

Fall 2019 - Volume 25- Number 4

A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service



"October gave a party,
The leaves by hundreds came;
The Ashes, Oaks and Maples,
And leaves of every name.
The sunshine spread a carpet,
And every thing was grand.
Miss Weather led the dancing,
Professor Wind, the band."
-- George Cooper

DCMGA

Board of Directors & Officers

President - Jeanne Vogel Vice President - Mary Moster Treasurer - Shawn Mathys Secretary - Holly Green Past President - Dorry Wilner

Board Members

Lee Ann Casper Sunny MacLachlan Carrie Sherrill Linda Zolnosky Mike VanEss

UW-Extension Agent

Annie Deutsch

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.

President's Message

Greetings!

Well, it's that time of year again - Fall! The time has arrived to compost our vegetable plants and clean and store the gardening tools. Now we get to enjoy the trees' beautiful display of fall color before we are blanketed in white!

The Garden Door was 'put to bed' on Thursday, October 17th. Carrie provided a yummy lunch after the cleanup, so the volunteers' efforts were well rewarded!

On behalf of the organization, I would like to take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude and wish Dorry Wilner and husband Gary the very best as they write a new chapter in their 'book of life' in Colorado. Dorry is a past President and has been a great volunteer in our organization!

Thank you to Coggin Herringa for her service to DCMGA as Chair of the Social Committee. Thankfully, she has agreed to stay active on the committee. Her leadership at Crossroads is important and beneficial to our organization and the community! Donna Asher and Carrie Potier have volunteered to co-chair the Social Committee. They will have 'big shoes' to fill! Thank you Donna and Carrie for your willingness to serve the organization in this new capacity.

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President's Message cont'd.

Mike Van Ess, Linda Zolnosky and Dorry Wilner are retiring from the Board of Directors. Thank you all for your years of service to DCMGA!! Thank you to Nancy Goldberg, Susan Morgan and Janet Uteg for volunteering to run for the Board of Directors.

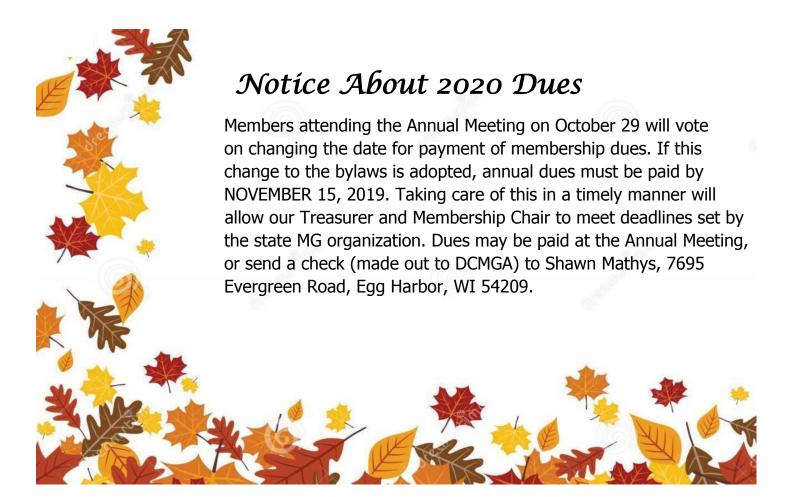
This years ANNUAL MEETING and BANQUET will mark the beginning of the year-long celebration of our SILVER ANNIVERSARY!!! There will be great food and a few surprises too! This is also your opportunity to see the 'year in review' of the organization and to vote on changes to the Bylaws and elect new people to the Board of Directors.

Please come! SOCIALIZE and CELEBRATE with all the great people that make up our won-derful DCMGA!!!!

In Service & With Gratitude,

Jeanne

P.S. Please mark your calendar to attend the Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 3rd at Sevastopol Town Hall!



DCMGA Celebrates 25 Years

Silver Anniversary Kick Off at Annual Meeting

The Door County Master Gardeners have a lot to celebrate this year as they commemorate 25 years as an organization. The kick-off celebration will be the Annual Meeting and Banquet on October 29 at Crossroads. Rumor has it there will be a special anniversary cake baked by member Carrie Sherrill.

A special 25th Anniversary logo has been designed by Mike VanEss and it will be used throughout the year. Commemorative Anniversary items will be available soon!

The Garden Door colors for 2020 will be silver and white. The Garden will have some special decorations for the growing season next year.

