As Master Gardener Volunteers, we reach out to diverse groups with our educational presentations and garden projects. We share our University research-based gardening knowledge with people of differing ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, educational levels, ethnicities, and religions.

We grow food for food banks; teach life-long gardening principles to make gardening more accessible for the disabled and aged; provide public display gardens at State Fair Park, Milwaukee County Zoo, and other parks and public sites. We give education presentations throughout Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties to any groups and organizations that make a request.

Where we have been less successful is in developing diversity within our own organization. Many people do not know about the Master Gardener program, or do not understand what Master Gardeners do. Level I training classes are open to everyone over age 18, and SEWMG offers some partial scholarships to assist with tuition costs.

A new, temporary Outreach Committee is being formed to explore ways to “get the word out” about SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners and the Master Gardener program. The group will work with Ann Wied and Nancy Lehrer as UW-Extension liaisons. We plan to meet over the fall and winter, and to present our findings in the spring for the 2014 gardening season. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Kris Jensen at krisjensen@earthlink.net or at 414-774-4806.

Road Construction Update

As we move into autumn’s cooler weather, there will be more road closures near the Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension building on Watertown Plank Road.

Swan Boulevard will close this fall. The bridge over Hwy 45 is being demolished and replaced. The Park ‘n Ride lot on the north side of Watertown Plank Road will also be closed. Plan to use North Avenue, Hwy 100, and Watertown Plank Road to get around the closure.

Hwy 100 and Bluemound Road intersection is open. Yay!

Hwy 100 and Watertown Plank Road intersection is expected to open on August 11th, just in time for the SEWMG business meeting at MCCE on August 14th. Hurray!

Glenview Avenue / 84th Street is under construction from I-94 north to the Wisconsin Avenue intersection. The intersection at Glenview and Wisconsin is open, and there is access to Glenview north of Bluemound from Wisconsin Avenue. Glenview is closed just north of Bluemound Road, and there is no access to Glenview from the south. This will continue through August and possibly into September.

You can get the latest information on these and related road construction projects at http://projects.511wi.gov/web/zoo-interchange-project/overview

Safe travels and happy gardening!
A budget is an organizational plan stated in monetary terms. In summary, the purpose of budgeting is to:
1. Provide a forecast of revenues and expenditures, that is, construct a model of how our business should perform financially if certain strategies, events and plans are carried out.
2. Enable the actual financial operation of the business to be measured against the forecast.
3. Establish the cost constraint for a project, program or operation.

Budgets for SEWMG have gone through many changes over the years. Our income came from membership dues and a very small amount of fundraising in SEWMG’s initial years. Then we didn’t have much money or many things that we were spending it on. After our plant sale started, our budgets became more complicated; for years, a budget was passed as long as the bottom line did not exceed the total we had made in the last plant sale.

Years have come and gone and today our requests and our income have reached a point where we all must think long and hard about our expenditures. One of the important policies that were put into place with the earliest plant sale was to keep the income from the current year’s sale for the next year’s budget. That way we are always budgeting with known income.

Last year, in an effort to make that next step in the budgeting process, we asked those committees that have both income and expenses to budget for both. Having all the numbers for the equation will help everyone to understand the process.

One of the most common responses for just an expense budget is “But we charge for the program so we should not have to budget the expense.” Trips often come to mind for this; however, we have expenses that come due before the fees for the program come into the treasury. The bottom line for these types of committees will be zero with the income matching the expense.

Everyone is part of this process. Those of you who work in gardens or on the plant sale committee may have a great idea for next year’s committee. Tell the committee chair about those ideas so funds can be budgeted for them if funds are available. Committee chairs, talk to your workers, look for the projects that the group feels need to be done, find the costs for the desired projects and fill out the budget request by September 15th.

The budget request form can be found at http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg/documents/. This is a Word document.

Gardens asking for funding for 2014 must submit the Garden Annual Report. It may be found at http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg/documents/ as well, in word or PDF format. Garden projects that are not asking for funding only need to turn in the Annual Garden Report.

Please make sure the Finance Committee receives both the annual report and the budget requests in the same envelope by September 15th, 2013. Any budget request that lacks an annual report will cause delays.

Copies of these reports should be sent to:

The Finance Committee
Milwaukee County Extension Office, Building A
9501 W. Watertown Plank Road,
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3552

Printed copies only, please.
Volunteer Opportunities

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

Hello MGVs!

I hope everyone has enjoyed our beautiful Wisconsin summer. I had a very good year in my vegetable garden despite the slow start. I wish everyone a bountiful harvest!

I would like to extend a very special welcome to our Level 1 Master Gardener trainees! Best wishes for a fun and educational experience. FYI... Once class has started, you can start volunteering!

👩‍🏫 Volunteer and Continuing Education Hours are due September 15th. Please hand in the hours that have been completed by September 15th. Mail your completed forms to: MCCE, C/O Kathy Reese 9501 W. Watertown Plank Rd Building A, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3552.

