



NEWSLETTER - JULY / AUGUST 2017

“A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning to grow in rows.”
~ Doug Larson

So far, I am keeping ahead of the weeds in my garden but in the month of July they always seem to catch up to me. As the garden grows and plants spread I start to harvest the bounty and run out of time to weed.

The Tea had a beautiful day with lots of people enjoying the garden, the tea and the raffle items. Thank you to all the Master Gardeners, their spouses, and the helpers from Kohl's and other people that helped and contributed to the Tea, as it was a great success.

Adopt-a-Highway is on July 17, 9:30 AM; wear long pants and light long sleeve shirt if you have it because there may be invasive plants in the area like poison ivy. We need all the help we can get.

The Garden Tour is July 22, 5 gardens and the Display Garden are on the Tour. Help is needed at all the gardens, so please ask where you can be of help. Let's hope for just as beautiful a day as the Tea had. The Fairy/Gnome Garden contest is on the same day as the Tour under the pavilion, bring your garden creation to enter in the contest and enjoy all the other entries in the contest.

The next Association meeting is on Aug. 2 at the [For-Mar Nature Preserve](#) in Burton, we will be touring the tree house “yay”, so bring bug spray and wear comfortable shoes.

The Honey Fest is next on Aug. 5 in Frankenmuth. I hope to see you there working or as a visitor, it will be a fun and educational day.

Don't forget the Master Gardener training course in Imlay City Aug. 24 – Dec. 7. We need people to freshen our membership. Without new members to replace the ones who have left, we will not be able to support as many projects as we like to do.

Ken Mitchell
President

Treasurer Report ~ July / August 2017

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 can always email or call me at home.

Mary Paine
Treasurer

By the Numbers ~

I haven't chased all the numbers since 2012 but I will finish.

In 2013 there were 90 Certified Master Gardener Association Members.

In 2014 we had a member list of 97, 66 Certified Members and 31 Associates.

In 2015 there were 86 members, 68 Certified Master Gardener Association Members, 18 Associates. AND

In 2017 we have 81, 52 Certified Master Gardener Association members, 29 Associate Members.

BUT we are always short volunteers for our projects!!

We really need this class to replenish our membership and keep going.

Master Gardener Training Class begins August 24, 2017. Tuition assistance is available in all 5 counties. The class will be held at the Heritage Church Campus in Imlay City at M-21 and M-53 (the old movie theater behind Rite-Aid Drug store). The class runs on Thursday evenings, August 24 - December 7, from 5:00 - 9:00 PM.

Please, try and recruit 1 or 2 or 6 of your friends, neighbors, family members or even strangers while waiting in a grocery line.

Registration ends August 16 and we only have 10 wonderful residents enrolled.

Mary Paine

Members ~ Ideas Needed

Ideas are needed from the members for a charitable organization to support at our December Awards meeting. Also, any recommendations for good, educational speakers for our Association meetings are needed. Ideas for new educational projects for the coming year are greatly needed. Please call or email any Board member, or bring up your suggestions at any Association or Display Garden meeting. Volunteer your ideas!

June Meeting

The June meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 6:00 PM at the Display Garden on Suncrest pavilion. 42 members attended.

The members enjoyed pizza while Georgia Ellis introduced the speaker, Rosann Kovalcik from [Wild Birds Unlimited](#), and also a member of the Detroit and Michigan Audubon Societies. She gave a very interesting and informative talk about Hummingbirds, their habits and plant preferences. There is a **1-hour** education credit for attending this meeting.

After a short break, President Ken Mitchell resumed the meeting. Carol Skiba gave the Tea report. Sign-up sheets for kitchen help, food, and cleanup were passed around. Door prizes and raffle items are still needed for the next Tea meeting on Wednesday, June 21 at 3:00 PM. Rose reported that all seats for the Tea need to be filled, and all tickets have been sold.

Sandy Peterson reported on the Rummage Sale, which was cold and windy with tents up in the air. She thanked all the volunteers for their help and donations, and thanked Maurene and Carl Kern for taking the leftovers to [Seven Ponds](#) and [Habitat For Humanity](#).

