



NEWSLETTER MAY / JUNE 2017

“We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses.” ~ Abraham Lincoln

Well it's finally spring, April showers are bringing May flowers. Still a little cold but I like this time of the year. I look at my yard and garden, all the things that need to be done, where do I start?

My asparagus is doing good, I get a handful every other day and the rhubarb is ready to pick. Every day something new pokes through the soil - too bad most of those are weeds.

The [Adopt-a-Highway](#) was a great success; we had a good turnout of helpers that made the work go fast. I thank you all that participated in making the day enjoyable for me.

The June meeting will have the plant exchange back by popular demand but remember to choose your plants wisely, everything must go.

We now have the Master Gardener training course information on the MSUE web page so go find new recruits to keep our Association fresh.

So come to the June meeting if not for the plants then for the pizza.

Ken Mitchell
President

May / June 2017 Treasurer 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 can always email or call me at home.

Mary Paine
Treasurer

2017 Master Gardener Training Class

If you haven't heard yet, the Master Gardener class will be held at the Heritage Church Building in Imlay City at M-21/M-53 (old movie theater behind Rite Aid Drug store).

The class runs Thursdays, August 24 - December 7, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The MG Coordinator, a part-time position, hired by MSUE and reporting to Joe Bixler is Advanced Master Gardener, Jackie Delisi. Jackie will manage the classes working with Mary Wilson. Remember this training class is sponsored by all 5 Thumb counties. There will be volunteers and folks wanting to audit a class from Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, St.Clair and of course Lapeer. You must schedule your visits/volunteering with Jackie; more information will follow as the schedule evolves.

The registration is all online. Tuition assistance is available from each county for their trainees and also from MSUE. Contact a Board member if you have questions or a candidate.

Registration information: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/mgvplapeer17/>

June Meeting 2017

The next association meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 **6:00 PM** at the Suncrest Display Garden Pavilion. In addition to the pizza party, there will be an optional Plant Exchange with a **limit of 2 non-invasive plants per member**. Please be sure to label all plants and any leftovers **MUST** be taken home.

Please note:

All future MG Association meetings will start at **6:00 PM to include extra time for education hours.**

April Meeting

The April meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on Wednesday, Apr. 5, 2017, 6:00 PM at [Wojo's Greenhouse](#) in Ortonville. President Ken Mitchell opened the meeting.

Georgia Ellis spoke about the Adopt-A-Highway work to start on April 17.

Carol Skiba reported on the Tea and set out sign-up sheets for volunteering.

Bernedette Hayes spoke about volunteering for the Lapeer Conservation District Tree Sale. Help is needed on Apr. 17, 18, and 19 for unloading and sorting orders starting at 9:00 AM. Volunteers are also needed during the sale on Apr. 20, 21, and 22 at Mutch's Tree Farm.

The Rummage Sale is set for May 6, clean used items and volunteers are needed for set-up, sales during the day, and clean up.

Georgia introduced Jean Coon who took the members on a very interesting and informative tour of the many greenhouse areas. Rick and Julie of Wojo's also helped with some of the demonstrations. There is a **2-hour education credit** for attending this meeting.

Linda Ladoski
Secretary

Bigelow Plant Sale

The Bigelow Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 27, 2017 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon. [Bigelow's Greenhouse](#) is located at: 4845 Lake Pleasant Road, North Branch, MI 48461. There will be many extra plants available for purchase if you did not place an order. Come early for the best selection.

Volunteers are needed for sorting orders and on the day of the sale. The work date for sorting orders is scheduled for Thursday May 25, starting at 9:00 AM. Volunteers will be needed to help set up on the day of the sale, Saturday May 27 at 8:30 AM. Bring a snack and beverage.

Please remember to bring your OWN containers or trays to pick up your orders. If you are unable to pick up orders on the day of the sale, or if you need more information, please contact Pam Frampton.

