



President's Corner

by Pat Adrian

I'd like to introduce the new officers, board members and myself. Liz Burke will become president-elect. Lindy Pawlak, treasurer, will reprise her role this year; her experience will be helpful to me. Bonnie Papham takes over the demanding role of secretary and noting all the important details of meetings. Joy Towell moves to board chairperson; Jeff Trader, 2nd year board member brings his expertise; and Mary Korntved begins a full 1st year board position after stepping up to serve in an interim position during 2014. Bill Shaffer and Patty Witt have agreed to serve as board members at large. The board has its work cut out for it as budget requests and policy changes are guaranteed every year. As your new president, I'm counting on your support and patience, qualities for which you are all famous.

SEWMG accomplished great things in 2014 including UW-Extension training over 100 new master gardeners, supporting 40+ community gardens, providing educational programs, conducting garden tours, diagnosing countless plant problems, supporting our organization with funds from plant sale profits and so much more. That's a lot of volunteer hours spent working but also having some fun along the way.

Looking ahead, how can we

top 2014? Well, for starters, we'll kick off the year with the annual Volunteer Opportunity Fair. If you attend, expect to better understand both the depth and breadth of community service opportunities SEWMG provides; you'll be sure to find that niche for yourself in our volunteer network. The "Dig Team" has already collected a good variety of plants for the annual Plant Sale. You can help out by assessing your own gardens for plants (see the "Desired Plant" list at our Website) that you are willing to share. Make plans to learn more by enrolling in Level 2 training, touring gardens, attending conferences (State WIMGA Conference - July 31st/Aug 1st in La Crosse, WI; International MG Conference - September 22nd to 25th in Council Bluffs, Iowa), and listening to Garden Talk on WPR.

2015 can be the year of involvement for you! Participate in committee activities, step into a leadership role by heading up a garden committee or nominate yourself for an officer position. Become a plant diagnostic specialist, give a talk in your community, or teach a child to garden. Brainstorm your ideas for SEWMG's future with other master gardeners.

Monthly business meetings continue to be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:30 A.M., with the exception of May when it is held on the Wednesday following the Annual Plant Sale. Until more of the highway construction is completed and freeway access unimpeded, we'll continue to meet at Boerner Botanical Gardens and, occasionally, at Waukesha County Courthouse.

Many thanks to the great group of officers and board members who served in 2014. Diane Thieme is my role model for organization and calmness in the face of chaos. Lindy Pawlak is incredibly patient and competent in the role of treasurer. Linda Ziebell recorded our meeting decisions promptly and accurately. I saw the board members at work during the 2014 budgeting process and have much respect for their willingness to make the tough funding decisions. Thank you so much for making SEWMG successful.

"Anyone who thinks gardening begins in spring and ends in fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream." Josephine Nuese

So now, let's sit back and peruse those gardening catalogs and start that spring To-Do list!

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Volunteer & Education Opportunities

by Nancy Lehrer, UW-Extension Program Volunteer Coordinator at MCCC

Happy New Year! A New Year, a new garden plan! I hope you are enjoying the brisk January evenings, a perfect time to plan your garden and start fresh with a new palette of color and plant choices.

2014 was another great year of MGV presentations! MGVs have shared their joy and knowledge of gardening with 47 different organizations and gave 73 presentations. Many of the organizations have numerous requests in one year! We staffed 16 booths; the Model Backyard at the 2014 State Fair, Home Show and Art in Bloom reached the largest public audiences. Throughout the Milwaukee and Waukesha area, six garden tours also helped us reach out to many different neighborhoods. Thanks to everyone for your expertise and love of gardening.

Coming Attractions:

January

January 14th, 2015, 9:30 A.M. **SEWMG**

Monthly Business Meeting, Boerner Botanical Gardens, Hales Corners.

January 17th, 2015, 9:30 A.M. - Noon, **Volunteer Opportunity Fair** at Boerner Botanical Gardens. This is a perfect opportunity to chat with MGs that have personal experience at our approved gardens and approved projects. Come and find out more about the many activities of SEWMG.

An educational speaker immediately follows the Opportunity Fair. (*You must register* for the talk with the In-House Education Committee.)

