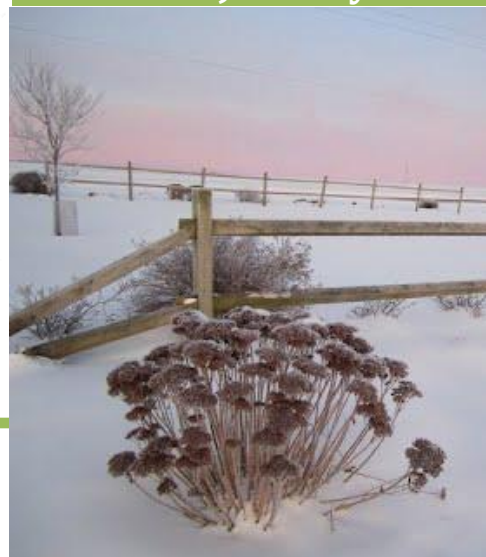


# Portage County MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS



January 2013



## County Master Gardener Volunteers January Meeting—Monday, January 28 6:00 pm, at the Annex Building

The January 28th meeting will start at 6:00 pm with our annual **Thank You dinner**. We will celebrate all your hard work and *dedication to MGV in 2012 and look forward to a wonderful 2013!*

We will also be showing the photos from the 2012 Garden Parade. Dinner and beverages will be provided.



## Some Simple Gardening Tips To Keep Your Garden Tip-top After The Winter Months

Sometimes getting into the garden and doing the simple things will be most beneficial to your garden.

February has lived up to being a cold and windy month (for most of us). However, with all the changes in the weather recently, who knows, we might get a heat wave soon. This is a good time to take stock and check the condition of trees and shrubs.

Recently planted stock should be checked to make sure that they are still firm in the ground. The frosts can kill the roots if exposed. If they are too unstable, support them with a suitable stake and make sure that existing stakes don't have their ties too tight.

The cold frosts can be your friend too. If you have heavy clay soil you should dig it over leaving it in big lumps. Pick a dry day when the soil itself is not too wet. A lawn that is prone to inadequate drainage will benefit from aeration. Ideally use a hollow tined fork (although an ordinary garden fork will do). This will remove small plugs of soil to a depth of about 6 inches, which can then be incorporated in the beds. If using a garden fork push it in to the full depth of the tines and wiggle it back and forth to leave holes. In each case immediately brush washed sharp sand all over the lawn, which will fill the holes. The area may look messy when you are finished but a shower of rain will soon clean it up.

Published at: <http://www.isnare.com/?aid=42317&ca=Gardening>

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## There's Still Time!

Sign up for the **Landscape Pesticide Registry** for the 2013 growing season. You can request that companies notify you when they are going to apply pesticides to lawns, trees and shrubs on the block where you live, or on blocks immediately adjacent to yours.



**Through Feb. 1,**

you can register online at <http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov>  
Participation in the registry is free.

## February 2013 Calendar of Events

**2 – Ready, Set, Grow! – Eau Claire** – The annual winter garden seminar sponsored by the Eau Claire Area MGA will be at the Chippewa Valley Technical College starting at 8:00 a.m. \$30 by Jan 25; \$35 at door. For more information contact [Erin LaFaive](#) at (715) 839-4712 or [download the registration brochure](#).

**2 – Winter Escape ~ Summer Dreams Conference – Oshkosh** – The Winnebago Co. MGA is hosting their annual seminar from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Reeve Memorial Union on the UW-Oshkosh Campus. Featured speakers are Michael Yanny, plant propagator from Johnson's Nursery in Menominee Falls, and Sharon Morrissey, Consumer Horticulture Agent and MG advisor with UW-Extension, Milwaukee Co. Topics include native trees and shrubs, small space vegetable gardening and the development of new trees and shrubs. \$35 through January 18, includes continental breakfast and lunch. For more information and a registration form, call (920) 231-5745 or [www.winnebagomastergardeners.org](http://www.winnebagomastergardeners.org)

**2-3 – Orchid Quest 2013 – Madison** – This annual mid-winter show and sale of the Madison Orchid Growers Guild will be from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday in the Exhibition Hall of the Alliant Energy Center. Educational seminars each day and many vendors. For more information see the [orchid guild website](#).

**5 – A Little Bit of Old and a Little Bit of New... Plants That Is! – Green Bay Botanical Garden, Green Bay** – Tired of using the same old annual plants in your garden? Are you looking to recreate something you saw at your local botanical garden? Want to spice things up with some new varieties, but don't know where to start? Join Sarah Pingel from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. as she explores some of the newer varieties of annuals along with some of the tried and true favorites from years past. \$14 (\$7 member).

**7 – WI Nursery Association Winter Workshop – Oconomowoc** – A full day of learning (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) from the experts, including a presentation by Dave Wanninger, Horticulturist in Charge at the Boerner Botanical Garden, on his favorite woody ornamentals; Insects in the nursery by UW entomologist Dr. Chris Williamson; Ed Lyon on *New Plants: Reality and Promise* (perennials, trialing, and marketing); and Dr. Laura Jull will give a presentation about her recent tour of Oregon's nurseries. At the Olympia Resort, 1350 Royale Mile Rd., Oconomowoc. Special rate of \$30 for MGVs, includes lunch. For info contact [Jill Fennimore](#) at (414) 529-4705 or [download the registration brochure](#).

