

# DEMETER NEWS

• FOCUSING ON OUR COMMUNITY & THE UW-MADISON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES •

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings! As our weather continues to warm up and more of us receive the COVID vaccine, hopefully we are all seeing the light at the end of this pandemic tunnel. Regarding upcoming Demeter activity, I think it is likely that we will schedule another Zoom meeting for our annual meeting.



There will be a paper ballot distributed by U.S. mail to you. It is becoming more difficult to find volunteers for board positions. Openings are available for all of the following: corresponding secretary, newsletter editor, recording secretary, treasurer, and vice-president. Our male members are encouraged to volunteer. The current treasurer and newsletter editor are willing to assist with the learning curve for their successors. Please contact Lynn Grooms if you would like to enjoy participating on the Demeter board or desire more information on these positions. We are a very congenial, worthwhile organization!

Although unable to meet in-person, we are pleased to have already offered three virtual programs, all of which you can read about elsewhere in this newsletter. Links to view the programs are sent ahead of time to all members who have provided email addresses.

Your Board has voted to authorize the scholarships that are to be awarded during the 2021-2022 school year. The total amounts are slightly less than last year, but there is an additional \$8000 amount which, due to the pandemic, could not be used during this current school year and is still available. Your contributions for scholarships are deeply appreciated!

*Gail Schaefer, president*

The Dean's residence is under remodel as a conference facility in conjunction with the Pyle and Lowell Conference Centers. Handicap access is being included in the remodel.



## BEHIND THE SCENES the garden is still growing

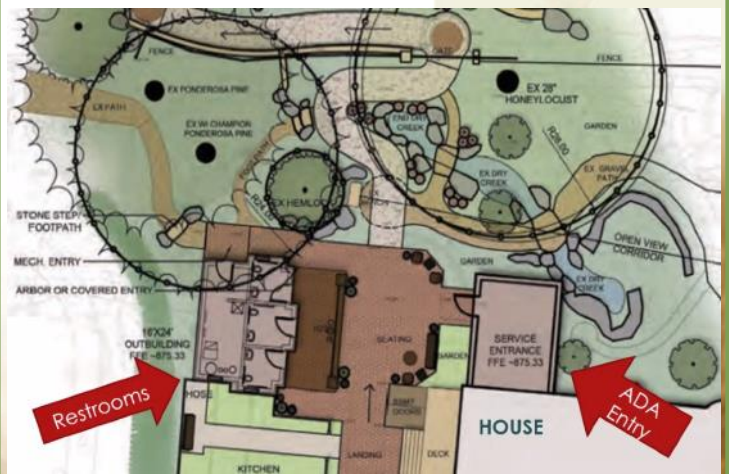


Johanna Oosterwyck, DC Smith Greenhouse Manager & Interim Director of the Allen Centennial Garden, was Demeter's guest speaker via a Zoom presentation Wednesday evening, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

A few highlights for those not able to attend: Not all plants go dormant in the winter but lay under the snow waiting for the first warm weather to surface. Bulbs like cold temperatures. Many seeds lie dormant under the snow waiting for warmer temperatures to germinate. Many plants set their flowers in the fall. In the spring you should allow leaves to remain on your gardens until temperatures reach 50 degrees as they protect the ground and the bulbs coming up. Early spring is a good time to work on your woody plants, removing dead growth or pruning away excess growth. Keep your tools clean when working between plants to deter spreading disease. Lysol works well for this.

The Allen Centennial Garden is an educational facility providing opportunities for outdoor classroom learning and enjoyment. The facility is now open to the public by appointment with capacity restrictions. (website: [allencentennialgardens.org](http://allencentennialgardens.org)) A new Garden Director will be on board in the near future.

