

PCMGV News — May 2017

PCMGV Meeting
May 15, 2017 6pm
Don and Lynn Caine's Home
2330 Easlan Drive, Plover



We are Headed Outside for Therapy

Please join Mike Maddox for a relaxing lesson on Horticulture Therapy. In 2012 Mike became the new director of UW-Extension MGV Program. Before that he was a horticulture educator since 2001, working mostly in Rock County. Mike started out as an education major, then biology, then botany. He did his graduate work at UW-Madison. Mike has worked in urban forestry, community gardens, and botanical gardens. He likes to focus on non-traditional audiences like youth with physical and cognitive disabilities and youth at alternative high schools. Lately, he has been pursuing the topic of horticulture therapy with MGV, professional audiences, and also taking a continuing education course at University of Minnesota.

Along with our education we will be touring the yard of Don and Lynn Caine. They have been MGV since 2010. Some .

—continued on page 4, with directions to the Caine home!!!!



The Caine's new greenhouse and cold frame

Inside this issue:

PCMGV Meeting Minutes	2
Minutes—continued	3
PCMGV May Meeting & Directions to Caine Home	4
UW-Ext Non-Discrimination Policy	4
PCMGV Plant Sale !!!	5
Farmer's Market—Seeking	6
Flower Arranging Pics	6
Happy 80th Birthday!	7
More Plant Sale Pics	7
Boxwood Blight	8
Boxwood Blight—continued	9
Plant Sale Inventory Record Sheet	10
Master Gardener Board and Committee Co-Chairs, Websites, Deadlines, Misc.	11
June Garden Guide	12

2017 Upcoming Portage County Master Gardener Meeting Dates & Events

May 20, 8-11 a.m. — Plant Sale — Rettler Corporation parking lot, Portage County Business Park
June 17, 7 a.m.-noon — Saturdays through Sept. 3 — Stevens Point Farmers' Market: Ask a Master Gardener
June 26, 6 p.m. — PCMGV meeting — Tour Garden of Laurie Kosmalski
July 14-15 — Garden Parade, 2-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday
July 24, 6 p.m. — PCMGV meeting — Tour garden of Nina Cass/ Linda Cook
August 28, 6 p.m. — PCMGV meeting — Schmeckle Reserve — Jill Trochlell-Ziehr, Monarch Gardens

For more on these or future events or the Master Gardener Volunteers, visit: <https://goo.gl/Crc3nv>.

Portage County Master Gardener Volunteers

Meeting Minutes — April 24, 2017

The April 24, 2017 meeting of the Portage County Master Gardener Volunteers began at 6:00 in the Portage County Aging and Disability Resource Center.

Our speaker for this evening was Sherry Wanta from the Rosholt 4-H group. Her topic was “flower arranging”. Sherry began with three different containers and florist buckets of fresh flowers and greens. Beginning with the greens, she designed a vase container, a flower basket, and a floral bouquet, while sharing tips, directions, and color combinations. Questions and comments were encouraged throughout the presentation. A drawing was held for the completed arrangements with Ellen Kiedrowski, Nick Schultz, and Lori Teuchert being the lucky recipients.

The general business meeting was called to order by Margaret Parsons.

Those present were: Sue Baldischwiler, Tom Baldischwiler, Margaret Bau, Cindy Bredow, Lynn Caine, Ginny Carlton, Philip Czapinski, Jean Danielson, Deanna Gertsch-Pozorski, Daniel Goulet, Kathleen Goulet, Jen Haas, Angie Hauer, Ellen Kiedrowski, Charlotte Kolinski, Laurie Kosmalski, Rita Kozlowski, Jamie Kreuziger, Debbie Kunst, Marily Malcolm, Sylvia Masters, Pat Mrozinski, Sandra Newby, Sandi O'Brien, Carole Olson, Jack Overgaard, Chrismary Pacyna, Margaret Parsons, Rose Marie Piekarski, Jan Pierson, Heather Podeszwa, Walt Rasmussen, Bob Rausch, Rebecca Roberts, Chere Schmit, Don Schmit, Nick Schultz, Dorothy Steuerwald, Lori Teuchert, Kirby Throckmorton, Jill Trochell-Ziehr, Gail Zalewski, Richard Zimmerman.