**8-10 – WPT's Garden Expo – Madison** – Sponsored by Wisconsin Public Television, Friends of WHA-TV, and the UW-Extension Horticulture Team, this event draws nearly 16,000 people to view 400 booths, provided by numerous exhibitors over 100,000 square-feet. Certified Master Gardeners will assist UW-Extension Specialists and Agents in answering questions in the UW-Extension booth. Numerous educational seminars, demonstrations, and workshops are offered on a variety of horticultural topics. Hours are Fri 4:00-9:00, Sat 8:00-6:00, and Sun 10:00-

Underlined events qualify for continuing educational hours.

4:00. In the [Exhibition Hall, Alliant Energy Center](#). An admission fee is charged to this fundraiser to support WI public TV programming (including The WI Gardener). For more information visit [WPT's Garden Expo website](#).

**21-23 – Midwest Organic Farming Conference – La Crosse** – Organized by the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES), this farmer-centered event is the largest organic farming conference in the U.S. with over 65 workshops, 160 exhibitors and keynote speakers. At the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. Registration opens Dec 3. For more information [see the MOSES conference website](#).

**23 – Think Spring Garden Seminar – Chippewa Falls** – Annual event hosted by the Chippewa Valley MGA. At Chippewa Falls Middle School. For more information contact [Laura Franta](#).

**23 – Beekeeping for Beginners – Madison** – This class from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. is for those with no experience at all in beekeeping. Lecture with props will touch on everything you need to know for your first year. Artisan honey, hand dipped candles, and several other products available for purchase (cash). Rich Schneider of Capitol Bee Supply will be on hand with woodenware and equipment for sale. At the Dane Co. Extension Building, 5201 Fen Oak Dr, Madison, WI. \$40 includes handouts, membership in the Dane Co. Beekeeper's Association, free sample journals and catalogues. For more information or to register, contact [Jeanne Hansen](#) at (608) 244-5094.

**26 – The Colorful Truth About Fruits & Vegetables – Green Bay Botanical Garden, Green Bay** – What makes the deep blue of blueberries, or the vibrant yellow-orange-red of marigold flowers? The numerous phytochemicals in fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers create the vibrant rainbow of colors in our gardens and on our dinner plates. These phytochemicals play critical roles in the life cycle of plants and when we eat phytochemical-laden fruits and vegetables, they provide many health benefits, such as improving brain function and eye sight and decreasing the risk of Alzheimer's disease and heart disease. Join Dr. Debra Pearson from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. for a beautiful look at the color palette of fruits and vegetables. \$14 (\$7 member).

**BOERNER BOTANICAL GARDENS:** For info or to register contact Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens, 9400 Boerner Drive, Hales Corners, WI 53130 at (414) 525-5659 or email [scheduling@fbbg.org](mailto:scheduling@fbbg.org).

**CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDENS:** 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe IL 60022. Phone: (847) 835-5440.

**GARDENS OF THE FOX CITIES:** Register for classes on the [Event Calendar](#). For info contact [Gardens of the Fox Cities](#), 1313 E. Witzke Blvd. Appleton, WI 54911 at (920) 993-1900.

**GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN:** For more information, contact the [Green Bay Botanical Garden](#), 2600 Larsen Road, P.O. Box 12644, Green Bay, WI 54307-2644 at (920) 491-3691 ext 103.

**NORTHWIND PERENNIAL FARM:** For info contact Northwind Perennial Farm, 7047 Hospital Rd, Burlington, WI 53105 at (262) 248-8229 or [info@northwindperennialfarm.com](mailto:info@northwindperennialfarm.com).

**OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS:** For info contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI 53704; phone (608) 246-4550 or download the [Classes and Workshops Brochure](#). Pre-registration required, including online registration from the OBG website.

# PCMGV Meeting Minutes – November 26, 2012

**Present:** Margaret Bau, Shelley Binder, Cindy Bredow, Donald Caine, Lynn Caine, Elfri Goskowicz, Dan Goulet, Kathleen Goulet, Carole Harris, Angie Hauer, Kathy Herbert, Carole Jansing, Charlotte Kolinski, John Kolinski, Tina Lechner, Marily Malcolm, Sandra Newby, Chrismary Pacyna, Margaret Parsons, RoseMarie Piekarski, Rebecca Roberts, Leanna Rusch, Chere Schmit, Donna Smith, Kathy Stanke, Jennifer Young, Gail Zalewski, Linda Zick, Jen Haas, Don Schmit, Eric Ecklund and Portage County Ag Agent Ken Schroeder.

The meeting was called to order by Shelley Binder at 6:05 p.m. at the Annex.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Angie Hauer.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** John Kolinski will be ordering badges by the end of Nov. PCMGV. Renewal Form Results were available.

**Plant Sale:** Chere Schmit reported that plants have been ordered from Heath.

**Garden Dreams:** Char Kolinski will have a committee meeting Dec. 5 at 5:30 at her home. Posters, flyers and registration forms were available for distribution.

