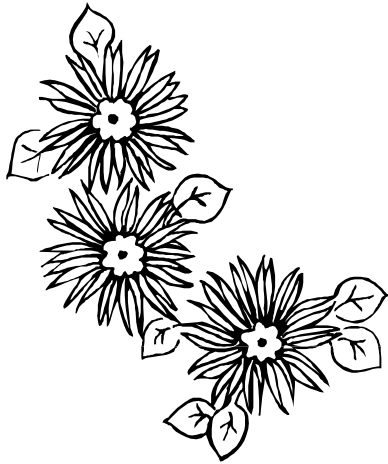


Master Gardener

NEWS

September 2003



Update Meetings

September Birthday Greetings

*Happy Birthday to
Master Gardeners
Celebrating September Birthdays!*

Darlene Alleva
Diana Anderson
Marie Anderson
Diane Ericson
Barbara Gasterland
Paul Hussa
Kirk Johnson
Ann LeFlem
Lucie Lund
Rebecca McPeck
Susan Nyhammer
Betty Owen
Janeen Rosas
Anita Sapp
Laura Schenck
Mary Schmidt
Connie Swarhout
Jill Waterhouse
Beth Woessner
Shanelle Zellinger Fernandez

October Update Meeting

Date: Monday, October 6, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Topic: "What I Saw on my Summer Vacation"

Place: Bachman's Heritage Room
6010 Lyndale Avenue S, Minneapolis

Meeting Agenda:

6:30-7:00 p.m.	Sign Up for Volunteer Opportunities
7:00-7:15 p.m.	Announcements
7:15-8:30 p.m.	Guest Speaker: Jeff Hahn
8:30-9:00 p.m.	Additional Volunteer Sign Up Time

This presentation will cover the biology and management of common insect pests that were found in the yard and garden this year. Jeff has a master's degree in entomology and has worked for the University of Minnesota Extension Service for 19 years. He specializes in urban insects, including insects in yards, gardens, and in and around buildings. Jeff spends much of his time in the Yard and Garden Clinic where he supervises entomology technicians and helps answer phone calls and diagnose samples.

September Update Meeting & Plant Swap

Date: Monday, September 8, 5:30-9:00 p.m.

Topic: "Laws, Lawns and Water Quality - Can (or will) the new phosphorus legislation make a difference???"

Place: Plymouth Creek Center
14800 - 34th Avenue North, Plymouth

Directions: From Hwy 55, go north on Fernbrook Lane. Turn left at the second stop sign, which is 34th Ave. Plymouth Creek Center is on your right. For more information, call the Center at 763-509-5280 or go to www.ci.plymouth.mn.us for an on-line map.

November Update Meeting Location Change

Please note the November Update meeting location has been changed from the Minnetonka Community Center to the Southdale Library. Look for meeting details in next month's newsletter.

Highlights:

Pg 2 - General Announcements
Pg 3 - Email Tip
Pg 4 - Volunteer Opportunities
Pg 6 - Continuing Education
Pg 7 - Under the Growlight

General Announcements

September 2003 Plant Swap and Tailgate Party

This end-of-season plant and garden supply swap is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 5:30-6:30 p.m., just before the Update Session at Plymouth Creek Center. There will be a sign placed in the parking lot indicating the exact swapping location. Our hosts at Plymouth Creek Center and a few local folks are joining us for this plant swap. Please label all plants with complete information, including your name. Bring your own bags and boxes to transport items. No cash, only merchandise! If your items are not swapped, please take them home with you. Don't leave anything behind. **Swapping begins promptly at 5:30 p.m. so, for the best selections, be at the site on time.**

Perennials	Garden Books	Houseplants	Small Trees	Garden Tools
Fruit	Shrubs	Extra Pots	Vegetables	Bulbs
Herbs	Baskets	Dried Flowers	Birdhouses	

State Master Gardener Newsletter Online

You may now check <http://www.mg.umn.edu> for the latest issue of the State Master Gardener newsletter, which contains registration forms for the September State Conference. The State office no longer mails out print copies of this newsletter, it is only available online. If you need a print copy please contact the HCMG office at 612-374-8450 or mille383@umn.edu and one will be placed in your mail folder. Enjoy!

