

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SALLY TEASDALE Class of 1999

My favorite volunteer opportunity is anything that gets me to meet new people, enjoy current friends and get something accomplished that benefits everyone. Wow, I guess that's my personal mission statement.

As a teacher, I spent my summers somewhere and my dad would come over to mow my yard. One fall I returned and discovered he had started a garden in the backyard. It cut his mowing time! Each summer it got bigger. He gardened there up until three years ago when he became old, really old. Now it stands empty, but with a little hard work, my neighbor, Shirley Martin, hopefully will use it.

I really wasn't interested in gardening big time until I married a dairy farmer. That's where I spend my time when not teaching. I help with anything they tell me to do-and still have time to garden everywhere. My farm house has a wrap around raised garden. Two summers ago I used large fodder bales (600 lb chopped corn stalks) for part of my garden at another location. They were sitting there, so I thought, why not? Small straw bales looked too wimpy and I like to think BIG! They worked great! Every July, I spend a week (my only vacation time off) working at the Monroe County Fair in Tomah. I volunteer as a superintendent for the recycling, soils and plant sciences departments. I get to work with great 4H members and believe that the future of our earth is in their hands. I wear my Master Gardener name tag and help with questions from the public as I am working there. I

enjoy the people, young and old who share one of my favorite topics and help me attain my mission statement. I also get to enter exhibits myself and have a box full of ribbons! I think everyone in our group should try it; it validates what we love to do and what a rush to find a ribbon on our entry! Try it! you'll become addicted!

One of many benefits of living in the country is that we don't have light pollution on the farm property I live on. It is so dark at night, that the Milky Way is gorgeous! Fireflies light up the night in early summer and wonderful smells of the earth are everywhere!



I create sculptures here on the farm in between chores. This is my biggest so far-4x6ft. I have a cadillac chicken coop-so I needed a rooster!



Chair made because the bird I am like is a crow. I etched my personal story of my revelation around the bottom which wraps the chair. My very first chair, so I learned from my mistakes for the second - a butterfly. Hopefully, these should outlive me.

Miss a meeting? Minutes from the member meetings are posted on the bulletin board at the UW-Extension Office and on the website in the 'Members Only' section