



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,

The CVMGA is off to a great start to the New Year.

At our Annual Meeting in **November** we approved amended bylaws and budget, elected new officers, and made good progress in our planning for Think Spring 2017 and monthly programs for all of 2017. Your new President elect is Dora Wood and the new CVMGA Secretary is Gail Fox. Thanks to both of them for stepping up to help lead the CVMGA for the next two years. Please give them your support.

A big thank you also goes to outgoing officers Sandy Kenner who has served faithfully as Secretary, and Sharon Bergstad, who will now serve as advisor to the organization as Past President, and to Mary Jo Fleming who has served in a Past President role to the board since stepping down as President in 2015. All three of these women have agreed to remain on the Board of Directors at Large along with Elaine Olsen, Sue Crisp and Stacey Mazur.

In **December**, we took a break from MG biz and met for R & R at Bridgewater Restaurant for breakfast, conversation, and creating evergreen designs to brighten up our holiday homes. Shirley Blizek gave a presentation on design basics and supplied the group with a generous variety of materials to use in their arrangements. Sentiment that this might become an annual event was expressed. Thank you, Shirley!

In **January**, we met on our usual meeting day, January 9 and were treated to Dora Wood's program on Produce Preservation. Dora asked us to be her test audience for the talk she is planning to give at Think Spring on February 18 and we were more than happy to oblige.

Dora is just one the fantastic speakers in our line-up for Think Spring 2017. See the attached brochure for an overview of what our speakers will be presenting.

Laura Kasdorf
CVMGA Co-President



Calendar of Events 2017

February

- 13** **Think Spring Work Session**, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse, Room 16
18 **Think Spring Seminar**, 8:00 a.m., Avalon Hotel & Conference Center

March

No meeting

April

- 10** **Think Spring Recap & Program**, Show and Tell Favorite Garden Tools, 6:30 p.m., Bridgewater Restaurant
13 **Education Opportunity**, Citizen Science by Beaver Creek, 7:00 p.m., Lake Wissota Golf Club
20 **Chippewa County Conservation Tree Sorting**, Time to be determined

May

- 8** **Program Planning Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse Room 16



Visit us on Facebook. Search for:

Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association

CHIPPEWA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER INFORMATION

2017 BOARD of DIRECTORS

Co-Presidents: *Sharon Bergstad (2016)*
 Laura Kasdorf (2017)
 Secretary: *Sandy Kenner (2016)*
 Treasurer: *Shirley Blizek (2017)*
 Membership Director: *Mary Jo Fleming (2017)*
 Directors at Large: *Sue Crisp (2016)*
 Steve Hesselberg (2016)
 Joy Lancour (2016)
 Sue Larson (2016)
 Elaine Olsen (2016)

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
November 14, 2016
Courthouse, Room 16
6:30 p.m.**

The annual meeting of the C.V.M.G. was held at the County Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. on November 14, 2016.

Eleven members attended the meeting: Sharon Bergstad, Stacy Bucheger Mazur, Shirley Blizek, Sue Crisp, Mary Jo Fleming, Gail Fox, Laura Kasdorf, Sandra Kenner, Elaine Olsen, Peg Sprague, and Dora Wood. Advisor Jerry Clark also attended the meeting.

The group enjoyed pizza, pop, treats and fellowship before the meeting.

There was informal discussion about suggestions for a December holiday get together. Sharon Bergstad said she would check to see if a meeting room at the library was available, since the courthouse would be closed. Members said they would bring treats.

Mary Jo Fleming said that Jeff Epping from Madison would be the key note speaker at "Think Spring 2017". He offers a choice of topics. The group voted to have him talk about :

- Small trees/big impact.
- Low maintenance garden design.
- Sustainable garden design and plants.

President Laura Kasdorf called the business meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: Peggy Sprague moved to accept the October minutes as published. Mary Jo Fleming seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasure's Report: Treasurer Shirley Blizek reported a current balance of \$17,070.35.

Officer and Committee Report:

Audit: Jerry, Sue, and Dora performed a successful audit of our books. Kudos to the committee and especially Shirley for her excellent treasurer skills.

Four members of CVMG , Laura, Gail, Dora, and Sandy met with Jeff at the Bridgewater for some preliminary Think Spring planning. Everything from general layout to menus and a block of rooms were discussed.

