

# WHAT'S GROWING ON?

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

**June 2016**  
Issue 19



Mission Statement: Our purpose is to provide horticulture education, community service and environmental stewardship for our community in affiliation with the University of Wisconsin Extension Program.



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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Carter Memorial Library, Omro - every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month – 3:00 - 7:00

Farmer's Market Oshkosh - every Saturday morning  
7:30 – 12:30 - Starting June 4

MG Picnic - June 14, 6:00

Park View Gardens – every Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00  
Starting June 26

See the Calendar and “The Latest Dirt” for more details

## ***The President's Pen***

***From Kathy Schultz and Linda Loker***



June is busting out all over! All over the meadow and the hill! Anyone remember that tune from Carousel?! It is not difficult to break into song this time of year when we stroll through our yards with excitement, looking for our little treasures peeking out of the ground. And June brings us summer solstice, which means more hours of daylight for gardening so we can catch up!

June is picnic month for our master gardener association members. Our picnic is June 14 at 6:00 PM in the Parkview Great Room. Donna Kudlas and her team have been very busy planning the menu... and a few surprises too! Sally Lindo will be on hand in the Prairie Garden too, so plan on wandering over to view this team's efforts - she will be there to answer any questions before the picnic starts so we won't miss anything!

Marge Menacher has organized 2 tours on June 2 - 10 AM and 2 PM - to visit the UW-Oshkosh biodigester facility. The university recently began producing and selling organic compost. It is called Titan Gold and is produced by a dry fermentation anaerobic biodigester - a first-in-the-Americas facility that turns food, farm and yard waste into energy. Titan Gold is tested, bagged and sold by UW-O using U.S. Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) standards to ensure the safest and highest quality compost for our community. This is a great opportunity for us to find out the great things happening right here in our own county! There will be an email sent out to all members, so be ready to sign up, as attendance is limited for each session. An email will go out to the membership with information on location and parking.

A big congrats again to Valerie Stabenow for her Invader Crusader Award! She now joins the ranks of other greats in our midst who have been honored with this award as well - Audrey Ruedinger and Lawanda Jungwirth were 2010 recipients. As Sue Egner stated at the last membership meeting, what a great county to be active in!

We are still seeing emails inviting us to help with projects, so there is still time to join in.

In May, some of us helped out OASD teachers and Friends of Sullivan's Woods by guiding 4th graders through a typical woods experience. It was inspirational watching the excitement of the students finding things that are found in forests, creeks and ponds. These same 4th graders will return as 5th graders in the fall to experience all the changes that will occur. Hopefully this will inspire a few young gardeners!

Happy Spring to everyone!

Kathy and Linda

# IT'S A GARDENER'S LIFE

BY VIRGINIA SLATTERY



Renee Donner

I was born and raised in Oshkosh. I attended parochial school and graduated from Lourdes High School. I attended and graduated from UW-Oshkosh. However, I did not graduate until I was 32 years old. My husband Peter and I met in high school and shortly after graduating we married and began having a family. While my husband completed his degree, I stayed home and raised our children. It was my greatest joy in life and so much fun. Many years later I began my work career as a paraprofessional with the Oshkosh School District. While there, I took classes toward my masters in social welfare and then received a job as a social worker. I loved this job and felt I made a difference with delinquent children and their families. I retired 4 years ago and now wonder how I made time to work a job!!!

My grandmother was a huge influence on my love of gardening. I would spend hours with her gardening. History repeats itself. Now my children and grandchildren show their artistic sides in gardening.

I became a certified MG in 2012. I have worked at the Parkside gardens and at the new Bethel garden. I am the new treat organizer for our meetings and head the Sunshine Committee. Outside of Master Gardeners I volunteer at the Humane Society in Appleton, play and dance with my grandchildren, travel, and assist my parents.



## WHAT AM I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am a perennial, rapid growing groundcover in the mint family which will grow in shady locations that do not commonly support other plant life. My pink or white,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 inch flowers appear on short spikes above the foliage from late spring through early summer. My genus is comprised of several dozen species with foliage ranging from green to blue green, and some with white stripes or splotches. I am hardy in zones 3 through 8 and am generally deciduous but will become evergreen in warmer climates.

