



Winnebago County Master Gardeners Newsletter

December 2022

Mission Statement

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

***Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!***



*Crab apple fruit, Oshkosh Public Library
Submitted by Kim Willman*

What am I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am a deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub which can add color and interest to your winter garden. I am native to the eastern and central United States and can be found at the edge of the woods or in swamps. My leaves are alternate, simple, sharply toothed, two to three inches long, green above while paler and generally hairy below. Both male and female flowers are stalked and greenish-white with 5-7 petals appearing in spring. My fruits, which are present only on the female plant, are round drupes, ¼ inch in diameter, in clusters of 2 to 4, green during the growing season and ripening in fall to bright red and glossy, and persisting through the winter. My plants are dioecious; a male plant is needed for pollination of female plants. Generally one male will be sufficient for pollinating 9-10 female plants.

I grow best in full sun to partial shade – more sun means more fruit on female plants. I require a neutral to acid soil with adequate moisture and am tolerant of poorly drained soils. I am used in mass plantings, in native plantings, where soils are wet, to attract wildlife, and for fruit display in fall and winter. Propagation is best through early summer cuttings which are easily rooted; seeds possess a dormancy period making germination tricky.

WCMGA Contacts

Check your membership guide for contact information.

Advisory Team: Linda Loker, Kathy Schultz, Ruth Retzlaff

Secretary: Jean Reed/Anne Murphy

Treasurer: Deb Voyles

Communications Team

Website: Jean Reed

Newsletter: Anne Murphy, Kim Willman, Jane Kuhn, Lawanda Jungwirth

Partner Liaison: Deb Butch

WIMGA Rep: Kathy Procknow

Education Team: Valerie Stabenow, Linda Werner

Meeting Teams

DECEMBER: Susan Forbes, Sandra Dennis, Mary Wiedenmeier

MARCH: Anne Murphy, Kim Willman, Kathy Daniels

JUNE Picnic: Donna Kudlas, Jane Kuhn, Sue Egner, Vicki Daniels, Ruth Retzlaff, Renee Donner, Bob Potter

SEPTEMBER: Mary Bossert, Jenny Breinin, Lil Hansche

Advisor: Madisen Potratz



We would love your help! If you are interested in contributing to a future newsletter by writing an article, submitting a photo, or sharing a story, please let me know by the 15th of each month by emailing

pakster0605@yahoo.com. Each article submitted will count toward your volunteer hours. Thank you!

Follow us on Facebook



at [WCMGVA](https://www.facebook.com/WCMGV). <https://www.facebook.com/WCMGV>

From your Advisory Team

Your new Advisory Team met for the first time on October 27th. The Team members are Directors Ruth Retzlaff, Linda Loker and Kathy Schultz, treasurer Deby Voyles, Secretary (Shared role) Jean Reed and Anne Murphy.

You have probably already received a few emails from this team (don't worry we won't get carried away with too many). We want to tell you about this new structure and how we are making it work. Another email will be coming about our continued membership with WIMGA and how to send your \$5.00 annual fee for that.

We also discussed revising/rewriting bylaws for our association. Because the association is different now, the bylaws should be much simpler. More on this in the future. We are looking forward to the meetings/events that are in the planning process for 2023 and are pleased to announce the first get together is January 24th. Look further in this newsletter for details for this fun event from the Meeting Team.

We can also let you know to save the date for the March 14th business meeting where we will also have an in person presenter from UW Stevens Point. More information on this meeting will be coming out in the next few months.

Good news - The Golden Trowel award team will be looking to members to submit nominations for the next Golden Trowel award. Check in this newsletter for more information on that.

And more good news - we are getting close to being able to offer the Farmers Market as a project this summer. Put on your thinking hats to help us get ideas on how running the Farmers market will look this summer.

The Advisory Team will meet two more times next year, and if you would like to attend these meetings, any member is welcome to do so. The meetings are set for February 1st at 1pm and August 1st at 3:30, both in the Volunteer room at the Coughlin Center. Also, if you have something that you feel should be discussed, please contact any of the team members about that.

