

Eau Claire Area Master Gardener News



January 2019

Great food, Great Fellowship, Fun and Games...

The annual December Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association Volunteers (ECAMGAVs) potluck and holiday party was held at the Eau Claire County UW-Extension Office on the evening of December 17. Along with lots of really great food, those present enjoyed untangling some rather scrambled words to test their knowledge of the Latin names of common plants. The winner was awarded the neatest pair of mesh thigh high nylons imaginable to wear in her garden (won't disclose who the winner was due to a need for privacy and all that)!

The Digger Award, given annually for service above and beyond the call of duty over the years, was awarded to Ellen Terwilliger for her work on the ECAMGA board, her service as a WIMGA representative, for co-chairing the State WIMGA conference and for working with the Lakeshore School gardens for starters.

In addition, membership cards for the coming year were passed out to all Master Gardeners who have paid their dues and met the recertification requirements. There were also 3 members who have achieved a lifetime accumulation of over 2000 volunteer hours. These three people were Nina Logan, Sherry Sprague, and Carol Cox.

Some really neat door prizes were awarded to



MG Volunteers with lifetime accumulated volunteer hours of over 1,000. (Left to right; Nina Logan (2857 hours), Sherry Sprague (2390 hours) and Carol Cox (2,626 hours).

Pictures by Jo-Ann Clark.



ECAMGAV 2019 Board along with retiring board members Lori Kempen and Nina Logan ~ From left to right (back row) Ellen Terwilliger, Nancy Spak, Chris Southworth, Paula Bonnin, Rita Gundry, Lori Kempen, (bottom row left to right): Ede Strand, Mary Jane Griffin, Carla Pelzl, and Nina Logan. Missing from the picture is Dick Lienhardt. Thank you for all you do !



Digger Award winner, Ellen Terwilliger along with ECAMGAV Board President, Mary Jane Griffin with the Digger Award.

various people (and did Gary AGAIN manage a door prize? That man lives under a golden horseshoe!). If you missed it be sure to mark your calendar for the



Local Master Gardener News

Changing e-mail? Moving?

If you do, please remember to notify the ECAMG and the newsletter editor of your new e-mail address and/or mailing address so you don't miss any Eau Claire Area Master Gardener happenings!

Email your new information to Carol Cox at c7w6c2200@charter.net or notify her by snail mail at 1908 Hogeboom Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701 (or call her at 715-783-0016 - cell).



**Bulletin Board
Postings Stories
and
Opportunities!!!**

MGV

ECAMGA Board

ECAMGA BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFO		
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Nancy Spak	nancyspak@gmail.com	715-210-7005

Note:

The ECAMGAV Board minutes may be accessed at <https://eauclairemastergardeners.weebly.com/ecam-board.html>.

ERIN LAFAIVE TO SPEAK TO ECAMGA

Erin LaFaive will be presenting "Herbal Salve Making 101" on Monday, January 21st at 6:30 pm for the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener's Association monthly Education Meeting.

She will discuss herbs commonly used in this process and demonstrate how the salves are made. There will be time for questions during the session.

Refreshments will be served and door prizes awarded. This program is free and open to the public at the UW Extension Office located at 227 1st. St. West in Altoona. Bring a friend and join us for the evening to learn something new during this cold winter weather.

For questions, please call the office at 715-839-4712!



ECAMGVA

2019 Calendar

*All meetings at Extension Office
unless otherwise noted*

January 21, 2019: Erin LaFaive to speak

February 2, 2019: Winter Garden Seminar

March 18, 2019: TBA

April 15, 2019: TBA

May 20, 2019: TBA

June 2019: Annual Plant Sale

June 17, 2019: TBA

July 15, 2019: TBA

August 19, 2019: TBA

September 16, 2019: TBA

September 30, 2019: Hours due in

October 7, 2019: Deadline for MG Photo Contest entries

October 21, 2019: TBA

November 18, 2019: TBA

December 16: Annual Holiday Party

The Quest by Judy Mitchell



The first time I consulted a Master Gardener, I wanted advice on selecting a shade tree for my backyard. That was many years ago. The City had just taken down my boulevard tree, an elm, leaving my small urban yard in full sun. I received some fairly good advice that day and I suspect a lot of my neighbors got the same advice: consider crabapple, maple or evergreen trees. The neighborhood is full of them now.

For a novice gardener, it was helpful to be given a limited number of trees to consider, trees with striking differences. Crabapples are small trees that bear spring flowers, fruit for the birds and colorful fall foliage. They are well suited to a small urban garden. Maples are much larger trees. They grow fast and provide the dense shade I thought I wanted. Evergreen trees provide dense shade, require little maintenance, and offer winter interest.

