



## **JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2016**

Hello Chillin Gardeners,

The Master Gardener Christmas celebration and awards was fun and delicious! Congrats to all who received accolades!

My special thank you to everyone who brought diapers, wipes or money to purchase them! Over 2 thousand heiny covers and wipes were donated. The needy families were amazed by the generosity of our wonderful group of Master Gardeners! I've always known how caring and generous our group was - but you are all fantastic! May you each have the most blessed New Year!

Thank you!  
Georgia Ellis  
Co-President

Fellow Gardeners,

Happy New Year to all! I hope you will have a healthy and prosperous new year.

Our Christmas party was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who helped decorate, set up, take down and clean up. Thank you Pat, for the fine desserts that she provided. Awards were given and Christmas gifts were exchanged.

The weather has not been too bad this winter thanks to El Nino. Hopefully the rest of this winter season will be better than the past two years.

Soon we will be receiving seed catalogs in the mail. They will cover vegetables and flowers for the upcoming growing season. Happy planting.

Ron Gotowicki  
Co-President

## **DECEMBER MEETING**

The December meeting of the Lapeer County Master Gardener Association was held on Friday, December 4, 2015, 6:30 PM at the Mayfield Township Hall. Co-President Ron Gotowicki opened the meeting with a prayer, and Co-President Georgia Ellis thanked Pat Maitland for making all of the desserts. The members enjoyed a catered dinner by Bryan's.

Georgia introduced speaker Chad Perkins. Chad gave a very interesting talk about growing and caring for Roses. He also spoke about the many pest repellents to use. There is a **1-hour education credit** for attending this meeting. Chad is raising money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and will be participating in the Michigan Warrior Dash on July 30, 2016. Please see the information in this newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was given, and the minutes of the October meeting were published in the Nov./Dec. newsletter.

Nominations for new officers for 2016/2017 were Treasurer: Mary Paine, and Vice-President: Ken Mitchell (who has served as Vice-President for the past 2 years). The members elected these new officers to office by a show of hands.

Ron thanked Bryan's for the catering and Pat Maitland for the delicious desserts.

Mary Paine presented awards; the list is included in this newsletter. Ken Mitchell presented ribbons for the volunteers at the Fair.

The \$25.00 Gift Cards were awarded to Georgia Ellis and Kaethe Davis. The Garden Gift Exchange was held. Carl Kern brought in pints of tomatoes. Georgia thanked everyone for bringing diapers to donate.

Linda Ladoski  
Secretary

## **TREASURER'S REPORT - January 2016**

The Treasurer Activity will be read 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 at every Association Meeting for your review and questions.

The Draft Association and Draft Display Garden Budgets are included in this Newsletter. Call me if you have questions.

Mary Paine  
Treasurer

## 2016 RE-CERTIFICATION

2016 Re-certification begins on Monday, January 11, 2016 and only lasts until Friday, January 29, 2016, 5:00 PM. Late re-certification begins January 30, and the late fee is applied.

The fee again this year is \$20, same as last year. All re-certification is online ONLY. You must have entered your hours by December 31, 2015 in order to re-certify. If you did not enter your hours and have changed your mind you must contact Diane Brady, MSUE Administrator: [bradyd1@msu.edu](mailto:bradyd1@msu.edu)

If you need assistance, please call me or email me: [justoveredge@charter.net](mailto:justoveredge@charter.net)

Mary Paine, VMS Ambassador, Lapeer County

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*Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle – a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to the light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream.* Barbara Winkler

Happy New Year Everyone!

Winter is the time for planning your garden, starting new plants for the spring and keeping what you brought in alive. Winter is also the time to start thinking about the 2016 Eastern Michigan State Fair! (Well, maybe not everyone is thinking about the Fair.)

The next Fair planning meeting will be on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 at 1:00 PM at the Imlay City Library. For more information call or text Ken Mitchell, or email at: [kenmitch56@yahoo.com](mailto:kenmitch56@yahoo.com)

Returning exhibits to the Fair will include: TV Information Videos (maybe 2), hopefully the Fairy Garden Contest, 1,000 plus voters liked it, the Information Table and Silent Auction of course.

