



WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

www.winnebagomastergardeners.org

1-920-232-1986

JUNE 2008

COMMITTEES

Education and Trips	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Event Planning	
Kathy Daniels	233-0410
Mary Wiedenmeier	426-0991
Historian	
Dawn Kent	410-8866
Membership	
Chris Bellin	233-4968
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Newsletter	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Jean Reed	729-9012
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Bruce Abraham	231-3747
Refreshment Committee	
Linda Loker	
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
SOP & Bylaw Committee	
Stan Meyer	725-6486
Sunshine	
Liz Ginke	722-8140
Hours & Time Keeper	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Shelley Aaholm	731-8570
Home & Garden Shows	
Joni Pagel	233-6619
Cindy Meszaros	233-3550

SANCTIONED CORE PROJECTS

Community Education

OPEN

Community Gardens	
Ruth Freye	734-5978
Education and Control of Invasive Species	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Farmers Market	
Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Octagon House	
Jerry Robak	722-3311
Paine Gardens	
Bob Potter	233-3349
Park View Cutting Garden	
Bill Weber	231-2936
Park View Vegetable Garden	
Sue Steinhilber	235-1031
Al & Judy Harms	688-5523
Park View Flower Arranging	
Pat Behm	410-3290
Plant Health Advisors @ UWEX	
Curt Reese	426-4992

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Wiedenmeier (PRES)	426-0991
Kathy Daniels (PRES)	233-0410
Susan Bohn (V.P.)	685-0427
Linda Werner (SEC.)	725-8168
Alice Graf (TRES.)	203-8252
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Marge Bolding	233-8668
Stanley Meyer	725-6486
Ken Hawk	426-1691
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Bob Potter	233-3349

**Business Meeting / Picnic
June 10, 2008 @ 6:15 PM
Park View Pavilion**

JUNE – PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

The calendar says it's spring, but May certainly didn't feel like it. Hopefully June will bring us warmer weather with the Summer Solstice on June 21st. A BIG thank you to Bob and Jolinda Potter and also to Marge Bolding for hosting the May 13th garden walks. We were fortunate that both the rain and lake flies did not show up. I hope all of you saw the picture of Bob and read the article about Bob & Marge in the May 11th Oshkosh Northwestern. Nice press! Linda Toby will be hosting the June 17th garden walk.

As you will note in the May Board Minutes, we approved the Octagon House located in Neenah as a sanctioned project. The Neenah Historical Society owns the house and they are looking for help restoring the gardens to their original state. Thank you to Jerry Robak for volunteering to be the Lead for this project. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jerry. Any hours spent on this project will count toward your required volunteer hours.

We are still in need of a person or persons to lead or co-lead our Community Education Project. This is a very critical project since one of our main purposes is to provide horticultural education for our community. We have had to pass up several community events because we don't have anyone willing to lead. Please consider serving our organization in this important role. We have recently been invited to have a booth and/or give a presentation at the Living Green Wisconsin Expo at the Sunnyview Expo Center on September 6th & 7th. This could be a great opportunity for us to provide community education and recruit new members. However, we will have to pass if we don't have a lead.

Remember the WCMGA picnic on June 10th at the gazebo at Parkview. If you haven't already signed up, please contact Mary or Kathy. Just bring a dish to pass, we'll provide chicken, hamburgers, beverages and tableware. Also bring a plant to swap if you wish. The picnic will be held indoors in case of rain. Hope to see all there.

Happy gardening,

Mary & Kathy

NICK'S NOTES

Master Food Preserver Training
At the first Association meeting I attended, I mentioned some counties also have Master Food Preservers, which seemed to spark an enthusiastic response by some. This training is similar to Master Gardener Volunteer training in the sense the goal is to build a core group of people who become skilled in food preservation and are willing to provide community education. Outagamie County Extension is hosting Master Food Preserver Training on July 8, 9, and 10th in Kimberly. When I worked in Clark County, UW Extension, Master Gardener Volunteers, and Master Food Preserver Volunteers teamed up to present short classes taking the audience from growing produce, to preserving, to meal preparation. They were well attended and enjoyable. Master Food Preserver Training is open to anyone who has a background in food preservation and is interested in learning more and is also willing to provide 20 hours of volunteer service over a three-year period. Barbara Ingham, UW Food Science Specialist, will present the series. Some of the topics include food safety, freezing, drying, canning, pickling and more. There is a \$50 fee. Registration deadline is June 9th, however, space may be limited so it is best to contact Outagamie County Extension soon. The phone number is (920) 832-5121.

Nick Schneider, Winnebago County Agriculture Agent



Editor's Corner



Here is just a little reminder from your Editorial Staff. Please remember your cameras when taking a drive or a vacation. We would all love to see that special picture you ran into or the shot of the wonderful garden you saw. Please just send us a jpeg of that picture or for those of you who do not have a digital camera just send Linda the snap shot. She will scan it and send back your original.

Word pictures are also wonderful things. Please don't be afraid to write a little bite about your trip. You can send it with your pictures or an article by itself. It is wonderful for those of us unable to travel this year to go with you vicariously.

Thanks for sharing
Linda & Jean

Master Gardener Board Meeting

May 6, 2008

Coughlin Center, 6 p.m.

Members present: Kathy Daniels, Bob Potter, Ken Hawk, Linda Werner, Mary Wiedenmeier, Alice Graf, Stan Meyer, Marge Bolding, Linda Tobey, Sue Bohn, Roy Anne Moulton, Nick Schneider, Ruth Freye, Jerry Robak, Jean Reed, Ann Ross, Larry Godlewski (Habitat for Humanity)

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the MG checking account on April 30, 2008 was \$8,531.20. The total of all accounts was \$13,782.66. April expenses totaled \$1,057.82 and income \$1,056. The report was approved.

Secretary's Report

There were no additions or corrections to the March board minutes as published in the newsletter, and the report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

June Picnic

The annual MG picnic will be on June 10 at Park View. 40 reservations have been received so far.

MG Recognition

An April 26 letter to the editor of the *Oshkosh Northwestern* thanked MG volunteers for the work at Lincoln School in Oshkosh.

NEW BUSINESS

Octagon House Project

Linda Tobey requested approval of a new sanctioned project at the Octagon House in Neenah. It is a restored home owned by the Neenah Historical Society. The Society has asked MG to landscape the yard as it was in the 1880's. The first part of the project will be to research that era in Neenah and then create a plan. There are some early photos of the house that will be helpful. Former MG, Anne Ross, is the granddaughter of the last owner of the home and will assist with the landscape design. Some planting may be done in the fall. Jerry Robak, Jean Reed and several other MG's are also interested in the project. Linda Werner made a motion to approve the Octagon House as a core project. Bob Potter seconded the motion and it was approved. No funding was requested.