February

Speakers' Workshop: Stay tuned for an e-mail regarding the workshop. It will Saturday, February 14th from 9:00 A.M. - noon.

Volunteer Celebration/Graduation Wednesday, February 4th, 2015, 6:30 P.M. First Congregational Church of

Wauwatosa 1511 Church St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213-2593

February 11th, 2015, 9:30 A.M. **SEWMG Monthly Business Meeting**, Boerner Botanical Gardens, Hales Corners.

March

March 11th, 2015, 9:30 A.M. **SEWMG Monthly Business meeting**, Boerner Botanical Gardens, Hales Corners.

March 20th-29th **Home Show**, Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park. (The show is closed Monday, March 23rd and Tuesday, March 24th) Watch for sign up information to staff our booth. Two speakers are also needed during the Home Show's Solutions Stage presentations.



Thoughts from a Master Gardener Volunteer by MGV Margaret Krueger

I thought about taking the Master Gardener program for years. I would go back and forth between not having enough time and not being convinced that I would learn anything new. After all, I had been gardening for decades and I had learned a lot from the master green thumb...my mom! But then, as I started to think about retiring from my long time job at the

Margaret took the master gardener training during the fall of 2012. Her career spans many years, first in Membership and Marketing and later in Information Technology at the YMCA. She has volunteered at Ten Chimneys, Kneeland Walker, on the Technology Committee and the Plant Sale Facebook page.

YMCA, I knew that I would have a little extra time on my hands and I was intrigued about the volunteer aspect of the Master Gardener Program. I had long admired the gardens at Eble, Ten Chimneys and the Kneeland Walker House. The opportunity to work in these gardens alongside other Master Gardeners was very appealing so I thought I'd give it a go.

What was that I said about not learning anything new? HAH!!! Mostly I discovered that I really knew very little about gardening after all. The late Maya Angelou once said, "I've learned that I still have a lot to learn." This pretty much sums up my experience in the Master Gardening course. What a relief it was when Sharon Morrissey reminded us that we weren't actually required to know everything...just as long as we knew where to find the answers. I looked

forward to the Monday night class at Boerner every week, always in awe of the wealth of knowledge that Sharon shared. I knew I made the right decision immediately. Of course, meeting and getting to know fellow gardeners was an added bonus...more people to share with and learn from. If only the class could have continued for another 13 weeks! But what I didn't expect was that once the class was over the learning was definitely not. Being part of the Master Gardener community opens up so many ongoing educational opportunities. I've attended lectures by garden authors, a rain garden workshop and on-line training classes. It's endless!

No doubt about it! My decision to become a Master Gardener volunteer was a good one and I intend to keep the learning going for a long time to come.

Garden Support Committee Update

by MGVs Patty Witt and Ken Loeffel, Garden Support Committee Co-Chairs

The Garden Support Committee (GSC) lends support to approved gardens through events and visits to the gardens. We always welcome MGVs to join us at our GSC meetings. We will have our next meeting on Wednesday, January 7th, 2015, at 9:30 A.M. This will be held at Boerner Botanical Garden Education & Visitors Building.

Volunteer Opportunity Fair - On Saturday, January 17th, 2015, from 9:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M., the Garden Support Committee will once again sponsor the Volunteer Opportunity Fair. This is an opportunity for our new Master Gardener Volunteers-in-Training as well as any of our current Master Gardener Volunteers to come and check out the forty plus opportunities to earn your 24 plus required volunteer hours. This event will be held at the Boerner Botanical Gardens Education and Visitors Building. This is located at 9400 Boerner Drive (just west of S 92nd St in Hales Corners).

Explore the opportunities at our approved Gardens and other MGV Projects. Displays will be set up by the garden and project chairs so you can learn where and how you can volunteer. Sign-up sheets will be available. The displays will be arranged by geographic location of the gardens/projects (such as Southern Milwaukee County, Northern Milwaukee County, Waukesha County, etc.) to aid you to find places near your home. **The displays will be open from 9:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.** We will have refreshments and goodies (breakfast type) for your enjoyment. Yum! *No registration is needed.*

Plus a Speaker

From 11:00 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. the In-House Education Committee will hold an educational presentation. *Everyone who wishes to attend the educational program must pre-register.* This program will count towards your

required education hours. (Please see the In-House Education article on page 7.)

