



**DOOR COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
NEWSLETTER**

Spring 2022- Volume 28 - Number 2

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



*Among the changing
months, May stands confest
The sweetest, and in fairest
colours dressed!
Soft as the breeze that fans
the smiling field;
Sweet as the breath that
opening roses yield.*

—James Thomson (1700–48)

DCMGA

Board of Directors & Officers

President - Mary Moster

Vice President - Shawn Mathys

Treasurer - Laura Maloney

Secretary - Lee Ann Casper

Board Members

Nancy Goldberg

Sue Kunz

Janet Uteg

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

I'm delighted to be writing about so many exciting and fun developments for Door County Master Gardeners!

After a two-year suspension due to the pandemic, it's great news that we're holding our annual fundraiser plant sale. Under the leadership of Nancy Goldberg, the team "reimagined" our traditional approach to the sale into a two-day Plant Fair featuring a enormous array of annuals, vegetables and herbs grown in the greenhouse by a dedicated team of MGVs. The successful 1st Pick ticketed event introduced in 2019 was expanded to include a silent auction and music. And a Marketplace, with garden themed artisanal arts and crafts, was added to both the Friday and Saturday events. Equally important, we focused on our key goals of education and community outreach by inviting key partners, such as the Door County Seed Library and Wild Ones, and our own Education Committee to host educational booths. Huge congratulations and thanks to everyone involved.

I hope you've been taking advantage of all the great opportunities provided by the Education Committee – from the successful return in February of our evening Educational Lecture Series to a myriad of online and Zoom presentations and resources offered monthly. Now they've launched "Summer Safaris" – a great chance to learn something new and have fun with your fellow Master Gardeners. Again, congratulations and huge thanks to co-chairs Barbara and Doug Henderson and the whole Education Committee team. This hard-working committee is looking for additional volunteers, so please consider getting involved and helping to fulfill our goal of educational outreach.

Cont'd. on page 2

President's Message cont'd.

How great is it that The Garden Door is open and looking so fabulous! The Spring Clean Up on May 17th saw many MVGs raking, weeding, and sprucing up the gardens, followed by an informal lunch gathering. More Weed & Feeds are scheduled throughout the summer – a great way to garden with friends and earn volunteer hours. Be sure to check out the new Demonstration Vegetable Garden, which will feature examples of straw bale, vertical and grow bag gardening as well as a few vegetables planted in the ground. This experiment, conceived with the Seed Library, will help to fulfill our goal of making TGD a “teaching garden.” Congratulations and many thanks to Sue Kunz and the whole TGD team for working so hard to make The Garden Door a true showcase.

A wonderful summer season is ahead of us. I hope to see all of you in-person soon enjoying the fun and camaraderie that make being a Door County Master Gardener such a great experience.

Thank you for all you do.

Mary

Your smile is as big as those coleus - it's easy to see you enjoy being a Master Gardener Volunteer. Thank you, Mary, for your great leadership and participation in so many different activities!



DOOR COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS PLANT FAIR 2022

Peninsular Agricultural Research Station, 4312 Hwy 42, Sturgeon Bay



1st Pick! An Early Bird Plant Fair Event

**Friday, June 3, 2022
5:00 - 7:00 PM**

- Annuals, Herbs, Vegetables
- All Plants Just \$3!
- Artisanal Items



- Silent Auction
- Music

Tickets: \$10.00

PLANT FAIR

**Saturday, June 4, 2022
8:30 AM - 12 Noon**

**Free and Open to the Public
More info: dcmga.org**

- Annuals, Herbs, Vegetables
- All Plants Just \$3!
- Popular and Unusual Varieties
- Free Education and Gardening Tips

MARKETPLACE — JUNE 3 & 4

*Garden Arts and Crafts
Garden Apparel & Textiles*

*Garden Accessories
Gently Used Gardening Books*



For more information: dcmga.org

Purchase tickets for 1st Pick! Event at doorcountytickets.com or in person (check or cash) at the Door County Extension Office in the Government Center, 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay (please call before visiting—920-746-2260)

Proceeds support the DCMGA education programs and The Garden Door

The Plant Fair is Here!

