



# Digging in Dodge

Dodge County Master Gardener Association

Issue 26

## A Note from our President

I have had the good fortune to be a greeter at the Secret Garden Tour sponsored by the Beaver Dam Area Arts Association for the last four years. This year, as in the past, homeowners were excited to share their gardens and to talk with everyone. Visitors brought cameras and many wrote down plant names or ideas as they viewed the gardens. After a day of viewing spectacular gardens, I am motivated to make some additions and changes to my own flower gardens. Two Dwarf Asiatic lilies, "Tiny Padhye" and "Tiny Ghost" caught my attention with their size and blooms.

Summer brings many events in and around our communities. The events listed in the newsletter are just a sampling of things to see and do within a short drive. There are also many area garden walks and community farmers markets. Watch live butterflies emerge from chrysalises at the Bolz Conservatory at Olbrich Gardens. Don't forget about the Horicon Marsh in our own backyard. Hike, bike, or canoe the marsh or take in a free movie night at the Horicon Marsh International Education Center.

This summer, the Dodge County Master Gardeners Association will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Photogra-

phy Contest Critique and Judging event on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. If you enjoy taking photos of your favorite flowers, landscapes, garden accents, critters, even fruits and vegetables, we would like to see them. Entries are to be submitted by August 1<sup>st</sup>. There is still time to get that perfect shot.

These events provide opportunities for learning, volunteering, inspiration for your own gardens, fun family time, and perhaps the perfect place to take that winning photo for the photography contest.

Have a beautiful summer

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.

### July 28

Symptoms of Plant Diseases

Brian Hudelson

A hands-on 3 hour workshop conducted by Brian Hudelson, the director of the Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic at UW. Brian is known as "Dr. Death" because of his expertise in plant diseases. Program start time is **6:00 p.m.** and is limited to 40 people. (Registration may be required).

### August 27

Photo Contest

Gail Nampel-coordinator

The 2nd annual Garden Photography Contest is at 1:00 p.m. \$10 admission fee is payable at the door. Ribbons and certificates will be awarded during the social hour after Open Judging. "Best of Show" wins a \$50 prize. **See the Dodge County Master Gardener Website for Photo Contest Rules and Entry Form.**

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

This Saturday event will replace the usual Thursday meeting.

### September 22

Attracting Wildlife

David Drake

David, an extension wildlife specialist and associate professor in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology at UW-Madison, will bring a program about how to attract desirable wildlife to your landscape and gardens.

### 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

## Upcoming Events

- 2011 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days are in Marathon County at Seehafer Acres, M243 State Hwy 97 July 12-14. The show runs 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday. More information is available at:

<http://www.wifarmtechnologydays.com/>

- The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association along with the UW Madison College of Agricultural & Life Sciences and UW Extension are holding their annual turfgrass field day on Tuesday, July 26th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The theme this year is "pesticides and pest control" and will feature talks about pesticide safety/regulations, and several relatively new products for pest control. Dr. Doug Soldat will also talk about the new (forthcoming) extension publication on organic and reduced risk lawn care. Brochure and registration are available at:

[www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org](http://www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org)

- The 9th Annual Prairie Fest is Saturday, July 30 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the UW-Fond du lac Campus Gottfried Prairie and Arboretum. This is a rain or shine event with free admission. Arts, crafts, demonstrations, music, silent auction, horticultural programs and tours are all included in this fun day for the whole family. For more information see:

[www.fdl.uwc.edu/arboretum](http://www.fdl.uwc.edu/arboretum)

## More Events...

- The 2011 Wisconsin Master Gardener Association Annual State Conference, hosted by the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association, is Friday August 5 through Sunday August 7, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Madison's east side near East Towne mall. The theme is "Celebrating our Past, Cultivating our Future" to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association. For more information go to:

<http://www.mamgawi.org/2011wisgaconference.htm>

- Prairie Nursery, Westfield, WI is having a guided display garden tour entitled "Bird and Butterfly Haven" Saturday August 20th at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Come explore a variety of wild-life and the plants that attract them. The tour features: sun-flowers, sweet black eyed susan, wild quinine, compass plant and new jersey tea. For more information, click on the "visit" tab and then the "guided tour" tab at:

[www.prairienursery.com](http://www.prairienursery.com)

- The Dodge County Master Gardener Association will have a booth at the Old Time Gathering on September 24, at the Dodge County Fair Grounds (Hwy 33). This event features pioneer craft demonstrations, buckskinner encampment, old time dancing, model trains, antique engines & tractors, and pie contest. Any Master Gardener wishing to help at the booth should contact Terry Zimmerlee at 885-2137.

## Say "Cheese"!

Since you have dusted off your trusty camera to start taking photos for the upcoming Photo Contest, don't forget to also take some of your projects. All Master Gardeners should take pictures of the projects they work on this season and forward them to Chris Jacobs. She will use them to put together a display for promotional purposes when we have a booth at different events. We also have a "Year in Review" program and need to have photographic proof of the work we have done. Pictures of the "before", "during", and "after" stages of a project help others to visualize how to accomplish something similar in their own landscape. Keep those cameras clicking!