2004 Minnesota Gardening Calendars For Sale

The 2004 Minnesota Gardening calendars are now for sale. Master Gardeners may purchase calendars, in any quantity, for a cost of \$10 each. You may purchase the calendars through the Extension office and at the Update Sessions. Calendar sales provide much needed revenue for our program. Please consider taking calendars with you to sell at your Master Gardener functions. Retail price for the calendar is \$12.99.

Lost Garden Center Clinic Bag

At this time we are still missing 1 Garden Center Clinic bag. If you have the Brooklyn Park Home Depot bag please contact the Extension office immediately.

Hennepin County Master Gardeners to Receive Recognition at State Conference

The following Hennepin County Master Gardeners will be receiving awards for their various years of service (25, 20, 15 and 10.) Be sure you attend the State Conference on September 19-20th to receive your award. (Conference details available at <http://www.mg.umn.edu>)

Ann Blumberg	William Kroll	Stephanie Shroyer
Patrick Brown	Janet Larson	Jeanna Smith
Patricia Canby	Herb Pieper	Mary Stinson
Paula Denman	Duane Reynolds	Ellen Watson
Marti Johnson	Laura Schenck	

Master Gardener Status Letters

Status letters informing Master Gardeners of their volunteer and continuing education hours for 2003 so far this year have been prepared. However, in an effort to reduce our mailing expenses they will not be mailed out through the USPS. Those of you on our email list will receive them via email. Master Gardeners not on the email list will have to pick up their letters from their file folders at the Extension office or at an update meeting.

Remember - the required hours are 25 of volunteer service and 12 of continuing education for certified Master Gardeners and 50 hours/12 hours for Interns. We cannot accommodate last minute scrambling for hours. If you still need hours, opportunities for Fall are listed on page 4 & 5 of this newsletter, posted in the Extension office and available at Update meetings. **All hours must be turned in by October 31.** Any hours volunteered after that will go toward 2004, unless you make a special request.

Master Gardener State Conference
Friday, September 19 & Saturday, September 20, 2003
Anoka County, Minnesota

“Environmentally Sustainable Communities Through Horticulture”

For the first time, Anoka County will host the 2003 Minnesota State Master Gardener conference. The state conference is one of several local and national opportunities for Master Gardener volunteer educators to help fulfill their certification requirements for ongoing education. The conference will be held at the Anoka County Parks & Recreation Activities Center in Andover and Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Coon Rapids. More than 250 active Master Gardeners are expected to attend. Friday will be an afternoon of tours and visits to gardens, local natural features, historic and famous buildings. Friday evening’s activities will include a presentation on hummingbirds. Saturday will be a spectacular day of educational sessions to keep you up-to-date on what is happening around Minnesota and in the world of gardening. For registration form and information go to <http://www.mg.umn.edu>.

Email Tip for Master Gardener List-Serve Subscribers

Do you sometimes find your inbox flooded with so many messages from the Master Gardener list-serve that it’s hard to find anything else? If so, then you may find the following tip to be very helpful. Follow the directions to automatically send all of your mastgar list-serve messages to a separate subfolder, within your inbox. You can then access and read them at your leisure, freeing up valuable inbox space.

Filtering Mail Using Outlook

Suzanne Hill

To filter email using Outlook Express you might want to first create a separate file in which to place the messages you receive from the Master Gardener list-serve. To do this first create a new folder either by clicking on the bar just below the icons or by going to the File word above the icon with the cursor. Click on it and a menu should appear. Select NEW and then select Folder. A dialog box should then appear. Be sure that the inbox is highlighted so that the new folder you create is a subfolder under the inbox. That way the system can send new “mastgar” list-serve mail to that folder. Type in the name you want for that folder and then click OK.

Now you want to tell the system how to select messages to send to that folder. Go up to the title bar again and select TOOLS. Under tools select MESSAGE RULES and then select MAIL.

A new dialogue box will appear. There are several tabs and you want the one labeled MAIL RULES.

Click on the box that says NEW. Another dialogue box will appear. First you will “Select the Conditions for your Rule.” Check the box that says “Where the Subject line contains specific words.” Then on the next question “Select actions for your rule,” select the box that says “Move it to the specified folder.”

Now under the third part (Rule description) you should see the line “Where the Subject line contains specific words.” Click on the blue highlighted phrase “contains specific words” and a new dialogue box appears asking you to specify what those words are. Enter the following exactly as it appears in the subject line of the list-serve message: [mastgar] Don't forget the brackets.

