



JUNEAU COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS ✨

NEWSLETTER

September 2008

UW-Extension Juneau County



IT'S FALL

Master Gardener Meeting

When: Monday September 22, 2008
6:30 – 8:30 pm

Where: Sally Spangler
N10309 Hwy G
Necedah WI 54646
608 565-7330

Car pool when you can
Bring along lawn or folding chair

Agenda:

- Meet and Greet
- Plant Sale
- Garden Tour
- Magazine and Catalog Swap
- Approval of August 25 Minutes
- Treasurer's Report



Unfinished Business:

- 2009 WIMGA Conference Update
- Sign up for next year's monthly MG meetings
- Projects for 2008 & 2009
 - Boorman House
 - Mauston Hospital Project
 - Buckhorn State Park Project
 - Mauston Food Pantry Project
 - New Park – Jan Brendle -in memory of Dave Brendle
 - Community Garden by Bible Baptist Church
 - HCE (Home and Community Educators)-Jean Morton

Directions: from Mauston:

- Take Hwy 58 toward Necedah.
- Turn right on County Hwy G. (Buckhorn State Park)
- NOTE – This is the second Hwy G intersection
- Turn left on 19thAve. (Buckhorn Cafe)
- Continue until 19th goes straight onto Hwy G – approx 3 miles.
- About 1 mile ahead on the left at the corner of Hwy G and Timber Lane. N10309

from New Lisbon:

- Take Hwy 80 toward Necedah.
- Turn right on Cty Hwy A.
- Left on Hwy 58.
- Right on County Hwy G. (Buckhorn State Park) as above directions from Mauston

from Necedah:

- Take Hwy 21 east
- Turn right on County Hwy G.
- Go approx. 4 miles on the right at the corner of Hwy G and Timber Lane.

Upcoming Events:

- **Reminder:** MG volunteer hours to Jan Brendle, N8420 19th Ave, Necedah WI 54646 or email jbrendle@tds.net by September 15 for certification.
- 2009 Master Gardener Training in Adams Cty

Juneau County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2008 6:30 pm - Gail Hitchcock Residence
Secretary: Rich Milgrom

Meet and Greet

Magazine and catalog swap

Meeting was brought to order by Acting President Sally Spangler.

Approval of July 28th meeting minutes

A Big Thank You to Gail for the garden tour and food.

There were 36 people in attendance and we have 52 total members.

Treasurer's Report - Previous Balance: \$ 1827.03

Expenses: \$ 12.66 paid to Arris for sample of sign

\$121.33 paid to the Trophy Place for 10 signs & 1 dbl sided sign.

Total Expenses: \$ 133.99

Total Income: \$ 12.00 membership

Current Balance: \$ 1705.04

Correspondence:

Marsha Lubinski received a thank you note from Hess Memorial Hospital for the work that the MGVs did on their garden.

Membership Chair Update - Jan Brendle

We have 52 members, 37 certified. Need volunteer hours by September 15th. Due October 1st

Historian Report -

Pictures of fruits and vegetables are needed for a new poster for next year's fair, forward to Duane. Duane was reimbursed \$33.41 for previous poster expenses.

Unfinished Business:

- Master Gardener signs - New signs will be distributed next spring.
- 2009 WIMGA Conference Update- Rich - Next meeting is Wednesday, August 27th.
- Accomplishment report - Has website been updated? Irene: The website has been updated. Theme is hunger prevention. Suggestions were community gardens, food donations.

New Business:

- 2009 Master Gardener Training update - Craig - This will be in Adams County.

Projects 2008:

- Boorman House- Irene -They would like something done with the bricks they have. To be laid down as a patio with gardens around. The October meeting will be held there and we will be able to see the room that JCMGV will be assigned to decorate for Christmas.
- Mauston Hospital Garden - Mary Jo - Email from Kristy, hospital has no money available at this time. Would like occasional weeding done. Will table any further work until spring.
- Juneau County Fair - Sharon Duffy - We collected \$309.56 from the sale of plants; \$25.00 from the sale was paid for next year's deposit.
 - Sharon's husband will build 2 tables to go with existing backboard; cost not to exceed \$100. Irene made a motion to have tables made and Rich seconded it. Motion carried.
 - The container plants that were made this year were enjoyed by all. It was suggested that next year's containers be sold.
 - Thanks to the many people who donated their hours at the fair booth and setting up the display.
 - The group also gave Duane and Pat Weisenhaus and big applause for their work and the display and to Sharon Duffy who co-chaired the event.
 - Jean Morton also thanked all those in the judging and helping with 4H exhibits.
- Buckhorn State Park Project - Joyce Mazzoni - Flower beds located at the main office need to be enlarged and planted with perennials. Sidewalk along office needs additional work. Sign-up sheet was circulated for helpers on Tuesday, Sept. 9th and Tuesday, Sept. 16th at 1pm. If anyone can help, please contact Rich Mazzoni.

