



Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service



Volume 20, Number 5

October-November 2014

Kathie's Notes

As president for the past three years I have focused on enhancing our social media, attendance in The Garden Door, enhancing the Youth Program and increasing the number and quality of social events. DCMGAbuzz was my way of sharing the bounty of e-mails that the president had to send out. Bill Freyman sends out his own Education Committee notices and Mike Van Ess sends out the many committee drafts and posts forms and research on the website. Doug handled all of the messages for The Taste and Shirley Ziman amends the roster and posts all of The Taste Recipes. Coggin did the picnic and other chairmen utilize the "buzz" to keep you informed.

The website (dcmga.org) has been adapted to meet the organization's needs. All necessary forms and items of interest are posted so members have all information at their fingertips. Vicky Saballus enters important dates on the calendar; Pat Storms handles the e-mails sent by guests. Volunteer needs are listed on the Bulletin Board Tab. We post outreach and committee needs for anyone who needs assistance. Jobs are also listed in the Newsletter.

We make the most of the strengths we have. The Garden Door is the only free public garden in the county. Since education is the focal point of our mission we utilize the garden to enhance all educational possibilities. Amazing upgrades to the meditation tunnel, grasses area, perennials, entry, herb, children's, rock and succulent areas are beautiful. The first phase of our pavers has opened the entire garden to our handicapped visitors. The pond is incredible and enjoyed by everyone who enters the garden. Did you know that we have two baby koi? This season more than 2700 people have visited our garden.

Cause and Effect are tightly woven in the garden. I sent out an e-mail when we were hit with 4 inches of hail on July 15. There were at least 40 shocked Master Gardeners wandering through the destruction that morning. Everyone started cleaning up glass and destroyed vegetation. With hours of tender loving care, the garden renewed itself. Many hands make a large job light work. Moving forward, please keep that in mind. We have to be aware of the "burn-out factor". When someone takes a chairmanship, please step up and support them. We are an all volunteer organization. Please volunteer to give a hand to ease a portion of their responsibility. Tim is the best example. Alan Romsos took over the people counter and the "turf team". Dale Vogel joined the turf team. Tim is thrilled. When it was determined that the fence by the tunnel was no longer safe, Wendy purchased plants to fill the area and created another beautiful garden! When given lemons, make lemonade!

Back to social media. We have a Google Plus account associated with the "buzz". Many visitors find out about The Garden Door on Trip Advisor. These two accounts need attention. If you want to earn volunteer hours from home, this is a great way to assist! Sherry Mutchler manages the Facebook page. She, Christine (newsletter) and I (website) would appreciate any articles or photos that could be posted. We'll use pictures on flash drives, e-mailed, and even scanned photographs. Current events, specific horticultural articles and pictures taken at any of our events can be sent to dcmgabuzz@gmail.com. A member who monitors the e-mail account will forward them to the best people to publicize or use them.

We are not a stagnant organization. We are vital. Social media and the website are tools. All tools need to be sharpened and maintained. Check out the bulletin board and see if you can help! The website and board are YOURS! Help keep them up to date.

I believe that you get what you give. I have gotten A LOT from DCMGA. All committees are open and ready for your input. After the Youth Harvest, the next activity on the calendar is TGD clean-up. Coffee and treats will be served. These work sessions are where friendships start. Not only do the many hands get the job done, but bonds also are formed when working in the dirt together. For several years Dick Allmann and I weeded the shade garden. It wasn't our responsibility, but it had to get weeded before a fest. Dick and I share smiles because we played in the dirt together and created a bond.

I believe that you get what you give. An enormous thank-you to everyone who "GAVE" to me in the past three years. It's been fun!

Kathie

DCMGA Board of Directors and Officers:

President Kathie Vavra
Vice President..... Mike Van Ess
TreasurerMartha Burris
SecretaryBonnie Rankin
Immediate Past Pres.....Chriss Daubner
Board Members: Bill Freyman, Jim McFarlin, Wendy Woldt, Tim Kazmierczak, Jim Baxter, Chris Gritzmacher
State Board Representative Rod Bohn
Advisor.....Dean Volenberg

***MISSION STATEMENT: The Door County
Master Gardeners Association, Inc.,
in partnership with UW-Extension, shall strive
to make a positive impact on horticulture in
our community through education, community
outreach, and stewardship of our
environment.***

Door County Master Gardeners "taking care of business!"