The **Minutes** from March were approved.

The **Treasurer's** report was given by Lori Teuchert.

Old Business:

Background Check Requirement: The last edition of The Volunteer Vibe contains relevant information regarding this. This will soon be implemented statewide. Mike Maddox of the Wisconsin Master Garden Program is aware of the many concerns expressed regarding this requirement.

Boston School Forest “80th Birthday and Earth Day Activity”: Cindy Bredow, Debbie Kunst, and Chrismary Pacyna worked at this event on April 23. There were over 500 attendees and many “seeds” were planted!

Committees:

Display: This committee will compile an inventory of currently available materials that might be used by PCMGVs for youth or community education.

Facebook: Gail Zalewski encouraged PCMGVs to “like / share” our page. Send any photos or information to Gail to be posted.

Farmer's Market: A sign-up sheet was circulated. This begins on Saturday mornings in mid-June and concludes in September. Members are encouraged to contact Lori Teuchert soon if interested in volunteering at this event.

Flower Beds: Work days are being held. All are welcome (and needed!) to help with spring clean-up at the various flower beds listed in the April PCMGV Newsletter.

Funds and Grants: Cindy Bredow announced grants were distributed to McKinley School (gardens), Boston School Forest (solar meters), and Mead Wildlife Center (prairie kits). The 2017 UW-SP scholarship recipients are: Taylor Geldernick and Bailey Boudreau.

Garden Dreams: A Co-Chairperson (along with Sally Prideau) is needed for this January event. Contact Sally or Rebecca Roberts if interested in volunteering.

— continued on page 3

Garden Parade: Planning meetings are being held on the first Wednesday of the month. Contact Jen Haas or Dorothy Steuerwald for more information. Raffle tickets for the quilt will be available at the May meeting. The quilt is available for display at community events. After watching this evening’s presentation on flower arranging, Rebecca Roberts encouraged members to consider participating in Art Bloom at Gallery Q during the Garden Parade!

Membership: Chrismary Pacyna reminded members to keep up with recording their volunteer hours so that it is easier to compile when they are due on October 1.

Newsletter: Gail Zalewski said that the deadline for the next Newsletter is May 6.

Plant Sale: Chere Schmit asked each PCMGV to provide at least 6 plants for the May 20th sale. Volunteer sign-up will occur at the May meeting, along with distribution of appropriate plant sticks. Vouchers should be completed for potting soil reimbursement. Contact Cheri or Walt Rasmussen for more information.

YMCA Gardens: Contact Lynn Caine if interested in helping with the Wednesday morning (9:30) educational component of this. Planting will begin on April 29th.

New Business:

A special **Congratulations!** was extended to Philip Czapinski and Heather Podeszwa who attended this meeting and recently completed the Level 1 Training. They are now official PCMGV interns! Also completing the Level 1 Training were:

Dale Christensen, Gregg Ebens, Erikka Flowers, Ann Galbraith, Gail Gosch, Wendy Grzadzielewki, Karen Hartman, Heather Murphy, Leslie Skopick, and Megan Wecker.

As interns, they are eligible to work with any certified Master Gardener on events and projects to attain the required 24 volunteer hours for certification. We encourage these individuals to become involved with PCMGV, and to attend and volunteer at our meetings and events.

Plant Diseases: A presentation by Brian Hudelson will be given at the Portage County Library on Friday, May 12, at 1:00. Pre-registration is required

Next meeting will be May 15 at 6:00 at the home of Don and Lynn Caine. Mike Maddox from the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program office will speak on “Healing Gardens”.

