



DOOR COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020 - Volume 26- Number 2

*A Volunteer Organization of the
UW-Cooperative Extension Service*



*“The month of August
had turned into a griddle
where the days just lay
there and sizzled.”*

*— Sue Monk Kidd,
The Secret Life of Bees*

DCMGA

Board of Directors & Officers

President - Jeanne Vogel
Vice President - Mary Moster
Treasurer - Shawn Mathys
Secretary - Sunny MacLachlan
Past President - Dorry Wilner

Board Members

Lee Ann Casper
Janet Uteg
Susan Morgan
Holly Green
Nancy Goldberg

UW-Extension Agent

Position open

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.

President's Message

Hello!

In the course of the last week, thoughts have been 'percolating' in my brain as to remarks I would make for the newsletter. That all changed this Sunday morning at 8 AM when the following notice appeared on the calendar of my phone: *10 AM DCMG Student Garden Tours*. I thought, 'another event cancelled because of COVID-19.' I felt sad. I really miss seeing you! I miss the sound of your voice, the laughter and, of course, the treats! Heck, I miss just being together!

Because we all have different life experiences and backgrounds, there is always something to share with one another - not just our gardening trials and tribulations. It doesn't appear that we will have our 25th Anniversary celebration at The Garden Door, or gather for our Annual Banquet, which is very disappointing.

At this time, amid all the uncertainty in our lives, there are still some things of which I am certain. I am certain that each day there is something or someone to be grateful for, a blessing to be counted, a time to be joyful - even if just for a moment!

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President's Message cont'd.

So, I look forward to the day when we will again fulfill the DCMGA Mission Statement: *The Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc., in partnership with the UW Extension, shall strive to make a positive impact on horticulture in our community through education, community outreach and stewardship of our environment.* I can't wait for the day we can unmask and greet each other at a social gathering of friends that happen to share the challenges and joys of gardening! Please follow the advice of health experts. Stay safe and Be well!

With gratitude and in service,

Jeanne



Upcoming DCMGA Meetings

Monday, Sept. 7	Education Committee Meeting, PARS Classroom	9:00 AM
Monday, Sept. 14	The Garden Door Committee Meeting, PARS Classroom	5:30 PM
Monday, Sept. 21	Board of Directors Meeting, Crossroads	1:00 PM
Monday, Nov. 2	Education Committee Meeting, PARS Classroom	9:00 AM
Monday, Nov. 9	The Garden Door Committee Meeting, PARS Classroom	5:30 PM
Monday, Nov. 16	Board of Directors Meeting, Crossroads	1:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, these meetings will most likely be held virtually via Zoom. Watch your email for announcements.

Wanted: Articles for the Newsletter

Choose a topic you know about or that is of interest, do some research and put together a short article. Contact your editors at mgdceditor@gmail.com -- we would love to receive your contributions!

Notes from the Board of Directors

The Board has held two Zoom meetings in the last three months, on May 18 and July 20. Here are some highlights. Complete minutes are available under Members Only on the website.

UW Extension: A hiring freeze has affected the hiring of a replacement for Annie Deutsch.

WIMGA: The State Annual Conference scheduled for September has been cancelled.

Financial: Our financial situation remains strong in spite of the cancelled Plant Sale.

Plant Sale: We look forward to having an event in 2021 (which could look different).

The Garden Door: The parking lot extension project has been postponed. There will be no guided garden tours this year. The Plein Air artists event has been rescheduled for summer 2021. **Although still closed to the public, MGV's were invited to work in the gardens starting in July. It is recommended by TGD advisory committee that the Garden remain closed to the public the rest of the year.**

Sunshine Report: Sunny MacLachlan has had back surgery.

Training: There is still uncertainty about starting a new class in January.

Strategic Planning: Per the UW, the by-laws need some prescribed changes in language and categories of membership. We will add a statement that will enable us to retain our Local member designation.

Speakers Bureau: There has been some success assembling a cadre of speakers who can speak on various topics when there are requests.

Partner Support: Donations to PARS (\$2500) and Crossroads (\$1000) will remain the same this year.

Annual Meeting: will be held the latter part of October via Zoom. There will be a way for all members to participate. Five Director positions will be elected.

Next meeting is Monday, September 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM.