Garden Chair Forum - On Thursday, March 19th, 2015, the Garden Support Committee will sponsor a Garden Chair Forum. This event is for all Approved Garden Chairs. More details to follow in the Mar/Apr Newsletter.

2015 Public Garden Tours. Susan Ratkowski and Liz Burke are planning SEWMG Garden Tours in 2015. The gardens have been selected and the public visits will take place on **Saturday, August 8th, 2015**, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. We will have more information regarding these tours and the selected gardens in the next newsletter. So --save the date and tell your friends about this event.

Please contact Patty Witt at pattywitt8@gmail.com or Ken Loeffel at kloeffel@wi.rr.com with any ideas or comments for the GSC.

Holiday Cheer



Dues News - It's Time to Re-up

by *MGV Patty Witt, Membership Chair*

Just \$10 will cover your annual membership dues for the local and state master gardener association. You will more than recoup your investment. Throughout the year, SEWMG provides free and informative educational programs about a subject you love - gardening. You can also enjoy low-cost trips and tours to botanical sites. The state program office offers MGVs newsletters and insights from Susan Mahr and Mike Maddox (UW-Madison). Make sure to stay in touch.

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do it NOW.

SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, Inc.
Annual Dues Application
2015 DUES

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: [home] _____

Telephone: [cell] _____

e-mail address: _____

New Membership _____ Renewed Membership _____

Please share with us your skills, special talents, or areas of interest

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graphics/displays | <input type="checkbox"/> Finances/accounting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching/education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project management | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative/support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Editing |

Other: _____

SEWMG DUES: \$10.00 PER YEAR

(INCLUDES MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR WIMGA)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SEWMG

PLEASE MAIL TO: SEWMG
P.O. Box 26453
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0453

Dues are payable by November 1st, 2014

The Year in Review *by MGV Diane Thieme, 2014 President*

As the year winds down, it is time to reflect upon some of our 2014 achievements. Certainly, our greatest achievement each year is the impact that we had on the thousands of people who visited our Waukesha and Milwaukee county sponsored gardens, who reaped the harvest of our sponsored fruit and vegetable gardens, who learned from the many UW Extension MGV presentations, who visited our information booth and displays at the home show and fall festival, and who toured the demonstration gardens during State Fair. We should all be very proud of the many contributions we have made to our communities!

Our annual plant sale was a huge success despite the cold, late, rainy (snowy!) spring. It truly was lousy weather to dig and pot perennials, but it didn't stop dozens of MGVs from showing up to work at every Pot-A-Thon. Fortunately, the plant sale committee has also established a solid working relationship with a couple of wholesalers who provided back-up plants to fill our donation gaps. Thankfully, Mother Nature did cooperate on plant sale day by giving us sunshine. Plans are already under way for the 2015 sale. It will be the 20th anniversary of the sale. We will be celebrating this milestone in a special way. Watch for announcements!

We have been working on improving

the use of the ListServe and making our e-mails less intrusive. With the help of MGV Candy Krepel and the cooperation of garden/project chairs, members now receive one weekly e-mail with a chart listing all of the volunteer hours scheduled for the week. This allows members to match their availability with the work schedules of the various gardens. Along with some member reminders about proper use of the ListServe, the number of e-mails being sent has been reduced significantly without sacrificing the sharing of needed information.

The extension and SEWMG have also been working on converting and updating all of our website forms and documents to more efficient versions, with the ultimate long term goal of online reporting. Computer training has been - and will be - scheduled to keep members up to date on any

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changes and to increase comfort levels with these changes. The updates are leading to a much more efficient system of record keeping.

Personal growth for MGVs was encouraged through the outstanding classes offered by our in house education programs and trips/tours. Thank you to Rita Piper, Doris Fons, and their committees for a marvelous variety of educational opportunities and tours this past year. The diversity of programs presented something for everyone: roof top gardens, rain gardens, herbs, garden design, Milwaukee greenhouse tour, MMSD tour, Green Bay Botanical Garden tour, and many more.

