



# Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

*A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service*



*Volume 21, Number 3*

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### *Mike's Message*

Every year, the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association (WIMGA) compiles its Annual Accomplishment Report, a kind of annual report for the Master Gardener Program in Wisconsin. In it are one page summaries of each local Master Gardener Association's accomplishments from the previous year. You can find last year's report, along with reports from previous years, at <http://wimastergardener.org/?q=Accomplishments>.

Another part of the Annual Accomplishment Report is a compilation of the volunteer and continuing education hours for every county in the state. During 2014, 4295 Master Gardener Volunteers provided a total of 192,253 volunteer hours. Our Master Gardener association submitted 9641 of those hours. Given that Door County, in regards to population size, is ranked 45<sup>th</sup> of 72 counties, this is quite an accomplishment. In fact, DCMGA's number of volunteer hours was exceeded by only four other counties (Dane, Milwaukee, Waukesha and Outagamie, respectively). When you take the volunteer hours in each of these five counties and divide it by the number of certified Master Gardener Volunteers in 2014, our numbers are even more impressive. Last year, each Door County Master Gardener Volunteer, on average, accumulated 69.9 hours – second only to Outagamie County's 73.0 hours. We have reason to be proud of the contributions we have made to our community.

Now is the prime time for earning volunteer hours. Whether it's helping in The Garden Door (keeping it in shape requires a continuing effort from many), helping plan and put on the Open House or the Taste of The Garden Door, helping weed the Youth Garden plots in The Garden Next Door, or helping with the many community outreach projects we endorse throughout the county, there are plenty of opportunities to earn those volunteer hours.

Once again, we have made it through another successful Plant Sale. From greenhouse production to Friday's set up and Saturday's sale, we all pulled together, despite the weather, to make this another great fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this success.

As all of this suggests, we can be proud of our accomplishments. Thanks for making this such a great organization!

*Mike Van Ess*

#### DCMGA Board of Directors and Officers:

President ..... Mike Van Ess  
Vice President..... Chris Gritzmacher  
Treasurer ..... Wendy Woldt  
Secretary ..... Holly Green  
Immediate Past Pres.....Kathie Vavra  
Board Members: Bill Freyman, Jim McFarlin, Tim Kazmierczak, Jim Baxter, Jim Friedrichs  
State Board Representative ..... Rod Bohn

***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 Minutes-May 20, 2015 by Holly Green

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Pres. Mike VanEss.

Board Members present: Christine Gritzmacher, Wendy Woldt, Holly Green, Jim McFarlin, Jim Friedrichs, Bill Freyman, Kathie Vavra, Jim Baxter, and Tim Kazmierczak

Other members present: Rod Bohn, Karen Kidd, Tom Kile, Lucy Kile, Jeanne White, Carol Berglund, Peggy Turk, Chriss Daubner, Penny Beerntsen, and Carrie Sherrill.

Inactive member present: Mary Gehm.

\*Due to the large group and new members present, each person present introduced themselves.

**Secretary's Report:** Previous minutes approved, moved by Bill F., seconded by Chris G.

**Misc.:** Mike V. received two calls from the extension office regarding gardening. As they have no new agent as yet, what should be the protocol in answering such calls? Questions will be referred to knowledge bank members for research first, then answer to person calling. No member contact info to be given out to general public.

Carol Berglund presented US flag to Mike VanEss for DCMGA. Flag had been flown over WI state capitol in Madison.

**Treasurer's Report:** Wendy distributed detailed budget figures and current account summaries. An error in the book sales entry will be corrected. Motion made by Jim McFarlin, seconded by Holly G. to approve reports. More pavers will not be installed this year. Bill F. made and Kathie V. seconded a motion to move the anonymous donation fund to an interest bearing account such as a CD. Martha Burris will handle the Square for cashiers at the Plant Sale.

### Old Business:

AED: Bill F. reported on successful donation collection for the AED. \$958 had been collected. Thank you letters sent out to all donors. The AED has been installed in the lunchroom just inside the door to the right. Signs should be posted to direct people in emergency. Excess donation money will be used for signs. Sandy V. will set up training with EMTs. Thank you to Bill F. for overseeing fund collection.

