

February 27, 2018—Really??

Greetings, WIMGA Local Representatives and Board Members,

I'm not sure where the month of February went. I know it's a short month, but this is ridiculous; I was just talking about Ground Hog's Day with the kindergarten students I volunteer with on Fridays...that can't be almost a month ago! As I talk with Master Gardeners around the state, though, that is what I hear from everyone—we are busy people! So let me give you a few quick updates about WIMGA.

- Welcome to new representatives: Robyn Preston, Adams County (Local Rep); Rosalie O'Connell, LaCrosse County (District Director); Nancy Jahnel-Barnes, Racine-Kenosha (District Director), Janet Mangold, North County (At Large Director). A sincere thanks to each of you for your willingness to serve!
- The WIMGA board met by teleconference on January 13. Mike Maddox updated us on the migration of UW-Extension to UW-Madison, and how a memorandum of understanding (MOU) will help clarify the working relationships of the institution, county and state associations. Board members signed up for committees and discussed next steps for the strategic plan.
- The WIMGA Board will meet in person at the Hancock Ag Research Station on Tuesday March 6. An agenda and meeting prep materials will be coming soon.
- The Spring face-to-face meeting with the Board and Local Representatives will be Saturday, April 28, 10—3 pm, also at Hancock. Local Reps are invited to work with Board members on committees, and have taken a lot of leadership on several of the strategic plan subcommittees; I will include a copy of that with this letter, so you can start thinking about areas you would like to work on, or other issues WIMGA could tackle.
- Registration is open for the 2018 WIMGA conference! Autumn at the River will be in Eau Claire Sept 21-22; <https://www.wimgaconferences.com/> the tours, speakers and activities sound great. Be sure to respond to their request for silent auction donations; questions go to halirenee@yahoo.com
- We need an association or group of locals to host the 2019 conference. Avoid arm-twisting by volunteering now! Seriously, it is a great group experience. I personally have loved the chance to see MG projects and speakers in action all around the state.
- Don't forget to send your officer information and most recent bylaws from your association to me, or to [wimga.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:wimga.secretary@gmail.com). THANK YOU!