🙋‍♀️ If you have not completed your hours yet, visit the SEWMG website for a listing of all the approved gardens.

🎉 Approved Gardens: Volunteers are always needed for weeding and watering, perhaps even some fall planting. The fall clean up will also be starting and will continue until the ground is frozen in December. Call the listed garden chair for details.

Local Farmers Markets: Staff a MGV booth at several local markets. Most of the farmers markets continue through October. We currently have booths at the West Allis, Whitefish Bay, Brookfield, Wauwatosa and Fox Point farmers markets.

Dates of Events & Volunteer Opportunities:
- September 9th or 10th - Starting dates for Level 1 MG training
- September 7th & 8th - Family Farm Weekend - volunteers are needed
- September 11th - Business Meeting 9:30 a.m. Waukesha County Courthouse
- September 14th - Havenwoods State Forest help with wood chipping, 9 a.m. to noon.
- September 26th - Milwaukee County Fair Open Class - Throughout the day, Open class competitors drop off their exhibits. I could use help from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. Contact Nancy 414 256-4661.
- September 27th-29th - Milwaukee County Fair - volunteers are needed to staff the MG booth, present short talks on horticulture topics or horticultural related information/crafts and assist with various Extensions related venues. All of these activities will count for MGV hours so please consider volunteering at the fair!

October 1st - Newsletter deadline
October 9th - Business Meeting 9:30 a.m. MCCE (Milwaukee County Cooperative Extension)

Book Review: The Brother Gardeners by Andrea Wulf

by MGV Leigh Schlueter

The six men Wulf brings to life in her historical work are all related through their studies. John Bartram, an American farmer, traveled the colonies and gathered seeds and shipped them to Peter Collinson in London. Peter Collinson, a British merchant, received seeds from America and recruited people of Europe to grow and buy seeds.

Botanist-adventurer Joseph Banks and his colleague Daniel Solander purchased the seeds, and became part of the horticulture community. Banks and Solander went on a remarkable adventure to gather the strange flora of Tahiti and Australia, bringing exotic plants and interest to London.

Philip Miller, author of the bestselling Gardeners Dictionary, and Swede, Carl Linnaeus, who created the first standardized botanical nomenclature, communicated (and rivaled) with the horticulture community of the time to relay their methods.

It is hard to imagine the concept of gardening and botany being nonexistent; Wulf introduces us to how unprecedented botany exploration was with the story of the first ever hybrid flower - a carnation and a clustering flower head of a sweet william cross pollinated with a feather by Thomas Fairchild in 1716.

Since it was seen as a blasphemous experiment of changing God’s creations, he was more anxious than excited when he produced the first hybrid flower.

This narrative history up to the 1790’s tells of the trials and tribulations of a few influential men who created the original conventions of botany and gardening. The world was changing and taking shape around them throughout the story, providing an interesting history lesson along the way.

The Brother Gardeners won the American Horticultural Society Book award in 2010. Author Andrea Wulf is a trained design historian from London’s Royal College of Art, the author of four books and writes regularly in major national publications.
How to Report Volunteer & Continuing Education Hours
By Judy Williamson MGV

Volunteer and Continuing Education Hours are due September 15th, 2013.

Old Volunteer Hours Sheets and/or State Volunteer Hours Sheets will no longer be accepted. They will be returned to you with instructions to re-submit using the correct form.

We know that you will find the new form so much easier than the older form.

Please note that you will need to have the Excel program on your computer.

Some folks have reported problems using this new form with a Mac Computer.

If you do not have Excel, or have problems with a Mac---print the pdf form and manually fill in your hours and write your totals on the sheet.

Locate the form on the Master Gardener Web Site.

http://fyi.uwex.edu/sewmg/documents/

Click on Volunteer Hours Sheet (Excel)

Download and save to your hard drive.

Review the form for an overview of how things will be reported and totaled.

Please be aware that there are two sheets to the workbook. The tabs on the bottom of the workbook indicate on which sheet you wish to enter hours.

❖ The first tab is for the volunteer hours.
❖ The second tab is for education hours.
❖ Just click on the appropriate tab to enter hours.

The new form only requires a summary of the hours you spend on each garden or project.

Each entry of hours will accommodate up to 999 hours.

❖ The form will make the decision if your hours are Community Education, Youth or Support.
❖ The form also adds up all your hours and puts them in their proper total category.

Please do not attempt to add any rows or columns to the worksheet.

If you need additional space to enter hours, use another worksheet.

Please print and mail your completed form to:

Milwaukee County UW-Extension
Attention Kathy Reese
9501 W. Watertown Plank Road,
Building A
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  53226-3552

Please do not send your timesheets to the treasurer with your dues as that delays Kathy’s receiving them.

Though many people would like to submit their hours electronically, the local extension office can only accept printed copies. This is due to limitations at the state-level.

Your name and the year you are reporting for are located in the Page Header of the document. You do not see it on your screen but, when you print the form, you will be able to fill in your name, e-mail address and the reporting year.