How Do I Get My Continuing Education Hours?

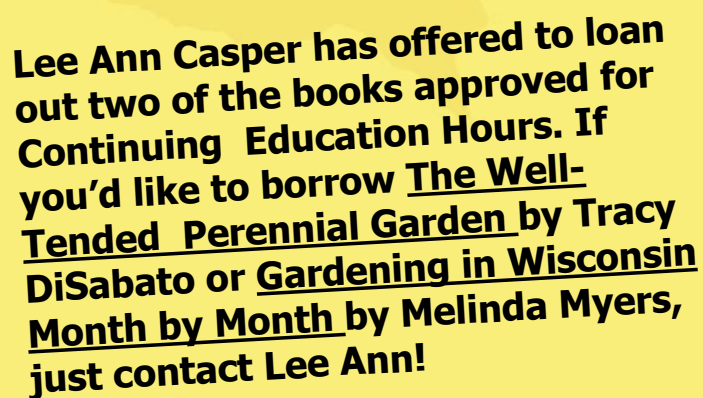
This year, as usual, we need a minimum of ten Continuing Education Hours in order to maintain certification. Many of us like to attend our winter/spring education programs at Crossroads to get started on those hours. Fortunately, there are plenty of other approved ways to gain the horticultural knowledge we need to enhance our work as MG Volunteers.

On June 23, 2020, you should have received the *Volunteer Vibe* e-newsletter from Mike Maddox, Director of the Master Gardener Program. Under New: Continuing Education Policy, is the latest information on what we can do to earn those hours. This information is also found at wimastergardener.org/policies.

Under Approved Media Resources we can see what books, periodicals, radio and television programs are definitely okay to count. Two examples are articles from Horticulture magazine and the "Garden Talk" show hosted by Larry Meiller on Fridays at 81.9 or 91.9 FM from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM/ repeated at 6:00 AM Saturdays. Books you can read, even in part, are listed, with how to count hours.

You may have already been garnering hours and knowledge from the Level 2 Plants Plus series. With topics to choose from like Orchards, Aggressive Garden Plants and many more, you can find a topic to whet your interest. The series can be accessed at wimastergardener.org/plants-plus/. To earn two education hours, you take a short but comprehensive quiz including multiple choice, true-false, fill in the blank and even short essay. This is doable, but pay attention and maybe take notes.

Almost every Friday we have the opportunity to learn about current plant health (diseases and insects) around the state. For one education hour, join in the Wisconsin Horticulture Update at 9:30 AM --- information is emailed to all MGVs.



Lee Ann Casper has offered to loan out two of the books approved for Continuing Education Hours. If you'd like to borrow The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato or Gardening in Wisconsin Month by Month by Melinda Myers, just contact Lee Ann!

There are many other on-line education opportunities, but they must meet certain criteria which are well explained in the Continuing Education Policy. Study the policy carefully and keep learning! Just announced in the July *Volunteer Vibe* is the reopening of a course called Placemaking Lite which deals with Master Gardeners in the community. This can be done at your own pace and yields six education hours.

Door County Seed Library

cultivating the power of seed...



The coronavirus certainly changed the plans of the Door County Seed Library this spring! We originally planned to expand to six more library branches, but when they closed because of the pandemic, we pivoted and came up with a new plan: the Door County Victory Gardens Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to offer a safe way to help ensure that people in our community have access to fresh food.

Instead of distributing our seeds via the library branches, volunteers pre-packaged 'seed kits' containing over a dozen seed packets and we offered them via no-contact pickup locations in Sturgeon Bay and Fish Creek. We also distributed free seedlings and seed potatoes via contactless curbside pickup at Crossroads in early June. The seedlings were donated by Flying Tractor Farm, Emerald Acres Farm, Master Gardener Volunteers (thank you so much!), and seed library members. We also provided free seeds and seed packaging volunteers through several collaborative partnerships, including Sturgeon Bay H.S., Sevastopol H.S., Hope Church, YMCA, and Door County Fairest of the Fair.



cont'd. on page 6



Door County Seed Library cont'd.

As we enter the harvest season, we are encouraging people to set out "Door County Shares" tables to share their excess produce with neighbors. You can read more about this effort below.