Project Applications

Sue Bohn reviewed Linda Baeten's request for approval of an individual project that would involve helping an individual design a garden and educating him about garden maintenance and design. No funding is needed and the project would only involve a few hours. Linda Tobey made a motion to approve the project. Stan Meyer seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Mary Wiedenmeier and Kathy Daniels were asked by the Unified Catholic Schools to improve a courtyard green space at Lourdes High School, Oshkosh. They will work with students and instruct them how to care for the

area and transition to more organic gardens. The school will purchase any new plant material that is needed. Alice Graf made a motion to approve the project. Linda Tobey seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ruth Freye and Gary Ludlewski from Habitat for Humanity gave a presentation to the board to determine MG interest in helping to landscape new Habitat homes. Gary said he had been a MG in Wausau as well as director of Habitat for Humanity and the two groups had a close working relationship. The local organization builds homes in Winnebago, Outagamie and Calumet counties. Winnebago County MG's would only be asked to work on homes within this county. Seven will be built in 2008. Gary proposed coming up with a standard landscape package for new homes, which would include basic gardening tools, mulch, and some funds for plants, etc. at a cost of about \$400. The role of MG would be to cover the cost of the landscape package, help the family do a plan, get the plants, plant them and educate the family about maintenance. Currently, Habitat just seeds a lawn. Nothing would be done on the current seven homes until next year when the ground has settled. Gary also said a lot of plant material would be available from donations of unneeded shrubs and divided perennials. In Wausau, Habit had a plant procurement committee. The time involved would be about 10 hours per home the first year and then a few hours each following year. One or two volunteers would be needed for each home. The Board was favorable to the project and Gary will complete a project request form to submit to MG for consideration as a core project.

Sue Bohn reviewed project funding requests for the Park View vegetable garden (\$160) and the Park View cutting garden (\$500). Linda Werner made a motion to approve the requests. Alice Graf seconded the motion, and it was approved.

An individual project request to continue landscape work at the Pickett Community Center was also presented. Marge Bolding

made a motion to approve the request. Linda Tobey seconded the motion and it passed.

Sue said a total of \$1,745 has been allocated for projects so far out of a budget of \$2,000. Project applications have not yet been submitted for Park View flower arranging, the Paine Gardens, community gardens or Nature's Way. There is currently no lead for Nature's Way and problems have arisen for the City of Menasha that is delaying work. It was decided to take Nature's Way off of the sanctioned project list for now.

Advisor Report

Nick Schneider requested that MG cover the cost of lunch for the eight MG's who will be attending plant health advisor training in Wausau this month—Total cost \$64. Sue made a motion to approve the request. Bob Potter seconded the motion and it was approved. Nick is working with the community gardens and about 70 to 75 people have enrolled. He will be planting cover crops in the unused plots as a demonstration project. MG will not be doing any other activities at the gardens this year. Brochures on the fall training will be handed out at the Paine event on May 17 and at the summer farmer's market in Oshkosh. Nick plans to cap the class at 60 participants.

Committee Reports

Education Committee: The vermiculture tour was excellent, and enough people signed-up for the plant buying trip to cover the cost of the bus.

Newsletter: Linda Tobey has been receiving a lot of good articles. She likes to get the finished newsletter into the Extension office by the 22nd of the month.

Paine Event: Everything is ready to go. Enough volunteers have signed up to cover all of the time slots.

Garden Walks: The MG garden walk on May 13 will begin at Marge Bolding's home and then move to Bob Potter's. Marge and Bob will provide refreshments. The *Oshkosh Northwestern* has interviewed both of them and will be running a

story with photos. The next garden walk will be on June 17 at the home of Linda Tobey in Menasha.

Misc.

Invitation: Sterling Gardens has invited MG's to attend a special evening on May 20 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Each MG may bring a container and Sterling Gardens will fill it, charging only the cost of the plants.

Worm Castings: The worm castings are almost gone. This has been a significant source of income for MG. The Board agreed to continue the project. Arlene Kosanke will be asked to contact the appropriate individual at the Oshkosh Correctional Institute. A truck will probably be needed to pick-up the barrels and take them to a site for packaging. Nick suggested doing it in a garage at the Extension, as that is where the barrel lifter is stored. The Paine is also using worm castings. Bob Potter will see if they got it already broken down into smaller bags and what the cost difference is between bags and barrels.

Chicago Botanical Gardens: Marge Bolding announced that there are still openings for a bus trip to the Chicago Botanical Gardens sponsored by Living In Retirement (LIR). The cost is \$109 including a box lunch and dinner.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by
Linda Werner
Secretary



**The true gardener, like a true artists,
is never satisfied.** H. E. Bates

“What Am I?” by Bruce Abraham

I am a native, perennial Wisconsin plant of the Family **Ranunculaceae** (Buttercup Family); Genus **Aquilegia**. My habitats vary among prairie; savannah; pine barrens; cliff; and the following forest types: boreal, beech, northern upland; southern upland and lowland. My height is between 1' – 3' on a stout main stalk with multiple branching. My green leaves at the base are about 1" long, oval in shape with three rounded lobes. I also have similar leaves on my stalks – both alternate and basal. I flower from May through July with a 1" – 2" long nodding flower – five tubular red petals with spurs pointing upward and yellow lips. My flower is attractive to long-tongued nectar feeders such as hummingbirds and hawk moths. Later, I develop five erect, long-beaked fruits as dry pods that house numerous, shiny black seeds. These seeds are key to my survival as I am a short-lived plant but self-sow freely. Native Americans used infusions from different parts of me to treat heart trouble and fever as well as a wash for poison ivy. What Am I?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NEW ! NEW ! NEW ! NEW !

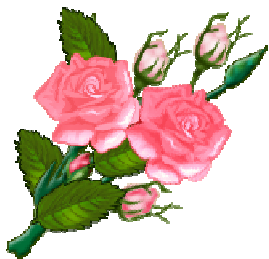
THE OCTAGON HOUSE PROJECT

The Octagon house is a new project in Neenah. We have been asked by the Neenah Historical Society to design and install gardens in the 1880's style at the Octagon House located in the 300 block of Smith Street in Neenah.

