

Portage County MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS



February 2014



PCMGV Meeting — Monday, February 24, 6:00 pm at the Annex Building — Bob Koca —

Right Plant, Right Place

Bob Koca, owner of KLM Services, LLC, will be the speaker at our meeting on February 24 at 6:00 pm at the Annex Building. We will have our usual business meeting first, followed by Bob's presentation. Bob is also willing to conduct a Saturday pruning workshop for our group in March or early April if there is enough interest. We will be voting on this at the business meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, but are interested in a pruning workshop, please e-mail Nick Schultz at schultznick@charter.net so we can get an accurate count of interested members prior to Bob's presentation.

The title of the presentation, "Right Place, Right Plant", or vice versa, is a good one. The talk will include what to look for or analyze on site prior to installation and planning, with the consideration of the

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PCMGV Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2014

The January meeting was preceded by a "thank you" dinner provided by Rockman's Catering and the Program Committee. The video of the 2013 Garden Parade produced by Patti Soik and Jean Klein was shown during the meal. Thanks were expressed to both Jean and Patti for the quality and content of their video. Two books were raffled off, with Margaret Parsons and Jan Pierson as winners.

The January 27, 2014 meeting of the Portage County Master Gardener Volunteers was called to order by Vice-President, Rick Jansing, at 6:50 P.M. at the Portage County Annex Building.

Those present were: Sue Baldishwiler, Tom Baldishwiler, Cindy Bredow, Donald Caine, Lynn Caine, Eric Ecklund, Jen Haas, Kathy Herbert, Carole Jansing, Rick Jansing, Kathy Kruthoff, Tina Lechner, Lynn Ligman, Marily Malcolm, Pat Mrozinski, Terri Offerman, Sharon Omernick, Chrismary Pacyna, Margaret Parsons, Jan Pierson, Sally Prideaux, Walt Rasmussen, Rebecca Roberts, Chere Schmit, Don Schmit, Patti Soik, Kathy Stanke, Todd Teuchert, Judith Thies, Gail Zalewski Guest: Jean Klein.

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Articles for the newsletter should be submitted by the **10th of the month** for publication that month.

Submit to: Gail Zalewski :
gailzale@mwwb.net or
715-570-3108

Please send any address changes to:
Bonnie Maier:
bonnie.maier@ces.uwex.edu or
715-346-1316

The **Minutes** from November were approved as distributed. Thanks were given to Sandy Newby for her outstanding job as PCMGV secretary for 6 years. Chrismary Pacyna will take over the secretary's duties for 2014.

The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Kathy Stanke.

Committee Reports:

Farm Technology Days: Cindy Bredow reported. Meetings are being held and plans formulated. PCMGVs will be asked to volunteer at this Portage County event (August 12-14, 2014). All interested persons are invited to attend the "all committee" Farm Technology Days' meeting on February 4 at 6:00 P.M. at the Annex.

Funds / Grants: Cindy Bredow shared a thank you note received from the Lettie W. Jensen Library in Amherst. Our 2013 grant was used to purchase 25 gardening books for the library. Funds for the 2014 UW-SP Scholarships were submitted to the UW-SP Foundation. The 2014 Grant Proposal Application for individuals and groups is available from Cindy, on our website, and at the UW-Extension office.

Garden Dreams: Sally Prideaux gave an update. 137 attended. Many positive comments were received regarding the speakers (Roy Diblik and Jeff Epping). Recognition was given to those Master Gardeners who volunteered at or attended the event. Tina Lechner and Sally Prideaux will look into scheduling an August PCMGV event at the gardens of Roy Diblik (co-owner of Northwind Perennial Farm in Burlington, WI).

Garden Parade: Committee meets this week to continue planning for this event.

Hunger Prevention / Head Start: Pat Mrozinski informed the group that they have requested Community Gardens to find another group to be responsible for the Head Start garden. Changes in the Head Start program have contributed to a decline in educational opportunities for our group.

Plant Sale: Chere Schmit announced that the plant order with Heath farms has been made.

Newsletter: Gail Zalewski is our Newsletter editor. She encouraged members to submit articles, photos, and information to her by the tenth of the month in order to be included in the next newsletter.

WIMGA: Lynn Caine reported several upcoming education opportunities. Members should check our current newsletter and the Wisconsin Master Gardener website for more information and registration forms. The Mandatory Child Protection Training session is now available on-line at <http://wcpds.wisc.edu/mandatedreporter>. It may be scheduled at a future PCMGV meeting. All Wisconsin Master Gardeners must complete this training to be certified for 2015.