Pam Frampton
Judy Niergarth
Chairmen

Honeyfest - 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 9:00-5:00 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. Now we 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. There is a 4-hour education credit for working at this event.

If you are interested in growing pollinator friendly plants, volunteering for a shift at a display or craft table, or have a good idea for a hands-on activity, please contact Jane Schade. More details will be discussed at the June MG meeting.

Jane Schade, Chairman

Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sale this year was a huge success, with a little over \$500.00 made from the sale. The weather was fair, and except for the 2 tents that blew over, the day went smoothly.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers! Thank you to everyone who came early to set up, everyone who worked during the sale, and all the volunteers who helped with the clean up. Thank you to all the members who donated items for the sale.

Mary Ann McDonald
Sandy Peterson
Rummage Sale Chairmen

Educational Opportunities

June 23 - 24, 2017

Master Gardener College – University Club Complex, MSU Campus, E. Lansing.
Contact: Betsy Braid: braidbet@anr.msu.edu 517-884-7081

August 24, 2017

Master Gardener Class - 5-County Thumb Area District 10 – Heritage Church Building, 543 N. Cedar St. Imlay City, MI 48444. M-21 & M-53. Thursdays, 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Cost: \$300.
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/mgyplapeer17/> Contact: Mary Paine: lc-mga.org

“Tea is quiet and our thirst for tea is never far from our craving for beauty”

~ James Norwood Pratt

“Tea Thyme in The Garden”

July 9, 2017

“Uncommonly Simple”

The Display Garden on Suncrest

The Fourteenth Tea will take place on Sunday July 9, 2017. The Display Garden will be full of Tea Patrons enjoying the Tea and The Garden. The Tea table hostesses are busy picking out Teacups, table linens and decorations. There are volunteer opportunities available to work at the tea. Sign up sheets will be available at the next Display Garden meeting and the MG meeting in June. There are food items that are needed, Door Prizes and Raffle items too.

Each contribution a Master Gardener can give to the Tea always makes an impact on the Tea. Our objective, our only objective is the Display Garden on Suncrest, its upkeep and its future.

The next Tea meeting is a workday. It will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at the Display Garden pavilion at 3:00 PM. Following the meeting is a Display Garden workday and meeting.

Projects to be accomplished at the Tea meeting workday:

Wrapping of Door Prizes

Supplies needed: Door Prizes

If you have something and need to drop it off, just leave the item at the Display Garden Shed tagged for the Tea, or bring it to a meeting and drop it off with me. Any donation will be greatly appreciated.

Any questions, please give me a call. Thank you for your support of the Display Garden.

Carol Skiba
Tea Chairman

FFA Plant and Flower Sale ~ Lapeer County Ed - Tech Center ~ May 4 thru June 3

690 N. Lake Pleasant Road, Attica, MI Agriscience Dept. 667-6132

Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am – 2:00pm / Thurs 7:00-9:00pm / Sat 9:00am - 3:00pm

Annual Flats and Individual Trays, Vegetables, Perennials, Hanging Baskets, Hanging House Plants, Seed & Zonal Geraniums, Grasses, Combo Pots and Planters, Sweet Potato Vines

Click for more details : <https://flint.craigslist.org/grd/6118628617.html>

Newsletter Deadline

Please send all newsletter articles and information for printing before the deadline on July 7, 2017 to: Linda Ladoski: tladoski@greatlakes.net

2017 Master Gardener Garden Tour & Fairy/Gnome Garden Contest

We have a lovely poster for the Tour/Contest provided again this year by Master Gardener Gina Delisi. I will begin distributing them locally in the next week or so. If you would like to help out let me know. Marylynn Darr who had volunteered to chair this committee now has her hands full taking on the Water Garden at Suncrest and still managing the Herb Garden.

We have descriptions (teasers) from the tour hosts so I have begun to assemble the tickets that will be available June 15 at Burke's, Campbell's and MSU Extension. We will probably need some help at each Garden, including the Display Garden to answer questions and generally help out with visitors. Signup sheets will be available at June meeting.

