



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2013

Hello everyone!

I am glad Ron Gotowicki's surgery went well, he was back at the board meeting. God Bless you.

I would like to thank Mary Paine AGAIN for all of her fantastic work on preparing all the paperwork for the 501(c) 3 application. Mary has probably put in MORE than a full time jobs worth of hours. You are a blessing to us Mary. Sure wish this wasn't your last year as Treasurer!!! I am sure you will be a great help to the next volunteer (Victim). Thank you also Jane, Ron, Jeannine and Linda and Ron K. You guys make everything a little easier. Please don't forget the October 2nd meeting and the cool speaker we will have, which Linda set up. Have a great time putting your gardens to rest.

Georgia Ellis
Co-President

Dear Master Gardeners,

Well, here it is September already. The growing season is almost over. It is time to start thinking about putting the gardens to rest for the year. We have had a good amount of rain this year. The tomatoes, cukes, corn, etc. were really tasty! It just seemed that the summer was so short.

We will be having a Christmas party this December. We will collect \$5 to reserve your spot. You will receive your money back at the dinner. The cost for a guest is \$10. We will also have a gift exchange, which is optional. There is a fifteen-dollar limit on the gifts. You will have about a month and half to sign up for the dinner. The dinner will be Friday December 6, 2013 at Mayfield Township hall. Thank You and Happy Gardening!

Ron Gotowicki
Co-President

WEBSITE ADDRESSES:

www.lc-mga.org

www.displaygardenonsuncrest.org

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on August 14, 2013 at the Display Garden Pavilion at Suncrest. There were 49 members in attendance and Co-President Ron Gotowicki called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the June meeting were published in the newsletter. They were unanimously approved by the membership. Mary Paine gave the Treasurer's report. A copy of the report was given to all board members and is available at all association meetings. The members approved the report.

Paper ballots were passed out to all attending members to vote on approving the association bylaws. The tally was 45 member yes votes, 1 no vote, and 4 electronic yes votes. Bylaws were approved.

Rose Gotowicki reported on the July Tea. Even though there were fewer volunteers this year, everyone had a great time and things went very smooth. The weather was very good, and the list for tickets for next year's tea has already been started.

Carl Kern reported that Rick Rhein Disposal has taken over the Recycling Project, and is a go for next year. Drop-off will continue on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

Pat Maitland gave a report on the E. MI State Fair. The displays were very good, and the live butterflies were a big hit with everyone. Thank you to Barb Hunter, Marlene and Ken Daniels for traveling a very long distance to pick up the butterflies. Pat will bring pictures to the next meeting. A suggestion was made to hold mini-classes at the Fair next year. About \$400.00 was made.

Carol Billig reported on the upcoming Project Red to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at the E. Michigan State Fairgrounds from 8:00 AM to about 3:30 PM. The Farm Bureau, Vo-Tech, and the Master Gardeners will put on display stations.

Mary Paine announced the next date and time for the Display Garden meeting and workday. The association's new website address is: www.lc-mga.org

Carol Wong brought Genesee County Master Gardeners to visit the Display Garden.

Barb Hunter presented a demonstration and instructions for making "Paper Crete" – a Hypertufa Alternative. Several members tried the hands-on project while Barb explained the directions. Thank you to Marlene and Ken Daniels for helping out. There is a one-hour education credit for this meeting.

Linda Ladoski won the 50/50 drawing. Door prizes were awarded.

The next association meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2, 6:30 PM at the Mayfield Township Hall.

Linda Ladoski
Secretary

TREASURER REPORT

The Treasurer's Report is read at every Association and Display Garden Meeting and reviewed by the LCMGA Board; each of them receive a hard copy monthly. The hard copy is available at every meeting for your review and questions.

We still have Project Red to support and our various gardens to maintain. We will be working on budgets for next year so... please turn in a budget request for your project; if the amount is unusual, give a brief reason.

The 501(c)(3) application has been submitted to the IRS!

If you have receipts for purchases for our projects, please get them to me promptly.

Any questions, call between 9:00 AM and 10:00 PM.

Mary Paine
Treasurer

2014 MASTER GARDENER RE-CERTIFICATION UPDATE

The Master Gardener Re-certification period will be in January of 2014. I do not have a final date. As last year, we will enter hours into the VMS; the requirement has not changed - 5 hours of education and 15 hours of volunteering. At this time the fee is not increasing and will remain \$20 and as last year it is an on-line process. If anyone needs assistance, I will help, just like last year.

No, you do not have to be certified but some of us like the idea of being certified. Also you have access to the MSUE webinars and on-line education. The other reason might be to support requests for Grants. As soon as we receive the declaration from the IRS, we could write Grants for a large project that have not occurred to you or me yet.

