



SEWMG's Vegetable Gardens

by Committe Chairs and Co-Chairs

The **Sussex Civic Center garden** donated 70 pounds of produce to the Sussex food pantry.

We grow some tomatoes, peppers, carrots, green beans, peas, lettuce, spinach, cucumbers, beets, kale, swiss chard and herbs. Also some winter squash and pumpkins.

The vegetable garden uses various techniques, like square foot gardening, trellising, succession planting, pots and raised beds.

We consider the vegetable garden a demonstration garden, like the Victory garden concept - you can do this at home.

We also have a larger pollinator garden. Chair - Barbara Olson

Harvest for the Hungry Garden

Poundage harvested and delivered slightly over 800 pounds.

Delivery sites included: Tosa Pantry, Feeding America, Milwaukee Christian Center, Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center.

Types of vegetables: onions, radish, egg plant, okra, cucumber, various squash, potatoes, green peppers, and potatoes.

This year challenges: first eighteen days of June were very dry, therefore - lots of watering. Rain continued to be spotty. As usual, weeds continue to be a constant challenge requiring hoeing, roto-tilling, and hand pulling.

All-in-all this was a great last season for this garden. Maybe some Master Gardeners may find supplying local food pantries is a worthwhile cause, and create some new ideas for this garden giving it new life with good leadership. I know it has been a worthwhile project for me. 2021 Chair - Tom Le Moine

Eble Vegetable Garden

At this point, we donated 767.5 pounds of produce to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County. MGVs grew tomatoes, peppers, green beans, carrots, radishes, cabbage, broccoli, winter squash, potatoes, sweet potatoes, garlic, onions, leeks, pears, asparagus and rhubarb.

Yet to harvest (as of October 1), sweet potatoes, winter squash, pears, tomatoes, peppers and green beans. Chairman – Andrea Hedeman

Green Power Garden

This year, the Green Power Garden harvested and donated 3,300 pounds of produce. A variety of veggies went to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County. Co-chairs - Karen Perlewitz, Cari Zachow-John, Marcela Mata, and Molly Llanas

St. James Garden

After our experience during the 2020 pandemic, we scaled back our gardening in 2021 knowing that we could face reduced participation and limitations on gardening. 20 of our 33 beds were used to grow food. The plan to scale back also gave us the opportunity to repair retaining wall adjacent to six beds in our garden and test cover crops in the untilled beds. A second decision, made in conjunction with the Sussex Food Pantry, was to grow food that was weight heavy and low on weekly maintenance. This growing season we delivered 1,104 pounds of vegetables to the pantry. Chair – Deb Schneider



Greendale High School Community Garden

by MGV Karla Geiger

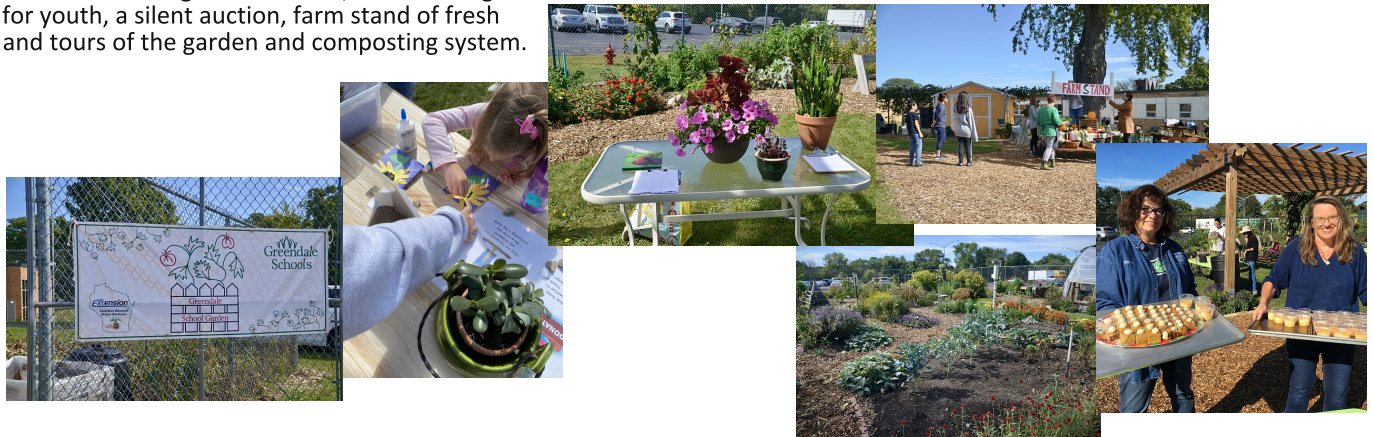
The Greendale High School Community Garden, located behind Greendale High School at 6801 Southway, in Greendale, WI celebrated its 10th Anniversary on Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Josh Bartleme, the GHS student who first proposed the idea of the garden attended and shared a few remarks. He was proud to have seen the growth of the garden over the decade since he came forth to administration with the idea.