Ken spoke about the July 22 Garden Tour, help is needed, and the MG College in June.

Jane Schade reported on the Michigan Honey Festival in Frankenmuth on Saturday, Aug. 5 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Volunteer hours are available for working the festival and education credits if attending the lectures. Food is available.

Volunteers are needed next Saturday, June 10 for filling the large planters in downtown Lapeer starting at 9:00 AM, meeting at the Sherwin Williams location.

Jackie Delisi reported on the MG Training Class. Signup and registration is online at the MSU website. All 5 counties will offer partial scholarships.

Georgia spoke about the Adopt-a-Highway cleanup on Monday, July 17, starting at 9:30 AM, meeting at Bryan's parking lot. Wear boots, long shirts, and long pants and bring bug spray.

Carol Billig reported on the Lapeer Days event on June 21 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Help is needed with kids repotting plants.

The plant exchange was held.

Linda Ladoski
Secretary

Volunteer Opportunities

[Adopt-a-Highway](#)

Volunteers are still needed to help on Monday, July 17 to clean up M-24. Please call Georgia if you are available. Meeting time is 9:30 AM at the Bryan's parking lot. Wear boots, long pants and long-sleeve shirts, and bring gloves and bug spray.

2017 Master Gardener Garden Tour / Fairy Garden Contest

Volunteers are still needed to help on Saturday, July 22 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Please call Mary if you are available. Please note there is a parking issue at the #5 garden due to the Columbiaville Days parade. There is additional parking behind the school across the street, and signs will be posted.

Honey Festival - 2017

Lapeer County will be joining St. Clair, Sanilac, and Genesee County Master Gardeners in volunteering time, plants, and craft materials for the [Michigan Honey Festival](#) on August 5 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at the Harvey Kern Pavilion in Frankenmuth. It is a beautiful location with a large convention space, plenty of parking, food vendors, and nice bathroom facilities. We have been providing pollinator friendly plants for the festival in past years but will be assisting at the Master Gardener tables, the butterfly tent, and pollinator themed craft activities at this festival.

Our participation in this event coordinates well with the educational focus that Michigan Master Gardeners have been encouraged to promote.

Volunteer hours are available for working the festival and education credits are available if attending the lectures.

Jane Schade
Chairman

Educational Opportunities

August 24, 2017

Master Gardener Class - 5-County Thumb Area District 10 – Heritage Church Campus,
543 N. Cedar St. Imlay City, MI 48444. M-21 & M-53. Thursdays, 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Cost: \$300. Tuition assistance available.

Contact: Mary Paine: lc-mga.org

Display Garden on Suncrest ~ July 2017

Every year I think the Garden is more beautiful, awesome and amazing than ever before. I think that is certainly true again this year. The weather has been strange, hot early, cool later with unusual rain patterns. Fortunately we have irrigation but hand watering has been necessary for many areas. I live 4 miles away and while it is pouring rain on my lawn, I had been hand watering a variety of new plants in the garden.

The chipmunks, rabbits and woodchucks have been holding daily picnics in almost every bed. So far I have removed 1 woodchuck, 2 chipmunks, 1 mouse and waved at the rabbits. Someone ate 10 yellow petunias but left 2 red ones. I wonder if the taste is that different. They also ate 5 of 6 eggplants Sandy had planted in with the echinacea. The varmints don't seem to care for any of the coneflowers, but they do like the celery.

Many, many thanks to Marylynn Darr for the hours and hours she has spent working in the Water Garden. The fish are doing well and so far the new surrounding plants are surviving the shoes of our many visitors. Also the Japanese Garden water feature is still working.

If you haven't been behind the white fence, then go check out the hard work of Larry Mitchell who has been keeping up with the shredding, a thankless task. Larry has completed moving and organizing all the bricks to a better storage area.

Thanks to all who helped in the Garden so far but - Don't forget the Garden Tour and Fairy Garden contest next week, July 22, 10 AM to 4 PM. We still need volunteers to help at some gardens AND the Display Garden. **The Display Garden** always needs more volunteers!!

Carol Skiba will write about the very successful Tea Thyme in the next newsletter.