For three months at the PARS Greenhouse, happy Master Gardeners first planted seeds; then transplanted, pinched, watered, staked, and transported thousands of plants. Meanwhile at Crossroads, tomatoes and peppers were underway. Now...the plants are ready!

Our last event, then called the Plant Sale, was held in 2019. Under the leadership of Nancy Goldberg, the event has been refocused as the Fair, with emphasis on budget and education. Representatives from Wild Ones - Door Peninsula Chapter, the DC Invasive Species team, and perhaps the DC Climate Change Coalition will be there. We as Master Gardeners will answer as many questions as we can at an education table and elsewhere!



Nancy presented an overview of the Fair last week at Crossroads, mentioning some of the newer aspects of the event and highlighting various plants. We are not including donated perennials, to avoid the transfer of jumping worms. We did not purchase any perennials for resale either, rather concentrating on plants that we can grow well ourselves. Biodegradable pots we call "cow pots" (made from manure!) will make their debut. They can go right into the ground, not the landfill.

Below: Plants on their way to the John Hut to harden off before the sale. Thanks to Barb Shakal's husband for use of the trailer!



Plant Fair cont'd.

Among the perhaps 6000 plants, there will be over 100 different kinds of annuals. Some are traditional kinds like snapdragons, zinnias, and marigolds in many varieties, but others are lesser-known beauties. Look for Love in a Mist (blue), 'Zulu Prince' Cape Daisies, (white with vivid centers) and Amaranth.

There will be an amazing 40+ varieties of tomatoes, new and old favorites. Nancy highlighted the yellow 'Pineapple Hawaiian' and 'Kellogg's Breakfast' for low acid, the 'Sweet 'n Neat' cherry tomato as a patio type, the unique striped 'Green Zebra' and the many heirlooms, not found at garden centers, like 'Paul Robeson.' Other veggies she noted were 'Pepinex,' a cucumber with a clean, nearly sweet flavor and no bitterness, and 'Turkish Orange' eggplant.



A continuing and expanded feature of the Fair is the Marketplace, which will offer practical hand-crafted items for gardeners like soap, art and crafts, garden books and more, with a backdrop of music and a Silent Auction at Friday night's First Pick.



Notes from The Garden Door

Is spring the busiest season in TGD? It seems to be! Notes from the meeting held May 9, 2022, as well as from the May 16 Board meeting.

From the Members only Perennial Sale, Garden supervisors were able to order perennials to fill in spaces in their individual gardens.

Preparation is well underway for a new use for the former annuals beds, aka student beds. They have merged into one educational Demonstration Vegetable Garden, with a theme of how to grow more in small spaces. There will be straw bale gardening, vertical, and grow bag gardening. A trifold educational pamphlet about the new garden is ready for visitors. We are collaborating with the Seed Library.

A QR code will be placed on the donation boxes to make donations easier. *(Mr. Toad had no problem making his donation!)*

Coggin Heeringa has written grants for the completion of the paved walks in the Garden; we are waiting to hear if the grants are successful.

New: Children may accompany adults who are working in the Garden. This is a welcome change in the PARS agreement and a great way for children to learn about gardening. Please be sure they are supervised.

The Plein Air Art Festival, when artists paint outdoors and visitors observe, is scheduled in the Garden on July 27.



Schedule for Weed and Feeds – Come help on these dates if you can!

June 20 8 am to 10 am

July 25 8 am to 10 am

August 22 8 am to 10 am

September 19 10 am to noon with lunch

October 17 10 am to noon with lunch
(fall cleanup)

Monday mornings are also designated as work days, but MGVs are welcome to work in the gardens anytime!

Kathy, Sue and Barb tending to the wreath during Spring Cleanup.



Supervisors Needed for These Gardens

Make one of the following areas of The DCMGA's Garden Door your project; maybe share responsibility with a friend. You can enjoy camaraderie with wonderful people. You will undoubtedly learn more about gardening and plants. You will contribute to a beautiful educational display garden for the public and you will receive help when you need it. Talk to Sue Kunz for more information.

The West Perennial Garden is being totally replanted right now with assorted perennials. When it is mulched, all you need to do is make sure no weeds creep in. Then watch how your garden grows.