August 25 Minutes Continued

- Food Pantry - Marsha Lubinski - Bring anything: fruit, vegetables, canned goods for pantry to the next meeting. Possible \$ donation by MGCV group will be discussed at the next meeting and historian will take pictures for the accomplishment report. Marsha needs phone numbers of helpers. Marsha said they need mulch, woodchips, peat moss, and flowers (location is morning sun and afternoon shade).

Projects for 2009

- New Park - Jan Brendle - A new park is being planned in memory of Dave Brendle. It will be located east of the Co Road A and Hwy 58 intersection. This will also be a dog-friendly park.
- Bible Baptist Church - Craig's email - They would like to create a community garden behind the church. They have people willing to help, but would like guidance from the MGCVs. Sally will contact Pastor Bergeson.
- Jean Morton would like JCMGV to donate money to both the Mauston and Elroy fairs for ribbons. A motion was made and carried that we donate \$25 each and money would be for the flower and Ag. Dept. 4H ribbons.
- Sign up for next year's meetings was discussed. It will be posted in the next newsletter. It was suggested that since our group is getting so large that maybe 5 people bring deserts at each meeting easing the burden for the homeowner. Could be desserts or pot luck. Those signing up for next year included:
 - A suggestion was made to have the April 27th meeting at the library or UW Extension.
 - Brigitte Varga for May 18th (due to Holiday) July 27th - open
 - Jan Brendle for June 22nd September 28th - open
 - Jean Morton for August 24th October 26th - open
- HCE (Home and Community Educators): Jean Morton asked if the JCMGV would be available for their event next Spring - they are not going to do the craft fair. More details to follow next spring.

Garden Meeting Dates and Locations:

Please call and confirm any events before attending as there may be a change.

- September 22 - Sally Spangler
- October 27 - Boorman House

Events/Important Dates:

- "Friends of the Wonewoc Library" is planning a perennial sale. It will take place on the Wonewoc Library lawn on Friday, Oct. 3rd from 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday, Oct. 4th from 9 am until noon. All kinds of plants will be sold, indoor and outdoor and plant related items like compost, seeds and pots.
- Reed's Valley Hosta Farm is having a sale and is open 7 days a week through October from 9 am to 8 pm. Closed most holidays. They are located at 4221 Jackpot Avenue in Sparta. Phone (608) 486-4126.
- See State MG Website for more events <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

Note from Gypsy

Dear Friends

Do you wonder sometimes why we garden? We fight the elements and everything that Mother Nature throws at us. We worry about frost and then too much heat. We have no rain and then we get buckets of it. Then there are all the critters - tiny and big - that love our gardens too.

But then you see that "red ball" hanging on the vine and you pull it off. You take a bite out right there in the garden; let the juice run down your hand and arm. That sweet burst of flavor tastes just like summer should.

And then you know - "This is why!!!"

Until next time

Gypsy Jean

aka Jean Morton



ELDERBERRY PIE

submitted by Lincoln Hartford

It may be too late for this year, but maybe not. ELDERBERRIES are late this year so maybe you can find some clusters just for your picking. I can tell you where, if you call me. They freeze great. Meanwhile, here is a poem and a couple of recipes. The poem and recipes are private property and should not be shared without permission of authors.

ODE TO THE ELDERBERRY

by Janet Leahy

In the circle of a pie
berries run red
holding the sweet taste of summer

Like a painting
by the masters
who mix rich
wine-colored oils
with textured
ripe orbs
of the elder

Dark pearls of fruit
born of spring's lacy bloom
run red
in the circle of a pie



PERFECT PIE CRUST

2 cups flour
1/2 tsp salt
1 Tbls sugar
1/4 tsp cinnamon
3/4 cup shortening
1 large egg, lightly beaten
1 tsp vinegar
1/4 cup cold water

Combine flour, salt and sugar in large mixing bowl. Cut shortening into flour mixture. Combine egg and vinegar and add to flour mixture. Add water until dough is moist enough to form a ball. Do not overwork dough. Shape into two flat balls. Roll between waxed paper sheets on any hard, flat surface. Fold into pie plate. Fill with fruit mixture. Add pie crust for top. Flute edges with thumb of one hand against thumb and index finger of the other.

