



Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service



Volume 22, Number 1



February-March 2016

Mike's Message

There are three things I would like to discuss in this issue.

Youth Program: Many of you have participated in the youth programming we provided to 3rd & 4th graders at The Garden Next Door. Although this program was well received by the students and their teachers, the ongoing problem we had maintaining the youth plots throughout the summer proved to be insurmountable. This fall, Kathie Vavra, who created this program and provided great leadership for it, decided to step down as chair of our youth programming. I decided that now was the time to look into alternatives that would allow us to continue to meet the youth programming portion of our mission. I am now able to announce that I have talked with the Boys and Girls Club of Door County and they are interested in working with us to provide gardening programming to their members in their raised bed gardens installed this past spring behind their facility on 3rd Avenue. They are interested in whatever help we can provide. Since they work with youth throughout the growing season, we envision setting up a program that would provide gardening activities and education throughout the gardening season. Our first step is to find a member(s) who is willing to take responsibility for this program. Once we find this leadership, we can begin to work with the staff at the Boys and Girls Club in setting up the program. If you might be interested in taking on this responsibility, please let me know.

Leadership Recruitment: Finding good leaders and supporting them can be a challenge especially in all-volunteer organizations. We have been blessed in this organization to have had a number of exceptional leaders that have contributed to our success. But we are constantly in need of recruiting new leaders to replace those who deserve being able to step down and let others take over. To that end, the Board has decided to create a Leader Recruitment Committee, whose sole purpose will be to identify potential leaders from the membership and to recruit them to accept leadership positions. Also, the Board has plans to explore the possibility of setting term limits for leadership positions. This might sound counter intuitive when recruiting new leaders can be difficult. Research however has shown that individuals are more willing to accept leadership positions if they know that there is an established end date for their commitment. The Board will continue to discuss this and other concepts at future meetings.

Food Safety: Finally, I have a few more words to say about the risk management/food safety discussions we have had at the Board. Hopefully, you have read the email I recently sent on this topic. In it, I tried to clarify where the Board stands on food safety and what this organization needs to do to protect against serving tainted food. I must admit that I made a mistake when we started having these discussions: I placed the emphasis on the potential for litigation if someone was served tainted food at one of our events. At our last Board meeting, Helen Bacon, a Registered Nurse, noted the serious health risks that occur when someone experiences food poisoning. Whether it is e-coli, salmonella, or listeria, the resulting nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea can be extreme and debilitating. For children, elderly and individuals with compromised immune systems, food poisoning can be seriousness enough to lead to hospitalization or possibly death. And, food poisoning always affects more than one person, multiplying the impact of the tainted food. Personally, I would be devastated if a food item that I prepared, or that we as an organization served, were the cause of this. Can any of you say that you wouldn't also feel the same way? From this point on, our discussion regarding food safety needs to focus on the people and the illness they could experience rather than whether they might sue us.

Mike VanEss

DCMGA Board of Directors and Officers

President - Mike VanEss

Vice President - Chris Gritzmacher

Treasurer - Wendy Woldt

Secretary - Holly Green

Board Members: Jim Baxter, Jim Friedrichs, Karen Kidd, Jim McFarlin, Alan Romsos

State Board Representative - Gary Kemp

UW-Extension Agent - Annie Deutsch

Mission Statement

The Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc., in partnership with UW-Extension, shall strive to make a positive impact on horticulture in our community through education, community outreach, and stewardship of our environment.

**Door County Master Gardeners Association
Board Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Mike VanEss at 5:30 p.m.

Board members present: Alan Romsos, Wendy Woldt, Chris Gritzmacher, Jim Baxter, Jim Friedrichs, Jim McFarlin, Karen Kidd and Holly Green.

Other members present: Helen Bacon

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the November 18 meeting were approved. (Moved/seconded by Jim F. /Jim B.)

Correspondence: Thank you from Feed America for donation in memory of Rod Bohn.