Dora will continue to finalize the information for the brochure and she reminded us that Master Gardner Beth Kalata also offered rooms if needed for Think Spring.

2017 Programs/Meetings:

December 10 - Saturday morning Holiday get together. Shirley offered to show us how to make seasonal arrangements. Each member should bring their own

container.

January 9 - Think spring planning at 6:00 p.m.
Preserving the Harvest with Dora Wood at 6:30 p.m.

February 13 - Think Spring Preparation (if needed).

February 18 - Think Spring Event.

Education Opportunity: Stumperies program by Sharon Bergstad at LWGC on February 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Lafayette Town Hall.

March 13 - Think Spring recap at Bridgewater.

April 10 - Program by all members - show and tell favorite garden tools.

Education Opportunity - Citizen Science by Beaver Creek speaker at LWGC April 13, at 7:p.m.

May 8 - program planning - no business meeting.

June 12 - Clean up pollinator garden at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairground.

July - No meeting. Work at NWSF booth.

August 14 - Lake Wissota State Park tour of new facility and summer picnic.

September 11 - Extending the Harvest/Plan 2018 Think Spring.

October 9 - Jerry Clark.

November 13 - Annual Meeting.

Jerry and Laura prepared the annual CVMG report and Jerry will submit it to the State.

Unfinished Business:

By-laws - Shirley moved and Sue seconded the motion to accept the amendments to the by-laws. Motion carried.

Election of Officers - Sue moved to accept the slate of officers. Shirley seconded the motion and the motion carried.

President Elect: Dora Wood

Secretary: Gail Fox

Board of Directors: Shirley, Sue, Sandy, Sharon, Mary Jo, Laura, Gail, and Stacy.

New Business:

2017 Budget - The proposed budget was presented by treasurer Shirley Blizek. After discussion, Peg moved and Gail seconded the motion to accept the new budget as presented. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sandy Kenner

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 2017: Help organize venue, speakers, and vendors for 2017.

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 picnic

September 11, 2017 - Think Spring 2018 Planning and "Extending the Harvest" Program by Stacey Mazur.

October 9, 2017 - Meeting and Program by Jerry Clark

November 13, 2017 - Annual Meeting

Thank you written by Gail Fox, Master Gardener Volunteer to Community Foundation of Chippewa Falls:

A BIG Thank You to the Community Foundation of Chippewa Falls for the fencing that was installed at the Chippewa Falls Community Garden this year!!

As a gardener at the Chippewa Falls Community Gardens for 6 years not I can honestly say this year was the absolute best year I've seen in every way.

The fencing has made all of the difference in the opportunity to have an abundant harvest without the deer eating their way through the gardens every night, as in years past. It also helps to keep deer ticks out of the garden, a concern of mine for years.

The fencing installed surrounding the entire community garden also made such a difference in being able to get to my garden plots from every angle, easing my workload and being able to utilize every inch!

And finally, the fencing, posts and gates are of such high quality--your investment will last for many, many years.

I know I'm not alone in my gratitude for what you have given all the Chippewa Falls Community Gardeners! Everyone I know in the garden is very happy and appreciative.

Thank you so much for your support of gardeners and gardening in our community!!

Sincerely,

*Gail Fox
Chippewa Falls Community Garden Member
CV Master Gardener Volunteer
Lake Wissota Garden Club Member*



A Kinder, Friendlier Garden: Beatrix Potter's Legacy – Mary Jo Fleming, a Chippewa Valley Master Gardener Volunteer with a degree in biology, grew up with the tales of Beatrix Potter, the exploits of Mole and Mr. Toad, and the antics of Disney's chipmunks. As gardeners, we have welcomed birds, butterflies, and pollinators, but what about other critters who find our landscapes attractive? Learn a little about these small mammals, and how they impact our environmentally friendly gardens.

***Succulents in a Teacup – Faye Ryszkiewicz**, is the owner of Fryszki's Country Gardens in Caryville. As part of the Think Spring's English Garden theme, Faye will cover basic care of succulents and help workshop participants plant a teacup garden. Participants are able to bring their own teacups or buy one from Faye and are also encouraged to bring any embellishments to add to their design. The cost of the workshop is \$12.50, and if participants choose to buy a teacup at the seminar, the price will be between \$6-8. Please check the box on your registration if you plan to buy a teacup at the event. *Please make out a separate check for \$12.50 to CVMGA for this session.



