



Website: [lc-mga.org](http://lc-mga.org)

**LCMGA Newsletter \* November / December 2017**

Hello Master Gardeners,

A riddle for you: You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?  
Look to the end for the answer.

The wet fall weather has arrived. Garden harvest is over and it was a very good harvest this year. My Mexican sunflowers lasted well into October, the bees and some butterflies took advantage of that fact.

The Master Gardener class is going well. Take time to welcome the trainees at the December Awards meeting. They are very important to the future of our association. I like the choice of the Lapeer County Animal Shelter for our charity this year; all three of our pets are stray or shelter animals. The December speaker, Chad Perkins, will speak about evergreens in general. If you are getting in on the gift exchange, remember the limit has been raised to \$20.00 this year.

Answer to riddle: Corn on the cob. You throw away the sheaf then cook it, eat the corn and throw away the cob.

Whether the weather be cold or whether the weather be hot. Whatever the weather, we'll weather the weather whenever we like it or not.

Ken Mitchell  
President

## **November 2017 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer Report is available at every LCMGA meeting and Display Garden meeting and is reviewed at every Board meeting; each Board member receives a hard copy monthly. There is a hard copy available at every meeting for your review or questions. If you have questions you may always call or email me at home.

BUDGETS for 2018 are due November 1 for both the Display Garden and Association projects. All projects asking for funding this year must meet the educational criteria for MSUE Master Gardeners.

## **Volunteer Management System**

The VMS has the new approved projects and you will find that most of our projects will fit into one of the new projects. Deadline for entering hours is **December 31, 2017**. Certification dates are in January of 2018. The certification fee is still \$20.00 and the process is same as last year and is on-line. If you need assistance just contact me. The exact dates will be sent to each individual after the December 31, 2017 date. Certification fees are paid by credit card or check, please watch the dates. I can assist with this process if you need help. Click for link to: [VMS](#)

### Volunteer Projects

The Board will be happy to help you fill out the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program Volunteer Project Proposal for new projects. There are also forms specifically for "Community Volunteer Project Proposal" when an organization or company wants help from Master Gardeners with a project - the requesting organization fills out the form and submit.

Remember the criteria:

"The mission of the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program is to further the land-grant university goal of disseminating scientifically based information via a network of trained volunteers who receive support and guidance from MSU Extension specialists and educators in providing Michigan residents with the most current and environmentally sound horticulture information."

Also remember, there are many things we do that are "really nice things to do" but aren't educational.

AND, also remember many of our current projects can become educational with just a little thought and we can help each other with that task.

Call me with questions. Forms are to be submitted electronically.

Mary Paine  
Treasurer and VMS Ambassador

## October Meeting

The October meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 6:00 PM at the Mayfield Township Hall with 37 members attending.

President Ken Mitchell opened the meeting and introduced Melvyn Corner from [Horizon Plants LLC](#). He gave a very interesting and informative presentation on propagating plants. There is a **1-hour education credit** for attending this meeting.

After the break, Mary Paine gave the Treasurer report and passed out the volunteer hour sheets and explained how to enter your hours this year. She also reported that there are 39 trainees attending the MG classes in Imlay City. Please call Jackie Delisi to volunteer on Thursday evenings starting at 4:30 PM.

Carole Billig thanked all of the volunteers who helped this year for **Project Red**, and she also needs some suggestions for next year.

Georgia Ellis reported on the [Adopt-a-Highway](#) project and thanked the 14 volunteers who picked up litter and dispersed wildflower seeds. More help is needed for next year starting the week of April 15, 2018. The cleanup is on M-24, between Miller Lake Rd. and Burnside Rd.

The December Holiday/Awards dinner will be held on **Friday, December 1, 2017**, 6:00 PM at the Mayfield Township Hall. A sign-up sheet was available and Rick Talaski collected the required \$5.00 reservation deposit from the members. The charity chosen for this year is the Lapeer County Animal Shelter. The Garden Gift Exchange was raised to \$20.00. Chad Perkins will speak on evergreens. The offices of Vice-President and Treasurer will be voted on at the meeting.

A discussion on using the 30-cup coffee pot at the meetings or changing to pay-as-you-go K-cups was tabled until the February 2018 meeting.

Speakers are still needed for next year's meetings, and new educational project ideas are also needed.

Door prizes were awarded, and 2 large boxes of zucchini were given away.

Linda Ladoski  
Secretary

## December Meeting

The annual Holiday / Awards meeting will be held on **Friday, December 1, 2017** at 6:00 PM at the Mayfield Township Hall. This meeting is for ACTIVE Lapeer County Master Gardeners, their spouses, and new Trainees. You **MUST** make a reservation before Thanksgiving and a deposit of \$5.00 will be collected to reserve your spot. The deposit will be returned to you at arrival.