And last, but certainly not least, we hosted a new series of Facebook posts called "Seed Sense: Growing with Karen Kidd." Over the last few months, Karen has shared her journey of starting seeds for her vegetable and cutting gardens on the seed library's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DoorCountySeedLibrary/>.

Through our Victory Gardens Initiative, our membership has grown from 170 to 424 members and we have distributed over 7,500 packets of seeds, 1,500 seedlings, and 360 seed potatoes! I want to give a big shout out to the MGVs who have worked so tirelessly to bring the seed library to fruition: Barb Henkelmann, Barbara Shakal, Brenda Wolfe, Carrie Sherrill (emeritus MG!), Dora Leonardson, Karen Kidd, and Nancy Goldberg. We would love to have more MGs on our planning team! If you are interested, please send an email to penne@pobox.com.



Door County Shares

In this time of summer bounty, the fruits of our labor can sometimes get a bit overwhelming to harvest and consume. While canning, freezing and other techniques are great for saving a bit of summer for a winter's day, please consider sharing your extra harvest by donating it to the Door County Seed Library's "Door County Shares" project. Every Thursday from 3-6 PM, Seed Library member Mikayla Kifer hosts a produce giveaway table, where community members can take a bit of produce, leave a bit of produce, or both! Any produce left at the end of the day will be donated to local food pantries.

If you'd like to donate, swing by 223 S Neenah Avenue in Sturgeon Bay between 3 and 6 on Thursday afternoons, and drop off your harvest directly at the table. If you prefer to schedule a different pick-up/drop-off time, you can get in touch with Mikayla (mikaylaskifer@gmail.com, 920-421-4737). If you're interested in starting your own giveaway table, don't hesitate to contact Penne Wilson at penne@pobox.com.

What Happened this Spring?!

This year has been turned upside down and inside out. For Master Gardeners, almost all activities came to a screeching halt in mid-March. That seems like a lifetime ago!

Work had started in the greenhouse on February 29 when the greenhouse team planted a few trays of seeds and set up everything for the 2020 season. The new MG students met the following Saturday for their orientation to the greenhouse. That day they were able to plant several flats of seeds. On March 7 there was a session for the rest of the workers for review of greenhouse protocol. Two days later, The Garden Door committee had a meeting, knowing nothing of what was to come.

Suddenly, amidst all this activity, the plug was pulled. Communiques from the UW arrived. The greenhouse was closed to MGV's, and there was a scramble for people to save the planted flats. By March 20, UW had closed The Garden Door and cancelled the rest of the educational program series. By March 30, all face to face activities "now through May--- please anticipate longer" were cancelled. That included the PLANT SALE, our fundraising mainstay.

When this happened, the class of 2020 had three weeks left of classroom activity. Could they finish? It was managed by conducting the last three classes with the technology of ZOOM. The Board meeting for March was quickly ZOOMed into place too.

We then began to wait to see what would happen in the world at large and in our little world.

The Garden Door

We knew The Garden Door would be fine during March and April. But once the calendar page turned to May, it was harder to put aside thoughts of this special place. We just had to wait, and wait, to get permission to enter and work.

Finally, the word came from the UW that we could at least apply to work in the Garden. Sue Kunz filled out a detailed ten-page form which was submitted for approval on June 12, 2020. On July 2, approval was granted and supervisors could enter the garden and assess needs. On July 6, TGD opened to MGV's to begin cleanup.



Entering the Garden Door - July 2020

Above: The arbor in the Herb Garden is leaning precariously.

Right: Paths were overrun with weeds and out-of-control groundcovers.

Below: Still lots of beautiful views in the garden.



No human hand had touched the land or its plants for long months. Almost waist high thistles and prodigious dandelions had taken full advantage of the abandonment. Unplanted annual gardens were a display of the weed world. Previous blooms and unchecked spreading created a thick and blowsy scene. An arbor leaned precariously. Every walkway was a garden of unwanted plant life. Spring was never seen, but now in the humid heat of mid-summer, it was time to start restoring the beauty and order of the garden.





Left: Dale Vogel and Hugh Zettel work on cleaning the pond.

Above: The MG Class of 2020 planted a cover crop on the annual beds to help enrich the soil.

Below left: Barbara Henderson spent a great deal of time removing creeping thyme from the sundial.