Save the completed forms. When you are ready to print, click the file tab at the top left, then click print. When the print box appears; look in this box near the bottom left.

You can choose to print only the Active Sheet or the Entire Workbook. You will need to print the Entire Workbook to print copies of the service hours and education hours.

Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Judy Williamson
jwilliamson13@wi.rr.com E-mail only please.
I hope all you MGVs have had a good summer. As usual, the weather has been all over the map, but as they say, if you don’t like the weather today, wait until tomorrow. It could be totally different because we’re in Wisconsin. It’s the time of year again to collect your volunteer hours, any budget requests for garden projects, and your dues for 2014. The volunteer hours and any budget requests are due by September 15th. Dues for 2014 are due by November 1st.

SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, Inc.
Annual Dues Application
2014 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

☐ Graphics/displays ☐ Finances/accounting

☐ Computer skills ☐ Teaching/education

☐ Project management ☐ Administrative/support

☐ Event planning ☐ Administrative/support

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, 2013

It’s the time of year again to collect your volunteer hours, any budget requests for garden projects, and your dues for 2014.
The Secret Gardens of Wauwatosa tour in July included the Learning Gardens at Kradwell and the Kneeland Walker Gardens. Here’s a look at the Learning Garden’s first-time garden tour.

What exciting news! The Learning Gardens at Kradwell on the campus of Aurora Behavioral Health in Wauwatosa was chosen to be one of the featured gardens on the Secret Gardens of Wauwatosa tour in 2013.

The Learning Gardens at Kradwell is a newer addition to MGVs approved sites. Only in its third summer, the size of many of the perennials, grasses and shrubs belied this fact. The Wauwatosa tour committee finally decided that the garden’s maturity would make it a wonderful choice.

But then, concerns set in. We were looking at three-quarters of an acre filled with numerous types of gardens (We are called the Learning Gardens, after all!). We did have some wonderful volunteers who were all put on alert, but the deadheading and weeding tasks always seemed insurmountable. And what about some areas that appeared a little too empty for my taste? Another alert! Did anyone have large pots or planters in bloom that we could borrow for the day? A mother-daughter MGV team drove in with some very heavy (but great looking) sun planters. I delivered some shade planters. These all made a real impact!

We were so very fortunate to have the owner of Northwood’s Laser Smart Garden Signs make beautiful pictorial colored signs explaining to the public what is meant by an upland prairie, a rain garden, a hosta garden and a butterfly garden. In addition, he created individual signs for some of the perennials, shrubs and trees. If I do say so myself, they reminded me of what one would see in a public botanic garden!

It wouldn’t be fair not to mention the grounds crew at Aurora for obtaining and planting some replacement shrubs and perennials. The head of grounds had taken more and more interest in the Learning Gardens. Being in charge of the entire campus, he had noticed how often employees and patients walked through, taking in some beautiful views. In addition, he saw the MGVs at work and realized that help was provided by volunteers. He has indicated that the Learning Gardens have provided an impetus for future gardens to be added to the campus.

On the morning of the tour (Saturday, July 13, 2013), we were all in place. The weather was, thankfully, just beautiful. Oh, oh. Construction work had closed off access from the south. We needed to contact the tour chair to get additional signs placed to direct traffic. Our location was not the easiest to find, even without construction. Fortunately, our visitors (600 in all) soon came streaming in!

Would we go through all this effort again? Yes! The public was made aware of the existence of a beautiful location. We know they were impressed because of their written comments in the guest book and because of all the conversations we had giving explanations and answering questions. What a gratifying day for all of us!
September 4th, 2013, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at the Milwaukee County Extension Office Building in the Auditorium Ted Haasch, MGV, presents Daylilies 101. During his one-hour presentation, Ted will share the basics of the daylilies including kinds, types, along with growth and maintenance tips.

Ted Haasch, a retired teacher in the Whitnall School District, became a MGV in 2007. He is also a member of the Daylily and Iris Societies. Because he enjoys working at events where he’ll meet people and may be able to help them with their problems or questions, he is a valued asset to the SEWMG organization. Ted has given Power Point presentations on two of Wisconsin’s favorite plants - daylilies and tomatoes. He truly reflects the volunteer spirit to “help where you can and share knowledge/information with others.”

Wednesday, September 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the Milwaukee County Extension Office Building in the Auditorium.
Ted Haasch, MGV, presents Daylilies 101.


Level I Training starts September 9th

Master Gardener Level I registration opened on Aug. 1st this year. We did things a little differently this year. During the week of July 22nd, all those on the waiting list received a “heads up” e-mail to let them know that the registration materials would be posted the week of July 29th.

We thought this might be helpful after hearing comments last year from those interested in taking training but did not get in the class. Another change is an increase in the number of people who can take training in both the daytime and evening classes. We hope this will accommodate the high interest in Level I training.
Our Mission Statement
To support and assist UW-Extension in community horticulture programs through volunteerism, education and environmental stewardship.