



University of Wisconsin-Extension

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



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**President's Message**

Hope you all enjoyed your summer and are looking forward to Fall.



## Calendar of Events 2018

### September

**10**      **CVMGA Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 16

### October

**8**      **CVMGA Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 16



Visit us on Facebook. Search for:

Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association

## CHIPPEWA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER INFORMATION

### 2018 BOARD of DIRECTORS

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

*Elections are held each November.*

### CVMGA Committees

Pollinator Garden:      *Mary Jo Fleming*  
   [bingnjo@charter.net](mailto:bingnjo@charter.net)

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

Exhibits/Activities:      *Mary Jo Fleming*  
   *Linda Stockinger*  
   [ldstocking@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:jerome.clark@ces.uwex.edu)  
*Heather Lubs*, Administrative Assistant III, [hubs@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:hubs@co.chippewa.wi.us)

**Chippewa County Master Gardeners Association**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 11, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Chippewa County Courthouse**

In attendance: Dora Wood; Rosie Weber; Sue Crisp; Elaine Olsen; Cathy Lombard; Sandy Kenner; Sharon Bergstad; Laura Kasdorf

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Dora Wood at 6:32 p.m.

**Minutes:** Laura Kasdorf made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. The motion was seconded by Sue Crisp and was passed unanimously without changes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Lombard reported the current balance of accounts at \$16,151.61. Eighteen members have paid their dues.

**Officer and Committee Reports:**

**Project Reports:**

The pollinator garden has been weeded and cleaned out. It took approximately 1.5 hours to complete.

Volunteers are needed to work at the state fair in July. There will be a booth with information on the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly. Children can make visors about monarchs. There is a bee costume that a volunteer can wear at the pollinator garden.

Suggestions for event in Cornell: leaf rubbings, nature stencils, visors

TTM: Laura, Sue and Jerry participated in assisting employees to pot plants.

**Old Business**

**WIMGA:**

Work continues on the WIMGA conference being held in Eau Claire in September, 2018. Our group together with the Barron County MG will be working on a Silent Auction, Raffles, and Door Prizes. Volunteers are needed to assist at the conference. There will be an e-mail that explains how to volunteer on-line. The grant applications for CVM-GA members to receive up to a \$50.00 reimbursement for conference fees.

**Think Spring:**

The Think Spring committee met and discussed Think Spring program options for 2019. The following are the suggestions made by the committee:

- No Keynote
- Three sessions/workshops running concurrently in four time slots
- Bonus hands-on workshop at the end of the day

Track one: Pollinators

9:00: Beekeeping Overview-Sandy Kenner

10:00: How to Get Started Beekeeping

11:00: Gardening for Pollinators

1:00: Gardening with Chickens-Dora

Track Two (Landscaping)

9:00: Landscaping Design for your Lifestyle-Jerry Clark

10:00 Ergonomic/Adaptive Gardening-Cheryl Skjolaas

11:00: Plants for Landscape Design

1:00: Peonies-Fina Gardens

Track Three: DIY homesteading

9:00: Hops for Home Brewing-Jerry Clark or other agent Jerry knows

10:00: Fermenting What You Grow-Jeanne from Extension

11:00: Growing Mushrooms or Basics of Vegetable Gardening-Dora Wood

1:00: Houseplant Care and Repotting-Nancy Skelly

Just for fun at end of day

2:00: Suncatcher Workshop-Linda Bergen or Nancy Spak

Or Hummingbird/Oriole Feeder Workshop-Carolyn Craig

(continued on next page)

Suggested Think Spring adjustments for 2019 based on participant and MG feedback

- More sessions and no keynote
- Use local or extension speakers as much as possible to keep mileage and hotel costs down
- Place educational displays in hallway to allow for more vendors
- Limit catalogs to most popular or environmentally friendly (such as pollinator plant type) and WI companies. Two tables maximum.
- Change menu selection from Italian to ??? Ask Avalon for dessert special that they could offer participants at their own expense. Mints?
- Ask for seating to be spaced further apart in seminar rooms.
- Consider lowering price point of registration to \$28 or \$29