WIMGA report: Lynn Caine reported on the April 22 meeting. WIMGA is developing a Speaker’s Bureau, mentoring program, and a marketing power point regarding WIMGA. Visit the website at WIMGA.org. The 2017 WIMGA conference will be held in West Bend October 13-14.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Continuing Education: Flower Arranging: Sherry Wanta = 1.25 hours (75 minutes)

Submitted by,
Chrismary Pacyna, PCMGV Secretary

— more flower arranging pics can be found on page 6 —



Sherry Wanta demonstrates Flower Arranging to the PCMGVs

of you have been here before but the pool is gone and a greenhouse, cold frame and raised beds have taken its place. Don will have green bean seeds for everyone. Dress for a spring evening in Wisconsin, rain or shine, bring a lawn chair.

Directions to the Caine's house:

From Hwy 39/US 51, Exit 153 CR-B toward Wisconsin Rapids.

In about 1/2 mile, turn right onto Hoover Ave. (Menards, Copps, Coca Cola, WPS are at the intersection. There is a stoplight)

Follow Hoover, over a railroad track until you reach the stop sign. This intersection is Roosevelt Ave.

Turn left onto Roosevelt. Go a short way and you will see the Plover Library on the left. This intersection is Easlan Drive.

Turn left onto Easlan. Lynn's house is the 4th house on the left. Brown with a front porch. 2330 Easlan Dr.



The Caine Greenhouse
— Picture by Lynn Caine

— submitted by Lynn Caine

UWEX Nondiscrimination Policy

Periodically, UW-Extension takes steps to assure that our partners know and understand our policy of nondiscrimination. This letter is to remind or notify you that the University of Wisconsin-Extension does not discriminate in the treatment of individuals, in the admission or access to its programs and activities, in the provision of services, or in employment.

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Consistent with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons who need materials in alternative format or other accommodations must contact :

Portage County UW-Extension Office
1462 Strongs Ave, Stevens Point, WI 54481
715-346-1316
denise.rocha@ces.uwex.edu

as early as possible prior to the event so appropriate arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.

Individuals who need special access due to hearing impairment may contact TTY access may contact your local County Extension Office by calling the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System, 1-800-947-3529 or 711.



PCMGV will have their annual Plant Sale Saturday, May 20th at the Rettler Corporation parking lot. Hope to see you there!

2017 Plant Sale Guidelines

Monday May 15th: Before and after the general meeting, we will be handing out the labels and plant sticks...We will also be passing around a clip board with sign-up sheets for volunteers to help with the set-up on Friday; and check out, carry out, clean-up, etc. on Saturday.

Friday May 19th: Set-up begins at 3 p.m. Please have your dozen (or more) plants labeled so they can be placed in the appropriate row. Plants need to be arranged according to genus and species, then by cultivar and color. Pricing will begin when a good number of plants have arrived. When ALL the plants are priced, we can begin buying. To be fair to everyone, no plants may be set aside ahead of the time of purchase. Any plants that are found sitting out will be put back.

Saturday May 20th: Please arrive around 6:30 a.m. Please park at the WIAA lot, not on the street (or at the Biolife Plasma Services lot as they work on Saturday). We have tables to set up for the checkout, vegetables, and other plants, as well as other last minute details that need to be attended to. If you are assigned a row, familiarize yourself with the plants in it. Make sure that all of the plants are priced and labeled. If possible bring a garden catalog or book with pictures to show prospective buyers what particular plants look like in bloom. Remember to wear your logo clothes or hats if you have them, and name tags.

Plants may be purchased before the sale begins, but please get them to your vehicle right away (in the WIAA lot). No plants are to be stored in the shed for later purchase. When it is time to sell for half-price, a sign will be put up and a whistle will be blown. Please don't tell buyers we go to half-price at a certain time, as that is variable. Half-price will be taken at the checkout on donated plants only. If you work the checkout, do not give the customers the pricing sticks or sales slips. We need the sales slips for accounting purposes, and the pricing sticks are reused each year. After all sales are completed, any plants needed for community projects can be taken. If you should want any of your own unsold plants back, they can be taken at clean-up.