As you can see, we are getting busy as an association. We are looking forward to 2023, and hope we can provide a format that will give all of us opportunities to enjoy gardening, learning more, and camaraderie with people who love to talk garden stuff!

Reorganization Plan Proposal for October 1, 2022- December 31, 2023

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>All committees uphold and support the WCMGA mission: “Our purpose is to provide horticulture education, community service and environmental stewardship within our community.”</i></p>	
<p>Number of member meetings per year: 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September & March: Business Meeting • December: Holiday Social & June: Spring Social
<p>Member meeting format:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December and June meetings social only • September and March are business meetings with social and/or CE components (TBD by Meeting Committee)
<p>Advisory Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 4 members including treasurer and secretary plus at least 2 directors from membership (Initial Advisory Team to include some previous leader(s) for continuity) • Meets at least twice per year prior to the September and March business meetings • 1-year terms starting October 1, but stay on through Dec. 31 to advise/support next team members. Renewable terms. • Decisions can be made via email in-between meetings 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve expenditures over \$500 2. Secure adequate liability insurance 3. Keep meeting minutes (Secretary) 4. Review new procedures, policies, SOPS, by-laws and make recommendations to the membership as needed/proposed 5. Maintain non-stock status 6. Set membership business meeting agenda 7. Coordinate with other teams 8. At-large members coordinate membership emails from committees 6. Encourage member initiative in proposing ideas 7. Zoom or live pop-ups for special topics as suggested/available
<p>Communications Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meetings • Individual tasks 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain Facebook page 2. Maintain Website 3. Maintain newsletter 4. Email communications to members/teams 5. Extension liaison 6. WIMGA representative 7. Contact/coordinator for partner organizations (needs further discussion)
<p>Strategic Planning Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form in spring of 2023? • 3-4 members • Meets as needed 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review implementation of reorganization plan 2. Make recommendations for changes 3. Member recruitment plan 4. Develop 2-year plan of goals and objectives 5. Develops budget for the plan
<p>Meeting Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 general meeting per year of everyone interested (minimum 12) • 4 (minimum) persons assigned to each of the 4 meetings (can meet or work on tasks individually) • Creativity is encouraged to make meetings more lively/interesting • Drawing on member expertise for programs, presentations, etc. is encouraged 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build on format ideas from the roundtable group 2. Work with the Education Team on CE ideas 3. Work with Advisory Team on any business needed 4. Set time, place, cost 5. Reserve venue/arrange set-up and take-down 6. Plan and carryout social component 7. Alert treasurer of any expenses and incoming payments 8. All expenses pay as you go

Education Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-4 members • Meet as needed 	Responsibilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CE for membership meetings or stand-alone CE for members 2. Monitor CE opportunities for posting on Facebook and in newsletter 3. Coordinate with Meeting and Advisory Teams 4. Develop ideas for community education 5. All expenses pay as you go
Officers	
Secretary <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Takes minutes at all meetings of the Advisory Committee and general membership business meetings 2. Posts Advisory Team minutes on the website and business meeting minutes in the newsletter 	Treasurer <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintains financial records in Excel 2. Pays expenses via check 3. Reports to the Advisory Team and membership at business meetings 4. Manages cash flow with approval of the Advisory Team (can be done via email) 5. Prepares simple budget of known expenses
Goals of Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize social functions • Spread the work • Simplify • Fewer meetings • Encourage/individual initiative • Make MG fun again 	<i>Notes: Roundtable Meeting/CE/Social Suggestions Presentation from WIMGA on its purpose/plans/offerings</i> <i>Apply for WIMGA grants for programs as needed</i> <i>Hands-on learning (park or garden tours, weed ID walk, partner organizations present or offer tours of facilities gardens, members offer programs/presentations)</i>

Sunshine Update

Bring On The Cheer!

Renee Donner has happily accepted to continue being our Sunshine “girl”. The Sunshine position was created early on in the start of our organization to bring a little comfort and cheer to those of us needing encouragement during a difficult moment in our lives; maybe even credit or congrats for others. Renee has done a wonderful service to our members with beautiful, creative cards...and especially sharing her kind spirit.

If you know someone in need among our members that might enjoy a little cheering up, please contact Renee via email or phone listed below.