DCMGA Board Meeting by Bonnie Rankin

Board Members Present: Jim McFarlin, Mike VanEss, Bill Freyman, Kathie Vavra, Chris Gritzmacher, Bonnie Rankin, Tim Kazmierczak

Also Present: Rod Bohn, Dick Allmann, Alan Romsos, Barb Allmann, JoAnn Tarczewski, Sarah Freyman, Carol Berglund
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Secretary's Report – Motion was made and seconded to approve the July 16, 2014 minutes. Motion approved.

Correspondence – Sympathy cards have been sent to Master Gardeners who have lost family members. Vickie sent a thank you card for the Fiskar tools donated by Phil Block's son. We received a thank you note and check from the Jacksonport Women's Club for the tour Sandie Ott conducted.

Treasurers Report – Due to Martha's absence, no report was given.

Old Business:

Outreach – There were still some problems with the changes to the website. Kathie will speak with Brian.

GD Meeting – Some discussion was held regarding the advantages/disadvantages of joining either the American Horticultural Society or American Public Gardens; would we fit better with the horticultural group? Cost of either would be about \$150/year. It was also suggested that we look at the State of Wisconsin for opportunities and/or publications that may give us an opening for advertisement. Tim will research.

Signs Committee – Jean Vogel, Allen Miller and Chris Gritzmacher have come up with 3 alternatives for additional signage directing visitors to The Garden Door. 1) Adding another sign by Gene Bank, 2) signage on the pump house, 3) markings on asphalt. The ideas have been presented to Matt; he will get back to us on the proposal(s).

Non Recurring Tunnel Expense – It was decided that this line item underneath Garden Door Paver Project be added to the 10 year celebration costs.

Geocaching – The request for allowing geocaching at the Garden Door entrance has been denied by Matt.

Barn Dumping – The items that individuals did not want and were left in the barn have been disposed of. Individuals should understand that there will be no dropping off of items that they do not want.

Mandated Reporting – 20+ people still need the class. Discussion was held on holding class again for those people who still need the training. Everyone will be reminded once again and Bill will offer the class on September 23rd if there are enough interested individuals. This is State mandated and it is each Master Gardener's responsibility to complete the training. If they do not, they will not be certified for the following year. The Research Station Agreement also is missing 20+ signatures.

Raised Beds – The raised beds need replacement; DD Knutson is looking for ideas. If you have ideas/suggestions, please contact her.

Nominating Committee – 3 terms expire this year; all 3 individuals have indicated their interest in remaining on board. The committee will meet again to finalize candidates for President and Treasurer. A discussion was held on how to best balance re-election of board members to even them out. Currently there are 3 one year and 7 the next.

Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

New Business:

Defibrillator – Max has approached us to see if we would be interested in purchasing a unit. Matt will be approached to see if they will assume responsibility for maintenance. It would be housed in the training room and proper signage would be obtained. Max will be asked which unit would fill our needs. A motion was made to investigate buying a unit for the station. Motion was seconded and approved.

East Entry Funding – A discussion was held regarding funding for this project. Since it is nearing the end of the fiscal year and work has not begun, it was determined that Tim will resubmit his budget to Martha, including the estimated cost for the dwarf conifer garden. Questions regarding the project were directed to the Allmanns.

Bulletin Board Entries – There are several new entries on the Bulletin Board. Jim is looking for help with the pond; Chris Daubner will need someone to shadow her for the plant sale. If there are any other ideas, let Kathie know.

Annual Banquet – The Annual Banquet will be held November 5th at Sturgeon Bay Yacht Club. Cocktails begin at 5:30, business meeting at 5:45, and dinner at 6:15. Basic same menu will be as last year. The cost will be determined. Notification/invitation will be by e-mail. Susan Garrett, Executive Director, from Green Bay Botanical Garden will be the speaker.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee – 3 programs are scheduled; 1 in January, 1 in February and 1 in April. Bill and Sarah are working on a couple more that are not set yet. Information on the fall seminar will be coming out shortly. Bill mentioned that they would like to expand the membership of the Education Committee.

TGD – Phase 2 of the paver project will include looking for additional estimates. Perimeter hedge replacement options are being looked at. The Committee is looking for a solution for workload distribution. The head count for the Taste of the Garden Door was 563. A Turf Team was established; Alan Romsos will lead and be supported by Dale Vogel. More volunteers are requested. Other items regarding The Garden Door were discussed earlier.

Picnic – Coggin has taken lead on the picnic.

Training – Will be starting soon.

State – Our report will be due soon, the expected date is November 1. A theme is suggested by the State and every county provides their report based on that theme.

