



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2023

Volume 1 Issue 1

Meet Your New Board of Directors

President: Deb Erickson, ericksondame@charter.net

Vice-President: Lynn Thornton, lynnthornton2001@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sue Mathews, sukarma2@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Val Gillman, vgillman@wi.rr.com

Member-at-Large: Barb Klaves, bjklaves@gmail.com

News from the Board – January 2023

Happy New Year! This year will bring about many changes for our Master Gardener Association. Mike Ballweg retired at the end of 2022 and is no longer available to support us. Tammy Zorn has very graciously volunteered to help us out where she can. In December our Membership adopted new by-laws, which changed the membership requirements. We are hoping that we can build our membership and welcome former certified Master Gardeners back to our Association.

As a Board, we have reviewed all our past projects. We had many discussions and made hard decisions to narrow our list down to six Projects and four Volunteer Events. We will continue to work on these Projects and Events and will review them each year. We will need to have a Chair for all Projects and Events.

Projects:

- Camp Y-Koda (Chair: Stephanie Larson)
- Kohler Foundation/Waelderhaus (Chair: TBD)
- Nourish (Chair: Kris Bemis)
- Plymouth Arts Center (Chair: Pam Hailer)
- Uptown Social (Chair: Sue Garski)
- UW Green Bay – Sheboygan Campus Gardens (Chair: Sherry Speth)

Volunteer Events:

- Pine Haven Planting Day (Chair: Val Gillman)
- Sheboygan County Fair (Chair: TBD)
- Village of Glenbeulah Prairie Garden (Chair: Barb Schaefer)
- Sheboygan Area Garden Walk: We will solicit volunteers as needed

If you are continuing as a credentialed Master Gardener through UW Madison, you may still work at former Organizations' projects, even though they are no longer on our Project List. You will need to let the organization know that you will continue. Any signs that have the Master Gardener name on it will be removed from these gardens. Each Organization that is no longer on our Project List, will receive a letter that states:

“Due to changes in the Master Gardener Program at the state level, we have had to make changes in the way that we operate as Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association. Due to these changes and declining membership in our Association, we need to limit the number of organizations that we volunteer for. At this time, we will not continue to work on the _____ Garden at _____ as a formal Master Gardener Project. However, some of our volunteers may choose to work on this project on an individual basis.”

We have also reviewed Committees that are needed to keep our Association running smoothly. Please join one of these Committees! To succeed as an Association, we need your help. Thanks to those who have already volunteered!

Committees: [If you have questions about a committee or an idea to share, please contact one of the persons listed below (in the appropriate committee).

- Communication Committee:
 - Newsletter: Stephanie Larson, slcreativecom51@gmail.com
 - Website: Lyn Thornton, lynnthornton2001@yahoo.com
- Education Committee:
 - Barb Klaves, bjklaves@gmail.com
 - Sue Mathews, sukarma2@yahoo.com
- Fundraising Committee:
 - Deb Erickson, ericksondame@charter.net
 - Debbie Ott, debbieott@charter.net
- Membership Committee: TBD
- Events Committee:
 - Val Gillman, vgillman@wi.rr.com
 - Lynn Thornton, lynnthornton2001@yahoo.com

Our New Website

We have a new website that is up and running. You should have gotten an email with a link to our Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association site. Please bookmark for easy access. Our newsletters will be stored there, along with information about current Committees, Projects, and Events. There are already events scheduled for February (Seed Swap), March (Spring Gardening Kickoff and Project/Event/Committee Signup), and May (Mushroom Growing Demonstration). Be sure to check these out on the Meetings/Events Page.

scmastergardener.weebly.com

On a computer or laptop: the menu for different pages is across the top of the page. Click on one of tabs (words, above the graphic) to open a new page.

On a Cell Phone: Click on the three black lines in the upper left-hand corner. A menu will appear. Click on the page that you want to look at. Click on the three black lines to look at other pages or to go back to the Home Page.

The Year of the Mushroom: Theme for 2023

We are going to call 2023 "The Year of the Mushroom." There is already a mushroom growing demonstration scheduled in May, thanks to Barb and Niles Klaves. We are looking into booking a tour of a mushroom farm and scheduling a mushroom photo contest. We could also share mushroom recipes. The Events Committee will, no doubt, have some fun with this!