Extension Report: Ken reported on upcoming continuing education opportunities available at Jay-Mar in Plover (straw-bale gardening) on February 15 and on the Response to Horticulture Inquires training held in Brown, Dane, and Eau Claire counties. Out of state online training is OK if sponsored by University Extension. Contact Ken for additional information. Ken also thanked Extension staff and PCMGVs for hours put in. Lynn Caine and Ken shared information from the Wisconsin Master Gardener Annual Accomplishment Report (available at UW-Extension and online at <http://wimastergardener.org>). Almost all counties in Wisconsin have a Master Gardener group or are part of a combined county group.

Awards were given out for volunteer hours contributed:

2013 hours (Top 10) ----- Chere Schmit 126; Kathy Goulet 139.5; John Kolinski 151.5; Barb Gifford 151.5; Shelly Binder 154.5; Sally Prideaux 162; Dan Goulet 180; Sandy Newby 182.5; Tim Goskowicz 247.5; and, Charlotte Kolinski 315.

Cumulative hours -----150 – Lynn Caine, Kathy Herbert, Rick Jansing; 250 hours – Lynn Caine, Deanna Gertsh-Pozorski, Elfri Goskowicz, Melisa Rice, Donna Smith, Todd Teuchert, Linda Zick; 500 hours – Shelley Binder, Timothy Goskowicz, Rose Marie Piekarski, Lori Teuchert; 750 hours – Pat Mrozinski; 1000 hours – John Kolinski; 2500 hours – Charlotte Kolinski

Announcements: Rick Jansing clarified the reinstatement procedure. Completing the required hours and paying the annual dues will result in membership.

Different sizes of shirts were available for members to try. They will also be available at the UW-Extension office. Volunteers are asked to submit their size preference. The shirts will be ordered in spring for volunteers to wear at the Plant Sale and other PCMGV functions.

Cindy Bredow announced that Shelly Ryan, a noted Wisconsin garden educator, died.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 24 at 6:00 at the Annex building.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 7:30 P.M.

Continuing Education: 2013 Garden Parade video - 30 minutes

Submitted by Chrismary Pacyna, PCMGV Secretary

PCMGV Board Members

Chairperson

Shelley Binder
shellb58@hotmail.com
715-341-9414

Vice Chairperson

Rick Jansing
rickjansing@att.net
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Director of Volunteers/ Committees

Chere Schmit
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715-258-0153

At-Large Board Members

Open

UW Extension Ag Agent

Ken Schroeder
ken.schroeder@ces.uwex.edu
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Committee Chairs

* Chair ** Co-chair

Bylaws

Cindy Bredow *

Display

Barb Gifford *
Open**

Farm Tech Days

CindyBredow *

Flower Beds

Carole Jansing **
Open*

Funds/Grants

CindyBredow *

Garden Dreams

Charlotte Kolinski *
Sally Prideaux **

Garden Parade

Carole Jansing *
Open **

Habitat House

Jennifer Young *
Jen Haas **

Hunger Prevention/ Head Start

Open

Membership

John Kolinski *

Plant Sale

ChereSchmit *
KathyHerbert **

Programs

Tina Lechner *
Diane Somers **

YMCA Gardens

DanGoulet *

Coordinators

Amherst Fair

Open

Arbor Day

Open

Chicago Bus Trip

Bob Rausch
Sally Prideaux

Farmers Market

Todd Teuchert
Lori Teuchert

Fundraisers

Open

Garden Line

Open

KMart Potting Day

Open

Newsletter

Gail Zalewski

Rosholt Fair

Todd Teuchert

Website

Lynn Caine

MGV Seminars Around the State - March 2014

Many of our Portage County Master Gardener Volunteers attended Garden Dreams, hosted by our own MGV group in January. Here are a number of other seminars around the state being sponsored by other MGV groups. Some are all day events, some are just an hour or two. Also — don't forget the WIMGA Conference at the end of March in Appleton! And, as always, all of the MGV sponsored events qualify for continuing educational hours.

1 – Day in the Garden – Fond du Lac – Presented by the Fond du Lac Co. MGA, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Gardening experts will speak on birdscaping, ornamental grasses, Olbrich Botanical Gardens and more. Vendors, raffle, silent auction. For info and registration forms call Fond du Lac Co. UW-Extension at (920) 929-3172.

1 – Edible Landscape for Urban Environment – Green Bay – Horticulture class offered by the NEW MGA and Brown Co. UWEX with guest speaker Brian R. Smith, State Extension Commercial Fruit Specialist with UW-River Falls, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay. \$15, pre-registration required. For info contact the Brown Co. UW-Extension at (920) 391-4653.