Sadly, cancer continues to inflict its suffering on too many of our members. Under the leadership of Kay Costello, MGVs participated in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. We walked to honor, support, and remember our members who have been impacted by this horrendous disease. We should be proud that we were able to donate over \$3,600 to continue the fight.

Finally, we rejoice in the DOT accomplishments. We can now access Watertown Plank Road from a couple routes. We can, once again, park in the parking lot. Return to our home base is slowly becoming a reality.

MGV Kris Jensen

by MGV Janet Wintersberger

Master Gardener Kris Jensen died in November. Kris was very active in our organization and was our 2013 president. She launched our organization's comprehensive inventory system, helped with each plant sale, and co-chaired the Butterfly Habitat Garden at the Milwaukee County Zoo and the gardens

at the Lowell-Damon House. Kris worked behind-the-scenes as her illness progressed. But she was always willing to take on another challenge and meet another deadline.

MGVs will miss her.



News from the County Offices *by Sharon Morrisey, UWEX-Milwaukee Consumer Hort.*

Agent & Ann Wied, UWEX-Waukesha County Hort. Educator

Road Construction Completed More Parking Available

Ribbon cutting for the Watertown Plank Road interchange was held on December 2nd. All entrance and exit ramps are open and Watertown Plank Rd. itself is completely passable. Since the reconstruction of the Bluemound Road bridge has affected travel on that street as well as Wisconsin Ave, the Rt. 45 interchange with Watertown Plank Rd. is recommended.

Additional parking is also now available for the Milwaukee County UWEX office with more being added by next summer. Currently, there is sufficient parking for committees and small groups to meet at the Milwaukee County office for daytime or evening meetings.

SEWMG general meetings and programs can be scheduled for our facilities again beginning by late summer or early fall of 2015.



SEWMG Directory 2015

The directory of names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses for all of the SEWMGs is scheduled to be ready to send by January 1st, 2015. It will include all certified MGVs plus the MGVs-In-Training. We will send it as a Word file attached to a ListServe message. We will also mail copies to all who do not have e-mail. We will print a limited number of copies that can be requested at the front desk of the Milwaukee County UWEX office on Watertown Plank Road. Upon receipt, check your listing in it and, if changes are needed, send a ListServe message so all of us can change our copies of the Directory. We will try to make all of those corrections and then resend a revised version sometime in April or May.

Volunteer Celebration 2015

The annual Volunteer Celebration will be held on Wednesday evening, February 4th at 6:30 P.M. at the First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa. It will include both graduation of the

MGV trainees from fall of 2013 (yes, that's 2013) and recognition for outstanding service in 2014. Invitations will be sent soon. The more the merrier! Can't wait to find out who Miss Piggy goes home with this year!

Volunteer opportunities:

Pan-African Community Association in winter

SEWMG volunteers are continuing the youth gardening program that we have been conducting for two summers with youth at the Pan-African Community Association through the winter months. Lead MGV Diane Roznowski, has scheduled plant and garden-related activities twice a month on Tuesday evenings from 5:15 - 6:15. Contact Diane at diane.roznowski@gmail.com. Look for the display at the Volunteer Opportunity Fair on January 17th.

Home & Garden Show

MGVs have a large booth at this annual event held at State Fair Park in the Expo Center from March 20th - 29th (closed Monday & Tuesday, March 23rd & 24th). The topic is being determined with input from a survey of SEWMGs. Once again MGV Faouzi Kablaoui will handle the scheduling of volunteers to staff the booth so watch for an e-mail from him. Contact him directly if you do not have e-mail.

Once the topic is selected, a committee will begin designing the booth. For example, last year the topic was fruits so MGVs made "mock" strawberry beds, grape arbors, apple trees and raspberry patches. The information booth was in the form of a fruit stand complete with a red and white checked valence. So, if you enjoy being creative or you are a frustrated set designer or window dresser (that just doesn't sound right!), watch for the ListServe recruiting committee members. Or just contact Sharon Morrisey to get on the list.