Taste of the Garden Door – The event went beautifully; the tents were perfect purchases, the flow was better and people loved the pavers.

Trip Advisor – The Trip Advisor contains Kathie's phone number and she has been getting many calls asking where the garden is, etc. It was suggested the phone number for the Extension Office be used. Kathie will talk to Judeen about the possibility.

Announcements:

The next meeting will be held November 19th at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.



Garden Door Notes

By Vicki Dirst

The Garden Door

The Garden Door Committee Meeting, September 8, 2014

Present: Tim Kazmierczak, Jim McFarlin, Vicki Dirst, Allen Miller, Jo Ann Tarczewski, Kerry and Kathie Vavra, Wendy Woldt, Chriss Daubner, Jim Friedrichs, Sandie Ott, Barb and Dick Allmann, Christine Gritzmacher, Carol Berglund, DD Knutson, Kaylynn Peterson, Barbara and Doug Henderson, Kathy Green, Nancy Anschutz, Barb Ottum, Alan Romsos, Helen Bacon, Holly Green

Call to Order: Tim called the meeting to order at 5:30.

Clarify Mulch: Regarding the mulch discussed at the last meeting, Tim stated that he actually ordered 60 yards this year, not 45.

Taste: Doug thanked people for all their hard work, especially the “shadow group.” He said that 74% of members contributed in some way. We counted 563 guests. There were nine sponsors. The new tents were great. We took in \$417 from the donation jars. There were 12 pesto entrees. The event had good publicity, paid and otherwise. There will be a follow-up meeting in October. People are urged to send their comments. Tim thanked Barbara and Doug for their efforts.

APGA (American Public Gardens Association): Tim asked if we should join this association to gentrify our organization and get us more respect. Jim F. and Jo Ann will look into the matter; Chris G. read a paragraph from the APGA description of their mission and noted that the association seems to be for public garden professionals not a garden belonging to a volunteer organization such as ours.

Signs Update: Chris G. said she, Jeanne Vogel and Allen M. met to discuss signage to direct people to TGD. They came up with three signage proposals, and turned over their suggestions to Matt Staziak. Jeanne was told that Matt will reply this winter. As for the existing sign by the parking lot, the posts should hold up for another year or two, but the sign needs new paint. Barb O. volunteered to do the painting. Next year the “open” banner will need to be replaced.

Geocaching Update: Barb O. said we will not place a geocache at the garden, since Matt is opposed to the idea.

Color Theme for 2015: Kaylynn recommended that we pick a color theme for the garden next year. This affects the selection of plants we grow in the greenhouse and the annuals planted at TGD next year. The committee approved shades of purple, chartreuse and white.

The Garden Door Committee Meeting *(continued)*

Front Entrance Proposal: As discussed at the last meeting, the Allmanns have proposed installing a new miniature conifer garden on the east side of the entrance to TGD. The cost is \$2,660. Kaylynn and Chris G. observed that since this is outside our current budget, the committee would need to recommend the project to the Board for their approval. Doug moved that the committee give their support to the project as it has been outlined by the Allmanns. Wendy seconded. Kaylynn stated that the design remains unclear and it is not certain that it will fit in the designated area. In further discussion Dick explained that we can't get a second bid on the current proposal because the design is the work (property) of Richard Briggs. Doug argued that as the area supervisors it is the Allmanns' choice in how to improve the area; we either support the plan or we don't. The motion passed. The project will go to the Board for approval and funding.

Entrance Garden Area Supervisors: The Allmanns want to continue as the supervisors of the garden on the east side of the entrance, but they want someone else to do the west side. Jim M. said Tim needs to put out a request for a new area supervisor.

Pedestrian Counter: Alan R. reported that the counter recorded 1,660 people visiting TGD over the Labor Day weekend. For the Taste (12:30 – 4:00) there were 760 people, a number that closely agrees with the count made by the greeters when one considers that some people who took the Research Station tour came into the garden twice. The counter was installed around July 1st. Alan plans to take counts on the first of every month.

Tripadvisor: Kathie is having a problem with users of the Tripadvisor website calling her for the location and hours of operation of TGD. This is in spite of the fact that this information is on the website. Doug said if we want to be on Tripadvisor we should look into getting a phone number that can handle this. Kathie will put out a request for a volunteer.

Raised Beds: DD said little progress has been made in developing a plan to replace the raised beds next year. She would like input from someone who has a good architectural eye. Concerns include the view of the butterfly garden, camouflaging the water system, different heights for different people and access through this area for events. She will be working with Jeanne Vogel, Holly G., Jim F. and Sandy Vandertie. People please send ideas to DD.

