

# Eau Claire Area Master Gardener News



June 2013

## Expo Center Plant Sale Marks End Of An Era!

by Nina Logan

We were able to successfully sell most of the plants in the demonstration gardens at the Expo Center on the afternoons of May 6 and 7.

The boulders and flagstones all sold as well as the benches. Several trees and the orchard also sold. The remaining plants were donated to the Community Gardens and several church groups. A profit of \$2500 was made for the Eau Claire Area Master Gardeners Association (ECAMGA).

No doubt there are remaining plants, which were not above ground such as hostas that were overlooked at the time of the sale. I hate to see even one plant go to ruin, but I can see no alternative at this time.

Thank you all for the dedication and the hard work you put in to accomplish this monumental task.



Bags and bags of great plants went at a great price.



Lots of work to do....



Lots of work already done...



Even the rocks must go!

**Not only do we want to thank all of the people who worked hard to make this event happen but also those who worked countless hours through the years to establish and maintain these gardens.**

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## Local Master Gardener News

### Changing e-mail? Moving?

If you do, **please** remember to notify the ECAMG and the newsletter editor of your new e-mail address and/or mailing address so you don't miss any Eau Claire Area Master Gardener happenings!



Email your new information to Carol Cox at [c7w6c2200@charter.net](mailto:c7w6c2200@charter.net) or notify her by snail mail at 1908 Hogeboom Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701 (or call her at 715-783-0016 - cell).



### Bulletin Board Postings Stories and Opportunities!!!!



### St. John's Apartment's Looking For Gardening Assistance

St. John's Apartments is looking for assistance with their landscaping needs. Volunteers could help make a landscape plan; teach grounds crew how to prune bushes, etc.

They need help making a plan for existing beds. Pictures are attached.

This is an apartment building for adults with disabilities.

[http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/Aging\\_and\\_DisabilityResourceCenter/Housing/Subsidized/StJohns.htm](http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/Aging_and_DisabilityResourceCenter/Housing/Subsidized/StJohns.htm)

### More Opportunities:

#### Youth Garden Summer Program Schedule

1. June 25 – August 6, every Tuesday, North River Front Park youth garden, 9-10am. Volunteers needed to assist with youth activities in the garden and with craft projects.
2. June 26 – August 7, every Wednesday, McDonough Park youth garden, 9-10am. Volunteers needed to assist with youth activities in the garden and with craft projects.

**Youth from Mayo Clinic Daycare** - Volunteers needed to assist with youth activities in the garden and with craft projects.

1. July 3, North River Front Park youth garden, 10-11am.
2. August 26, North River Front Park youth garden, 10-11am

### ECAMGA Board

ECAMGA BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFO		
NAME/TITLE	e-mail address	phone number
Erin LaFaive	<a href="mailto:Erin.lafaive@ces.uwex.edu">Erin.lafaive@ces.uwex.edu</a>	715-839-4712
Mikel Reise	<a href="mailto:mandbreise@charter.net">mandbreise@charter.net</a>	715-836-7839
Gary Mathis	<a href="mailto:Garym5811@live.com">Garym5811@live.com</a>	715-878-4031
Roslyn Siudak	<a href="mailto:apras2@mydnet.com">apras2@mydnet.com</a>	715-559-3199
Katie Hartsel	<a href="mailto:hartseka@uwec.edu">hartseka@uwec.edu</a>	715-864-4300
Jeanne Mueller	<a href="mailto:jeanneventures@att.net">jeanneventures@att.net</a>	715-835-3146
Diane Hunter	<a href="mailto:sportflower@gmail.com">sportflower@gmail.com</a>	715-835-2775
Andy Heren	<a href="mailto:Rcktnut007@aol.com">Rcktnut007@aol.com</a>	715-831-9236
Karen Olson	<a href="mailto:kjolson@charter.net">kjolson@charter.net</a>	715-838-0842
Daria Hutchinson	<a href="mailto:dariahu@aol.com">dariahu@aol.com</a>	216-337-7697

**NOTE:** The ECAMGA Board minutes no longer appears in the newsletter. You may access them by going to the website at <http://www.eauclairemastergardeners.com/forms.html>

### Hello Master Gardner Volunteers,

We are looking for educational booths for the Chippewa Valley Sustainable Future Festival, August 10, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Expo Center.

