MGVs @ Work The Red Brick Museum & Gardens in Mukwonago by MGVs Vi Reinert & Bob Block

Built in 1842 by original Mukwonago settler Sewall Andrews, it was the first brick house in Waukesha County, and has been restored to a lovely Victorian home, reminiscent of the post-Civil War period. It was established as the Mukwonago Museum in 1967. A replica log cabin Trading Post is also on the property.

In 2013, the Red Brick Museum became an approved garden. The gardens are now maintained by three co-chairs and a dedicated group of other Master Gardeners and local volunteers. The gardens now consist of many annuals and perennials that line all of the buildings, as well as several free-standing gardens. There are also a number of trees, shrubs and a hedge.

Before the perennials, annuals and bulbs could be added, many hours were spent removing old plants and rocks. This year we were able to start a Heritage Garden along the side of the Red Brick House and add a second compost bin. There’s still work to be done.

We intend to continue improving the museum grounds and to educate visitors about the existing plants and about the heritage plants that would have been seen on the grounds in the nineteenth century. There is also a plan to put a rain garden in the back.