Budget: Tim already submitted the budget for next year. He asked for input on priorities not in the current budget such as paver project Phase II, raised beds, dwarf conifer garden, sprinkler system adjustment, brick paver sealant, brick polymeric sand, and signs. Doug said we have already decided to support the dwarf conifer garden and improved signage. Tim will find out what it will take to move some of our sprinkler heads and improve connections to water spigots or hoses. Jim M. talked about a problem with the electrical system. He will take care of it.

Turf Team: Tim has started a turf team, since the Research Station is no longer mowing TGD. Alan Romsos has taken on leadership. Tim asked if more people should share the work of mowing. Kaylynn and Chriss D. said we have previously tried to require volunteers to do certain tasks, but that didn't work. Doug agreed and said there was a lot of push back when people were told they had to do a certain task. Much of the discussion concerned the grass paths in the Garden Next Door. No action was taken.

Arborvitae Hedge Replacement: This was discussed at the long range planning committee. There was no comment on the issues involved. Kathie will contact Matt, and Tim will organize a subcommittee with area supervisors.

Refinishing Tables and Benches: The finish on the tables and benches was damaged by hail. They need to be sanded and re-stained (oil stain). Jim M. and Wendy volunteered.

Tour and Donation: Sandie reported that the Jacksonport Women's Club toured TGD and gave a \$50 donation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03. The next meeting will be Nov. 10th.

Education Committee Report

RESERVE YOUR PLACE BY OCTOBER 5, 2014 AT THE MEMBER'S DISCOUNT PRICE FOR

The DCMGA Fall Seminar scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2014.

See the full announcement on page 12 of this newsletter.

Mark your 2015 calendars now!

The DCMGA Education Committee has been hard at work preparing programs for next winter. While the work is not totally complete, here is a quick summary of the series as it stands currently. Mark your calendars now and get ready to entertain yourself throughout the winter (and meet your education hours requirement for 2015) with your friends in DCMGA. Specifics about each program will follow in the months ahead.

January 2015

We will begin the year as we have for the past few with Kori Zawojski from Sunnypoint Gardens who joins us on **January 13th** with her annual "What's New for 2015" program. Always popular, we're expecting another good turnout for her 2015 offering. A week later, on **January 20th**, Rachel Mallinger from the Gratton Lab at UW Madison (<http://gratton.entomology.wisc.edu/>) will be here to talk about Wisconsin's native pollinators. The natives are more important than ever and you will know why after attending this program. Rounding out January is Carolyn Rock from Whitefish Dunes State Park who will speak on **January 27th** about the somewhat controversial work done at the park to deal with the results of a beech bark disease that has ravaged beech tree forests throughout the eastern US. Understanding the effort is crucial as this problem spreads across the county.

February 2015

Ron Amos of Evergreen Nursery will speak on **February 24th** about Evergreen's significant role in Wisconsin's cranberry production. You will be amazed. We are looking forward to hearing from Ron.

March 2015

Kari Hagenow of the Door County Invasive Species Team will speak on **March 3rd** about the new list of invasives Wisconsin has established. Some popular and often sold plants are on the list. Do you know which ones? Do we have any in the Garden Door? We'll find out.

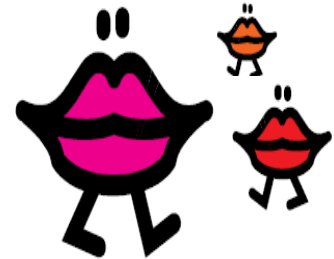
April 2015

April 21st brings our own Chriss Daubner back to the Crossroads with a program that will be very popular: Prairie Plants for the Home Garden. Her butterfly garden program last year was standing-room only, and we are looking forward to another wonderful evening with Chriss.

All of these programs will take place at Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay, at 7PM and are open to the public.

There are more to come. Your Education Committee is still at work, so stay tuned for further announcements.

2014 TASTE OF THE GARDEN DOOR and
PESTO FESTO VIII
September 6, 2014



The Taste of The Garden Door and Pesto Festo VIII was a huge and important undertaking for our organization! We thank **YOU** - all the DCMGA volunteers who helped on the day of the event, and before and after the event. 79 of the 107 active members and 16 of the 21 training class members were involved in some way. **That's 74.2% of our members!**

This year's Taste of The Garden Door and Pesto Festo VIII drew almost 600 visitors to The Garden Door to taste pestos in the Pesto Festo contest, raw veggies and dips in the "Rabbit Patch", a variety of salads in "Salads-N-Sides", herb cookies and savory breads in "The Nibble Nook", Sweet-tango apples from Wood Orchard, garlic from Idle Wild Farm, and coffee from Door County Coffee & Tea Co.