If you are interested in getting on board contact the project lead, Jerry Robak 722-3311 or email him at jrobak@athenet.net



FLOWER OF THE MONTH



Rose

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A **rose** is a flowering shrub of the genus *Rosa*, and the flower of this shrub.[1][2] There are more than a hundred species of wild roses, all from the northern hemisphere and mostly from temperate regions. The species form a group of generally prickly shrubs or climbers, and sometimes trailing plants, reaching 2-5 meters tall, occasionally reaching as high as 20 meters by climbing over other plants. [3] Roses are subject to several diseases. The most **serious** is rose rust (*Phragmidium mucronatum*), a species of rust fungus, which can defoliate the plant. More common, though less debilitating, are rose black spot, caused by the fungus *Diplocarpon rosae*, which makes circular black spots on the leaves in summer, and powdery mildew, caused by *Sphaerotheca pannosa*. Fungal diseases are best solved by a preventative fungicidal spray program rather than by trying to cure an infection after it is visible. After the disease is visible, its spread can be minimized through pruning and use of fungicides although actual infection cannot be reversed. Some rose varieties are considerably less susceptible than others to fungal disease.

The main insect pest affecting roses is the aphid (greenfly), which sucks the sap and weakens the plant. Ladybirds are a predator of aphids and should be encouraged in the rose garden. Spraying with insecticide is often recommended but should be done with care to minimize loss of beneficial insects. Roses are also used as food plants by the larvae of some Lepidoptera (butterfly and moth) species; see list of Lepidoptera that feed on roses.

Master Gardener of the Month

Treasurer – Alice Graff

I am also a native of Oshkosh where I reside with my husband of 37 years, Tom. We have a daughter, a son and a beautiful six-year-old granddaughter who all reside in Oshkosh. I am an Administrative Assistant for the Oshkosh Area School District and, since July, have been the assistant to the principal at Oshkosh West High School.

We have lived in our home, in Oshkosh, for the past 21 years and when we purchased the house, there was minimal landscaping around the house. I was fortunate to have a couple of very good friends that enjoyed gardening and through them, I also developed the interest. We began with clearing the west side of our lot of all the junk shrubs that had been there for many years. Through the years, I have developed this area into hosta gardens and at one time, I had over 130 varieties of this plant. I have taken 2 landscaping classes at FVTC and with the first class, designed and developed the north end of our lot with a variety of perennials including black eyed susans, prairie coneflowers and many variety of day lilies. At the present time, I am in the process of clearing this area and starting over with the hope of converting it to a more low maintenance area. The other section of my garden, thanks to the birds, has had a problem with thistle and it's been a major battle trying to get rid of them. Then, last summer I had a case of carpel tunnel and wasn't able to do very much in my gardens so this summer they are getting some much needed attention.

I was just certified last year as a Master Gardener. I have enjoyed getting involved with this organization and meeting many of you through a variety of events.



PAINE'S ANNUAL "BIG DIG" AND BULB SALE

The Paine's annual spring showcase featured more than 7,000 blooming tulips, daffodils, hyacinth and other spring bulbs this season. And, each year staff and volunteers pull the bulbs at the annual "Big Dig" and bag the bulbs for resale. Master gardeners and volunteers are invited to help dig up the bulbs on June 2 and 3 anytime between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm. The bulbs will then be sold in bags of 20 for \$8 while supplies last on June 4, 5 and 6 at the mansion front desk during regular museum hours of 11 am to 4 pm.

The Paine is located at 1410 Algoma Blvd. in Oshkosh. For more information please call the Paine's Curator of Horticulture, Sheila Glaske, at (920) 235-6903 ext. 39.

Many thanks for your support and assistance in promoting the Paine's activities.



Warmly,

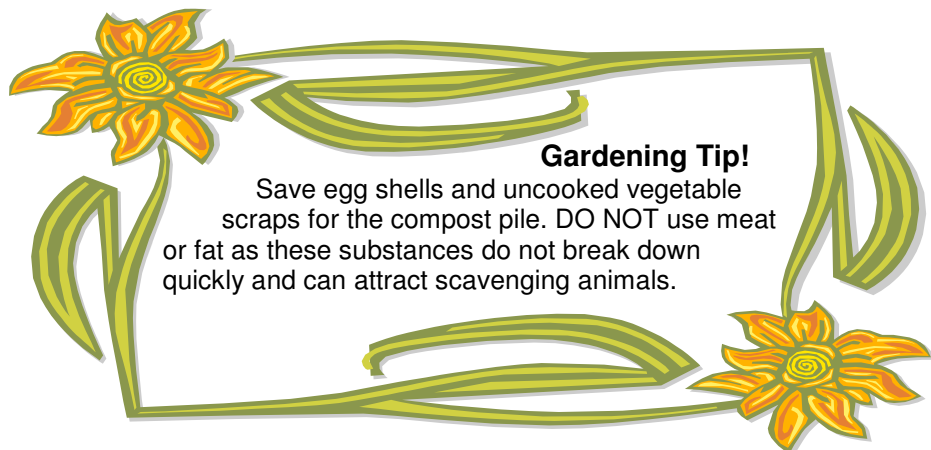
Jessica Palm

*Marketing and Development Manager
Paine Art Center and Gardens
920.235.6903 ext. 25*

Paine Festival of Spring

Once again the WCMGV staffed a booth at the Paine Festival of Spring held on Saturday May 17th. We had a nice location to set up our canopy and informational materials thanks to the generosity of the Paine which provided the location free of charge. In spite of forecast rainy conditions earlier in the week it was a beautiful but blustery day. MGV answered questions about plants, bugs, gardening, the MG program, and sold cookbooks and worm castings. Cookbook sales were slow but we sold all the worm castings we had. There were a lot of inquiries about the MG training and certification program. There was a lot of "garden talk" amongst us and with the visitors to the event, an opportunity to walk through the plant sale area and vendor's booths area, and enjoy the food and entertainment. I couldn't help but notice the substantial number of MGV helping with the Paine plant sale as well as MGV visitors to the event. A lot of factors contributed to the success of this MGV activity, most significantly the MG volunteers who helped set up, staffed the booth, and helped take down the equipment. They include Mary Wiedenmeir, Linda Loker, Andie Krueger, Pat Rockow, Steve Schueler, Betty Kuen, Cindy Meszaros, Pat Behm, Sandra Golliler and Linda Baeten. A big thank you to those volunteers for their efforts. A special thanks to Bob and Arlene Kosanke for their efforts as co-chairs for the event.

Ken Hawk, co-chair Paine Festival of Spring
WCMGV booth



Gardening Tip!

Save egg shells and uncooked vegetable scraps for the compost pile. DO NOT use meat or fat as these substances do not break down quickly and can attract scavenging animals.