I'd like to have gardening topics represented at the Festival. Some topic ideas for interactive displays include: seed planting, composting, vegetable insect identification, etc.

Wouldn't it be fun to be with your fellow Master Gardener Volunteer friends for a few hours? Get a group together and start creating a booth! Let me know if you are interested. I'll hold a booth space for you.

### If interested in helping out with any of the above OPPORTUNITIES please

**contact:** Erin LaFaive, Horticulture Educator & Co-Dept. Head, Eau Claire County UW Extension 227 First St. W. Altoona, WI 54720. Phone 715-839-4712 or email her at: [Erin.lafaive@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:Erin.lafaive@ces.uwex.edu).

**The “Ask a Master Gardener Booth” begins sessions every Saturday morning at the Farmers Market, Phoenix Park. If you would like to volunteer and be a part of this contact Erin LaFaive at 715-839-4712 at the Eau Claire County Extension Office.**

## REMINDER!!

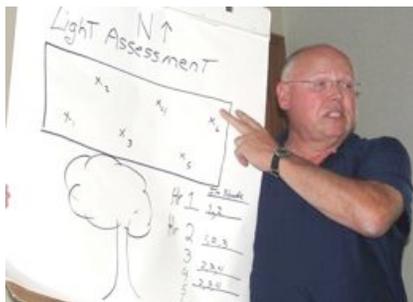
Remember, as you are cleaning out your garden tending to those stray plants invading your pathways and getting a little too numerous for your garden space, pot them up and save them for our summer plant sale on **August 11** in conjunction with the Chippewa Valley Sustainability Festival at the Expo Center.



### Volunteer Opportunity - Weather Watcher

Be a weather watcher for the youth gardens for any of the following: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. If the weather is rainy, then the youth gardens don't need to be watered. If the weather is hot, dry, windy then you will give the youth gardens a drink. The gardens are at North River Front Park (near Phoenix Park) and McDonough Park (off of Birch Street). Directions and instructions will be provided. If it rains you can log 1 volunteer hour for your watchful efforts.

Please contact Erin to schedule the day(s) you would like to volunteer [erin.lafaive@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:erin.lafaive@co.eau-claire.wi.us), 715-839-4712. The schedule is also kept on the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association website.



### Darrell Reed Presents “Garden Planning and Design: Working With What You Have,” at May ECAMGA Meeting

Darrell Reed, a member of the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association (ECAMGA) and an experienced gardener, among many other things, presented some very useful information at the May 21 meeting. The event took place at the Eau Claire County Extension office with a good crowd in attendance.

Reed emphasized the importance of knowing the light requirements of your garden plot and talked about a practical way to measure it. Most vegetables need full sun. Also, light can be maximized by how one sets up the rows. He indicated that the beds should be laid out from east to west and the taller plants (such as corn) should be placed on the north side of the plot to help maximize light usage.

Additionally the presentation included discussion of watering requirements, ideal soil types and soil tests, the use of supplements and fertilizers such as compost, bonemeal and the like. There was also some discussion on fencing for rabbit control and the need to cover wind sensitive plants for the winter.

Reed also suggested keeping a journal of what works in the garden each year and what doesn't. As part of this he also suggested one could take pictures of the garden at the various stages. Some recommended reading from Darrell included “Best Garden Plants for Wisconsin and Minnesota” by Don Engelbretson, and the “Home and Gardeners Problem Solver.”

Some very tasty treats were available and some great door prizes handed out. If you missed this meeting plan to attend the next one in June and bring a friend!

## Upcoming Events



### Miniature Landscape Class: Saturday, June 8th 10:00 a.m.

Come and create your own miniature garden. Kids welcome!



**Space is limited, so please pre-register for all classes: on line at: <http://www.maysfloralgarden.com/classes/class-registration> or call 715-836-8220.**

May's Floral Garden is located in at:  
3424 Jeffers Road  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-836-8220 or 1-800-422-6297



### Upcoming Classes

Registration is not required for most classes but is appreciated.