As our guests walked on the newly installed paved walkway in The Garden Door; they stopped to have their herb questions answered by herb enthusiast Jane Knaapen Cole, found out information about the heritage garden at Crossroads at Big Creek, watched demonstrations of kitchen utensils from Cornucopia Kitchen Shop, picked up free copies of *edible* DOOR magazine, learned how to construct miniature Fairie gardens, and purchased herbs from Sunnypoint Gardens and mums from Maas Floral and Greenhouses. Some door prize winners received great prizes from our sponsors including Briggsville Gardens and Steep Creek Farm.

As in the past, the Pesto Festo VIII "Peoples' Choice" voting brought a line-up to the tasting tent! Guests sampled eleven entries before casting their vote for their favorite. Of course the judges had already made their choices and the first place winner took home a terrific prize basket from Madison Avenue Market!

All the winners, the recipes from Pesto Festo VIII, the Rabbit Patch, Salads-N-Sides, and the Nibble Nook, and herb information from Jane Knaapen Cole can be found on the dcmga.org website. In addition, information about our generous sponsors, whom we trust will be thanked once again as you patronize their establishments throughout the year, is also posted on the site!

**Next year's Taste of the Garden Door and Pesto Festo IX will be on
Saturday, September 12, 2015!**

A follow up meeting to discuss this year's Taste and Pesto Festo is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14th in the PARS classroom. Pizza, water and soda will be provided – bring your own "adult" beverage if you wish.

The Pesto Festo VIII Winners

Great weather blessed the DCMGA's Taste of the Garden Door and Pesto Festo VIII as hundreds of guests visited The Garden Door to taste delightful recipes inspired by locally grown vegetables and herbs and act as public judges in the annual Pesto Festo contest that features pesto entries (shown below) submitted by anyone who enters and provides the pesto to sample plus their recipe. Guests could sample each pesto entry at the Pesto Festo tasting tent and vote for their favorite entry. The public tasters' votes are used to determine the pesto that receives the People's Choice award, which this year went to Ruthi Henrichs for her Bee-utiful Beets Pesto (Entry 4).



This year's Pesto Festo judges were: Chef Veronica Ripp, owner of the Get "Real" Café, which will soon open on Madison Avenue in Sturgeon Bay; Mike Egan, a man who appreciates many types of foods after living in the Philippines and ethnic-rich Chicago; and Amy Kohnle, Executive Director of the United Way of Door County, who grew up on her family's farm and knows how to plant, weed, harvest, can and freeze. After tasting the pesto entries, the judges deliberated carefully and awarded 1st Place to Ruthi Henrichs for her Pistachio-Herb Pesto (Entry 12), 2nd Place to Lori Holtz for her Soy Good Pesto (Entry 11), and 3rd Place to Carolyn Blackwood for her Ramp Pesto (Entry 3). Ruthi Henrichs received the judges' Most Creative award for her Bee-utiful Beets Pesto, which also was the People's Choice award winner. The judges gave Dean Volenberg a Special Mention Most Creative award for his unusual and delicious Cool Cucumber Pesto (Entry 8).

Recipes for the winning pesto entries are available on the DCMGA's website: www.dcmga.org.



Shown at left, the Pesto Festo judges were Amy Kohnle (left), Mike Egan (center), and Veronica Ripp (right). Shown at right, they tasted, took notes, re-tasted and carefully deliberated to choose the award-winning pesto entries.