The celebration was attended by school district staff, Gardening & Sustainability Club students, Greendale Health Department staff, members of other school districts that were interested in starting school gardens, and an amazing group of hard-working Master Gardener Volunteers. Light refreshments were available that were made from the garden harvest, there were garden activities for youth, a silent auction, farm stand of fresh produce, and tours of the garden and composting system.

This community garden provides fresh produce for school lunches in [5] schools throughout the school district, and the schools' lunch program compost goes back into the garden. Since the garden's inception, nearly 8000 pounds of produce have been used in the lunch program. The garden bounty is also shared with seniors in the community and some is sold to local restaurants.

Students and staff use this expansive, and tranquil space as a classroom for a variety of subject areas from AP Environmental Science to National Art Honor Society to Orchestra Classes, and English class poetry readings. It is also a great resource for the greater community. For more information on the Greendale High School Garden, check out their website: <https://www.greendaleschools.org/community/about-us.cfm>



Website Committee Update

by MGV Valorie Sangsland, SEWMG Board Liaison to Website Committee

The Website Committee, led by Victoria Robison, purchased the domain name SEWMG.org from GoDaddy. We currently have a redirect on the SEWMG.org site taking visitors to our current website <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/sewmg/> on the Extension site. The redirect will remain in place while the new site is built, and once it's approved and ready to go, we can tell Extension to delete our old site. The committee selected a website option that should be easy to update and edit to ensure future MGVs will be able to participate in designing and maintaining the website once it is completed. Susan McDonell is working to flesh out the overall page designs, and once that is completed the team will work to fill in the details.

At this point the plan is for the site to include a public facing portion, and a members-only (password protected) portion.

- The members-only section would include directories, volunteer materials, SEWMG documents, annual reports, budget requests, inventory.
- The public section would include garden and project information, newsletters, calendar, links to Madison MG site, the Learning Store, etc.

The committee welcomes any suggestions for inclusion that are not addressed above. Feel free to contact me (vjsland@gmail.com) with any suggestions, and I will pass them along.

ProHealth Care Gardens

by MGV Ronda Roth

SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners have two vegetable gardens that are sponsored, in valuable partnership, by ProHealth Care in Waukesha County.

The Waukesha Memorial Hospital Kitchen Garden, established during the 2013-14 growing season, is located in a small greenspace directly off the Hospital cafeteria, and is surrounded on three sides by the building. This garden donates its produce to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County. Produce grown this season included tomatoes, eggplant, hot peppers, sweet peppers, bush beans, pole beans, onions, leeks, turnips, garlic, radishes, kohlrabi, beets, potatoes, carrots, chard, zucchini, squash, cucumbers, and tomatillos.

The Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital Garden was established just this year, and is considered to be a satellite garden of the WMH garden. The co-chairs are the same, as are most of the MGVs who tended this new space. The three 8x4 foot raised beds are located outside the ED area, adjacent to a perennial garden. The produce from this garden (tomatoes, basil, hot peppers, sweet peppers, cucumbers, zucchini and summer

squash) was donated to the Oconomowoc Food Pantry. Since this is the first year at this site, the team has been "trying the garden on for size" and may very well adjust the plan for next year according to how this year's production turned out. This new garden space is different from the WMH garden in that ProHealth Care totally underwrites the expense of this garden, as the garden receives no budget from SEWMG.

A unique feature of the ProHealth Care partnership is the Garden Talk Series. This series, open to the public, is planned and taught by the MGV team. The ProHealth Care Community Outreach team provides valuable assistance by coordinating rooms, advertisement, enrollment, handouts and evaluation of the topics. The five monthly topics, all approved SEWMG topics, were offered virtually this year: the team hopes to be able to resume in person Garden Talks next year.

TOTAL produce delivered by the ProHealth Gardens, 2021 (May-September 30) : 1,318.5 pounds.



Bylaws Revision Nears Completion

by MGV Mary Wolverton, Chair of the Board

The Bylaws Committee has submitted its proposal to the Board. The Board reviewed the proposal at its September 30 meeting. A final Board proposal was approved. By the time you read this newsletter you will have received the proposed bylaws changes by email to the listserve. Those members who are not on the listserve will receive the bylaws by mail.

The committee will hold a Zoom meeting to review the changes with the membership on Thursday October 21 at 6:30 p.m. The invitation to the meeting went out with the Bylaws proposal. Any SEWMG member is welcome to register for that meeting. Registration is necessary as it isn't possible to send the Zoom link to the entire listserve. Only SEWMG members are invited to register.

Questions and comments on the Bylaws are welcome at the meeting. Following the meeting the committee and the Board will review the comments and prepare a final proposal. That proposal will be voted on by electronic ballot in December. A notice of when the balloting is open and a link to vote will be sent to the members following the annual meeting. Again, those who aren't on the listserve will receive a ballot by mail. The committee concluded that the best way to insure that every member has an opportunity to vote was to do it by electronic ballot rather than at a single meeting.

Any questions regarding the process can be directed to me at marycassw@gmail.com.

Come celebrate the Season
SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardener Holiday Party



Wednesday, December 1, 2021
Alioto's Restaurant
3041 North Mayfair Road
Highway 100 south of Burleigh Street
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin



6:00pm Cash Bar
7:00pm Dinner

SEWMGVs \$20

You may bring 1 guest for \$20.

Make check payable to:

SEWMG

Your Holiday Party Reservation will be accepted only if your 2021 SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardener dues have been paid.

MGVs who took the Onboarding course this year and who have paid their SEWMG dues for 2021 are welcome to attend the Holiday Party.

Holiday Party Reservation
RSVP by November 22, 2021

Mail to:

Patty Witt
16508 W. Melody Ct
New Berlin, WI 53151-9243

Yes, I will be attending _____
Print for Name Tag

Please include my guest _____
Print for Name Tag

Menu:

Self	Guest	
_____	_____	6 ounce Beef Tenderloin Filet, Button Mushrooms
_____	_____	Baked Cod, Tartar Sauce and Lemon Wedge.
_____	_____	Vegetarian Option – Pasta Primavera

All Dinners include: Salad, Choice of Dressing, Italian Bread, Coffee, Tea or Milk Dessert: Sherbet

News from the County Extension Offices

by Ann Wied, UW-Madison Extension Waukesha County Outreach Specialist

Thank you

I want to take this time to thank all of you for all of your volunteer efforts in 2021. The year has definitely been better than 2020. I am thankful that we have been able to get out and enjoy the gardens, gardening projects, and each other this year. Let's hope 2022 is even better!

Hours due 12/31/21

Even though no volunteer hours were required for 2021, please input all volunteer hours into the ORS. They help Extension tell the story and show the impact of the master gardener program. Remember, 10 hours of Continuing Education (CE) was required for this year. If you need help inputting your volunteer hours or CE hours into the ORS, feel free to reach out to me. I am happy to help. There are also other MGVs who want to help you!

