



# Master Gardener Update

## July 2020

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### Virtual Visit

## Bookworm Gardens, Sheboygan

*RPMGA meetings and tours are still on hold. So we continue to bring you virtual tours of some gardens that we either would—or could—have visited. This month we bring you one of Wisconsin’s newest botanical gardens.*

Fifteen years ago a resident of Sheboygan, Sandy Livermore, had an idea. She wanted to create a botanical garden based on children’s books.

She began work on the idea, and for the next eleven years worked on assembling a group of committed individuals to help her get it off the ground. A board of directors was assembled. To bring people into the plan the board gave presentations to groups whose focus was children’s literature – book clubs, service groups, churches, businesses, foundations and individuals. The board applied for non-profit status.

Then came the heavy lifting – fund raising. Together they raised 2.8 million dollars and with



## Websites

### For Rock County

#### MGV info:

rock.extension.wisc.edu/  
upcoming-events-and-  
volunteer-opportunities/  
OR

fyi.extension.wisc.edu/  
mgvrockco/rock-prairie-  
association/

#### MGV Hours Reporting:

wimastergardener.org/  
report-your-hours/

#### RPMGA Blog:

rpmga.blogspot.com

#### RPMGA on Facebook:

Hit control/click on this  
link:

[RPMGA on Facebook](#)

#### Rotary Gardens:

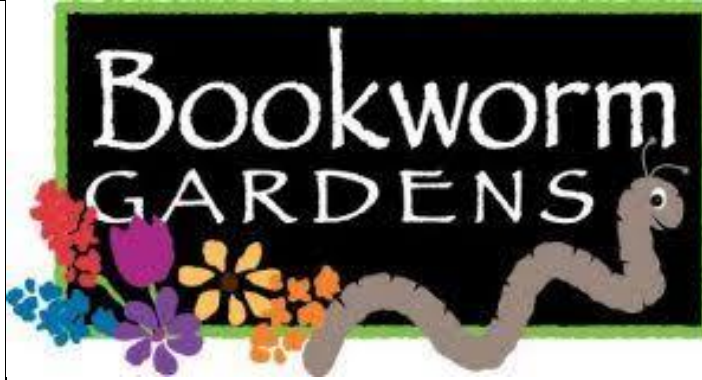
rotarybotanicalgardens.  
org

#### Wisconsin Master Gardener Program:

wimastergardener.org

#### Wisconsin Master Gardener Association

(WIMGA): wimga.org



1,000 people gave of their time, and talent to make the dream a reality.

Ten years ago, on October 16, 2010, Bookworm Gardens opened its gates to over 2,000 visitors. Since the beginning the gardens have partnered with over 20 other non-profits and educational organizations. The gardens are supported through memberships and volunteer hours donated by local folks and local business partners.

The gardens are open May through October. There are over 70 individual “gardens” – all of which were inspired by the book list – many that you and I probably read as kids.

To say the gardens were a success is an understatement. To give you an idea how many folks Bookworm Gardens serves, let’s look at their 2018 visitor statistics. Over 6,000 children participated in the garden’s field trip and camping programs. Over 5,800 adults participated in adult events and workshops. Over 10,000 people visited the garden’s family festivals, and there were over 80,000 general visitors.

*Please go to page 7 for lots of photos and examples of some of the books featured at Bookworm Gardens*

the help of landscape architect Herb Schaal created the garden concept plan. Librarians, teachers and reading specialists compiled the book list that the gardens would be built from.

Before the doors were even opened a steady stream of volunteers began work to put this project together. For over a year volunteers worked to get the site ready. They cleared away dead, diseased and invasive species. Construction began in 2008. Over



*Sandy Livermore*



## Rotary Gardens News

### The Gardens Are Open!

Rotary Gardens just announced expanded summer hours from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily! And as a special perk, it's also open for members only on Wednesdays from 7-9 a.m. As with so many other public places, you're asked to stay home if you aren't feeling well, wear a mask while indoors and keep your distance from other people indoors and out. Also, contactless payment methods (membership, credit card) are preferred.



The garden art display, "Buzzworthy Bees" will be up through the summer. Limited events are also beginning to take place, so keep an eye on the calendar at Rotary's website for more info.