Do you like **herbs**, or want to know more about them? The petite **Herb Garden** has many kinds. This garden gives you opportunity to be creative; you can redesign or add touches of your own.

The **Cactus Garden** is a little one! With a new fence recently built, your job is basically to watch over the prickly place.

The lovely **Rose Garden**, at the entrance, was totally renovated last year and includes a lavender border. It is a larger garden, with room to add roses or whatever else you envision.

The Pergola Area If the proposed pavers are added here, the path area will be easy to care for. There is a flowering vine that covers the pergola. Plan to keep the area neat for people who pause there.

The Grass Garden is majestic. Everything is beautifully marked; you just cut off the grasses in the spring and make sure they don't grow together. Then enjoy the grasses in their glory in fall.

Notes from the Education Committee - Wrap Up

At the Education Committee meeting on May 5, there was a wrap-up and evaluation of the winter/spring programs and events.

Our traditional lecture series for the public resumed this year. Four lecturers were from different parts of the state, including Mark Dwyer (annuals for pollinators), Frank Kutka (Buffalo Bird woman), Brad Herrick (jumping worms), and Neil Diboll (prairie plants for gardens). Local naturalist Charlotte Lucas presented on wildflowers of Door County.

Of these five programs, three were in-person and two were offered in person **and** on Zoom. The attendance ranged from 27 to 49 to over 70 for the other three programs. The costs to DCMGA ranged from \$100 to \$250 with two programs sharing the total cost with other groups. We collaborated with the Seed Library, Crossroads and Wild Ones - Door Peninsula Chapter.

Safaris of Summer Schedule

Here are more enjoyable and educational events to come during the next months, courtesy of the Education Committee. Put them on your calendar and plan to enjoy and learn.

ADRC Vegetable/Fruit Tree Plantings

Thursday, June 16th, 10:00 AM

ADRC/Community Center

916 North 14th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay

Join Master Gardener, Helen Bacon, and Activity/Volunteer Coordinator of the ADRC/Community Center, Nicki Scharrig, in **a tour of the vegetable raised beds and newly planted fruit trees** at the Aging and Disability Resource Center, (ADRC), in Sturgeon Bay. Find out what is planted, how it is distributed and how this garden has inspired additional gardens and gardening ideas at other locations in the city. We welcome future volunteers. Your ideas, labor and input are welcome!

After our tour, we can meet in the dining room for an optional lunch of Chicken Parmesan and "garden talk." The cost is a recommended donation of \$5.00 if you are 60 or older. The price for those younger is \$12.00.

For more information and to register, please email Helen Bacon at hlbacon55@hotmail.com before Monday, June 13th. Please let her know if you will be staying for lunch!

Door Landscape & Nursery Tour and Buying Event

Monday, June 20, 4:00 PM

(Rain date Tuesday, June 21)



Join fellow Master Gardeners for a tour of Door Landscape and Nursery, located just north of Carlsville on Hwy 42. Door Landscape is a full-service landscape company, specializing in the use of native plants. DCM-GA volunteer Karen Newbern will lead a behind-the-scenes tour of the growing areas and attendees will have plenty of time to shop in the Garden Center. ***MGs attending the tour will receive a 15% discount that day!***

Egg Harbor Bay View Terrace

Tuesday, July 12, 4:30 PM

Master Gardener Shawn Mathys has been gardening for several years at this picturesque location looking over the Bay. She has planted a lovely array of perennials. After a tour of her plantings, we will have a BYOG picnic. Directions to the location will be given.



Summer Safaris cont'd.

PARS SOIL PIT AND MILPA GARDENING DEMONSTRATIONS

**Tuesday, July 19, Time TBA
(Rain Date July 20)**

THE SOIL PIT ---- "Have you ever explored the amazing world beneath your feet? Join us to get a "ground level" view of soils in their natural environment in a soil pit! We will learn about the importance of continuous living roots, minimizing soil disturbance, and the role of beneficial soil organisms in keeping our soils healthy and our plants productive. Be prepared to get a bit dirty, as this is a hands-on, learning experience!" *(Photo credit: Steve Hoffman)*



THE MILPA GARDEN ---- "Not all gardens are planted in rows! Chaos gardening is a type of polyculture, where a number of diverse crops are planted together in a mix. Synergies between plants promote soil fertility, soil health, and natural pest control. Modeled after the milpa gardens planted by Mesoamericans, chaos gardening is a "new to us" ancient way of growing food. We will tour a large chaos garden and discuss the benefits and challenges of ditching our garden rows."