Although I received useful advice all those years ago, we can do better today. We have **UWEX Lawn & Garden Publication A3067, Selecting, Planting and Caring for your Shade Trees**, available at the Learning Store <https://learningstore.uwex.edu>

This month I recommend reading **A3067**. It is a great publication that will help people shopping for a shade tree. It offers eight questions to consider. Armed with the answers, a person will be able to explain their site to someone helping them at a nursery: my backyard has good drainage, it is about 40'X40', I plan to plant the tree between my garage and my neighbor's garage, and the overhead power lines are about 15' south of where I want to plant the tree. This will be incredibly useful information for selecting the right plant for the right place.

If I were to consider changing anything about this publication, I would add a question about the type of shade desired: dappled or deep shade. The answer might lead people to select a tree that gives them more satisfaction in the long run. Many of my former neighbors planted maple trees. They now have dense shade, sparse grass and lots of hostas. I prefer to garden under dappled shade myself.

This publication contains a reference to **Publication A2865, A Guide to Selecting Landscape Plants in Wisconsin**. I could not find A2865 using the Learning Store index but I did find it with an internet search (<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A2865.pdf>). I think it may have been replaced at the Learning Store with **Lawn & Garden Publication A3864, Choosing the Right Landscape Plants: Factors to Consider**. It covers some of the same material.

Events

North Central Wisconsin Master Gardener's Garden Visions Conference Slow Food Dinner

January 25, 2019 – 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

North Central Technical College

1000 Campus Dr.

Wausau, WI

This event will feature New York Times best-selling author, speaker, humorist, and playwright, Michael Perry. It will also serve as the kick-off for our 2019 Garden Visions conference to be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019. The cost for the dinner event is \$45. For more information and to register for the event (or for the Garden Visions conference) go to www.gardenvisions.info or contact Carol Bray at 715-693-6446 (email her at cbray@mtc.com).





**Ready, Set, Grow...2019
Winter Garden Seminar
February 2, 2019**

Chippewa Valley Technical College
620 W. Clairemont Ave.
Eau Claire, WI.

Hosted by the Eau Claire Area
Master Gardener Volunteer
Association and
Eau Claire County UW-Extension

Questions?

Call Andy Heren at 715-839-4712

To register or for a brochure go to
www.eauclairemastergardeners@weebly.com.
Or you can pick up a registration form at the
UW-Eau Claire Extension Office at 227 First
Street, West in Altoona, WI 54720.

***“Today is the tomorrow you worried
about yesterday!”
-Anonymous***



Classes:

**Saturday, January 6 at
10:00 a.m. and
Saturday, January 27th
at 2:00 p.m.:**

Terrarium/Fairy Garden Workshop. Come discover why terrariums are growing so popular and how they are a great way to get kids excited about gardening. A simple glass container can be transformed into a self-sustained tropical oasis! Learn how to properly put together a glass terrarium that creates a perfect growing environment for plants, and adds life to your office desk, the nook in or your kitchen or a child's room. Bring your own container or purchase one here. Cost: Build your own; only pay for what you take home.

Saturday, January 20th, 10:00 a.m.: Hanging Basket Workshop: Break away from winter and come plant your very own custom hanging basket in the greenhouse! We will be planting baby plants in your hanging basket. Then DTE will care for your baskets until they are ready to go outside. You'll be able to pick up your baskets in May to take home and enjoy. You're welcome to stop in and check on the status as they grow. Cost: \$50 per basket, everything included.

NOTE: Pre-registration is preferred for all classes and workshops.

6025 Arndt Lane
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-833-1234
www.dwntoearth.com

You are invited:

**Monday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m.
Chippewa County Courthouse Room 3
Chippewa Valley Master Gardener Association
Volunteer Mary Jo Fleming will present:
Oh Dear, Deer!**

As wild habitats near urban areas are replaced with homes and businesses, white-tailed deer adapt by adopting our properties as part of their home range.

With a little knowledge, homeowners can learn to live with these hungry browsers. Learn about their habits, dietary preferences, and how to protect your gardens.





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THINK SPRING GARDEN SEMINAR



Think Spring Garden Seminar
Saturday, February 16, 2019
8:00 am—1:00 pm
<https://chippewa.uwex.edu/think-spring-garden-seminar/>
715 726-7950

Win a door prize and visit vendors with garden themed products for purchase! Spend a cold winter day THINKING SPRING, meeting gardeners and learning new things.

Saturday, February 16, 2019

Axialon Hotel & Conference Center

1009 W. Park Avenue

Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Sponsored by Chippewa County UW-Extension & Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association

Level 1 Training in Dunn County Using Gardening to Make a Difference

January 29, 2019

Volunteers are important to UW-Extension. They help reach into communities and address the needs that matter most to people. Master Gardener Volunteers specifically focus on the topic of gardening. They help answer gardening questions, help people grow food, battle invasive plants and protect pollinators, and get people— of all ages and abilities— active in the garden! You'll get to help fulfill the [UW-Extension mission](#) in your area of the state using gardening and education. If you want to make a difference in your community and also want to learn more about gardening, think about joining our team.