Full sun exposure, insufficient water or standing water are harmful to my plants. Soil should be constantly moist but well drained. Propagation is by seed, plant division in early spring or fall, and stem-tip cuttings in early summer. I am deer resistant, low maintenance, good in containers, attractive to birds and good for slope/erosion control.



## LAWANDA'S GARDEN PATH: *The Invasive Grapevine*

By Lawanda Jungwirth

(The Invasive Grapevine features a short and easy fact about invasive plant species each month)

Governor Jim Doyle proclaimed Wisconsin's first Invasive Species Awareness Month in June 2005. This June marks the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Invasive Species Awareness Month. Every year, the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council presents Invader Crusader Awards. WCMGA has so far produced three award winners in the Volunteer Individual category: Audrey Ruedinger, Lawanda Jungwirth and Valerie Stabenow. This is significant as awards are not necessarily given to Master Gardeners; any Wisconsin citizen who volunteers time controlling invasive species may be nominated.

# LAWANDA'S GARDEN PATH

By Lawanda Jungwirth

## Control Invasive Plants in May

June is Wisconsin's Invasive Species Awareness Month, but May is a better time to control the invasive plants growing on your property. Plants are smaller and easier to remove and mosquitoes and deerflies haven't yet arrived to make the work miserable.

It is likely that you have invasive plants in your landscape. Buckthorn is a sneaky tree or shrub that grows behind garages, between rocks, in fence lines, and inside other multi-stemmed shrubs like lilacs, hydrangea, dogwood and viburnum. Left unchecked, buckthorn can take over an entire forest, crowding out all other trees, shrubs and plants. Small plants can easily be pulled. Larger shrubs or trees should be cut and immediately brushed with Round-up.

Garlic mustard is another invasive that you might find along edges of your property or in other rough areas. It is blooming now, with white flowers atop stems anywhere from two inches to three feet tall. Leaves are triangular with wavy edges. The plant has a pleasant garlic smell. Pull the entire plant including the roots and dispose of it in the trash. Do not compost or bury it. Not only does garlic mustard physically crowd out other plants, it changes the chemical composition of the soil so that other plants are unable to grow.

In 2009, with Rule NR40, the DNR listed 64 plants considered invasive in Wisconsin. Fifty-two more species were added in 2015. Many of the listed plants have been growing in our yards for years, but have the potential to invade nearby natural areas as so many other garden escapees have done.

Here are just a few on the list: amur maple, black locust, bishop's goutweed, burning bush, common barberry, creeping bellflower, Japanese honeysuckle, Oriental bittersweet, queen of the meadow, Russian olive, tansy, Dame's rocket and yellow iris.

For a complete list and photos of Wisconsin's invasive plants, go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/> and type "Invasive Plants" in the search box or click [here](#). The list includes plants that are both restricted and prohibited. You are strongly encouraged, but not required, to destroy restricted plants. You are not allowed to possess the prohibited plants and are required to destroy them.

There is also a click box for non-regulated plants. Plants on that list have potential to become invasive with the right conditions and are best removed from our landscapes before they become problematic. Some of those plants are: lily-of-the-valley, Callery pear, baby's breath, creeping Charlie, Queen Anne's lace, Scotch pine, watercress, white sweet clover, periwinkle, orange hawkweed, orange daylily and common St. John's-wort.

Plants can rest benignly in our gardens for years when suddenly conditions become favorable for them to explode into invasiveness, destroying the native plants and ecosystems of our woods and prairies.

Please do your part to prevent that from happening. You don't have to memorize the entire list of invasives. Just learn a few each year and if you find them in your landscape or a nearby park, work to remove them.



**Must Read!**  
*This is NOT an article  
about pretty flowers...*

# Water Hyacinth

## *It's Here... and It's Bad!*

Well, this one stuck up its oil... "Invasive water hyacinth has been a huge problem in the lakes, rivers and streams of Asia, South America and the southeastern United States for many years. We thought we were protected from it up here in Wisconsin above the 40th parallel, the supposed northernmost limit of the plant. We were mistaken."

Whether the fact that water hyacinth is now able to flourish this far north is due to climate change or that the plant has adapted to cooler temperatures is irrelevant. What is relevant is that it's here in Wisconsin and it has the potential to cause as much trouble as it has in warmer climates.