Project, Committee and Garden Annual Reports

I want to extend a BIG THANK YOU to all of the approved gardens, projects, and committees that submitted an annual report. I received a copy of all of them and plan to read them all when work quiets down for me. I enjoy reading them each year. It gives me a snapshot into the volunteer work that you are doing. Again, many thanks!

Honored Status

Are you aware of the "new" Honored status that is this available with the statewide MG program? This has nothing to do with whether or not you are a member of the local association (SEWMG). Volunteers in the University of Wisconsin Division of Extension Master Gardener Program may apply for the awarded Honored Status. The purpose of this status is to 1) recognize volunteers for their contributions to the program, 2) increase flexibility in annual reporting requirements, and 3) create a uniform recognition status across the state.

To qualify for this award an individual must:

- Complete 10 years OR 1000 hours of service to the Master Gardener Program in Wisconsin as recorded in the online reporting system.
- List significant accomplishments to the local or statewide program. This should include leadership, contributions to projects, or support to other volunteers and Extension staff.



- Complete the application, including the signature from the local Extension staff (me – Ann Wied) and the Master Gardener Program staff.
- Be reviewed and approved by statewide Master Gardener Program staff.
- **Applications will be accepted only from November 1 through December 31**, with decisions awarded before March 31. Applications received outside of this deadline may be misplaced.

For more details and to download and print the application, go to: <https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/toolbox/>
If you do not have access to a printer, reach out to a MG buddy or contact me and I can send you the application. If you have questions about this process, please contact me.

Do You Have Questions?

Not sure about something? Need clarification? I am just a phone call or email away. I am happy to help you navigate being a master gardener volunteer. Please reach out to me. My phone number is 262-548-7788 or email me at ann.wied@wisc.edu

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From the Desk of the President

by MGV Jim Fratrack

Hello Folks. The year 2021 is rapidly coming to a close. My term as President of SEWMG Association will end in December. This is my last article for the Newsletter as President and I would like to thank everyone for their work as Master Gardeners during 2021. The requirement for working hours to maintain membership was waived for 2021. I know that many of you have worked hours at your favorite projects or gardens. Please be sure to log your hours into the ORS by December 31st.

During year 2 of Covid-19 I am grateful to the members of the Board. So a big thank you to Mary Wolverton, Betsy Vokac, Erin Napier, Ellen Grissom, Patrick Smith, Valerie Sangsland, Karla Geiger, Carolyn Colwell, Janet Barthel as well as ex-officios Jennifer Lazewski and Dawn Harl. They made my job of President much easier. These folks have volunteered countless hours this past year on work to propel SEWMG forward. These efforts include budgeting, strategic planning, website development, bylaw revisions and other projects. These efforts will give SEWMG a very good road map to move us forward as an organization in years to come.

Kudos also to the plant sale group. Many MGs labored to pull off this year's sale with much success adding significant dollars to our bottom line. A very special thank you to Patty Witt and Diane Thieme for not only this year's sale but for their considerable efforts for plant sales the past 25 years. THANK YOU!

The annual member meeting is set for November 13, 2021 beginning at 1pm. We will be meeting in person at the Retzer Nature Center S14 W28167 Madison Street Waukesha WI. 53188. There will be an option to participate virtually via Zoom. This important meeting will cover year end reporting on SEWMG issues. We will also be voting for 2022 SEWMG Directors and the 2022 budget.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be the President of this fantastic organization. Happy Holidays.

**SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners
Annual Member Meeting
November 13, 2021
1:00 p.m.
Retzer Nature Center
S14 W28167 Madison Street
Waukesha, WI
In-person and virtual meeting
Year-end reporting
Election of 2022 Officers & Directors
Approval of 2022 Budget**

Brent and Becky's Bulbs Bloomin' Bucks Fundraiser

by MGV Diane Thieme

While it appears that our perennial plant sale fundraiser has come to an end after 25 years, there is still a way to support SEWMG through purchasing plants, bulbs, and gardening supplies from Brent and Becky's Bulbs. Brent and Becky's has a program called Bloomin'Bucks which I enrolled SEWMG into several years ago. For whatever you spend with them, they will donate the equivalent of 25% of your purchase back to us. For example, if you spend \$100, we receive a donation of \$25. Their plants and products are of the highest quality. Bulbs are large, healthy, and well worth their price. Please consider ordering fall planted bulbs now and then ordering spring bulbs and plants when the summer stock becomes available. Shop

as soon as possible, as they often sell out of many bulbs. The Bloomin'Bucks ordering process is quite simple. Follow these steps:

1. Go to bloominbucks.com
2. Scroll down and select "SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners"
3. Hit "Go"
4. Read the reminder page and click "Yes"
5. Shop the website and place your order

If you have questions, you may call Brent and Becky's Bulbs at 877-661-2852.





SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Name (First, Last): _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate below any skills/special talents
you might be willing to share with the organization:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graphics/Displays | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry | <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> GoDaddy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching/Presentations | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> MS Excel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Editing | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> MS PowerPoint |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Surveys | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography/
Videography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

Annual dues are \$20.00 and include membership in SEWMG and WIMGA.

Please make check payable to **SEWMG** and mail to:

Patty Witt
16508 West Melody Court
New Berlin, WI 53151-9243

We welcome all certified MGVs who volunteer in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties.

Year of the Hyacinth

by MGV Kelly Kramer

The National Gardening Bureau has designated Hyacinth as the 2021 bulb of the year. For spring blooms plus fragrance, you can't beat the Hyacinth. The densely packed clusters of flowers give off a heavy perfume fragrance. Sometimes the hyacinth blooms can become so heavy the stem can flop over. Lack of sunlight can also cause the stems to flop. The flowers can be staked if needed.

Another perennial bulb for spring is the Grape Hyacinth (*Muscari armeniacum*). Although the Grape Hyacinth shares its name with the common Hyacinth, these bulbs are not related. The Grape Hyacinth actually belongs to the Lily family.

Sometimes I find shopping for bulbs akin to being in a candy store...everything looks good and you want to get one of each! Then bulb buying remorse sets in when you realize that you actually have to plant all those bulbs. And it's November. And it's really cold outside.

Such was the case last year when I was bulb shopping for clients and saw Hyacinth bulbs called 'Jan Bos' that enticed me with raspberry pink blooms. I just had to have them. Did I

have a planned space for them? Of course not. I told myself I could fit them in somewhere (I think this phrase could be a gardener's creed). This spring I was not disappointed as the bulbs put on a beautiful show of raspberry pink blooms.

I've found the key to longevity with these bulbs is to plant them in full sun in very well drained fertile soil. It is also important to note that the bulbs can be a skin irritant to some people. If you will be handling many bulbs it is best to wear gloves.

The bulbs will rot in soil that stays wet or in an area that gets water logged. I've heard some people will dig up these bulbs after flowering and the leaves have died back. The bulbs are then stored until planting time in fall thereby preserving the bulbs against water logged soils. Nice in theory but I never seem to have time to dig up bulbs in spring, let alone store them for planting again in fall. Most of my hyacinth bulbs have been reliable for several years but I have noticed a few getting smaller blooms each year. Eventually they might disappear leaving me with no choice but to buy more bulbs in fall. Not really a bad thing come to think of it.



Left Hyacinth,
Right Hyacinth 'Jan Bos'



Grape Hyacinth



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

UW-Madison Extension Milwaukee County
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West Allis, WI 53214

SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners

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Grow with us

Check out our website

<http://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/sewmg>

Contact Information

For more information:

On the Web

<http://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/sewmg/>

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Our Mission Statement

To support and assist UW-Extension in community horticulture programs through volunteerism, education and environmental stewardship.