



Glacial Gardeners Grapevine

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February, 2017

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TO DO LIST:

- Get ready to eat popcorn!
- Think of projects we want to accomplish this year.



Looking for that Valentine Card from my Honey!!

GGMGVA MEETING MINUTES

Glacial Gardeners' Minutes January 17, 2017

Thirteen members met at 6:00 p.m. in the Curry Room of the Natural Resources Center for a delicious **POTLUCK** dinner. Our meeting was postponed for one week because of a snowstorm on our regular meeting night, the second Tuesday.

Afterward, President Jan called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. with the following members in **ATTENDANCE**: Sharon, Katy, Ginger, Fleurette, Linda, Jessica, Lois Ann, Kathy, Keri, Deb, Nancy, Jan and Karen. Welcome new member Jessica.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Because of illness, new Natural Resources Center Office Manager Sabrina was unable to attend the meeting. GG members did not receive the December issue of GG Grapevine due to illness of editor

Kathy who informed us the newsletters will be mailed shortly.

November, 2016 minutes were copied and passed out. Fleurette moved, Katy supported, and motion carried to accept Secretary Karen's November **MINUTES** which were just received, and will also appear in the December Grapevine.

UWEX: no report

Sharon moved, Kathy supported and motion carried to accept Treasurer Nancy's **TREASURER'S** report as presented.

Those who are due "funny money" for bringing in their up-to-date **VOLUNTEER HOURS** are Sharon, Ginger, Fleurette, Lois Ann, Kathy, Keri, Nancy, Jan and Karen.

WIMGA: President Jan informed

Fleurette's Chat

Didn't expect to be back here writing this again! At the February meeting, in addition to an educational program and popcorn, I'd like us to talk about our goals for the year so put on your thinking caps now and bring your thoughts. We've got a lot we are already doing and a few things are coming up the pipeline to discuss.

We also need to finish up our committee sign ups. Some of the committees don't really take that much time. Scholarships are mostly a meeting or two in winter, hospitality is only in the months we have food as part of the meeting. Since we lost our librarian, we could use someone there. I think we have a pretty current list of materials but someone should be checking inventory and the checkout list occasionally to see that things are being returned.

As I look out my window the snow is still pretty deep and something is falling out of the sky. Hard to imagine gardening just right now but the garden and seed catalogs are still coming in with their tempting offerings. I keep saying, "no new beds". Let's see if I can hold myself to that this year! I do have some I already started that need more plants so that can be my out.. Stay warm!

Fleurette

**NEXT
MEETING
TUESDAY
February 14
6:00pm**



HOURS TO BE COUNTED—FOR SEPTEMBER

- Support Services for attending meeting.
- Don't forget to count your hours if you did something to prepare for this meeting. (like talk to someone or prepared food)

ARCHIVE CORNER

From the January, 2006 Grapevine: (OMGosh! I just realized that it was 10 years ago!!)

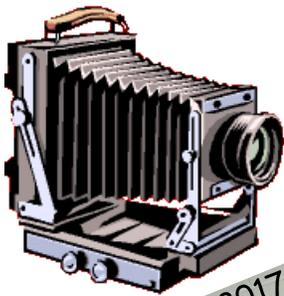


Winter Garden Activities:

Submitted by Fleurette

- Begin planning your garden. Rotate your crop locations from last year. Check to see how early you need to start any seeds and mark your calendar now. Get your pots/ flats, whatever you use for planting cleaned up and ready to go.
- Inventory your seeds and order new ones. Test seed viability by placing some seeds between moist paper towels for several days. If they start to sprout, they're still good!
- Make plant labels for your vegetable rows.
- Check trees and shrubs for wildlife damage, add taller protective wrappings if the snow has caught up with the level you started out with.
- Remove excess snow from evergreens by shaking gently with a broom or rake from beneath each branch.

PICTURES



Presenting our 2017 Board Members:
Nancy-Treasurer Sharon-Vice President,
Fleurette-President & Karen-Secretary



Connie, Fleurette, Nancy, Deb,
Karen, & Katy at Niagara School.

MEETING MINUTES - cont'd

us winter advanced MG training registration is open. Classes will run from March 1 - October 1, 2017, topic is soil, and cost is \$35. President Jan has resigned as WIMGA northern and local rep. There are 60 days to fill the local position. See Jan for more information.

OLD BUSINESS: Fleurette reported she has been in touch with Shanna of Niagara re: the hydroponic tower garden for the Niagara Schools, so will have a full report at the February meeting. Sharon has seen the Niagara Schools tower gardens and was very impressed.