Call me if you have questions and "get" your Fairy Garden ready or help a child with their Garden.

Mary Paine

Display Garden on Suncrest May / June

The Display Garden is far behind its usual activity. The rain and low temperatures are slowing the flow of visitors. We still haven't moved benches out of the pavilion. It is still too cool and rainy to sit on a wet bench.

We also have not started the pumps in the fountain and Japanese Garden although Barb Hunter and Marylynn Darr are making progress in the Water Garden (we had a plumbing issue). Besides it has been too cool to play in cold water.

On the bright side, the tulips and daffodils have been beautiful. The weeping cherry, red bud and crab apple trees continue to add beautiful color on the south side. The workday in April was sunny but cool; despite that Larry and Ken got a lot of shredding done. Most of the gardens have had a spring-cleaning and the mowers have been mowing for at least 2 weeks. Pat Maitland managed to get in and get the Rose Garden out front cleaned up for another great year.

The construction is moving at a weather related snails pace. Steel beams are mostly in place - concrete expected next, weather permitting. A small amount of the work inside courtyard #3 has been accomplished. Just when I think we can finish planting courtyard #2 it rains for a muddy 2 or 3 days. We will catch up in the next few weeks and get to enjoy our beautiful gardens. Every time I stop by I can see the plants changing and new growths appearing on trees. Join us on Wednesday May 17, for our next workday (4:00-7:30 PM), we have lots of fun and can always use the help. No parking in construction area - although we will use that area for the Tea. They should be about done with construction then.

Mary Paine
Display Garden on Suncrest Chairman

2017 LCMGA CALENDAR

MAY

- Newsletter
- 5/3 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 5/6 7:00 AM - Rummage Sale
Farmer's Market / Downtown Lapeer
- 5/10 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 5/17 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 5/17 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
Suncrest Pavilion
- 5/17 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 5/24 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 5/25 9:00 AM - Bigelow's Plant Sale
Sort Orders / Bring Lunch / No Chair
- 5/27 9:00 AM - 12:00 Bigelow's Plant Sale
4845 Lake Pleasant, North Branch

JUNE

- 6/7 **6:00 PM - MG Meeting / Suncrest
Pavilion / Plant Exchange / Pizza Party**
- 6/14 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Seven Ponds
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 6/21 4:00 PM - Display Garden Suncrest
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 6/21 6:30 PM - Display Garden Meeting
Display Garden / Suncrest Pavilion

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
- 7/15-23 MDOT Adopt-a-Highway Program
Group Workday / Bring Tools
- 7/22 Garden Tour / 5 Gardens
Display Garden on Suncrest
Fairy Garden Contest

AUGUST

- 8/2 6:00 PM - MG Association Meeting
For-Mar Nature Preserve, Flint, MI
- 8/5 Michigan Honey Fest / Frankenmuth
- 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

2017 VMS Project List

If you have been entering your hours you have noticed the changes in the projects - these are driven to get MI program comparable with rest of country for data purposes. Educating the public has been our charge, now it is the focus. Click for the four-page information sheets.

Most of our volunteer work will fall into a few projects - Work in Display Garden goes in **Community Beautification**; Senior centers, Habitat, etc. goes in **Quality of Life**. There are 3 food categories, if you are doing things in this category. Read the descriptions that explain the projects.

I will be adding some local projects for those attending the County Seminars, for example 2017 St. Clair Symposium, and any other educational events. Remember, MSUE Master Gardener Program is focused on **EDUCATION**.

Call me if you need help, we will talk more at June meeting.

Mary Paine
VMS Ambassador

LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017 - **6:00 PM**

SUNCREST / DISPLAY GARDEN PAVILION
LAPEER

- * BUSINESS MEETING *
- * SPEAKER: ROSANN KOVALCIK from [WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED](#) *
- * PIZZA PARTY *
- * PLANT EXCHANGE – LIMIT 2 LABELED PLANTS *

(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)