this 50% time position. Help us out by recruiting interested candidates. The application deadline is April 26. Look online at <http://jobs.ces.uwex.edu/> or contact our office for more details.

Matt Lippert, Wood Co. Agriculture Agent  
UW-Extension  
400 Market Street; P.O. Box 8095  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8095  
715-421-8440 715-421-8476 (fax)  
[matthew.lippert@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:matthew.lippert@ces.uwex.edu)

### UW-Extension

UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA. Please feel free to make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service, or activity. The Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer newsletter is designed to inform you about the Master Gardener Program and University Extension activities as well as educational articles. Please let us know if there are any subjects you would like to be covered in future newsletters by calling Wood County UW-Extension at 715-421-8440 or visiting the office at the Wisconsin Rapids Courthouse located at 400 Market Street, PO Box 8095 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.

## 2016 MG Board of Directors

**President**—Ruth Cline  
stonegate@txnet.com  
715-569-4202  
**Vice President**—Julie Carlsen  
carlsens\_@hotmail.com  
**Secretary**—Sue Wilford  
swilford@tds.net  
715-652-6129  
**Treasurer**—Barb Herreid  
bherreid@wctc.net  
715-325-2075  
**Director**—Karleen Remington  
remington@tzn.com  
715-387-1863  
**Director**—Mary Czaja  
dickandmary@tds.net  
715-884-6516  
**Director**—Jan Sabin  
sabinje@yahoo.com  
715-459-6057

**Director**—Karen Houdek  
khoudek842@aol.com  
513-823-1312  
**Communications Rep**—Chris Grimes  
chgrimes@wctc.net  
715-424-2878  
**Historian**—Roxanne Tomkowiak  
roxanne.tomkowiak@figis.com  
715-676-2299  
**Historian So.**—Michaelen Erickson  
GaryMicky@charter.net  
715-435-3616  
**Immediate Past President and WIMGA Rep**—Barb Herreid  
bherreid@wctc.net  
715-325-2075  
**Public Relations Chair**—Karen Tlachac  
ktlachac@yahoo.com  
3910 73rd Street South  
WI Rapids, WI 54494  
715-697-3911  
Lead time for television and newspaper notices is four weeks.  
Call Karen for clarification of dates and deadlines.

## Worm Compost/Castings Information



Worm Compost, also called Worm Castings is a very rich source of nutrients for your plants.

*Ideal for Containers, Hanging Baskets, Houseplants and Perennials*

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY!

### Benefits of Worm Castings:

Superior organic fertilizer and soil amendment  
Naturally aerates and improves the soil  
Helps soil retain moisture  
Does not contain toxic chemicals

Naturally releases nutrients to plants both immediately and slow-release  
Promotes biological activity in soil  
Promotes healthy root growth  
**Doesn't burn plants**

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

### Worm Castings - Special Member Sale

New, Lower Prices!

I tem	Price	Quantity	Total
1# Bag	\$3.00		
5# Bag	\$8.00		
20# Bag	\$23.00		
30# Bag	\$36.00		
50# Bag	\$50.00		

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to WCMGV and mail to Barb Herreid, 946 S. Archers Way, Nekoosa, WI 54457

ORDER DEADLINE IS MAY 1<sup>st</sup>

The bags of Worm Castings will be distributed at the May 24<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting or at the WR Plant Sale on May 14<sup>th</sup>

# Meeting Minutes

## Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers Wood County Courthouse, Wisconsin Rapids, WI March 22, 2016 One Hour Continuing Education.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Guests present: Janet Wierman, Elizabeth Whelan

Minutes from 11/17/2015: Famia Marx moved to accept past minutes as written, seconded by Jane Maciejewski, motion carried.

Financial report: Presented by Barb Herreid, motion was made to accept as presented by Karen Houdek, seconded by Jeanne Osgood, motion carried.

### Old Business/Announcements:

Check Sign-In Table for sign-up sheets/information handouts/other – members asked to review all sign-up sheets and info on tables.

Cook book Project Update – Joanne reported 300 books sold so far. Books dedicated to Joy Close and Teri Lessig. Membership asked to sign-up for selling cookbooks at plant sale, spring conference and farmers market. To honor Teri, she was presented a cookbook.

