



# Waupaca County February 2017 Master Gardener Volunteers' Newsletter

**Master Gardener Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month.**

**In the event that a meeting or event is canceled due to weather, please listen to WJMQ 92.3 and WDUX 92.7 for cancellation information. We will also attempt to notify members via email.**

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**Unless otherwise stated, meetings and programs will be held in the lower level of the Waupaca County Courthouse.**

**February 9, 2017  
Waupaca County Courthouse  
6:00 Social**

**6:30 Business Meeting  
7:30 Program-Shelly Graziano Christie  
"Hooked on Hydrangeas!"**

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### **2016 Executive Board Members**

**President: Rebecca Weber-Schmoll  
Vice-President: Sally Marchel/Handrich  
Secretary: Deana Hirte  
Treasurer: Bridget Kurth  
Member at Large: Patty Tomczak-Virnig  
Member at Large: Susan Young  
Past President: Susan Morack  
State Board Rep: Pat Ritchie  
UWEX Advisor: Greg Blonde**

**From Greg Blonde:** MGV members please contact my secretary or me at 715-258-6230 extension 2 with any changes regarding contact information. For example send a change in name, email, mailing address, or phone number.  
greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu

### **Programs**

February 9, 2017

Waupaca County Courthouse

6:00 Social

6:30 Business Meeting

7:30 Program-Shelly Graziano Christie  
"Hooked on Hydrangeas!" With So many new hydrangeas available, many of us are hooked. These new hydrangeas grow in a colder climate, need less space, and the blossoms are incredible. What's not to like? Shelly will highlight different hydrangea species focusing on hydrangeas hardy to our zone, care, growing conditions and more.

*Shelly is the owner of Graziano Gardens LLC, a local garden center and specialty landscape design company. Since 2005, Shelly has been designing gardens & landscapes unique to each customer's style.*

This program is open to the public so invite a guest.

March 9, 2017

Waupaca County Courthouse

6:00pm Social

6:30pm Business Meeting

7:30pm Program Ken Williams

"Beekeeping" with Ken Williams

Everything and more you would like to know about Beekeeping and more.

April 13, 2017

Waupaca County Courthouse

6:00pm Social

6:30pm Business Meeting

7:30pm Program Tammy Borden

"Designing with Hosta"

### **Membership Committee**

We will be carrying our new Membership Initiative into 2017. Each month we will have a drawing to offer a "free" registration for any educational event you wish to attend.

Our Membership Committee will cover this

registration up to \$50.00. There are several educational events offered this winter and spring

so we hope you take advantage of them. Congratulations!! Winners so far: Pat R., Connie Z., Peggy K., Chris B., and Bridget K.

### **2017 GardenWalk/Art Stroll**

Our next committee meeting will be Thursday, March 9, 5:30, in our regular meeting room in the Courthouse.

### **Spring Plant Sale Meeting** **Thursday, Feb. 9, 5:00pm** **Courthouse before meeting**

Mark your calendars, the Spring Plant Sale is Saturday, May 20, 2017, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Spring Plant sale is one of our main fundraisers and helps WCMGV's lay the financial footings for all of our upcoming activities, education and community support. All members are strongly encouraged to participate!

Right now you can start making a list of the plants you need to dig and divide in your garden. You can also start seeds and nurture plants along to sell at the Spring Sale. Estimate the number of plants you can donate. Maybe its time to thin out those overgrown clumps of perennials!

Get your labels ready. Need labels? We will have a supply for you at the April and May meetings as well as sent to you via e-mail. Remember to use clear tape over the label, so the plant information does not get washed away in the rain.

Sign up! The list will be passed around at the April and May meetings. We need your help as greeters, cashiers, reference table help, personal shoppers, flyer distributors, refreshments, checking in plants, set-up and clean up. We will also need a "Welcome Display" - if you have ideas let us know. This years Spring Plant Sale Co-Chair is Sally Marchel Handrich & if you'd like to help as a co-chair, let me know. Thank you. Please contact Sally at [sallymarchelhandrich@hotmail.com](mailto:sallymarchelhandrich@hotmail.com) if you

are interested in any special assignment at the plant sale.

### **January Meeting Minutes**

The January 12 meeting was called to order by Rebecca Weber-Schmoll at 6:30 p.m. at the Waupaca County Courthouse. Sixteen members were in attendance, along with two guests.