NEW BUSINESS: Election of Officers

Nominating Committee Sharon, Fleurette and Jan were unsuccessful in finding anyone to be president or vice-president. Therefore, Fleurette volunteered to be president and Sharon volunteered to be vice-president. Karen agreed to remain as secretary and Nancy agreed to remain as treasurer. Katy moved, Lois Ann supported and motion carried to accept the entire slate of officers as presented for 2017.

Jan received a gift from GG in thanks and appreciation for her past year of leadership. The gift was a beautiful garden art crane with promises of good fortune and longevity to the owner. **THANK YOU**, Jan, for all your hard work during 2016.

Past-president Jan turned the floor over to vice-president Sharon who passed around a 2017 **COMMITTEE SIGN-UP SHEET** for members to sign.

Members received **INCENTIVE GIFT CERTIFICATES**. MGV Recertification cards will be coming later.

OTHER: Keri was contacted by the new Florence Schools science teacher re: a **BOTANY PROGRAM FUNDRAISER**. Would GG be interested in helping to support this program for Florence youth? Keri will bring more information to the February meeting.

Kathy reported she has been contacted by Nancy of the Lakewood, WI area asking if GG would be interested in making arrangements for a **GARDEN TOUR** of possibly three gardens and a garden center in our area sometime in June for a busload of gardeners from the Lakewood area. GG agreed we'd be happy to host this group, but there's a chance to see more variety of blooming plants in July than June. Kathy will follow up and report back next month.

Keri and Fleurette reported on **GAZEBO GARDEN SIGNAGE**. The Gazebo Garden name will not be used on the signage. The Signage Committee will check with Corrin re: details of UWEX logo, etc. The Florence School Fab Lab will make the signage. A kiosk and arbor are being planned.

Nancy has the **GG COMPUTER** and **LABEL MAKER**.

FEBRUARY 14, Valentine's Day, will be our video and popcorn night. Fleurette will follow up on a video.

Because of lack of volunteers, there will not be a **NORTH STARS GARDEN CONFERENCE** this year.

Jan moved, Katy supported and motion carried to **ADJOURN** at 7:50 p.m.

I found a website that has pages for garden journals you can print up and put into a binder:
<https://www.thebalance.com/printable-garden-notebook-1388588>



Wisconsin Garden Calendar for February, 2017
Posted on January 30, 2017 by mike.maddox



Although February weather can be dull and gray, this month has two holidays celebrated by gardeners as well as a few other people. Groundhog Day on February 2nd predicts the start of spring even though it officially always starts in 6 weeks even if the weather is none too spring-like. Valentine's Day is second only to Mother's Day as a floral holiday. See the entry in the third week for tips on how to refresh that vase of flowers you received from your sweetheart.

If you intend to start plants from seed indoors, this is the time to prepare. Plan the garden and get your seeds ordered early before the popular ones sell out. Purchase flats, seed packs and seed starting mix. Decide how you will label them, with purchased plastic stakes or strips cut from milk and detergent jugs. Sharpie brand markers that are called "industrial" will resist fading in ultra-violet light from the sun when used indoors or outdoors.

The whole process is explained in a UW-Extension publication about plant propagation, available from the website at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/>.

First Week

Use sand or cat litter rather than salt to melt ice along sidewalks and driveways to prevent soil and plant damage. Do not use granular fertilizer because excessive amounts of it, too, can damage plants. It also pollutes lakes and rivers as it runs off paved surfaces and frozen ground. For this reason never fertilize on frozen ground or over the snow.

Study the seed catalogs and the internet for desirable plant varieties to grow in your garden this year. If doing mail order, do it soon before the seed for that special eggplant you want is sold out.

Plan to get your children into the garden this year. Start with projects indoors like a pan of grass for their Easter baskets or oats for the cat. Start a sweet potato or an avocado pit. If you have supplemental lighting, plant a tub of lettuces and garlic cloves and herbs.

With two weeks left until Valentine's Day, it's time to start forcing those spring flowering bulbs you've been chilling. The little bulbs like crocus, hyacinth, and scilla should have received 8 weeks of cold. Larger bulbs require 12 – 14 weeks.

Keep feeding the birds until spring bloom since they have come to depend upon you for food. Even greater success at attracting birds to your property can be assured by providing a fresh source of water at all times. This must be kept free of ice and available until spring thaw. Stake up a discarded Christmas tree near a feeder to provide some protective cover but far enough away so that dogs and cats can't hide there to ambush your feathered friends at the feeder.

H

Second Week

Remove built-up dust and grime from the leaves of houseplants with a shower. Plants with large leaves can be wiped clean by hand with a cloth or a pair of clean, soft gloves. Use one hand on the upper surface and one below. Water works just fine to clean and shine leaves. Some but not all leaf polish products contain oils which will clog leaf pores.