Email: renee_donner@yahoo.com Phone: 920-233-2975 Mobile: 920-420-6596

Thank you Renee!

First Meeting of 2023 will be a WINTER SOCIAL

The first WCMGA meeting for 2023 is a social event. Our gathering will be on TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023. We are planning a POTLUCK SUPPER. The location is FATHER CARR'S PLACE 2B at 1062 North Koeller Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902. We will gather at 5:30pm with dinner at 6pm.

We will be providing cups, plates, napkins, and utensils. Coffee or a hot drink or water will also be provided. As Father Carr's is allowing us to use their space for no charge, we are suggesting that you bring a non-perishable food item to donate to their food pantry.

All WCMGA members and a guest are invited to attend. In addition to mingling and eating, we will also be having an optional garden related white elephant gift exchange. Just to get you thinking of possible items.... a no longer used garden tool, a gardening book, a flower pot, a favorite garden artwork...all items should be in usable condition.

There will be no charge for this event. You need to bring yourself, a guest if you wish, a dish to pass, a white elephant gift (if you wish) and your good spirits. This is a no stress, casual dress, glad to see each other again event. More information will be coming in the January newsletter so stay tuned.

*Your Winter Meeting Committee
Sandy Dennis, Sue Forbes, and Mary Wiedenmeier*

Answer to What am I?

By Jane Kuhn



I am winterberry holly. Family: Aquifoliaceae (holly family). Genus: Ilex. Species: Ilex verticillata. Other common names are common winterberry, black alder, coralberry and Michigan holly. Excellent year round interest, highlighted by the showy display of red berries against white snow in winter. Warning: all ilex species may be somewhat toxic if ingested.

References: USDA Plants Database and associated links.

Deadline for Reporting Hours Extended to January 9th

Our reporting year will stay the same, January 1 - December 31. However, we know everyone is busy during the holiday season. Therefore, you will have until midnight January 9, 2023 to enter your hours for 2022. On January 10, 2023 the ORS will no longer accept hours for 2022.

Please enter your hours early.

- **You must submit organizations by January 2!** If you want to report hours toward an organization not already listed in the ORS, you must submit it for review and publishing in the ORS. Please plan accordingly. Deadline is only for 2022.
- **Holiday Hours:** There will be no technical help from the program office outside normal business hours of M-F, 9-4 PM and it will be reduced between Dec. 23 and Jan. 2. Response times will be longer., Thank you for your understanding.
- **Self-service options:** Automatic password reset and username retrieval will be functioning.
- **2022 Onboarding-Lite Required:** Remember, 2022 Onboarding-Lite is required before you start volunteering, conduct continuing education and record hours.



With Montauk daisies and cosmos still blooming in the warmer days of November, bees were able to find nectar late in the season.

Submitted by Jane Kuhn

Continuing Education Opportunities

By Linda Werner

Feb. 10-12: WPT Garden Expo, Madison

The Golden Trowel is back!

Committee members have been contacted to reorganize and move forward. This means we are now looking for nominations. This is such a deserving award for those who have faithfully continued to work with the designated projects, making our community proud and aware that we are here for Winnebago County!

For those of you who may be new to our organization; and as a refresher for the rest of our membership, here is a description of this award.

The Golden Trowel is an annual award that shall be bestowed upon member(s) who during the previous year(s) have exemplified the spirit of the Master Gardener organization by providing horticultural education; community service and environmental stewardship for our community and leadership to other Master Gardeners in the Winnebago County Master Gardeners or other Master Gardener organizations.

Eligibility criteria is listed as follows:

- Certified member in good standing
- Active member for 8 or more years
- Member's volunteer hours are consistent with outstanding leadership/mentoring in community education, service and environmental stewardship.

A form can be found on our member website and members can retrieve it, complete it, then return to Linda Loker one of 2 ways:

1. Email: lloker@att.net
2. Mail: 80 N Oakwood Rd Oshkosh WI 54901

We are hoping to have a candidate for our Dec/Jan get-together.

Thank you to all of you!

Interested in applying for the Wisconsin Master Gardener Honored Participation Level?

Winnebago county has had 4 (out of 4) successful applicants for this Honored Participation level. The process is not difficult or complicated!

