

# Sheboygan County Master Gardener



## Message From the President Ruth Davis

**W**ell, another summer has come and now is almost gone. Time sure flies when you're having fun. To the majority of people, digging in the dirt under a hot summer sun does not come close to fun. Fortunately, we know better. There is only one thing that beats summer gardening. That's right Fall gardening. Fall gardening has a different feel to it. More relaxed? More decorative? COOLER! I'm not sure; all I know is that a big part of me is ready for it.

I'm looking forward to adorning my front porch with jewel tone mums, dried hydrangeas, dogwood, gourds and pumpkins. I've already started drying my Annabelle hydrangeas. Won't be long and the Strawberry Sundae hydrangeas will also be all over the house, drying in various buckets, crocks and vases. Last, but not least, those "dreaded red sticks" (my husband's description) will fill any open spot available. Then, those words that I hear every year from my husband, "What are you going to do with all this stuff"? Once again, as I did last year, I remind him that I am saving money on Fall decorations by drying all of these things myself.



So, grab your sweatshirt and head to your favorite garden center for those beautiful mums and Fall decorations! If you chose to dry your own plants, don't worry your husband/wife will get over it. Mine always does!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Fall banquet, being held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Town and Country!

Ruth Davis  
President, Master Gardener Volunteers  
Sheboygan County



## Mark Your Calendar

» UPCOMING EVENTS

### September 2018

**September 21-22– WIMGA Conference, Eau Claire - Registration closes September 9. To register and learn more go to: <https://www.wimgaconferences.com/>.**

**September 27– Annual Meeting & Banquet, Town & County Golf Club - Registration and membership form on last page**

### October 2018

**October 1 - Recorded volunteer/education hours deadline**

### November 2018

**November 1 - Membership dues deadline**

**President:** Ruth Davis  
**Vice-President:** Barb Retlich  
**Secretary:** Lynn Thornton  
**Treasurer:** Debbie Ott

**Board Members:**  
Val Gillman  
Niles Klaves  
Marty Steinbruecker

**WIMGA Representative:** Pat Mersberger



## JMKAC...Public Art Project

On June 14th, John Michael Kohler Art Center Master Gardeners Volunteers Christina Wilke-Burbach, Bill Burbach, Barb Marten, and Kris Bemis assisted with a public art project, **Opening (Walk Through #1) by Diana Gabriel**, located at 501 N 8th St. Alleyway next to the Korthals Enterprises building. We planted Hops plants (*Humulus lupulus*) along the outdoor sculpture. The Hops will grow onto the piece and become one with it. The piece is part of John Michael Kohler Art Center's Art in Public Spaces series. The grand opening ceremony for the piece was June 21.



## Mini Maker Faire

On Saturday, July 21, Mark Smith represented Master Gardeners at the first annual Mini Maker Faire sponsored by Mead Public Library. He got a chance to talk up our projects, discuss upcoming Level 1 Training and answer a few questions, re Japanese Beetles, Tar Spot, Maple Gall mites, etc.

Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do. From engineers to artists to scientists to gardeners, Maker Faire is a venue for these "makers" to show hobbies, experiments, projects.

They call it the Greatest Show (& Tell) on Earth - a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness. This is another great opportunity for Master Gardeners to present ourselves to our community and show and tell folks what we do.



# Tidbits from my Garden Reading

By Sue Mathews

## Recipe for non-toxic kitchen & bath cleaner

...  
1-pound box of baking soda  
1/2 – 2/3 cup of dried mint, finely ground  
Whisk baking soda and mint together and store in a powdered sugar dispenser. Sprinkle the cleaner on porcelain, stainless steel or enamel surfaces and scrub with a damp sponge. Rinse with hot water. You can also use lemon bergamot mint, lavender mint, or any other strongly scented mint.

**From: "Reader's Tips"**

**Fine Gardening, October 2018**

**Nothing is as welcome in the perennial garden as reblooming plants.** It's like getting two plants for the price of one flowering in two seasons. Here are a few great rebloomers

Pincushion flower *Scabiosa columbaria*  
'Paris' coral bells *Heuchera hybrid 'Paris'*  
Threadleaf coreopsis *Coreopsis verticillata*  
Rattlesnake master *Eryngium yuccifolium*  
Knautia *Knautia macedonica*  
Perennial geranium *Geranium hybrids*  
Stoke's aster *Stokesia laevis*  
Shrub rose *Rosa hybrids*  
Butterfly bush *Buddleja spp. and hybrids*

**From: "Keep the color going with these 10 reblooming plants"**

**Garden Gate, October 2018**

**Just as welcome as reblooming perennials are four-season shrubs.** Here are some top picks for year-round interest:

Oakleaf hydrangea *Hydrangea quercifolia*  
Variegated redbud dogwood *Cornus alba 'argenteomarginata'*  
Karens azalea *Rhododendron 'Karens'*  
Beautyberry *Callicarpa Americana*  
Drooping laurel *Leucothoe fontanaseana*  
Seven son flower *Heptacodium miconioides*  
Dwarf fothergilla *Fothergilla gardenia*  
Holly *Ilex spp*

Rose of Sharon *Hibiscus syriacus*

**From: "Four-Season Shrubs"**

**Birds and Blooms, September extra 2018**

**And let's not forget annuals.** These easy-to-grow plants just keep on giving. All they need is regular fertilization and a little dead-heading.