Treasurer's Report: Two changes were made to the spending report. Due date for membership dues and responsibility for tracking membership were discussed. Report approved. (Moved/seconded by Holly/Jim F.)

Old Business

Leadership recruitment: We have possible candidates for publicity and WIMGA local rep.

Should the Garden Door chair position be shared? Youth program chair also vacant. MG applications to be researched for member interests, abilities. Possible survey for training class at end of session as part of long range planning.

Possible apprentice program to train next chairs in various areas. Develop list of speakers for education program from among membership. Set term limits for leadership positions. Develop a leadership recruitment committee that defines job descriptions and identifies and recruits members for leadership positions; these two topics will be discussed again in future.

Risk Management: The problem of food safety was discussed at length; Jim B. will talk to Taste chairmen regarding preparing all food for the Taste at the NWTC commercial kitchen. Helen Bacon has used this kitchen and will also be consulted. Also discussed was adding poisonous plant info to RM plan; identification and labeling. Plant insurance against loss in greenhouse was brought up; PARS to be consulted. **There will be a special Board meeting on February 8, 2016 at 5:30 regarding risk issues.**

Bohn Orchid Funds: Money to be used for four Adirondack chairs with commemorative plaques. (Motion/seconded by Chris G. /Jim B.)

New Business

Revised Committee Information Sheets: Approved (Motion/seconded by Holly/Jim M.)

Membership: Exit interviews to be conducted by phone with lapsed members. Jan Ziemann will be asked to make calls.

Goal Setting: Board will continue with goals set in 2015.

Committee Reports

Education: No report.

Training: Carrie Sherrill has joined the training committee. Ten students are in current class. Classes held at Crossroads, but building is cold; Coggin to be consulted.

Garden Door: Arborvitae are gone. Birch Creek Ambassadors will perform in the garden on July 22 concert –funds to pay them will be collected from audience. Copper sculpture for raised bed area is being built, will cost \$500. The Garden Door Budget approved by the TGD Committee but is in deficit. Leadership position may be divided into three parts.

Plant Sale: Poster has been done by Phil Block (Publicity). Seed lists should be done soon. Plants will be divided by color on list. Karen is looking for more unusual/different plants compared to those available from commercial/retail outlets.

Door County Master Gardeners Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

Open House: Will be held July 9, 2016. This year's theme is Herbs, (medicinal, edible, etc.) Possible speakers will be sought.

Taste of the GD: no report

Merchandise: no report

Youth committee: May work with Boys and Girls Club in their raised bed, not in GND.

Newsletter: no report

Outreach: no report

Publicity: Looking for new chairperson.

Social committee: no report

Sunshine: no report

State Report: Volunteer Vibe will now be linked to webpage. They would like articles re: projects in our area. Articles due first of month in odd months. The Vision Statement for WIMGA approved.

Board meetings by conference call not working, need new method of communication.

Website: Still working on the revamping of the website.

Announcements

Special Board Meeting will be held at PARS on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

The next Board Business Meeting will be held at PARS on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. (Moved/seconded by Jim M./Jim F.)





Garden Door Notes

by Christine Gritzmacher

The Garden Door Committee Meeting Minutes – Jan. 11, 2016

Attendees: Tim Kazmierczak, Mike Van Ess, Wendy Woldt, Barb and Doug Henderson, Deborah Javurek, Kathy Green, Jo Ann Tarczewski, Kaylynn Litersky, Jim McFarlin, Jim Friedrichs, Jim Baxter, Karen Kidd, Barb Henkelmann, Dick Allmann, Al Romsos, Chris Gritzmacher

Meeting opened at 5:30 pm by Mike Van Ess at Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS), with assistance of Tim Kazmierczak (who resigned as Chairman of The Garden Door (TGD) at the end of the November 18, 2015 Committee meeting). Vicki Dirst was unable to attend and Chris G. volunteered to serve as secretary for this meeting.