Any questions call me after 9 AM, before 10 PM please.

Mary Paine
VMS "Buddy"
(Volunteer Management System)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please send all newsletter articles and information for printing by mail or email before the deadline on November 8, 2013 to: Linda Ladoski: tladoski@greatlakes.net

BOARD NOTES:

- * Budgets need to be turned in by the October meeting.
- * Membership dues will be collected in January, they will remain at \$10.00.
- * The Newsletter is going online; a mailed hard copy will be an additional fee.
- * Any Certified Master Gardeners that need education hours can log in to the MSUE website and click on the right-hand screen to read or listen to online classes.
- * A Proposal to discontinue life membership and grandfather in present life members will be discussed at the October meeting.
- * We will also discuss having a speaker and a charity (Family Literacy was proposed) for the December meeting. The garden gift exchange for \$15.00 and a \$5.00 refundable dinner fee will remain the same as last year.

SEPTEMBER

Newsletter

- 9/11 5:00 - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 9/18 4:00 - 6:00 PM - Display Garden
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 9/18 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting
Display Garden Pavilion at Suncrest
- 9/30 6:30 PM – Project Red
E. Michigan State Fairgrounds

OCTOBER

- 10/2 6:30 PM - MG Association Meeting
Mayfield Township Hall
- 10/9 5:00 - 7:00 PM – Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 10/16 4:00 - 6:00 PM - Display Garden
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 10/16 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting
Display Garden Pavilion at Suncrest
- 10/19 10:00AM - 2:00PM - Display Garden
Fall Clean-up / Bring Tools

NOVEMBER

Newsletter

- 11/2 10:00AM - 2:00PM - Display Garden
Final Fall Clean-up / Bring Tools
- 11/20 6:00 PM - Display Garden Meeting
Suncrest Activities Room

DECEMBER

- 12/6 6:30 PM - MG Association Meeting
Mayfield Township Hall
Dinner / Awards / Gift Exchange

“GOOD BUG, BAG BUG”

Is there a gardener reading this that is not wondering, what are the yellow striped beetles in our gardens? Well, the answer is “Leather-wing Beetles”. They belong to a group referred to as “Soldier Beetles”.

These are GOOD BUGS! These beetles are considered a major pollinator.

As they travel from flower to flower they drop some pollen as more collects on their feet. They are also very beneficial because their larva prey on other insect larva including root maggots. The adults eat aphids and caterpillars, even cucumber beetles, all insects we consider garden pests.

Some plants that attract Leather-wings are: Goldenrod, Asters, Joe-Pye Weed and any Mountain Mints. As these plants bloom you’ll be happy to see these GOOD BUGS foraging in your garden.

By Jeannine Monteleone

For additional information see the Sept./Oct. 2013 issue of Horticulture Magazine.

Project red 2013...

...will be held at the Eastern Michigan State Fair Grounds(formerly known as the Imlay City Fair grounds) on Tue, Oct 1. All volunteers are asked to 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 3rd graders to various stations where they will learn about farming.

A meeting is planned for Monday September 30 for those who would like to walk through the stations ahead of time to be better prepared for the Tuesday, October 1st 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 have one, - what SIZE.

Contact: Carole Billig
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!)



THANK YOU

The Display Garden on Suncrest is breathtaking when it is in full bloom. And on July 14 the blissful relation, quiet retreat, a refuge from the world held the 10th annual Tea Thyme in The Garden. As hot as it was, the Tea was a huge success and the profit showed that. There is not a year that goes by that some kind of problem exists. This year was no different, but Master Gardeners and their families came through.

THANK YOU ALL MASTER GARDENERS that had some hand in making this Tea the success it was. **Thank you Mary Paine**, for making the garden shine and making sure the cars were parked where they were supposed to be. **Thank you Rose Gotowicki**, for all your hard work in calling tea patrons, selling all the tickets, making sure everyone had a seat at the right table with the right table hostess. Thank you Master Gardeners who worked in the Garden to make it the pride of LAPEER. Thank you to the Master Gardeners, who purchased, made and put together the food that was served at the Tea. Everyone enjoyed the food, which maybe helped sell cookbooks. There was a special for the Tea on the price and **Sandy** sold 42 cookbooks. There are just a few left. Thank you to everyone who donated to the raffle, everything was fantastic and over \$2,500.00 was made from your donations. The Tea Patrons always look forward to what is there to spend their money on. **Thank you** to those who set up and sold Raffle tickets, **Ron, Judy, Carol, Elaine (Now a Queen Bee), Pam and Pam, Rose's Sister** and those I forgot. Thank you again for all your hard effort and sitting in that heat.

