



Winnebago County Master Gardeners Newsletter

February 2023

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.

"February is the border between winter and spring."

-Terri Guillemets



Submitted by Jane Kuhn.

What am I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am a popular, old-fashioned, perennial herbaceous plant which bursts into flower in spring. My blooms last until the weather gets too hot or I become dormant in summer. I prefer semi-shaded, moist areas, and do best in alkaline soil with good drainage although I can tolerate heavy clay soil as well. My plants form a bushy, upright mound of light green foliage with a somewhat ferny appearance, growing to 24 to 36 inches tall, spreading to 18 inches with ternately compound leaves (leaflets that come in threes). My flowers are pendulous with a shape that gives me my common name. They are produced in a raceme bearing 3-15 individual flowers, each 1-2 inches long, with pink outer petals and white inner petals.

Propagation can be by seed, division, cutting or seedling. I will very often self-seed throughout the garden although not to the point of being a nuisance. To start seeds indoors, place seeds in a pot of soil, place pot in a plastic bag and put in the freezer for 6-8 weeks. Remove the pot to germinate and grow in regular seedling conditions. I am easy to divide but wait until after flowering so you don't sacrifice my blooms. I am good as an accent plant, in borders, in containers and as a cut flower and am resistant to deer and rabbits. One word of caution: some people find me to be a skin irritant from isoquinoline-like alkaloids.

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>

From your Advisory Team

Happy February to all!

“February is the border between winter and spring.” – Terri Guillemets

The Advisory Team hopes that 2023 is starting off on a high ...and healthy.... note for all of you.

As of this date we are forging ahead with the hope of spring on our minds now.

February brings us to our preparatory time... we have the many garden magazines invading our mailboxes, giving us much food for thought (pun intended!). We also have many opportunities to start obtaining our education hours. Here is just a sampling for you to consider.

February 10-12, 2023 is the Madison Garden and Landscape Expo at the Alliant Energy Center. Valerie Stabenow and Linda Werner evaluated the entire 3-day schedule of events and came up with a list of acceptable education seminars. We would like to give a HUGE thank you to both Valerie and Linda for devoting their time on this and providing members with opportunities for our educational requirements. There is an article in this newsletter detailing this information and is very useful for anyone wishing to attend. It is the Advisory Team's hope that in the future we will be able to offer a bus trip again to this event.

Melinda Myers will again be hosting free webinars this month for members for educational hours as well. Starting February 8, she will present “Indoor Container Garden Design and Display Ideas” – this should be a nice compliment to the recent WIMGA presentation on indoor plants with Tovah Martin! February 15 will be a talk on dahlias; and February 22 will tell us about keeping our water gardens free of invasives. Members should receive an email on these webinars...and members will just need to register.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Kathy, Ruth and Linda

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
<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>

Gently remove heavy snow from branches

Heavy snow can weigh down and break branches, especially on evergreens like arborvitae, cypress, junipers and yews. To remove snow, gently brush off or shake off the snow by hand or use a long-handled broom or snow shovel to reach higher branches.

If a branch remains bent or curved, let it “bounce back” on its own. Avoid pulling off ice or snow frozen to branches as doing so may cause damage to the branches and foliage. Let them thaw naturally. When possible, remove any broken branches with a sharp, clean pruner, lopper or tree saw.

Answer to What am I?

By Jane Kuhn



I am a common bleeding heart. Family: Fumariaceae. Taxon: *Dicentra spectabilis*. Common: common bleeding heart. The outstanding characteristic of bleeding hearts is no doubt the shape of the flowers. As the plants' common name suggests, bleeding hearts bear heart-shaped flowers, from which a little drop of "blood" dangles at the bottom. It has had other interesting folk names including lady's locket, lyre flower, tearing hearts, our-lady-in-a-boat, and Chinese plants.

References: USDA Plants Database and associated links

Make-Ahead Buffet Shrimp Casserole

From Church Socials by Barbara Greenman 2008
Recipe contributed from Christ Episcopal Church,
Charlotte, North Carolina

12 to 15 slices firm white bread, crusts removed, divided
3 lbs. cooked shrimp, peeled, divided
4 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese, divided
½ cup butter, melted
6 eggs, beaten
Salt and pepper
1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 quart milk

(Notes from me: I also added 1 teaspoon of an Old Bay type seasoning. I had large shrimp so I cut them into halves or thirds...smaller shrimp (not as small as salad size) would work great. Be sure and use a large enough pan...mine bubbled over and left a mess in my oven!)

1. Break bread into small pieces. Line the bottom of a greased 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish with bread, using about half of it.
2. Layer half the shrimp and half of the cheddar cheese in baking dish. Repeat the bread, shrimp, and cheese layers. Drizzle with melted butter.
3. Beat eggs. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Whisk in mustard (and Old Bay) and milk. Pour over shrimp, cover with foil, and let stand in refrigerator at least 3 hours or overnight.
4. Preheat oven to 350°F. Bake casserole for 1 hour or until hot. Remove foil and continue baking until browned and bubbly, 10 – 15 minutes more. Makes 12 servings.

Thank you Susan Forbes for the recipe! Everyone raved about it at the Social!