Continuing Education Opportunities: Courses, workshops and certifications

UWEX will be offering several courses and workshops in the next couple of months that are open to all MGVs, both

certified and In-training (with the exception of SEWMG Level 2 training). They are:

Speakers' Workshop & PowerPoint Training

Again this spring Sharon Morrisey will conduct a workshop for MGVs who are interested in making public presentations on gardening topics. It will be held on a Saturday morning February 14th from 9:00 - 12:00 (3 hrs. Continuing Education (CE) credit). It covers tips for speakers, ways to use a variety of different visual aids from low-tech flipcharts to PowerPoint presentations. You will also learn the procedures to use to schedule a presentation, to reserve the laptop and projector, to checkout existing PowerPoint presentations and to arrange for handouts. There is no fee for this workshop; just e-mail or call Sharon to register.

A separate session on creating PowerPoint presentations is a new offering this year from the SEWMG Tech Committee. It will also be held on a Saturday, March 7th from 9:00 A.M. to noon at the UW-Extension office. Watch for more information through the ListServe. This will count for CE credit.

Pruning Workshop Information Coming Soon

Watch your e-mails for registration information for the annual hands-on Pruning Workshop taught by Sharon Morrisey and Ann Wied each year. We offer two workshops and they are held in March or early April. We schedule one workshop on a Saturday morning and one on a weekday. In addition, we try to hold one in Waukesha County and one in Milwaukee County. Participants can choose the one that is the most convenient to them. Both workshops cover the same thing. Workshop participants learn when to prune and proper pruning techniques for trees and shrubs. The general public is also invited. Registration is required and there is a fee to attend this half-day



(Continued on page 7)

workshop. (3 hrs. CE credit.)

Master Composter Training May Be Offered

A UW-Extension Master Composter Training workshop may be held in Waukesha County in late winter or spring of 2015. This one-day workshop will provide training for those who want to teach others about home composting, including backyard composting and vermicomposting with earthworms. This workshop will be open to the general public. We hope to have a confirmation with dates



shortly. Each year this workshop is held at four to five locations throughout the state. Watch your e-mails for announcement and information. (Approx. 6 hrs. CE credit)

Statewide On-line Level 2

The topic this year for the state MGV Program office's Level 2 training will have to do with herbaceous perennials and botanical gardens. You will receive a ListServe message with the details as soon as the sessions are announced. This training is completely on-line with presentations to watch on your own before the live sessions with specialists who answer questions and provide supplemental information. This training is open to all MGVs, both certified and In-Training. Fees will be announced. (Approx. 21 hrs. CE credit)



SEWMG Level 2

This advanced training is open only to certified MGVs from the 2013 training and earlier. It will consist of 4 - 5, three-hour sessions held weekly during March at Boerner Botanical Gardens. Dates are yet to be determined. The topic is Gardening with Wildlife. Speakers will make live presentations about attracting wildlife including pollinators along with tips for controlling wildlife. Registration will be sent by ListServe in late January and be posted on the SEWMG website. Fees should be around \$90. (Brochures will be mailed to MGV that have no e-mail.) (12-15 CE credits.)

In-House Education Committee

by MGV Rita Piper, Committee Chair

The In House Education committee is pleased to announce the educational sessions for 2014.

Saturday, January 17th 11 A.M. - 12:30 P.M., immediately following the Volunteer Fair at Boerner Botanical Garden.

Dave Wanninger, Horticulturist in Charge, Boerner Botanical Gardens; **Not the Same Old, Same Old: New, Better Shrubs & Perennials for Success in the Home Garden.**

Dave will talk to us about what is new in shrubs and perennials for 2015. Learn about some of the newer varieties that have been proven to work, especially in shade gardens. We all tend to rely on our favorites, but perhaps it's time to find some new ideas to change up your garden without a total makeover. Come kick off the new gardening year with this knowledgeable, entertaining speaker. Dave will also share some insight into what is new at Boerner Gardens.

Preregistration required Register by clicking on this link.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sewmg1-15>

If you do not have an e-mail address,

you may register by calling Judy Williamson at 262-691-9391.

