



University of Wisconsin-Extension

Chippewa County
Courthouse, Room 13
711 N. Bridge Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729



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Greetings Master Gardener Volunteers,

Summer is for gardening so we try to keep our CVMGA meetings few and fun. We will have a meeting in June on our regular day and time, but on-location so to speak at the pollinator garden at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds.

There we will check on the garden and hone our message about the importance of pollinators so that we can share it with tens of thousands of fairgoers who attend during fair week. See Mary Jo's description of CVMGA fair-week activities in this newsletter and then contact her to sign up for a shift. Volunteers last year had a great time talking bees and butterflies with the families who came by. Young (one youngster's mother said her son had learned about pollinators at preschool and couldn't stop talking about them. He was thrilled to see we were taking the issue seriously too.) and old (remember our 100-year-old visitor brought by his 80-year-old son?) are very receptive to our information.

In August, we will have a chance for some fellowship tied in with another great project that benefits pollinators. Sue Crisp and several other MGs have worked with the Friends of Lake Wissota State Park to create a monarch garden near the new park entrance building. We will tour the garden in its infant, or maybe by August, adolescent stage, and then retreat to a shady pavilion for a potluck supper. How fun for CVMGA to have a small part in this educational and attractive project! It is extra special as it is the 100th anniversary summer of Lake Wissota so the park is sure to see loads of visitors this year.

We hope to see you in June, July, and August! And in between times enjoy your own adventures in gardening and have a great summer.

*Laura Kasdorf
CVMGA Co-President*



Calendar of Events 2017

- June**
12 **Pollinator Garden Clean-up**, Northern WI State Fairgrounds,
6:30 p.m.
- July**
12-16 **Northern Wisconsin State Fair**, Booth and Activities
* **No July meeting**
- August**
14 **Meeting**, Lake Wissota State Park Office, 6:30p.m. Potluck style dinner.



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Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association

CHIPPEWA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER INFORMATION

2017 BOARD of DIRECTORS

President: *Laura Kasdorf (2017)*
 President Elect: *Dora Wood (2017)*
 Past President: *Sharon Bergstad (2017)*
 Secretary: *Gail Fox (2018)*
 Treasurer: *Shirley Blizek (2017)*
 Membership Director: *Mary Jo Fleming (2017)*
 Directors at Large: *Sue Crisp (2017)*
 Elaine Olsen (2017)
 Stacey Mazur (2017)
 Mary Jo Fleming (2017)
 Sandy Kenner (2017)
 Peggy Sprague (2017)

Elections are held each November.

CVMGA Committees

Pollinator Garden: Mary Jo Fleming
 bingnjo@charter.net

Think Spring Seminar: Laura Kasdorf
 wolterkasdorf@sbcglobal.net
 (715-726-1963)

Exhibits/Activities: Mary Jo Fleming
 Linda Stockinger
 ldstocking@aol.com

Programming: Laura Kasdorf

Bluebird Trail: Mary Jo Fleming

Newsletter Deadline

Information for the Master Gardener Newsletter is due by the 15th of the month, for the next month's newsletter.

UW-Extension Office Contacts, 715-726-7950

Jerry Clark, Crops & Soils Agent, jerome.clark@ces.uwex.edu
Heather Lubs, Administrative Assistant III, hubs@co.chippewa.wi.us

Chippewa County Master Gardeners Association Meeting Minutes May 8, 2017 Courthouse, Room 16, 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Mary Jo Fleming, Elaine Olsen, Peggy Sprague, Carol Weideman, Cathy Lombard, Rosie Weber, Shirley Blizek, Sue Crisp, Dora Wood, Beth Kalata, Betsy Wacker, Stacy Mazur, Sandy Kenner, Sharon Bergstad and Gail Fox.

Meeting was called to order by Dora Wood at 6:32PM

Minutes: Peggy Sprague moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Sharon Bergstad, and unanimously passed without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Blizek reported the current balance of accounts at \$16,781.60.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Programs/Meetings:

June 12, 2017 –Mary Jo Fleming in charge- meeting will be at the Pollinator Garden at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, Building A at 6:30PM. Bring gloves, weed pullers, etc.

July 12-16, 2017 --Mary Jo Fleming in charge- Northern Wisconsin State Fair Volunteers will be needed to help at the booth. Sign-up sheets were passed around the table for volunteer hours at the fair booth. Also a subcommittee was formed to work on curriculum for the fair to assure there will be an activity for children as well as adults. Volunteers to wear a Bee costume and greet children would be welcomed. Beth volunteered to repair the sandbags for the children's game. Please contact Mary Jo to help with the fair preparations.

August 14, 2017- 6:30PM –Sue Crisp in charge- Meeting at Wissota State Park, new entrance office. Camp Site #1 is Sue's site as Campground Host.