### Prize Winner

Dodge County Master Gardener Association gave away a fantastic garden cart at the Waupun Home Show. The lucky winner was Charlene Voelker of Waupun. Congratulations, Charlene!

**Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful: they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul."**

Luther Burbank

## Lawn Care

August and September are rapidly approaching and if you have a poorly established lawn, it will be a good time to address the situation. Mid-August to mid-September is the best time in Wisconsin to plant new grass. UW-EX Publication A3434 ( <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/assets/pdfs/A3434.pdf> ) gives detailed information about lawn establishment and renovation, including recommendations of grass varieties, methods of application, how to eliminate common problems, and more.

If more than 50% of your existing turf is difficult to control perennial weeds such as quack grass and Canada thistle, it is time to remove all existing vegetation and do a complete renovation. A partial renovation can be accomplished on a thin lawn or one with bare spots and trouble areas and still yield a desirable lawn within one to two growing seasons.

## It's The Berries...

Summertime means lots of fresh fruit and vegetables. If your garden isn't large enough to handle your own berry patch, the Wisconsin Berry Growers Association has a site to direct you to the closest patch: <http://www.wiberries.org>

Not only will you find a map with all the berry patches nearest you, but there are recipes, research trials, nutritional information, and activities for kids.

If its apples you are after, check out : <http://www.waga.org/>

And for cherries:

<http://www.wisconsincherries.org/index.asp>

## West Madison Agricultural Research Station

The West Madison Research Station is one of 11 research stations operated by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. This 570 acre station is only 8 miles from the UW-Madison campus, at 8502 Mineral Point Rd., Verona, WI 53593. The trial gardens are free and open to the public during the growing season. There are self-guided tour booklets available throughout the gardens. In addition, there are numerous programs available to the public, including horticulture days, field days, and evening walks.

A sampling of this year's schedule is:

**Urban Horticultural Day:** August 20 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Annual event. Get new ideas and answers to old problems, take tours of the flower and vegetable gardens, take a guided bird walk, sample fresh produce and more.

### Evening Walks (all on Tuesdays):

July 19, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Phil Pellitteri, Insects in the Garden: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

July 26, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Brian Hudelson Vegetables, Fruits, Annual and Perennial Flowers: Disease Identification in the Garden

August 2, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Judith Reith-Rozelle Vegetable Cultivars: New and Heirlooms – How to Grow, Harvest, and Store

August 23, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Rebecca Harbut Fruit Walk :Grapes, Raspberries, Blueberries, Apples, Strawberries, and all those little unknown Fruits

For more complete information about the programs as well as information about plant trials, see the complete website: <http://www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/garden/index.html>

Master Gardeners are always needed to help with ongoing plant trials and other projects. If you are in need of volunteer hours, contact Judy Reith-Rozelle [jreithrozell@wisc.edu](mailto:jreithrozell@wisc.edu) or Brian Emerson [bemerson@wisc.edu](mailto:bemerson@wisc.edu)



## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING RECEIPT OF NEWSLETTERS!

Each year we evaluate our mailing list to keep it current. In order to keep our costs reasonable, we ask that you receive this newsletter via email if at all possible. If you are still interested in getting the newsletter, please send Brenda a note at [bwenzel@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:bwenzel@co.dodge.wi.us) and tell her that you would like to stay on the mailing list. Members, this includes you! (This will prevent Brenda from having to juggle several lists.). Please put "MG newsletter" in the subject line and include your mailing address as well.

If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter via snail mail, either remove the tear strip below and send it to Brenda Wenzel UW-Extension, Administration Building, 127 E. Oak Street, Juneau, WI 53039 or call at (920) 386-3791 and ask Brenda to retain your name on the mailing list.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you do not respond in some way, you WILL be deleted from the mailing list and will NOT receive future issues of this newsletter. Thank you for your help in keeping us current.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_



## The Dodge County Master Gardener Association

Is Pleased to Host our

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Photography Contest Critique and Judging Event



**Saturday August 27, 2011  
Administration Building  
127 E. Oak Street, Juneau WI  
1:00 p.m.**



**Attendance - \$10 per person payable at door.**

**Ribbons & Certificates will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. Ribbons will be awarded for Honorable Mention. Winners will be announced during the Social Hour immediately following the Critique & Judging Event. Entry voted "Best of Show" will a Rosette Ribbon and \$50 Cash Prize.**

**Additional information and details for contest entry can be found on our website:**

[dodge.uwex.edu/maser-gardener/](http://dodge.uwex.edu/maser-gardener/)

or

[wimastergardener.org/?q=Dodge](http://wimastergardener.org/?q=Dodge)

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**"A perfect summer day is  
when the sun is shining,  
the breeze is blowing, the  
birds are singing, and the  
lawn mower is broken."**

James Dent

### Dodge County Master Gardener Association

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<http://wimastergardener.org/>