Each event throughout the coming year will have a silver emphasis and special anniversary tokens and prizes are being planned. Members won't want to miss out on the fun, so save the following dates:

- * DCMGA Holiday Party, Tuesday, December 3, 5-8 PM at Crossroads. Be prepared for silver decorations and sparkly prizes.
- * Meet and Greet the new class on Sunday, January 26, 1-4 PM at the Sevastopol Town Hall. You can be sure that there will be trivia involving the number 25. Put your thinking caps on...
- * On Tuesday, February 11, Kori Zawojski from Sunnypoint Gardens will open our winter educational series at Crossroads with her popular "What's New" talk. She will share some ideas about using silver and white in your gardens next year. The program begins at 7 PM.
- * The final program in the winter educational series at Crossroads will take place on Tuesday, May 5 at 7 PM. The plant sale team will present a preview of what will be available at our sale as well as some educational materials for hardening off plants, growing in Door County, and saving seeds. Seed samples will be available for all in attendance (I'm guessing they might be silver or white).
- * The plant sale team is busy selecting some silver and white annuals and perennials for the plant sale. Dates for the 2020 plant sale are: 1st Pick Friday evening, May 15, and Plant Sale Saturday morning, May 16. Mark your calendars now!
- * We plan to wrap up our celebration on Saturday, September 12, 2020 with a special Anniversary Celebration in The Garden Door. There will be music, decorations, and fun for all.

As you can see, the 25th Anniversary Committee has been very busy planning surprises to last throughout the year. It's a great time to be a Master Gardener Volunteer. Come celebrate with us!

DCMGA Annual Meeting

All Door County Master Gardeners are invited to come together for this year's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 29, at Crossroads at Big Creek. The business meeting will begin at 5:00 PM, followed by a light catered meal.

Several important items of business will be discussed and voted upon at the meeting. Election of Board members will be held; nominees are LeeAnn Casper, Jeanne Vogel, Nancy Goldberg, Susan Morgan and Janet Uteg. In addition to elections and a review of the events of the past year, we'll be asking members to vote on changes to our bylaws during this year's meeting. The Board of Directors is recommending changes to the bylaws as follows:

<u>Under III. Membership, Section 4:</u> The board recommends that annual dues be payable by November 15 of each year, rather than January 1. This change is intended to streamline the process of collecting annual dues and facilitate the preparation of the annual membership roster and payment of state dues, which are due each year in early January.

<u>Under VI. Officers, Section 2:</u> The board recommends that officer job descriptions be amended. The Nominating Committee reviewed the job descriptions of association officers and made recommendations to update the descriptions to more accurately describe the roles and responsibilities of each position. The role of vice president was expanded to include more duties, with the goal of creating a more balanced workload between the president and vice president. The description of the treasurer's duties was updated and broadened to reflect today's accounting best practices.



If you are interested in reviewing the complete bylaws as they currently exist, or the complete bylaws with the proposed changes, copies of each can be found on our website at dcmga.org. Click on the "Members Only" tab and look under "Bylaws & Policies."

Our Annual Meeting will kick off DCMGA's 25th Anniversary year, so please plan to join your fellow volunteers for a great celebration!

Notes from the Board of Directors

From the September 16, 2019 meeting: Look for complete minutes on the website.

<u>Sunshine report:</u> Barbara Henderson will be having rotator cuff surgery; Lucy Kile, hip surgery. Dorry Wilner is moving to Colorado. Please let Holly Green know if you are aware of health/medical events and other happenings among the membership.

<u>Budget for 2020:</u> There is a reduction in the perennials to be purchased for the Plant Sale. Equipment Purchases include lightweight folding tables and a tent. Expenses for winter program speakers are \$2000. Donations continue to the Research Station (\$2500) and Crossroads (\$1000) for use of their facilities. Insurance costs for general liability and for officers and directors total \$1625. The Garden Door budget minus donations is listed as \$7625.

<u>Outreach:</u> There have been eight scheduled tours of The Garden Door this season with two more this fall.

<u>Training:</u> As of this date there are six applications for next year's training class with a limit of 12. The cost for participants is now \$125.

<u>Awards:</u> It was voted to discontinue the Awards Committee and yearly awards. Recognition from the State continues for reaching hourly increments.

<u>25th Anniversary:</u> The logo we will use during this celebration was unveiled. See page 4 of this newsletter!

<u>Non-Profit Group meeting representative:</u> Dorry Wilner has been attending meetings and recommends we continue. We can share the position. Carrie Sherrill will attend in November; other Board and Association members will take succeeding months.