### Volunteering

Yes! Rotary Gardens has been approved as meeting the Covid 19 protocols set by the University of WI. So you can now volunteer as an MGV if you feel comfortable returning to this service. *Note:* Approval has been given for *only* those gardening tasks that can be done without much chance of public contact. You must maintain social distance. And you should bring your own tools, gloves and hand sanitizer. Rotary also has limits on the number of volunteers at any one time, and varied starting times. You can sign up via this link <https://signup.com/go/HycDhWY> or contact Mike Jesiolowski about your preferred time.



*Although volunteer hours are not required for 2021 MGV recertification, the MG administrators would still like you to log the hours you do spend volunteering in the Online Reporting System at [wimastergardener.org](http://wimastergardener.org).*

*Helping out at Rotary Gardens, one volunteer or household per area.*



## Approved Volunteer Opportunities

### *Ask a Master Gardener Facebook Live Sessions*

These weekly on-line Q&A programs are up and running through both Hedberg and Aram (Delevan) Public Libraries! Each session has a topic for the week, with the top 5 things you should know about it, perhaps a pest of the week, and then questions from viewers. The programs remain available through the libraries' Facebook pages, so people can watch at their convenience. At the time this was written, the tomatoes program had 235 views at Hedberg and 341 views at Aram. The Pollinators program had 205 views at Hedberg within 5 days and 138 views at Aram after only 3 days! As you can tell from the numbers, this is a really good way to reach people.



Topics coming up: caring for your annuals, pests in the garden, and lawn care. You can volunteer to give a presentation, just be a member of the group answering questions, or work totally behind the scenes researching topics and following up on questions asked. Horticulture Outreach Specialist Julie Hill also welcomes comments, suggestions and ideas for additional topics. Sessions will continue throughout the summer: Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. for Hedberg, Fridays at noon for Aram. To sign up online, go to <https://www.signupge-nius.com/go/60b0b45acab29a7fa7-library> or email: [julie.hill@wisc.edu](mailto:julie.hill@wisc.edu).

### *Covid-Approved Garden Work*

If you've been waiting for the green light to do some gardening as an MGV, you may now have the chance. Keep in mind, though, that there are still limitations:

The garden must meet Covid safety protocols set by the UW, including signage, social distancing and bringing your own tools and hand sanitizer. As of 6/29, approved gardens in Rock County are **Rotary Botanical Gardens** and the **pollinator garden at Hedberg Public Library**. Other gardens are in the approval process. Watch your email for more info, or contact Julie about getting approval for the garden you're interested in. You can also volunteer at approved gardens in Walworth County. As of 6/29, those include Town of Linn Memorial and Pollinator Garden, Phoenix School Community Garden, SMILES in Darien, Walworth County Gov't Building in Elkhorn, Lakeland Health Care Center in Elkhorn and Black Point Estate and Gardens near Lake Geneva.

## Virtual Chats Go Biweekly

The virtual coffee/tea talks for Rock and Walworth County Master Gardeners are going to a new schedule. Instead of weekly, they will now take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of July and August. Julie Hill will continue to send out an email with a registration link at least two days before the meeting.

Anywhere from 15 to 25 people usually show up. Julie provides the latest updates from the Master Gardener Program Office and what's going on in Rock and Walworth Counties. There's usually lots of casual garden chat, and fun pictures. It's been great meeting some of our counterparts in Walworth County and getting to know each other more.



*Photo by Jorge Garcia on Unsplash*

## Online Training Coming Up in July and beyond

Here are some options for working toward the minimum of 10 hours of continuing education you need before October 1, 2020. (Don't forget to log each training you complete in the Online Reporting System!)

**MGV Level 1 training, guest speakers.** (All Rock and Walworth County MGVs welcome!) Initially presented live via Zoom, but sessions are also recorded and posted at this location: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ablltc-wsqpqw6igYCZ2FokSqaxUeWT\\_R4dLUTqvW\\_k/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ablltc-wsqpqw6igYCZ2FokSqaxUeWT_R4dLUTqvW_k/edit). If you missed Mark Dwyer, Brian Huddelson, P.J. Liesch or others, you can still watch their presentations for education hours. The next live session will take place July 16. Watch for emails from Julie Hill with info on the topic and registration information.