SANCTIONED PROJECT OF THE MONTH



Plant Health Advisors

Plant Health Advisors at the UW Extension respond to inquiries from the Winnebago area community. These inquiries may come via email, phone at the Extension office, by outreach at events such as the Farmers Market, County Fair, Paine, etc., or by walk-ins to the office.

Our goals are to have volunteers in the office on a regular basis so that persons in the community may call and speak to a MG and to respond to all inquiries within one week. We also are striving to have inquiry logs completed at all public events at which WCMGA is represented. Currently we have volunteers scheduled for Tuesday mornings from 10 am to noon. We check voice mail then and toward the end of each week to ensure that we respond promptly. A full log is completed for each of these calls and kept on file. An event log sheet is available for all events to record the number of inquiries and also the subject(s).

Calls left on voice mail may also be answered from the office at other times during the work week. Volunteers may even work after normal office hours by arranging to do so with our advisor, Nick. Voice mail calls may also be picked up at home and answered. In any case a call log form would be filled out.

Volunteers have the opportunity to attend an organizational meeting each year for input and training. They will also have the opportunity for annual training by extension professionals. New volunteers will have the opportunity to work with experienced volunteers as they start.

Tools provided to aid in answering the inquiries include use of the MG office in the extension office. The office has a small library of

horticultural books as well as a personal computer hooked to the internet. It obviously also has a phone available for responding to inquiries as well as for picking up the voice mail calls. If answers to inquiries can't be found through research, our advisor and/or the extension professionals in Madison may be accessed for advice.

Those of us that have volunteered have found the experience very rewarding in that the inquirer is thankful and we have learned a great deal. Generally the people calling in (our customers) are fun to talk with and are genuinely interested in horticulture. Also, an occasional funny question is asked such as "How do I get a skunk out of my live trap."

Shoreline Expo

I am pleased to announce that at the 2nd Annual Natural Shoreline Expo [to be held May 31, 2008 from 9-5 at Sunnyview Expo Center (500 E. County Rd Y, Oshkosh, WI)] we will have the following:

A NATIVE PLANT SALE (nurseries confirmed to attend are Prairie Nursery, Marshland Transplant, Kester's, and private vendors; Plant seed (including prairie seed) will also be available from exhibitors;

SPEAKER: Jennifer Baker, Prairie Nursery on "Landscaping with Native Plants - A Carefree Choice"; SPEAKER: John Gishnock, formecology, on "How to Design, Build, and Care for Rain Gardens";

Also SPEAKERS William Mueller, Conservation Chair for Wise. Society of Ornithology on bird habitat; and Dan & Kim Dieck on "Yard Care"; And information, resources, and the experts available to answer your questions.

More information is available at www.wc1wcd.org/exp02008.htm

THANK YOU!!

Keith Marquardt

Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Dept.

Ph 920/232-1957

The Language of Flowers

Since the beginning of time, flowers have been used to express human emotions. They have been found in Neanderthal graves and have been an important part of many cultures and religions through out the world. However, the **Language of Flowers** reached its climax in Victorian England - "flower readers" commanded a high price for their knowledgeable interpretation of the 'meanings' of flower bouquets sent between friends, enemies, and lovers.

The following list has been compiled from several leading sources. Note though that there are variations according to culture, region, faith, or decade. Most importantly, we miss the 'flower readers' - you may send a message that is either not understood or perhaps might be misconstrued! So have fun with the following list but, regardless of the varieties, remember: **"with a gift of flowers, the feeling never ends"**.

Acacia - Friendship
Allium - Unity, humility, patience
Amaryllis - Pride, splendid beauty
Aster - Love, daintiness
Bells Of Ireland - Good luck
Calla Lily - Magnificent beauty
Carnation - Fascination
Chrysanthemum - Cheerfulness
Daffodil - Regard
Daisy - Innocence
Freesia - Innocence
Gladiolus - Strength of character
Heather - Admiration
Iris - Wisdom
Ivy - Fidelity
Larkspur - Lightness, levity
Lavender - Distrust
Narcissus - Egotism
Orchid - Love, refinement
Snapdragon - Presumption
Star of Bethlehem - Purity
Statice - Remembrance
Stock - Lasting Beauty
Sunflower - Adoration
Tulip - Fame
Wheat - Friendliness, riches

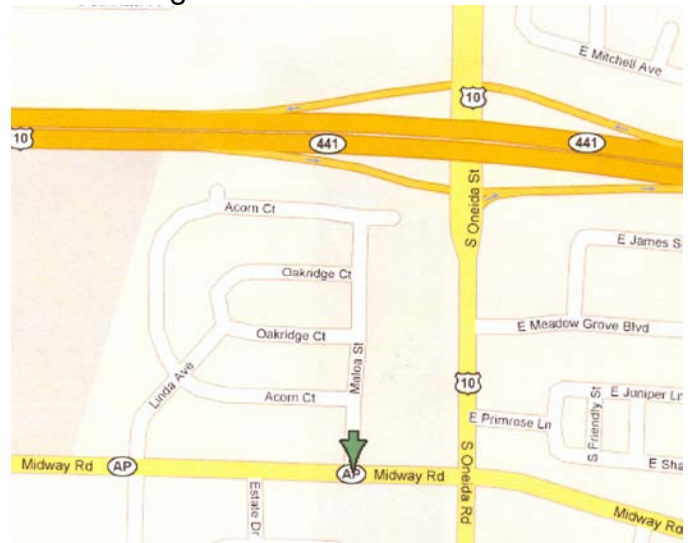


JUNE GARDEN WALK

June's Garden Walk will be at the home of Linda Tobey. Linda has several beds. Among them is the fairy garden. As you walk the pathways you may even spot one or two of the fairies at work or play. There are also hosta beds and a 10 x 20 iris and daylily garden among others.

Come Tuesday, June 17 from 6:00 to 7:30 to see the gardens and visit with friends. If you find a weed feel free to pull it.

The address is 1800 Midway Rd. Menasha. The house is on the corner of Midway Rd. & Maloa St. Please park on Maloa Street as Midway is very busy. The front and back driveways are fine to park in also, just park so others can get out.



ADDRESS & PHONE CHANGES

We know there is always a lot to do when one moves, however, please don't forget to let us know. We can not get your newsletter to you or let you know about important happenings if you fail to let us know you moved, changed phone numbers or emails.

Simply send a note or email to Linda Tobey linda@americanpresstech.com or Chris Bellin cbellin@new.rr.com and we will update your information. Our contact inform is also in your membership booklet.