Newsletter: Jeanne White to take over as new Newsletter Editor. Motion made by Kathie V., seconded by Chris G. to appoint her as Editor.

Goals: Leadership Development: Bill F. suggested a seminar for leadership to explore barriers to volunteering and leadership in organization. Should we have term limits?  
June 23, 2015 (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.) is date for membership-wide meeting to discuss results of The Garden Door Survey.  
Ideas suggested: Incorporate results into classes, need better explanation of organization to new members, Require new members to attend at least one meeting, wear nametags. Do we need another survey regarding barriers to leadership roles? Forms from area supervisors are important, with job descriptions, hours involved, etc.

**Responsibilities of committee chairs:** What they can do at their level, including budget decisions, reports, parameters of their duties. Chris G. noted that committee chairs must attend board meetings or send reports, as outlined in the by-laws. Holly G. suggested group meeting(s) for committee heads to review their responsibilities and duties.  
The next three Goals will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.  
Insurance coverage will be reviewed by Jim Baxter, including directors and officers coverage.

**Board Meeting Minutes (continued)**

**New Business:**

Computer: Chris G. reports that the DCMGA computer for the newsletter has died. RIP. Jim F. made a motion, seconded by Jim M. that we should buy a new computer rather than fix the old. Money to be taken out of the reserve fund, cost not to exceed \$600.

Recertification of inactive MGs: UW-Extension required that MG that has been inactive for more than five years must take 2x the usual total education hours if they wish to be recertified. The consensus of the Board is that we would not accept inactive MG from other MG organization unless they are willing to become recertified.

Crossroads: Request received for donation for signage and lighting in Crossroads parking lot. DCMGA annually donates \$700 to them, and has offered to help with signage in the past. Annual donation to be sent and members will be asked to make independent donations.

Plant Sale Leadership: Chriss D. passed out timeline/flow chart for plant sale operation. A new chairperson is urgently needed.

Outreach Project Requests: Two project requests received. The YMCA wants help planting a Y logo in their new park. They are also seeking help building a playground in this new park area in Sturgeon Bay. MG Brian Bergee is doing plantings around the Norbert Blei "coop" area for Write On Door County and would like to use this project as MGA volunteer hours. Both projects proposed in motions by Jim F. and seconded by Jim M. and approved.

**Committee Reports:**

Youth Committee: 23 MGs helping 60 kids learn about gardening at TGND on May 22.

Plant Sale: Wednesday, May 27 is the plant delivery day.

Garden Door: Needs three area supervisors. A potluck event and a Birch Creek Ambassadors concert are scheduled for July 17. Aerial photographs will be taken of the garden, along with drone video photography. No arborvitae will be removed as more planning is needed. We could grow our own replacement shrubs. No pavers to be installed this year, but the current ones need to be sealed. Cost would be approx. \$1100. Funds possibly available after plant sale. New signs are here, they should be installed soon.

Open House: An email has gone out and the website info has been updated.

Taste of the Door: No report.

Training: No report.

Newsletter: See above.

Outreach: A list of the current volunteer opportunities at various locations/organizations was distributed.

Publicity: There were problems with the Plant Sale signs due to windy conditions.

Social: No report.

Sunshine: No report.

Education: New chairperson(s) urgently needed. Continuing education programs are over. High attendance reported. Summer field trips have been arranged, programs are in the works for 2016. Knowledge Bank is working. New secretary has been selected. Radio broadcasts are continuing.

State: Early registration for the Annual Conference in LaCrosse ends May 29<sup>th</sup>. Survey regarding state and local MG organizations is finished. Regional conference will be in the Wisconsin Dells in 2016. Changes to Level 1 training manual are planned. Level 2 training is \$30 for 10 hours online advanced training, open to MGs only.

Website: Tweek of DC is the website company that set up doorcountypropertyowners.org website. Does a good job updating and organizing websites. Kathie V. to check into it (tabled for later date).

**The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 15, 2015, 5:30 p.m. at PARS**

Motion made to adjourn by Jim F., seconded by Bill F. at 8:15 p.m.