The basic requirements for application are 1,000 hours or 10 years of volunteer service. As a current participant in the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, Master Gardener Program you may apply for the Honored participation level. The purpose of this level is to 1) recognize you for your contributions to the program, 2) increase your flexibility in annual reporting requirements, and 3) create uniform recognition across the state.

Honored participation level means:

- You will be exempt from reporting volunteer and continuing education activities, meaning you may report less than the required hours with no penalty. However, we encourage you to report any hours you do conduct.
- You must complete ALL other requirements of the program, including accepting and fulfilling the terms and conditions for the program on a yearly basis. (This includes, but is not limited to, the acceptance of any terms in the ORS.) Failure to do so will result in loss of the Honored participation level.

To qualify for this participation level you must:

- Be a current participant in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program.
- Have reported hours for a minimum of 10 years OR 1000 hours of service in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program (as recorded in the online reporting system (ORS) or previous hours reporting system).
- Have significant accomplishments as a participant in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program at the local, regional, or statewide level. This should include leadership, contributions you made to volunteer activities, or support to other Master Gardeners and Extension staff.
- Submit the Google Form application in the "To Prepare & Apply" section between November 1, 2022 through January 2, 2023. The form will not be available outside this time period.
 - Applications will be reviewed and approved by Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program staff with decisions made before March 31, 2023.

To prepare, you should have the following items ready:

- Your name, phone number, address and email address.
- The number of years you reported hours in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program. *(This is the number of years you have entered hours. You can include the current year. You must subtract any years that you stepped away from the program and/or didn't report hours.)*

- Number of service hours you reported in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program (as recorded in the online reporting system (ORS). *(This can be found on your landing page in the ORS under Lifetime Hours.)*
- List of your significant accomplishments as a participant in the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program at the local, regional, or statewide level (please limit to 500 characters).

(Note that the List of significant accomplishments has a 500 CHARACTER limit, not 500 words. For ex. "Master Gardener" is two words, but is 14 characters/letters.)

The link to the application:

[Toolbox – Master Gardener Program](#)

(if you have any questions or need help, please contact Valerie Stabenow)



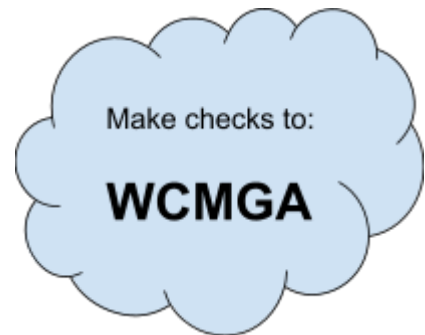
Oakleaf hydrangea in its fall splendor!

Submitted by Linda Loker

Winnebago County Master Gardener Association Membership Renewal Form

WCMGA will not be charging a membership fee, we are only asking our members to pay for the WIMGA \$5 membership fee

Please submit this form **by December 31, 2022**



Make Checks payable to: WCMGA

Name	
Phone	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Amount Enclosed	
Are you interested in learning more about becoming a Leader for the Association in October 2023?	
Please send this form along with your check to:	Deby Voyles 6992 Spiegelberg Road Larsen, WI 54947
If you have any questions, please call one of our Advisory Team Leaders:	Linda Loker (920) 426-1435 Kathy Schultz (920) 420-8059 Ruth Retzlaff (920) 410-6279 Deby Voyles (920) 279-5565 Jean Reed (920) 729-9012 Anne Murphy (920) 379-7132

Ruth and Vicki from the Butterfly Garden project at Miravida Living decorated these pots at the entrance to Bethel Home. They will be enjoyed by many.