Our presenter for the day is Jamie Patton, PhD, CPSS, Outreach Specialist, University of Wisconsin-Madison Nutrient and Pest Management Program.



MIGHTY WINGS MONARCHS- Deb Clement Saturday, August 20, 10:30 & 11:30 AM (two shows)

Baileys Harbor Town Hall

A program for the whole family—more details to come!

Watch the Buzz and the Website. There are MORE opportunities ahead!



MGVs in Action!



Marge Bultman and Shawn Mathys staffed a table for DCMGA, and Dora Leonardson for the Seed Library, at the Earth Day celebration at the Kress Center in Egg Harbor on April 23. Also helping were Sue Kunz, Barbara and Doug Henderson, Lee Ann Casper, Gloria Heck, and Mary Muster.



Seven MGVs assisted Jason Feldman and crew in pruning and trimming many of the trees and shrubs at TGD.



Two wildflower hikes were held in May. Sarah Freyman led a hike at The Ridges Sanctuary's Logan Creek Property, and Coggin Heeringa led a group at the Sawyer School woodlot. The wildflowers at both locations were amazing!



Lee Voeks and Hugh Zettel had the unenviable task of cleaning the pond.





During the Spring Clean Up at The Garden Door, Vickie Daoust photographed a variety of plants waiting to be installed.



The United Way recognized the achievements of the Seed Library volunteers by awarding them a Golden Heart Award for Group Volunteers of the Year. Woot!

MGVs and guests enjoyed a wagon ride while learning about the operations of the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS) with Rebecca Wiepz, Superintendent of PARS. (Watch for information about activities at PARS in a future newsletter article.)



Notes from the Board of Directors

The Board met May 16, 2022, to talk about business, spring events and new ideas.

Volunteer Projects - Shawn Mathys has created a list of all the organizations in the county that have DCMGA projects registered with Extension. New and past projects **must be formally submitted**. Check with Shawn. Two recent additions are the grounds at Door Shakespeare and all the Stella Maris churches, led by Lynn Polacek.

Education - The number and variety of educational programs and "Safaris" this year have been outstanding. An additional program is being offered on June 16 at Crossroads about invasive plants in Australia. It will be presented by the Australian husband of a former Master Gardener. Doug and Barbara Henderson will continue to work on lining up future programs alongside new chair(s), who need to be in place by September.

Members Only Perennial Sale Report – Janet says that the sale went smoothly. Twenty-one members ordered 351 plants, including many for The Garden Door. Three nurseries supplied the plants: Mayfield, Radtke and Tillmann, all in Wisconsin. The sale is not considered a significant fund-raiser. Rather, it is a significant member perk, and more people could take advantage of it. The committee wants to poll members in fall to see if they will support this sale; there will be a report to the Board with recommendations.



Additional Kinds of Membership –

Two new groups are being considered: Friends of the Garden Door and Master Gardener Alumni. Friends of TGD would be volunteers who sign the PARS agreement to work in the Garden and be part of TGD experience. It would be for those who enjoy gardening and want to help, including MGVs from other areas who summer here. **Friends of TGD** would not be regular members. **Alumni Master Gardeners** must have been certified Master Gardeners in the past. They would be members of DCMGA with many advantages but are not working on certification. Details and discussion by the Board will follow. There will be contact with some who fit this category to ascertain their interest.

*When the world wearies and society fails to satisfy,
there is always the garden. - Minnie Aumonier*

Approved Volunteer Organizations For Door County Master Gardener Volunteers

The list below (organized by community) shows all the Door County organizations that are currently approved by UW-Extension for entry of DCMGA volunteer hours in the ORS system (as of 05/23/2022). In addition, members may enter new volunteer organizations for Extension review and approval at any time through the ORS system, keeping in mind that it may take 7-10 days for Extension approval before they show up in the list.