Do the same sort of thing with the next line (click on the highlighted “move to folder” phrase) and enter the name of the folder you just created. Now, whenever an email from mastgar is received it will automatically be sent to and stored in your new folder.

Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact the Program Specialist at 612-374-8450 to sign up or to get more info unless noted otherwise.

Adult Volunteer Opportunities

Northup King Community Garden, NE Minneapolis; Consult on design and implementation with an energetic group of folks looking for assistance in starting a new community garden.

Bachman's Heritage Room, 6010 Lyndale Avenue S, Minneapolis

Saturday 9/27/2003, morning; One-hour presentation on **Minor Bulbs**

Saturday 10/4/2003, morning; One-hour presentation on **Perennials - Fall Care**

Fall Community Education Volunteer Opportunities

St. Anthony Village Community Center, 3301 Silver Lake Road, **Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

Teach Community Ed Class on one of the following:

9/24/2003 - "Fall Yard & Garden Care"

10/15/2003 - "Spring Flowering Bulbs"

Champlin Park High School, Anoka Hennepin Community Ed, 6025 109th Avenue North, Champlin, **7:00-9:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, September 30, Presentation on **Fall Yard and Garden Care**; Prepare your yard and garden for winter. Learn about dividing perennials, late season planting and lawn seeding, pruning, fall watering, and more. Before winter comes, put your lawn and garden to bed.

TCA/PHCA Volunteer Opportunities

2-3 TCA/MG volunteers needed for **Tree Trust Tree Planting Mini-workshop and Tree Pick-up** for North Minneapolis residents, **September 20th, 8:40-11:30 a.m.** at **Northside Residents Redevelopment Council**, 1313 Plymouth Avenue North, Minneapolis; Help residents decide on an appropriate location for a tree on their property; help with a tree planting demo; assist with container tree handling.

3 TCA/MGs needed for **Maple Grove Buckthorn Bust** (volunteer removal project), City of Maple Grove, near Weaver Lake Park, **Saturday, October 4th, 8:30-11:30 a.m.** to oversee volunteers removing buckthorn in wooded area

General Volunteer Opportunities:

Kappa Alpha Theta, U of M Sorority House, 1012 5th Street SE, **Minneapolis, ASAP-September**; Visit site and meet with Alumni group leader who is looking for advice and guidance on clean-up and maintenance plan for overgrown garden; additional option then to supervise volunteers at a fall clean-up day on a Saturday in September.

Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Gatewood Elementary School, 14900 Gatewood Drive, **Minnetonka**; talk to 85 second graders in one large group or 3 small groups (presenter's preference) on **Seeds, Plants and/or Bulbs** on **9/25, 10/2, or 10/9** (choose one) between **1:30-3:45 p.m.**

Normandale French Immersion School, Edina; 2 - 30 minute presentations to 52 first graders each time on **Apples OR Pumpkins - From Seed to Fruit** on **9/26 or 10/3** anytime between **12:00-2:30 p.m.**

Program Support Opportunities

TREATS needed for Update Session: **November 3**, Southdale Library

Interview Master Gardener Applicants for 2004 on Wednesday, 10/15, Thursday, 10/16 and Thursday, 10/23. 2 shifts per day, 8:30 a.m.-noon and 1:00-4:30 p.m. Lunch provided for MGs working both shifts.

Mentor New Master Gardener Interns – serve as a one-on-one mentor to 1-2 incoming Master Gardener Interns. Meet with them at orientation (scheduled for 11/19, 8:30-10:30 a.m. or 11/20, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Extension office), over lunch during the core course 1/31/04 and at the February 04 Update meeting. Then keep in touch periodically throughout the year.

Executive Committee Openings

There are currently several positions open on the Hennepin County Master Gardener Executive Committee. The Executive Committee provides strategic direction to the Hennepin County Master Gardener Program by establishing program structure and direction supported by sound policy decisions and adherence to a yearly budget. It is particularly crucial in these uncertain times to have a strong committee providing guidance and leadership. The program may not be able to survive if Master Gardeners are unwilling to fill these roles. Please consider sharing your talents and skills with the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee meets monthly, except for July and December. Special meetings may be called when necessary. If interested in any of these Executive Committee opportunities please contact Carrie Bassett, caroline.bassett@usfamily.net or 612-920-1937.