**Wisconsin Hort Update.** A (mostly) weekly program, Fridays at 9:30 a.m., lasting no more than 1 hour, on YouTube. Extension county educators from around the state check in on phenology and plant diagnostic reports. Programs also include updates from the Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic and Insect Diagnostic Lab. [https://docs.google.com/document/d/17Z2m-9zGHbKdm56cD5xL-B4W05hdpJP4kDf1QO\\_LLbc/](https://docs.google.com/document/d/17Z2m-9zGHbKdm56cD5xL-B4W05hdpJP4kDf1QO_LLbc/)

**U of IL Ext Four Seasons Gardening Webinars** via Zoom. All live sessions begin at 1:30 p.m. Classes are free, but you must register in advance. You can get to the website by typing in [go.illinois.edu/fourseasons](http://go.illinois.edu/fourseasons)

July 14: Living Carpets: Ground Covers

August 11: Adventures in Edible Landscaping

September 15: Hardscaping Basics for Patios and Retaining Walls

October 13: Creating a Bottle Terrarium

November 17: History of Forest Pest Outbreaks in North America

Earlier topics are available on Illinois Horticulture's YouTube channel. If you go to the address above, then scroll to the bottom, you'll find a link to the topics available now.

**Watch Your Email for New Announcements.** Julie has been doing a great job of notifying MGVs of upcoming continuing ed sessions and other online resources. So if you see something from her in your inbox, take a look. You could find something that really interests you! (The potato program was solid, and the blueberry program was outstanding!)

**Hate Zoom?** Most of the education opportunities these days do take place via Zoom or start with Zoom and stream it to Facebook or YouTube. If you're not comfortable with Zoom, you should know that all of the Level 2 Plants Plus topics at wimastergardener.org use only prerecorded videos and readings. They're always available, they're free, and if you complete all the readings, videos and quiz for a topic, you net 2 hours of continuing ed for that subject. Topics change, so check back every month or so. Articles are also available to read for a half hour of continuing ed in most cases.



## A Few of the Books Featured at Bookworm Gardens

**Goldilocks & the Three Bears by Jan Brett** - Everybody loves the story of the curious little girl named Goldilocks, who made herself quite at home in the house of the three bears. Jan Brett's lavish illustrations for this classic tale, full of details and surprises, gives this edition a special flair. Children will marvel at the enchanted world created herein.

**Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss** - Everyone laughs when Horton the Elephant offers to sit on Mayzie bird's egg while she goes on holiday. Horton's kindness and faithfulness are sorely tested when he, and the egg, are kidnapped and sold to a circus - but his reward for being faithful is more wonderful than he could ever have dreamed!



**Charlotte's Web by E.B. White** - This beloved book by E. B. White, author of Stuart Little and The Trumpet of the Swan, is a classic of children's literature that is "just about perfect." This high-quality edition features vibrant illustrations colorized by Rosemary Wells! Some Pig. Humble. Radiant. These are the words in Charlotte's Web, high up in Zuckerman's barn. Charlotte's spider web tells of her feelings for a little pig named Wilbur, who simply wants a friend. They also express the love of a girl named Fern, who saved Wilbur's life when he was born the runt of his litter. E. B. White's Newbery Honor Book is a tender novel of friendship, love, life, and death that will continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.

**A Sock Is a Pocket for Your Toes by Elizabeth Garton Scanlon** This delightful verse is captured in energetic artwork, which follows four families through a busy day exploring the surprising ins and outs of the world's

pockets. This special book will leave readers young and old with pockets full of joy! *A cave is a pocket for a bear, a breath is a pocket full of air. A hat is a pocket for your hair, and a seat is a pocket called a chair....* Illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser.







**Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown** - In a great green room, tucked away in bed, is a little bunny. "Goodnight room, goodnight moon." And to all the familiar things in the softly lit room -- to the picture of the three little bears sitting on chairs, to the clocks and his socks, to the mittens and the kittens, to everything one by one -- the little bunny says goodnight.

**The Magic School Bus Plants Seeds by Joanna Cole** - Ms. Frizzle's class is growing a beautiful garden. But, Phoebe's plot is empty. Her flowers are back at her old school! So, the class climbs aboard the Magic School Bus. And, of course, the kids don't only go back to Phoebe's school, but they go inside one of Phoebe's flowers! Follow the kids' adventure and learn how living things grow.