Below right: Lee Ann Casper tries to remove a Queen Anne's Lace that had grown almost as tall as she is.





Above: Susan Morgan trimming some of the rampant growth around the pond.



Below: Removing the akebia vines from the Memorial Garden was a daunting task for Laura Maloney.



Top and Above: Lee Voeks and Gloria Heck took on the challenge of clearing the annual beds.



Below: Just one of the many gigantic dandelions that have invaded the gardens.



The Garden Door Now

THE WORK GOES ON. Most of those who helped initially have been acknowledged, but a special thank you goes to members of the class of 2020. Unfortunately, they missed out on the greenhouse experience and were not able to plant their student garden. Admirably, they have stepped up to participate in the on-going cleanup in TGD. A crop cover has been planted on the annual beds to enrich the soil for next year!

After two weeks of spending time at TGD it became apparent that it would not be possible to quickly restore the Garden to its accustomed "showcase splendor." There are also several areas such as the shade garden that need extensive restoration. Rather than stressing about getting everything done fast, it was decided to work at a more relaxed pace. **A recommendation has been made by TGD Coordinators team that it would be best to keep the garden closed to the public this season.**

There are currently several significant projects that need to be done. The cedar fence between the cactus and the raised beds and the handrail on the west side of the gazebo need repair. If you can work on either of these, contact Sue Kunz. The dome in the Memorial Garden is having a major renovation. The invasive akebia vine was removed, but there are lots of creeping vines and deep roots that need to be removed. This will take a considerable amount of work. If willing to help, please contact Dale Vogel. The arbor in the herb garden is still leaning. There is still **LOTS** of cleanup work to be done in the gardens. If you see weeds, pull them. Sue Kunz can give further direction if needed.



Please consider spending a couple of hours a week working in this place of peace and tranquility. The Garden Door sits on approximately **ONE ACRE** of land, with plenty of space for social distancing. You do not need a mask. You can see and greet others or enjoy being alone. The UW has mandated the protocols we follow and also designed a participation form for the purpose of spreading people out (not a problem for us) and having a log in case of contact tracing. Just include your name somewhere on the list of gardens. Don't forget to record your hours on-line!

Editors' note: Many thanks to Sue Kunz for her contribution of words and photos for the articles on *The Garden Door*!

Left: the path through the Shade Garden, weeded and freshly mulched.

DCMGA and TGD Facebook Pages

Our organization's Facebook pages need a boost, and could increase their potential outreach with a little help from all of you. As you know, we rely on Facebook to not only provide valuable education information but also to help promote events, talks, and important fundraisers like the plant sale. Even though the events and Plant sale are delayed until next year, it is critical that we maintain a presence on Facebook.

If there is not sufficient activity on a page, the Facebook monitors will limit the outreach and geographical marketing of the page. When we will really need to have a push of marketing like for the plant sale, if the page has limited followers we won't get the advertising and promotion we require.

Soooo, how can you help? I know many of you like a post. Some even go as far as adding a happy face or a heart or flower. That is great. I am asking you to just take two extra seconds and add a word or two. Could be as simple as "yay", or "beautiful", or "so right", or even make a comparison to your own gardens. Then SHARE IT to your own page. That is the kind of activity the Facebook people are looking for to keep our pages available to newer viewers and organizations.

Lastly, you can make some posts as a visitor to the Master Gardener or Garden Door Facebook pages. Share your photos. As your friend on Facebook I see them, so I know you are active on your pages. But in doing so, if you were to add in what the name of the plant is, and if you got it from another DCMGA member or bought it at the plant sale that would be awesome and do some promoting too!

As of last June, I have assumed the lead for both Facebook pages. If you have stories and don't want to post yourself, or have some photos to share, please send them to me, Karen Kidd, at karengardens@yahoo.com, or text me at 773-787-7154.

I am planning to start a series of posts on the Garden Door page that will highlight one of the gardens each week. History, features and now the current challenges each garden is facing while being renovated back to its glory. (Yes, I will continue to reinforce the fact the garden is closed.) But we want to keep our followers engaged. If a particular weed is the challenge, it will be mentioned and then the Master Gardener page will pick up on it and promote responsible handling of the weed.



This is a safe and simple way to stay connected with Master Gardeners, and I hope you can continue to stay involved and help out with this social and marketing tool we rely on.