Like many invasive plants, water hyacinth was intentionally brought into the United States. Way back in 1884, it was introduced as a ornamental plant for water gardens at the Cuban States Exposition in New Orleans. It escaped the confines of backyard water gardens and has become a serious weed of rivers, lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs. As far back as the 1990s, one state of Florida was experiencing losses of 57% million a year due to water hyacinth.

Large floating mats of water hyacinth clog waterways and animals, cause economic hardships in communities that depend on fishing and water sports for revenue, decrease waterfront property values, interfere with boating, fishing, boating and other water sports, clog irrigation pumps and waste supply pipelines and impede runoff and water circulation. The mats become mosquito factories, creating calm water for larvae to proliferate while drowning adults or straining larvae predators. Mats are so dense that they decrease light to submerged plants, depleting the water and materials that live

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in it or migrate. Floating mats have been known to prevent boats from reaching their docks, sterilizing entire offshore.

Water hyacinth is an ever, free-floating perennial plant. It has thick, green, oval leaves up to 6" wide. Leaves from mature plants can rise 1.5 feet above the surface of the water. Pretty six-petaled flowers are lavender-blue with a yellow blotch on one petal of each flower. Up to 23 flowers may occur on a single stem. Flowers need no reference below water and are blue-black to dark purple.

The flowers last about 36 days, after which the main bulb down to minute seeds into the water. A single plant can produce as many as 5,000 seeds. The small seeds sink and bury themselves in mud bottoms of lakes and rivers.

No worries if conditions aren't right for germination — seeds can remain viable for 15 to 20 years.

The bad news is that seeds aren't the main way that water hyacinth plants reproduce. They also reproduce vegetatively by producing daughter plants. In four months, two-water hyacinth plants can produce 1,200 daughter plants. A population can double in as little as six days. A healthy acre of water hyacinth can weigh up to 200 tons, and all result almost.

Water hyacinth supports little native wildlife and has few uses. It can tolerate extremes of water levels, flow velocity, water temperature, pH and nutrient availability. How dry you fight that?

The USDA has introduced two weeds, a moth, a rice and a fungus to try to control it, but the going is slow. Those biological controls work just fine, but often can't keep up

with the explosive spread of water hyacinth. And just because the weeds, moths, mice and fungi are successful in some climates doesn't mean they can survive in cooler climates to do their good work. Possible have been used literally and successfully to control water hyacinth in many areas, but they have a many way of killing everything they touch, including important native plants and animals.

For small infestations, the best way to control water hyacinth is to physically remove it before it flowers and sets seed. You can do this. Get out in your boat and haul it ashore. Take it home and let it dry out on a hard surface like your driveway before composting, burning or trashng it.

In summer of 2015, water hyacinth was discovered just downstream at the confluence of the Wolf River and Lake Winnebago and Lake des Morts, thanks to the sharp eyes of Wisconsin property owner Valerie Schaffner. She immediately reported her find to the DNR and within days a team of people from the DNR, UW-Forestville and other agencies attempted to aquatic invasives arrived to assess the area and physically remove the plants. Because of the early discovery and the quick response, the spread was contained before it became uncontrollable. However, in 2016 and in just a few more months will be necessary to be certain that it doesn't return and gain a foothold. This is especially important since it was discovered in this area mid-October when it had already flowered and set seed for the year.

Winona is a small village of 3,400 people that relies exclusively on boating, swimming, jet skiing, sunbathing and waterfront homes to support its economy. It's no exaggeration to say that, if left unchecked, water hyacinth has the ability to shatter the economy of this area.

*Lorraine Jurgensmith grew up in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin and lives along the Fox River at Riverfront with her husband, Ron. She has been a UW Extension Master Gardener since 1994 and writes a gardening column for the Chippewa Northwestern. She is interested in environmental issues, organic gardening, control of invasive plants, natural health and quilting. Email lorraine@qwest.net.*

A FARMINGTON EXPERIENCE

### You Can Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Plants!

- Rinse mud and debris from equipment and wading gear and drain water from boats before leaving the launch area.
- Remove all plant fragments from your boat, propeller and boat trailer. The transportation of plant material on boats, trailers and in livewells is the main introduction route to new lakes and rivers.
- Do not release aquarium or water garden plants into the wild. Instead, seal them in a plastic bag and dispose in the trash.
- Use plants native to Wisconsin in aquaria and water gardens.

