



Master Gardener News



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2022 Officers:

- Linda Haddix, President
- Connie Wilsnack, Vice Pres.
- Lila Waldman, Secretary
- Jean Damm, Treasurer
- Lori Richter, Reporter

- 5/1 May Day
- 5/5 MGV Articles Due
- 5/8 Mother's Day
- 5/24 MGV Meeting
- 5/30 Memorial Day
- 6/6 Peony Farm Trip
- 6/28 MGV Meeting

Spring has finally sprung!!



Notes from the President...

By Linda Haddix, CCMGA President

Hello fellow Master Gardeners!

Finally, spring has arrived. It feels so good to be outside again, digging in the ground and preparing the gardens beds and landscape areas. My daffodils and tulips are blossoming, and I see a few where I did not plant them - I'll move those to an appropriate space in the yard to see them better. Several of my bleeding heart plants need to be moved as well.



Photo Courtesy of CC MGV Lori Richter

Dividing perennials is a budget-friendly way to fill your garden with more plants or share them with friends. It's also good for keeping your existing perennials healthy. Sometimes the perennials have a large clump in the middle of the plant. Dividing the clump will encourage new growth.

It's also time to get your soil tested. I have several garden beds in the yard, some contain much sand, and some are darker soil. Testing your soil can be done easily by stopping by the UW-Extension office in Portage or other extension offices and asking for a soil envelope, which is sent to UW for the review. These envelopes may also be obtained by visiting www.uwlab.soils.wisc.edu. After test results are received, don't forget to fertilize accordingly.

I'd like to give a shout-out to our members who braved the chilly evening on April 26th to visit Lincoln Park Garden and the Portage Community Garden. It was interesting and informative, and maybe we can visit again sometime in the future when the gardens are in bloom.

Here's to a great start to our gardening efforts this 2022!

Linda Haddix
President

*Columbia County Master Gardener's Association
Minutes - April 26, 2022*

The brief, casual meeting was called to order by President Linda Haddix at 6:40 p.m. at the Portage Community Garden site.

In attendance were Jean Damm, Bill Damm, Carol Ziehmke, Kate Reittman, Lori Richter, Linda Haddix, George Koepp, Connie Wilsnack and Donna Mc Elroy. Earlier at Lincoln Park Gardens, Terry Socha and Rita Socha were in attendance and gave a presentation on the history of the garden. There is only one plot available for the public, which is good news meaning the other five are already spoken for!

At the Community Garden, George spoke about the history of that garden stating it began in the early 2000s and is located at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Curran. They have gracefully allowed the community to use their land for gardening use. There is only one plot available there as well, showing a growing interest in growing one's own food.

The meeting was adjourned by 6:55.

Submitted by Linda Haddix

*Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers Agenda
May 4, 2022*

DRAFT

- Call to Order
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Old Business:
- Field trip
- Scholarship award
- New Business:



**** CC MGA May Meeting Time Change ****

The May CC MGA meeting will be held at the Portage Library, and since the library now has a firm closing time of 7 PM, we need to vacate the meeting room by 6:50 PM. Therefore, **our business meeting needs to begin at 5:30** to have adequate time for our speaker on Magnificent Monarchs! Gae Bergman, Dodge County Master Gardener, is a fan of monarch butterflies and will share information about the state of monarch populations, threats, and remedies. She'll show us how to raise these beautiful creatures at home and create a successful habitat for them.

Columbia County MGV Upcoming Events – At a Glance				
Data	Event	Time	Location	Topic/Speaker
Tuesday, 5/24/22	CCMGA Meeting	5:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Bidwell Room at Portage Library, 253 W. Edgewater St., Portage, WI (Virtual Option)	Magnificent Monarchs, Gae Bergmann, Dodge County MGV
Monday, 6/6/22	Field Trip	10:00 AM	Ovans Peony Farm, Beaver Dam + Jungs + Lunch	Peony Farm field trip
Tuesday, 6/28/22	CCMGA Meeting	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Pat's Garden	Garden Tour, Pat Trapp, CCMGV
Tuesday, 8/23/22	CCMGA Meeting	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Lori's Garden	Garden Tour, Lori Richter, CCMGV
Tuesday, 9/27/22	CCMGA Meeting	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Kelly's Garden	Garden Tour, Kelly Tomko -Ewing, CCMGV
Tuesday, 10/25/22	CCMGA Meeting	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Bidwell Room at Portage Library, 253 W. Edgewater St., Portage, WI (Virtual Option)	Super Skill Training: Let's Present, Lori Nadolski and George Koepp
Tuesday, 11/22/22	CCMGA Meeting	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Bidwell Room at Portage Library, 253 W. Edgewater St., Portage, WI (Virtual Option)	Super Skill Training: Let's Get Techy, Kate Rietmann

**Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers, Inc.
April Treasurer's Report**

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$4093.49
(Portage Community Gardens \$934.29) (MGA \$3,159.20)	
DEPOSITS	
Voided Check # 1730	\$ 5.00
PCG Plot Fees	\$ 275.00
Glove Sales	\$ 15.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 295.00
EXPENSES	
Postage Becky Gutzmann	\$ 19.14
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 19.14
BALANCE 4/26/2022	\$4369.35
(Portage Community Gardens \$1209.29) MGA \$3160.06)	

Reminders about Reporting Hours

By Becky Gutzman, Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteer, and MGA Liaison

We no longer report our work by "projects," but for whom the work was done. Look for the community partner's name in the list; for example, if you give a presentation at a library, look for the name of that library in the list. The complete formal names are required, so while you may know it as the "Pardeeville Library," you will find it listed as the Angie W. Cox Public Library. If you don't find the partner you are looking for, please contact me; it may be that I have missed one or haven't gotten it entered yet! You can continue to ask me to help if you have questions about the ORS, or if you have problems accessing the ORS, you can email the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program at:

wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Question of the Month:

What responsibilities do I have as a Master Gardener in 2022?

Answer:

- Accept new Terms and Conditions (including the Code of Ethics) for 2022 by logging into ORS. Please make sure your information is updated in the ORS.
- Complete the updated Onboarding-Lite 2022. This is in the Canvas Classroom. Look for the [email sent on 1-6-22](#) notifying that it is available. It came from wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu.
- The above items must be completed before you conduct any volunteer hours you will count toward the program.
- As a Master Gardener, you are the volunteer of the organization in which you are providing volunteer service. Know and follow established program guidelines and policies of the organizations you provide community service.
- There is no Annual Enrollment Period like in previous years. However, you still need to Accept new Terms and Conditions (including the Code of Ethics) for 2022 by [logging into ORS](#).

Please reach out to any of the CCMGA Officers listed at the top of this newsletter if you have any additional questions about your responsibilities, including any program changes in 2022.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Free Perennials from Columbia Health Care Center The butterfly garden at CHCC has become overgrown with milkweed, black-eyed Susan, and goldenrod.

Mandi Herwig, Director of the Life Enrichment Department would love for you to come and dig out as many as you can take.

If you have a home for these pollinator plants, please contact Mandi at 608-429-2181, Ext 7, to arrange a time to help her out.



UW-Extension FREE Webinar Series

(Registration required)

The second group of the free UW Extension webinar miniseries on managing your yard and garden throughout the growing season is kicking off. Register to attend each webinar.

SERIES 2: MANAGING YOUR YARD & GARDEN THROUGHOUT THE GROWING SEASON

- *Best Practices for Watering Yards & Gardens*, presented by Lisa Johnson, UW-Extension Horticulture Outreach Specialist (Noon, May 10, 2022)
- *Strategies for Identifying & Managing Insect Pests*, presented by PJ Liesch, UW-Madison Department of Entomology Assistant Faculty Associate & Extension Entomologist (Noon, May 18, 2022)
- *Strategies for Identifying & Managing Plant Diseases*, presented by Amanda Gevens, UW-Madison Plant Pathology Department Chair, Professor & Integrated Extension Specialist (Noon, May 31, 2022)

For more information and to register, visit: https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/mini-webinars-for-gardeners/?utm_source=Emma&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=2022+Webinar+Series+1+State+Email+List

This series will be recorded and archived for viewing at: <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/mini-webinars-for-gardeners/>.

