



Master Gardener News

2019 Officers:

- Leah Stark, President
- Deb Buechner, V.P.
- Lori Nadolski, Secretary
- Linda Haddix, Treasurer
- Donna McElroy, Reporter



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Columbia County MGV 2019 Activities

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sept 12	WIMGA Leadership Mtgs, Marathon County Offices
Sept 14	WIMGA Leadership Mtgs, UW-Madison Hort. Bldg.
Sept 20	WIMGA Leadership Mtgs, Eau Claire County Extension
Sept 24	CC MGV Meeting, 6:00pm, HHS Meeting Room #3
Oct 1	MGV Volunteer hours are due using the ORS—Online Registration System

Volunteers.wimastergardener.org/vms/sec_login/



Hello again Friends,

I hoped you all enjoyed the beautiful Labor Day weekend. On Sunday, my family and I spent some time at Parfrey's Glen. We had never been there before, and I can't figure out why. It is so beautiful there. On Monday I made a homemade batch of salsa and prepped a few more tomatoes to use for spaghetti sauce when more tomatoes are ready. Our summer days are slowly coming to an end, and unfortunately so will our gardens. My house plants have put on some nice, lush growth this summer and now it's time to ready them to make their way back into the house. I usually wipe everything clean, treat with a systemic insecticide, and keep them out for a few more weeks to settle before I bring them in. I always enjoy when the seasons change and the month of Sept. is one of the best transitions!

We finally had a business meeting the last week of August, and you could tell it had been a while. Soo many things to discuss! The fair booth was a success, and the micro farm was a hit amongst the people who visited with us. Lori Nadolski reported that Tomatopalooza was also a success. She and other MGVs that were there believed that they had 50+ people attend throughout the day. Hopefully this is an event we can do again next year. Many people expressed that the bus trip was a great time and that everyone had a fun day. Maybe one year I'll be able to go too! Lincoln Park is still on going. The neighbors seem to be happy with the produce that has been donated to the food pantry. It will be interesting to know just how much produce will have been donated when the gardens are done.

Just a reminder that our volunteer hours are due by Oct.1. George has been sending out emails to help guide us in the right direction on how to use the online recording system. I myself have not done this yet, but it's on my to do list! Also a reminder to pay our annual \$15 dues starting now, but hopefully before the end of the year! Our next meeting is scheduled for 6pm Sept. 24th at the HHS building room 2-3. We do not have a program lined up just yet, but if you have an idea please let us know. As always, thanks you to everyone who volunteers their time to help with our projects!

Happy Fall Y'all!
Leah Stark

Tomatopalooza



The first annual Tomatopalooza event was a success. It was held on August 17 from 11:00AM - 2:00PM at Edgewater Home & Garden in Portage. Over eighteen varieties of tomatoes were available for taste sampling, along with four varieties of rare and spicy peppers. The number of visitors and people who were recipients of the benefits of this event was well over fifty. Also enjoyed at the event, were cheese quesadillas, regular and spicy nacho cheese dip, and fresh caprèsè bites. Cheese was donated by a local cheese factory through the request made by Carol Ziehmke. Thank you for all of our volunteer time and energy in making this event a success.

Lori Nadolski

"Recipes from the Garden"

Pumpkin Bars

By Leah Stark

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 4 eggs, beaten | 2t. cinnamon |
| 1 c. oil | 1 t. baking soda |
| 2 c. sugar | 1 t. baking powder |
| 1 c. pumpkin | 2 c. flour |
| ½ t. salt | |



Combine all ingredients and pour into greased and floured long cookie sheet. Bake at 350* for 20-25 min. or when toothpick comes out clean. Frost when cool.

Frosting:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 3 oz. cream cheese | 1 t. vanilla |
| 4 T. butter | 1 t. milk |
| 1 ½ c. powdered sugar | |



Master Gardener Volunteers

"Gardener's Choice Award"

Jr. Fair Vegetable winner is.....

Jamie Williams

Jamie is a member of the Lodi Challengers 4-H Club!

Congratulations Jamie!!

ORS (Online Reporting System): How to Add Counties to Your Profile

I have had some questions about reporting hours that members have volunteered in other counties or attended continuing education activities in other counties. Some of our members have volunteered at Dodge, Dane, or Sauk County projects. Those counties must be listed in your profile in order for you to see the project and report your participation. This includes both Volunteer hours and Continuing Education hours. Below are some directions for getting this started. Let me know if you need additional help.



Login to ORS <https://volunteers.wimastergardener.org/vms/sec/Login/>

1. Click on “My Profile”
2. Select “Program”
3. Scroll Down until you see “MG County Area”
4. Select the County you wish to add and the click the green button with one white triangle facing the right. This will add the county on the right hand column. You may add as many counties as you need.
5. Scroll back to the top of the page and click “Save” (this is an important step, the save button is at the top of the page, not at the bottom)
6. You may then add hours for work you have done in other counties on their projects. For example, if you worked at the Garden Show at the Alliant Center in Madison in February, you will need to add Dane County to your list of counties and then will be able to select that project to record your volunteer hours at the show.

Be sure to log out when you are done.

Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers Minutes August 27th, 2019 Meeting

Leah Stark called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Meeting was hosted at HHS #2 & 3

Secretary’s Minutes: Becky Gutzman moved to approve May and April’s minutes. Ardyce Piehl 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Previous balance was \$5,642.55. After withdrawals and deposits, current balance is \$5,261.78. \$1,000.00 is pledged to scholarships for the fall. Idea was presented that the budget committee review scholarship amounts when time comes. Lori Nadolski moved to approve report. Sue Bradley 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Introductions: State your name and what you’ve been doing lately. In attendance were: Becky Gutzman, Jeff Breuer, Jane Breuer, Sherryl Stolte, Ardyce Piehl, Jean Damm, Bill Damm, Ann Marie Fuerst, Deb Buechner, Linda Haddix, Marie Rohrbacher, Sue Bradley, Lori Nadolski and George Koepp.

Columbia County Fair 2019 Evaluation

The flower building was arranged well. Served for a long day, but good. Considering a water feature for center of room next year. Wonderful judge this year. High endurance and face to face judging; meaning the audience was allowed to watch. It took twice as long, but the judge had good things to say about everything. Should we continue to volunteer in this capacity? We need to decide by October. Let’s have something for the children to do. If you have any photos of the judging, please send to Becky Gutzman. For concerns with conditions of walkways and flooring of buildings, consider contacting Fair Board Members or a city council meeting.

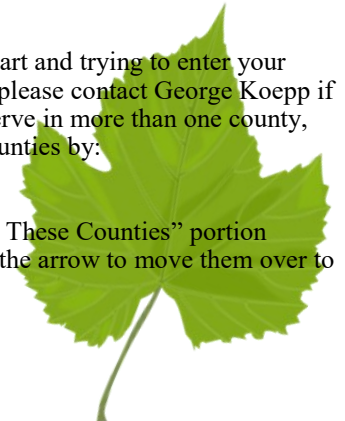
Tomatopalooza

The first annual Tomatopalooza was a success. It was held on August 17th, 2019 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Over fifty people came to taste samples of tomatoes and peppers. There were over 18 varieties of tomatoes present, as well as two extremely rare and spicy pepper varieties. Edgewater staff & family cooked and served quesadillas and caprese. Carol Ziehmke approached cheese factory for a donation and acquired a sizeable donation. While this year no one was available to volunteer in a position of educating at a table, hopefully this will be possible in the future. Thank you to everyone who volunteered for this event, from administrative aspects, to slicing and dicing. An evaluative meeting will be scheduled with Jim & Carole LaVigne of Edgewater Home and Garden asap. Do we want to continue to volunteer in this capacity?

Online Reporting Update

Thank you everyone for giving the new system a good start and trying to enter your hours online. The project list seems to be complete, but please contact George Koepp if you encounter a need for anything to be added. If you serve in more than one county, you can make the system allow you to select between counties by:

1. Log into system
2. Select “My Profile” from the dark grey task bar
3. Scroll down to “MG County Area You Volunteer In These Counties” portion
4. Highlight the counties you wish to add and click on the arrow to move them over to the right.
5. Scroll back up and click “Save”



It's ok to do some "lumping" of hours when you add your hours to the online database, especially if you wish to enter only once a week or once per month. For example, let's say you volunteer for 30 minutes per day for one week in the same activity. Then, on Friday you select the date that you are online, you log 6 hours and 30 minutes of that activity, versus going online each day and logging 30 minutes. This is ok to do.

Travel Report Changes

Starting in the year 2020, it will no longer be permissible to log time in a vehicle/driving as volunteering time. This is because our legal liability coverage begins when we arrive at a site to volunteer and ends when we depart. (not in route) Therefore, you will need to adjust your volunteer hours accordingly. Guidance on this was given at the meeting. Contact George Koepp for further guidance.

The Volunteer Vibe

A wonderful way to find continuing education opportunities is to check the Volunteer Vibe publication, which is available via email. A level 3 opportunity is coming up that will be online. If you don't receive the WIMGA newsletter via email, please contact Becky Gutzman. It should arrive every other month.

2019 MGV Tour

Seventeen people attended this year's field trip to the Payne Art Center and Gardens, Bloch's and Vines and Rushes Winery. It was overall a great success; the tours were wonderful. Any guided tours count toward continuing education hours.

Lincoln Park Gardens

The gardens themselves are deemed a success, especially the tomatoes. The youth education classes had a faithful group of girls who were extremely enthusiastic. One gal even assumed responsibility for watering. Our MGV volunteers who worked with them made seed packets to give away, and the gals loved it! We could tap into that enthusiasm next year as well. The adult education classes had one attendee. We experienced two accounts of vandalism over the course of the whole project, one damaged hose and one social problem with throwing tomatoes. Dozens of MG Volunteers had a key part in making this endeavor a success, yet in different capacities that did not necessarily rub shoulders. We should have a wrap-up meeting soon. We have loads of pictures. Do we have members who want to continue this? We need to talk to all participants.

Special Event- Jerry Apps

Jerry Apps will be coming to the Wyocena Library on September 18th, for a special one-day seminar entitled, "Telling Your Story." Cost is \$95/ person and includes a copy of Jerry's book and lunch. Seats are limited. Registration forms can be found on the Wyocena Library and Portage Library websites.

All items for the September newsletter are due Sept. 4th

Marie Rohrbacher moved to adjourn. Lori Nadolski 2nd it. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: September 24th, HHS #2 & 3

With Respect,
Lori Nadolski
Secretary



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