September 11th/October 9th programs - Stacy and Jerry

December – 1st weekend –Holiday Floral Arrangement workshop

Projects:

Bluebirds- Mary Jo Fleming reported that monitoring began in April and since that time, 3 nests and 10 eggs have been counted.

Pollinator Garden- Mary Jo reported that she has

weeded and cleaned up the garden and it is ready to go.

Edventure at Stacker Park, Cornell on April 30th was a success with 6 Master Gardener Volunteers and 60 attendees. A big thank you to all who helped. It was noted that next year a new and different activity will be needed for this event.

Land Conservation Dept Tree Sorting: April 20, 2017- a successful event with at least 9 Master Gardener Volunteers helping.

Lake Wissota State Park- Sue Crisp could use help pulling Garlic Mustard at the state park

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

A new representative to WIMGA Board of Directors is needed as Laura Franta is stepping down from the position. Anyone interested could contact Dora or Laura for more details.

A new representative is also needed for the 2018 WIMGA Conference to be held September 21-22, 2018. This person will work with Eau Claire and Barron County representatives on the raffle/door prizes/ and sponsors for the event.

Peggy Sprague made a motion for all business meeting mileage for each of these positions to be reimbursed by the CVMGA at the IRS charitable mileage rate. The motion was seconded by Carol Weideman and passed unanimously. Mileage to be reimbursed will go to the Treasurer- Shirley Blizek.

May 9, 2017 is the Chippewa Falls Land Conservancy Annual Meeting at Boyd Park Nature Preserve, 7818 185th St, Chippewa Falls, WI 5PM tour/plant ID/6:30PM meeting

May 13, 2017 is the Beaver Creek Annual plant sale beginning at 8:30AM.

May 21, 2017 is the Eau Claire Garden Club Sale at Phoenix Park from 10AM-1PM

June 3, 2017 is the Lake Wissota Garden Club Annual plant sale 9AM-noon at the Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot, downtown Chippewa Falls.

Dora Wood adjourned the meeting at 7:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Fox

Upcoming Events

This year CVMGA will be celebrating the second year of the pollinator garden with programs at the garden and in the building across from the garden. We are planning two gardening themes – one centered on bumblebees as this year's pollinator ambassador and one on apple tree permaculture.

Our pollinator display will be in the building along with the pollinator bean bag game. We will have stickers or stamps and Bit-o-Honey candies for participants. We have about one hundred visors left over, and they will be available to volunteers who want to use them during their sessions...good rainy day projects.

We will also have an exhibit for adults. We will have a young apple tree (disease-resistant, of course) surrounded by 12 plants that improve soil, repel harmful insects and mammals, attract pollinators and combat diseases.

We are still in need of volunteers to fill the exhibit times during the fair. Please contact Mary Jo Fleming at bingnjo@charter.net to indicate your availability to "man the booth". See the attached information to confirm your sign up and see what is still available.



Honey bee on
Hyssop



Bee Ambassador costume for
the fair.

Pollinator Garden located at the
Northern Wisconsin State
Fairgrounds



Recent Events

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

The 9th Annual Outdoor Ed-Venture event on April 30, 2017 at Cornell Mill Yard Park was a great success!

Without our awesome partners, there is no way we could pull it off! Thanks for your contributions, big or small, towards the success of the event.

Although the weather worked against us this year we still had over 300 people in attendance, which is great! Participants enjoyed so many wonderful activities and learned new things about the great outdoors. Door prizes were handed out with the help of Smokey Bear, and it's doubtful anyone went away empty handed.

THANK YOU for partnering with us this year for this fun event. It was greatly appreciated! See you next year!

Andrea Smith
Community Programs Director
21st Century Community Learning Center

CVMGA Committees

Master Gardeners Association has a variety of committees our volunteers can participate in. Please see the descriptions below and contact the committee lead if you are interested in helping.

Pollinator Garden Committee: Help plant, label, and manage the native plant pollinator garden at Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds.

Think Spring Committee 2018: Help organize venue, speakers, and vendors for 2018.

Exhibits/Activities Committees: Keep our master gardener exhibits up to date and work on activities that we can use at venues such as fairs and other events where we are invited to display what we do.

Program Committee: Work with the board to set up programs and activities for CVMGA members.

Bluebird Committee: Organize a schedule for the nesting season and plan work parties to clean and repair boxes on the Old Abe Bluebird Trail.

