Annual Dinner

When: April 27, 2012
Where: Knox’s Silver Valley at Alverno
Time: 6:00 pm
Cost: $17 per person

Mail RSPV to:
Pat Wiegert
1117 29th Street
Two Rivers, WI 54241

RSVP’s Due April 20, 2012

Monthly Meetings:

April 27 --- Annual Dinner @Knox’s Silver Valley
May 21 -- Silver Lake Country Store
6:30 pm @ Manitowoc Co. Office Complex
June 25 -- Judy Lango Home

Help Needed:

Garlic Mustard Pull
Maribel Caves
May 19 and 26
9am and 1pm

Japanese Hedge Parsley
Maribel Caves
June 23 and 30
9am and 1pm

Inside This Edition.......
March 17, 2012 Fruit Tree Pruning Green Bay, WI
Whether you own an orchard or have some fruit trees in your backyard, pruning is a vital part of maintaining good health, disease management and better yield of your fruit trees. Pruning stimulates growth, controls the size and shape of the tree and improves the quality of the fruit. Class will also cover pruning basics for grape vines. Learn proper pruning techniques – the tools needed and the do’s and don’ts of proper pruning. Class from 9:00 a.m. to noon begins indoors and then will move outdoor for hands-on experience. At the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellvue Ave, Green Bay. $2, preregistration required. For more information contact Deb Nitka at (920) 465-8512.

March 24, 2012 Garden Expectations Kimberly, WI
The Outagamie Co. MGA's annual conference will be from 8:45 to 3:30 at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Dr. Kimberly, WI. Speakers include Richard Hawk speaking on Proven Perennials, Chuck Stangle speaking on Creative Plant Combinations and David Parson speaking on vegetables. There will also be a panel of experts at 2:15 that will answer questions from attendees, door prizes and a variety of vendors. $35 includes continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack. Register at www.ocmga.net after February 15th. For more information contact Kathy Baum.

April 14, 2012 Fruit Tree Grafting Green Bay, WI
Tony Dembski is a master when it comes to the art of grafting. Demonstrations will include how to repair a tree that may have been damaged by either injury or animal damage, a variety of grafting techniques and then move on to fruit tree grafting. Grafting of scion wood on to rootstock is the only technique that will give you a true apple from the original tree – planting a seed will not! Scion wood and rootstocks of apple, pear and plum will be available to purchase or you may bring your own. An informational sheet on proper collection and storage of scion wood is available at the UW-Extension or by calling Kathy at 391-4653. At the Ag & Extension Service Center, 1150 Bellvue Ave, Green Bay. $2, preregistration required. For more information contact Deb Nitka at (920) 465-8512.

Make Your Own Hypertufa Planter

Date: March 19 or March 30
6pm - 8pm

Location: Rose-Hill Gardens
472 Rose Hill Dr, Hobart, WI 54155
Call 920.869.2540 to register as class size is limited

Cost is $35 and will receive a 20% off plants to finish the planter

The entire process can be viewed in our video section of our website.
www.rhgardens.com
The February meeting was called to order by President Pat Hollen. The November minutes were approved as published in the last newsletter. The treasurer’s report was given and accepted as read.

Committee Reports
Facebook -- Chelle Blaszcyk
Chelle updated us on the Manitowoc Master Gardener Facebook page. She and Paula have been working on the information page and want to add pictures from projects such as the garlic mustard pull and Garden Walk before publishing.

Master Gardener Scholarship – Bernie Zimmer
Bernie has gathered information from other groups who offer scholarships to high school and college students. She wanted feedback from the group as to whom we should offer the scholarship and what our requirements would be for the perspective recipient. A discussion followed and it was decided not to offer the scholarship for the fall semester but possibly sponsor an internship at the Green Bay Botanical Garden. Doris made a motion, with a second from Karen, to wait on the scholarship at this time but sponsor an intern instead. The motion carried. Bernie will contact GBBG to get more information.

Renegade Gardener – Pat Hollen, Chelle Blaszcyk
Pat explained the choice of topics for Don’s presentation. Each will be 45 minutes to 1 hour in length. Judy Lango is in charge of securing hotel reservations for the speaker. Toni is checking on purchasing beverages through the Two Rivers Public School system. Chelle showed us the posters and press releases that she has prepared and which will be distributed using a list similar to what we used for Mad Dog & Merrill. The committee will meet again on March 26th.

Annual Dinner – Pat Wiegert
Pat shared the information she received from Pat Wiegert. The Annual Dinner will be at Knox’s Silver Valley Banquet Hall on Alverno Road at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 27th. The cost for the family style meal will be $17, which includes the tax and tip. Checks should be made payable to Pat Wiegert and can be mailed to her at 1117 – 29th Street, Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241.