### New Business/Announcements:

Extension Update – Teri Lessig is leaving the UW extension with tonight being her last meeting. Her position will be filled within next few months. Teri shared her love of working with all the MGV. Teri presented the WCMGV with a gift: a book: *The Ortho Problem Solver*. Teri handed out Native bee/butterfly seeds for a project and old WI Master Gardener manuals to MGV who had taken the training years ago. Teri reported that she is available by phone (cell phone on membership list) and MGV can follow her on her blog at: [gonetrekkingblog.wordpress.com](http://gonetrekkingblog.wordpress.com)

Spring Seminar – April 9 @ MSTC – Posters with attached envelopes to be distributed to communities by members. Refreshments committee has sign-up sheets for food items. Sign-up sheet for seminar attendance routed for MGV to sign up. No date yet set for fall seminar which will be in Oct. 2016.

Garden Walk – July 9 – Sign-up sheets distributed for various jobs: set up on Friday (need someone with a truck for hauling tables); guides/greeters; and take down assistance. Also wanting someone to take left over crafts to Marshfield plant sale. Denise Larson reported on various artists to be at garden walk. Denise asked for members who sew to take pattern/seed bags to sew totes and to sign up for craft night 4/20/16 and 5/17/16. Diane Nickel reported Chef Andres will provide food demonstrations two times on day of garden walk.

WR Plant Sale – May 14 - Encouraged donation of plants. Posters were available for MGV to distribute to community businesses.

Seed Lending Library Update – Last newsletter contained a brochure with all the details. Participants need to preregister.

Bus Trip Plans for 2016 – Jim & Diane Nickel coordinating trip for Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> to **Madison. Lamer's Bus with 36 seat capacity. Cost \$42 each, with meals on own.** Trip to include Olbrich Botanical Gardens with huge daylily sale, Centennial Gardens, and Flower Factory. Lunch at Old Country Buffet and dinner at fast food. Bus leaves WR at 6am sharp and returns aby 9:30pm. Watch for more details in future newsletter.

Project Leader/Committee/Teams Updates/Information – **Famia asked MGV to be part of Garden Clinic Team and set up a 'Ask A MGV' table at local Farmer's Markets. Teri Lessig has put together a bag of resources for MGV to use at 'Ask A MGV.'**

Marshfield Community Gardens – **Donna Streiff asked for volunteers to assist with public education on 'basis vegetable gardening.'**

Volunteer Recognition Breakfast – WCMGA Nominated for Recognition to be held at Bulls Eye Country Club on March 31<sup>st</sup>. RSVP forms handed out.

### Additional New Business:

**Marshfield Children's Festival** committee needing help putting together seed packets for festival on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at MARS.

Donated Cardboard: Paula Klevene had donated sheets of cardboard for MGV who can use it.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00pm was made by Peg Harvey, seconded by Lynn Bushmaker; motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 26, 2016 at 6:30pm @ Marshfield Zoo with Pruning Demonstration by Arborist Mark Pinalla from First Choice Tree Care.

Respectfully Submitted

Sue Wilford, Secretary

*Members Attending: Nancy Lee Alger, Shirley Anderson, Sandra Artz, Annette Bowden, Debby Brown, Audrey Brundidge, Lynn Bushmaker, Julie Carlsen, Bob Cline, Ruth Cline, Mary Czaja, Mike Datka, Michaelen Erickson, Jennifer Fane, Joyce Fischer, Fern Fregien, Christine Griffith, Chris Grimes, Sandy Harrison, Peg Harvey, Betty Havlik, Barb Herreid, Karen Houdek, Paula Klevene, Christine Landowski, Denise Larson, Leonore Look, Jane Maciejewski, Joy Mader, Famia Marx, Ellen Mazurek, Tammera Neumann, Diane Nickel, Jim Nickel, Kay O'Shasky, Jeanne Osgood, Debra Ostrowski, Tom Paul, Patricia Paulus, Kathryn Poehnell, Joni Raulin, Karleen Remington, Jean Rockwood, Janet Sabin, Marjorie Schenk, Connie Stout, Donna Streiff, Kris Tohm, Carol Tomke, Apollonia Virsnieks, Margaret Weister, Sue Wilford, Penn Wilkes, Joanne Wilkinson, Marlene Winters, Mary Zahn and Teri Lessig. Guests were Janet Wierman and Elizabeth Whelan.*

Meeting Program: Teri Lessig passed out new educational signs for projects. Karleen Remington reported on grant from WIMGA. Ruth explained brochure/information holders for projects which were handed out. Awards for Volunteer Hours distributed followed by a celebration for Volunteer recognition and Teri Lessig's last day with fellowship/food.

# Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer 20th Anniversary Celebration

Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - 2017 WCMGVs your help is needed to think of ways to celebrate our 20 years!

This is your celebration; put on your creative garden thinking hats and think of ideas to celebrate in 2017. One team, the cookbook committee has produced a cookbook especially for this event. It contains your recipes, plus garden tips and more. The list of ideas below are to inspire you to come up with an idea for yourself, your garden project or a group of MGVs to **organize. You don't have to pick an idea from the list... be creative!** Information will be shared about the celebration in future monthly meetings. A few ideas to inspire you: Booth at Marshfield Fair, Float in Cranberry Festival, and other parades, displays in Libraries, Coffee with WCMGVs, Calendar using MGV Project Photos, Christmas Tree at South Wood County Historical Museum event, 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary pencils and/or T-shirts, history brochure, visits to project gardens, Garden Tea, Mini-workshops, garden walk at MGV project sites, newspaper articles, radio talks, Dairy Fest Marshfield, booth at garden walk, plant sales, Farm Markets.

## 2016 Volunteer Hours Awards

### 2016 Awards for 2015 Volunteer Hours:

#### Newly certified

Jennifer Fane  
Jan Fisher  
Laurie Francis  
Sandy Harrison  
Betty Phillips  
Joni Raulin

#### 150 hours:

Karen Deglow  
Peg Harvey  
Tom Ptak  
Karen Houdek  
Tom Paul  
Sue Wilford

#### 250 hours:

Patty Farley  
Karen Houdek  
Tom Ptak  
Sue Wilford

#### 500 hours:

Julie Carlsen  
Jane Maciejewski  
Karen Tlachac  
Patricia Paulus  
Gail Snortheim

#### 750 hours: Bea Kohl

#### 1000 hours:

Barb Moes-Kleifgen  
Kathy Poehnelt  
Jan Sabin

#### 1500 hours: Bob Cline

#### 2000 hours: Mary Kay York

#### 2500 hours: Ruth Cline

#### 4000 hours: Chris Landowski



# Discover the Madison Area Bus Trip



## Sponsored by Wood County Master Gardeners

Saturday, August 20, 2016

Cost: \$43.00  
Limit: 36 people

### Agenda

5:30am Load bus at Lamers bus terminal at 2611 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids  
6:00am Bus departs for adventures in the Madison area  
8:00am Olbrich Gardens  
Self tour 16 acres of outdoor gardens. Fourteen different styles of gardening.  
Gift shop  
Bolz Conservatory  
A tropical paradise year-round in Olbrich's Bolz Conservatory, a glass pyramid filled with exotic plants, bright flowers, a rushing waterfall, fragrant orchids and free-flying birds.  
Dahlia Show sponsored by Badger State Dahlia Society  
Day Lily Sale sponsored by Wisconsin Daylily Society  
12:00pm Bus departs  
12:30pm Dinner at a fast food restaurant at your own expense  
1:45pm Bus departs  
2:15pm Allen Centennial Garden tour  
Located on the grounds of UW-Madison. Queen Ann style architecture. 2.5 acres site with 22 different gardening styles from around the world. 1 1/2 hour guided tour that will count towards continuing education hours.  
4:00pm Snacks at Allen Centennial Garden  
4:30pm Bus departs  
5:00pm The Flower Factory  
Largest selection of perennials in the Mid-west  
Housed in 14 greenhouses  
6:45pm Bus departs  
7:30pm Culvers, Arbys and McDonalds at your own expense  
8:15pm Bus departs  
9:30pm Bus arrives at Lamers Bus terminal  
-----Registration Form for Madison Area Bus Trip

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of people: \_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$43.00 per person)  
Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions, Contact Diane Nickel at (715)886-4230 or e-mail to [denickel@solarus.biz](mailto:denickel@solarus.biz)  
(Make Checks Payable to Wood County Master Gardeners)

Please mail registration form and check to:

Diane Nickel  
365 Peckham Road  
Nekoosa WI 54457-1556



## Continuing Education Opportunities & Dates to Remember

### Building a Butterfly Garden:

**Monday, April 25th:** 6:00PM to 8:00 PM **Building a Butterfly Garden.** Step-by-step introduction to building a butterfly garden beginning with soil testing and soil amendment/preparation.

**Monday, May 16th:** 6:00PM to 8:00 PM Session will be working outside in garden doing clean up and performing soil collection for a soil test analysis. Wear work clothes and bring gloves.