\*If you discover water hyacinth in a lake, river or stream in Wisconsin PLEASE report it to the DNR IMMEDIATELY. Go to the website or call your local DNR office.  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/report.html>

\*\*Water hyacinth is PROHIBITED in Wisconsin. This means you are not allowed to possess, transfer, transport or introduce it. You may possess and transport it in the process of working to remove it. If you have it in your pond or water garden, GET RID OF IT by removing it and letting it dry out before composting, burning or trashng it.

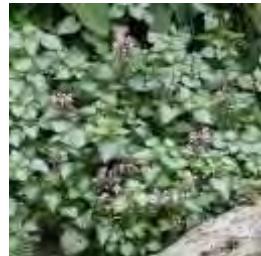
MARINELLA DILL BADGER SPORTSWRITER

## ANSWER TO WHAT AM I

By Jane Kuhn

### Answer to "What Am I?"

I am lamium. Order: Lamiales. Family: Lamiaceae / Labiateae – Mint family. Genus: Lamium L. – deadnettle. Some species of lamium can be invasive and are considered weeds. The species used commercially for ground cover are easier to control and are more attractive. Use lamium among plants that can stand the competition such as shrubs or vigorous perennials. Smaller species can be less invasive and are nice in a rock garden.



References: USDA Plants Database and associated links

# CUTS AND CLIPS

By Marge Bolding

*Source- Wisconsin Garden Journal*

## TASKS FOR JUNE

### Houseplants, Perennials, and, Annuals

Water flowerbeds weekly during dry periods. Watch for insects and diseases. Remove spent flowers and weeds from garden and add mulch.

- **Week 1** Control diseases on roses and peonies by destroying diseased foliage and flowers immediately. When night temperatures stay above 50 degrees F. move houseplants out to shaded areas and water often. Progressively move plants to increased light areas. Dig and divide nonblooming daffodils. Make a second application of fertilizer on perennial beds.
- **Week 2** For large dahlia blooms, prune all but one shoot per clump. Cut delphiniums after blooming.
- **Week 3** Pinch off early flowering chrysanthemums for the last time to encourage branching. Begin watching for Japanese Beetles that hatch at the end of June.

### Vegetables and Herbs

- **Week 1** Control anthracnose and other disease problems by staking plants, maintaining optimal plant spacing, and using mulches. Tie tall crops, such as tomatoes, to supports as they grow. Before setting out tomato cages, disinfect them with a 10% bleach solution. Plant peppers, eggplant, sweet potatoes, and late potatoes.
- **Week 2** Plant successive crops of beans, beets, broccoli, carrots, kohlrabi, corn, turnips, cabbage, and cauliflower. As soil warms up apply mulch after deep watering or heavy rain. Control leaf blight on tomatoes by disposing of diseased foliage or plants immediately or planting disease-resistant varieties. Control cabbage worms and cabbage looper on cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli.
- **Week 4** Thin vegetables to proper spacing. Plant rutabagas, late cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli. Mulch tomatoes, and water if necessary. Stop harvesting asparagus and weed carefully.

### Lawns, Trees, and Shrubs

Treat lawns infected with cut worms, army worms with parasitic nemotodes

- **Week 1** Prune evergreens
- **Week 2** Secure and anchor all trellises and cages against strong thunderstorms.
- **Week 3** Prune spring flowering shrubs and leggy branches at ground level.

# The Latest Dirt

Latest news of the Winnebago County Master Gardeners

## Project Updates

### OSHKOSH SATURDAY FARMERS' MARKET BOOTH - NEW LOCATION!

Welcome to the Oshkosh Saturday Farmers Market booth.

Co-Leads are Janet Priebe and Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, Synda Jones and Patty Schmitz.

We set up at 7:30 AM and leave by 12:30 PM. Our sign-up sheet circulates at our meetings. You are welcome to work at the market even though you haven't signed up. Everyone is welcome to come and earn education and volunteer hours. The Market runs rain or shine. Check their website for any cancellations: <http://www.osfmi.com>. BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR! And DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.

**NEW LOCATION - Across from 'Pie on the Porch' on Main Street.** Just south from where we were on the corner of Main & Church. There is a church bakery next to us.

We sell worm castings, give out gardening handouts, answer questions. WE WOULD LIKE MORE PRESENTATIONS. We have had composting, mason bee, and preserving foods presentations. If you have something you are interested in and would like to present it, let us know and we will provide a table for your presentation. It could be hostas, flower arranging, making bird houses, rain barrels, whatever you like to work with.

