

ADDRESSING THE MONTHLY HAPPENINGS OF THE MADISON AREA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION & DANE CO. UW EXTENSION HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 2014



Quote of the Month

"Autumn paints in colors that summer has never seen."

The Extension Express



From Joe Mullenberg



Happy November MAMGA,

Changes are coming!

As the year comes to a close, we are looking ahead to 2015. Next year, we will be making changes to the Master Gardener Volunteer certification requirements. Additionally, we are revamping the MGV training and offering a new gardening class series in the spring.

Volunteer Opportunities

The goal of the MGV Program is “to train enthusiastic volunteers so they can, in turn, provide research-based information on a wide variety of horticultural topics to the general public in their communities.” We are always looking to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities and deepen the impact in the community. In order to provide more opportunities to support this goal, we will be encouraging volunteers to support “core projects” as part of the certification requirement. These will include volunteering at community gardens, farmers’ markets, school gardens, and more. Also, don’t forget to contact us about the opportunity to work on the Progress Pavilion at the exciting Farm Technology Days that Dane County will be hosting in 2015!

MGV Training

We are making some changes to the MGV general training to improve the quality of volunteer experiences and to increase volunteer retention after graduation. Before signing up for the class, prospective MGV students will attend an informational interview to determine if they have an interest in participating in volunteer projects as well as gaining horticultural knowledge. This is a model practiced by the University of Minnesota Cooperative Extension. The training will be offered as a day-time class in order to focus on volunteers with more flexible schedules. We hope these changes will attract students that are best suited for the training that is based in volunteerism.

Garden Basics & Beyond

As an alternative to the more in-depth Master Gardener training, we will be offering a short course this upcoming spring that will cover topics catered to home gardeners looking for horticulture information without the volunteer requirement. The seven-part series will include some information covered in the general MGV training as well as some additional topics. For more information, read here: <http://dane.uwex.edu/2014/09/05/>.



Thank you!

Thanks to: Mary Young, Sandra Aebly, Nancy Gustaf, Emily Embury, Betty Lou Knight, Sandy Klabunde, Debbie Craig, Connie Crenshaw, Dean Smith, Jim Goodno, Jan Blakeslee, Linda Norton, Rachel Martin, Jill Andersen, Rachael Drechsel, Marie Udulutch, Dennis Tande, Art

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Forms

[2013-14 MGV Hours Reporting Form](#)

[2014 MAMGA Membership Form](#)

[2014 Volunteer Interest Form](#)

Calendar of Events

~local events of interest~

For reporting purposes:

Items in green count as
CE credits for re-certifying
MGVs.

Items in red count as a
MAMGA event.

November 3

Deadline for RSVP for
MGV Graduation

Email: wimgvmarilyn@gmail.com

November 8

Teaching Garden Work Day
9:00 - 2:30
5201 Fen Oak Ct., Madison

November 13

MGV Graduation & Recognition
6:00 - 9:00
5201 Fen Oak Ct., Madison

November 22

Teaching Garden Work Day
9:00 - 2:30
5201 Fen Oak Ct., Madison

2015

July 31 - August 1

WIMGA Annual Conference
LaCrosse

2016

September 17-18

DeSmet, Phyllis Davis, Nina Harmes, Ritchie Rheume, Pat Cartwright, Carole Blemker, Corinna Wells, Edie Grossen, Jane Nicholson, Kris Gabert, Deb Pienkowski, Linda Christen, Lynne Berton, Sharon Wagner, Diane Amundson, Rosanne Horne, Marilyn Sallee, B'ann Gabelt, Jackie Winchester, Theresa Pillar-Grosbeck, Theresa Seeley and Monica Jaehnig. Thanks to the graduation committee members Deb Pienkowski, Suzy Bowditch, Barbara Klasinski, Lori Nelsen, Rosanne Horne, Linda Christen, Cathy Spann, Percy Mather, Steven Hoffland, and Marilyn Sallee.

We couldn't do it without you!



Green Thumb Tuesday

-- a get-together for MGVs --

Join us on November 4, 2014
5 - 8 p.m.

Monona Gardens Restaurant
6501 Bridge Road, Madison

Topic: GARDEN PROPS! Pumpkins, pinecones, or pin striped bench cushions make a fashion statement about your garden. Traditional, casual, or avant-garde? Wood, metal or glass accents? What props do you use to make your garden interesting and comfortable? Bring small items or photos to show.

RSVP not required but is good to have for space planning

Contact Dana Warren at 608-833-5703 or djwarren5703@hotmail.com to RSVP

Food and beverage from Monona Gardens menu; separate checks provided.

Green Thumb Tuesday is the time and place to relax, enjoy food and/or beverage and talk about gardening.