Bryan's will cater the dinner, and Pat Maitland will make her scrumptious desserts. Chad Perkins will speak on evergreens.

The charity chosen for this year is the [Lapeer County Animal Shelter](#). Suggested items to donate are; paper towels, bleach, scented dryer crystals, dawn soap, kitty litter and gift cards to local pet supplies stores.

The optional **Garden Gift Exchange** limit has been raised to \$20.00. Participants can bring a wrapped garden-related gift to exchange.

Elections for President and Treasurer will be held.

Click for link to **MSUE** posting Nov 21, 2017 : [Choosing the correct Christmas tree](#)

### Naples Grape Pie - (uses 2 pie crusts)

Filling:	4 Cups Concord Grapes	1 Tsp. Lemon Juice
	¾ Cup Sugar	3 Tbsp. Butter
	5 Tbsp. All-purpose Flour	2 Tbsp. Honey
	½ Tsp. Salt	1 Tsp. Vanilla

Pinch the grapes at the end opposite the stem to pop out the pulp. Reserve the skins. Place the pulp in a medium sized saucepan and bring to a rolling boil. Remove from heat, and while still hot, rub the pulp through a strainer to remove the seeds. Mix the strained pulp with the reserved skins in a large mixing bowl. Add the sugar, flour, salt, lemon juice, butter, honey and vanilla. Mix well.

Topping:	1 ½ Cups Rolled Oats	1 Tsp. Vanilla
	1 Stick Butter	½ Cup Brown Sugar

Mix ingredients together until a crumbly mixture forms. Heat oven to 425 degrees. Line a pie plate with piecrust. Sprinkle 1/3 of the topping over the bottom of the crust, and then add the filling. Cut another piecrust into strips. Crisscross the dough strips over the pie and brush strips with a beaten egg. Sprinkle the final 1/3 topping over the top. Bake for 40 minutes.

## Display Garden on Suncrest - November 2017

I stopped by the garden this morning between the weekend rains - temperature was 59 degrees; removed some spent zinnias, petunias and geraniums. There are still perennials for the birds to explore and even the lone bee I encountered in the Funky bed. Of course the water has been turned off for the season so no bathrooms outside, but still plenty to look at and enjoy. The grasses are still gorgeous and will provide excellent winter interest.

We haven't cut the hydrangeas back yet. I still think they look so pretty. If you haven't looked at the 7 Sons shrub about 10 ft. from the horse, take a moment and enjoy the special peeling bark and remnants of its flowers.

Now is a great time to walk around and think what changes you would make if it were yours or perhaps suggest a change for next year. The 2nd courtyard, close to the new south entrance, looks really nice. It will be ready for visitors in the spring. Blacktop and striping were done while the temperature allowed. Perhaps the construction trailer will be gone by the 2018 Tea!!

Enjoy the rest of this unusual year, turn in your budget if you have one and remember to let us know if you are coming to the awards meeting Friday, December 1.

Don't forget to enter your volunteer hours or call me if you need help.  
Still 3 Master Gardener classes if you need education hours.

Mary Paine  
Display Garden on Suncrest Chairman

### **MG Membership**

Please click for: [eligibility guidelines](#) and click for: [application form](#)

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Newsletter	
* Garden Budgets Due November 1, 2017 *	
11/2 4:30 PM - MG CLASS - House Pests Heritage Church, Imlay City, MI	12/1 6:00 PM - MG Assoc. Meeting Dinner / Awards / Gift Exchange Mayfield Township Hall, Lapeer
11/4 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Display Garden Final Fall Cleanup / Bring Tools	12/7 MG Class - Make up if needed
11/9 4:30 PM - MG CLASS - Vegetables Heritage Church, Imlay City, MI	
11/15 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting Suncrest Activities Room	<b>Newsletter Deadline:</b> Please send all newsletter articles and information for printing before the dead- line on Jan. 5, 2018 to: Linda Ladoski at:
11/16 4:30 PM - MG CLASS – Water Resources Heritage Church, Imlay City, MI	
11/30 4:30 PM - MG CLASS - Diagnostics Heritage Church, Imlay City, MI	tladoski@greatlakes.net

**LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER  
ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 – 6:00 PM**

MAYFIELD TOWNSHIP HALL  
1900 N. Saginaw  
Lapeer, MI 48446

- \* CATERED DINNER / RECOGNITION AWARDS \*
- \* OFFICER ELECTIONS \*
- \* SPEAKER: CHAD PERKINS “EVERGREENS” \*
- \* CHARITY: LAPEER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER \*
- \* GARDEN GIFT EXCHANGE \*

**(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)**