We start the first week in June and close our booth after the first week on September. The market goes through October. July 16 is Kid's Day when we will help around 200 kids plant a flower and make a craft project. HELP IS NEEDED! A schedule is sent out about a week before we start in June to everyone who has signed up. So sign up at the meeting. Volunteering at the market is a good way to get to know other Master Gardeners and help educate the public about gardening. You get to browse the market too! SEE YOU AT THE MARKET!

### PARK VIEW GARDENS - every Tuesday from June 21 through October 11; 1:00 - 4:00

### CARTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY - every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday from 3:00 – 7:00 PM

Project leads, Pat Behm and Linda Petek invite everyone to come out and see what we have been working on! The address is 405 E. Huron Street and it is one block off of Main Street in Omro. Don't forget your gardening tools. We are planning on having work days at the library every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in summer from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. starting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Oshkosh Garden Walk – Sunday, June 26 from Noon – 5:00 PM

One of our MGV's, Sally Lindo, will be a part of the Oshkosh Garden Club's garden walk this year. As you may know, Sally is in charge of the prairie gardens at Park View. There will be a raffle for an 8-foot arbor, Titan Gold compost and hopefully some plants. We have a total of 6 gardens to see. Two of them are next door to each other. Proceeds go to support children's gardens in elementary schools, which are sponsored by Growing Oshkosh. Tickets will be available for \$8 ahead of the event at Stuart's Landscaping & Design and through Pay-Pal on our website: [www.Oshkoshgardenclub.org](http://www.Oshkoshgardenclub.org). Tickets will be available at all 6 gardens on the day of the walk for \$10. Children under 18 are admitted for FREE.

#### MASTER GARDENER PICNIC – Tues., June 14

##### Help Us Celebrate Our 25 Years!

- June 14, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.
- Park View Great Room
- Bring a dish. Meat and beverage provided.
- Walk through the Prairie/Native Garden and Cutting and Vegetable Garden.

**Reservations Please!!** Call Donna Kudlas (233-0367) or e-mail [dfkudlas@yahoo.com](mailto:dfkudlas@yahoo.com)

# UW EXTENSION NEWS

By Kimberly Miller

**NEW in 2016!! Please read this overview. How you report your hours for 2016 will be different and will require using a new timesheet.** Reporting hours is very important to UW-Extension as a means of quantifying the valuable contributions of our volunteers in the community. Not only do these records allow for recognition of volunteers for their hard work, but they are also invaluable for program evaluation. Records provide the many ways MGVs serve the public. Local and state governments, which fund the program, are very interested in how effectively UW-Extension uses tax revenues. Consistently detailed records benefit both the MGV Program and its clients.

From now on you will be required to submit your hours by project and type of hours (i.e. support services, community education and youth education). The timesheet will be revised to reflect this and once completed will hopefully clear up any questions you may have. I understand that some of you have already completed volunteer hours this year and ask that you do the best in filling out the new timesheet for 2016. The new timesheet will be available prior to the May 10, WCMGA Business Meeting. An email will be sent out and it will be posted to the WCMGA website. With this new timesheet we strive to make it as easy as possible for you to report, as well as track, your volunteer service and continuing education hours. The new timesheet will be available as both an excel spreadsheet and a PDF document. If you do not have access to a computer, visit or contact the Winnebago County UWEX office to receive a copy.

As we move through this transition, I appreciate your patience. If you have any questions, please let me know

Thank you for giving so generously of your time and talents.

*Kimberly Miller*

Winnebago County UWEX  
Horticulture Educator

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**Valerie Stabenow** was awarded the 12th Annual Invader Crusader Award, Volunteer Individual category. Invader Crusader Awards honor Wisconsin citizens and organizations for their significant contributions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive species that harm Wisconsin land, water and wetlands. She will be recognized at an awards ceremony on June 9th taking place at Horicon Marsh Educational Center in Horicon, Wisconsin. Here are some links about the programming.

- <http://dnr.wi.gov/news/Weekly/Article/?id=3530>
- <http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness-month/awards/>

*Kimberly Miller*

Horticulture Educator  
Winnebago County UWEX  
920-232-1970

## WHO KNEW?



By Lynne Slat

Source: <http://scs.cals.cornell.edu/>

Their decorative leaves come in a wide range of colors, shapes, textures, and sizes. Unfortunately, almost all are prone to infestations from a creepy, crawly, slimy pest. The plant I'm referring to is the beautiful hosta, and the pest is the common garden slug.