2019-20 Winter Education Programs Scheduled

The Education Committee has been hard at work preparing the schedule of educational programs for this winter and spring. All programs will be at 7:00 PM and are held at Crossroads at Big Creek.

February 11	Kori Zawojski, Sunnypoint Gardens - "What's New for 2020"
March 3	Ben Futa - Topic TBD
March 10	Dr. Mike Draney- "Insects (or Arachnids) in the Garden"
March 31	Charlotte Lukes - "Wildflowers"
April 7	Dr. Molly Doane - "Sanctuary Gardens - Refuge in the City"
April 14	Jamie Patton - "Water and Soil"
April 21	Mark Konlock - Topic TBD
April 28	Mark Dwyer - Topic TBD
May 5	Plant Sale Committee - Preview of Plant Sale
	and Growing Tips

WDOR Radio Programs

Haven't been listening lately? Make it a fall and winter habit to tune in to FM 93.9 FM. Tell others. Call-ins are welcome! Carrie Sherrill moderates. Wednesday, October 23: The process of becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer and Training Class requirements; putting your garden to bed; possibly, planting bulbs (This is a date change.)

<u>Thursday, November 21</u>: Winter educational events at Crossroads with a member of the Education Committee; Christmas gifts for gardeners <u>Thursday, December 19</u>: Houseplants and last-minute gift ideas with Nancy Goldberg



2020 Training Class Update

The new crop of Master Gardener Volunteers will begin their training on January 8 and continue for 13 consecutive Wednesdays, ending April 1, 2020. There are seven applicants as of October 9 with a limit of 12. The cost for the course is now \$125. Laurie Connell will be joining Carrie Sherrill and Sue Kunz on the Training Committee.

If you know of anyone who is interested in taking the class this winter, let them know that applications must be received by 4:30 PM on Thursday, November 29. Information and an application form are on the DCMGA website, http://www.dcmga.org/become-a-mg.html.

Notes from The Garden Door

Noteworthy information gleaned from the September 9 committee meeting:

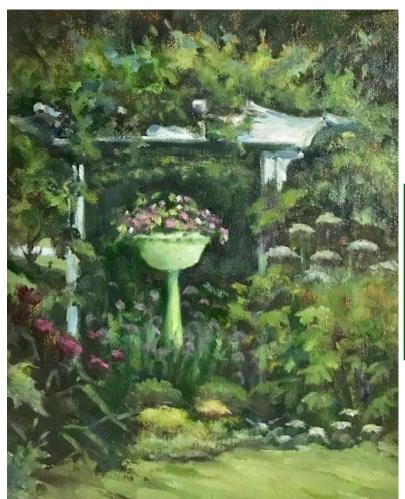
Donations in the two boxes are at a record high this season---well over \$1000.

The Silver Anniversary celebration for our association will begin at the 2019 Annual Meeting and continue through 2020.

In place of the Open House in July, there will be a 25th anniversary celebration in TGD on Saturday, September 12, 2020. It will include the public.

There are two flowering crab trees, as well as the Himalayan birch, that are dying and need to be cut down. The prognosis of the espaliered apple is uncertain and a tree in the shade garden also has problems.

The akeia chocolate vine covering the tunnel is now on the DNR 'Prohibited' invasive plant list. It will be removed. The invasive yellow flag iris in the Pond Garden may be sufficiently contained.



The Memorial Garden is in need of a supervisor for the next season. Wendy Woldt will continue to work on the area. The Garden Next Door will need a second supervisor.

Master Gardener Pam Flanders' beautiful plein air oil painting of The Garden Door will be for sale during the Sturgeon Bay art crawl in November! Pam worked on this painting while giving a plein air demonstration at a "Tuesdays in The Garden Door" presentation this summer.

5:00 - 8:00 PM

DCMGA Fall Events and Meetings

Thursday, October 17 Fall Cleanup at The Garden Door 10 AM - noon Lunch following. Rain date is Friday, October 18 **Thursday, October 17** Seed Reads Book Club, Sturgeon Bay Library 6:00 - 7:00 PM Sponsored by the Door County Seed Library Wednesday, October 23 WDOR Radio Program 10:20 - 11:00 AMNote change of date **Tuesday, October 29** Annual Meeting & Social 5:00 - 8:00 PM Monday, November 11 TGD Meeting at Sue Kunz's home 5:30 PM **Tuesday, November 12** Education Committee meeting, PARS Classroom 11:00 AM **Monday, November 18** DCMGA Board Meeting, Crossroads 5:30 PM **Thursday, November 21** WDOR Radio Program 10:20 - 11:00 AM

Also of interest (and counts toward your education hours!)