Saturday, February 7th, 2015 - 10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. at New Berlin Library

Dan Panetti, Owner, Wild Birds Unlimited in Mequon **Creating a Backyard Wildlife Habitat**

Dan will cover the food, water, houses/covers, and places to raise young, and native plants to enhance our own bird and wildlife populations. He will show us how to maximize and draw more bird species to our yards, how to improve the population of birds in general, and why it is so important to focus on native plants.

Dan is on the Board of Directors for the Milwaukee Audubon Society, started a Bird Club 12 years ago at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, and is active with the Pine View Wildlife

Rehabilitation Center. He looks forward to sharing his knowledge with us.

Preregistration is required and will be accepted at a later date.

Speakers for the remainder



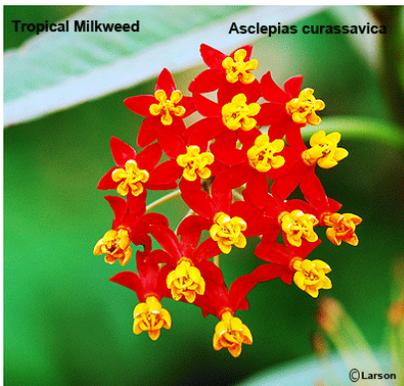
of the year are currently being confirmed. As always, we welcome your ideas for speakers and topics. Next time you hear an informative local speaker, please send us the name and topic, so that we can build a file of recommended speakers for future presentations.

Although we are still working on speakers for some of these here is the tentative schedule for the remainder of the year.

- ☼ March: No program due to Level II training
- ☼ April: Monarch Butterflies or Hay Bale Gardening
- ☼ May: Adaptive devices for life long gardening: SEWMG Lifelong Gardening Committee
- ☼ September: Seed saving/storing bulbs
- ☼ October: Putting your garden to sleep
- ☼ November: House plants, Heidi Horning, Shady Lane Nursery

Not all milkweeds are created equal

The decline of habitat and resultant decline in monarch butterfly populations of about 90% in Mexico in 2013 has spurred a flurry of milkweed planting because it is the sole food source for monarchs. A New York Times article relates studies done at the Univ. of GA that show that the most widely available spp. for planting in southern states is a non-native called tropical milkweed. Unlike native



milkweeds that dieback in winter, this sp. continues growing which can confuse butterflies so they reproduce rather than migrate. This could have even further negative impacts on the already declining population.

There are 14 WI native milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.), the most common of which include common m. (*A. syriaca*), butterfly m. (*A. tuberosa*), swamp m. (*A. incarnata*) and purple m. (*A. purpurascens*).

DATCP year-end pest summary

The final issue of the Wisconsin Pest Bulletin from DATCP for 2014 summarizes the season and pest problems of note. Among them are a few new or rapidly increasing ones that gardeners should be watching for.

Lily leaf beetle was first discovered in WI this June in Marathon Co. All 17 reports were from Marathon Co. so far. **Daylily leafminer** was discovered in July at nurseries in Dane and Milwaukee Counties. **Spotted wing drosophila**, discovered in WI in 2010 is now in 36 counties but is suspected to exist throughout the state. **Impatiens downy mildew** has been widespread in U.S. greenhouses and landscapes in the last three years. In 2014, the UW Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab confirmed five cases but many more cases were reported to county Extension personnel and volunteers. Over 30 states are now reporting this disease. **Basil downy mildew**, first reported in WI in 2010, was confirmed at 3 retailers in Brown Co. with many unconfirmed cases reported around the state.

The following established pest problems were summarized as well: **Gypsy moth** counts decreased substantially in 2014. This follows the trend for the past several years of approximately 60% decreases. The decreases in 2014 are attributed to the frigid winter and abnormally wet spring. The highest counts were in Bayfield, Jackson and Monroe counties. Trempealeau County reported a major increase.