A slug is not an insect but rather a tiny mollusk somewhat like a snail but lacking a shell. The reason one rarely, if ever, sees slugs feeding on the leaves is because they come out only at night or on cloudy days when temperatures are above fifty degrees, and there is ample moisture from rain or watering. Slugs need a damp environment to survive and hide during the day in soil crevices or under rocks, mulch, or in the lower dense foliage



Slugs are hermaphrodites: they have both male and female reproductive systems. Slugs lay their eggs in the soil often near the crown of hostas. When the baby slugs hatch, they can do tremendous damage to the new growth of the hosta.

Drenching the soil in early spring around the crown of the hosta plant with an ammonia solution of 3 ounces of household ammonia to 16 ounces of water is an effective and inexpensive method to destroy the hatchlings. Slug damage to hosta leaves can be severe. Sometimes the leaves end up with so many holes they take on a lace-like appearance. As with most gardening problems, controlling slugs begins with the basics. First, clean up the garden and try to eliminate hiding places for the slugs. Minor slug problems can be controlled by hand-picking. Carefully check around the base of damaged plants and all potential hiding places that are moist and dark. Searching for slugs at night with a flashlight increases the odds of finding them. One can create slug traps by using overturned pots, pieces of board or wet, folded newspaper. Place these traps on the soil near hostas overnight. In the morning, discard any slugs.

If one prefers a home remedy, use beer. Slugs are brewski-loving critters. Simply sink pie pans or similar containers into the ground with the top edges level with the soil. Pour some beer into the pan. Slugs have little, if any, self-control when it comes to beer, and they soon drown their sorrows and themselves in the beer. It's best to replace the beer on a daily basis. Unfortunately, even if the pest is destroyed, the damage to the hosta is for the season. As unsightly as the leaves may appear, avoid removing them. No matter how unappealing they look, they still undergo some photosynthesis, the food making process necessary to keep the plant alive.

There are a number of great products for controlling slugs on the market. Note, the chemical used in most slug and snail killers is called metaldehyde — and it is deadly to dogs and cats. One called Sluggo ® is an organic treatment that doubles as a fertilizer. Sluggo is approved by the OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute). It is effective and can be safely used around pets and wildlife.

**Protect your hostas; go slug hunting tonight.**

# WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION MINUTES

WCMGA May 10, 2016    **Business Meeting** called to order at 6:00 PM

**Speaker:** Bruce Schweiger is a turf specialist at UW-Mad. Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab, O.J. NOER Research Facility. He provides diagnostic services & management recommendations for all turf health issues concerning both commercial turfgrass managers and homeowners. There are fees associated with the TDL services. Bruce will provide Kim with his website so we have a way to contact him in regard to turf concerns.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Joni Pagel.

**Secretary's Report** can be found in the May newsletter. Linda Petek, secretary, was not present.

## NEW BUSINESS

1.    **June Picnic:** Donna Kudlas gave an update on the 6/14/16 picnic to be held at Park View at 6:00PM. We can enjoy a walk in the prairie garden while at the picnic. Donna is working on some game activities to add a new dimension to the picnic. A signup sheet was passed around to the membership.

2.    **Education committee update:** Linda Werner is our new chairperson. She explained how the committee is going to use a new structure utilizing subcommittee leads on certain projects within the education committee. This person will then report back to Linda. The committee thanked the membership for doing the survey. The results will be helpful in giving direction to incorporating new ideas such as possibly offering 2-3 hr. workshops. A planning meeting is scheduled for 5/24/16. Marge Menacher gave a synopsis of the 2 summer trips being planned: A one-day trip to the Sheboygan area and the other to the Mpls area most likely some time in mid July. Some of the places on the list to visit while in Mpls are: Como Conservatory, Japanese Gardens, possibly a nursery in St. Paul, and Bachman's Wholesale. We'll need to have a full bus for this trip. Then on June 2, 2016 we'll have 2 mini tours at UW-O (40-60 min.) of the biodigester. Times are: 10:00AM and 6:00PM; students will be our tour guides. A signup sheet was passed around.