JUNE GARDEN TASKS

Houseplants, Perennials and Annuals

- Week 1. Remove faded / dead blooms from Lilacs and prune shrubs. Spread agricultural lime around base of shrubs and lightly rake into soil.
- After flowers from Delphiniums have faded, cut the stalks back to 12". When new growth emerges cut the old stalks back to 4" from the ground.
- As soon as ground is warm enough plant Glad corms.
- Plant Nasturtiums around roses to help keep them aphid free.
- Week 2. Hardy mums should have tips pinched back for the first time.
- Stake plants such as tree roses, lantana, heliotrope before they get to big.
- Begin to water Cedars.
- Week 3. To avoid unwanted seedlings and to produce late summer blooms, cut back or shear early flowering perennials such as aubretia; Arabis; and Lamium
- Primula and Dwarf Iris should be divided immediately after blooms fade.
- Week 4. Plant perennial seeds outdoors and keep moist.
- Keep pinching new growth on Hardy Mums until end of July.
- Enjoy!!!

Paine Festival of Spring

Once again the WCMGV staffed a booth at the Paine Festival of Spring held on Saturday May 17th. We had a nice location to set up our canopy and informational materials thanks to the generosity of the Paine which provided the location free of charge. In spite of forecast rainy conditions earlier in the week it was a beautiful but blustery day. MGV answered questions about plants, bugs, gardening, the MGV program, and sold cookbooks and worm castings. Cookbook sales were slow but we sold all the worm castings we had. There were a lot of inquiries about the MG training and certification program. There was a lot of "garden talk" amongst ourselves and with the

visitors to the event, an opportunity to walk through the plant sale area and vendor's booths area, and enjoy the food and entertainment. I couldn't help but notice the substantial number of MGV helping with the Paine plant sale as well as MGV visitors to the event.

A lot of factors contributed to the success of this MGV activity, most significantly the MG volunteers who helped set up, staffed the booth, and helped take down the equipment. They include Mary Wiedenmeier, Linda Loker, Andie Krueger, Pat Rockow, Steve Schueler, Betty Kuen, Cindy Meszaros, Pat Behm, Sandra Golliler and Linda Baeten. A big thank you to those volunteers for their efforts. A special thanks to Bob and Arlene Kosanke for their efforts as co-chairs for the event.

Ken Hawk, co-chair Paine Festival of Spring WCMGV booth

June Picnic

Our annual MG Picnic will be Tuesday June 10. Master Gardeners will furnish the meat and drinks. We do request everyone to bring a dish to pass. Please let Mary Wiedenmeier know you plan to attend. Feel free to bring family or special friends with you. Mary needs to know the amount of people coming with you to make sure enough meat is ordered. There will be a plant swap in conjunction with the picnic so bring your garden overflow along.

Gardening tip

Astilbes are not shade plants, although they are sold as such. They fail to flourish and flower as pictured when placed in shade, yet the vegetation burns up in the sun. Why? *Astilbes* prefer their roots constantly wet and heads constantly sunny for best display, conditions most home gardeners cannot achieve. Look to other options in the Midwest.

THE COMMUNITY THANKS YOU

MG volunteers make a difference at Lincoln School

I work at Lincoln Elementary School here in Oshkosh, and I wanted to share a wonderful story about our community.

On Monday morning, I looked out my office window and saw several women hard at work cleaning up the landscaping area around the Abe Lincoln sign in front of Lincoln School. I walked outside to meet the women and found out that they were members of Master Gardeners, a group of volunteers who raise funds and donate time for beautification projects, such as I the one they were working on at Lincoln.

It is so wonderful to live and work in a community where people truly make a difference. This landscaping project will make Lincoln School more inviting to our students and their families, the Lincoln staff and our visitors. The volunteers also have plans to extend the project to our student organization, Make A Difference, which involves fourth- and fifth-graders in school and community service projects.

These students have been invited to I help with flower planting and to learn about taking care of 'plants, which is an extension of the current science curriculum. On behalf of Lincoln School, I'd like (to thank the Master Gardeners volunteers 1 who are making a difference in our school (and our community!

Erin Kohl Oshkosh

**LET'S GIVE A BIG HAND FOR KAREN WEDDE,
JANET PRIEBE AND THEIR GROUP**



Thank you garlic mustard pullers!

We received the following letter from the Winnebago County Department of Parks and Recreation, which is the agency that oversees the Wiouwash Trail:

On behalf of the Winnebago County Parks Department, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for the time and effort you and your group put into extracting garlic mustard plants along the Wiouwash Trail. The time and effort these individuals dedicated to this arduous task will go a

long way towards helping diminish some of the problems we are experiencing with this noxious weed out on the trail.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert Way

Parks Director/Exposition Manager

Master Gardeners who pulled garlic mustard this year include: LAWANDA JUNGWIRTH, MARTY SACKSTEDER, DOROTHY BONNIN, RALPH GIESSEN, SANDY GIESSEN, KEN HAWK, AUDREY RUEDINGER, LINDA BAETEN and MARGE BOLDING. Also RON JUNGWIRTH.

We spent approximately 46 total hours pulling garlic mustard during the last week of April and first week of May, with an additional 5 hours on a follow-up pull the third week of May.

WHAT AM I Answer:

I am an erect, perennial forb/herb - **Aquilegia canadensis L.**; common name: wild columbine, Canadian columbine, red columbine

References: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/> and associated links



Odds and Ends

By Lawanda Jungwirth

Where did the term “green thumb” originate?

According to The Old Farmer’s Almanac it comes from one of two sources. One has its origin linked to the reign of King Edward I of England. He enjoyed green peas so much that he had a half dozen serfs working to keep him supplied with peas and offered a prize to the serf with the greenest thumb, presumably from hours of shelling. The other possibility from the Almanac is that the phrase comes from the fact that repeatedly handling clay pots encrusted with algae will stain a gardener’s thumb, and probably fingers, green. Paul James, of HGTV’s *Gardening By The Yard* says that it came from green fungus that grew under the thumbnails of gardeners of old. Eeeewwww!

What does “heeling in” mean? Heeling in is a technique you should use if you receive bare-root trees or shrubs by mail order and you are not able to plant them immediately. As soon as you receive the plants, remove their packaging and submerge the roots in a bucket of water for 3 – 6 hours. Dig an angled trench in the ground, deep and wide enough to accommodate the roots. Lay the roots in the angled trench and cover them with the removed soil. Water generously and keep the roots moist until you are ready to plant. Try to plant within five days.