## New Business

### Programs/Meeting

August 13<sup>th</sup> -Jerry Clark's home: HOPS and Dutch Oven with Sue Crisp

September 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting-Should we meet? WIMGA Conference on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

Tree Guild Workshop

Pulling Spotted Knapweed at the park

LWGC Tour

Plant Sale Tour

**Meeting Adjourned:** Dora Wood adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: August 13, 2018

## Chippewa County Master Gardeners Association Meeting Minutes August 13, 2018 - 6:30 p.m. Jerry Clark's Home

In attendance: Dora Wood; Rosie Weber; Sue Crisp; Elaine Olsen; Cathy Lombard; Sandy Kenner; Sharon Bergstad; Jerry Clark

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Dora Wood.

**Minutes:** June minutes will be approved at the September meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Lombard reported the current balance of accounts at \$15,768.85.

### Officer and Committee Reports:

**President's Report:** Dora Wood thanked Jerry Clark for hosting the August meeting at his home.

### Project Reports:

#### Fair Recap

The \$250 grant covered the expenses of the State Fair and the Cornell Outdoor Adventure.

- There was a nice combination of education and crafts
- Nice volunteer support
- Highlighted the pollinator garden
- Summaries have been written on the State Fair project and the wildflower garden at the state park.

## Blue Bird Project

The Bluebird project is almost finished for this year. The Bluebirds have finished nesting. Some nest boxes needed to be cleaned.

## Old Business

### WIMGA:

Work continues on the WIMGA conference being held in Eau Claire in September, 2018. Our group together with the Barron County MG will be working on a Silent Auction, Raffles, and Door Prizes. Volunteers are needed to assist at the conference. There will be an e-mail that explains how to volunteer on-line. The grant applications for CVMGA members to receive up to a \$50.00 reimbursement for conference fees. Dora Wood has copies of the grant application. Our group is donating a basket to be used in the Silent Auction. Up to \$50.00 can be spent on the items for the basket. It will reflect businesses of the Chippewa Valley. Some suggestions include:

Honey from Sandy  
Maple syrup and jams from Dora  
Yellowstone Cheese  
Leinenkugel products  
Olson's Gift Certificate  
Candy Shop products

**Think Spring:**

The Think Spring committee met and discussed Think Spring program options for 2019. The following are the suggestions made by the committee which met again this summer.

- No Keynote
- Three sessions/workshops running concurrently in four time slots
- Bonus hands-on workshop at the end of the day
- Sandy will connect with the Avalon regarding the menu for the day
- Lower Registration cost to

**New Business**

Track one:

Beekeeping Overview-Sandy Kenner  
How to Get Started Beekeeping-Adam from CVTC  
Vegetable Gardening-Ellen Terwilliger  
Monarchs-Linda

Track Two

Landscaping Design for your Lifestyle-Jerry Clark  
Ergonomic/Adaptive Gardening-Cheryl Scolas  
Plants for Landscape Design-Green Oasis  
Peonies-Fina Gardens

Track Three:

Hops for Home Brewing-Jerry Clark or other agent  
Jerry knows  
Fermenting What You Grow-Jeanne from Extension  
Growing Mushrooms or Basics of Vegetable Gardening  
-Dora Wood  
Houseplant Care and Repotting-Nancy Skelly

Additional Think Spring discussion:

Have the information for Think Spring finalized by October so it can be publicized earlier.

Lower the price for registration

\$28-\$29

\$30, but with a student and senior discount

\$25

**Grant Request:**

Sue Crisp requested a \$50.00 grant as a follow-up to last year's project of the butterfly garden at Lake Wissota State Park. More labels are needed to supplement the grant provided by the Friends of the State Park group. The project is now in phase 3.

A motion to approve the grant was made by Sharon Bergstad and seconded by Sandy Kenner. It was approved by a unanimous vote.

Programs for Future Meetings:

September: Extending your harvest  
October: Review of conference sessions  
November: Officer elections

Sue Crisp is the president elect and Sharon Bergstad and Sandy Kenner agreed to be on the Officer Recruitment committee.

Information from Jerry Clark:

Farm City Days is on September 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM at a farm south of Bloomer. There is a free booth available for Master Gardeners. The group could use the materials from the State Fair booth on monarchs.

On Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> elementary students will be at Farm City Days. Volunteers are welcomed to help supervise students from 9:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Volunteers should be there at 9:00 AM.

New Master Gardener training class beginning on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The class will meet from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Jerry needs help for several sessions (September 25<sup>th</sup> and November 27<sup>th</sup>). Master Gardeners may wish to attend the first meeting so the participants can talk to them.

Conservation Days-5<sup>th</sup> grade students only. They may need an extra station. It is being held on September 13<sup>th</sup> in Cornell and September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Wissota State Park.

The Extension program is hiring a Horticulture position. It will be work with four counties. The Director of Extension will help fill the vacancy in Eau Claire. The position will be split three ways.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Dora Wood adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: September 10, 2018



## CVMGA Volunteer Project Grant for Northern Wisconsin State Fair 2018

Volunteers Mary Jo Fleming, Linda Stockinger, Cathy Lombard, Elaine Olson, Sue Crisp, Laura Kasdorf, Sandy Kenner, Paul Nicolai, Lee Sault, Sharon Bergstad, Rosie Weber, Peggy Sprague, and Stacey Bucheger Mazur braved the intense July 11-15 heat to represent Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners at the Northern Wisconsin State Fair.

Our program this summer highlighted the pollinator garden which cooperated by being in full-bloom and hosting bees, butterflies, and caterpillars. Fourth-stage Monarch caterpillars, Clearwing hummingbird moths, and Great Black Wasps were crowd favorites. Linda Stockinger kept our CVMGA booth supplied with monarchs and their various caterpillar stages to the delight of young and old. She presented a powerpoint daily on monarchs and invited children in the audience to help her release adults in the garden following each presentation.

Volunteers dressed as bumblebees and garden gnomes and showed off garden critters to fair folk. Some of the caterpillars behaved themselves by staying on the same plant, but others were happy wanderers who had to be tracked down every time we wanted to show them off. The kids were good at finding recalcitrant monarch larvae. Volunteers answered many questions about the garden and handed out "How to" directions, native plant catalogues, and packets of hyssop seed for home gardens. For next year our gnome volunteer suggested adding a shady arbor to our display garden design.

Volunteers in the garden directed people to our indoor booth to learn more about monarchs and make visors that demonstrated butterfly lifecycles. We ran out of 250 visors by the time we closed on Saturday night. They were popular on those sunny, sweaty days. We also had a daily bumblebee presentation. Volunteers at the booth sent interested fair goers out to view the garden. It worked well having master gardener volunteers in both places. Monarchs have become the poster children for native, sustainable gardening, and it was fun to spread the word.

Our total cost this year for both the fair and the Cornell Outdoor Ed-venture projects was \$258.37.



## Bluebird Report 2018

2018 was not a stellar year for bluebirds on the Old Abe Trail. We began the season by resetting some nest boxes and repairing or replacing others. Because of the unusually cold spring, the first bluebird eggs didn't appear until mid-May, and all three of those nests successfully fledged young. Unfortunately, bluebirds were in direct competition with wrens and tree swallows who all began nesting or nest-building at the same time. A late spring was followed by an unusually hot, dry summer, and bluebirds successfully fledged young in only three more nesting attempts. Only one nest box had two successful nesting results. The total number of bluebird eggs laid was 29, and 18 bluebirds fledged this year. Last year the trail fledged 41. The trail produced 38 tree swallows, 12 chickadees, and 31 house wrens.

Only five of the twenty-five nest boxes were used by bluebirds. Volunteers noticed the absence of bluebirds in the area by mid-summer. Except for two boxes, no nest box saw more than one successful nesting attempt by any species this year. Several bluebirds were reported on the Riverview Trail, but the trail would need to be updated before it can be monitored consistently.

Thank you to all the trail participants this year: Linda Stockinger, Mary Jo Fleming, Lee Sault, Dick Turner, Christy Roshell, Paul Nicolai, Beth Kalata, Stacey Bucheger Mazur, and Ray & Ruth Forsgren. We are hoping for a better year in 2019.



## 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 2019**: Help organize venue, speakers, and vendors for 2019.

**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.

## Upcoming Events/Education Opportunities

WIMGA Autumn at the River Conference at the Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire, **September 21-22, 2018**.