*Judy Barth, reporter*



## Virtual Tour of MSABD

On February 17, Dan Schaefer, Jeff Sindelar and Steve Ricke treated Demeter members to a virtual tour of the new Meat Science and Animal Biologics Discovery (MSABD) building. The \$57 million, state-of-the-art facility is located between Observatory Drive and Linden Drive immediately west of the Poultry research building. It was completed and occupied at the beginning of fall semester, 2020. Dr. Ricke joined the university in October, 2020 as the new Director of MSABD.



Dan Schaefer

The MSABD is designed to address three broad areas: the biology and processing of meat into consumer products, technologies to improve the food safety of meat and meat products, and the discovery of biologics particularly in those parts of animals not normally used for food that have potential to improve animal production or human health. The latter is a completely new area of emphasis not found anywhere else in the US.



Jeff Sindelar

We enjoyed a great virtual tour of the beautifully designed and equipped USDA-inspected areas where animals and birds are harvested and converted into fresh or processed meat products. It includes areas for animal holding, slaughter, chilling, carcass fabrication, and manufacture and packaging of any type of processed or ready-to-eat products. There is also a modern retail outlet, Bucky's Varsity Meats, where all

products are available to the public.

Teaching facilities include 60- and 80-seat lecture halls with glass fronts looking into refrigerated rooms where students or workshop participants can view demonstrations of processing operations directly and via video monitor. There is direct audio communication between the classrooms and the demonstration areas. MSABD also has a large teaching laboratory and a flexible, shared research laboratory.

The MSABD contains a Biosafety Level 2 research facility with its entrances, heating, ventilating, water supply and waste decontamination systems completely separate from the rest of the building. The BSL 2 area is designed to conduct research with food pathogens that potentially can contaminate meat products. It is equipped to do all of the operations of the USDA-inspected facility but on a much smaller scale and with animals or products that are contaminated with food pathogens. No other university has this kind of capability. In addition to supporting research by UW faculty and staff, it is anticipated that many companies will be attracted to UW to conduct research and process validation studies in this unique facility.



Steven Ricke  
Director  
MSABD

Submitted by *Anonymous*. Gratefully acknowledged.

## Center for Dairy Research (CDR)

Did you know that if Wisconsin were a country, it would be the fourth largest cheese producer in the world? In the 1940's about 3000 small Wisconsin cheese factories produced a half dozen kinds of cheese. Now only 130 are making over 600 varieties, thanks to the Master Cheesemaker Program, research and other production support by the Center for Dairy Research (CDR). These Wisconsin varieties win more medals than any single country.



John Lucey  
Director CDR



The Demeter membership was introduced to these startling facts on December 9, by Dr. John Lucey, Professor of Food Science at UW-Madison and Director of the CDR. This new facility, an expansion of Babcock Hall, is nearing completion on Linden Dr. Their vision is to advance the North American Dairy Industry by developing and improving dairy products. The center was established in 1986 by Norm Olson and in 2019 US cheese exports were \$1.5 billion. The CDR is funded primarily by a checkoff on raw milk sales. Ninety percent of WI milk goes into cheese production and WI now produces half of US specialty cheese. The product currently under development in their new aseptic/UHT beverage facility is shelf stable milk.



↑ MSABD Building  
← Bucky's Varsity Meats

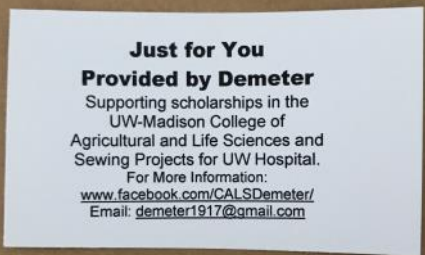
## Notes from the Sewing Workshop

Demeter's sewers continue to meet the demand at the hospital for caps

and scarves, and sometimes we receive feedback. We would like to share a couple of those stories. We attach a tag to each item, therefore the recipient is made aware of who has donated it.