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715-726-7950

THINK SPRING GARDEN SEMINAR
Saturday February 18, 2017
8:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Avalon Hotel & Conference Center
1009 W. Park Avenue
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Win a door prize!

Visit the vendors with garden themed products
for purchase!

Spend a cold winter day THINKING SPRING
and have loads of fun!

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Sponsored by
Chippewa County
UW-Extension
And
Chippewa Valley Master
Gardeners Association

Think Spring Garden Seminar

Saturday
February 18, 2017



**Avalon Hotel &
Conference Center**
1009 W. Park Avenue
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

REGISTRATION

Name _____

Full Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

REGISTRATION FEE:

_____ \$25 Early-bird Registration (Before February 8, 2017) (INCLUDES LUNCH)

_____ \$30 Registration (After February 8, 2017) (INCLUDES LUNCH)

(Please use one form per registrant.)

Make checks payable to CVMGA and mail to:

Gardening Seminar
Chippewa County Extension Office
Courthouse, Room 13
711 Bridge Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Check **one** session per section (Refer to program guide for presentations):

10:00 AM 11:00 AM
A _____ A _____
B _____ B _____

2:30 PM

A _____
B _____

*C _____ (Additional \$12.50 fee)

Check here if you plan to buy a teacup at the seminar

Please send this section with payment.
Thank You!

PROGRAM GUIDE

8:00 AM Registration Opens

8:30 AM Welcome

8:45–9:45 AM

Keynote Session

Jeff Epping

Inspirations from English Gardens

9:45 AM Morning Break

10:00-10:45 AM – Breakout Sessions

A. Straw Bale Gardening

B. Garden Pests

11:00-11:50 AM – Breakout Sessions

A. Small Trees with Big Impact

B. Violets and Companion Houseplants

11:30-1:15 Lunch

1:15-2:15 PM

Keynote II

Jeff Epping

Sustainable Gardens: Designs and plants for Greener Gardens

2:30-3:15 PM

A. Produce Preservation

B. A Kinder, Friendlier Garden

C. Teacup Workshop*

Keynote – Inspirations from English Gardens -

Jeff Epping, has been Director of Horticulture at Olbrich Botanical Gardens for more than 20 years. He oversees the horticulture operations and garden designs of more than ten inspirational display gardens. He has visited, studied and photographed gardens throughout the U.S. and Europe. England has some of the most incredible gardens in the world and many are full of innovative design ideas. This garden travelogue will introduce you to some renowned gardeners and their masterpieces as well as some hidden gems.

Straw Bale Gardening – Joy Lancour and Steve Hesselberg, are Chippewa Valley Gardener volunteers who have successfully mastered the art and science of straw bale gardening. They will introduce us to the benefits of above-ground gardening, layout, equipment, conditioning, and planting techniques. They'll be glad to answer questions about what works and what doesn't since every new technique has a learning curve.

Garden Pests – Jerry Clark, Chippewa County Crops & Soils Educator, will help you explore integrated pest management and alternative methods to control those pesky weeds, insects and plant diseases.

Small Trees with Big Impact – Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, has helped to design and install a variety of display gardens showcasing the best plants for south-central Wisconsin. Jeff will introduce us to top performing, small-scaled ornamental trees that can fit all our needs.

Violets and Companion Houseplants – Faye Ryszkiewicz will talk about African violets, their care and propagation, and suggest creative ways to use violets and other houseplants with similar requirements.

Keynote II – Sustainable Gardens: Designs and Plants for Greener Gardens – Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, has promoted the concept of sustainable gardens. Green or sustainable gardens are good for the environment and good for gardeners. These beautiful gardens require less time, water, and chemicals to grow, appropriate at a time when busier lives and strained resources impact our landscapes.

Produce Preservation – Dora Wood, A Chippewa Valley Master Gardener volunteer, was raised on a dairy farm and, even as a child, helped tend a very large garden. Since 2015 she has been running a CSA garden located on part of 25 acres. This has encouraged her to introduce new vegetables and learn how to incorporate them into her menus and preserve them while they are abundant. Dora will cover the fundamentals and tools of food preservation using water baths and pressure canning, dehydrating, freezing and keeping a root cellar.