Bookworm Gardens is located at 1415 Campus Drive in Sheboygan, WI. For lots more photos and information, see their website at [www.bookwormgardens.org](http://www.bookwormgardens.org). Complete booklist follows.





## Bookworm Gardens Official Booklist

\*denotes new garden spaces as of 2020

### Animals Gateway

*A Playhouse for Monster* by Virginia Mueller  
*Connor the Caddie*  
by Ulrich Koberstein  
*Diary of a Wombat* by Jackie French  
*Dinosaur Bones* by Bob Barner  
*Harry the Dirty Dog* by Gene Zion  
*Horton Hatches the Egg* by Dr. Seuss  
*Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni  
*Is Your Mama a Llama?*  
by Deborah Guarino  
*Look Up!* by Annette LeBlanc Cate  
*Stuart Little* by E.B. White  
*The Three Pigs* by David Wiesner  
*Twitch* by Judi Fors  
*Water is Water* by Miranda Paul



### Creative Gateway

\**Action Jackson* by Jan Greenberg  
*Degas and the Little Dancer*  
by Laurence Anholt  
*Joyful Noise* by Paul Fleischman  
*Katie and the Sunflowers*  
by James Mayhew  
*The Waterfall's Gift* by Joanna Ryder +  
Richard Jesse Watson



### Memory Gateway

*The Poppy Lady*  
by Barbara Elizabeth Walsh  
*Waiting for Wings* by Lois Ehlert  
*Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox



More information available at [bookwormgardens.org](http://bookwormgardens.org)  
1415 Campus Drive, Sheboygan, Wisconsin



### Farm Gateway

*A Kid's Herb Book* by Lesley Tierra  
*A Sock is a Pocket for Your Toes*  
by Elizabeth Garton Scanlon  
*Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White  
*Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type* by Doreen Cronin  
*Curious George and the Pizza* by Margaret + H.A. Reys  
*Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin  
*From Corn to Cereal* by Roberta Basel  
*Gathering the Sun* by Alma Flor Ada  
*George Washington Carver: The Peanut Wizard*  
by Laura Driscoll  
*Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert  
*Johnny Appleseed* by Steven Kellogg  
\**Little Blue Truck* by Alice Schertle  
*Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots* by Sharon Lovejoy  
*The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter  
*The Tin Forest* by Helen Ward  
*Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens  
*Sam & Dave Dig A Hole* by Mac Barnett  
\**Sonya's Chickens* by Phoebe Wahl

### Learning Cottage, Restrooms, Amphitheater

\**A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Various Authors  
*Bugs for Lunch* by Marjory Facklam  
*Friend to All* by Julily Kohler  
*Hansel and Gretel* by Rika Lesser  
*Mother Earth and her Children* by Sibylle Von Olfers  
*The Big Red Tub* by Julia Jarman  
*The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett  
*The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame

### Pond + Wetland Gateway

*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett  
*Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey  
*McElligot's Pool* by Dr. Seuss  
*The Story about Ping* by Majorie Flack + Kurt Weise



### Welcome Gateway

*A Girl Named Helen Keller* by Margo Lundell  
*Alison's Zinnia* by Anita Lobel  
*Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes  
*Frankie the Walk and Roll Dog* by Barb Techel  
*Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown  
*Harald & the Purple Crayon: The Giant Garden*  
by Patricia Larkin  
*He Came with the Couch* by David Slonim  
*Jack and the Beanstalk* by Steven Kellogg  
*Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert  
*Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*Tennis Shoes* by Noel Streatfeild  
*The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein  
*The Magic School Bus Plants Seeds* by Joanna Cole  
*Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein  
*Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

### Woodlands Gateway

*Fairy Houses* by Tracy Kane  
*Goldilocks & the Three Bears* by Jan Brett  
*Little House in the Big Woods*  
by Laura Ingalls Wilder  
*One Leaf Rides the Wind*  
by Celeste Davidson Mannis  
*Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*  
by Eleanor Coerr  
*A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold  
*The Magic Tree House* by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne

### Readers Roundup 2020 Garden

\**Kate, Who Tamed the Wind*  
by Liz Garton Scanlon

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