Submitted by Jane Kuhn



Master Gardener Volunteer Opportunities

Organization	WCMGA Liaison(s)
Carter Memorial Library 405 East Huron Street, Omro, WI 54963-1045 Volunteer Information: https://omrolibrary.org/aboutus/friends 920-685-7016 omplstaff@omrolibrary.org Volunteer Contact: Julie Stobbe, 920.685.7016 Volunteer application: https://omrolibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Volunteer%20Application.pdf Liability protection: Waiver of liability in application process	OPEN If interested, contact Deb Butch
Miravida Living 225 N. Eagle St., Oshkosh, WI 54902 Volunteer Information: https://www.miravidaliving.com/volunteer/ Volunteer Contact: Joan Keltesch, jkkeltesch@miravidaliving.com Volunteer application: https://hipaa.jotform.com/220336497425155 Volunteer training sessions Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Jane Kuhn
Neenah Historical Society—Octagon House 343 Smith Street, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: http://www.neenahhistoricalsociety.com/ (920) 729-0244 Neenahhistoricalsociety@gmail.com Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage Background check performed by Neenah Historical Society	Jerry Robak

<p>Neenah Public Library 240 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: https://neenahlibrary.org/volunteer 920-886-6315 library@neenahlibrary.org Volunteer policy: https://neenahlibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Neenah%20Public%20Library%20Volunteer%20Program%20Policy.pdf Volunteer application: https://neenahlibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/NPL%20Volunteer%20Application%20Website.pdf Background check performed by Neenah Public Library Volunteer orientation—30 minutes Liability protection: Waiver of liability in application process</p>	<p>Sue Forbes</p> <p>Bette Hoytink</p>
<p>Oshkosh Area Humane Society 1925 Shelter Court, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: https://www.oahs.org/volunteer.html Volunteer coordinator: Sarah Stoffregen, 920.424.2128, ext. 116, sarah@oahs.org Liability protection: Contact OAHS</p>	<p>OPEN</p> <p>If interested, contact Deb Butch</p>
<p>Paine Art Center and Gardens 1410 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: Volunteer contact: Annika Holland, aholland@thepaine.org, 920-235-6903 https://www.thepaine.org/support/volunteer/ Volunteer application: https://www.thepaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Volunteer-Application-2020.pdf Volunteer handbook available Background check performed by The Paine Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage</p>	<p>Ginny Slattery</p> <p>Kathy Gore</p>

UW Madison, Extension Winnebago County 625 E Cty Rd Y, Oshkosh Horticulture Plant Health Advising and other opportunities TBD Volunteer contact: Madisen Potratz, Horticulture Educator, madisen.potratz@wisc.edu, 920.232.1976	Madisen Potratz
Winnebago County Historical & Archeological Society—Morgan House 234 Church Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: WinnebagoHistoricalSociety@gmail.com 920-267-8007 Volunteer Contact: Greg Bellmer, 920.267.8007 Liability protection: Liability protection is not provided	Kathy Schultz
Winnebago County—Department of Facilities and Property Management (Coughlin Rain Garden) 625 E. County Rd Y, Suite 600, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: No volunteer process Volunteer Contact: Bob Stephenson, 920.420.6405 Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Jill Dombrowski Ed Dombrowski
Winnebago County Master Gardener Association 625 E. County Rd Y, Suite 600, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Deb Butch
Winnebago County—Park View Health Center (Health Center gardens and Park View Prairie Garden) 725 Butler Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: Volunteer contact: Tim Laurin, tlaurin@co.winnebago.wi.us, 920-237-6931 liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Health Center Gardens: Donna Kudlas Jane Kuhn Park View Prairie Garden: Carol Swannell

<p>YMCA of the Fox Cities—Neenah-Menasha YMCA 110 W. North Water Street, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: https://www.ymcafoxcities.org/volunteer-opportunities Volunteer application: https://www.ymcafoxcities.org/sites/ymcafoxcities/files/2021-02/VolunteerApplicationForm2013.pdf Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage</p>	<p>For more information: Contact Deb Butch</p>
<p>Houses of Worship</p>	
<p>First Presbytertian Church 110 Church Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information Contact Sue Egner</p>	<p>Sue Egner</p>
<p>St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church 830 S Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904 Volunteer Information: Contact Cindy Meszaros Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage</p>	<p>Cindy Meszaros</p>



Upcoming Dates:

- **January Meeting: Winter Social, Tues., Jan. 24, 2023, Father Carr's Place 2B, 5:30 PM**
- **March Meeting: March 14, 2023, 6 PM, Coughlin Ctr., Paul Whitaker speaker**

December 2022						
Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31

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