



The Watering Can

The Sauk County Master Gardener Association Newsletter

September 2006
Volume 1, Issue 1

Master Gardener Volunteer Hours Due

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Special points of interest:

- WIMGA "Brown Bag" Lunch WisLine Schedule
- Wisconsin Gardener Fall TV Programs
- Upcoming SCMGA Events
- Master Gardener journals are for sale
- Advanced training opportunity

From the desk of Phyllis Both:

Master Gardener volunteer hours should be brought or sent to me. At the time you send your hours, I would appreciate it if you would also send your state dues of \$5. It will save time and postage.

The Master Gardener class will start September 6th. All previous Master Gardeners are invited to attend free of charge. I would like a Master Gardener at each meeting to help set up and pass out material, etc. If you can help, pick a date and let me know. This will count as volunteer hours for next year.

Classes are each Wednesday from September 6 to November 29 except for November 22, the day before Thanksgiving. You would be needed from 6:15 PM to about 9:30 PM.

Anyone interested in participating in any of the individual classes may do so for a \$10 fee.

If you're interested in the "Brown Bag" Master Gardener audio programs, I have them listed below. They are all at 12:00 Noon and may be listened to from your home or at the UW Extension office ETN

classroom.

September 29: Mulches & Benefits to Plants & Soils

October 27: Champion Trees of Wisconsin

November 10: Landscapes in the Shade

January 26 ('07): 2006 Fruit Production Update

February 23: Exploring the Growing of Garden Mums

March 23: Lilies for the Home Garden

Wisconsin Gardener TV Programs for 2006:

September 3 (2:00 PM) - **Hot Plants**—peppers and pepper roasting secrets

September 24 (2:30 PM) - **Pot It**— container gardening

October 22 (2:30 PM) - **Weep No More**—unusual weeping trees including beech and pear

These WisLine and television presentations can be used for education hours.

EVENTS:

Our September 12th meeting is going to be a fun meeting. Please try to attend! It's "Fair Time" for Master Gardeners—our members are competing for ribbons—all in fun! Make a breakfast tray with a small flower arrangement. Pick a theme and see how it turns out. You can be a participant or an observer. Participation preferred.

We are also bringing a dish or bakery goods that were made using our own produce. This is a social and fun meeting, so please come as the Board works hard to plan these events and participation is not what it should be. We now have 52 SCMGA members and only handful join the fun

We have a number of talented members and some of you who **think** you're not so talented, but **all** are welcome to participate as a Board member. If you are interested, please call Phyllis or Eve Caliendo.



Butterfly Gardening will be taught by Bryan Jensen & Dorothy Legler during Master Gardener classes

WE NEED YOU!

Teddy's Timely Treasures: Writings from Teddy Jedry

The Love of Growing Flowers and How it Taught Me Patience

...pickles were sold from huge barrels and in stacked cages were stewing roasting chickens...



Advanced Training Opportunity

"Care of Woody Ornamentals"

September 18, 2006 through August 20, 2007

\$130 for the series of 12 classes or individual classes for \$20 each.

To learn more about this opportunity, visit:
www.rotarygardens.org
 Or call Janet at:
 608-752-3885

Until I was ten years old, I lived in Chicago and the apartment building I lived in had a poor excuse for a backyard. The grass was very patchy - large portions of it were just dirt. One of my earliest memories is of trying to make mud pies and encountering hordes of black beetles. Thus ended any culinary ambitions for making mud pies as I didn't relish the idea of digging and running into more beetles. However, we lived very close to Jackson Park, so I got to see large expanses of green grass and wonderful beds of flowers including a delightful and fragrant rose garden. At a very early age I loved all the varieties of flowers and their scents. Jackson Park also had a very large lagoon with swans and garden statuary. It was reputed to be one of the loveliest parks in the world and no expense was spared by the city of Chicago to keep it that way. In addition to the park, we lived in close proximity to the Midway - a treasured holdover from the Colombian Exposition and this wonderful terraced place had flower beds and fountains.