**Monday, June 6th:** 6:00PM to 8:00 PM Analyze soil test results and discuss plants that are native and not native for nectar sources, zone appropriate. By end of session a plan for the garden will be developed.

**Next session:** Date/time to be determined by group—we will travel to a local nursery to learn how to select plants and purchase some for the library garden.

**Monday, June 13th:** 6:00PM to 8:00 PM This last session will finish soil preparation, apply amendments, and plant purchased flowers from the nursery.



### Creative Garden Arts Programs:

**July 12, 2016—**6:00PM to 8:00 PM *Creating Stepping Stones*

**July 13, 2016—**6:00PM to 8:00 PM *Creating Garden Art*  
(repeated from last year by popular demand)

**July 14, 2016—**6:00PM to 8:00 PM *Creating Cement Garden Structures using Rhubarb/Hosta Leaves*

### Dates To Remember:

**Marshfield Children's Festival:** is April 16th at the High School Field House. Time is 9:30AM to 1:30PM. New this year the WCMGVs are going to participate in this event and plan to have a booth and provide children's garden related activities, plus have WCMGV informational materials available for adults.

**Wisconsin Rapids Children's Festival:** April 23rd Lincoln High School Gymnasium 10:00AM—1:00PM.

**Wisconsin Rapids Plant Sale:** May 14th from 9:00AM to 1:00PM Deb Debyl and Joanne Holden Co-Chairpersons.

**Garden Walk Meetings:** March 21st and April 9th

**Marshfield Plant Sale:** September 17th and 18th.

### Volunteer Hours Available

**Edgewater Haven Gardens** (Port Edwards) is offering double hours on Saturday, May 7 at 9 a.m. for spring clean-up and to amend the soil in the raised beds. Contact Judy Miller for more information.

### Wisconsin Rapids Zoo Gardens Spring Clean-Up:

Calling all Master Gardener Volunteers to the Wisconsin Rapids Zoo Spring Clean-Up Day on Monday May 9. We will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until we want to stop. Snacks will be provided! Bring your garden tools and gardening enthusiasm as we begin our season of gardening with the Zoo crew! Questions call Mary Kay York...715- 459-9373.



### Let's Go To A Movie!!

The Master Gardener Volunteers of Adams County have access to an old film of the Rothschild Gardens of England that will be shown for FREE at the theater in Adams on Saturday April 30th at 2:30PM. It's about an hour long. Anyone interested is invited to attend.



### Upcoming Events



### Wildwood Zoo Pruning Demonstration Business Meeting **April 26th 6:30PM**

#### **Wildwood Zoo, Marshfield, WI**

Arborist Mark Pinkalla, of First Choice Tree Care, in Stevens Point returns to WCMGVs to present a pruning demonstration at the Wildwood Zoo, 608 W. 17th St. in Marshfield. Mark has a degree in Urban Forestry from UWSP. He is a certified arborist and has been with First Choice for many years.

The zoo will be closed by the end of our meeting so note the early start time. Arrive earlier than meeting time if you are interested in touring the zoo and our WCMGV gardening project. An exciting recent addition to the zoo is a pair of Kodiak bear cub siblings.

Driving directions to the zoo: Enter Marshfield on Hwy 80 or Hwy 10 and take Co. Hwy BB West exit at the traffic circle. Drive one mile and turn right on Lincoln Ave. Drive 1.7 miles and turn right on West 17th St. Go 1/2 mile to the parking lot on the right. The parking lot to use for our meeting is off West 17th St. It's the closest one to the open-sided shelter where we will hold our business meeting. Park in that lot and walk into the zoo. Meet by the front of the Kodiak bear pen for the pruning demonstration.

### Wisconsin Farm Technology Days

**July 19-21 2016**

**Walworth Co., Wisconsin**

This premier exposition (previously called Farm Progress Days) -the largest agricultural show in Wisconsin is also one of the largest in the nation. The three-day outdoor event showcases the latest improvements in production agriculture, including many practical applications of recent research findings and technological developments. For more information see the WI Farm Technology Days website.

### A Major MG Conference in Our Own Backyard

**September 14th-17th, 2016**

**Midwest Regional MG Conference**

**Wisconsin Dells, WI**

*Helping Nature Thrive: Gardeners at the Dells*

Join the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association at the Chula Vista Resort in scenic Wisconsin Dells for educational sessions, area garden tours, expert speakers, and more. All details and registration information are on the official Midwest MG Conference website.