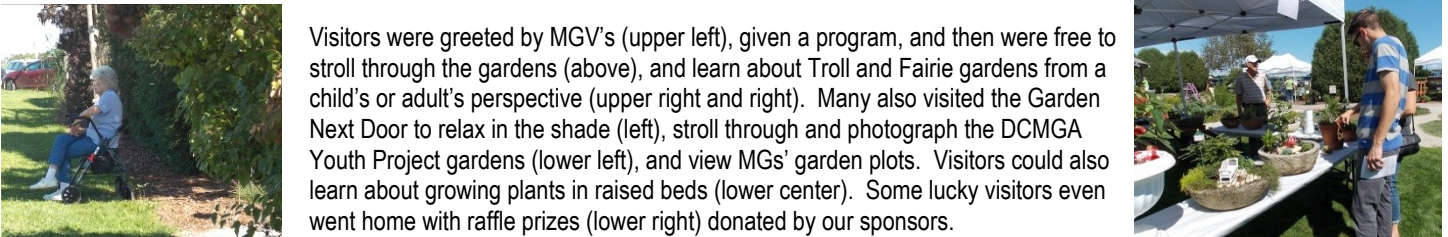
Ruthi Henrichs (below left, with judge Amy Kohnle) received 1st place, Most Creative, and People's Choice awards for two different entries. Lori Holtz (below center, with MG Char Rowe) received the 2nd place award. Carolyn Blackwood (below right, with judges Mike Egan and Amy Kohnle) received the 3rd place award.



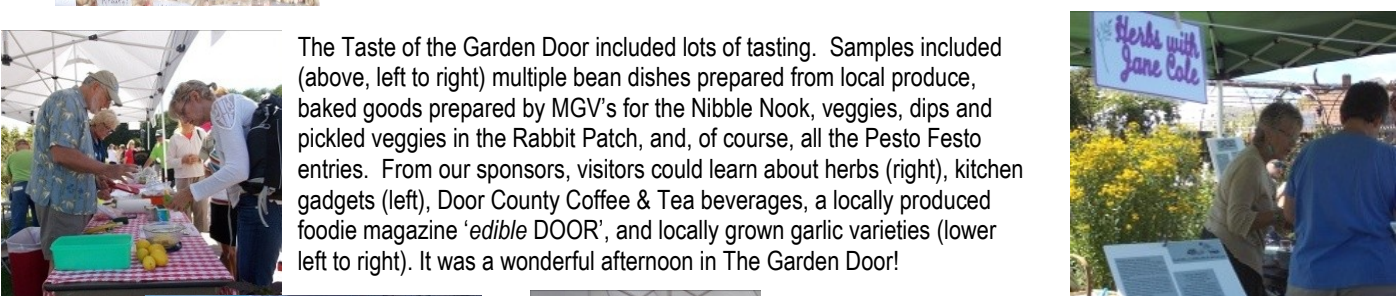
Taste of The Garden Door— September 6, 2014 A Delicious Success!



Visitors were greeted by MGV's (upper left), given a program, and then were free to stroll through the gardens (above), and learn about Troll and Fairie gardens from a child's or adult's perspective (upper right and right). Many also visited the Garden Next Door to relax in the shade (left), stroll through and photograph the DCMGA Youth Project gardens (lower left), and view MGs' garden plots. Visitors could also learn about growing plants in raised beds (lower center). Some lucky visitors even went home with raffle prizes (lower right) donated by our sponsors.



The Taste of the Garden Door included lots of tasting. Samples included (above, left to right) multiple bean dishes prepared from local produce, baked goods prepared by MGV's for the Nibble Nook, veggies, dips and pickled veggies in the Rabbit Patch, and, of course, all the Pesto Festo entries. From our sponsors, visitors could learn about herbs (right), kitchen gadgets (left), Door County Coffee & Tea beverages, a locally produced foodie magazine 'edible DOOR', and locally grown garlic varieties (lower left to right). It was a wonderful afternoon in The Garden Door!



Annual DCMGA Picnic Welcomes the New Members of the Class of 2014

On Saturday, September 20th, DCMGA members held their annual picnic at The Garden Door. This social event provided an opportunity to relax with friends in a beautiful setting, eat great food brought by the members to accompany chicken provided by the organization. Most importantly, it provided an opportunity to welcome the new members of the Class of 2014 who completed their educational and volunteer requirements. This year's new members are: Nancy Anschutz, Brian Bergee, Carole Connelly, Vickie Daoust, Mike and Tricia Hanson, Barb Henkelmann, Mark and Pamela Honold, Karen Isensee, Kate Leroy, Kenneth and Donna Michalowski, Mary Moster, Jerold and Margaret Needleman, Debbie Olsonoski, Alan and Shirley Romsos, Nancy Santoriello, and Jeanne White. Although not all of the Class of 2014 members could make it to the picnic, we welcome them all!

Gary Kemp also congratulated Kathy Green on behalf of all of us for her award received from the Door County Advocate in its garden photography contest. Kathy's winning photo, published in the Door County Advocate, was of her home garden in spring.