What is side-dressing? Side dressing is a means of adding fertilizer after plants are growing. One way is to circle the plants with the fertilizer by digging a shallow trench around each plant and sprinkling the fertilizer in evenly and then covering it. This would be appropriate for plants like tomatoes. For row crops, dig a furrow and inch or two deep in a straight line next to the row of plants. Sprinkle the fertilizer in the trench and cover it with soil. For wide row plants such as strawberries, after fruiting use a string trimmer or lawn mower to cut the foliage from the plants. Sprinkle fertilizer among the plants to encourage quick new growth. Scratch the fertilizer in carefully with a rake and then water.

How does barley straw keep algae out of ponds? As far back as the Middle Ages it was recognized that by adding straw to wells, the water was cleaner and free of algae growth. It has since been noted that barley straw works best. What happens is that after the straw has been in the water for from two to eight weeks, it begins to decompose. The rate of decomposition is based on water temperature – the higher the temp, the faster the decomposition. At this point, materials in the cell walls of the barley are released into the water. If sufficient oxygen is available in the water, this material oxidizes into humic acid, which combines with sunlight to cause a low level of hydrogen peroxide to form. This activity appears to interfere with the growth of new algae cells. It has no effect on higher plants and there are no reports of harmful effects on invertebrates or fish. Bales of barley straw should be put in a pond in early spring before the growing season begins and again in fall. As new bales are added, it is a good idea to leave the old bale in place for a month or so to allow the “start-up” of the new straw. An 8-oz bale of barley straw will treat a 1,000 gallon pond



**HAPPY BEGINNING OF
SUMMER – JUNE 21**

Perma-Guard, Food Grade Diatomaceous Earth

Perma-Guard Food Grade Diatomaceous Earth is totally organic and safe. It contains less than 1% percent of Crystal & Silicon. Some of the uses for Diatomaceous Earth include; household pets, gardens, flower beds, field crops, grain storage, and livestock feeding. Diatomaceous Earth is Mother Nature's product with no harm to the environment, pets or to people. Diatomaceous Earth is not an earth, it is the fossilized remains of microscopic shells created by one celled plants called DIATOMS. Diatomaceous Earth kills by physical action, not chemical, by puncturing the insect's exoskeleton and absorbing its body fluids, thus posing no harm to warm-blooded life. Moreover, on any surface, these natural pesticide products have a remarkable repellency factor. As long as it is present, insects tend to stay away, making a serious infestation unlikely. Also, the more it is used, the more an environment is created that tends to make insects feel unwelcome.

Household:

Use Diatomaceous Earth for control of roaches, silverfish, ants, bedbugs, flies, fleas, box elder bugs, scorpions, crickets, and many others. Diatomaceous Earth can be used in and around the home, yard, animal housing, etc.

Pets:

Our best friends come in all shapes and sizes. Protect them with Diatomaceous Earth. When lightly rubbed into their coats it is very effective against fleas, ticks, lice, and other pests on pet dogs, cats, and their premises. It can also be used as an organic wormer and will kill any worms or parasites the pets may have. When using as a dewormer mix the Diatomaceous Earth into your pets food. Mix well into kibble and wet food. Ask your vet how much for your size pet.

Cats – 1 teaspoon/day

Kittens – ½ teaspoon/ day

Dogs – 100lbs+ -2 tablespoons/ day

50 – 100 lbs – 1 tablespoon/ day

under 50lbs – 2 teaspoons/ day

Minidogs – 1 teaspoon/ day

Plants:

For control of aphids, white fly, beetles, loopers, mites, leaf hoppers, and others. Use Diatomaceous Earth inside your home, greenhouse or outdoors on fruits, vegetables, flowers, grains and grass, up to

and including day of harvest. For dry application of Diatomaceous Earth use a **duster** and cover entire plant, apply to both top and bottom of leaf. For young plants, as little as two pounds per acre may be adequate. For larger plants, five lbs per acre is probably sufficient. Diatomaceous Earth will need reapplication after a rain. Applies best when there is dew or after a light rain. It is a long lasting, effective powder. The insects can not build up resistance.

Livestock:

All livestock, Horses, Cows, Pigs, Sheep, Goats, Rabbits, Chickens and others will benefit from the use of Diatomaceous Earth. It is completely safe and nontoxic. Some of the benefits are; Control of fleas and ticks, stimulates basic metabolism, converts feed better, reduces odor and moisture in barns and stalls, results in better coat and hoof condition, keeps fly larvae from developing in manure, noticeably reducing the fly population, reduces annual vet bills, controls worms and internal parasites without chemicals, better egg production, stronger eggs, and reduces overall animal stress. Diatomaceous Earth can be mixed right in with the animals feed. Cows/Horses get 1-2 oz per day, Sheep/Goats/Hogs get 1/2 oz per day, For Chickens and other livestock you need to weight the feed and add 2% of that weight in Diatomaceous Earth. Your livestock will also get the benefit of over 14 trace minerals that make up Diatomaceous Earth.

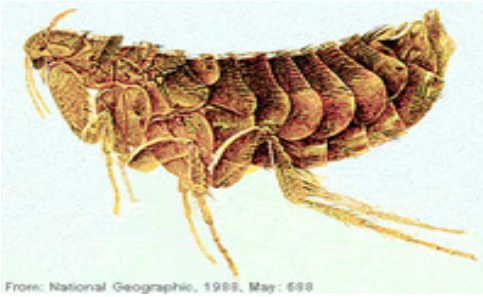
Stored Grain:

Just add 7-10 lbs. of Diatomaceous Earth to each ton of grain as it is conveyed into the storage. When added to grain, Diatomaceous Earth killed the bugs that were present, and protected the grain from further invasions.

Bugs could not become immune and they were killed by physical action, not chemical.

When using diatomaceous earth regularly and/or in large amounts, wear a dust mask, gloves and a good set of goggles.





PET & ANIMAL POWDER

Your best friends come in all shapes and sizes. Protect them with Perma-Guard! Effective against fleas, ticks, lice, and other pests on pet dogs, cats, their premises, and other warm-blooded animals subject to these parasites.

Perma-Guard Pet & Animal product is licensed to be used in and around the home, yard, animal housing, etc. It can be applied as a dry dust, or mixed with water at the rate of 2 oz. per quart and sprayed as a liquid.

When applying anything to your pet's skin or your own for that matter, it's always a good idea to try just a little in one area first, to make sure there's no adverse reaction to the product, be it a hand cream, powder, shampoo or soap. No matter how natural something is, everyone is different and can have allergic or just adverse reactions to things.