17- April 11 – Hort Diagnostic Training – Green Bay – Six week training program for MGVs offered by Brown Co. UWEX to brush up on plant diagnostic resources. Fridays from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay, WI. \$10, plus volunteer service at the Hort Help Desk in 2014 required. For info contact the Brown Co. UW-Ext at (920) 391-4653.

13 – All About Herbs – Cedarburg – “Creating Tapa from the Herb Garden” by the Wisconsin Unit of the Herb Society of America and Ozaukee Master Gardeners -- \$8. For info [visit the Ozaukee MGA website](#) & click on Calendar.

15 – Seed Starting 101 – Green Bay – Join MGV Lynn Clark from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. to learn the art of growing your own vegetable plants from seeds. Class will include planning, seed selection, growing mix, equipment, and general knowledge to increase your seed germination success. At the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay. \$5, pre-registration required. For info contact the Brown Co. UW-Ext. at (920) 391-4653.

15 – Garden U – Hudson – By the St. Croix Valley MGA, with two speakers on trees and a third on invasive plants, lunch, and Garden Market Place with local garden-oriented vendors. From 9:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Ready Randy's, Hwy 65 & County Rd G. For info contact [Carolyn Barette](#).

22 – Let's Get Green and Growing – Pardeeville – By the Columbia Co. MGA starting at 9 am. Keynote speaker is Ed Lyon, Allen Centennial Gardens, plus three break-out sessions to choose from. Lunch and garden-related vendors available. At Pardeeville High School, 120 S. Oak Street, Pardeeville. \$5. For info call Becky at (608) 742-9693.

28-29 – 2014 WIMGA Annual Conference – Appleton – Hosted by the Outagamie Co. MGA at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, 333 West College Ave., Appleton. For info see the [Conference Webpage](#) or contact [Kathy Baum](#) at (920) 731-9385.

Reminder. . . . All of these MGV sponsored events qualify for continuing educational hours.



Mandatory Child Protection Training

The UW-Extension and its volunteers are required to take Child Protection Training before fall of this year. After our discussion at the January Master Gardener Meeting, website information is being provided so the training can be done independently. We also discussed that the training will be viewed at a future MG meeting if you prefer to do it with the group.

With the implementation of Executive Order 54 – mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect – all UWEX staff and volunteers are required to complete mandatory reporter online training. **All Master Gardeners must complete this training.** Even though some people may not volunteer with youth, they have the potential to interact with youth. **There are NO exceptions.** At the end of the training there is an option to print a certificate of completion. This should be printed and turned in to the local county UWEX office to keep on file. Training must be completed by the time hours are turned in next fall (September, 2014). Counties will include the information on completion in their annual report submitted to the state Program Office.

Go to <http://wcpwds.wisc.edu/mandatedreporter/> to get started. It should take 30-60 minutes to complete the core of the training, with options to access additional useful information that will add to the training time. This training can be counted as 1 hour (60 minutes) of continuing education.

Info provided by Lynn Caine, PCMGV WIMGA Rep

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

The PCMGVs are having a booth at the 2014 Golden Sands Home Builders Association Home and Garden Show, March 28-30 at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point.

It's a fun way to get volunteer hours by answering garden and landscape questions and giving information on the Master Garden Program for those interested.

There will be a signup sheet at the next meeting or call Sandy Boehm at (715) 347-9010, or e-mail her at sandb52@yahoo.com if interested.



YOUR WEBSITES:

Portage County UW-Extension: <http://portage.uwex.edu>
UW-Extension: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/>
UW-Extension Publications: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu>
WI State Master Gardener: <http://wimastergardener.org>

Bob Koca

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mature size of the plant, its requirement for shade vs. sun, soil considerations, pH, and how the planting is to be used -- i.e. screening or sound vs. just a group planting as a shrub border or planting. He will also cover the proper installation of trees and shrubs due to the prolific improper installation of plants into inadequate soils and improper planting depth. He will provide a handout with an introduction, a brief outline, and specifics for people to use. Examples of plants to use will also be provided. We will have time for questions and inquiries at the end of the presentation.

Bob is a graduate of UW-Madison, with a BS in Horticulture (1972). He worked in the landscape installation, maintenance/management field in Milwaukee for about 15 years and won State and National awards while working there. He moved to this area in 1987 and continued to work in the landscape field. As the owner of KLM Services, LLC, he offers landscape design, installation, maintenance/management, arborist Plant Health Care treatments, professional pruning services, professional consultation services, and education/training.