3.    **Project Presentations:** Bette Hoytink & Eric Kropp  
Winnebago Co. Fair: Sue Bohn; 8/3-7/16 held at the Sunnyview Expo bldg. Volunteers participate in community education using research-based information. Sue will send out notification for signup as the date draws near.

Paine Gardens & Arboretum: Ginny Slattery; Festival of Spring held on 5/21/16 from 9:00AM-12:00PM. We will have a booth "Ask the Masters", volunteers are needed for the festival. Sign-up sheet was passed around to membership. Volunteers are also needed Fri, 5/20 to help set up plants for the sale. During the gardening season volunteers help with the upkeep of the gardens and prairie and in any other capacity the Paine requests. Work hours are usually from 8:30AM – 2:30PM.

Park View Flower Arranging: Lil Hansche; Volunteers work with the residents to make 60-70 bouquets each time; meet 8 times per year, but not in August. Some flowers are

purchased at Pick n Save and some flowers come from the volunteers' gardens. Volunteers are notified by email.

4.    **State Representative:** Sue Egner; Meeting was held 4/23/16. This group meets 2 times per year. The state is reorganizing the UW-Ext. resulting in budget cuts. The budget will be decreased by 8% this year and next year 5% decrease. This will be accomplished utilizing more digital technology, Wisconsin Idea (promoting UW-Ext), consolidating resources etc. UW chancellor wants us to support Impact Initiatives. Promoting the wealth of volunteers and projects etc. in UW-Ext (100,000 notes) by June '16 before the board of regents meets again.

5.    **Worm Castings:** Sue Egner and Gerald Schaefer; Two more barrels were purchased from the prison. 130 pounds have been sold and there is more in the garage.

6.    **Extension Update:** Kimberly Miller; On 6/24/16 there will be a horticulture workshop held at Park View with Mike Maddox beginning at 8:30AM – 4:00PM. The fee for the workshop is \$5.00. A grant was awarded for the rain garden which will be located on the front of the Coughlin Bldg. The shrubs have been taken out, only the spruce and maple tree remain. MG volunteers are asked to help with the June planting. New hours sheet: The state requires a more detailed report of our hours. The new hours sheet can be found on our web site. You may use the EXCEL spreadsheet which automatically tallies everything for you and can be electronically submitted. Or you may choose the PDF format (pen & pencil) to be mailed. These new sheets have more detail, each project is identified and most projects have 3 categories where the hours go: support, community education, and youth. The time sheets are still to be sent to Patty Schmitz no later than 9/1/16. A Power Point presentation was given by Kathy Schultz showing members how to fill out forms and presented various examples on where to place hours on time sheet.

7.    **Invader Crusader Award** was given to Valerie Stabenow by the WI Invasive Species Council. Valerie has been very proactive ridding water hyacinth from the waterways near her residence. Congrats Valerie.

Valerie is selling 5 different types of potatoes for planting at \$1.00 per bag. She is going to donate the money to WCMGA.

8.    **Summer Garden Walk:** Linda Loker spoke of the walk scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the UW biodigester; July possibly Tom Weber's garden, August Omro library and the Vets Memorial. More information will be sent out to members as the time draws near. Anyone interested in hosting a garden walk please contact one of the co-presidents.

9.    **Celebrating 25 years for WCMGA** trivia answers were made known.

Drawings for door prizes took place.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni Pagel & Kathy Schultz

## Good Reads

### ***“Monet’s Passion” by Elizabeth Murray***

*If you ever wondered how to make your gardens look like Monet’s, this is a book to guide you. This book is full of history of the artist’s gardens. It starts with Elizabeth giving up her job, house and life in California to be a gardener in Monet’s historical gardens. The book is full of wonderful photographs along with the plans on how to create Monet’s gardens. (available at [Amazon](#))*



Carole Dorsch, Pat Behm, and Wendy Wilber enjoyed some volunteer time at the Carter Memorial Library in Omro.



### June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Carter Library	14 MG Picnic	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Park View Gardens	22	23	24	25
26 Oshkosh Garden Walk	27 Park View Flower Arranging Carter Library	28 Park View Gardens	29	30		

### July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Park View Gardens	6	7	8	9
10	11 Carter Library	12 Park View Gardens	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Park View Gardens	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Carter Library	26 Park View Gardens	27	28	29	30