Status of the Arborvitae Removal: Jim McFarlin reported that Ben Polster of Forestville removed about 20 trees from the Shade Garden and Pond areas, leaving one-half inch stumps, for a very reasonable price.

Birch Creek Ambassadors Musical Performance: Jo Ann T. reported that the Birch Creek Ambassadors are available for a concert at TGD on July 22, but no funds have been budgeted for the event. Mike VE suggested that we solicit donations from the members or attendees. Jo Ann will not head the concert project this year if we choose to host a performance and requested that volunteers interested in coordinating the event contact her for more information.

Open House at TGD: Jo Ann T. is the lead person for the 2016 event, which will be held on July 9th. The theme for this year's event will be herbs (types, gardens, uses, etc.) for which she anticipates having speakers. She requested that Chairpersons for garden areas incorporate herbs into their plots this year.

Copper Sculpture Update: Barb Henkelmann described proposed planters to be attached to the vertical copper sculpture approved at the November 18, 2015 meeting, which will be a focal point in the raised bed area. She described three copper trays to hold succulents (e.g., sedums and *Sempervivum* species) during the growing season. They can be removed from the vertical support for care and storage during the winter. She discussed watering and drainage issues and provided a cost estimate for the planters. There was a discussion of the project in view of the proposed 2016 budget and funds allocated in 2015 for the sculpture project. Doug H. made a motion to fund the proposed copper sculpture planters from the 2016 budget for a total cost of \$500, which was seconded by Jim McFarlin; and passed by a voice vote.

2016 Budget for TGD: We discussed the proposed budget for TGD (sent electronically by Mike VE. before the meeting). The 2016 total budget is greater than the 2015 budget, and includes many changes related to sub-budgets for beds and gardens compared to the 2015 requests. The proposed 2016 budget includes some new items not in the 2015 budget, e.g., for Turf and Irrigation, and for removal and replacement of Arborvitae near the pond and shade garden. The costs to date and anticipated costs for the Arborvitae removal and replacement were summarized by Jim McFarlin for the pond area and by Kaylynn L. for the shade garden. Chris G. described an unbudgeted, potential cost if the tree planted in 2013 to honor Dick Weidmann dies and needs to be replaced. The proposed 2016 budget was acknowledged to be in deficit, but it will be monitored during the year as actual expenses are reported, which may be less than budgeted for the various beds and gardens. Mike VE. moved to accept the proposed budget with amendments to raise the pond budget to \$1312 and the raised bed garden budget to \$980, without changing the total budget of TGD; the motion was seconded; and approved by voice vote.

The Garden Door Committee Meeting *(continued)*

Raised Bed Boxes: Barb H. showed pictures of new wooden raised beds that Jim McFarlin constructed. They have been disassembled and stored for the winter and will be reassembled in spring in the raised bed area of TGD. Barb expressed our appreciation for Jim's designs and construction of these new boxes.

Adirondack Chairs: Kaylynn L. asked for orders for Adirondack chairs for TGD. Kaylynn wants 2 for the shade garden and Kathy G. wants 2 for the herb garden. Total cost including painting was estimated at \$300. These were not budgeted in the 2016 budget. Doug Henderson moved that we request the Board to approve purchase of these chairs from funds received for sale of orchids donated by Rod Bohn's family and the chairs would include plaques or engravings in honor of Rod Bohn's contributions to the DCMGA. Kathy Green seconded the motion, and it was passed by voice vote.

TGD Leadership: Mike VE. stated that no member has volunteered to be Chair of TGD Committee. Tim K. candidly responded to questions about his experiences as TGD Chair and problems he encountered in that role. We discussed various ways we might fill the position, including: create a search committee to identify and contact people to request that they accept the position; create another tier of leadership so that the tasks are shared (e.g., divide tasks handled by the Chair between 2 or 3 people) and then identify the people who can best serve in those limited roles; identify multiple people who will serve as part-time Chairpersons (e.g., one volunteer every 2 months to lead TGD Committee meeting); identify a few key teams who handle the main tasks (e.g., weed-and-feed team, turf team, and someone to run meetings and report to the DCMG Board) and who will work together, so that one person is not the contact for everything; and shrink the Chair's responsibilities to something a single person can handle. No decision was made.