In addition to his business, Bob teaches Horticulture and Landscape classes at MSTC in the Urban Forestry curriculum. He has taught there both full and part time since about 1999. He has also been involved in writing the course Ornamental Plant Health Care that is now required in the Urban Forestry curriculum. His Professional affiliations include ISA Certified Arborist, Licensed Pesticide Applicator, WI Turfgrass Association and the WI Sports Turf Management Association and Wisconsin Arborist Association.

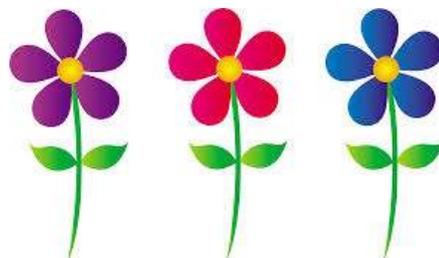
—Info Submitted by Nick Schultz

GARDEN PARADE

The Garden Parade Committee is working on our 2014 Garden Parade. The dates for this year are July 11 and 12. Carole Jansing is the new Chair of this committee, and she is looking for a Co-chair. As usual we will feature some great gardens and a "special" event. We welcome all volunteers and are looking for: Gardens, Garden Art Vendors, Garden Site volunteers, Garden Showcase items and Event Sponsors.

It is a fun way to meet your fellow Master Gardeners and earn some hours. For more information, contact Carole Jansing at carole.jansing@att.net.

—Info Submitted by Carole Jansing



March 2014 Calendar of Events

1 – Pruning Pointers Workshop – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Pruning is essential to the optimal health of trees and shrubs, but it is feared even by experienced gardeners. Join Director of Hort. Jeff Epping from 9:00 a.m. to noon as he dispels the fear by teaching when, where, and what to cut. He will discuss pruning techniques, then demo on live trees and shrubs in the outdoor gardens. Dress for the weather. \$45 (\$36 member).

6 – Permaculture Systems of Your Property – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Join Madison Area Permaculture Guild Founder Kate Heiber-Cobb from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and discover the basics of permaculture systems design & how to apply it in your own backyard. She will discuss observation skills, waste to food & medicine production, pollinator habitat, & more. This class will help you develop a sustainable and self-sufficient ecosystem in your yard. A complete list of resources available to help you will be provided, and books will be available for you to browse during the class. Bring drawing/sketch paper, pencil & eraser for working on your property's vision/plan with guidance from the instructor. \$15 (\$12 member).

8 – Spring Symposium – Milwaukee – WI Unit of the Herb Society of America. \$65; registration deadline March 1. For more information contact Joan at (262) 377-1461 or visit the [Wisconsin Unit of the Herb Society of America website](#).

12 – Gardening with Flowers for Drying – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Are you interested in drying your flowers so you can create long-lasting arrangements to serve as reminders of the garden during the winter? Join Monches Farm Horticulturist Zannah Crowe from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. for an overview of perennial flowers that are good for drying, as well as drying techniques & an intro to the basics of dried floral design. \$19 (\$15 member).

15 – Grow Green – Lettie Jensen Center, Amherst – Two sessions on feeding the soil and beneath the soil with Steve Finley and Jim Beard. Samples, hands-on and hand-outs provided, along with lunch. Cost: \$25.00. For more info contact antiquityacres@gmail.com or register online at www.peatys.com/aareg.html.

15 – Growing Unusual Fruit – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Everyone enjoys the sensual pleasure of tasting a new & exotic tropical fruit, but few people in the Midwest realize they can taste these fruits in their own backyard. Join John Holzwart from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. as he shares tips for growing and preserving unusual fruit. He will discuss and provide samples of edible dogwoods, aronia, elderberries, sea buckthorn, autumn olives, pawpaws, figs, and many more! \$22 (\$18 member).

22 – Fruit Tree Grafting – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Do you wish your ornamental crabapple tree had large juicy apples? Maybe your fruiting apple tree is too much to handle and you wish you had a crabapple tree. These are just a couple of reasons to practice the age-old art of grafting. Join John Holzwart from 1:00 to 3:00 pm for a presentation explaining several approaches to grafting, followed by a demo and hands-on learning. You will graft and take home two semi-dwarf fruit trees of your choice (apple, pear or plum). Root stocks and scion wood (fruit tree cuttings) provided. Additional plant materials available to purchase for grafting more trees at home. Bring a sharp, clean pocket knife. This class is followed by a scion wood exchange that is free to the public. \$31 (\$25 member).

22 – Scion wood Exchange (Fruit Tree Grafting) – Olbrich Botanical

Underlined events qualify for continuing educational hours.