CHAIRPERSON-ELECT - Voting member of the committee, approved in October each year for a two-year term: serves first year as Chairperson-Elect, second year as Chairperson Responsibilities: Assume the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence. Maintain regular communications with Coordinators to discuss needs or concerns. Submit agenda items to the Chairperson to be included at upcoming meetings. Provide leadership in preparing the Annual Report of the Master Gardener Program. Assist Finance Coordinator in preparing Master Gardener annual budget. Form and chair nominating committee.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS COORDINATOR - This is a two-year term, beginning November 1 in odd years and is a voting member of the Committee. This position is responsible for the scheduling and participation of Hennepin County Master Gardeners in community programs and activities.

PROMOTION & PUBLICITY COORDINATOR - This is a two-year term, November 1 through October 31, beginning in odd years and is a voting member of the committee whose function is to develop internal and external promotion and publicity of the Master Gardener program.

SECRETARY - Accurately record minutes of all meetings and email meeting minutes to Executive Committee members no later than 2 weeks following a meeting. Secure a substitute when unable to attend a meeting

Continuing Education Opportunities

2003 September, October & November Classes at the Arboretum

For more information, please call 952-443-1422 or E-mail: education@arboretum.umn.edu

The following have been approved for Hennepin County Master Gardener continuing education credit.

Creating a Landscape Plan for Your Home

Thursdays, September 11, 18, 25 and October 2, 16, 23; 6:30–8:30 p.m. Michael Schroeder

Native and Ornamental Grasses for Minnesota

Wednesday, September 17, 10 a.m.–12 noon; Mary Tichenor

Alternative Bug Control for Gardeners

Wednesday, September 24, 10 a.m.–12 noon; Bud Markart

Wetlands Restoration

Tuesday, September 30, 1–3 p.m. Julia Bohnen

Plants to the Rescue: Restoring Water Quality

Wednesday, October 1, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. and Thursday, October 2, 8 a.m.–12 noon; Various Speakers

Designing for the Water's Edge

Saturday, October 4, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. L. Peter MacDonagh

Designing from the Ground Up

Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Jim Van Slyke

The Four-Season Garden

Thursday, November 7, 10 a.m.–12 noon; Duane Otto

Call the New Extension AnswerLine with Your Household Questions

Questions about how to freeze fresh corn, or how to get stains out of a new pair of slacks? Call AnswerLine, a new service of the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

The toll-free number is **(800) 854-1678**, and it's answered between 9 a.m. and noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. AnswerLine household experts take questions about how to safely cook, can and freeze foods; cleaning stains and mildew from homes and clothes; and on other household issues.

AnswerLine provides research-based answers through the U of M Extension Service and Iowa State University Extension. There's also support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the state of Minnesota, county governments and grants.

(Source: Debby Newman, U of M Extension Service, 612-624-3263)

Tetanus Reminder

Most of us know that you can get tetanus from stepping on a rusty nail. Not as many people know that you can contract tetanus from any wound – even a tiny pinprick, scratch, insect bite, or splinter hole. Gardeners are especially at risk. According to the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, 39 percent of the tetanus cases in 2001 were due to gardening, landscaping, and yard work. Luckily, there's an easy way to protect yourself against tetanus and give yourself peace of mind in the garden. Make sure you have a tetanus/diphtheria shot every ten years.

For more information, see <http://www.nfid.org/powerof10/section2/areyouatrisk.html>

(Source: Gardening How-To Monthly News, September 2003)

Under the Grow Light

September 2003



Diane Ballentine says it was “late in life when I started noticing gardens. And I certainly wrecked a few in my lifetime.” In fact, it was when Diane was caring for her very sick mom that gardening took on importance.

Diane’s mom always had simple gardens. “She planted zinnias and pansies. She also raised six kids.” Diane never paid much attention to the gardens. As an adult, Diane lived in three different houses, and “I wrecked three different gardens.” At one house, the previous owners had a “cute little rock garden. I thought it was just some rocks in the flowers and let the kids play in it.”