Library Books – Celeste Rogers
The library has not yet made a choice for our book donation. Celeste will inquire further.

Old Business
After consulting with Ruth and Scott, Pat has reserved our meeting room for the next three years.

New Business
Doris stated that our $100 annual membership at Woodland Dunes is due. Rosie made a motion, with a second from Marilyn, to send a check for our membership to Woodland Dunes. The motion carried.

Gladwyn informed us that the onion order will be shipped to him on April 16 and he will have a few extras of the Copra onions. He also stated that there would be garlic mustard pulls on May 19th and 26th and again on June 23rd and 30th.

Pat showed us the new plant hardiness map. Much of Manitowoc County is now in Zone 5b with the western part of the county in Zone 5a. She also has learned that the Madison Master Gardeners will suspend publication of the Garden Journal in 2013.

There will be a change in the October program, which will now be Judy Lango on her Costa Rica trip.

Board of Director members, Doris Magyar and Pat Hollen, had drawn 1-year terms for the board, and an election for two board members will take place at the Annual Dinner meeting in April. A nominating committee will consist of Chelle Blaszcyk, Marilyn Starzewski, and Sandy Stock.

The Plant Clinic is in need of additional help, and there will be a class in Green Bay, Milwaukee, or Eau Claire for those interested. Also, Woodland Dunes will be offering some classes. The Orchid Society is having a show on March 3rd and 4th in Neenah.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Judy Tisler, Secretary
DON'T FORGET WHITE BLOOMS!

Too many gardens lack white-blooming perennials, annuals, and shrubs. Gardeners seem to dismiss white, considering it a non-color, and I can hardly blame them. The nursery industry is so hell-bent on creating bloom variations of blue, red, yellow, green and the rest that plants with white flowers are rarely promoted. Add to it the fact that those useless color wheels published in every gardening book don’t include white, and one can see why many gardeners overlook the purest of all colors.

If your garden strikes you as a blurry, jazzed-up mess, you’re not using enough white. Take a look at these photos of just two of my white bloomers in show this spring. Far and away, they have been the two most dazzling and lovely plants in my garden.

CRABGRASS PRE-EMERGENT SHOULD BE SPREAD ON THE LAWN EVERY SPRING

Wrong. Crabgrass pre-emergent knocks out the seeds left over from last year’s crop of crabgrass and it should take no longer than a couple of springs, three at the most, to wipe all the seeds out. Homeowners who unwittingly apply a crabgrass treatment each year, every year, long after the crabgrass has disappeared, are dumping chemicals onto the earth that need not be dispersed.

The same goes for those infernal lawn service companies who sign households up for decades of annual lawn weed herbicide treatments. Once you get the crabgrass taken care of and any other weeds killed off, seed thin areas in early spring with grass seed, and knock it off with the chemicals.

DEAR NURSERY INDUSTRY: DON'T MAKE BIZARRE PLANTS JUST FOR THE HELL OF IT.

Here you see one of the latest, the must-have plant of the year: Jackson & Perkins’ Echinacea ‘Doppelganger.’

Lordy mercy my. Don’t you nursery nerds have enough to do trying to make plants flower alternating petals in orange and black? You actually think we wanted this Frankensteinian monster? What are you doing in your plant propagation labs, whipping up batches of LSD and testing it before you turn to the matter at hand? Please, PLEASE return to making an even smaller, more vapid version of that worthless ‘Stella de Oro’ daylily.

I love the press release that came with this photo; it refers to ‘Doppelganger’ as a “fascinating” Echinacea with “double-decker blooms.”

Well, mass murderers are fascinating. Hey, Jackson & Perkins: ‘Doppelganger’ doesn’t look pretty, you morons, it looks DISEASED!!!

DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....APRIL 21, 2012
MANITOWOC OFFICE COMPLEX, TIME 8:30 AM TO NOON

Pre- registrations only....$5 to Judy Tisler, Phone: 732.3258
Greetings from the Pittsburgh Home & Garden Show.

Artillery Fungus: A hot topic out here. In fact, the East seems to be the Artillery Fungus capital of America. What is it? Small, black dots of what appears to be tar or pin drops of ink appear on your home’s siding, and sometimes automobilie. If parked outside near a landscape bed mulched with shredded wood, and sometimes automobilie. It appears to be tar, or perhaps it’s ink. In fact, the East seems to be the Artillery Fungus capital of America.

Greetings from the Pittsburgh Home & Garden Show.

I’m sitting in my hotel room in Pittsburgh. Speaking with audiences out on the road and speaking with audiences out on the road, for instance: When you learn about gardening when you learn about gardening when you learn about gardening, you can no longer use the word “awesome.” OK, that’s done.

Heavy Artillery: Fungous Wages War on Homes and Autos.

http://www.renegadegardener.com/