



## NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2015

Hi Gardeners,

It was awesome weather for the Tea! Huge success and fun for all!! I would like to thank Carol Wong and her granddaughters Lauren and Hanna who worked all day! Thanks to Ron G. and Colleen who also helped at the raffle table! Special thanks also to Lynne McCarthy who is a new MG! She also worked tirelessly! Emmadel Hayes, thank you for showing up when we needed you most! Ladies and one Gentleman who served awesome tables with smiles on your faces ALL day no matter what the ailments, thank you! We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you to everyone for all your work!

Georgia Ellis  
Co-President

Dear Gardeners,

Where did the summer go? Soon it will be time to put our gardens to rest for the year. I put down four truckloads of mulch around my pine trees and my flowerbeds. Big job, many rewards.

Seems I cut the lawn many more times this year. It's still green and growing. Normally it would be brown and burnt by this time of summer, but not this year. It's great to see the grass doing well this late in the season.

Soon there will be a chill in the air and the leaves will be turning into a multitude of vibrant colors. I am really looking forward to it. I enjoy this time of the year.

Ron Gotowicki  
Co-President

## AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, 6:30 PM at the Display Garden on Suncrest pavilion. Co-President Georgia Ellis opened the meeting with 43 members present.

Linda Ladoski gave the Secretary report. The minutes of the June meeting were published in the July/August 2015 newsletter. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Rick Talaski motioned to approve and Carol Billig seconded the motion. The members approved the minutes.

Judy Niergarth gave the Treasurer report. The proceeds from the Tea were about \$6,000.00 Judy reminded members to total all receipts submitted for reimbursement and include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Georgia introduced Dr. Swan from Swan Chiropractic & Wellness in Davison. Dr. Swan gave a very interesting and informative presentation on proper lifting and moving in the garden, and how to protect your back while planting. There is a **1½-hour education credit** for attending this meeting.

The members took a snack break.

Vice President Ken Mitchell reported on the Eastern Michigan State Fair. He announced the names of the winners of the Fairy Garden Contest. Over 1,000 votes for entries were received from patrons. We lost a lot of butterflies this year. The Silent Auction raised \$1,208.50 and the exhibits were awesome. The hanging baskets down the center aisle looked really nice and the turnout for workers was great. Georgia suggested we skip the Butterfly Tent for next year and instead have some type of hands-on craft for kids with 5 people per shift. The members all thanked Ken for doing an awesome job as chairman for the Fair.

Carole Billig reported on Project Red, which will be held on Tuesday, October 6 at the fairgrounds, from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to lead 3<sup>rd</sup> graders around. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Recommendations for speakers are needed for the February and April 2016 meetings.

The Display Garden still needs help with mowing on Mondays and Fridays.

The 50/50 drawing has been discontinued because of raffle rules for non-profits.

Mick Hodgson brought in several Hosta plants and a small Red Bud tree for door prizes.

Georgia adjourned the meeting.

Linda Ladoski, Secretary

## TREASURER'S REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2015

The treasurer's activity is available at Display Garden and Association meetings. A hard copy of Treasurer's report is reviewed at every board meeting and provided to each Board member. The hard copy is available at every association meeting for your review and/or questions.

Reimbursement sheets are available on our website and should be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope for payment. Otherwise checks will be available at our next meeting.

Budget time again! If you are requesting money for your project for 2016, it's time to get your request to the Board. Request doesn't have to be fancy; it can be handwritten on a piece of paper. Thanks.

Judy Niergarth, Treasurer

**Extra Potted Trees: Mary Lou LaFond is doing some garden downsizing at home. She has 2 approximately 5' potted trees. You would pick them up. If interested, email her at: [marylafond@frontier.com](mailto:marylafond@frontier.com)**

### SEPTEMBER

Newsletter  
9/9 5:00 - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds  
Group Workday / Bring Tools  
9/16 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest  
Group Workday / Bring Tools  
9/16 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting  
Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion

### OCTOBER

10/5 TBA - Project Red Meeting  
Fairgrounds - Imlay City  
10/6 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM - Project Red  
Fairgrounds - Imlay City  
10/7 6:00 PM - MG Association Meeting  
7 Ponds Nat. Ctr. / Bring Snacks  
10/14 5:00 - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds  
Group Workday / Bring Tools  
10/21 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest  
Group Workday / Bring Tools  
10/21 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting  
Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion  
10/24 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Display Garden  
Group Workday / Fall Clean-up

### NOVEMBER

Newsletter  
11/7 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Display Garden  
Group Workday / Final Fall Clean-up  
11/18 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting  
Suncrest / Activities Room

### DECEMBER

12/4 6:30 PM - MG Association Meeting  
Annual Holiday Awards Dinner  
Garden Gift Exchange

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please send all newsletter articles and information for printing before the deadline on November 7, 2015 to: Linda Ladoski: [tladoski@greatlakes.net](mailto:tladoski@greatlakes.net)

Interesting and informative garden related articles are always welcome in our newsletter. They also count for volunteer time.