## *The Garden Door*

# Garden Door Notes

## By Vicki Dirst

### The Garden Door Committee Meeting—May 11, 2015

**Present:** Tim Kazmierczak, Jim McFarlin, Vicki Dirst, Allen Miller, Jo Ann Tarczewski, Wendy Woldt, Jim Friedrichs, Chris Gritzmacher, Mike Van Ess, Jim Baxter, Alan Romsos, Barbara Allmann, Dick Allmann, Chriss Daubner, Doug Henderson, Barbara Henderson, Barb Ottum, Nancy Anschutz, Tom and Jane Luebker, DD Knutson

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

**West Perennial Bed:** Vicki announced that the new area supervisors are Nancy Anschutz and Shirley Romsos.

**East Perennial Bed:** Kay Corcoran is looking for someone to take over this bed. Tim has sent out an email asking for help with this bed, the entrance garden and the pond.

**Dwarf Conifer Garden:** Dick said he and Barb A. will be consulting Tom to decide what plants to buy. Dick is awaiting a statement from Yardworks, so they can tell how much money is left for plants. Some conifers will be planted this year and others over the next two years. Tom aims to select tough plants.

**Front Entrance Garden:** Dick and Barb A. need someone to take over one side of the entrance garden.

**Spring Clean-up:** Doug said 25-30 people helped. There were a lot of snacks. Tim asked if there are enough tools in the shed. Wendy and Jim M. recommended a cobra weeding tool. Allen M. will buy one. Tim will look into getting a leaf blower and a weed trimmer. Tom moved that we have six weed and feeds a year, limited to \$300 in total expenditures. Chriss D. seconded. The motion carried. Food costs exceeding the amount budgeted can be handled with potlucks.

**Birch Creek Jazz Ambassadors:** Jo Ann said the group will perform July 17<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 pm. The rain date is July 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00-9:00. We will give them \$100. The event is for members, friends and family. Jo Ann will invite special guests through written invitation. People will need to bring chairs and their own beverages.

**Flag Update:** Carol Berglund will be getting us a new flag for the classroom.

**Captain Commodes:** Tim and Vicki both separately ordered a toilet for the season. A second unit is requested for the weekend of the Taste.

**Bay Fliers:** Tim talked to a member of that group who is willing to assist us with aerial photography of the garden. This will probably be done in July, since the garden looks so nice at that time. Chriss D. asked if we could have the Bay Fliers not fly during the Birch Creek musical program.

**Mulch Delivery:** Tim ordered 75 yards of beech bark, 60 for TGD and 15 for PARS to use in composting.

**The Garden Door Committee Meeting** (*continued*)

**Turf Team:** Alan R. said four people have volunteered for the turf team. He serviced the mowers last fall. He has installed the personnel counter and started the water, though the irrigation has yet to be set up. He may contact Fox Valley Irrigation in Appleton to find out where the electrical area controls are.

**Arborvitae Removal:** Tim said Jim M., Barb O., Kaylynn L., and Chriss D. have requested the removal of arborvitae in their areas. Mike asked if a more upright variety of arborvitae would be better for the garden. Jim M. asked if we have the money to replace the ones we remove. The answer was no. Tom talked about design considerations. Jim B. said the arborvitaes really benefit the grass garden by blocking wind. Mike said these trees pre-date the irrigation system, so their removal should not impact that system. Tom advised taking a slow approach this year. Mike agreed. Tim said the removal will be put on hold for now. We will assemble ideas and come up with a budget.

**Paver Sealing:** Allen M. said the recommended Techniseal product would cost \$1500 to seal the pavers. Tim thought sealing should be done every two years. The purpose, Tim said, is to avoid exposing the aggregate over time, leaving the surface pocked. Tim also commented on the need to get the surface re-sanded in certain areas because of ants. There is currently no money in the budget for sealer. Vicki and Tom recommended not doing any sealing, at least this year. Tom will contact staff at NWTC to ask about sealing pavers and then update us.

**Paver Phase II:** Tim talked to Meissner Landscape and the cost is unaffordable. He felt we should take care of what we have and hold off on more pavers. Doug said doing the gravel paths is a real burden for the area supervisors. Wendy said use of Roundup can be a problem, not only with people's preferences, but also effectiveness. She recommends Ground Clear instead.