What's In a Name?

Ligularia is a botanical plant name that's a bit of a tongue twister. That's ironic because the name comes from ligula, Latin for "little tongue," a reference to the shape of the rayed petals. I remember practicing the name over and over while working in my shade garden. I now know the common name: ragwort, but I much prefer Ligularia!

While I was practicing, I was working among my hostas - that's a botanical name that we all use. Fortunately, it was named in honor of botanist Austrian Nicolas Thomas Host, who had an easy name.

Sometimes botanical and common plant names are exactly the same: verbenas, bougainvillea, coleus, coreopsis, dahlia, calendula, cleome, hydrangea, viburnum, trillium, to name some. Or very close like *Lupinus perennis*.

It helps us understand the botanical world when we study and learn as many Latin names as we can manage. However, there are many common names we like to use because they are wonderfully descriptive, like bleeding heart (now *Lamprocapnos spectabilis*), bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*), hens and chicks (*Sempervivum tectorum*) and the ever-spreading forget-me-not (*Myosotis arvensis*).

Both botanical and common names are worthy of knowing. Sometimes people will ask the name of a plant and what they want is the common name to remember along with information about the plant. We can offer the botanical name too if it is often used, like *Heuchera*.

I. See if you know the common names for the following. The answers are on page 15.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Asclepsia tuberosa</i> | 16) <i>Coreopsis</i> |
| 2) <i>Baptisia australis</i> | 17) <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> |
| 3) <i>Heuchera</i> | 18) <i>Hemerocallis</i> |
| 4) <i>Papaver orientale</i> | 19) <i>Acer saccharum</i> |
| 5) <i>Nepeta</i> | 20) <i>Echinacea</i> |
| 6) <i>Campanula</i> | 21) <i>Digitalis</i> |
| 7) <i>Monarda</i> | |
| 8) <i>Pulmonaria</i> | |
| 9) <i>Buddleia</i> | |
| 10) <i>Nicotiana</i> | |
| 11) <i>Lamium</i> | |
| 12) <i>Gaillardia</i> | |
| 13) <i>Portulaca grandiflora</i> | |
| 14) <i>Helleborus</i> | |
| 15) <i>Solidago</i> | |



What's in a Name cont'd.

Next challenge: How are these plant names pronounced?

- 1) Heuchera
- 2) Campanula
- 3) Nicotiana
- 4) Bougainvillea
- 5) Calibrachoa- Superbells annual
- 6) Echinacea
- 7) Weigela
- 8) Clematis

Answers can be found on page 17.



Even though we can't meet in person, there are still lots of ways to stay involved with DC Master Gardeners - here are a few suggestions!

Keep Volunteering! Work at TGD, write for the newsletter, research a topic for a project, sit in on Zoom Board meetings, help with a local environmental project... Record your hours!

Speakers Bureau: Looking for people who have knowledge of, or willingness to research, a topic of horticultural interest and do presentations for interested groups. Contact Sunny Maclachlan.

Needed: Members to serve on the all-important Education Committee. We need to move forward in this area. Contact Mary Moster.

What's in a Name? -- Answers for Common Names

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1) butterfly weed | 11) nettle weed |
| 2) false indigo | 12) blanket flower |
| 3) coral bells | 13) moss rose |
| 4) oriental poppy | 14) Lenten rose |
| 5) catmint | 15) goldenrod |
| 6) bellflower | 16) tickseed - but coreopsis is commonly used |
| 7) beebalm | 17) Russian sage |
| 8) lungwort | 18) daylily |
| 9) butterfly bush | 19) sugar maple |
| 10) flowering tobacco | 20) coneflower |
| | 21) foxglove |

Note that there can be different common names in other parts of the country and multiple names for some. There are at least seven others for butterfly weed; for example, pleurisy root, orange (yellow) milkweed, flaxroot, chiggerflower.

Now looking at the (above) common names, SEE IF YOU CAN COME UP WITH THE BOTANICAL NAMES.