Here is the recipe for the potato salad served at the last MG meeting. From: TASTE OF HOME magazine, provided by Jess Bashirian

ZESTY POTATO SALAD

8 medium red potatoes (about 2 1/2 lb) unpeeled
1 jar (6 ounces) marinated artichoke hearts, drained and quartered
1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chilies, drained
1 jar (4 ounces) diced pimientos, drained
1 medium green pepper, diced
1 medium sweet red pepper, diced
1 medium yellow pepper, diced
1/2 cup chopped red onion
1 tsp minced fresh basil or 1/2 tsp dried basil
salt to taste
1 pkg (.6 ounce) Zesty Italian salad dressing mix
1/3 cup vegetable oil
3 Tbls white wine vinegar

Scrub potatoes and cook them until tender but firm. Drain and cube; place in a large bowl. Add artichokes, chilies, pimientos, peppers, onion, basil and salt. Combine remaining ingredients in a jar with a tight fitting lid; shake well. Pour over the salad mixture and toss well.

Chill at least 1 hour before serving – makes 10-12 servings

ELDERBERRY PIE MIXTURE

2/3 cup sugar
1/4 cup flour
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/4 tsp nutmeg
1 t lemon juice
4-5 cups elderberries
pastry for 9 inch pie.
1 Tbls butter



2 hours before baking, Using first 6 ingredients, coat elderberries with lemon juice. Combine dry ingredients then stir the mixture into elderberries. At the right time, ladle elderberry mixture into pie plate, lined with bottom crust. Dot with butter. Add top crust. Cut holes in top with knife for escaping steam, Protect the edge of pie with aluminum foil. Bake 35 minutes at 400°. Remove foil and bake another 15 minutes, or until golden, with elderberry juice seeping through top. Cool on wire rack. Goes well with vanilla ice cream.

Craig's Corner

Agriculture Agent 608-847-9329
Juneau County UW-Extension



Ever wonder what people are asking (or sharing with) the Juneau County Extension Agricultural Agent? Below is a sample of the latest horticultural related issues. Have a question or comment just call 608-847-9329 or email craig.saxe@ces.uwex.edu Extension publications mentioned can be found at: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/>

- **Powdery mildew** is a foliar disease that occurs late in the season on cucumbers, gourds, muskmelons, pumpkins and squash. Symptoms first appear as pale yellow spots on the oldest leaves. As the disease progresses, a white or brownish powdery growth covers affected plants. Eventually, affected plants wilt and die. Management starts with planting resistant varieties. On susceptible crops, fungicides may be applied once the disease appears. For more information see publication A3805 “Vine Crops disorder: Powdery Mildew”.
- The **Japanese beetle** is considered the single most important pest infesting turfgrass in the United States. Adult beetles are slightly less than ½ inch long, and are shiny, metallic green with coppery-brown wings. The adults do not damage turf, but are a pest of many other plants, feeding on foliage or flowers on over 300 species of plants. Adults feed on the upper surface of the foliage consuming soft tissue between the veins, leaving a lace-like skeleton. Grubs feed below ground chewing on the roots of turf and ornamentals. Several insecticides are labeled for use against adult beetles. Always follow label directions. Treat foliage and flowers thoroughly. For optimal control, apply in the afternoon when beetles are most active. For more information go to: <http://wihort.uwex.edu/gardenfacts/X1062.pdf>
- With fall just around the corner, it's a great time to consider applying herbicides on persistent weed problems especially in your lawn. Research has shown fall timing to be effective as long as foliage isn't damaged by frost. Generally, this means when air temperatures are at least 50 degrees and after the first light killing frost from mid-September to mid-October. Before you run for a chemical, try to determine why these areas are weedy and fix any problems related to shade, drainage, compaction, etc. Otherwise, the problem may return.
- Cover crops are used on farms and in gardens to smother weeds, deter pests and slow erosion. In my own garden, I plant oats in the fall. It makes a nice winter cover crop and is killed off over the winter, making it easier to till in next spring. If you have the right tillage equipment, winter rye will do the same while producing some green growth next spring. Some will add a nitrogen increasing legume like hairy vetch to the rye. For those that plan to leave a garden spot unplanted for the summer, buckwheat is a popular cover crop choice. For those interested in more information, “Managing Cover Crops Profitably”, is a producer book worth considering. It's published by SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education). You can find it at their website: <http://sare.org/> .