Thursday, November 14 "How to Attract, Feed and House Birds Using Native Plants" Program by Charlotte Lukes at Crossroads 7:00 PM Sponsored by Wild Ones - Door Peninsula Chapter

Christmas Party, Sevastopol Town Hall



Tuesday, December 3

Hats off to the intrepid volunteers who met on August 19 to sort and wash hundreds of pots in preparation for next year's Plant Sale.



Ending This Season and Planning for the Next

By Annie Deutsch, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent

It's hard to believe that the 2019 growing season is coming to an end! Looking back, this year presented quite a number of challenges. Based on weather records, 2019 was one of the wettest, coolest springs on record. It was pleasant in the middle of the summer, and then come September, Green Bay reported that 2019 was the wettest September on record! Farmers have been faced with the dual challenge of waiting for crops to finally mature and they are unable to get into fields to harvest them once they are ready. However, despite the challenges, I have a mound of winter squash in my kitchen, my freezer is packed to the brim, and I canned more tomatoes, salsa, and fruit than I ever have before.

With wet conditions, plant diseases thrived this year and we are starting to see many trees die as a result of common needle fungal diseases and many root rots from too many seasons sitting in water. In the insect world, 2019 marked the first find of the invasive lily leaf beetle in Door County (found by observant MGVs!) as this detrimental pest of lilies marches its way across Wisconsin. https://doorcountypulse.com/new-invasive-species-alert-the-lily-leaf-beetle/.



Interestingly, another invasive species that we are watching for, the brown marmorated stink bug, didn't show up

this year. Their numbers are skyrocketing in parts of Wisconsin, especially around Madison, but I didn't catch any in the 19 traps I had set. That doesn't mean they aren't out there, but it is very encouraging that their numbers aren't increasing. Other native stink bugs had a good season though, especially sucking juices out of my tomatoes late-season.



All in all, every year will have unique positives and negatives. As you start to clean up your garden and think back through the year, take careful notes about what worked and what didn't work, what pests you had, and what crops thrived. Then this winter as you select seeds for next year, you can make the best decisions possible, you can study up on how to prevent any particularly problematic pests, and hit the gates running next spring.

Let's Hear It for Messy Gardening!

By Karen Newbern, MG Volunteer

By this time of year, most gardeners are well into fall cleanup season. Leaves are being raked up and removed, perennials are deadheaded and trimmed, and the lawn is mowed one last time (at least we hope it's the last time!). Cleaning up and removing dead plant material is an excellent way to reduce insect pest problems and plant diseases like blights, especially in vegetable beds. But did you know that leaving the garden messy through the winter can have many benefits?

Whether you notice them or not, your yard is a haven for many kinds of wildlife, both large and small. And depending on how you manage your landscape, you may be helping or harming some of the insects, birds and other creatures that share your property. With that in mind, here are a few reasons NOT to clean up your garden this fall.

Native Bees, Butterflies and Other Pollinators. Messy gardens provide habitat to a diversity of insects. Bees, for example, will take refuge under a pile of bark or dried leaves, or in hollowed out stems and decomposing logs. Some butterflies overwinter as adults, nestled under bark or in leaf litter; others overwinter as a caterpillar or chrysalis, rolled up in a fallen leaf or tucked inside a seed pod. If we cut down and clean up the garden, we may be eliminating overwintering sites for many of these important pollinators (and perhaps even eliminating the insects themselves!).

Predatory Insects. Assassin bugs, praying mantises, lacewings, ground beetles and ladybugs are all predators. They help to control populations of the not-so-beneficial insects, such as aphids. Like bees and butterflies, they spend the winter in leaf litter, cavities in tree bark, or sometimes underground. Leaving vegetation where these creatures can take refuge gives them a jump-start on minimizing pest infestations next season.

Birds. Backyard habitat that supports a variety of insects will also support a variety of insect -eating birds. Seedheads left on dried flower stems — especially those of native plants such as goldenrods, black eyed Susans and coneflowers - will be eagerly consumed by finches, sparrows and other seed-eating birds. If you have berry-producing shrubs in your yard, the shriveled fruit will also support birds through the winter.

Winter Beauty. There is so much beauty in a winter landscape – goldfinches flitting about

as they feed on snow-capped seedheads, wind -tossed grasses tipped with frost, colorful berries clinging to bare branches with a backdrop of fresh snow. A less-than-tidy landscape looks lovely with a dusting (or more) of snow.