Future Dates to be aware of:

June 12 - Pollinator Garden Clean up at NWSF Grounds

July 12-16 - NWSF Booth and Activities (no second Monday meeting this month)

August 14 - Lake Wissota State Park tour of new facility and potluck style picnic

September 11, 2017 - Think Spring 2018 Planning and "Extending the Harvest" Program by Stacey Mazur, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse

October 9, 2017 - Meeting and Program by Jerry Clark, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse

November 13, 2017 - Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse

Volunteer Opportunities

CVMGA representative to WIMGA Board of Directors

A new representative to WIMGA Board of Directors is needed as Laura Franta is stepping down from the position. Anyone interested could contact Laura Kasdorf. Here is a brief description of duties from Laura Franta: *The local rep will be communicating between the group and the district director. There are two face-to-face meetings at Hancock Ag Research Station (one in the spring and one in the fall). Sometimes one of the meetings coincides with the state MG meeting.*

I would be willing to help the new rep adjust to the position. It is very rewarding and a good way to learn more about how WIMGA works, as well as the MG Program. It is also a great way to meet people from all over the state. It is not a hard position to be a local rep. It is mostly passing along information such as notes like the Annual Accomplishment Report and the recent request for donations for this year's state conference.

2018 WIMGA Conference CVMGA Representative

A representative from CVMGA is also needed for the 2018 WIMGA Conference to be held September 21-22, 2018 in Eau Claire, WI at the Lismore Hotel. This person will work with Eau Claire and Barron County representatives on the raffle/door prizes and sponsors for the event.

Note:

- Both the local rep to WIMGA and the rep to the 2018 state conference need to have computer access as much of the WIMGA business is conducted through internet meetings and communication.
- The CVMGA at its last meeting agreed to reimburse mileage expenses for volunteers in these positions when travel to meetings is required.

Northern Wisconsin State Fair

July 12-16, 2017

This year CVMGA will be celebrating the second year of the pollinator garden with programs at the garden and in the building across from the garden. We are planning two gardening themes – one centered on bumblebees as this year’s pollinator ambassador and one on apple tree permaculture.

Bumblebees will be highlighted at the pollinator garden on days when weather permits. We have a bumble bee costume, and we have a person who has volunteered to be a garden troll. Our volunteers will be introducing some of our special native plants that have interesting stories. For instance, they can crush a leaf from hyssop, a bumblebee “parking lot” and use their senses to remember it; or collect a karner blue butterfly sticker for the lupine and a monarch sticker for yucky-tasting milkweed. Our garden ambassadors will be handing out “pollen sacs” (plastic snack-size bags) of hyssop seeds complete with planting instructions and tiny wooden bumblebees.

Our pollinator display will be in the building along with the pollinator bean bag game. We will have stickers or stamps and Bit-o-Honey candies for participants. We have about one hundred visors left over, and they will be available to volunteers who want to use them during their sessions...good rainy day projects.

We will also have an exhibit for adults. We have a platform that was built for a companion planting exhibit two years ago, and this time we will cover it with 8 layers of newspaper and mulch to demonstrate companion planting for apple trees. We will have a young apple tree (disease-resistant, of course) surrounded by 12 plants that improve soil, repel harmful insects and mammals, attract pollinators and combat diseases. Volunteers are growing specimens of chives, marigolds, comfrey, mint, coneflower, basil, hyssop, lupine, dill, Monarda, yarrow, and nasturtium. Yes, two of each so that we can switch them out daily and keep them healthy. We will have plenty of hand-outs

So, folks, brush up on your companion planting and Integrated Pest Management practices, come out to our Monday, June 12 CVMGA meeting at 6:30 p.m. by the Pollinator Garden at fairgrounds to meet the pollinator plants. There will be sweet treats for those who bring a weeding tool, although the gardens are in good shape. It’s a good way to get to know what various important native plants look like, and a good introduction for those who want to volunteer at the state fair.

Volunteer times:

*If you have special requests for projects, an available sign-up time or are willing to be a BEE AMBASSADOR, let us know. Mary Jo Fleming bingnjo@charter.net.

Tuesday, July 11

Set up

Mary Jo Fleming
Rosie Weber

Wednesday, July 12

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Peggy Sprague
Betsy Wacker
Linda Stockinger (BEE)

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Beth Kalata (2-3:30)

Cathy Lombard (BEE)

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

(BEE)

Thursday, July 13

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Carol Weideman

Cathy Lombard (BEE)

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Beth Kalata (2:00-3:30)

(BEE)

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Stacy Mazur

(BEE)

Friday, July 14

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sue Crisp
Elaine Olsen

(BEE)

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Elaine Olsen
Mary Jo Fleming
Rosie Weber

(BEE)

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

(BEE)

Saturday, July 15

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Elaine Olsen

(BEE)

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Elaine Olsen
Gail Fox (3-6:00)

(BEE)

Sunday, July 16

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Elaine Olsen

(BEE)

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sandy Kenner
Sharon Bergstad,
Mary Jo Fleming

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sandy Kenner
Sharon Bergstad,
Mary Jo Fleming