Please direct any questions to Shawn Mathys, smmathys56@gmail.com.

Lawrence University - Bjorklunden (Northern Campus), Baileys Harbor
The Ridges Sanctuary, Baileys Harbor
Town of Baileys Harbor, Baileys Harbor
Village of Egg Harbor Parks & Public Works, Egg Harbor
Stella Maris Parish (All parish locations), Egg Harbor
Door County North, Ellison Bay
Friends of Peninsula State Park, Fish Creek
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Peninsula State Park, Fish Creek
Door of Life Church, Sister Bay
Door Shakespeare, Sister Bay
Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay
Door County Land Trust, Sturgeon Bay
Door County Maritime Museum, Sturgeon Bay
Door County Master Gardeners Association Inc, Sturgeon Bay
Door County Medical Center, Sturgeon Bay
Door County Seed Library, Sturgeon Bay
Door Peninsula Astronomical Society, Sturgeon Bay
First Baptist of Sturgeon Bay, Sturgeon Bay
Town of Jacksonport, Sturgeon Bay
University of Wisconsin-Madison Peninsular
Research Station (PARS), Sturgeon Bay
YMCA Door County, Sturgeon Bay

*Once again, this year the Seed Library is sponsoring **seed-to-seed demonstration gardens** at the Sturgeon Bay Library and Door County Historical Museum. They also distributed educational brochures at the Library and Historical Museum that describe the goals of the project. Kudos to MGV Barb Henkelmann for designing and planting the planters.*



Door County Seed Library

cultivating the power of seed...



The Door County Seed Library planning team has had a busy start to 2022!

We successfully expanded and **launched seed libraries** at all eight Door County Library branches! Our team worked hard to set up the seed libraries and stock them with over 10,000 packets of seeds. Thanks to Karen Smith, Brenda Wolfe, Fran Frommherz, Barb Henkelmann, Laura Maloney, Jeanne Rabel, and Mary Beth Cleary-Phipps who helped to get these seed libraries up and running.

We also **donated seeds** for the Southern Door School District's schoolyard garden, Library's April craft bag, local food pantries, ADRC, EDED event at Crossroads, and the United Way's free garden kits.



Karen Smith was interviewed by A Door County Minute for their [video](#) profiling the Baileys Harbor Seed Library.

Nancy Goldberg gave presentations about the seed library and the importance of seed saving to the Jacksonport Women's Club and the Southern Door STEAM class.

We are also participating on the planning team and donating seeds for the **new vegetable demonstration garden** at The Garden Door.

Nineteen people have volunteered to be **Ken Paschke bean seed stewards**. Volunteers will grow out the beans, save the seeds, and donate them back to the seed library.

As a reminder, we will be setting up our **plant swap stand on June 1** at my driveway at 329 North Geneva Avenue in Sturgeon Bay. If you started extra seedlings for this giveaway, please feel free to drop them off any time starting on June 1. And thank you for donating seedlings for people who may not have the ability to start seeds indoors!

A million thanks to these MGVs who volunteer on our planning team: Barb Henkelmann, Barbara and Doug Henderson, Barbara Shakal, Brenda Wolfe, Christine Holicsek, Dora Leonardson, Fran Frommherz, Karen Smith, Laura Maloney, Mary Beth Cleary-Phipps, Nancy Goldberg, and Jeanne Rabel.

If you'd like to find out more about the seed library and/or how to become a member of our planning team, please send an email to penne@pobox.com.



Meet Your Fellow MGVs

Kathy Tryner

Kathy is a recent Foundations in Horticulture student who is becoming a familiar face in our Master Gardeners arena. She has been working in the Greenhouse, with watering duty, is helping with the raised beds in TGD, and has joined in committee meetings and events. We welcome her!

A gardener all her adult life, with grandparents and parents who were gardeners, she says she had a lot of empirical knowledge. When asked to renovate the garden beds at Parkwood Lodge (Fish Creek) she decided it would be good idea to obtain some gardening education.

Kathy and her husband have 18 acres in the Fish Creek area. She surrounds her home with perennial beds and is particularly fond of hostas and iris. Those who meet Kathy soon learn that she is an equestrian. Her horses, the alpha Atticus, and Crystal, a sweet older mare, are her passion!