My grandparents lived in Indiana and I spent nearly every weekend there. Their backyard was a flowering paradise. Here, too, was just a small area of grass, but unlike the apartment backyard in Chicago, the entire rest of the yard was devoted to growing

flowers. They grew as many varieties of flowers as they possibly could. They were noted for their dinner plate-size dahlias and their yard was always being toured by neighbors and visiting friends of the neighbors.

I loved being at their home - there was a large-sized goldfish pond and my grandparents grew exotic water lilies. They did their flower seed planting in succession, so when one variety stopped blooming, there was always another to take its place. One of the first things I did when I arrived on the weekends was to inspect the gardens and see what new flower was blooming. The planting of annual seeds was, of course, done in the spring and in the year I was about seven or eight, my grandfather gave me a wonderful gift. It was a little patch of ground on the south side of the goldfish pond and he told me I could plant whatever kind of flower seed I wanted.

We walked uptown hand-in-hand to the general store called Paracky's. It was a old-fashioned general store selling staples, canned goods, produce, poultry, fresh meat and hardware. Just to go there was a treat because it was so unlike the stores in Chicago. The pickles were sold from huge barrels and in stacked cages were

stewing roasting chickens lined up in a double row down the middle of the store. The entire place smelled like a giant chicken coop, but no one seemed to mind. The cacophony of clucking sounds was all new and wonderful for me - a little city girl - and I loved looking at the meat case where duck's blood was sold as a regular item for making chaunina - a Polish blood soup. A big seller was pickled pig's feet and you had to get there early if you wanted that particular delicacy. They also sold baby chicks and baby ducks and geese. The baby geese were cute, but by the time they reached roasting time, they were mean. Back in those days, all little girls wore dresses and I received some nasty pecks on my legs. This unique store also sold onion sets, potato pieces with lots of eyes and a large stand which held rows and rows of flower seeds - both annuals and perennials. I'm sure my grandfather must have directed me to the annual seeds as back then a seed was a seed for me. He did not try to guide me in my selection and I looked, and looked, and looked at all of the brightly colored packages of seeds. Each of the flowers on the packages was more beautiful than the next and it was after long deliberation that I picked out ageratum. It wasn't the best choice because ageratum is one

Growing Flowers... Teaching Patience, cont.

of the slow to reach maturity annuals, needing 6 to 8 weeks after germination to bloom. However, my grandfather was a wise man and so we paid for the seed and walked home to plant it.

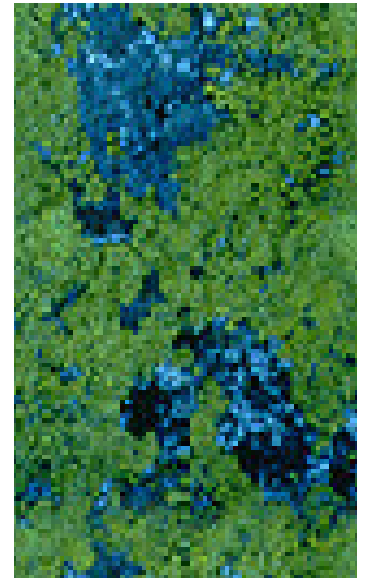
Then began the wait; each weekend when I arrived I would race to the yard to see if my flowers were coming up. I'd anxiously ask if my seeds had been watered and my grandfather would assure me that

he had indeed taken care of the watering. Finally, in a couple of weeks, the plants emerged. Now began the long, long wait for them to flower. I wanted my garden bed to look like the flowers on the front of the seed package! Bloom they eventually did - it probably took six weeks for them to do so - such a long period of time for a little person, but there they were - beautiful, fuzzy ½ inch misty blue flowers. I was so proud of the agra-

tum I had grown and dragged in the neighbors to view my garden.

Thus began my love of growing flowers - thanks to my grandfather. He gave me another gift as well - that of patience - a virtue that all gardeners must acquire.