Emerald ash borer was newly detected in 51 sites resulting in an additional 16 counties being added to the quarantine area that now includes 37 of our 72 counties. Populations increased in already infested areas especially in the southeast where it was first discovered in 2008. **Japanese beetle** populations were down across the state with some increase in the west-central and northern counties where their range is expanding. Feeding continued into late

September. **Late blight** was reported for the sixth consecutive year on potatoes in WI that prior to 2009 had not been reported in the state since 2002. Reports this year came from 8 counties including one on tomato in Milwaukee and two from Waukesha, one each on potato and tomato. Other common pests that were more troublesome this season include **squash bug**, **blossom end rot**, **several native grape moths**, and **striped cucumber beetle**. Virus monitoring and testing resulted in detection of numerous infestations. Inspectors tested 228 plants from 80 genera from 71 retailers finding 37% infested with at least one virus including tobacco rattle v., impatiens necrotic spot v., cucumber mosaic v., tomato spotted wilt v., hosta virus X, dahlia common mosaic caulimovirus. The new **clematis chlorotic mottle tobusvirus** was detected in 5 of their 6 samples. Let's not overlook the discovery of the non-native, invasive **crazy worms** at Wehr Nature Center and in Riverwest as well as several other sites around the state including Appleton and the Green Bay Botanic Garden.

More information on all of these can be found by searching the internet using the suffix "site:.edu". Back issues of the DATCP's WPB are available at <https://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/pb/>.



Time for an Inventory *by MGV Diane Thieme*

Garden Chairs, Project Chairs,
Committee Chairs, Members:

We are in the process of updating the SEWMG inventory files. Please check the inventory on the documents page of the website

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg/documents/>
to see if all of your equipment is on file. If you made purchases of equipment or items which should be in

our records or discarded items which should be removed from our records, please fill out a Change of Inventory form also found on the website documents page. Forward that completed form to Diane Thieme at dianet1@execpc.com. Thank you.



Trips and Tours *by MGV Doris Fons, Chair Trips & Tours Committee*

Our first trip in 2015 will be on March 20th to the Chicago Flower & Garden Show. We will have one bus that will hopefully leave from the State Fair Park & Ride at 7:30 A.M., if there are no issues with construction, with a second pickup at the South West College Ave. Park & Ride at 8 A.M. Lunch will be on your own at Navy Pier or the food court in the Flower Show area. We will be returning by 5:30 P.M. traffic and weather permitting.

The fee will be \$32 for SEWMG members and \$37 for non-members. This includes your entry fee, the bus and bus driver tip. If you are a new MGV, your SEWMG dues were paid as part of your General Training fee.

Registration will begin at 6 A.M. on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2015, either by

e-mail to dorisann@wi.rr.com or phone at 414-425-6072. Please do not register twice. You will receive a confirmation if you are one of the first 55 to register. You will also receive a notice if you are on the waiting list. Registration is in order of time received. Letters will be sent out on February 16th to those that are part of the first 55 on the bus and cancellations will be filled from the waiting list. There will be no early registration accepted so please call or e-mail at the designated time. Your letter will have all information for payment and pick up times. Do not send payment at time of registration. Please wait until you receive your letter with instructions.

We are looking forward to a great day to get into the spirit of spring and a

new gardening season. You can check out the Chicago Flower Show on its website www.chicagoflower.com or just google Chicago Flower & Garden Show. It is always a fun day to leave winter behind and enjoy the coming season. See you on March 20th!

Bus Trip

Chicago Flower & Garden Show
March 20th, 2015
Leave at 7:30 A.M.
Return about 5:30 P.M.

(traffic and weather permitting)
\$32 MGV; \$37 non-members

Registration begins:

6 A.M. on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2015
e-mail dorisann@wi.rr.com
OR phone 414-425-6072

Please do not register twice.



Educating a Community

by Kathleen Miller, Waukesha Memorial Hospital

Each month from May through October 2014 Waukesha Memorial Hospital ProHealth Care, UW-Extension Waukesha County and UW Extension Master Gardeners collaborated to present garden talks to educate the community on the benefits of fresh produce. The hospital provided an area on its campus cafeteria courtyard for the SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners to create and cultivate a kitchen garden.

The Master Gardeners' objectives were to:

- ⊗ Design, create and manage a vegetable garden as a nutrition-learning tool for the community in collaboration with the hospital dietary staff.
- ⊗ Provide educational opportunities for the community to learn about science-based vegetable gardening recommendations.
- ⊗ Demonstrate the creation, management and harvesting of a vegetable garden.
- ⊗ Recommend resources available to the community in order to facilitate the creation of sustainable home gardens.