The new members also received their DCMGA badges at the picnic. Following last year's format, they were asked to briefly say what they learned or enjoyed most about becoming a Master Gardener. The theme for many was "getting to know the people" of our organization. Awarding of the badges was cut short by a brief downpour, which somehow seemed almost expected for this wet year! At least there was no hail. In typical DCMGA fashion, cleanup in the rain was fast and efficient.

We thank Coggin Heeringa and members of the Social Committee for taking care of everything that went into making this enjoyable event happen. And for taking care of all the wet tables and chairs. What a team!



Relaxing in The Garden Door with friends, conversation and good food on a sunny afternoon at the annual picnic.



Kathy Green being congratulated by Gary Kemp for her award from the *Door County Advocate* (left).

Eight new members of the Class of 2014 just before the dark cloud in the background ended the picnic (right).



Fall Tips for Dahlias by Vicki Dirst



Wisconsin Red Cultivar



Procyon Cultivar



Lady Darlene Cultivar

If you want to save your dahlias for next year, here's some advice. Wait for a killing frost. Then dig each clump with a spading fork inserted vertically no closer than seven inches from the base of the stem. Gently lift the clump by using the fork and lightly pulling the stem. Lay the whole plant on the ground and cut off the top about two inches above the clump. Hose off the clump if you like in order to remove excess soil and earthworms, but don't soak it in a tub of water because you want the cut remnant of the stem to dry. Temporarily store the clumps in a cool dry place such as a garage floor.

When they appear dry, but in no way shriveled, you can transfer them to their winter storage medium. The purpose of the medium is to regulate moisture level so they neither rot nor shrivel. Pack the dahlias in wood shavings, peat moss, or newspapers. Use a cardboard box or open plastic tub. Do not seal in a plastic bag or tub with a tightly fitting lid, either of which would promote rot. Put the container somewhere cool, like a basement. Freezing temperatures will kill the tubers, so avoid that as best you can.

Dividing the clumps is not required. If you choose to do so, this can be done either in fall or spring. Each tuber must have a growing point or "eye" in order to grow. The eyes are above the neck of each tuber on the base of the stalks. If some of the tubers break off at the neck when you are digging them up, you can throw them away. They will never grow, even if they are fat like a potato.

If you have Wisconsin Reds you'll find they are more forgiving than most dahlias. Some people skip the storage medium and just put them in a box or paper bag until spring.

Local Pollinators: Syrphid Flies by Vicki Dirst

Are your flowers attracting dozens of what appear to be small bumblebees? They might not be bumblebees at all, but a type of fly. Syrphid flies, also known as flower flies and hover flies, are common beneficial insects. The adults feed on nectar and pollen, and are important pollinators. The maggots eat aphids, which is another plus. There are hundreds of species distributed around the world. Some resemble bumblebees while others resemble wasps. The mimicry helps them avoid predation by birds.



Syrphid Fly on Dahlia flower

The one that I am seeing in my garden this fall appears to be *Mallota bautius*. It is 5/8" long and has a fuzzy black and light yellow back.

DCMGA Fall Seminar on November 8, 2014 "What's Hardy? A Perennial Question"

DCMGA's Fall Seminar will be held on Saturday, November 8th with Nancy Nedveck of The Flower Factory speaking on "What's Hardy? A Perennial Question". Come join us for a fun and informative program beginning with registration at 8:30am and ending at 2pm, with breaks for lunch and snacks. The seminar will take place in the beautiful Collins Learning Center at the Crossroads at Big Creek in Sturgeon Bay.

Nancy Nedveck, is co-owner of The Flower Factory in Stoughton, Wisconsin, and has been involved in ornamental horticulture for over 30 years. She has a degree in horticulture from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The Flower Factory, a perennial nursery she founded in 1984 with her husband David, features the largest selection of perennials in the Midwest with over 3000 varieties of perennials, hostas, ornamental grasses, daylilies, prairie plants and wildflowers. These are housed in 14 greenhouses, 3 shade houses and display areas open to the public. Twenty support greenhouses and cold frames are used to maintain the Factory's garden-ready plants. Nancy selects and evaluates the 200 to 300 new varieties that The Flower Factory adds to its inventory each year. These plants are installed in the many display gardens at The Flower Factory. These include Shade, Rock, Pond, Garden Railroad, Stream, Trough, and even a Roof Garden. Her experience and attention to detail have helped hone her keen eye for the special and unique. She also oversees the daily operations of The Flower Factory.