Gardens, Madison – Attention all fruit tree grafters and growers! Here is your chance to exchange plant material. Join us from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for a fun time trading fruit tree cuttings. Newbies and seasoned grafters will mingle and swap scion wood of various fruit trees. Do you have a special apple or pear tree in your yard? Cuttings of that tree might have some value to others! All we ask is that you bring a few labeled cuttings of dormant scion wood; no patented varieties please. If you are picking up scion wood, bring plastic bags. If you are bringing scion wood to trade or give away, please be ready to supply a botanical name and description of the fruit. Free.

25 – Native Plants for Any Garden – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Are you thinking about using some native plants in your yard, but aren't sure where to start? Frank Hassler from Good Oak Ecological Services will share info about native plants that are "winners" in various conditions, so you can find some that will work well in your landscape. Class from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$15 (\$12 member).

29 – Beekeeping for Beginners – Madison – Learn about everything you need to know for your first year keeping these pollinators. At the Dane Co. Ext. Building, 5201 Fen Oak Dr, Madison, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$50, includes handouts. For info or to register contact Jeanne Hansen at (608) 244-5094.

29 – All About Willow – Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison – Let Lee Zieke and Lindsay Lee, owners of Willowglen Nursery, introduce you to the world of willow from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The genus *Salix* has many members. As basket makers and gardeners, Lee and Lindsay supply their own needs by growing three acres of cultivated willows chosen for their size, uniformity, & color. Learn how this versatile plant is grown, harvested, & put to use. A demo of making a woven plant tower/trellis & interesting tales about willow & its lore are included. \$15 (\$12 member).

29–30 – Garden Getaway: Garden Art & the Art of Gardening – Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts, Mineral Point – Shake Rag Alley's 9th annual Garden Getaway weekend full of hands-on workshops making garden art plus informative lectures on the art of gardening. For info or to register visit www.ShakeRagAlley.com or call (608) 987-3292.

BOERNER BOTANICAL GARDENS: For more information or to register contact [Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens](#), 9400 Boerner Dr., Hales Corners, WI at 414-525-5659.

CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDENS: 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe IL 60022. Phone: (847) 835-5440.

GARDENS OF THE FOX CITIES: Register for classes on the [Event Calendar](#). For info contact [Gardens of the Fox Cities](#), 1313 E. Witzke Blvd. Appleton, WI 54911 at (920) 993-1900, Fax (920) 993-9492.

GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN: For information or to register contact Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Road, Green Bay, WI 54303 at (920) 490-9457.

MN LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM: For info contact the [Education Department](#), Minnesota Arboretum, P.O. Box 39, Chanhassen, MN 5531-0039 at (952) 443-1422.

NORTHWIND PERENNIAL FARM: For info contact Northwind Perennial Farm, 7047 Hospital Rd, Burlington, WI 53105 at (262) 248-8229, see the website at [Northwind Perennial Farm](#) or email info@northwindretail@wi.rr.com

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS: For info contact [Olbrich Botanical Gardens](#), 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI 53704; phone (608) 246-4550. Pre-registration required, including online registration from the OBG website.

Cooperative Extension

University of Wisconsin—Extension

Portage County UW-Extension

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Fax: 715-346-1323

Return Service Requested



March Garden Guide

- Plant tuberous rooted begonias indoors early in the month.
- Begin regular fertilization of houseplants.
- March is a good month to make cuttings of many houseplants.
- Order perennial plants and specify that they be delivered when the ground is workable.
- Start seeds of slow-growing annuals. Transfer them as appropriate in April to cold frame.
- Start bulbs of calla. They will bloom from June to August.
- Start seedlings of cabbage, celery, cauliflower, head lettuce, and parsley.
- Keep amaryllis foliage growing by watering and feeding.
- Continue to inspect stored vegetables. Anything showing signs of spoilage should be removed immediately and either used or discarded.
- Don't worry if spring-flowering bulbs are sending up green leaves. The foliage can withstand winter weather.
- March is the leanest month for wildlife, so protect shrubs and plants with wire cages or sprinkle ground with cat hair or blood meal.
- Do not remove mulch from perennials too early. Keep light covering of mulch over spring bulbs.
- Rake off last season's mulches on garden soil so it can dry and be warmed by the sun. Remove any plant residue left from last year.
- If the compost pile froze during winter, turn it now, and add fresh manure to help restart the composting process.
- Finish pruning dormant trees.
- Sharpen lawn mower blades and have mower serviced before spring rush.
- If you fertilize, apply to shade trees, fruit trees and shrubs when buds swell, as well as to evergreens and raspberries.
- Prune summer flowering (after end of June) shrubs.
- Finish pruning grapes. Non-dormant pruning will cause excessive bleeding.
- Finish dormant pruning of fruit trees and berry bushes. Remove diseased or infected branches.