**Sign Update:** Mike thinks Matt Stasiak has ordered the new signs.

**Raised Bed Status:** DD said the beds are still holding together. This year two of the beds will be planted in potatoes. Since she feels she lacks the creative ability to move forward with the replacement of these beds, she would like someone else to take the lead in this matter.

**Spudmobile:** Tim reported that the Spudmobile will not be coming this year. He will try to schedule it for next year's Open House on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

**LRPC:** This committee will meet tomorrow to review the results of the survey. There were 66 respondents.

**Other Discussion:** Barb A. said there was a large animal burrow in the entrance garden. She asked what to do about it. Tim will look into it. Chriss D. asked if people want her to bring back the picture frame with the succulents. The answer was yes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25. The next meeting will be July 13<sup>th</sup>

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

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**Send comments to: [mjdceditor@gmail.com](mailto:mjdceditor@gmail.com)**

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## DCMGA Educational Programs in Spring 2015

The final three educational programs for spring 2015 were well attended by members of the public and MG's at Crossroads at Big Creek in Sturgeon Bay. We thank all of the speakers who presented these evening programs to inspire us to be better gardeners.



On March 31<sup>st</sup>, we welcomed **Mike Draney** ("The Spider Man") of UW-Green Bay who presented an entertaining and informative survey of "Natural Enemies of Garden Pests" and how to encourage an environment that supports the natural enemies. Natural enemies help keep plants healthy and decrease the use of pesticides. They are themselves a "garden crop" that increases biodiversity and provides interest and beauty in a garden, so long as you have tolerance for creepy crawlies. Mike first reviewed the many general forms of garden pests, including plant pathogens, seedling predators, seed predators, feeders on different plant parts, and non-plant pests (ants, mosquitoes and wasps). Then, he introduced the three general types of natural enemies of these pests: predators, parasites, and parasitoids (midway between predators and parasites because they typically lay eggs or larvae on another insect). He provided fascinating examples of each type of natural enemy. His advice to gardeners was to "tread softly but carry a big stick", that is, allow the natural predators to survive and control the pests, using pesticides (the big stick) only as a last resort. He also said that if you "know your enemy" pest and its life cycle, you can hit it most effectively at its weakest point in that cycle. And finally, understand that "diversity is bad for bad guys" because the more plant diversity you have in a garden, the more habitats it provides to attract natural enemies into the garden.



On April 21<sup>st</sup>, DC Master Gardener **Chriss Daubner** talked about "Prairie Plants for the Garden" which demonstrated how to use native plants to increase diversity, beauty and wildlife in the garden. She advised us to be good stewards of our land to combat destruction of habitats and the environment, because once it is lost, it can be gone forever. Native plants are the basis of the food web, providing food to support insects, which support birds and other wildlife. Insects are specialists with a one-to-one correlation between the insect and its food source, so loss of a plant often means loss of an insect. In addition, native plants typically grow well without pesticides, conserve resources (water and energy) expended on gardens, are drought tolerant and reduce runoff because they have deep roots. Chriss described how to use native plants in any sunny area, in both formal and informal gardens. She defined a "native plant" as one present here before European colonization, compared to a "Nativar" (cultivar derived from a native plant, which may or may not provide food) or an "Adventive" (plant native in one area that moved into a new area by bird, animal or human activity). She advised to select native plants based on your soil type and habitat to increase your success of producing a prairie garden, or work with the native plants that are already there. Planting 20% or more of a garden with native plants greatly increases diversity to support the food chain. She showed many examples of native plants that she has used successfully in mixed gardens that provide year-long interest.



On April 28<sup>th</sup>, **Ray Rogers**, an award-winning horticulturalist now residing in Sheboygan, presented an entertaining and instructive evening on "Sensational Container Plants" with beautiful examples of potted plants. Ray is the author of *The Encyclopedia of Container Plants* that contains many more examples of container gardening, all beautifully photographed. Ray provided a list of 42 of his favorite plants for containers that included houseplants, shrubby tropicals, geophytic tropicals (that die back when seasonal conditions change), hardy bulbs, hardy herbaceous perennials, a subtropical shrub, cacti and succulents, edible plants, climbers, trailers, aquatics, and annuals. He showed examples of containers for each plant on the list. If you see an increase in imaginative container plantings in Door County this summer, it is likely the result of attending Ray's presentation.