Each month's presentation focused on a relevant concern during the growing

season. The May talk was about planning and preparing a vegetable garden. June covered container gardening and herbs. Second crop plantings was the topic for July. Growing, tending and harvesting tomatoes were covered during the August meeting. The focus for September was cool weather crops, and the presentations ended in October with how to close up a garden for winter. During several talks, the hospital food service staff and dietician prepared a recipe using the garden produce. The dietician also did presentations on the health and wellness benefits of fresh produce as it related to chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

A noteworthy benefit of the garden was that most of the produce was donated to the *Waukesha Food Pantry*. Charlotte Borchert, the pantry's *Food Resource Director*, was extremely grateful for the fresh vegetables the UW-Extension Master Gardeners were able to provide her clients.

With consistently high community turnout, quality presentations by the UW-Extension SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteers and the hospital staff, and the large donations of food to the *Waukesha Food Pantry*,

the *Waukesha Memorial Hospital Garden Talks* were a success by any measure.

Ann Wied, UW-Extension Waukesha County Horticulture Educator, would like to extend a big thank you to the team of seven SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners who worked hard to make this a successful first-time project.

Juli Garton
Kent Simon
Ken Brandt
Cherie Rieck
Mary Jo Gehrking
Janet Barthel
Kathy Miller
Bob Miller



"To create a garden is to search for a better world." *Marina Schinle*

MGVs @ Work Gardening for Food *by MGV Janet Wintersberger*

There are five UW-Extension SEWMG approved gardens in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties that provide food to local food pantries. Of them, three (Harvest for the Hungry Garden, Eble Vegetable Garden and St. James' Field of Hopes and Field of Dreams) provided information about their harvest contributions for our newsletter. During this season of giving, it's wonderful to know that MGVs provide food for their communities.

The Harvest for the Hungry Garden is located at Fire Fly Ridge Community Garden site in Wauwatosa. "We just completed our 17th season. The purpose of the garden is to plant, raise, harvest, clean and deliver all the vegetables to either Tosa Food Pantry or Hunger Task Force. We had seven MGVs participating over the season. This season we turned in 1,345 pounds of fourteen varieties of vegetables. Over the years we have delivered a total of 11,446 pounds of vegetables to the pantries." Chair: Tom LeMoine.

Eble Vegetable Garden is located on

the north side of Bluemound Road in Brookfield. The newly expanded vegetable garden behind the garage provides copious amounts of fresh vegetables each year for the Waukesha Food Pantry. About eight master gardener volunteers regularly help in the gardens during the growing season. This year, they donated 1,526 pounds of various vegetables, including okra and tomatillos. Chair: Marie McGinnis.

The Fields of Hope & Dreams Community Gardens are located at St. James Church in Sussex.

St. James is one of six local churches with the Sussex/Hamilton School District that supports Sussex Outreach Services of which the Cooperating Churches of Sussex's (CCOS) food pantry is part. St. James donates all produce to the CCOS food pantry.

"All the produce harvested from our gardens are washed, dried, bagged in Ziploc bags, labeled with 'Field of Dreams' labels and boxed before being delivered to the CCOS food pantry. We include some recipes when we can

match a dish with a vegetable being donated. We record our donations in either quart Ziploc bags, or gallon Ziploc bags with larger fruit and produce reported as 'each' as in individual fruits."

In 2014, 1,040 quarts and 2,072 pieces (of fruit and vegetables) were shared with food pantry.

The list of items literally ranges from to A (Arugula) to Z (Zucchini).

"Overall it was a good year. Many people were surprised to learn of the number of vegetables being produced by volunteer gardeners. Thank you for SEWMG's support. We are encouraged to grow even more next year with the addition of our new (third) garden which is being named and will be ready for next spring's planting." Contact: Deb Schneider.





South East Wisconsin Master Gardeners

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Grow with us

Check out our website

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg>

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Our Mission Statement

To support and assist UW-Extension in community horticulture programs through volunteerism, education and environmental stewardship.