This seminar includes two programs in the morning, both with an emphasis on Door County's unique growing conditions. We'll explore using hardy grasses to enhance the appearance and usefulness of a home garden. Grass selection can be confusing with many available varieties. Why add grasses? What will work best here? We will find some answers. And we'll take a close look at vertical gardening, which is often used to design gardens that are easy to maintain and access. Nancy will provide some "tricks of the trade" for the home gardener.

Following questions, we will break for lunch. After lunch, Nancy will discuss perennials with emphasis on those that do best here in Zone 5. We will learn about the hardiest "new reliables" for Door County, taking full advantage of her evaluation of a wide range of offerings from different growers. The day will be full of information, great networking, and good company.

The cost of the seminar for **Door County Master Gardeners** is \$6.00, which includes lunch. The early registration period for DCMGA members is open until October 5th. Members of the public will be invited to register if there is room after October 10th, for a cost of \$15, which includes the lunch. Anyone wishing to attend must register by contacting Bill and Sarah Freyman at 868-1749 or via email at doorgardener@gmail.com. If you plan to attend, we need to have your reservation and lunch choice. Select (one) from a turkey, ham or veggie wrap. Each lunch comes with pasta salad, veggies and a cookie. We will provide a variety of soft drinks, water, and coffee. There are no reduced registration fees for those who do not take lunch or attend only half of the day.

Registration fees (full price) are due by Friday, October 31st, so please contact the Freymans early if you have questions. Mail your check (payable to DCMGA) promptly because your registration is not complete and your lunch will not be ordered until we receive your payment. We will not accept fees or registrations at the door. For those who love to procrastinate, Bill and Sarah will take last minute registration fees for DCMGA members at the annual meeting on November 5th if space is available.

Send registration fees to: Door County Master Gardeners, c/o Bill and Sarah Freyman, 7031 Division Road, Egg Harbor, WI 54209

THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING! Check dcmga.org Website for Volunteer Opportunities

Thanks to all DCMGA's who participate in our events, including the Plant Sale, the Open House and Taste of the Garden Door events, our educational programs that inspire and educate gardeners, and for contributing to our social culture. Our volunteers help make our organization and community better. Please check notices for volunteer opportunities at the dcmga.org website.





YOUTH PROGRAM AT THE GARDEN NEXT DOOR

October 1, 2014, 12:30—2:30 pm

(Rain Date: October 2)

Join fellow MGV's in providing an informative and fun experience for local 4th graders to learn about harvesting, cider making, and other fall garden activities. Contact Kathie Vavra to volunteer!

Remember the Fall Cleanup at The Garden Door Saturday, October 11, starting about 9 AM

DCMGA ANNUAL MEETING & BANQUET

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

The **Door County Master Gardeners Annual Meeting and Banquet** will be held on **Wednesday, November 5th** at the Sturgeon Bay Yacht Club. Cocktails (cash bar) will be at 5:30 pm, followed by our annual meeting at 5:45 pm. Dinner will be at approximately 6:15 pm, served family-style and featuring baked chicken and beef tips. A vegetarian pasta selection will be available if ordered in advance. Following dinner there will be the DCMGA awards presentations. Then, **Susan Garot, Executive Director of the Green Bay Botanical Garden** will provide a program about the past, present and future of the Green Bay Botanical Garden.

All Door County Master Gardeners and their spouses or significant others are invited. Check your email for the invitation, which includes the form to make your reservation. All reservations must be received by Mike VanEss by October 22nd.

The Door County Master Gardeners' Newsletter
is published six times per year.

Editor: Christine Gritzmacher
Send comments to: mqdceditor@gmail.com

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October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Youth Program 12:30-2:30 pm PARS	2 RAIN DATE Youth Program 12:30-2:30 pm PARS	3	4
5 MG fee discount for Fall Seminar Deadline	6	7	8	9	10	11 TGD Fall Cleanup 9 am, PARS
12	13	14 Taste of TGD Followup Mtg 5:30 pm, PARS	15	16	17	18 RAIN DATE TGD Fall Cleanup 9 am, PARS
19	20	21	22 Annual Mtg & Banquet Reservation Fee Deadline	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Full price fee for Fall Seminar Deadline	31	

Event Locations: PARS = Peninsular Agricultural Research Station Classroom, and CRBC = Crossroads at Big Creek

November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 ANNUAL Mtg & Banquet, 5:30 pm SB Yacht Club	6	7	8 Fall Seminar 8:30 am-2 pm CRBC
9	10 TGD Comm Mtg 5:30 pm, PARS	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Board Mtg 5:30 pm PARS	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						