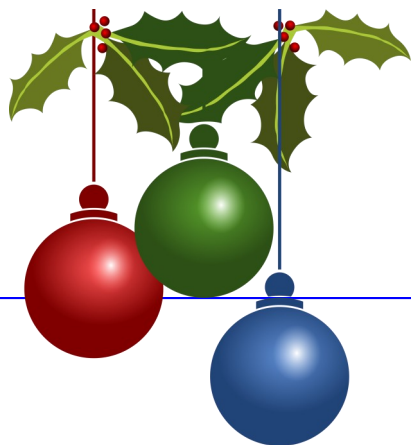
Contacts for TGD Beds and Gardens and Garden Next Door: The most current list is on the dcmga.org web site. An updated list will be provided in 2016.

Thanks to Tim Kazmierczak: The committee expressed our gratitude for Tim's work and contributions as TGD Chairman and for many ways in which he has contributed to the DCMGA organization.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Next meeting will be March 14, 2016, at 5:30 pm in the PARS classroom.





**DOOR COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
2015
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

SEVASTOPOL TOWN HALL

DECORATIONS & SETUP BY

DCMGA VOLUNTEERS

BEAUTIFUL!



DCMGA CHRISTMAS PARTY (CONTINUED)



Members competed for prizes in the annual Bag Toss Event!





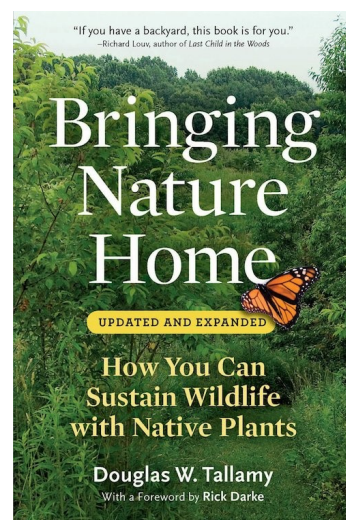
Improving Habitats with Native Plants

presented by Coggin Heeringa

On January 12th, the Master Gardeners' 2015 educational program series opened with a presentation by Master Gardener Coggin Heeringa on using native plants in landscaping to improve habitats for wildlife. She stressed the importance of incorporating native plants into the landscape to provide food for a variety of wildlife that includes resident, migratory and breeding populations. A primary source of the information for this presentation was Douglas W. Tallamy, author of Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants. Coggin called it a book that changed her life, which is high praise from someone who has devoted her life to learning and teaching others about the living world.

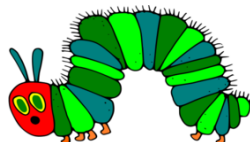
This presentation included excerpts from lectures (available on the internet) by Doug Tallamy, a professor of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware. He described the concept of food webs that link diverse creatures in the living world, and how a break in a web that limits one species can affect the survival of other species.

Because plants and insects evolved together, native insects cannot or will not eat alien plants, and thus loss of a native plant results in loss of insects that depend on that plant. In turn, loss of the insects leads to loss of other species that eat those insects, particularly larvae. Thus, loss of a native plant can lead to diminished populations of amphibians, snakes, birds and mammals. His slides showed the links between specific native plants and wildlife, with many beautiful examples of insects and spiders that we may never have noticed or appreciated, but that are crucial for survival of bird species. A world without insects is a world without biodiversity, demonstrated by a 50% decline in birds in 2014 compared to 40 years earlier. These smaller populations are more susceptible to local extinction, because a single event (e.g., an adverse weather year) can wipe out the entire breeding population.