The minutes of the December, 2016, meeting were approved through a motion by Peggy Kramer, seconded by Sally Marchel Handrich. Bridget Kurth, treasurer, gave the financial report, detailing expenses, deposits, and the organization's current balance.

Ila reported for the Audit Committee: "The audit committee reviewed the treasurer's checkbook entries for checks and deposits. The committee also reviewed the certificates of deposit, according to the account information received from the bank. We found all to be 100% accurate, and commend the treasurer for her diligent effort." (Tom Sanders and Terry Kramer)

Ryan Esch, our 2016 scholarship recipient, has fulfilled the organization's requirements for payment. Our treasurer will forward a check to Ryan.

Patty Tomszak-Viring volunteered to help with the newsletter mailing for the month of February.

Sally reported for the membership committee. A drawing was held to select a recipient for \$50.00 to be put toward attendance at an educational program. Bridget Kurth was this month's winner.

Sue Morack asked for unsharpened garden tools to be used in our MG display at the 2017 Home Show on March 4-5, 2017.

Sally reported that the Shelley Christie will present the February meeting program, the topic being hydrangas.

Members were given organizational papers for our three-ring binders. Please let Sally or Rebecca know if you find errors. Related to

this, Bridget and Susan Morack detailed the information related to the 2017 budget.

A chairman is needed for the Waupaca Children's Garden.

A paper vote was taken to determine the desires of our group regarding regular meeting times. The results were: night: 10 votes, day: 5 votes. The executive committee will address these results.

Pat Ritchie gave the State Representative Report. She encouraged members to read the current State Newsletter, noting especially the article detailing NJHA, the National Junior Horticulture Association. She awarded certificates to Sue Morack (500 hours) and Virginia Morgan (150 hours.) Pat also mentioned events in the upcoming months in Wausau, Amherst, and Oshkosh.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

Submitted by acting secretary, Ila Sanders.

### **President's Letter, February 2017**

I had a wonderful letter all planned. My letter was tied into the Green Bay Packers going to the Super Bowl this year. I was going to write how we could all plant green and gold flowerbeds in honor of our world champ football team. (There really are lots of green and gold annuals that can be planted.) But the Green Bay Packers are not going to the Super Bowl this year. There one thing that Packer fans and gardeners do have in common. Hope springs eternal.

Right now there seems to be a lot of anxious people out there. The political climate of our country has many people worried and feeling unsettled. Will there be changes to Medicare, Social Security, and health insurance? Time will tell.

We Master Gardeners have two wonderful ways to cope with our anxious thoughts: volunteer and garden! Studies after study have shown that both of these activities are good for one's emotional and physical wellbeing.

Let me remind you of several volunteer opportunities coming your way. The WDUX Home Show is March 4 and 5. Contact Susan M. to help with this project.

Planning is underway for both our spring plant sale and our garden/art walk. Sally is looking for a co-chair to the plant sale. Ila is chairing the garden/art walk committee. More gardens are needed for the walk, so let Ila know of any gardens that would be suitable for our walk. Feel free to contact committee chairs, Ila and Sally, to become involved in these two M.G. projects.

2017 Master Gardener training is also under way. Classes are held Tuesday evenings from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. February 7 through May 9. The registration brochure states that each session will also feature a local U.W.- Extension Master Gardener volunteer who will showcase and explain a different volunteer project that participants can get involved with after completing the training program. So, we need to contact Greg at the extension office (715-258-6231) to attend a class session. This is a great way to get future members excited about joining the Waupaca Master Gardeners. Plus you can earn volunteer hours doing this.

Gardening is another great way to deal with the daily stress of life. This would be an ideal time to walk your property to mark any shrubs and trees in need of pruning. I am practicing renewal pruning of bushes for the second year now. Lengths of embroidery floss tied around a branch needing to be cut works great. After the branch is cut off and discarded to the brush pile, that piece of embroidery floss can be material for a bird building a nest.

If pruning is not a stress reliever for you, paging through gardening books and seed catalogs is relaxing. Read over last year's garden journal to reflect and plan what changes you will be doing in your yard. There are also a number of gardening conferences going on at this time of year. Pat R. can provide you with this information or see our state web site. Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo is February 10 to 12. What an early Valentine present for any gardener!

Until that last forgotten Christmas decoration is packed away.....**Rebecca**

No February birthdays.