***We thank the MGV's who organized these three events (Sarah Freyman, Lucy Kile, and Barb and Dick Allmann), the MGV's who provided and served treats for the program intermissions, and Crossroads at Big Creek for allowing us to use the auditorium for these events.***

## Spring Youth Program

The annual spring program for teaching local children about gardening was held at the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS) in the morning of Friday, May 22nd. Twenty-seven DCMG volunteers and employees of PARS and the Potato Gene Bank welcomed 60 third graders and their teachers from the Sevastopol Elementary, St. Peter's, and St. John Bosco schools for some hands-on learning experiences at PARS, the Garden Next Door, and The Garden Door. The kids were polite, engaged and helpful. It was a perfect sunny day (we haven't had too many lately!) and everything went smoothly from the arrival of the first bus to their last "thank you" before they returned to school. This is a busy time of the year for the teachers and students, so this is a welcomed chance to spend time outside. Some kids were literally skipping through The Garden Door and conducting impromptu races in the tunnel.

We are grateful to Kathie Vavra, Deb Javurek, and Carrie Potier for serving as organizers for this annual spring event. In the fall we will do the flip-side of this event, when the kids return for the harvest as fourth graders.



Third graders arrived early (upper left) and were soon planting seeds and potato tubers in the youth garden plots in the Garden Next Door (upper center and right center). They learned about the benefits of worms (upper right) and how pioneers farmed in Door County (left center). They planted a garden around a dead pine tree that Carl Scholz "planted" in the garden (lower left) so that the squash can grow up through the branches. The students also toured through The Garden Door gardens and checked out the fish in the pond (lower center and lower right).



A great morning in the gardens!





## The Plant Sale - 2015 Planting & Preparation



After seeds were ordered and received, the spring months were busy with preparation of planting medium, bringing in pots and trays, filling pots and trays, planting seeds, labeling, misting the planted pots and trays, transplanting seedlings, watering, moving pots and trays, more watering and labeling, more moving pots and trays, and more watering. The results were beautiful in the greenhouse. We call this "The Plant Sale" but it was really a huge cooperative effort of many people to bring beauty to life. We hope all who participated feel accomplished and thanked!







# The Plant Sale May 2015



The days before the sale were busy with MGVs delivering donated perennials, moving plants from the greenhouse and hoop house to the selling areas and arranging them there alphabetically, putting up signs and labels, putting prices on donated plants, and assembling all the other materials needed for use at the sale (tally sheets, boxes, etc.). The sun shone on our final preparations.



The sale day, May 30th, however was cool, windy, and rainy. Door County weather may have kept some people at home, but the MGVs were there in force to help people who came to browse and buy. And our customers were as hardy as the plants. A few, as always, arrived well before 9 AM to get a good place in line when the sale opened. Early sales were brisk and customers continued to arrive until noon. As long as they were buying, the MGV's were ready to stay and help. When the sale closed, the MGV's moved all unsold plants to their appropriate holding areas, put supplies back in the barn, and cleaned the sale area and PARS classroom before departing.



We call it the Plant Sale, but it is truly our cooperative effort to bring beauty and edible produce to the landscapes and gardens of our community. Congratulations to all who helped make this year's event a success!



## A Morning with Spuds

by Jim McFarlin

The morning of April 1<sup>st</sup>, a dozen MGV's helped out at the Potato Gene Bank with its harvest of research potatoes grown in the greenhouses at the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station. This was a great way to help out the Gene Bank and learn how it works. Shirley and Allen Romsos, Kay Corcoran, Barb Henkelmann, Helen Bacon, Mike Zolnosky, Penny Beermtsen, Chris Holicek, DD Knutson, Patty Medeiros, and myself, volunteered to help the Gene Bank take tubers out of 3 inch pots, each of which contained progeny from different parent strains of potatoes. Max Martin, a Gene Bank employee, instructed us on how to cultivate and organize the little tubers for future studies.

