



## January 2018

### 2017 Officers:

- Carol Ziehmke, President
- Jean Damm, V.P.
- Kelly Tomko, Secretary
- Jane Considine, Treasurer
- Lori Nadolski, Reporter



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DATE	EVENT
JAN 23	MGV MEETING—6:00PM, ADMINISTRATION BLDG. MTG. ROOM 115
FEB 1	LGGG PRE-REGISTRATION OPENS
FEB 27	MGV MEETING—6PM
MAR 10	LGGG REGISTRATION CLOSES
MAR 24	LGGG, 8:45AM, RIO HIGH SCHOOL



# President's Message

We have had quite a spell of cold weather. You know it's cold when you have to look twice to see if the temperature is above or below zero. At least we are getting sunshine and we had snow for the holidays.

This is the time of year to think about what we did last year that was a success and what areas we need to improve. At our own vegetable garden we have gone to an irrigation system. This is one of the portable systems that you put down every spring. Kits for this type of irrigation are available for a reasonable price. We also mulch these areas. First newspaper is laid down and then topped with marsh straw or leaves. The irrigation system is laid on top of all this.

The garlic was planted in the fall and in the spring we will also mulch these plants with paper and straw or leaves. I have to admit I am not the best at weeding, especially the vegetable garden, so the more areas we can get mulched the better everything looks and produces.

I now have soaker hoses in the flower gardens, but planning on trying the irrigation system in one area that is hot and sunny and gets neglected. It is on the side of the house that I do not see from a window or walk by. It is an out of sight, out of mind problem. I will also look into a timer for this site.

I am going to keep working on better record keeping for my gardening. A talk I went to at Let's Get Green and Growing suggested only doing a repetitive activity for a certain period of time and then changing to some other activity that uses different postures and muscles. They suggested using our phones for a timer or alarm. This same phone could help with record keeping by taking photos of activities and plants and also keeping notes right on the phone. We will see how this works.

I purchased a battery hedge trimmer last year and have been very happy with it. It is very lightweight so I can easily take it into the garden and trim back dead grasses or plant material. I did not use it a lot as we do not many shrubs that need regular trimming but I used it enough to think it was a good purchase.

I have thought about a battery blower but have not purchased one yet. Does anyone own one?

My husband was impressed with the garden cart that Jean Damm has. We have a couple different carts plus a wheelbarrow, so the fact that he thought Jean's was so much better and that we should consider purchasing one is impressive. It had large, bicycle type wheels that made it much easier to move around. I might have to ask for one for my birthday in May. As we get older we all need to think about how we can garden smarter.

Stay warm,

*Carol*

# Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers Meeting Agenda

6:00 PM, January 23, 2018

Room 115, Administration Building, Portage

**Call to Order** (Carol)

**Secretary's Report** (Kelly)

**Treasurer's Report** (Jane)

**Introductions**

**Old Business**

LGGG Update (Ardyce and Becky)

New MGV Class (George)

Other



**New Business**

Recognize members Certified for 2018

Election of 2018 Officers

President – Carol is eligible for re-election

Vice President – Jean is eligible for re-election

Secretary – Kelly is not eligible for re-election

Treasurer – Jane wishes to not serve in this capacity

Reporter – Lori is not eligible for re-election

Appoint a Financial Auditing Committee

2018 Program of Activities – Ideas to share with new Officer Team

June Field Trip Committee

Do we want to plan a field trip?

If so, who would like to help?

Fair Committee

Who would like to plan and help organize our efforts?

At Large WIMGA Board Member

Other

**Adjourn**

**Program:** Kurt Calkins – Water Quality efforts in Columbia County



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