So this fall, you may want to reconsider how much clean-up is really necessary, and embrace the idea of messy gardening. The many creatures that share your landscape will thank you!





Since its launch this March, the Door County Seed Library has grown to 165 members and distributed almost 2,500 packets of seeds! Several Master Gardeners are members of the seed library planning team and we are always looking for more volunteers. You can follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/DoorCountySeedLibrary/.

Upcoming 'seedy' events include:

Thursday, Oct 17, 6 - 7 PM Sturgeon Bay Library	NEW Seed Reads Book Club We'll be discussing Mark Schapiro's Seeds of Resistance. Participants and listeners are welcome to attend. More information below.
Saturday, Oct 26, 10 – 11 AM Sturgeon Bay Library	Harvesting/Sowing Pollinator Seeds Taught by planning team member and Wild Ones Board member Don Gustafson. Learn how to harvest and sow easy-to-grow pollinator seeds. As part of his presentation, Don will give us a tour of the native gardens in front of the library.
Saturday, Jan 25, noon – 3 PM Sturgeon Bay Library	Community Seed Swap Celebrate National Seed Swap Day by participating in our first annual community seed swap. Share some seeds, take some seeds, and connect with area gardeners!

"Seed Reads" Book Club

The Door County Seed Library is pleased to announce the launch of a new "Seed Reads" book club, which will focus on books about building a vibrant community by improving food systems, sustainability, and social justice. Mark Schapiro's <u>Seeds of Resistance</u> has been selected for the inaugural book club night, which will be held on Thursday, October 17 from 6 - 7 PM at the Sturgeon Bay Library. This is a free community event and no registration is necessary.

The Door County Seed Library is a collaborative partnership of the Door County Master Gardeners, Sturgeon Bay Branch of the Door County Library, UW-Extension, Wild Ones of Door Peninsula, and The Community's Garden. For further information, please contact Penne Wilson at info@DoorCountySeedLibrary.org or 414-507-3663.

Spotlight On Community Projects: Southern Door Schoolyard Garden

Where does our food come from?

At Southern Door School, even the youngest students know the answer. For ten years, a 30' by 30' garden on the west side of the Southern Door campus has been a place where kids develop an interest in and understanding of horticulture.

Each spring, the last week of school finds kindergarteners through 4th graders in the garden with their teachers. Their task is to plant vegetable seeds and plants. Throughout the summer volunteers maintain the garden. Fast forward to fall, the students return to school, check out the mature plants, and join in the harvest.

For two years, MGV Vickie Daoust, certified since 2014, has planned and worked with this project. It began as an idea of parent volunteers and is part of the school's life science curriculum. This season the summer maintenance went well with a number of MG Volunteers, parents and others helping. But the previous year there were not enough people to keep the garden in shape.

Students are encouraged to taste the vegetables. During a September harvest of green beans, first graders were plucking them right off the trellis and popping them into their mouths. They were also sampling the clusters of red grapes that are grown there. A planned tasting featured a snack of raw kohlrabi and carrots cut into coins.

Other veggies grown in the schoolyard garden this year included yellow and red potatoes, kale, brussels sprouts, broccoli, various tomatoes, onions, zucchini, cucumbers, and three kinds of winter squash. The school lunch program has been the recipient of green beans and produce is donated to the Maplewood Food Pantry.

Vickie, who was a teacher at the school for 15 years, would like help from other Master Gardeners in decision making and planning. Summer maintenance is important, too. Interacting with the students during planting, harvest and tastings are all perks of involvement. As this educational project enters its second decade, the goal is for it to run smoothly.





Left: The kids were quite pleased with the pole beans they picked.





Above: Look at the onions we pulled!

Left: Everything grows great in the fertile soil at the school. Here, a bumper crop of broccoli and kale.

The summer maintenance crew hard at work. Nice job on the mulch!



Member Spotlight: Doug and Barbara Henderson

During our Silver Anniversary year, we will feature more of the earliest members of the DCMGA. At the same time, we will undoubtedly learn something of our group's history.

Doug and Barbara Henderson took the Master Gardener training in 1995, 25 years ago. That was actually the second class; there were 12 charter members who trained in the fall of 1994. The Hendersons are well known to most of us as Volunteers par excellence.

Barbara has been in Door County every year of her life. When she was a child, her father was a UW professor who spent summers doing research on cherries and apples at our own Research Station. Barbara played in the sand that was on the tabletops in the Greenhouse. She also helped harvest the cherries that were canned as part of experiments. (How much sugar?)