First, we removed all the tops of the potato plants, making it easier to pull the plants out of the pots. The pots were in trays that each held 13 3-inch clay pots. Each tray had a study number which was the same for all of the 13 pots, which were from the same parents. Max called them "sisters." Out of these pots, one pot could have yellow tubers, one might have yellow banana-shaped tubers, another could have red or purple tubers ranging from pea size to 1 ¼ inch. In some pots, the tubers were found only on the outer edge of the pot, which indicated that the tubers would not be good for production because they would spread outward making harvest difficult. In other pots, the tubers were directly under the plant which is desirable. Each pot's tubers were put in individual trays, separated from other tubers, showing the huge differences between in the sisters. Just like human siblings, each is a little different or in some cases very different.

Chris Holicek did it a little differently. She emptied her pots and then placed each pot's tubers in separate small paper bag with the pot's coded tag for further studies.

After the trays were filled, Max photographed them to show the different shapes, colors, and sizes. He also cut the larger tubers in half to see the variety of colors inside the tuber. Some yellow ones might have a purple ring inside or purple tubers might have yellow rings inside, while others were white. Some of the potatoes were part of a company's research to see if these potatoes could alter your appetite. Others were for saved for future research and development.

After completion of the potato harvest and sorting, the MGVs cleaned the green house, removed all pots and trays and readied the greenhouse for the seedlings planted for the DCMG' plant sale.

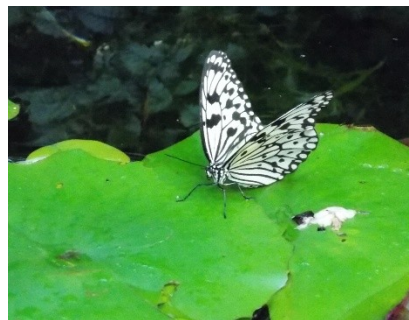


A morning with spuds at the PARS greenhouse included separating the green tops of the plants (lower left) from the root ball with tubers for each pot (one shown at upper left). The tubers from individual pots were removed from the root ball and separated into groups produced by the individual plants. One pot's tubers shown in a tray (lower right) and another pot's tubers are shown in a paper bag (upper right). A great educational volunteer event for the MGV participants!



## Announcements

Nancy Retzinger passed away on April 19, 2015. Nancy was a charter member of the Door County Master Gardeners and served as our first Secretary. She was very instrumental in our development during the early years of our existence.



### Thank You Master Gardeners

We don't have the numbers in yet, but I am sure we had another successful plant sale thanks to all of your hard work. A special thank you to all of you out there today, braving the cold, wet and wind to make the sale happen. The cleanup went really fast with everyone just wanting to get done and get warm. I hope all of you have thawed out and no one has frost bite. I know I am feeling better now that I am warm and had a little rest and a little something to eat. Again thank you for all your work from Dec. to today. The members are what make our organization so special.

*Chriss*

### Plant Sale Recap Meeting—June 8th

We will have a recap/planning meeting for the plant sale on Monday, June 8 at 5:30 pm at the Peninsular Research Station classroom. Come and share your ideas, comments and suggestions. This will review the entire process from the seed selection in December to the day of the sale in May, and plant handling after the sale. So it includes presale and greenhouse work. If you were a tallier and have suggestions for redesigning the tally sheet I am interested in that. If you did a job this year and are willing do it again next year, please let me know, so I can get you on the plant sale flow chart. If you have something to say but can't make it to the meeting, please email your suggestions/comments to me at [dandaubner@centurytel.net](mailto:dandaubner@centurytel.net).

Thanks for taking time to think about the plant sale and how we can make it better. Hope to see you on June 8th.

*Chriss Daubner*

## *Volunteer Opportunities*

### **Garden Door Area Supervisors Needed**

Are you interested in displaying your gardening talents, seeking to learn more about horticulture, wanting to get more out of the DCMGA, and willing to take charge of a display area in Wisconsin's only landscape display garden put on by Master Gardeners? If so, please contact Tim Kazmierczak.

Positions are opening up for **The Garden Door Entrance and the East Perennial Bed**. Our current supervisors in those areas are looking to hand off their areas to interested people. This is a great opportunity to get involved, get to know more MGs, and have fun! Also, it is very gratifying being able to put your work on display.

### **Help Us Learn from Your Experience**

If you have been a committee chairperson (or head of a subcommittee) in 2014, please fill out a Committee Report form that briefly summarizes your area of responsibility, experience, time commitment, etc. As our organization grows, so does the need to pass along information in a timely and consistent manner between committee chairpersons. We ask you please to take the time to fill out the form this year, even if you plan to continue in your role again for 2015.