Zinnia Profusion series and *Z. angustifolia*  
Marigold Wide selection of colorful options. Great in the vegetable garden, too

Petunia New series such as Wave, Supertunia Cascadia and Surfina have revitalized this old standby.

Cleome Easy to seed right in the garden  
Angelonia 'summer snapdragon' tolerates heat and humidity and attracts bees and butterflies

Salvia Bloom forever and need little deadheading. *On a personal note:* New 'Majestic Spires' wowed in my garden and pollinators loved it

**From: "Easy Annuals"**

**Chicagoland Gardening, July/August 2018**

**Test your soil this fall.** It's vital to having a healthy garden in 2019. Pick up a soil sample bag at the Master Gardener Office and submit to the [UW Soil and Forage Lab](#). Click on the link for a form and instructions on how to collect a sample.

**From: Region Report Southeast Region**

**Wisconsin Gardening September/October 2018**

## Keep Rabbits Away...

from your vines and rose canes by wrapping with plastic aerosol tubing (approx. \$20 for 100 ft online).

**From: "Great Ideas for Smart Gardeners", Garden Gate, October 2018**



## Sheboygan County Fair

Despite the rainy days, it was another great year at the County Fair for Master Gardeners. Our booth featured all of the projects that we work on and those who worked at the fair used those projects as a starting point for promoting the upcoming Level 1 Training Course.



As always, many people stopped to talk and ask us their garden questions: e.g. how to distinguish giant hogweed from wild parsnip from wild carrot, when to harvest and how to cook eggplants, what trees to plant when their ash tree comes down. Those that couldn't be answered immediately by our knowledgeable gardeners will keep the Hotliners busy for a few hours.

A big hit of the booth was a 6-foot Popcorn Cassia Tree which smells like popcorn when you stroke the leaves. By Sunday evening our aromatic friend was a little popcorned out...after three days of pats and pets and pinches and strokes.

Our mystery plant, *Campanula pilosa* 'pink octopus', was provided by Sherry Speth. Nobody won the prize. Ray Rogers guessed *campanula*, but as a horticultural professional he is not qualified to enter. Thanks to Moraine Gardens for all the other great plants that decorated the booth.



Thanks Lori Walker, Sue Droll, Connie Gross, and Tammy Zorn who organized the booth and to all 30 Master Gardeners who staffed it.

## Garden Walk 2018



Nine great gardens welcomed 470 visitors and raised \$4704. The Garden Walk donated \$1700 each to Bookworm Gardens and Maywood Environmental Trust.

Thanks to all the Master Gardeners and Garden Club members who work so hard to make this event a big success.

## Chuck Bartelt Memorial Fund for Ash Tree Replacement

Sheboygan County Master Gardeners accumulated a memorial fund of approximately \$1,700 from Chuck Bartelt's family and friends. A memorial plaque has been made in Chuck's memory and installed on the bench in the Extension Garden. It says: "In memory of Charles Bartelt, Master Gardener and Friend". Chuck's family has visited the garden and taken family pictures by the bench.

The Board has directed that the remaining money be used to buy trees to replace the ash trees on the UW-Green Bay Sheboygan campus. Sherry Speth and Jim Burkard are currently working with the UW administration and the County to accomplish the task.



# SAGW 2019 Preview

By Connie Gross

The Sheboygan County Area Garden Walk Selection Committee has been very busy visiting and selecting gardens for next year's annual Walk. 2019's Walk will feature eight fantastic gardens in the City of Sheboygan with four on the south and four on the north side.

What is unique about next year's Walk is that four of the gardens will offer and provide valuable educational opportunities not just for the adults attending but for the children as well. The SAGW Committee is focused on making next year's Walk just that while also including the "classical" floral gardens.

Starting with Dan & Julie's City Sweet Garden, "the urban city growers" have shown how you can grow an abundance of vegetables and fruits all on a very small city street corner. Dan has shown practicality and creativity while remaining chemically free. He also is a member of the Sheboygan County Beekeepers Association and will be providing those visiting his garden next year with the opportunity to purchase his honey along with sharing information on bee keeping.

Julie will be on hand to display her butterfly cage as well as share the process of the chrysalis's transformation through metamorphosis. They recently added 30 new plantings to further encourage the butterflies to visit their garden.

The City Sweet Garden also provides a wonderful opportunity for children to see & learn about the different innovative ways of gardening, particularly sustainability.

Children younger than twelve (12) years of age will be admitted free to future walks under adult supervision. We as MGVs know how valuable it is to plant that "seed" in young impressionable minds and the sooner the better. We need to foster and encourage our future growers.