## **Project RED 2015 . . .**

. . . will be held at the Eastern Michigan State Fair Grounds (formerly known as the Imlay City Fair grounds) on Tuesday, October 6. All volunteers are asked check in at 8 AM, we should be done by 3:30 PM – more on time and details to come.

This is a project sponsored by Farm Bureau with the help of Ed Tech and Lapeer County Master Gardeners. You will be asked to lead groups of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to various stations where they will learn about farming.

A meeting is planned for Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> for those who would like to walk through the stations ahead of time to be better prepared for the Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> event.

**Let me know if you are interested in helping AND, if so, whether you have a *RED*, Project Red shirt or, if you DO NOT have one, - what SIZE.**

**Contact: Carole Billig  
810-688-2314 and leave a message or  
[carolebillig@yahoo.com](mailto:carolebillig@yahoo.com)**

*NOTE: You may take up to 3 hours as MG Education and the rest as MG Volunteer hours OR ALL as MG Volunteer hours.*

*You MAY NOT use the same hours for both (NO double-dipping!)*



## **VMS Reminder September 2015**

Just another reminder: enter your volunteer and education hours for 2015 into the MSUE Volunteer Management System. Requirement is still the same 5 hours of education and 15 hours of volunteer time. You do not have to enter each day separately; it is easier to enter hours for a week or a month at a time. Remember if you are close to 250, 500, 1000, or 2000 hours I do need time to order the appropriate pins for our annual award meeting in December. Also to nominate someone for an award, call me or contact any board member.

If you need education there is still the Sanilac County Conference in Lexington and Genesee County Conference in Flint. Both events have 5 hours of educational credits and information and links can be found on our website: [www.lc-mga.org](http://www.lc-mga.org)

If you need assistance call or email me.

Mary Paine, VMS Ambassador

## **Display Garden on Suncrest - September 2015**

The Garden is still looking very, very good. Yes, many of the perennials are almost done for the season but they put on a great show of color, aroma, texture and awesome height! If you haven't seen the tall Mexican sunflowers, the Nitida rudbeckia, the lush, black Prince Grass, and cup plants you should check out the garden. And after a slow start the hyacinth beans are waving from the top trellis and "obelisks". Annuals, herbs and grasses seem to love the heat and occasional downpours we have been seeing. The hydrangeas are having the best year since they were planted. Most of them are bent over from the weight of their many, large flowers this year.

The construction at the facility is in full swing; piles of dirt, now mud on 3 sides of the building. The Garden is fenced off on the East side so there is no access from what use to be the gravel lot and is now a staging-building site. Parking will be a bit crowded for a while but it is supposed to be an 18-month project.

It has been another busy season with more activity than usual as more visitors and more resident's families find us. The weather appeared threatening for the Tea but we had another beautiful, successful event. The new fire-pit patio has brought even more residents outside.

Many, many thanks go to the volunteers who maintain the Garden regularly. Now that we are landlocked, it will be interesting to see what changes will happen next year, planned or not. How about joining us, we can always use an extra hand or two. There is still plenty of time to garden this year and a whole winter to plan.

Next Display Garden workday is September 16, 4:00 P.M. See you then, or sooner.

Mary Paine, Chairman, Display Garden on Suncrest

*“Gardening requires lots of water – most of it in the form of perspiration.”*  
*Lou Erickson*

## **EASTERN MICHIGAN STATE FAIR**

I want to thank each and every one that helped in any way with the Fair. I couldn't be more pleased; we have gotten feedback that the Master Gardener Barn was really nice. All of the exhibits were very well made and set up and looked professional. A big THANK YOU to all of the Master Gardeners for all the work putting up exhibits, and to Walt Meyer for all of the work he put into the Fair. Also thank you to Sylvia Graham's husband and Deb Brown's husband for their help in set up and take down of the Fair.

The Fairy Garden Contest was a big hit thanks to Marlene and Ken Daniels and Barb Hunter. We had 1,000 + votes in the contest, the 15 and under winner was Justin Daniels, and the 16 and over winner was Nancy Zimmer.

The Silent Auction was a great success. Items ranged from hand made things, plants, baskets, and gift cards. \$1,209.00 was brought in on the auction. Thank you to all who donated or bid on these items. Thank you to Linda Ladoski for organizing the auction tables.

The Butterfly tent was full for the first 2 days; it was so hot we lost many butterflies. The children did enjoy them still. Thank you to Barb Hunter, Mary Paine and Sue Corder for organizing the exhibit.

The Butterfly Garden had a lot of work put in to educational posters and into identifying plants and the butterflies they attract. Thank you, Carole Billig, Sue Corder, and all who helped on the exhibit.