For those of you that bring sleds or wagons, PCMG signs will be supplied for identification.

The Plant Sale is a lot of work, but with everyone lending a hand it is easily accomplished. To all who will donate plants, or who will help out in any way for this event...We really appreciate your help!

THANK YOU!!!!

The Plant Sale
Committee

— *more plant sale pics on page 7*
— *Plant Inventory Sheet on page 10*



— Picture submitted by
Chere Schmit

Farmer's Market – Seeking Volunteers

We are once again seeking volunteers to work at our garden information booth on Saturdays at the Stevens Point Farmer's Market. At the booth, volunteers answer questions about gardening and the Master Gardener program from market goers.

- Shifts are available from June 17th – Sept 9th
- Hours are from 8am to Noon on Saturdays (volunteers should arrive at 7:45am for set up)
- All supplies are provided except chairs - you'll need to bring your own.
- 2 to 4 volunteers may work per Saturday (you'll never work alone)

Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the April and May Master Garden meetings.

You may also sign up by contacting Lori Teuchert at teuchert01@wi-net.com or 715-677-4838.

More information and a final schedule will be provided to volunteers in early June.

-- submitted by Lori Teuchert



Flower Arranging with Sherry Wanta — March PCMGV Meeting



Happy 80th Birthday!



Here is a photo from the Earth Day and 80th Birthday Celebration at Boston School Forest on April 23. Cindy Bredow, Debbie Kunst, and Chrismary Pacyna represented the PCMGVs and helped visitors to plant "seeds" that they could take home. There were over 500 people in attendance. It was a great day and filled with lots of education.

-- submitted by Chrismary Pacyna

More Pics from Prior Plant Sales. . .



*— Pictures submitted by
Chere Schmit*



— plant inventory sheet is on page 10 —

Watch for boxwood blight on shrubs, pachysandra

As you survey your landscape for the joy of spring blooms and a growing to-do list, look for early signs of plant disease.

A relatively new fungal disease is boxwood blight (also known as box blight). This disease has hasn't been discovered in Wisconsin yet, but is in several Eastern and southern states and as near as Illinois.

Once introduced to a landscape, boxwood blight is difficult and costly to control.

Boxwood is a common shrub for landscape hedges where winters are a bit milder than in central Wisconsin. It has a USDA hardiness zone of 5, suitable for southern Wisconsin and counties along Lake Michigan. A few varieties of the evergreen shrub are hardy in central Wisconsin, especially in sheltered urban areas.

The blight causes brown spots on boxwood's small leaves, or bleaches plant tissue in addition to browning, said Brian Hudelson, of UW Extension Diagnostic Services in Madison. Plant dieback will result. "It will eventually kill these."

It also affects pachysandra, a glossy evergreen ground cover common in central and northern Wisconsin. Also known as Japanese spurge, leaves develops brown spots when diseased. Both are part of the same family of plants, Buxaceae.

Boxwood blight is caused by the fungus *Calonectria pseudonaviculata* or *Cylindrocladium buxicola*. A serious fungal disease, it results in defoliation and decline of susceptible boxwood. Boxwood blight was first identified in the United States in 2011 in Virginia and Connecticut. It was spread to states as close as Illinois.

Symptoms may include tan spots with dark edges. Boxwood stems may also have black streaking.

Cool, wet weather creates a favorable environment for boxwood blight. Try to keep leaves from staying wet. Never overhead water, Hudelson said. Use drip irrigation or soaker hoses.

To reduce the chance of boxwood blight, buy plants produced in Wisconsin, he said. Ask the nursery if you're unsure. Avoid boxwood plants grown in Eastern states.

Inspect plants carefully before purchasing them, and avoid any that show symptoms of blight. Keep new plants isolated, monitoring them for signs of blight.

If you buy plants from different sources, keep them physically separate, Hudelson said. Spacing plants, rather than creating a close hedge, improves air circulation and helps plants dry.

Two varieties have some resistance to boxwood blight, he said: 'Green Mound' and 'Glencoe' or Chicagoland Green®.