Barbara "always" wanted to learn about gardening. Doug, a business major from New Jersey, had not yearned, but said, "I'll be happy to do it (take the training) if I don't have to learn the names of plants." A class fee of only \$10 for the second family member was an added incentive. Doug cheerfully volunteered to "do the digging."

Barbara and Doug immersed themselves into the activities of the group and never quit. Doug, who had been a teacher under Carl Scholz in the '70's, took on the chairmanship of the Education Committee. He supported Rod Bohn (class of '97) when it was felt that the "terrible" canned training program must be done differently. Permission was obtained for the DCMGA to handle their own training, and that has continued.

Barbara and Doug have always been active in the Garden Door, which opened in 2005 after several years of preparation. Their first garden was the Entrance Garden, which was on both sides of the garden door. Later, they converted part of the grassy area into the Herb Garden, especially to grow basil for the "Pesto Festo", later "The Taste of The Garden Door." This was a huge event attracting 600 people. Their beautiful and artistic sedum-spiral garden came later.

Doug helped with TGD structures built by members, including the big wence and various fences. As education chair, he promoted earning education and volunteer hours by building in the Garden on Saturdays. Barbara was the Volunteer Opportunity chairman, matching volunteers and opportunities. She was also instrumental in a mentor program to get new members connected with the group.

When grape vines on the edge of The Garden Door were removed by the Research Station, Barbara and Doug became chairs of "The Community Garden." Master Gardeners and Research Station workers could have their own gardens. This is now The Garden Next Door.

With Jo Ann Tarczewski, they started Art in the Garden. First was the kaleidoscope; then Doug worked on grants for the sundial as well as the pathway pavers. The sundial was built in consultation with an astronomer.

Barbara and Carol Berglund (a charter member) were chairs of the second ever Master Gardener Plant Sale. Growing from seed in the Greenhouse was a component of the training program. A big difference was that for the sale, plants etc. were hauled to the parking lots of the Cherry Point Mall and the Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay! A rather grand sum of \$5000 was gleaned from the endeavor.

Besides their Master Gardener commitment, Barbara and Doug are known as devoted to art. Barbara was an English and art major and she has always been an artist; a specialty was fiber arts. Doug had never done any art. But when he retired, he was determined to learn how to do fused glass, which Barbara was already doing. Doug aimed to become good enough to be in a gallery, and they are.

Barbara and Doug used to host bus tours at their mostly shady garden on a hill, adorned with large quirky objects. Through word of mouth, they were featured in five different home and garden magazines. Today they graciously open their home, garden and studio to fellow Master Gardeners.

Barbara emphasizes that she has really enjoyed the variety of people in our group and the camaraderie that has prevailed. She mentions the potlucks that were in people's homes as great social occasions. Doug retains his enthusiasm as the new "water guy" in TGD. Our group has been greatly enhanced by their outstanding contributions!



Photo courtesy of the Peninsula Pulse.



Save the Date! DCMGA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Sevastopol Town Hall 4528 STH 57, Sturgeon Bay

Bring appetizer, side dish or dessert to share.

More info to come.



2019 DCMGA Committee Chairs/Coordinators

Annual Meeting - Vice President Community Projects - Carrie Sherrill Education - Chris Holicek Garden Door:

Operations - Dale Vogel
Plants - Carrie Sherrill, Sue Kunz
Financial - Nancy Anschutz
The Garden Next Door - OPEN
Membership - Linda Zolnosky
Newsletter Editors - Lee Ann Casper
and Karen Newbern
Nominating - President (ad hoc)

Open House - OPEN
Outreach/Speakers Bureau Sunny MacLachlan
Plant Sale - Nancy Goldberg, John Werblow
Social - Donna Asher, Carrie Potier
Social Media - Penne Wilson, Laura Maloney
and MaryBeth Cleary-Phipps
Sunshine - Holly Green
Training - Carrie Sherrill, Sue Kunz
Website - Mike VanEss
WIMGA Rep - Mike VanEss



Check Out the "Members" section of the Door County Master Gardener Website

The DCMGA website, <u>www.dcmga.org</u>, has a section just for members! Here you can read complete minutes of the Board and committees, download forms such as the Volunteer Hours Record Sheet, or view the current membership roster. Even more information will be posted in the future.

However, in order to access all this great information, you will need to create an account using your email address and a password you create. 79% of our members have already established an account providing them access to the "Members" section. If you haven't already done so, it's time to jump on board!

If you have any problems creating an account, please contact Mike VanEss. He will be happy to assist!