MGV Graduation and Recognition Awards

from Marilyn Salle, MGV,
Graduation Chairperson

Midwest Regional MG
Conference
Wisconsin Dells

[More Wisconsin Events](#)

Also see "Calendar of Events"
column in this newsletter

Contact Info



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MISSION

Dedicated gardeners promoting responsible gardening through education, volunteer service, and fellowship.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Catherine Murray - President
Ed Meachen - President Elect
Percy Mather - Secretary
Cathy Cryor Burgweger - Treas
Jon Daugherty
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Dennis Tande
Dana Warren
Lori Nelsen - Alternate Member
Aleta Murray - WIMGA Rep
Lisa Johnson - Ex-officio
Advisor

COMMUNICATIONS

Joan Fitzgerald, E-News Editor
mgvjoan@gmail.com

MAMGA is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization.



MAILING ADDRESS

1 Fen Oak Court, Suite 138



November 13, 2014 6 p.m. at Dane Co. Extension Office

You are Invited!

Newly trained MGVs receive their certificate.

PLUS

Awards Recognition for those already in the program who have contributed so much.

Social mixer so the long-time members can meet the new volunteers and learn from each other.

All MAMGA members, MGVs and graduates welcome.

Graduates ONLY - plus one - You are welcome to bring a significant other to witness your achievement.

R.S.V.P. by Monday, Nov. 3, 2014

Contact Marilyn Sallee

at wimgvmarilyn@gmail.com

Agenda for the Evening:

6 p.m. Doors open

Social Bingo mixer activity to allow the new graduates, MGVs and MAMGA members time to mix and learn a little bit about each other. Door prizes drawn from the Social Bingo participants.

Slideshow of MGVs in action -- Beverages and light snacks. (Coffee, tea, cake, finger food).

7 - 9 p.m. Program

Graduation certificates handed out and graduate Special Awards.

Speaker: The Importance of Volunteer Work

MGV Special Awards - Special recognition for current MGVs who have given their best.

Door prizes -- Graduation & Awards group photo -- All participants receive a plant to take home.

Madison, WI 53718-8812

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dane.uwex.edu

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WI Master Gardener website:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

MG Program Office Blog

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastergardener/>

INCLEMENT WEATHER
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
MAMGA EVENTS

Please note that event cancellations or other inclement weather announcements for MAMGA events will be posted on our [website](#).

Did you miss a past e-newsletter?

If you didn't receive one of our past e-newsletters, be sure to look in your "spam" or



Get involved in MAMGA and earn volunteer hours!

Email Info@mamgawi.org if you are interested in participating in any of these opportunities

MAMGA Fundraising Committee
MAMGA Communications Committee
MAMGA Community Services Committee
MAMGA Membership Committee
MAMGA Annual Meeting Planning Committee

HELP WANTED - For the 2015 Season maintaining existing perennial gardens located in the Brittingham Park Neighborhood.

Please Call Marlene for additional information on the location and time requirements. 608-347-3240.

SCHUMACHER FARM PARK is looking for a lead gardener for the heirloom vegetable garden, a great way to earn Master Gardener community service hours! See the September 2014 issue of [Madison Area Master Gardeners Update](#) for details. Contact Diane Schwartz, site coordinator, at (608) 849-4559, info@schumacherfarmpark.org.

Volunteering is self-fulfilling, an opportunity to
make new friends and learn new things!!
Make 2015 your year to get involved!

"junk" folder. Some email applications mistakenly place emails in these folders.

If you use Gmail's new design, you may have noticed that your emails are now being sorted into three tabs — Primary, Social, and Promotions. If you'd rather see the emails we send end up in your Primary tab, it's simple to tell Gmail where these emails should go. Simply drag and drop this email into your Primary tab and click "yes" when Gmail asks if you'd like future messages from this email address to go to your Primary tab.



Garden Reflections

by Joan Fitzgerald, MGV, PHA



As I write this message we are heading into our first real cold spell of the fall season. We probably have seen our last "heat wave" of 2014 as temperatures are forecast to go down into the 20s overnight. People in my neighborhood have been working hard to rake leaves, cut their lawns one final time and clean up their gardens and flower beds.

Some years I procrastinate on getting my gardens to bed for the winter. I've been known to be putting flower pots in the garage for winter storage as our first snowstorm hits the area. One year we got so much snow early that I had to leave my pots outside until the "spring thaw."

The Madison Herb Society is holding its 32nd annual Herb Faire on November 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Although it's a small event, it's always big on herbal products, speakers and demonstrations. The aroma is fabulous. And if you're so inclined, you can pick up an herb plant or two to grow on a sunny windowsill in your home for the winter. The Faire is free so if you have time, give it a look.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Plant of the Month

-- Sumac --

By Jackie Winchester, MGV

Rhus typhina "Tigereye Baitiger" commonly known as Tiger Eyes Sumac is a shrub with lemon-lime foliage, fuzzy stems, and intense fall color. The shrub grows into an upright, rounded form about 6 feet tall and 6 feet wide and can be pruned into a small tree shape. The new growth emerges chartreuse in spring and leaves turn spectacular shades of yellow, scarlet, and orange in fall. Female plants produce flowers that are yellowish green and followed by hairy, dark red fruit. The species is native to North America.