**Saturday, June 1, 10:00 A.M.: Container Gardening with Perennials Seminar:** tired of planting annuals every year? Check out this seminar! We will go over how you can use perennials in your containers as a substitute for annuals. If you have shade, this is a great option for you!

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M. Perennials 101 Seminar** - a class for anyone looking to learn about perennials. We will start with the basics and work from there.

**Saturday, June 15, 10:00 A.M.: Beyond Perennials and Shrubs Seminar** - this new class will discuss ideas beyond your normal landscaping like planting for multiple uses such as ornamentals with edible fruit. We will cover ideas to make your garden have year round interest and many other non-traditional functions often not thought of when designing your landscape.

**Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 A.M. Landscaping 101 Seminar** - this will be a beginner's class on how to plant, layout, and install your own landscaping. If you are wondering where to start, we can help.

**Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M. Landscaping 201 Seminar** - we will cover additional design principles and provide tips on how to install edging, pavers, and retaining walls. Plus, we will go over how to determine what type of soil you have.

6025 Arndt Lane  
Eau Claire WI, 54701  
715-833-1234



*A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.*  
-Gertrude Jekyll

## Bus Trip to Rotary Gardens & the Flower Factory

The **Bloomer Garden Club** is sponsoring a bus trip to Janesville Rotary Gardens on **Saturday July 13th**. They'll also be stopping at **The Flower Factory nursery** near Madison. The bus will leave Bloomer at 7 AM & pick up persons from Eau Claire who wish to go about 7:30. It will return between 8 and 9 PM. The cost is **\$32** a person & includes the driver's tip. We'll have lunch at the restaurant at the Janesville gardens and we will be stopping somewhere on the way home for supper. There will also be a \$5 charge to get into the Rotary Gardens. Both the gardens and the nursery are wonderful places to visit.

Please reserve your spot soon via e-mail to Colleen Vinette: [cd16804@bloomer.net](mailto:cd16804@bloomer.net) or call **715-568-5026**. If you get the answering machine, leave your name and phone number someone will get back to you.

**Your money must be received by June 28th. Make checks payable to Bloomer Garden Club & mail to: Colleen Vinette, 16804 County Hwy F, Bloomer, WI 54724**



Photo by Dana Cox of the east side Carol's east side garden.

## ECAMGA To Host Tour June 19, 2013 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

The Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association (ECAMGA) will be holding a tour of three gardens (with the possibility of a fourth) and, in addition, acting as host to the Rice Lake Garden Club. Come join in the camaraderie and meet fellow gardeners from the Rice Lake area.

The gardens to be toured will be (1) The Schlegelmilch House period gardens located at 517 S.

Farwell Street; (2) Steinke's gardens at 1405 Emery Street (this garden was on the 2008 Chippewa Valley Symphony Tour); and (3) Carol Cox's gardens at 1908 Hogeboom Avenue (also a 2008 Symphony Tour garden). It is possible there may also be a fourth garden added to the tour and adjacent to the last stop.

The tour will begin at the Schlegelmilch House gardens and proceed to the Steinke gardens, then end up at the Cox gardens where participants will enjoy refreshments and enjoy conversation with fellow gardeners.

Come and bring a friend! In fact, bring a couple friends!

***God Almighty first planted a garden. And indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures.***

***-Francis Bacon***



Photo by Carol Cox – a glimpse of the Steinke gardens.



### **Butterfly House Guide Training:**

June 20, 2013: 7 until 8 P.M. at the Wise Nature Center. The program is FREE for Friends, FREE for Nonmembers also. No experience is needed.

If you like being outdoors, love people, and enjoy flowers and butterflies, this is the perfect opportunity for you. Guides are needed daily Monday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from July through early September. Butterfly House guides answer questions and provide information to guests and visitors.



If you cannot attend at this time, please contact BCR to set up for a personal training session.

If you would like to help with this event or find out about other opportunities at BCR, please contact us at [bcr@beavercreekreserve.org](mailto:bcr@beavercreekreserve.org) or Call 715-877-2212.