See you in the Tree House, August 2nd at For-Mar Nature Preserve.

Mary Paine
Chairman, Display Garden on Suncrest

Bigelow' Plant Sale

Thank you to all of the [Bigelow](#) Plant Sale volunteers who helped with the transplanting, sorting orders, and on the day of the sale. It was a huge success again this year.

Pam Frampton
Judy Niergarth
Chairmen

2017 LCMGA CALENDAR

JULY

Newsletter
 7/7 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Tea Prep
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 7/8 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM - Tea Prep
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 7/9 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM - "Tea"
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 7/12 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 7/17 9:30 AM - MDOT Adopt-a-Highway
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 7/22 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Garden Tour
 Display Garden on Suncrest
 Fairy Garden Contest

AUGUST

8/2 **5:30 PM** - MG Association Meeting
 For-Mar Nature Preserve, Burton, MI
 8/5 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - MI Honey Fest
 Kern Pavilion / Frankenmuth, MI
 8/9 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 8/16 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 8/16 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 8/24 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM - MG Class
 Heritage Church Complex, Imlay City

SEPTEMBER

Newsletter
 9/13 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 9/20 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 9/20 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 9/23-10/1 MDOT Adopt-a-Highway
 Group Workday / Bring Tools

OCTOBER

* Garden Receipts Due October 1, 2016 *
 10/3 8:00 AM - **Project Red**
 10/4 6:00 PM - MG Association Meeting
 Mayfield Township Hall / Bring Snacks
 10/11 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
 Group Workday / Bring Tools

10/18 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest
 Group Workday / Bring Tools
 10/18 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
 Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion
 10/28 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Display Garden
 Fall Cleanup / Bring Tools

NOVEMBER

Newsletter
 11/4 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Display Garden
 Final Fall Cleanup / Bring Tools
 11/15 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
 Suncrest Activities Room

DECEMBER

12/1 6:00 PM - MG Assoc. Mtg. Awards/
 Dinner / Gift Exchange / Mayfield Hall

* Association Meeting – August 2, 2017 *

Please note the meeting time has changed to **5:30 PM**. There will be a Tree House Tour and speaker for the evening. No snacks will be provided, and you may want to bring bug spray for touring outside.

For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum
 is located at the northeast corner of Davison
 Rd. (M-21) and Genesee Rd.

2142 N. Genesee Rd.
 Burton, MI 48506
 810-736-7100

Newsletter Deadline:

Please send all newsletter articles and
 information for printing before the deadline
 on September 6, 2017 to: Linda Ladoski:
tladoski@greatlakes.net

Additional Categories of Volunteer Hours to be tracked:

Dish Donation

- If attending a Master Gardener Event: 2 hours volunteer time for dish preparation; maximum of 10 volunteer hours for donations per year.
- Travel time is only allowed when delivering or dropping off the donated items and the volunteer does not remain for the event.

Prize Donations

- Donations made for a Master Gardener fundraising event, e.g., raffles, auctions, Tea Thyme, etc.
- Handmade items: Maximum 10 volunteer hours per item.
- Purchased items: 1 volunteer hour for every \$5.00 of value for the item with a maximum of 10 volunteer hours per item.
- Travel time is only allowed when delivering or dropping off the donated items and the volunteer does not remain for the event.

Plant Donations

- Allow 3 volunteer hours for each pot cared for when growing plants for Master Gardener events, e.g., Honey Fest or Fair. Plants must be of the type requested for the event. A maximum of 50 volunteer hours are allowed.
- Travel time is only allowed when delivering or dropping off the donated items and the volunteer does not remain for the event.

LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017 – 5:30 PM

**FOR-MAR NATURE PRESERVE & ARBORETUM
2142 N. GENESEE RD.
BURTON, MI 48506
810-736-7100**

FOR-MAR IS LOCATED AT THE N.E. CORNER OF GENESEE AND DAVISON (M-21) RDS.

*** BUSINESS MEETING *
* SPEAKER *
* TREE HOUSE TOUR ***

NO SNACKS AT THIS MEETING

(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)