The Kitchen - how can I say **Thank you Georgia**, again you did a fantastic job with **Ron**. The kitchen was short of help, but two new Trainees, **Lynn and Colleen** worked very hard in the kitchen. They didn't realize rolling sandwiches counts as volunteer hours.

THANK YOU TEA TABLE HOSTESSES, Jane, Pat, Kay, Dorothy and Her sister, Sandy, Mary Ann, Jan, Mary Lynn, Maureen, Barb, Ruth, Carol, Betty, Mary, Jeanne, Carol, Wanda, Jackie, Gina, a new trainee and Jackie's Daughter, Bernadette, Mary Beth, Jackie and Marlene. Each table was elegant, flowing and a tribute to The Tenth Thyme for Tea. **Thank you to the Master Gardeners** behind the scene, **Ken, Jim and Herb** in the Garden, **Carl and Derek** in the parking lot, **Tony** for driving the 4-wheeler and escorting Tea Patrons from the parking lot to the Tea, **Cindy** for being the Suncrest Liaison, getting tables, hot water, carts, what ever Suncrest can supply to the Tea. **Thank you Carol Liblong**, for the Tea Tickets and Mini Cupcakes, a lot of hard work to make 238 mini cupcakes. If I forgot to mention you, please accept my thank you, it was one hot day.

A special **Thank you** to those who are not Master Gardeners, who stepped up and helped with this tea. Mary Paine's two nieces who helped seat patrons, hand out door prizes and raffle items. Bernadette Hayes's three daughters, who also helped hand our door prizes and raffle items and washed dishes in the kitchen. Rose Gotowicki's Sister who worked setting up the raffle table. The friend of Barb and Ruth's who served a Tea Table that had no Hostess. And to Dorothy Birchwell's sister that helped serve with Kay. Each and every one of you needs a special **Thank you**. There was a shortage of Volunteers for the Tea this year, but Family members came forward and helped. Tea Thyme in the Garden was a Success not only by profit but also by devotion. **Dedication, Devotion, and Love** of The Display Garden on Suncrest by LAPEER County Master Gardeners.

AGAIN, A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN WHAT LITTLE WAY TO MAKE THE TENTH THYME FOR TEA A SUCCESS.

P.S. I didn't want Carol Wong to think I forgot her. **Thank you Carol**, she worked in the Kitchen on her birthday.

Carol Skiba
Tea Thyme Chairman

DISPLAY GARDEN ON SUNCREST - SEPTEMBER 2013

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of summer, but the Garden is starting to wind down. It is still very beautiful as it has been all season, and we are all applying a little more effort to keep it up for our September 17th visit from the Master Gardener Society of St. Clair. They are having their monthly meeting here, from 6-9 PM. I think it will end earlier as it gets dark about 8:00 PM these days. Well, they will be able to enjoy the new light on the flag that goes on automatically!

We have had many more visitors this summer, small family groups bringing in out-of-town company, many more photographers making use of our awesome backgrounds and I think this will be our third garden club group. Of course, the Garden is a hit for the ladies at the Tea. They all enjoy walking through and seeing what has changed and there was a lot this year.

We have had some nice donations from Wal-Mart (bagged soil, mulch and sphagnum moss). The donations were large enough that we were able to share with the Community Garden and the Sheriffs Soup Kitchen Garden. Thanks to Larry Mitchell, Al Butler, Herb Hampel and Eric Hendricks for getting us ahead on the composting area. Ron Klocek worked ahead of the group earlier in the week so now it doesn't look abandoned.

If you haven't been there in a while please stop by, if you have a few minutes or hours to spare, call me and I will meet you there and we can surely find something to do. If you haven't visited the website, please do. Derek Kern is our Webmaster with the assistance of Carl using information that I forward. They have made some nice improvements to the site set up by Judy Alderdyce. (displaygardenonsuncrest.org). Yes, I still have editing access but Derek is better at it than I am!

We still have a beautiful fall season ahead, I hope. If you have questions or suggestions call or email me - we are in need of assistance as none of us are getting any younger and many of our families are requiring extra time at home!!

Mary Paine
Chairman, Display Garden on Suncrest
justoveredge@charter.net

**LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
ASSOCIATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2013 - 6:30 PM**

**MAYFIELD TOWNSHIP HALL
1900 N. SAGINAW
LAPEER, MI 48446**

*** BUSINESS MEETING ***
*** 2014 BUDGETS NEED TO BE TURNED IN ***
*** SPEAKER: KAREN PAGE – EDIBLE PLANTS PRESENTATION ***

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO BRING SNACKS

(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)