If you notice diseased branches, prune them out and notify Hudelson's diagnostic clinic. Send a sample branch to the UW Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic so Hudelson's team can test it for boxwood blight. Diagnosis will be free, he said, because Extension specialists want to identify and control this disease as much as possible.

Remove and destroy infected plants. Burn them, if this is allowed in your community. Or, deep bury the infected material. Do not compost.

To prevent the spread of this or any disease, be sure to disinfect pruning tools and other garden supplies. Disinfect with 70 percent alcohol solution, a commercial disinfectant, such as dairy farmers use, and a 10 percent bleach solution if no other options exist. The latter hastens rust, so look at other options first.

— continued on page 9

Watch for boxwood blight on shrubs, pachysandra

— continued from page 8

To prevent boxwood blight, several fungicides are available. Note, they must be used before the blight is diagnosed, not to treat the disease.

This preventive treatment is only for those willing to use strong fungicides at weekly intervals. Fungicides with alternate active ingredients must be used in combination, Hudelson. At least one breaks down to a known carcinogen.

Some bleaching on boxwood is actually caused by winter injury. Winter burn to boxwoods often occurs above a 'snowline.' Foliage protected by snow from wind and severe cold remains green, while exposed parts of the plant turn brown. A plant infected with boxwood blight may have a more random pattern of browning or brown from the bottom up.

Other possible diseases Hudelson and others will watch for in 2017 are:

Thousand cankers disease – Twig beetle infects black walnuts, other walnuts.

Tar spot – Dark, oil spots on maples are unsightly by won't kill the tree.

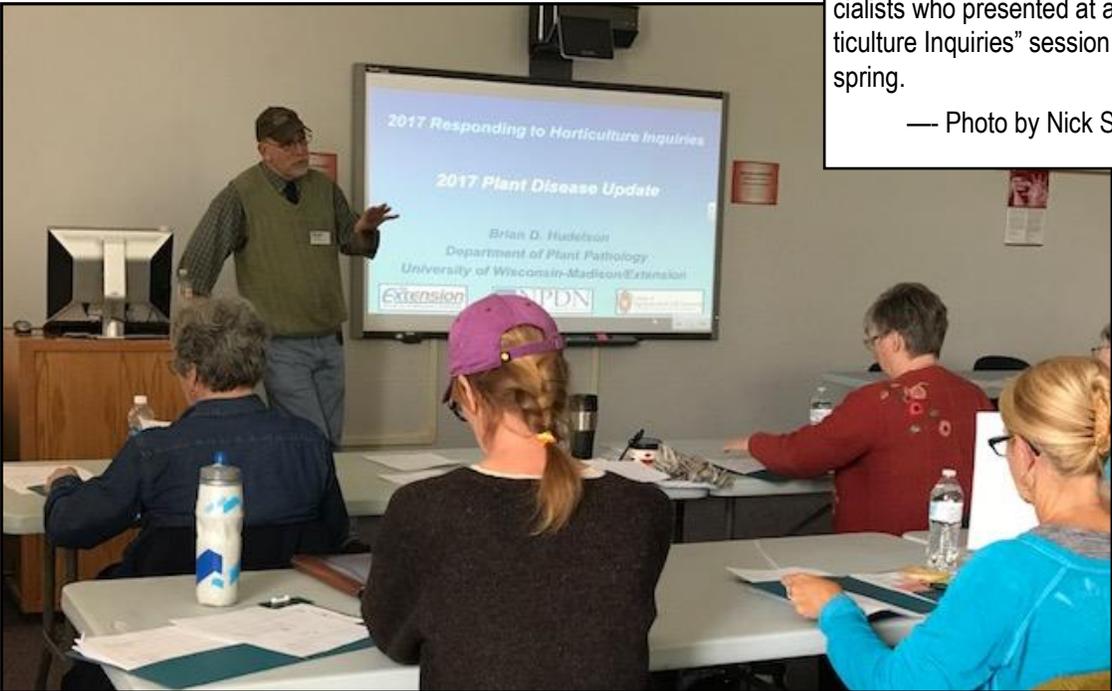
Fungal leaf blights – affect tomato, potato plants. Grow resistant varieties, crop rotation.