God's Master Gardener

Submitted by Rosemary Aney

As I tend my flowers, the long ago voices of my aunts often echo in my mind, offering praise and advice to me, a novice gardener. My mother loved flowers, but she was only a half-hearted flower gardener. Two of her sisters, however, were avid perennial gardeners, and loved nothing more than sharing their wisdom and their plants with other gardeners.

Mick and Lena were old school gardeners, letting nature do most of the watering, letting perennials go to seed so they could share with others or fill a bare spot in their own garden. They would sometimes have to trade to get that coveted plant from their neighbor. They admired God's creation above all else, and were always interested in wildflowers and birds, and didn't stop short of borrowing from nature's landscape when it could enhance their own gardens. Their resulting cottage gardens were a beautiful sight to behold, rivaling the most formal of gardens.

They didn't plan their gardens on paper or with a software program, or order exotic flowers from the garden catalogs, as their niece sometimes does, but they knew instinctively what would look good where, and which plants would do best in that sunny or shady spot.

Of course they were not Certified Master Gardeners. I'm pretty sure they probably never heard of such a thing. But the knowledge they had stored in their heads, passed to them by their own mothers, aunts, and grandmothers, was as vast as the most schooled modern day gardener. Those who have benefited from the tutoring of older gardeners know what I am talking about. Generations of knowledge passed from one gardener to another cannot be put into a textbook, cannot be made a science, but is, instead, a sort of "genetic imprint", imparting us with an inner "gardening sense".

One of my greatest pleasures was to take my aunts for a tour through my own gardens. I would bask in the praise they so freely gave, and proudly display my latest cultivars. I would secretly gloat a little if I could show them a plant they hadn't seen before and elaborate on its personality and care.

Aunt Mick is gone now, and Aunt Lena is too frail to walk through my garden anymore. How I would love to be able to show them the new strain of Iris I planted this year, or share with them some of my baby Astilbes that popped up from seed. If only I could, just one more time, show my garden to my most appreciative audience.

I believe that when we get to heaven, God will allow us to do the things we enjoyed and were good at here on earth, and I often think of Mick tending the Master's flowers. I can just see her admiring the brilliant blue Iris, the breath taking orange poppies, and tenderly dead-heading the intensely scarlet petunias. I smile when I think of her moving a perfectly placed Bee Balm just for the fun of digging into that good old dirt. What a spectacular garden that must be!

2008 JUNEAU COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS MEMBERSHIP FORM

AREAS OF INTEREST THAT YOU WOULD LIKE To LEARN ABOUT– Check all that Apply

<p>LANDSCAPING</p> <input type="checkbox"/> GROUND COVERS <input type="checkbox"/> SHRUBS & TREES <input type="checkbox"/> LAWN CARE <input type="checkbox"/> WATER GARDENING <input type="checkbox"/> DESIGN <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE PLANTS <input type="checkbox"/> GRASSES <input type="checkbox"/> VINES <p>HOUSEPLANTS</p> <input type="checkbox"/> CACTI & SUCCULENTS <input type="checkbox"/> ORCHIDS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	<p>FRUITS</p> <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL FRUITS <input type="checkbox"/> WILD FRUITS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____
<p>OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST</p> <input type="checkbox"/> COMPOSTING <input type="checkbox"/> GARDEN PLANNING <input type="checkbox"/> PHOTOGRAPHY <input type="checkbox"/> PRUNING <input type="checkbox"/> HERBS	<p>PESTS</p> <input type="checkbox"/> INSECTS <input type="checkbox"/> WILDLIFE <input type="checkbox"/> CONTROL <input type="checkbox"/> PESTICIDES <input type="checkbox"/> DISEASES
	<p>FLOWERS</p> <input type="checkbox"/> PERENNIALS <input type="checkbox"/> ANNUALS <input type="checkbox"/> ROSES <input type="checkbox"/> WILD FLOWERS
	<input type="checkbox"/> IRRIGATION SYSTEMS <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIC GARDENING <input type="checkbox"/> VEGETABLES <input type="checkbox"/> SEED STARTING <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAINER GARDENING