**WIMGA:** Lynn Caine announced that events for Portage County and other counties are on the State Web site. Go to Upcoming Events. Garden journals from Madison are not listed this year.

**Extension:** Ken stated that Level II training is in February from 9-11 a.m. and can be done live, on-line or at the Extension Office. There is a \$60 fee.

**Board Election:** Cindy Bredow cast a unanimous ballot for Rick Jansing and Kathy Stanke. Marily Malcolm seconded. Motion carried.

**Announcements:** Angie Hauer announced the Home & Garden Show is March 8, 9, & 10.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Continuing Education-Presentation by the two scholarship recipients. ONE HOUR

*Submitted by Sandra Newby PCMGV Secretary*

## PCMGV Board Members

### **Chairperson**

Shelley Binder  
shellb58@hotmail.com  
715-341-9414

### **Vice Chairperson**

Rick Jansing  
rickjansing@att.net  
715-344-2118

### **Secretary**

Sandra Newby  
715-457-2505

### **Treasurer**

Angie Hauer  
ahauer1128@hotmail.com  
715-342-4932

### **WIMGA Representative**

Lynn Caine  
dijed@charter.net  
715-344-1564

### **At-Large Board Members**

Steve Bandy  
steve@campbandy.com  
715-824-3900

Rosemarie Piekarski  
715-457-2201

Chere Schmit  
dcschmit@hotmail.com  
715-258-0153

### **Director of Volunteers/ Committees**

**Steve Bandy**  
steve@campbandy.com  
715-824-3900

### **UW Extension Ag Agent**

Ken Schroeder  
ken.schroeder@ces.uwex.edu  
715-346-1316

## Committee Chairs

\*Chair \*\*Co-chair

### **Bylaws**

Cindy Bredow \*

### **Display**

Barb Gifford \*  
Open\*\*

### **Flower Beds**

ChrismaryPacyna \*  
Carole Jansing \*\*

### **Funds/Grants**

CindyBredow \*

### **Garden Dreams**

Charlotte Kolinski \*  
Sally Prideaux \*\*

### **Garden Parade**

KatieRettler \*  
BobRausch \*\*

### **Habitat House**

JenniferYoung \*  
Patti Mott \*\*

### **Hunger Prevention/ Head Start**

Open

### **Membership**

John Kolinski \*

### **Plant Sale**

ChereSchmit \*  
KathyHerbert \*\*

### **Programs**

Tina Lechner \*  
DianeSomers \*\*

### **YMCA Gardens**

DanGoulet \*

## Coordinators

### **Amherst Fair**

Open

### **Arbor Day**

Open

### **Chicago Bus Trip**

BobRausch  
Sally Prideaux

### **Farmers Market**

Todd Teuchert  
LoriTeuchert

### **Fundraisers**

Open

### **Garden LIne**

Open

### **KMart Potting Day**

Open

### **Newsletter**

Marian Helm

### **Rosholt Fair**

Todd Teuchert

### **Website**

Lynn Caine

Articles for the newsletter should be submitted by the **10th of the month** for publication that month. Submit to: Marian Helm: azmhelm@yahoo.com or 715-347-5265 Please send any address changes to: Bonnie Maier: bonnie.maier@ces.uwex.edu or 715-346-1316



Your county  
extension office



UW  
**Extension**  
Cooperative Extension  
Portage County

**Cooperative Extension**  
**University of Wisconsin—Extension**  
Portage County UW-Extension  
817 Whiting Avenue  
Stevens Point WI 54481  
Phone: 715-346-1316  
Fax: 715-346-1323

**Return Service Requested**



## February Garden Guide

- Inspect gladiolus corms, dahlia tubers, begonia tubers and other fleshy rooted plants for rot and desiccation.
- Before ordering vegetable seeds, check last year's seed for viability by placing seeds between moist paper towels for several days.
- To keep your houseplants growing evenly, give the containers a half turn every two days.
- Start seed for impatiens, vinca, pansies, geranium and begonias in mid month.
- Continue to inspect stored vegetables.
- Check for over wintering fire blight cankers on susceptible varieties of apples and pears; remove by pruning.
- Spray dormant oil to control scale and other over wintering pests. Spray on any day above 40 degrees F and when forecast temperatures are to remain above freezing for 24 hours. This may be done until buds swell.
- Prune dormant trees and summer flowering shrubs. Don't prune spring flowering shrubs until after they have flowered.
- When forced bulbs have bloomed and tops have dried, store and then plant in garden in fall.
- Prune roses, fruit trees, and bramble fruits.
- Order catalogues from seed companies you've been meaning to try.
- Check your garden tools and make a list of new tools you will need or want.
- Sharpen garden tools.
- Give houseplants a monthly shower with tepid water.
- Check young trees and shrubs for rodent injury on lower trunks. Prevent rodent injury with hardware cloth or protective collars.
- Try growing some perennials from seed.
- Start seeds for leeks and onions.
- Don't use seeds with poor germination rates; seedlings may be more prone to insect and disease problems.
- Use a sterile soil-less medium for starting seeds to avoid damping off.