Black rot – affects cole vegetables. Buy pathogen-free seed, rotate crops.

Impatiens downy mildew – Water mold turns impatiens yellow, then slimy. Rotate and do not crowd plants.

Prevent these diseases with good quality plants or certified pathogen-free seed, Hudelson said. Remove and dispose of contaminated plants and decontaminate tools. Avoid overhead watering.

--By Nick Schultz, PCMGV



Brian Hudelson was among UW Extension specialists who presented at a "Responding to Horticulture Inquiries" session in Wausau this spring. — Photo by Nick Schultz

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<u>Farmers Market</u> Lori Teuchert Sandy O'Brien	<u>Publicity (Facebook)</u> Nick Schultz Gail Zalewski	
<u>Flower Beds</u> Margaret Parsons Deb Kunst	<u>Rosholt Fair</u> Todd Teuchert Lori Teuchert	



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PCMGV Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pcmgv/>

Portage County UW-Extension: <http://portage.uwex.edu>

WI State Master Gardener: <http://wimastergardener.org>

UW-Extension Publications: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu>

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NCWWMG Plant Sale — Wausau

The North Central Wisconsin Master Gardener Association (NCWWMG) will hold it's annual Gardenville Plant Sale as part of the Wausau Area's Green Saturday, on May 20st, 2017. This is a great place to kick off gardening season for both new and experienced gardeners.

The sale is held at the Marathon Park Cattle Barn from 7am to Noon.

WANTED

Articles and Photos you would like to share in the MGV monthly newsletter. Please send items to Gail Zalewski by the **10th** of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

gailzale@mwwb.net

Submission deadline:
June 10, 2017



Please send address or e-mail changes to:
Denise Rocha:
denise.rocha@ces.uwex.edu
or 715-346-1316

June Garden Guide

- Pinch off one-half inch of chrysanthemums when they are six inches tall and continue pinching through June.
- Pinch annuals when 4-6 inches tall to promote growth.
- Give peonies 2-3 applications of complete fertilizer two weeks before flowering. Disbud several branches for bigger flowers on remaining buds. Stake before buds open.
- Prune spring flowering shrubs (lilacs, forsythia, honeysuckle, hydrangea, mock orange, privet, snowball, spirea, viburnum and weigela) after flowering. Apply annual application of fertilizer.
- Prune junipers, arborvitae, yews and hemlock any time during late spring or early summer.
- Water flower beds weekly during dry periods.
- Remove spent flowers and weeds from gardens and add mulch.
- Dig and divide non-blooming daffodils.
- For large dahlia blooms, prune all but one shoot per clump.
- Cut back delphiniums after blooming.
- Control leaf blight on tomatoes by disposing of diseased foliage or plants immediately and planting disease-resistant varieties.
- Before setting out tomato cages, disinfect with a 10% bleach solution. Control fruit anthracnose and other disease problems by staking plants, maintaining optimal plant spacing and using mulches.
- Plant peppers, eggplant, sweet potatoes and late potatoes.
- Plant successive crops of beans, beets, carrots, kohlrabi, corn, turnips, broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower.
- Spray cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli to control cabbage worm and cabbage looper.
- Stop harvesting asparagus by month-end. Weed asparagus bed carefully after harvesting to avoid damage to roots.
- Prune evergreens.
- Prune out lilac seed heads.
- Treat lawns that are infected with cutworms and armyworms with parasitic nematodes.
- If fertilizing lawn two times per year, apply in June and October; if three times per year, apply in early June, early Sept and mid- to late Oct.
- Continue applying fungicide on trees and small fruits.
- Prune suckers from fruit trees.
- Apply sticky bands to fruit trees to catch insect pests that climb the trunks.
- Pinch black and purple raspberry shoots.



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