The Committee Report Form is a writeable document on the [dcmga.org](http://dcmga.org) web site under "Members Only" tab in the left column, and named "Committee Chair Forms". Please send a copy of your filled-in form to Martha Burris (and to your chairperson if you are a subcommittee head). Time spent on filling out the form counts for your volunteer hours.



### **THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!**

Thanks to all DCMG's who participate in events throughout the year, from spring clean up, seed planting, greenhouse work and Plant Sale, the Open House, and Taste of the Garden Door events, all of our educational events to inspire and educate gardeners, and for contributing to our social culture. All MG volunteers help make our organization and community better. Please check the [dcmga.org](http://dcmga.org) website for information on volunteer opportunities.



**2015 WIMGA State Conference  
July 31 - August 1, 2015 in La Crosse, WI**

Registration for the WIMGA/La Crosse Conference opened April 1, 2015. After May 29 the price is \$75, which includes two keynote sessions, two breakout sessions, off-site workshops, refreshments Friday night, continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Don't forget to bring your camera. You will want to take photos of flowers in bloom at the various off-site workshop/garden tours. For more information on the conference, see the web site at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastgardener/events/wisconsin-master-gardener-conference-lacrosse/>

The Bluff Country Master Gardeners are excited to announce the sponsorship of a Photo Contest in conjunction with the 2015 Wisconsin Master Gardeners Assoc. Annual Conference, in LaCrosse WI. Both the Conference and the Photo Contest are open to the public. Amateur photographers are invited to submit their favorite garden photos in any of five categories:

Plant Portraits--close-ups of flowers and foliage  
Black and White--any garden subject  
Garden Landscapes--overall views of gardens

Edibles--produce, fruits, and vegetables  
Fauna--critters in the garden

Cash prizes and certificates will be awarded in each category and for the People's Choice Award, which will be selected by conference attendees. Photos will be displayed on August 1 during the conference at the LaCrosse Center and at the LaCrosse Public Library during the month of August. The deadline to submit entries is June 30. Information about the photo contest and the conference can be found on the Bluff Country Master Gardeners website: <http://www.bluffcountrymastergardeners.org/>

You can go directly to the entry form and contest rules at:

[http://www.bluffcountrymastergardeners.org/uploads/4/0/6/9/40696477/photo\\_contest\\_information&form.pdf](http://www.bluffcountrymastergardeners.org/uploads/4/0/6/9/40696477/photo_contest_information&form.pdf)

**International MG Conference  
Sept. 22-25, 2015 in Council Bluffs, Iowa**

International Master Gardener Conferences are held every two years to provide an opportunity for MGvs and Extension specialists to come together and learn through seminars and tours, while also convening committee meetings and exchanging ideas and concerns. The 2015 IMGC will be hosted by Iowa State University and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Master Gardener Programs in Council Bluffs, IA Sept 22-25, 2015. Early bird registration is \$330 until April 30, then goes to \$385 May 1 to June 30, \$440 July 1 to August 31. For more details see the web site for the conference at: <http://mastergardener.unl.edu/imgc2015>

**SAVE THE DATE  
JULY 11th — Open House at The Garden Door**

Check your email for further information and ways you can participate in this annual event.

**Birch Creek Jazz Ambassadors to Perform at The Garden Door**

We are pleased to announce that the **Birch Creek Jazz Ambassadors** will be performing at **The Garden Door** on **Friday July 17, 2015 from 7 pm to 9 pm**. Please put this date in your calendar.

Watch your emails for more details on this fun event.

# June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Ed Comm Mtg, 1 pm, PARS	3	4	5	6
7	8 Plant Sale Recap 5:30 pm, PARS	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Long Range Planning Comm 6:30 pm, PARS	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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

# July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Open House The Garden Door 11 AM – 2 PM
12	13 TGD Comm Mtg 5:30 pm, PARS	14	15 Board Mtg 5:30 pm, PARS	16	17 Birch Creek Concert, 7-9 pm, TGD	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	WIMGA 2015 Conference, La Crosse, 7-31 through 8-01