Cost: \$60. For more information contact Katie Wantock, phone 715-232-1636 (email her at katie.wantock@ces.uwex.edu).



Bits & Pieces

Snickerdoodle Apple Pie Apple Cups

(recipes from Judi Robison)

Ingredients:

- 1 cup unsalted butter softened to room temperature
- 1 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 3 tsp cream of tartar 1 tsp baking soda
- 2 1/2 tsps. Cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 can apple pie filling (or Lori's homemade filling)

Instructions:

1. Make the topping by mixing the sugar and cinnamon together and set aside.
2. Cream the butter and sugar together with a mixer until fluffy (1-2 minutes). Mix in egg and vanilla and set aside.
3. In another bowl whisk together flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Slowly add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and mix together on low until well combined.
4. Using a tablespoon cookie scoop, scoop out dough into 36 balls. Roll each ball into the cinnamon-sugar mixture and place into a well-greased mini-muffin pan.
5. Bake for about 12 minutes at 350 degrees or until the edges turn slightly golden brown. After removing from the oven make an indentation cookie with a tablespoon (if a tablespoon seems to large try a 1/2 tbsp or 3/4 tbsp size. After cooling 3-5 minutes use a knife to gently pop the cookie out of the pan and place on a wire cooling rack.
6. Prepare the apple pie filling by chopping up the apples in the filling into fine pieces. Use a tbsps. sized cookie scoop in to each of the cookie cups. If desired sprinkle some of the remaining sugar/cinnamon mix on top of the apple mix.

Topping:

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon



Homemade Apple Pie Filling

Homemade Apple Pie Filling – this easy recipe takes just a few minutes and tastes so much better than canned pie filling. Keep it in your freezer for when you want pie filling ASAP! Makes 6 cups. (Recipe author is Dorothy Kern)

Ingredients:

- 4 cups apples, peeled, cored and diced
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 3 cups water
- 1 1/3 cups granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup cornstarch
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg



Instructions:

1. Place apples in a large bowl and toss with lemon juice.
2. Place water, sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon, salt and nutmeg in a medium saucepan. Stir to combine then bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring often. Once the mixture boils, boil it for two minutes. Add the apples, turn to a simmer and cover. Cook, stirring often, until the apples soften - about 5-8 minutes.
3. Pour into jars to cool to room temperature, then cover and refrigerate. The mixture will thicken more as it cools.



I Write About The Butterfly

– Louisa May Alcott (picture by Paula Bonnin)

"I write about the butterfly,
It is a pretty thing;
And flies about like the birds,
But it does not sing.

"First it is a little grub,
And then it is a nice yellow cocoon,
And then the butterfly
Eats its way out soon.

"They live on dew and honey,
They do not have any hive,
They do not sting like wasps, and bees,
and hornets,
And to be as good as they are we should
strive.

ECAMGAV Holiday party continued from page 1...



next event on the 3rd Monday in January.

There was certainly not a shortage of delicious food at the event to go with the holiday cheer and festive mood. Everything from barbecue to bars, jello, cheesecake and apple crisp brought culinary delight to the gathering.

Also, there were some lovely door prizes but the one that took most folk's eyes was the little fellow at right.



Eye Candy



Picture by Paula Bonnin from her 2018 garden



It is always a pleasure to turn a piece of junk into a garden treasure. Take a look here courtesy of Pinterest.



Blessing in 2019

May the new year bring a blessing,
 May your garden bloom fair and bright.
 May the only plants to grow there
 Be contained and a delight.
 May the rabbit never wander,
 Nor the deer graze there at all.
 May all be bright with wonder,
 With nary a weed at all.



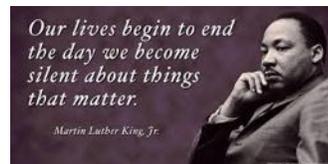
For better poetry than this editor can produce check out http://anobsessivecompulsiveplantcollector.blogspot.com/2009/11/gardeners-blessing_05.html

EAU CLAIRE AREA MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER
 A newsletter for the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association members.

Unless otherwise noted, articles for this newsletter are submitted and/or written by ECAMGA members or the newsletter editor, Carol W. Cox. Unless otherwise noted, graphics are from clipart. Newsletter layout by Carol W. Cox



For more Eau Claire County UW Cooperative Extension information go to our website:
www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/eaucnaire
 Phone: 715-839-4712
 Fax: 715-839-6277
 M-F 8AM-5PM



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**Eau Claire County
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 Altoona, WI 54720**