



Digging in Dodge

Dodge County Master Gardener Association

Issue 27

A Note from our President

Fall, or autumn if you prefer, is officially here. Do you have a favorite sign of fall? Mine are the mums in bloom, and the arrival of flocks of geese to the pond at the campgrounds. In the evening as the flocks fly in, they seem to be “talking” to each other, letting each other know their location. Once all the geese arrive, it turns quiet for the evening.

Have you ever wondered why geese fly in a “V”? By flying in the “V” formation the whole flock increases the flight efficiency by 71%, compared to just one bird flying alone. When a goose falls out of formation, it feels the resistance of flying alone, and quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the flock’s power in front of it. When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies to the point position. The geese honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help protect it and stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Talk about teamwork and standing by each other!

Even though fall is a sign that another gardening season is coming to a close, there is still plenty to do— plant-

ing spring bulbs, garlic, or Jerusalem artichokes, raking leaves, and cleaning up gardens and tools. Fall is also a time to reflect back on the season and what changes should be done to the garden for next year.

When the board meets in November, we too, will reflect back on the past year, along with planning ahead for the next year. With the same teamwork as the geese migrating to warmer climates, the board and the members of the association will work toward another great year of learning, educating, beautifying, and inspiring.

Chris



2011 Projects

Master Gardeners will be working on various projects in Dodge County this year. Projects are underway in Beaver Dam, Horicon, Juneau, Mayville, Neosho, Watertown, and Waupun. Each project has a Master Gardener who coordinates the work. A complete and updated list of projects with contact person information is available from our website or from Carol Shirk (920) 387-5105.

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Upcoming meetings

Anyone with an interest in gardening is welcome to attend the following free programs. Master Gardener meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings are at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 127 E. Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039.

October 27

Winter Rose Care

Sherry Shaft/Joan Schultz

Sherry and Joan are Rosarians, rose judges and are experienced at sharing their knowledge about roses. They will present winter rose care along with how to cope with diseases and insects using both chemical and organic methods. They will also bring photos of roses to tempt you to plant some in your garden.



November

Board Meeting Only

December

No Meeting

January 26

Project Review

Master Gardener Volunteers

A review of the projects that the Dodge County Master Gardener Volunteers participated in during 2011, complete with photos and discussion.

February 24

To Be Announced

March 25

Gardening and Physical Therapy
Seamus Garvey

Seamus Garvey of Back in Action Rehabilitation, Mayville will present a program on body mechanics and stretching as it relates to gardening.



April 26

Annual Business Meeting

Association business, including presentation of certification cards, updates on all projects, the annual potluck plus finalizing plans for the annual plant sale.

Upcoming Events

- Natural Landscaping with Native Plants. Saturday, October 15 at Cardinal Stritch University, 6801 N Yates Road, Milwaukee, WI. Presented by The Wild Ones, this symposium is from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and features several speakers. \$25 by October 8 (\$30 at the door) For more information call (414) 299-9888 ext 3; or see:

<http://www.for-wild.org/conf/>

- Herb Fair. Saturday, November 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI. Hear about herbs from speakers and vendors. Purchase herbal products. Make & take projects, demonstrations, and a Q & A station. Free! Sponsored by the Madison Herb Society. See:

www.madisonherbsociety.org.

- Containers for All Seasons. December 3 at 10:30 a.m. Nancy Clifton, from the Chicago Botanic Garden, will demonstrate imaginative ways to "green" your pots and give you some great tips on sprucing up your holiday decorations. Containers, fresh greens, twigs and berries all will be for sale to help you create beautiful holiday arrangements. Held at Northwind Perennial Farm, 7047 Hospital Road, Burlington, WI. For more information, call (262) 248-8229 or see:

<http://northwindperennialfarm.com>

New Class

Dodge County UW-Extension will be offering a general Master Gardener Volunteer Training program this spring. The class is tentatively scheduled to begin early February and continuing 12 weeks through mid April. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The cost of the program is \$140. Topics will include: preparing soils for optimum plant growth, plant propagation, backyard wildlife, landscaping, insect identification & control, annuals & perennials, fruits & vegetables, native prairies, turf grass management, plant pathology and weed control. More information concerning registration will be available in December from the UW-Extension Office at (920) 386-3790 and on the website:

<http://dodge.uwex.edu/master-gardener/>

Brown Bag Programs

Due to some staffing changes, the Brown Bag program has been discontinued as a live program. The remainder of the Brown Bag Programs will be prerecorded and posted on:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/brownbag/>

There are a number of articles already available on the site, including: Grape Recommendations, Home Garden Tours, Chickens in the Gardens, Farmers Markets and MGVs, Organic Backyard Fruit Tree Management, Horticultural Therapy, Growing Currents and Gooseberries, Beneficial Insects, and more. Most programs are less than 30 minutes long and include lists of additional reference material for further research. To receive automatic notification of updates, follow the link under "More Information" on the right side of the page.

Congratulations!

Once again Gail Nampel and a host of willing volunteers put together an outstanding photo contest. Thank you to everyone who so willingly spent their time and energy making this event a success. There were 77 beautiful photos entered that were judged by three well qualified judges. Congratulations to Best of Show winner Sonia Memmel with her Flowers & Foliage photo titled "Peekaboo". Other winners included:

Flowers and Foliage: 1st - Sonia Memmel, 2nd - Sonia Memmel, 3rd - Vikki Fisher-Kurth, 4th - Donna Geddes, 5th - Chris Jacobs

Fruits, Vegetables & Produce: 1st - Carol Shirk, 2nd - Marianne Zastrow, 3rd - Carol Shirk, 4th - Glen Greenfield, 5th - Sonia Memmel

Critters & Creatures: 1st - Vikki Fisher-Kurth, 2nd - Vikki Fisher-Kurth, 3rd - Jamie DeVries, 4th Glen Greenfield, 5th - Carol Shirk

Garden Accents & Oddities: 1st - Terri Main, 2nd- Marianne Zastrow, 3rd - Charles Meyer, 4th - Jamie DeVries, 5th - Jamie Devries

Gardens & Landscapes: 1st - Jamie DeVries, 2nd - Jamie Devries, 3rd - Gae Bergmann, 4th - Vikki Fisher-Kurth, 5th - Gae Bergmann

Apples Away

Nothing speaks of fall more than a fresh crispy apple. Dodge County is home to a number of apple orchards. See this web site:

<http://www.applejournal.com/wi04.htm>

for a list of orchards in the surrounding area. Once you have your apples, try this tasty recipe:



Apple Danish

PASTRY:

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup shortening
- 1 egg yolk
- 1/2 cup milk

FILLING:

- 6 cups sliced peeled apples
- 1 cups sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

GLAZE:

- 1 egg white, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 to 3 teaspoons water

Directions

- In a bowl, combine flour and salt; cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Combine egg yolk and milk; add to flour mixture. Stir just until dough clings together. Divide dough in half.
- On a lightly floured surface, roll half of dough into a 15" x 10" rectangle; transfer to a greased 15" x 10" x 1" baking pan. Set aside.
- In a bowl, toss together filling ingredients; spoon over pastry in pan. Roll out remaining dough into another 15" x 10" rectangle. Place over filling. Brush with egg white. Bake at 375° for 40 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.
- For glaze, combine the confectioners' sugar and enough water to achieve a drizzling consistency. Drizzle over warm pastry. Cut into squares. Serve warm or cold.

Yield: 20-24 servings

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*“A woodland in full color is
awesome as a forest fire, in
magnitude at least, but a single
tree is like a dancing tongue of
flame to warm the heart.”
~Hal Borland*

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<http://wimastergardener.org/>
<http://dodge.uwex.edu/master-gardener/>