Please be patient as we update our Membership list. We are still getting applications from members.

Always share your ideas with us! We are looking forward to working with many of you on our Committees, Projects, and Events. Cheers to a new year and new experiences as Master Gardeners!

Upcoming Events

Seed Swap

Bring your left-over seeds from last year or seeds that you harvested in fall. If you bring seeds, you may take seeds. If you don't have seeds and still want to participate, a small donation can be made. BRING A GUEST!

Caan Floral & Greenhouses has very graciously donated fifty packs of seeds (a large variety of annual flowers and veggies). Come early to get one!

Date: Monday, February 13, 2023

Time: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Place: The Miley Barn at Nourish Farms

100 Alfred Miley Ave.

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

March 20, 2023, Gardening Season Kickoff

Come and celebrate the first day of Spring with your fellow Master Gardeners! This event will include our Project/Event/Committee Sign Up.

Date: March 20, 2023

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Location: UW Green Bay - Sheboygan Campus

Mushroom Growing Demonstration

Presented by Niles and Barb Klaves

Date: May 18, 2023

Time: TBD

Location: UW Green Bay - Sheboygan Campus

For more information on this event and future ones that are currently in the 'works' check our website, scmastergardener.weebly.com

Tidbits from My Reading

By Sue Mathews

Quite the Arrangement: Grow These Easy-care, Long-lasting Flowers for DIY Bouquets, by Luke Miller. **Birds and Blooms**, Feb/March 2023



Gladiolus...to ensure a longer bloom season sow successive batches of corms 10-14- days apart.

Allium...for continuous appeal well into fall spray paint the dried flower heads.

Cosmos...ferny foliage is a great textural contrast to sturdier leaves plants in the garden and the vase.

Ranunculus...cool spring bloomers in a wide range of colors, aromatic with beautiful delicate petals.

Mexican Sunflower (tithonia)...brightly colored zinnia-like blooms draw butterflies to the garden.

Dahlia...wide range of colors, bloom shapes, and sizes means there is a dahlia for every taste and occasion.

Celosia...easy to grow with flowers lasting 2-3 weeks in the vase and easy to dry for everlasting use.

Gloriosa Daisy...short-lived perennial related to black-eyed Susan's, readily reseeds, blooms late summer to fall hosting bees, birds, and butterflies.

Zinnia...cheerful zinnias offer a smorgasbord of colors, shapes and sizes, plant in drifts for best effect in the garden.

Rose...beloved all gardeners...from the most finicky expert to the novice...hardy shrub roses need little care and blend well into perennial borders.

For more ideas, check out...

Floret Farm's a year in flowers: designing gorgeous arrangements for every season, by Erin Benzakein.

Alert. Nature Conservancy, Fall 2022 [an excerpt]



Warm temperatures brought on by climate change delay peak foliage season in New England forests and mute its glorious red colors. To stimulate anthocyanin (red/purple/black) pigments sugar maples need ample summer rains followed by cold nights and crisp sunny days in early fall. But as drought and heat waves become more frequent in NE many leaves drop before the chemical process can happen.

Made in the Shade by Marty Ross. **Better Homes & Gardens**, Jan/Feb 2023

In the shade of large oak trees, the BH&G test garden plants hostas and other perennials in drifts for a sense of movement driven by leaf colors and textures rather than flowers.

Planting under trees is problematic as their roots out-compete most smaller plants. Choose tough plants with shallow roots such as hellebore, allium, astilbe, hosta, ajuga, lamium, hydrangea, fothergilla and more. For color add shade tolerant annuals in pots and provide architectural appeal with paving, plant supports, seating, bird baths and sculpture.

Photo Note: This little shade garden belongs to Erin Schanen who gardens just 20 miles down the road in Belgium. Erin is known as "The Impatient Gardener" on [her website](#), Facebook,

Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. Her garden is featured in **American Roots: Lessons and inspiration from the designers reimagining our home gardens** which is available in local libraries. While you are leafing through the book don't miss the next garden created by Jeff Epping in Madison. Wisconsin is well represented in **American Roots**.

For even more great ideas for shade gardens check out Pinterest. Erin is probably represented there, too.