Nancy Goldberg

Nancy Goldberg had long been interested in gardening and often wanted to take the Master Gardener training. When she retired in 2015, she seized the opportunity of time and enrolled in the 2016 class. Since then, she has contributed in a variety of ways, serving on the DCMGA Board, working for several years in the Rose Garden in TGD, and coordinating the garden activities at the Heritage Garden at Crossroads.

She was also actively learning about the Greenhouse processes and volunteering for the Plant Sale. Thus, she arrived at the point where she is now, as Plant Fair chair extraordinaire. Many thanks for her hard work on this project!

Nancy enjoys the solitude of the garden, creating a space where she never feels rushed and can enjoy the visits of pollinators. But she also has enjoyed working as a team in the Greenhouse.

Living just NE of the city of Sturgeon Bay by Lake Michigan, she has become very interested in native plants. She says her yard is more reflective of the native landscape than an organized horticultural garden.



When not gardening, she enjoys the game of bridge, crossword puzzles, and reading.

She is a contributor to the community and is involved in non-profit boards and standing committees including Midsummer's Music, DC Land Trust, Crossroads, and DC Seed Library. She is also active in the restoration project of the Door County Granary.

Member Garden Spotlight: Karen Newbern, Sturgeon Bay

"Forget the Rules and Plant What You Like."

If I had a gardening motto, this would be it. I seldom follow any of the basic principles of landscape design, like "plant in drifts of the same color," or "create a focal point that draws your eye into the landscape." And of course, the design must balance texture and form of the plants as well.



Nope, that's not my garden. My landscape is a colorful jumbled collection of native and non native plants, mostly for shade, that has evolved over the last 21 years. It sometimes appears chaotic, but the ever-changing variety of species is what I find most appealing.



It wasn't entirely planned, but I do have a steady succession of blooms from early spring until late fall. Some of the first plants to appear, along with hellebores and daffodils, are native wildflowers: hepatica, trillium, mayapple, bloodroot and spring beauties. As the season progresses, a small prairie planting in the front yard takes the spotlight with false indigo, milkweeds, and wild monarda. Fall is an explosion of asters and goldenrod, which provide nectar for migrating monarch butterflies and a myriad of other insects.

I love variety, so my gardens are full of "one of" plants. However, I will confess to a bit of an obsession with hostas. I tried cataloging all the varieties once (I gave up when most of the plant tags disappeared), but I'm guessing there are at least 30 varieties at this point.

One landscape element that is notably absent from my yard is lawn. The front yard has only a small strip of grass along the sidewalk where I can place my garbage cans, and the backyard "lawn" is mostly violets, dandelions and some bugleweed that escaped from I-don't-know-where. Oh, and the ostrich ferns that I foolishly believed would stay in the bed where I planted them.

The most beautiful part of my yard was built by my husband Bruce. A concrete slab has been transformed into a lovely two-level pond, which is enjoyed by the birds and frogs as much as it is by us. He will tell you he's not a gardener, but he has a great eye for color and design.



Take "Note" of These Announcements

Are you trying to record volunteer hours for greenhouse work or the Plant Fair? Select "Administrative" as the first category, then "Fundraising," and then describe the activity.

**Did you know?
The Research Station
sells the grapes they
grow to local wineries.**

**The online Foundations
in Horticulture course
is now called
Foundations in
Gardening (FIG).**

**While you're enjoying your
gardens this summer, be
sure to take lots of photos
to share in future
newsletters! Send them to
mgdceditor@gmail.com.**

2022 DCMGA Committee Chairs/Coordinators

Education - Barbara and Doug Henderson
Garden Door:

Operations - Hugh Zettel

Financial - Nancy Anschutz

Plants - Sue Kunz

Member Engagement - Sue Kunz

Newsletter Editors - Lee Ann Casper
and Karen Newbern

Plant Fair - Nancy Goldberg

Social Media - Barbara Henderson
and Sue Kunz

Strategic Planning - Shawn Mathys

Sunshine - Holly Green

Website and Buzz - Mike VanEss

WIMGA Representative - Mary Moster