Continuing Education Opportunities

By Linda Werner

Feb. 10-12: WPT Garden Expo, Madison

10 Tips for Growing Better Dahlias, Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 p.m. Free. Sponsored by Longfield Gardens. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yRsPetopS5mYt_K3g2TnyA

Grow Beautiful Water Gardens Free of Invasive Plants, Wednesday, February 22, 6:30 p.m. Free. Sponsored by UW Extension. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tbxB-OaeQIOttSnaGxCz3A

Go to the UW-Extension Hort Calendar at: <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/calendar/> It lists all of the upcoming webinars including the winter vegetable series that starts in January as well as other topics going into spring and summer.

Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m. "Indoor Container Garden Design & Display Ideas" webinar with Melinda Myers

Elevate your indoor garden with striking and seasonal indoor container combinations. We plan and plant outdoor containers to maximize their beauty and often overlook the opportunity to do the same with our houseplants. Designing and care of terrariums, dish gardens and other container combinations will be covered. Then we'll explore ways to display them to maximize their visual appeal and longevity.

This webinar is free, but registration is required.

[Register here](#)

Brought to you by: [Summit Responsible Solutions](#)

Feb. 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m. "10 Tips for Growing Better Dahlias" webinar with Melinda Myers

Take the mystery out of growing dahlias with these ten tips. Increasing growing success and flowering starts with proper planting. Follow this with staking, pinching, pruning and routine flower care for beautiful blooms to enjoy in the garden and bouquets. Dahlias require a little more time and attention than many other flowering plants, but your efforts will be rewarded with a bounty of beautiful blooms and a sense of accomplishment. This webinar is free, but registration is required.

[Register here](#)

Feb. 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m. "Grow Beautiful Water Gardens Free of Invasive Plants" with Melinda Myers

Don't let their beauty fool you. Aquatic invasive plants escape our gardens and landscapes invading natural spaces, disrupting habitat and diminishing water quality. Some of these plants were added in the past before we became aware of their invasive nature and negative impact on the environment. Others are being sold illegally online and purchased by unsuspecting gardeners. Learn to identify the top aquatic invasive plants and ways to manage the problem in your garden and nearby natural spaces. This webinar is free, but registration is required.

[Register here](#)

**2023 Garden and Landscape Expo
Madison, February 10-12, Alliant Center
Approved Workshop List for Educational Credit**

Allowed for Friday:

Perennial Garden Design
Growing Rhubarb and Asparagus
Tree and Shrub Pruning in Wisconsin
New and Emerging Plant Diseases
Wildlife Damage, Tips, tools techniques
Growing your own cut flower bouquet
Donuts or Volcanoes (Mulching)
Attracting Eastern Bluebirds
Bearded Iris Primer
Inside Look at Olbrich Gardens bug scouts
Companion Planting
Pre-Vegetated Blankets

Allowed for Saturday:

A Guide to Pollinator Awareness
Garden Talk with Larry Meiller/Lisa Johnson/Brian Hudelson
Bearded Iris Troubles
Hydrangeas Demystified
Salvias, Hidden Treasures
The "Art in Garden Design" (our own Sheila Glaske from the Paine!!)
Tips and Tricks for Herbs
Common Landscaping Mistakes
Wi-Bee
Learn When and How to properly Dig and divide Peonies
Vegetable Seed Germination
Seed Saving for Novices
A Calendar of Perennial Garden Care
Cheap tricks Gardening
Navigating People and Plant Places
Vegetable Diseases
Vertical Agriculture
Learn how to create new varieties of Peonies
Using Environmentally Friendly growing containers
Intro to Bonsai

Allowed For Sunday:

Bees, Birds, Bats and Butterflies
Winter Sowing
Fragrant Plants for Gardens and Containers
Gardening for Hummingbirds
Growing Raspberries in Wisconsin
Growing Healthy Plants

January Social, Jan. 24, 2023, Father Carr's Place

A fun time was had at our first Social at Father Carr's Place 2B! The planning committee of Susan Forbes, Mary Wiedenmeier, and Sandy Dennis did an outstanding job finding the location, getting the wonderful door prizes and planning a fun time for the group! Thank you!

Top photo: Bob Potter, Jolinda Potter and Jane Kuhn

Bottom Left: Debra Butch

Bottom Right: Sandy Dennis, Mary Wiedenmeier

White Elephant gifts, and mingling among friends



Left Photo: Sue Egner & Vicki Daniels

Middle Photo: Susan giving us the run down for the evening

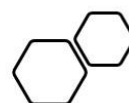
Right Photo: Jim Boehm, Exec. Dir. Father Carr's Place 2B



Left photo: Susan Forbes, Linda Baeten, Mary Wiedenmeier

Middle: Listening intently

Right photo: Door Prize Sign Up Tom Weber, Jerry Schaefer and guests



Left photo: Donna Kudlas and Bob Potter

Middle photo: Deb Voyles filling in for the missing team

Right photo: Kathy Procknow and Debra Butch



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, jkeltesch@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 Jerry Schaefer

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	For more information: Contact Deb Butch
Houses of Worship	
First Presbyterian Church 110 Church Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information Contact Sue Egner	Sue Egner
St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church 830 S Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904 Volunteer Information: Contact Cindy Meszaros Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Cindy Meszaros



Upcoming Dates:

- **Advisory Board Mtg.:** Feb. 7, 6 PM, Coughlin Ctr.
- **March Meeting:** March 14, 2023, 6 PM, Coughlin Ctr.,
Paul Whitaker speaker
- **Summer Picnic:** June 6, Coughlin Center, 5:30
Gathering, 6:00 Dinner More info to come!

February 2023						
Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Advisory Brd Mtg. 6 PM	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

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