Teddy Jedry
July 5, 2006



"I was so proud of the ageratum I had grown and dragged in the neighbors to view my garden."

The Wild Bird Barn

One visit to The Wild Bird Barn and surveying all of the many bird-related items featured in the store will make you a customer for life. The very knowledgeable owner of this remarkable store is Diane Cullison. If you have a question about birds, the housing or feeding of them, Diane is sure to have the answer for you. Located in the Baraboo Mini Mall at 830 Hwy. 12, she has been at this location for ten years. Prior to this, she owned and operated a much smaller Wild Bird Barn, also on Hwy. 12, for seven years. When customers and the business grew, she decided that a much larger store was needed and so she flew a little bit south to where she happily opened the present Wild Bird Barn and also Raining Cats & Dogs. However, when Wal-Mart opened their new store, she found it hard to compete with pet food prices and so has made a successful business of combining the two stores and carrying innovative pet items. She no longer sells



dog and cat food, but the store features wonderful Lupine leashes and collars as well as dog and cat toys and figurines.

Before moving to Wisconsin in 1984, Diane worked for private vets in California and was a medical assistant working with doctors at the Los Angeles County Zoo for 12 years. She became a Wildlife Rehabilitator after calling the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to inquire about an injured bird who had crashed into one of her windows. During the course of the conversation and their learning about her credentials, she was asked to do wildlife rehabilitation, and did so for the next 15 years, nursing abandoned raccoons, opossums, squirrels and birds back to health.

Before opening her first store, she did factory work for three years and for one year continued her factory work while opening her first store and running the business simultaneously—the equivalent of two full-time

jobs!

Some of the items not previously mentioned that Diane carries in the store are, of course, bird seed, bird houses, bird feeders, bird statues, dog and cat gift items, books, greeting cards, wind chimes, bird baths, garden stakes, outdoor spinners, stepping stones and kits =to make your own. Would you like to personalize the names of your children or grandchildren and their little handprints? This is the place to buy the stepping stone kits. She also carries Green Bay Packer items and tractor books. The Dover coloring books are exquisite and amazing with all the details they contain—children can absorb history and geography while coloring. The store also has an Annie Oakley perfume line that has quite a following among her customers.

Stop in soon! You are sure to find an extra special gift for newborns to grandparents.

Reported by Teddy Jedry
May 14, 2006

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Baraboo, WI 53913
Permit # 170

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Sauk County UW Extension

Newsletter layout and design by Lynn Olson.

The Rain Garden at the Baraboo Public Library needs weeding. The crabgrass is threatening to take over! Please use some of your volunteer hours to help eradicate this pesky weed before it takes over the whole garden!

Thank you!
PB

2007 Master Gardener Journals are for sale. These are wonderful journals to note all of your gardening joys, successes and what to do differently next year. You won't be disappointed! The cost is about \$13 and orders will be taken at the September SCMGA meeting or by calling Beth Kramer at 356-7905.

Everyday with Eve: Notes from the President

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Eve Caliendo, Phyllis Both and Beth Kraemer, have been meeting and working on filling the offices of each board position for the 2007—2009 term. These candidates will soon be announced for your consideration. The elections will be held at the January meeting. We also will be working on programs for 2007 and your input would be appreciated. Be thinking and be ready to share at our September meeting.

September SCMGA Meeting

The Sauk County Master Gardeners Association September meeting will be held on September 12th at 6:30 PM in Room B-30 of the West Square Building. We have a dual theme of “Fair Time” and a “Breakfast Tray Show”. Please bring a food item that you have prepared from your garden yield—fruits or veggies. Bring the recipe to share.

You are encouraged to participate in the “Breakfast Tray Show” - simply pre-

pare a place setting and small flower arrangement on the tray to present for show. This will not be formally judged, but winners will be chosen by popular vote. Ribbons (or gifts) will be awarded.

These meetings are open to the public and are free of charge. Encourage your friends and neighbors to join!