Friday you will have four options of area horticultural attractions and an event dinner and keynote talk. Saturday morning we will start our conference by visiting the Eau Claire farmers market. We'll learn about its history and how it works. From there we will have a delightful array of speakers to choose from.

Registration and event information can be found online at <https://www.wimgaconferences.com>

Event hosted by the Barron, Chippewa, Eau Claire & St. Croix County Master Gardener Volunteer Associations. Scholarship Form available in this newsletter.

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State Garden Club "Gathering for Gardeners" in Stillwater, MN on October 12-13, 2018





## Chippewa Valley Master Gardener Volunteer Project Grant

**Grant Amount is \$ 250.00**

Name of Project \_Northern Wisconsin State Fair 2018\_

Names of CVMGA volunteers associated with the project (a minimum of three CVMGA members):

Mary Jo Fleming, Linda Stockinger, & Cathy Lombard, Elaine Olson, Sue Crisp, Laura Kasdorf, Sandy Kenner, Paul Nicolai, Lee Sault, Sharon Bergstadt, Rosie, Peggy Sprague, Stacey Bucheger Mazur

Name of Contact Person \_Mary Jo Fleming\_

Address of Contact Person \_18790 54<sup>th</sup> Ave.\_

City Chippewa Falls State \_WI Zip \_54729

Phone of Contact Person (715)\_723-0822 Email bingnjo@charter.net

Date of Application \_June 4, 2018\_

I. Grant money will be used to fund the following program or education resource.

Specify the nature of the program or resource.

For children : Introducing Pollinator Garden to fairgoers, esp. children. A bumblebee costume is available to volunteers. Packets of blue hyssop seeds, planting instructions, and small wooden bumblebees will be handed out. Children will learn about monarchs using models, video, and live critters, and make butterfly and bumblebee visors.

|                                        |             |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Materials for caterpillars:            | \$27.15     |
| Visors                                 | 94.95 (250) |
| Butterfly stickers                     | 25.00       |
| Package material for seeds (envelopes) | 16.07       |
| (labels)                               | 14.98       |
| Prairie Nursery Lavendar Hyssop seeds  | 23.16       |
| Labels                                 | 9.94        |
| Materials for craft projects           | 31.56       |
| Green foam                             | 15.54       |

Total for NWSF & Cornell Outdoor Ed-venture **\$258.37**

II. Describe the educational component and the targeted audience.

Children will learn about monarchs and other pollinators using models, daily power point presentations “ Amazing Mazie” & “What’s Buzzing”, meeting live critters, and making butterfly and bumblebee lifecycle visors.

III. A short written report of the project including expenditures and results is due to the current CVMGA president by September 1 following the awarding of the grant.

# Chippewa Valley Master Gardener Volunteer Project Grant

Grant Amount is \$ 50.00



Name of Project Monarch Butterfly garden at Lake Wissota State Park

Names of CVMGA volunteers associated with the project (a minimum of three CVMGA members):

Sue Crisp  
Linda Stockinger  
Mary Jo Fleming

Name of Contact Person Sue Crisp

Address of Contact Person 4720 Michaud Street

City Eau Claire State WI Zip 54703

Phone of Contact Person (715) 861-3253 or 715-864-2645 Email  
account1234@charter.net

Date of Application 8-9-18

I. Grant money will be used to fund the following program or education resource.  
Specify the nature of the program or resource.

The grant money will be used for phase three of the monarch garden for labeling the plants. The funds from by the friends of Wisconsin State Parks will purchase additional plants.

The plants and shrubs that were purchased or donated were labeled for identification and educational purposes.

II. Describe the educational component and the targeted audience.

The target audience is the general public including students from the Chippewa Falls school district that use the park for educational programs.

III. A short written report of the project including expenditures and results is due to the current CVMGA president by September 1 following the awarding of the grant.



*The labels are in the garden and are being used by the public for identification of the native plants. The cost of the labeling was \$50.00. Visitors to Lake Wissota State Park are happy to be able to know the names of the plants so that they can start their own butterfly garden or just enjoy spending time watching the butterflies and nature.*