We received an email from a lady who had accompanied her friend to an appointment. Her friend chose our caps and on the tag was our email. She contacted us and wanted to volunteer to sew, as she was so impressed with our caps and generosity. She is now helping sew caps at her home in Cross Plains. Her friend has passed but she is sewing in her memory. Another lady contacted us and asked if there was any chance she could get a couple more of our caps. She had tried many and ours were the softest and the best fitting. She has Stage 4 breast cancer and thirty weeks of chemo ahead of her. We were able to deliver some extra caps for her to the hospital, and she made a generous donation to our sewing fund. It was a nice feeling to know we had made a small difference in her life right now, and to know our group is touching the lives of cancer patients.

*Lynda Thomas & Jan Martin, Sewing Workshop*



## Thinking of You...Valentines

With so much isolation from COVID-19, we felt some of our members might need a little note of cheer. As a result, handmade valentines were sent to some of our members.

*Carrie Aberle, chair, Jan Martin, creator*



## Demeter seeks nominations for board

Demeter members – your organization needs you! We need your help to serve on the 2021-2022 board of directors. We also would greatly appreciate nominations. The following positions are open.

- Vice-president
- Treasurer
- Recording secretary
- Corresponding secretary
- Newsletter editor

Even if you're new to Demeter or haven't previously served on the board, we want to encourage you to consider serving. The current board members in these positions would be happy to talk with you about what's involved with their posts. They also have expressed their willingness to help make a smooth transition!

The COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing has affected everyone. We understand this, so the board is meeting via Zoom and will continue to do so until it is safe to meet in person.

If you would like to learn more about any of the board posts, please contact us.

Demeter's continued vitality depends on its members and its leadership.

Nominating committee:

Lynn Grooms, 608-437-2827

Dorothy Binning, 608-824-9883

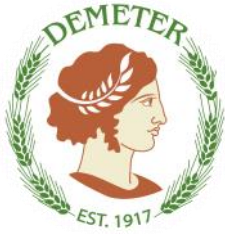
Ester Lowery, 608-829-1689

*Lynn Grooms, chair*

**Note from the Treasurer:** Anyone who is interested in the fiscal report from 2019-2020 should contact Candee Craven.



Seen smiling in  
Allen Centennial  
Garden



**DEMETER**

Judy Barth  
1885 Briarwood Lane  
Fitchburg, WI 53575-2001

**HAPPY 105th  
BIRTHDAY!**

Christie Jackson



**CONGRATULATIONS**

**CALS Distinguished Service Award**

Abe Aberle

**SYMPATHIES!**

Leone Suttie  
death of John  
Family of Donna Marx  
death of Donna  
Darlyne Jorgensen  
death of Neal  
Family of Ruth Hodgson  
death of Ruth  
Ann Munkres Zenner  
death of Kenneth Munkres  
Daryl Lund  
death of Dawn

**THINKING OF YOU**

Judy Stang

**CALENDAR**

**Spring luncheon &  
Annual Business  
Meeting**

May 5, 2021

By Zoom, TBA

Paper ballot for election will be  
sent by US Mail.

Please send news to  
Carrie Aberle  
carrie\_ra1@charter.net

**Directory Change**

JoDee Sattler  
4634 Lake Club Circle,  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Photography: Jan Martin  
Editors: Martha & Doug Maxwell  
martha.maxwell41@gmail.com

**DONORS**

Scholarship Fund

Chrystie Jackson and Gail Schaefer

Newsletter

Sharon Brantmeier

In Memory of

June & Dwight Forsyth by David Forsyth

Neal Jorgensen by

Dorothy & Larry Binning

Dottie Luening by Ruby Dobson

Dawn Lund by Joyce Bringe

Donna Marx by Linda Harvey

to the Sewing Workshop

Martha Schrader by Ruby Dobson

Thank you to all donors for supporting the  
work and scholarships of Demeter.

**Handmade Heroes Award**

Demeter Sewers were recognized for their  
help in the community with a Handmade  
Heroes Award by JoAnn Fabrics. The  
award was a \$100 Gift Card.