Wisconsin Horticulture Updates – Most Fridays

The Wisconsin Horticulture Update (WHU) is a weekly series providing free professional development to Wisconsin Master Gardeners and Extension staff. Sessions take place most Fridays from 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM and cover a range of plant diagnostics and horticulture topics.

To view recordings of previous sessions, log into <https://canvas.wisc.edu/>. Click EXT AGI-005 (Master Gardener Program). Then scroll to Wisconsin Horticulture Update (WHU).

Here is the meeting link to join a future session (it is the same every week): <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/95293040728?pwd=WU5hNTJJSUXFMVtBkclhTNGtITDdvdz09> – Master Gardeners can claim one hour of Continuing Education (CE) for each session attended.

June Master Gardener Tour

Ovans Peony Farm will be the starting point for this summer's outing on Monday, June 6, 2022, 10 AM. We'll experience the fields of blooms and see first-hand how this grower supplies beautiful flowers for the brides of June and beyond! Owner Michelle Ovans will give us a guided tour, sharing the history of her business at this location, and answering our questions about peony culture. Bring your camera and a notebook to remember which varieties you want to add to your gardens! If you are interested in purchasing cut flowers, please let us know in your RSVP so that Michelle can set up the "peony bar."

After that, we'll head into Beaver Dam for lunch at Walker's Restaurant & Bakery, 813 Park Avenue, Beaver Dam. (Order from the menu.)

Following lunch, we'll travel to Randolph, where we'll meet Leah Stark, manager of Jung's retail garden center. We'll also have a special presentation on houseplants and hear about how this section of gardening has grown in recent years. We may also be able to visit Jung's peony fields on the way home.

Transportation will be on your own; feel free to reach out to others to carpool. We will meet at 10 AM at the peony farm, located at W9904 County Rd CP, west of Beaver Dam. While there is no charge for this year's tour, we do need a headcount of how many will attend, so please let Linda Haddix know by May 31 if you plan to join AND if you want to purchase flowers.

Changes at the Statewide UW-Extension Office

After over 20 years of experience at the state & local levels, Mike Maddox is leaving the UW-Extension. Mike began his tenure in 2001 and spent the past ten years working with staff and volunteers statewide as the Program Director for the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program. Mike's last day with the extension will be May 20, 2022.

Best of Wishes, Mike!



Key Links—Following are helpful links to keep at hand:

Columbia County Extension: columbia.extension.wisc.edu

Columbia County Master Gardener Homepage:

<https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/master-gardener/>

Master Gardener Volunteers of Columbia County WI Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/mastergardenersofcolumbiacounty/>

UW-Madison Division of Extension: learningstore.extension.wisc.edu

Wisconsin Horticulture: <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu>

Wisconsin Master Gardener Program: wimastergardener.org

If you have a link to a page that may be of interest to your CC MGCV peers, please get in touch with Lori Richter at buckysbabee@icloud.com, and we'll include its definition in a future newsletter.

Acronyms

CCMGA: Columbia County Master Gardener Association

CC MGCV: Columbia County Master Gardener volunteers

CE: Continuing Education (10 CE hours are required each year)

LGGG: Let's Get Green & Growing (event)

MG: Master Gardener

MGA: Master Gardeners Association

MGV: Master Gardener volunteer

ORS: Online Reporting System (used for reporting your volunteer and CE hours)

UWEX: University of Wisconsin Extension

WBT: Web-based training

WIMGA: Wisconsin Master Gardeners Association

If there is an acronym used within CC MGCV for which you don't know the meaning, please get in touch with Lori Richter at buckysbabee@icloud.com, and we'll include its definition in a future newsletter.




CC MGA Scholarship Recipient Announced!

The CC MGA is pleased to announce that the 2022 scholarship recipient is Owen Jones of Cambria. Owen is a senior at Cambria Friesland High School. He intends to major in Soil & Crop Science and minor in Agriculture Business at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.



Owen meets the CCMGV scholarship criteria and has a good academic record. He is active in 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA), and sports and was recommended for the scholarship by his Agriscience teacher/FFA advisor and the school counselor.

Owen's \$750 scholarship will be awarded following completing one semester of full-time post-secondary (at least 12 credits) enrollment with a GPA of C (2.0) or better and evidence of full-time enrollment for the next semester.



Extension
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