When people plant monocultures (e.g., lawns) or non-native decorative plants in landscaping, not only are the native plants removed, but the non-native plants can become invasive in other areas and further displace native plants. Thus, detrimental effects of non-native plantings can spread over time and distance. Luckily, we can help to reverse these detrimental trends by removing non-native plants, particularly invasive varieties, and replacing them with native plants in landscaping. Coggin provided us with a list of native trees, shrubs, flowers and vines that grow in Door and Kewaunee counties (compiled by Mary Goodner of Algoma). The list ranked trees and shrubs by their ability to support moths and butterflies, and thus birds. Coggin encouraged us not only to plant native plants, but particularly to use “productive” species that can support a wider variety of insects, and thus a wider variety of birds.

Coggin also described the “Wisconsin Stopover Initiative”, a partnership of organizations across the Great Lakes region to promote conservation of resources to benefit the regional migratory birds. She described Door County, located between two large bodies of water (Green Bay and Lake Michigan), as a place that serves as a “fire escape” to provide lifesaving shelter for migrating birds, a “convenience store” that provides enough food to fuel up for the next day’s migration, or as a “full service hotel” that provides everything birds need in a few places, e.g., at The Ridges. She encouraged us to plant diverse, native landscaping at home so that we can provide fire escapes and convenience stores for migrating birds.





"What's New for 2016"

presented by Kori Zawojski

Here we are in the depths of winter. Socked in half-way between the Equator and the North Pole. Our gardens are frozen and covered with snow. It seems like the sun barely bothers to come up. What we wouldn't do for a tomato fresh off the vine!

Suddenly the new seed catalogs begin to arrive. We flip through and dream about a glorious salad fresh from the garden. We make lists of all the new varieties we are going to plant, ignoring the fact that we'll have so much produce we'll have to become a "co-op" to find a home for everything. (How many zucchinis can you give your friends, co-workers, children, in-laws, neighbors, chickens?)

Then the magazines come! They taunt us with beautiful photos; seas of green grass, waves of flowers, islands of trees and shrubs. We make more lists. Who cares if last year we said, "I'm never, never, never going to dig one more new flower bed". In the big garden scheme of our dreams would one or two more beds really add to the work load??? **Help!**

Just in time, the **Door County Master Gardeners Education Committee** came through for us with the second of the 2016 Free Public Programs! On January 12th, Kori Zawojski, co--owner of Sunnypoint Gardens & Gift Shop, introduced all those present to **"What's New for 2016"**. Kori gave professional advice regarding the myriad of new plant material available for home gardeners. She provided photos of both annuals and perennials and once again made suggestions for plants that partner well in containers. So, thanks to Kori we are on the path to beautiful flowers and vegetables that we know will work in our Door County gardens.





Education Committee News

Next Meeting 2/23 1pm PARS

CLASS OF 2016

**Front Row:
L-R**

**Mary
Donna
Rhonda
Nick
Steve**



**Back Row:
L-R**

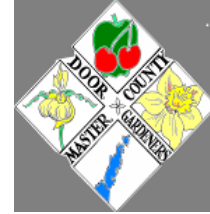
**Dorry
Marsha
Gretchen
Cliff
Nancy**

DCMGA 2016 Free Public Programs for February & March

- 2/9 Murder, She Planted. Creating the Most Dangerous Garden in Town!**
 Nancy Santoriello, Santoriello Landscape Maintenance
- 2/16 All About Soils**
 Eric Cooley, Co-Director of UW Discovery Farms
- 3/8 Orchids**
 Richard Baehnman, NE Wisconsin Orchid Society
- 3/15 Floral Arranging**
 Bette Sternard, Maas Floral of Sturgeon Bay
- 3/22 Accessible Gardening**
 Kathy Blankenberg

All programs will take place at Crossroads at Big Creek at 7pm

DCMGA COMMITTEES



COMMITTEE	Chairman/Coordinator
Awards	Kerry Vavra
Banquet	Christine Gritzmacher
Education	Chris Holicek
Garden Door	Open
Leader Recruitment	Open
Newsletter	Jeanne White
Open House	Jo Ann Tarczewski
Outreach	Lee Somerville
Plant Sale	Karen Kidd
Publicity	Open
Risk Management	Jim Baxter
Social	Coggin Heeringa
Sunshine	Donna Hake
Taste of the Garden Door	Linda Zolnosky
	Jeanne Vogel
	Linda Lambert
Training	Gary Kemp
WIMGA	Open
Youth Program	Open

THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!