### **NEW! Wisconsin Dragonfly Society-**

June 23 from 1 until 3 P.M. at the Wise Nature Center. Cost: \$5 for Friends, \$8 for Nonmembers (15 spots available).

Learn about the biology and ecology of the dragonflies and damselflies of Wisconsin. A short presentation will also include tips on species identification and how citizen scientists can get involved. A trip out to the trails will follow the instruction. Bring your insect net if you have one!

Registration and payment required by June 20. Register contact BCR at 715-877-2212 or email [bcr@beavercreekreserve.org](mailto:bcr@beavercreekreserve.org).

***The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just on the body, but on the soul.***  
**–Alfred Austin**



For those who have given up fighting the squirrels Over the bird feeder but now don't know what to do with the birdfeeder!!! (Picture from Pinterest)



Picture of daylily at old Expo Daylily Garden  
 Taken by Jo-Ann Clark



Another “succulent” arrangement! Don’t we all have some of those old lime marked clay pots of various shapes and sizes laying around? Well, here is an easy idea from the Better Homes and Gardens website obtained via Pinterest. While any succulents can be used these are (A) Echeveria ‘Golden Glow’; (B) Echeveria elegans; and (C) Echeveria prolifica.

While this particular container would not last the winter left outside, there are many succulents that are hardy enough to be left outside in a planter all winter provided the planter is winter hardy.

If the container is hardy enough to survive the winter, simply tuck the container and arrangement somewhere under a bush or down near the ground.

Another interesting “container” is an old sandal (especially one made of leather) filled with some moss and dirt and planted to sedums. It can remain out all winter if your sedums are hardy enough.

An interesting website that specializes in succulents that are hardy for our zone is [www.simlysucculents.com](http://www.simlysucculents.com). Interestingly it is located at Cable, Wisconsin also. You can check it out and find out what succulents are hardy in our zone 4 climate.

## Pallet Garden

Good ideas are where you find them and any material is fair game for use when it comes to gardening. It might be used as an unusual container, an “object de art” or something to just scare off the bunnies and the deer.

This is an idea found on through Pinterest (or maybe it was Stumble Upon, I forget which. In any case the original website to check out is

[www.lifeonthebalcony.com/how-to-turn-a-pallet-into-a-garden](http://www.lifeonthebalcony.com/how-to-turn-a-pallet-into-a-garden).

The basic steps outlined on the website are:

1. Find a pallet
2. Plants, soil, landscape fabric, and tools
3. Get the pallet in shape and begin to put together your pallet garden.

From there I will direct you to the website as it has pictures and very specific directions on how to build your pallet garden. Not only that but it details how to plant the pallet garden and then how to maintain it and care for it.



There is also a rather interesting growing rack I saw at May’s in Eau Claire (in their tropical and houseplant area) that, while not made from pallets would produce similar results. You might

find it interesting to stop and see if you are interested in vertical garden opportunities. Other possibilities that are becoming popular include the vertical wall plantings (which look interesting) as well as the upside down bags on hangers used to grow tomatoes and the bags and towers of petunias.



### Wisconsin Master Gardener Association Annual Conference

**August 16-17, 2013, Janesville, Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteers from across the state are welcomed to register for the 2013 Wisconsin Master Gardener Association Annual Conference. This exclusive event will feature notable local and regional horticulture experts to share their broad swath of gardening knowledge with you. **Seating is limited to 220 people. Registration is open to Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteers only.** For more info go to: <http://wimastergardener.org/?q=EventsList> and click on the August heading.

#### EAU CLAIRE AREA MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

A newsletter for the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association members.

Unless otherwise noted, articles for this newsletter are submitted and/or written by ECAMGA members or the newsletter editor, Carol W. Cox. Unless otherwise noted, graphics are from clipart. Newsletter layout by Carol W. Cox



For more Eau Claire County UW Cooperative Extension information

go to our website:

[www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/EAUCLAIRE](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/EAUCLAIRE)

Phone: 715-839-4712

Fax: 715-839-6277

M-F 8AM-5PM



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**Eau Claire County  
Extension Office  
227 First Street West  
Altoona, WI 54720**