It was in her fourth house, with her mom seriously ill, that Diane began noticing the needs in her own yard. “We had an ugly hedge but I didn’t know how to fix it.” Diane’s book club friend had a beautiful plant that Diane loved. It was a burning bush. “When you don’t know a thing, you look it up.” Diane got books. “My bedtime reading was all gardening.” Her teenage sons helped her dig out the “ugly hedge” and plant burning bush. They have a double lot and there were other “ugly” trees and shrubs. With her sons’ help they dug out and replaced them. In the process she learned a lot about trees. “It was nine years from that first hedge to my taking the Master Gardener Core Course and now I’m a Tree Care Advisor.” Diane says that, for her, “learning about trees was a necessity.” She says her “biggest highlight” was taking the tree course from Mike Zinns.

Diane has planted many different trees and shrubs. She has crabapples, arborvitae, barberry and yew hedges, her favorite, the Eastern Redbud and the newest addition, a Haralson apple tree. She also has many perennials. Among them are hostas, goats beard, astilbe, Autumn Joy, ornamental grasses and “scads of daylilies.” She has window boxes filled with impatiens and sweet potato vines. She has containers with wandering Jew and coleus.

As a Master Gardener, Diane loves teaching classes and talking to people about gardening. “I love the exchange of conversation with gardeners.” She loves to help people whenever she can, especially city people who have gardens “too much overgrown. Sometimes people just don’t know what to do.”



Jeanne Pederson says there was a “big tug of war” at home when she was growing up. “My father loved to garden and he planted so many vegetables and then my mother would have to can them.”

At her own home in Bloomington she has a ½ acre of land and her biggest concern has been creating privacy. Some privacy is provided by sumac and miscanthus. “The miscanthus grows over 6’ tall and is very pretty in the winter.” Years ago, “back when I didn’t know anything about gardening,” Jeanne brought back several pine trees and birch clumps from their cabin in northern Minnesota. She considers herself very lucky because all of the birch and most of the pines are still living. She has also planted mountain ash, honey locust, amur maple, green ash, blue spruce and apple trees.

Every spring Jeanne works in a garden nursery but says it isn’t very profitable because she buys so many plants with her earnings. She says it’s like “will work for plants.”

Some of her favorite plants are Love Lies Bleeding, which she finds at the St. Paul Farmers Market, and the Caster Bean plant. She dries the pods from the Caster Bean and plants them the next spring. She often starts her seed indoors. Her vegetables this year included tomatoes (Roma and Celebrity are her favorites,) peppers and salad greens. She grew her lettuce in a pot as a result of “the futility exercise with all the marauding rabbits.” She has a raised bed of strawberries and a patch of raspberries (our pride and joy.) She makes raspberry jam but sees very little of it. “My two kids and special friends get it all.”

She has beautiful red peonies that came from the house where she grew up. When her father sold the house, she dug up the peonies. They are over 100-years-old.

Every year she and her husband visit the North Shore where the lupines are abundant and beautiful. They stop at the Pioneer Coop., outside Two Harbors, and purchase the lupine seeds to plant at home.

Jeanne likes working the garden centers and the State Fair. She likes our monthly meetings where “we can enlarge our knowledge. The more you know, the more there is to know. Gardening is an unending quest.”

**INFO-U at 612-624-2200
for Master Gardeners Only**

- 717 Horticulture Update, Deb Brown
- 718 Plant Diseases, Janna Beckerman
- 719 Outdoor Bugs, Jeff Hahn
- 784 Household Entomology, Jeff Hahn
- 746 MG Volunteer Opportunity Line

**Hot Topics
for September**

- 282 Fertilizer – Phosphorus and Water Pollution
- 437 Cool Season Vegetables
- 447 Aster Yellows
- 279 Composting Fall Leaves
- 599 Lady Beetles (Ladybugs)

Monthly Yard and Garden Line News website access: www.extension.umn.edu/yardandgarden/YGLNews.html New issues are posted on the 1st and 15th of each month.

Electronic Newsletter

The Hennepin County Master Gardener News is now available on line. It can be found each month on the HCMG website: www.hcmg.umn.edu. To date, almost 150 of the 250 Master Gardeners have signed up for the electronic newsletter. You have received a paper copy of this newsletter because we do not have an e-mail address on file for you. Please help reduce our program's printing and postage costs by receiving the newsletter electronically. Notify the Program Specialist at mille383@umn.edu and a link to the newsletter will be sent to your e-mail address every month.

Newsletter submissions are due by the 15th of each month. E-mail submissions to mille383@umn.edu

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www.hcmg.umn.edu

U-M Extension Service Website:
www.extension.umn.edu