2020 DCMGA Committee Chairs/Coordinators

Annual Meeting - Vice President

Community Projects - **OPEN**

Education - **OPEN**

Garden Door:

Operations - Dale Vogel

Plants - Sue Kunz

Financial - Nancy Anschutz

The Garden Next Door - Gwen Graboyes
and Mary Beth Cleary-Phipps

Newsletter Editors - Lee Ann Casper
and Karen Newbern

Plant Sale - Nancy Goldberg, John Werblow

Speakers and Tours -

Sunny MacLachlan

Social - Donna Asher, Carrie Potier

Social Media - Karen Kidd, Laura Maloney
and MaryBeth Cleary-Phipps

Strategic Planning - Mary Moster

Sunshine - Holly Green

Training - Sue Kunz and Laurie Connell

Website - Mike VanEss

WIMGA Representative - Mary Moster



Member Spotlight: Chriss Daubner

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we are featuring our earliest members and learning about our history.

Chriss Daubner was a special education teacher in Southern Door for many years, but she says a career in the natural world would have been a good choice too. She has always looked to nature and the outdoors, has pursued a strong interest in pollinators, and in 1997 began to establish a 4-5 acre prairie surrounding her home.

Before becoming a Master Gardener, Chriss was part of the Wild Ones group in Green Bay. She decided she'd like to learn even more about landscaping and gardening. Thus, she became a member of the third Master Gardener class in Door County, class of 1997.

It didn't take long before Chriss was immersed in leading the group. In 2001, she joined the Board and remained on it for the next 10-12 years, most of it as president. She also has done stints on The Garden Door Committee, the Education Committee and the Plant Sale Committee, with a number of years as chair!

Chriss has long been active in The Garden Door, as a supervisor of the Pollinator Garden (formerly Butterfly Garden) and as a docent. She is also the one who makes sure that we are smartly attired in logo apparel.

Chriss has often worn her teacher/naturalist hat by presenting programs for the Master Gardeners and others, mostly about prairies. She has also invited groups to come learn about her own prairie. When she took a fancy to the diminutive plants and accessories of miniature gardening, she added that topic to her repertoire.

For Chriss there are many good memories from over the years (picnics at the Garden Door, bus trips, the plant sale...) but a favorite activity was the greenhouse class where members learned to grow plants from seeds. She took that knowledge home where she and her husband built a propagation table with bottom heat and lights. Later they added a 9 x 20 greenhouse. She raised tomatoes and sold plants at school for the America Cancer Society.

Chriss is a life-long resident of Door County. Her parents ran Knaapen's Bakery in Sturgeon Bay. She and husband Dan now spend five months of the year in Arizona. There she is part of a garden group, and enjoys pastimes such as hiking and water aerobics with a "great group of friends." She enjoys working in a church soup kitchen two times a week and spends time creating fused glass in her shed, a skill she learned from Doug and Barbara Henderson.

At home, she has a workshop in her basement to create fused glass. She is active in her church and enjoys reading, walking, and activities with family and friends.

Member Spotlight cont'd.

Looking to the future, this 23 year MG veteran says,

"I'd like to see Master Gardeners do more with sustainable gardening and native plants. I realize that we are a volunteer service organization but I hope that we continue to promote social activities within the group. That may not be the MG mission but it is important for keeping people active in the organization. I would like to see The Garden Door continue and have more visitors, with people stopping in often during the growing season. Gardens and natural areas are needed in our world now more than ever."

Thank you Chriss, for ALL your contributions.



What's in a Name? -- Answers for Pronunciations

Notes: These are not all dictionary phonetic spellings. The accent is on the syllable in caps.

- 1) HUE'-kur-a (HUE like the shade of a color) or HOO'-kur-a. If you were being highly authentic you would say HOY-kura for its creator but "nobody says that" according to one expert.
- 2) Kam-PAN'-ula. You may hear something else.
- 3) Nih-koe-shee-AY'-nuh (says Fine Gardening magazine)
- 4) Boo-ghun-VI-lee-uh
- 5) Ca-li-bra-KO'-a (as heard at your local greenhouse)
- 6) eh-kuh-NAY'-shuh
- 7) why-GEE-luh seems a popular choice...but you will hear others! The shrub is named after the German Weigel which may call for a hard 'g' and/or affect the vowel sound or accented syllable.
- 8) Put the accent on the first syllable: CLEH'-muh-tis; on the second syllable: Cleh-MAT'-us; or even say Cleh-MAY'-tis. Pronounce it however you want!