Al Butler's Straw Bale Garden generated a lot of interest; it was loaded with lots of peppers, tomatoes and squash. Thank you, Al.

Thank you, Rick Talaski for making the Barn look so beautiful with all those hanging baskets, great job.

Deb Brown and friends' Unique Container Garden was beautiful in showing so many ways to use found objects, and thank you for donating some of the planters to the Silent Auction.

We had a video on TV showing plants eating bugs and it was very entertaining. A big Thanks to Walt for the video.

Candice Meyer and Sylvia Graham's Shade Garden was beautiful as usual. Set up so relaxing with a hammock and a bistro table and chairs. People were using it as a photo booth backdrop for pictures. Thank you both.

The Earth Tunnel took on a bit of whimsy this year with a variety of stuffed animals on top.

ALL in the Fair was a big success, and I am looking forward to new ideas for exhibits next year from more Master Gardeners. Thank you to all who made the Fair possible.

Ken Mitchell, Vice President and Fair Chairman

## **TEA THYME IN THE GARDEN**

The Twelfth Annual “Tea Thyme in the Garden” was held on Sunday, July 12, 2015. The theme was “How does the Garden Glow”. The Display Garden is still glowing from Tea Thyme in the Garden. The Glow is from the hard work, dedication and devotion of the Lapeer County Master Gardeners.

The Glow started with the hard work of Master Gardeners to make the beds of the Display Garden glow with fantastic foliage. Following that, the washing and cleaning of the Pavilion by Barb Hunter. The following day 130 green and beige chairs are washed by hand by Carol, Wanda, Jackie, and Mary Beth. Tables and chairs and curtains for a workstation are put up. Then comes Saturday, the tents arrive, put up by Jerry, Ron, Barb, Larry, and Ed. Tea Table Hostesses are busy putting their tables and decorations up; Jane, Pat, Mary Lou, Sandy, MaryAnn, Dorothy, Marylynn, Maurene, Barb, Carol, Betty, Ruthie, Carol, Wanda, Jeannine, Mary, Bernadette, Jackie, Mary Beth, Carole, Marlene, Sandy, Olivia and Dave, and Jane Schade’s son-in-law. The day of the Tea has arrived; Tea Table Hostesses are busy finishing up their tables. The raffle table is busy, Pam and Judy are setting up items, and Carol and Ron are getting tickets ready to be sold. But the busiest place is the Kitchen. Georgia is running a tight ship, Ron is filling nut cups, Carol Wong and her nieces are making sandwiches with Bernadette’s daughter, Emiline, and Colleen and Lynn are answering to Georgia. Other things are going on, Pam is filling vases with flowers, and Deb is organizing door prizes. Mary is doing all the fine-tuning in the garden. Rose arrives; she calls all these tea patrons, knows what table they are at, and waits to greet each one as they arrive.

Outside the pavilion, Tony has a 6-wheeler ready to escort Patrons to the pavilion. Carl and Derek are out in the parking lot directing traffic. The music has arrived. The Garden and the Pavilion are GLOWING, as are the Master Gardeners. A year of planning done in five hours but the Glow still exists.

Thank you each and every Master Gardener that was part of making Tea Thyme in the Garden and Display Garden Glow. If I forgot to include your name, I am sorry. If you were not part of the Tea I am sorry for you because Tea Thyme in the Garden is so much a part of the Lapeer County Master Gardeners.

I know how the Display Garden Glows but do you?

Carol Skiba  
Tea Chairman

7/16/15

*To: Lapeer Master Gardeners*

*This is for everyone in your organization that planted a flower, pulled a weed, mulched, fertilized and deadheaded plants - THANK YOU. This is also for everyone who prepared food, served food, decorated tables, set up and cleaned up before and after the Tea - THANK YOU. For all the persons who made items and donated items - THANK YOU.*

*The ordinary human can only imagine all the work, which needs to happen to make this event an annual memorable time for all your admirers! However, don't think for a minute it isn't appreciated. This event is one of the high spots of my summer activities - and will continue as such so long as I am able to attend!*

*Again, our deepest thanks for all you do.*

*May you all have a restful winter so we might enjoy and praise you again next year!*

*Sincerely,*

*Janice Badgley*

*Please share this with everyone who worked so hard on this event.  
Thanks*

( From a TEA patron )

**(PLEASE NOTE EARLIER MEETING TIME)**

**LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER  
ASSOCIATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015 - 6:00 PM**

**SEVEN PONDS NATURE CENTER  
3854 Crawford Rd.  
Dryden, MI 48428**

**\* BUSINESS MEETING \*  
\* SPEAKER \***

**PLEASE BRING A SNACK OR DESSERT  
AND YOUR OWN DRINK**

**(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)**