❖ If you would like to host a garden tour list two months of your choice: _____

❖ If you are a current Master Gardener List the year you took your training: _____

❖ If not, would you like information on becoming a Master Gardener? _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____


E-MAIL _____

ANNUAL DUES: **\$12.00** from January thru December 2008
 CHECK PAYABLE TO: **Juneau County Master Gardeners**
 MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO:
Irene Klingemann, W5805 Brown Rd, Mauston WI 53948

Send articles and other ideas for the Master Gardeners Newsletter to:
 Irene Klingemann
 W5805 Brown Rd
 Mauston WI 53948

**How is it that one careless match
 can start a forest fire,
 but it takes a whole box to start
 a campfire?**

submitted by Rich Milstrom



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOTE: Be sure to call & check times & dates to verify event.

- Sept 26, 2008 (12:00 noon) - Managing Invasive Woody Plants - Brown Bag Program** contact UW Ext Office for access. Join Bob Tomesh to learn more about how to deal with certain plants that have invaded our yards and woodlands.
- Oct 24, 2008 (12:00 noon) - Heirloom Fruit and Vegetables - Brown Bag Program** contact UW Ext Office for access. Join Bob Tomesh to learn more about these old varieties of food plants.
- Nov 14, 2008 (12:00 noon) - Growing Blueberries - Brown Bag Program** contact UW Ext Office for access. Join Bob Tomesh to learn more about growing these acid-loving fruit bushes.
- Nov 28 - Dec 28, 2008 - Olbrich's Holiday Express - Flower and Model Train Show - Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison, WI** Twinkling lights, festive poinsettias, tiny landscapes, and large-scale model trains: all aboard for Olbrich's Holiday

Express! Trains travel through miniature evergreen forests and colorful poinsettias as they make their way through a detailed landscape made of natural materials by Olbrich's horticulture staff. Mondays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3 - 12 (OBS members free) and includes admission to the tropical Bolz Conservatory. Admission is free each Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. Contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI 53704; phone (608) 246-4550.

Dec 19, 2008 (12:00 noon) - Pruning Shrubs for a Reason - Brown Bag Program contact UW Ext Office for access. Join Laura Jull to learn about why and how to prune different shrubs.

And Save the Date: Jan 30-31, 2009 - Garden Visions: Under the Cloak of Winter - Wausau, WI - This conference for northern climate gardeners is sponsored by the North Central Wisconsin & Portage County MG Associations. Saturday's keynote speaker is Art Wolk on Garden Lunacy. Friday evening includes a photography contest exhibit, meet & greet speakers and book signings. There will also be hands-on workshops and sessions, and master classes by MGVs. At the Plaza Hotel & Suites, Wausau. For more information see the Conference website or contact Mary Slagoski at (715) 261-1230



Cooperative Extension
Juneau County UW-Extension
211 Hickory Street
Mauston WI 53948

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal Opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.

September Gardening Tip:



If you have neglected your yard and garden this is a great time to work on it. Perennials can be transplanted. It is also a good time to plant trees and shrubs. Rejuvenate your lawn by over seeding, fertilizing and controlling weeds. Get spring flowering bulbs into the ground anytime up until the soil freezes. Sprinkle bone meal or other high phosphorus material when planting.

Harvest carrots, beets, and turnips before the first frost for better storage capability. Pumpkins, summer squashes, and gourds to be stored also should be harvested before the first frost. Pumpkins that have begun showing color will continue to ripen after harvest. However some vegetables such as parsnips, Brussels sprouts, and kale actually have enhanced flavor after a frost.

Houseplants that have been "vacationing" in the backyard this summer should be brought in soon. Give them a good blast of water all over before bringing them in to help remove freeloaders insects

Place amaryllis in storage for a 2 month rest before re-flowering. Select a cool (40 - 50 degree) spot and stop all watering. Plan to begin watering again 9 - 12 weeks before you want it to flower. To set flower buds on Thanksgiving and Christmas cactus, place in the dark for 15 hours (overnight) for six to eight weeks with cool temps (55 degrees at night). Start letting them dry out more between waterings.