Also scheduled on next year's Walk is Ray Rogers who recently headed the Horticulture Department at LTC. Ray has recently retired and has just installed a pristine greenhouse which houses many of his unique plants surrounded by his overflowing garden of native plants.

A must see is Joe & Brent's city garden which we coin as the "cat's meow". You are greeted with a beautifully done front yard filled to the brim with unusual and unique plantings including shrubs and trees as well as Two Fish Gallery artwork displayed for your enjoyment. Wander back to their patio area (it's a tropical paradise) that they have filled with incredible plants which they have wintered over for many years with tender loving care. Learn how Joe & Brent have accomplished this and then wander over to view Sheboygan's oldest standing tree in their neighbor's back yard.

We have also included a drive-by garden, but if you have children along you would want to stop and let the children explore the artistic works of Carla Jensen's menagerie of jungle animals up close. Located at the Jensen's home will also be Bob's Wooden Bowls. Each piece is one of a kind made from a variety of exotic woods.

Added as a bonus is a spectacular lakeside garden, owners Robert and Kathie Norman will be showcasing their garden which flows into their backyard oasis of sweeping gardens that continues to the beachfront. Breathtaking beauty awaits you here.

The remainder of the other gardens are the "frosting on the cake" which all contains the elements of visual beauty in impeccably groomed gardens where placements of specimens are done in a very aesthetically pleasing manner.

Connie Gross - SAGW Selection Committee Member



# The Epic Gardens are Epic

By Sherry Speth

The American Conifer Society held its 2018 conference in Madison, Wisconsin this July. In addition to visiting several private gardens and the Longnecker Arboretum Pinetum, we had the opportunity to tour Epic Systems campus with Jeff Epping as our guide. Jeff is Director of Horticulture of Olbrich Botanic Gardens and is owner of Epping Design and Consultants. He is lead landscape designer for the Epic Systems site.

Epic Systems specializes in health information technology. Owner and CEO, Judy Faulkner, founded the company in 1979 and is listed now by Forbes as one of the 400 richest people. Jeff explained that she loves gardening and is environmentally sensitive and wanted to provide a unique environment for her employees. These beliefs were the basis of planning and construction of her new campus.

Epic Systems site is a very unique property and is difficult to describe. Some liken it to Disneyland. The site includes many buildings housing approximately 10,000 employees. The buildings are divided into 5 campuses each with a theme. They include: The Farm, Astronomy, Fantasy, and Western with a 5<sup>th</sup> under construction. Each grouping of building is planted to match the theme of the group. Needless to say, it has given Jeff Epping an opportunity to explore creative plantings that would not be normal for a corporate campus.

Since Judy is very environmentally conscious, all parking is underground. These underground structures are all planted with as little as 6-8 inches of soil on top of the 4 story parking garages. To avoid a flat look, Jeff has been innovative in sculpting these areas by layering Styrofoam sheets to give undulations with very little weight.

During our tour Jeff explained the process of developing the campuses. Initially, Judy is presented with 5 story boards. After much discussion she picks 3. The ideas go back to the architects and designers before a final selection is made. Jeff handles plant selection. The resulting landscape designs are amazing and very creative with very unique plants, waterfalls, prairies, desert settings and more.

A few pictures have been included to provide a sampling of the site landscaping at various campuses.

The visit was amazing and way too short to take in all the variety of the site.



**2018 Master Gardener Banquet and Annual Business Meeting**

**Thursday, September 27, 2018**

**Town & County Golf Club  
W1945 County Rd J  
Sheboygan**



PROGRAM

- 5:00 P.M. Social/Cocktails
- 6:00 P.M. Welcome and Dinner
  - Family Style...Chicken Marsala and Beef Tenderloin Tips
  - Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Vegetable Medley
  - Dessert...fudge brownie or cherry cheese cake
  - Vegetarian Entrée upon request
- 7:00 P.M. Business Meeting and Election of 3 Members for Board of Directors  
Speaker: Kathy Baum, Outagamie MGV, will speak on "Garden Tricks, Tips and Hacks"

Please make \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) for the Annual Meeting and Banquet on **September 27th**.  
**Reservations are due by Friday, September 21, 2018. No reservations will be accepted at the door.**  
Guests Welcome!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of attending Dinner x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ (tax & tip included)

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Vegetarian Dinners

\_\_\_\_\_ 2018 Membership Dues x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ **Dues MUST be paid by November 1**

TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Sheboygan County Master Gardeners**

**Return Form and Payments to:**

Tammy Zorn  
Sheboygan County UW-Extension  
5 University Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

**P.S. You can mail your volunteer and education hours form to Tammy at the same time. Deadline for hours is the October 1. You can drop them off at the banquet or at the office before October 1. EARLIER IS BETTER!!!**

**Bring an unwrapped gift (<\$10) to participate in the garden gift exchange.**