Sumac should be planted in a site with full sun for best autumn color. Grow in moist but well-drained, moderately fertile soil. Sumac can be propagated by sowing seed in autumn in a seedbed or taking semi-ripe cuttings in summer, or root cuttings in winter. This plant spreads by suckers and can be invasive. The suckers can be separated the when the plant is dormant.



Common problems with sumac include powdery mildew, verticillium wilt, wood rot, leaf spot, blister, canker, dieback, caterpillars, and scale insects.

Gardening Tip



Take advantage of fall planting deals to allow you to upgrade your selection of plants, trees and shrubs or choose a much more established tree, shrub or plant for a lower price than you would pay in the spring or summer.

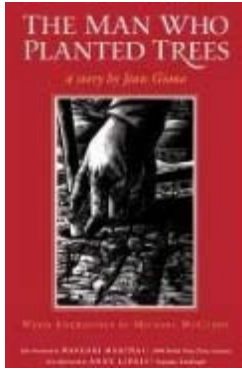


From the Bookshelf

[The Man Who Planted Trees](#)

by Jean Giono, Michael McCurdy, Andy Lipkis
New Foreword by Wangari Maathai

Twenty years ago Chelsea Green published the first trade edition of [The Man Who Planted Trees](#), a timeless eco-fable about what one person can



do to restore the earth. The hero of the story, Elzéard Bouffier, spent his life planting one hundred acorns a day in a desolate, barren section of Provence in the south of France. The result was a total transformation of the landscape—from one devoid of life, with miserable, contentious inhabitants, to one filled with the scent of flowers, the songs of birds, and fresh, flowing water.

Since our first publication, the book has sold over a quarter of a million copies and inspired countless numbers of people around the world to take action and plant trees. On National Arbor Day, April 29, 2005, Chelsea Green released a special twentieth anniversary edition with a new foreword by Wangari Maathai, winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize and founder of the African Green Belt Movement. See more at:
http://www.chelseagreen.com/bookstore/item/the_man_who_planted_trees/#sthash.9XCypJVD.dpuf

Source: *Amazon.com*



Snippets . . .

SKIP TILLING: Turning the soil over each year is a millennium-old tradition that has been challenged only in the last half century. The major benefits attributed to the annual rite of tilling are that it aerates the soil; chops and kills weeds; and mixes in organic materials, fertilizers, and lime. Not to be downplayed are the psychological benefits of tillage. It induces a righteous-feeling sweat that makes a clean slate of last year's mistakes. So is it any wonder that plants survive and thrive in the wild in the untilled soil of fields and forests? Not really. Click [here](#) to see the complete article.

Source: *Fine Gardening (online)*, October 6, 2014

GREEN, WHITE, BLUE, YELLOW, PINK: Winter is only a few weeks away. For gardeners, winter is the "pause that refreshes." We can peruse gardening journals, books on all things gardening, and maybe sketch out changes we are going to make to garden beds that decorate our yards.

Gardening author, Valerie Easton, writes about her efforts to change the look of her gardens "by playing with different color combinations in sun and shade, I've learned that blue, yellow, white, pink, and green are the easiest colors to start with and that, together, they can make a great garden all by themselves. And my experiments with these five colors prompted my pursuit of the most challenging of garden grails: creating a garden that reflects my personal sense of color."

To read about Ms. Easton's experiment with five colors in her garden, click [here](#).

Source *Fine Gardening (online), Issue 77*.

Master Gardener Volunteer Profile

Come back in December when this column resumes.

**Stay informed.
Visit the MAMGA website often.
Mamgawi.org**



What's the Difference
Between MAMGA, WIMGA &
Certified Master Gardener Volunteers?

MAMGA, the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association, is a local non-profit organization of persons who have completed the basic Master Gardener training course, or are current students. MAMGA members may or may not also be currently certified Master Gardener Volunteers. MAMGA exists to provide education, service, and fellowship opportunities for its members. Membership costs \$15 per year. MAMGA members receive discounts at many local nurseries, participate in educational programs and garden tours throughout the year, and are invited to social events.

WIMGA, the Wisconsin Master Gardeners Association, is a state-wide non-profit organization of persons who have completed the basic Master Gardener course, or are current students. Most MAMGA members also choose to join WIMGA, but doing so is not required. WIMGA membership costs \$5 per year. WIMGA members receive periodic newsletters and other informational communications from the state master gardener office. WIMGA also hosts a statewide master gardener conference each year.

Certified Master Gardener Volunteers have completed the basic Master Gardener training course and have satisfied annual volunteer service and continuing education requirements. Most Certified Master Gardener Volunteers choose to join MAMGA and/or WIMGA, but are not required to do so. There is no cost to be certified as a Master Gardener Volunteer. Certified Master Gardener Volunteers assist gardeners through the local UW-Extension Office by serving as plant health advisors, answering hotline calls, tending the Teaching Garden, and performing various other activities that support the UW-Extension Horticulture Program and reach out into the community. Certified Master Gardener Volunteers also perform lots of other gardening outreach and service at places like University Display Gardens, Allen Centennial Garden, Olbrich Gardens, the UW Arboretum, churches, community gardens, and many other venues.



University of Wisconsin-Extension, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA.