Check dcmga.org Website for Volunteer Opportunities

Thanks to all DCMG's who participate in events throughout the year, from spring clean up, seed planting, greenhouse work and Plant Sale, the Open House, and Taste of the Garden Door events, all of our educational events to inspire and educate gardeners, and for contributing to our social culture. All MG volunteers help make our organization and community better. Please check the dcmga.org website for information on volunteer opportunities.

MEET AND GREET the CLASS OF 2016

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2:00PM

SEVASTOPOL TOWN HALL located on Hwy 57 in Ingotite

(Yes, this is Super Bowl Sunday!)

Please bring a heavy hors-d'oeuvre, and your preferred beverage.

Decaf coffee and water will be provided. Please wear your name tag!

COMING EVENTS

Murder, She Planted. Creating the Most Dangerous Garden in Town!

Tuesday February 9, 2016

Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay

7:00 PM

Presented by: Nancy Santoriello

Nancy Santoriello of Santoriello Landscape Maintenance, Sturgeon Bay will help local gardeners explore the most common dangers we, and our pets, face in the garden.

After obtaining a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in horticulture, Nancy has been working in the industry for over thirteen years. She has worked for wholesale nurseries and for landscape contractors both in California and here in Door County. Nancy is an Industry Certified Landscaper and a DCMG member.

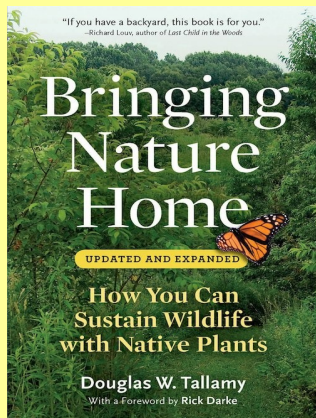
All About Soils
Tuesday February 16, 2016
Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay
7:00 PM

Presented by: Eric Cooley, co-director of UW Discovery Farms Program

As co-director of the UW Discovery Farms Program, Eric coordinates and implements water quality research, collects and disseminates data, and develops educational material based on Discovery Farms research.

He received both his MS in soil physics and BS in soil and water conservation from UW Madison.

"Land, then is not merely soils; it is a fountain of energy flowing through a circuit of soils, plants, and animals". Aldo Leopold



Spring Thaw Lecture: Creating Living Landscapes
Doug Tallamy

Green Bay Botanical Garden

Thursday, March 31st, 2016

5:30pm-8:30pm

GBBG Members: \$30 Non-Members: \$39

Pre-registration: 920-490-9457 or online at GBBG
Spots are limited!

The Door County Master Gardeners' Newsletter
is published six times per year.

Editor: Jeanne White

Send comments to: mugdeditor@gmail.com

Produced in cooperation with the
University of Wisconsin Extension Office.

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FEBRUARY 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Meet & Greet 2pm Sevastapol Town Hall	8 Special Board Meeting 5:30pm PARS	9 Continuing Ed Murder She Planted 7pm CRBC	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Continuing Ed All About Soils 7pm CRBC	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Education Committee 1pm PARS	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Event Locations: PARS=Research Station Classroom, and CRBC=Crossroads at Big Creek

MARCH 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Continuing Ed Orchids 7pm CRBC	9	10	11	12
13	14 TGD Meeting 5:30pm PARS	15 Continuing Ed Floral Arranging 7pm CRBC	16 Board Meeting 5:30pm PARS	17	18	19
20	21	22 Accessible Gardening 7pm CRBC	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Spring Thaw Lecture GBBG Doug Tallamy 5:30pm–8:30pm		