Prepare for starting seeds indoors by gathering supplies and equipment. The three most crucial elements for successful seed starting are using sterile growing mix, providing supplemental light and bottom heat of about 70 degrees with air temperatures at least 5 degrees less. Be sure fluorescent fixtures and bulbs are compatible since the newer low-wattage tubes will overheat in old fixtures.

Third Week

Start seeds for the very first vegetable crop now – onions. Keep the foliage cutback to about 4" until time to transplant outdoors in April. Use what you clip off in salads or soup to add some zip.

Cloves of garlic can be planted in pots indoors to sprout for zesty seasoning.

Sow seeds indoors for impatiens, begonias, petunias, nemesia, dusty miller, and snapdragons.

Fresh cut Valentine's bouquets should be placed in warm water with floral preservative after having the stem ends re-cut. Wash vases with soap and water every time you replace the water. Remove any foliage that is below water level to prevent rot and clogging of stems.

Place vase in a cool location (down to 35 degrees) for at least one hour or overnight so that they can re-hydrate before bringing into room temperature.

Drooping roses can be revived by completely submerging them in warm water and re-cutting the stem ends while under water. Leave them in the water to re-hydrate for a half hour before returning them to the vase.

Start garden woodworking projects like coldframes, trellises, arbors and benches. A makeshift but functional coldframe can be set up using a few bales of straw on which an old wooden storm window is propped. Slide back the window to vent heat on sunny days being certain to close it again just before sundown.

Fourth Week

Being the end of the dormant season, now and throughout the month of March is the best time to prune most woody landscape plants and fruit trees. You can delay pruning birch, maple, black walnut, and elm since these tend to "bleed" when sap starts to move again due to snow melt and thawing soil. The dripping sap does not harm the trees but it is unsightly.

You can also delay pruning of spring flowering plants like forsythia, lilac, flowering almond, pussywillow, quince, cherry, Corneliancherry dogwood and crabapple until after bloom if you can't bear to lose the flowerbuds you prune off.

Otherwise, prune anyway and bring in the cut branches from these early spring flowerers to force flower buds open to enjoy indoors.

Seed of larkspur, nigella, and poppies can be sown directly onto bare ground to germinate as soon as the snow melts away.

Answers for many of your gardening questions can be found on the UW-Extension Horticulture website at <http://hort.uwex.edu/> by using the search feature. You can also select the diagnostic labs webpage that will take you to the insect and disease sites to find factsheets and more.

To submit a question to your county UW-Extension office, click on Ask the Experts. Your e-mail will be delivered directly to the designated person in your county to answer.

Cinnamon Hot Chocolate

RECIPES

Ingredients:

4 cups chocolate milk
2oz. semisweet baking chocolate, chopped
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Frozen fat-free whipped topping, thawed, if desired

Directions:

1. In a 2-quart saucepan, heat chocolate milk, chocolate, vanilla and cinnamon over low heat, stirring constantly, until chocolate is melted and mixture is smooth.
2. Heat to boiling over medium-high heat, stirring constantly; reduce heat to low. Simmer 4 minutes, stirring frequently, to blend flavors.
3. Garnish each serving with whipped topping.

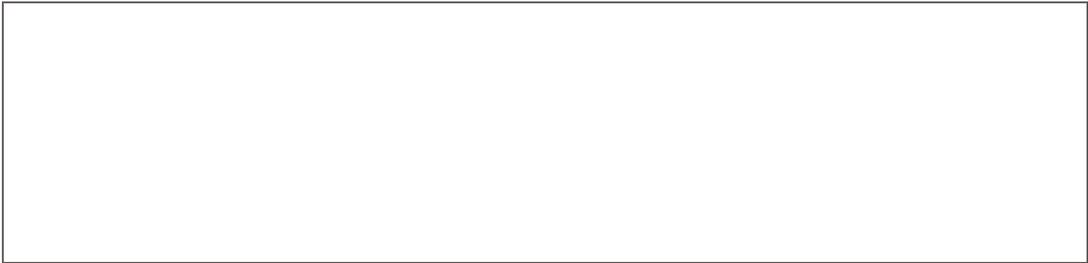


Happy Valentines Day



Glacial Gardeners
Master Gardener
Volunteer Association

University of Wisconsin
Cooperative Extension Office
5628 Forestry Drive
Florence, WI 54121



www.wimastergardener.org/?q=glacial

glacial.gardeners@gmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

February

9 Landscape Design Basics -Katie Bevernitz
6:30pm-8:00pm
Business Incubator
555 Entrpise Way, Eagle River, WI
Vilas County Master Gardeners

14 Glacial Gardeners Meeting
Movie & Popcorn

March

21 2017 Master Gardener Training starts

April

17 Marinette Garden Conference
Brochure will be available on the Marinette County website.