- **Dry Application**
 - Cover the affected area with Perma-Guard Pet & Animal Powder at the rate of 8 oz. to 16 oz. per 1,000 sq. ft.
- **Fleas, Ticks, and Lice**
 - Lightly work the material into the hair of the animal. Use brush or comb to work the material down to the skin. Pay strict attention to places where the animal cannot reach, such as the scalp. Dust the ears of the animal with care. Dust the animal's bedding and areas where the animal sleeps, as well as cracks and crevices adjacent to them. Repeat once a month or as necessary. Individual ticks observed on the animal should be dusted thoroughly.
- **Premise Application**
 - For animals confined to a specific area infested with fleas and ticks, dust the entire area with Perma-Guard Pet & Animal Powder.

- **Large Application Areas**
 - Use any hand application designed for the purpose of discharging powder. If using a small lawn fertilizer spreader, mix equal parts of dry sand with Perma-Guard Pet & Animal Powder for even flow. Dust thoroughly the first time and then periodically reapply as needed.
- **Wet Application**
 - Mix with water at the rate of 2 oz. per quart of water (one oz. is about 8 level teaspoons). To help keep it in suspension, add one teaspoon of mild detergent and agitate the sprayer now and then while applying.
- **Re-infestation**
 - Prevent re-infestation by keeping Perma-Guard Pet & Animal Powder in the pet or animal's coat as a repellent.

Special Notes: This stuff works very well and is non-toxic. However, it is a mineral dust and it's not something you want to breath in on a constant basis or in large amounts. Once you think you have the problem under control, you can vacuum up the dust and dead insects and throw away the bag or empty the canister of the vacuum cleaner. It'll clean out the vacuum cleaner too!

If you have a cronic problem with fleas, ticks and other pests, you can apply this material in a more permanent manner by doing the following. Apply it to the sills of the building and around the perimeter of the building, where people and animals don't go that often. These are entry areas for the bugs. They can live in the basement in cracks in the slab and in the sill area undisturbed. Diatomaceous Earth will make these areas uninhabitable over the long term.

You can drill holes in the walls of your house or building using a small drill bit and apply the Diatomaceous Earth, through the hole using a puffer bottle. Then, putty or spackle up the hole so the stuff is in there for good, killing any bug that tries to lay eggs or live in there.

Applying the Diatomaceous Earth by these methods will give you permanent protection and help keep the dust level down in the house and reduce undesirable, cronic, long-term exposure.

Puffer bottles and powder bottles are available on

our web site at <http://www.dirtworks.net>.

Fire Ant Treatment

Our Perma-Guard Household, Commercial or D-20 labels have information for treating fire ant-hills and beds. With different labels, the formulas all contain the main mechanical ingredient food grade Diatomaceous Earth. The D-20 formula was an added insecticide, Pyrethrin, a vegetable, digestible extract made from Chrysanthemum flowers and & Piperonyl Butoxide, a natural catalyst made from the Sassafras plant, used to enhance the effect of Pyrethrin and in so doing, reducing the amount of Pyrethrin in the product by as much as 90%. The products can be used as both a dry powder or mixed with water and a little detergent.

As a dry powder: Taking care not to be bitten, stir the surface of the nest. The ants will boil out by the hundreds. Liberally sprinkle the surface with the Perma-Guard. Every ant on the ground will be dead within fifteen minutes. This may or may not get the queen. If the ants resurface repeat the process. Come back in a little while to try to get more ants out of the nest if any survive.

As a wet mix powder: Mix 4 tablespoons of any Diatomaceous Earth with 1 tablespoon mild detergent and one gallon of water. Wet the ground with the mixture, in a circle around the nest and spiral towards the center. Pour slowly allowing it to saturate the soil and soak into the nest. The detergent allows the product to penetrate the nest better than with water alone. Repeat if necessary.

Treat with a pressure probe: Using the same mixture using a pressure probe or pump sprayer to inject the mixture into the ground. The purpose is to fill every chamber in the nest. Do this quickly so the workers won't have a chance to move the queen(s).

A pressure washer is also very effective at getting the product into even the hardest of grounds.

“Flowers are like human beings. They thrive on a little kindness.” Fred Streeter

The stream should be directed at intervals 18 inches around the center of the nest. Shooting at an angle towards the center of the nest 3 or 4 feet under ground will saturate the whole colony. Be sure to wear goggles for safety when using a power washer or sprayer.

The treatment can be repeated if necessary but extermination is almost assured, and the ants will not return. After all, the whole area above and below ground is saturated with Diatomaceous Earth. This is deadly to all ants but is particularly effective against fire ants. It is nice to know that ants and other insect pests can be controlled without the use of expensive and dangerous chemicals.

Wet or Dry? Sometimes it is simply quicker and easier to dust the powder around on the ground. In other situations the spray can get into cracks and seep into underground cavities. When mixing with water is is important to remember that the Diatomaceous Earth doesn't dissolve, so agitation is necessary for even distribution. In order to keep the product in suspension it is helpful to add 1 tablespoon of mild detergent per gallon. This also helps to carry the product into cracks that water alone won't take it.

The above information obtained from:



DIRT WORKS

6 Dog Team Rd.

New Haven, Vt. 05472-4000

<http://www.dirtworks.net>

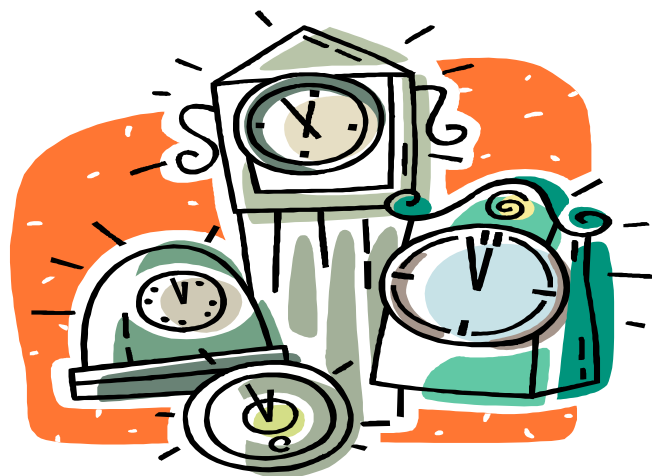
<http://www.newenglandnatural.com>

Ph: 802-453-5373

HOURS ANSWERS

1. **Hours are due into Shelley AAholm no later than August 31.**
2. The first thing to know about hours is that **EVERYONE MUST** work a minimum of 24 volunteer hours each year. Certified members **only** must also do a minimum of 10 hours of continuing education every year to keep up their certification.
3. Of the 24 volunteer hours you must work 10 hours on a sanctioned MG project before your Individual project hours will count. 5 of the remaining 14 hours **MUST BE** doing some type of Community Education. This can be done by working in the office as a Plant Health Care Advisor, working at the Farmers Market or any other event we are answering questions from the community. If you'd like you can also write an article for the newsletter or do a presentation to a group. If you are uncertain your selection will meet the requirement as any Board Member or email linda@americanpresstech.com
4. Now filling out the form itself. Fill in **all** of the heading blanks. You **MUST** have your **name, address and phone number clearly written on the top of the sheet.** We will not call everyone to see if the sheet without a name is yours. It is up to you to give us your information clearly and correctly.
5. We will not accept any form but our Winnebago County form. We also will not accept any form year but 2008. If you do not have one look back in your newsletters, go to the website and take it from there, or call Linda @ 734-2264 to get one.
6. To electronically fill in your hours simply highlight the 0.00 in the space you want to use and type in your amount. When you press enter your amount will appear in that space and also at the end of that row and totaled in the final totals areas. As you fill in each column your amounts will automatically be added and totaled. There is no math for you to do, just enter numbers.
7. If you are entering by hand you do not have to total your columns either. You can if you wish, but Shelley will read and re-add all of them. If there is an error you will be notified.
8. **DO NOT** write in the gray areas. We only need totals for the month. If you are unsure where to put some of your time enter it in the any other services, any other projects or any other Comm. Ed. Spaces.
9. Officer / Board is only for Officers and other Board members to record time spent on things related to being a Board member or Officer such as writing up minutes for the secretary and doing the spread sheet if you are the Treasurer.
10. If you have any questions about hours call Linda Tobey (920) 734-2264 or email linda@americanpresstech.com. All of your question will be answered.

I will be answering your hours questions in every issue until our September issue. Next issue will have another copy of the hours form in it if you didn't save it from a previous issue. You can also go to our website to get either the manual form to fill in or the electric one. If you have any questions Email me at linda@americanpresstech.com, write to me at 1800 Midway Rd. Menasha 54952, or call 734-2264 with your question. I will put the question and answer in the next issue. Just remember if you have the question so does someone else. Do both of you a favor and ask.



Garden Walks Revisited

May 13th brought us to the homes of Marge Bolding and Bob Potter. We began our experience with a visit with Marge and her Spring Ephemerals. She has almost every native From Jack-in-the-Pulpit to Trilliums and beyond. They were Wonderful to see with her front lawn dotted with woodland Violets. The picture just shouted **SPRING !!**



From There we entered her back and side yards. This was actually a step into a wooded glen. Marge was kind enough to point out many of the plants that were just coming up and not ready to flower for those of us unable to distinguish one plant from another without the flower head.



My only wish is to be invited back when her wooded glen is in bloom. Thank you Marge for a great experience.

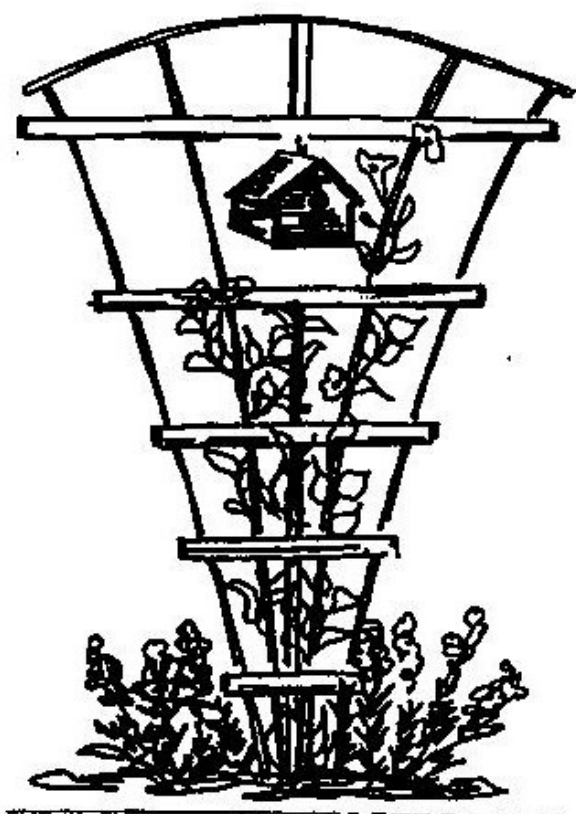
After leaving Marge's glen we went across the street to visit the Oasis of Bob and Jolinda Potter. Bob and Jolinda treated our eyes to a spectacle of plantings. It was amazing to me that they created such a beautiful spot.



Every area of
The the yard
Revealed a new
Treat to us.

**We Thank You
Both !!**





12th annual

GARDEN WALK

Saturday, July 12, 2008
9AM to 4 PM Rain or Shine

Admission \$10.00
**For safety reasons no children
under 10, strollers or pets**

Ivy League, Lake Shore and Town & Country Garden Clubs with the assistance of the Master Gardener Volunteers invite you to tour seven unique gardens.

- * **Country Garden** - W5616 Sumac Rd., Plymouth, WI 53073
- * **Country Treasures** - W3234 CTH PP, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
- * **Labor of Love** - 4001 Meadowbrook Ct., Sheboygan, WI 53081
- * **Wandering Brook Garden** - 4006 Meadowbrook Ct., Sheboygan, WI 53081
- * **Cottage Garden** - 4015 Meadowbrook Ct., Sheboygan, WI 53081
- * **Karen's Garden of Paradise** - 1532 Camelot Blvd., Sheboygan, WI 53081
- * **Garden of Paradise** - 3007 S. 19th St., Sheboygan, WI 53081

Tickets with maps will be available at the gardens the day of the walk.

Proceeds will be given to the Bookworm Garden Project at the UW Sheboygan. Any questions, please call RoseMarie at 920-452-3064, Barbara at 920-457-4243 or Katy at 920-893-6432.

**WE ALL MAKE THE WORLD
MORE LOVING, SAFER,
STRONGER AND ALL AROUND
BETTER WHEN WE
VOLUNTEER**



JUNE 2008

(THIS CALENDAR IS A HANDY WAY TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR HOURS)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 BOARD MEETING 6:00	4 PARK VIEW Volunteer lunch	5	6	7
8	9	10 MG BUSINESS MEETING/PICNIC	11	12	13	14
15 Fathers day 	16	17 GARDEN WALK Linda Tobey's	18	19	20	21 SUMMER BEGINS
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

This calendar is a perfect spot to keep track of your hours.