New for 2016 will be Photo Booth Exhibits, Compost Bin Exhibit, and a Children's Learning Area. We hope to get Master Gardeners to teach lessons and crafts. Instructors and lesson ideas are needed.

Please join the fun at the Fair!

Ken Mitchell  
Vice-President  
Eastern Michigan State Fair Chairman

We still have LCMGA hats, visors, shirts and aprons left.  
Hats and Visors are \$10.00 Aprons are \$20.00 T-Shirts are \$15.00

**\* BIGELOW PLANT SALE \***

The Bigelow Plant Sale will be held this year and will include lots of new plant varieties. Orders will be due in mid-March and volunteers will be needed in April and May.

More information, dates and times will be given at the Feb. 3rd Association meeting.

Pam Frampton, Co-chairman  
Judy Niergarth, Co-chairman

**DISPLAY GARDEN ON SUNCREST REPORT - January 2016**

Happy New Gardening Year! I stopped at the Garden over the weekend, before the snow. There was a trace of snow on the grass but I didn't see any footprints.

The heater in the Water Garden was working and there was even a goldfish swimming under it. In case you haven't been there, the construction goes on and the blacktop is about 10' from the new stone bench. It's amazing how fast the building is going.

Take a look at the draft of the Display Garden budget and let me know if you have any suggestions. You may notice the larger number for Japanese Garden - we are remodeling the fountain.

I am looking for another path into the Garden from the back parking lot. Yes, the sidewalk is there and available. I am also looking at a path through the gates and over to the red path through the trees. The only way from inside the facility to the Garden is down the ramp. Any new visitors will have to park in the back. Workdays will require parking in the back. Just remember, shift change is a very busy time. Usually settles down after 4 P.M. After that I am still thinking - any suggestions?

We still have to clean up the grasses in front and back of the facility. Also we have pallets and some other "stuff" behind the fence.

As you can probably guess I am anxious for spring and already tired of the snow, and especially the WIND!!!

How about a metal sign that is about 12" high across the top of Gazebo in script that just says " Master Gardeners "? Then repaint/update the original sign that is hanging on the north fence. We can look at a new sign on the East side as soon as construction stops.

Looking forward to another great season with some more great plants and new ideas.

Mary Paine  
Chairman, Display Garden on Suncrest

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### **Jan. 22, 2016**

Meadow Brook Garden Club Meeting - Meadow Brook Hall, 480 S. Adams Rd. Rochester, MI 48309. Coffee and Refreshments served at 9:15 AM. Program to follow at 10:00 AM - Speaker: Dr. David L. Roberts

### **Jan. 30, 2016**

Winter Master Gardener Symposium - MSU Extension, E. Lansing  
Cost: \$45.00 / 5-hour education credit. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Feb. 3, 2016**

Plants of Distinction - MSU Extension, Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids  
Cost: \$80.00 / 6-hour education credit. Register: <http://events.anr.msu.edu/16pod/>

### **Feb. 4, 2016**

Plants of Distinction - MSU Extension, Crowne Plaza Novi  
Cost: \$80.00 / 6-hour education credit. Register: <http://events.anr.msu.edu/16pod/>

### **Mar. 3, 2016**

Master Gardener Class - Macomb County MSU Extension Office, Verkuilen Bldg. 21885 Dunham Rd. Suite 12, Clinton Twp. MI. Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 10:00 PM.  
Cost: \$300.00 Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Mar. 5, 2016**

Smart Gardening Conference - MSU Extension, Grand Rapids  
Cost: \$60.00 Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Mar. 19, 2016**

St. Clair County MG Symposium, Cornerstone Church, 4025 North Rd. Clyde, MI 48049  
Registrar: Sandy Billings (810) 367-3399  
Cost: \$80.00 / 5-hour education credit. 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### **Apr. 23, 2016**

Oakland County Conference: "Gardening and All That Jazz" - Oakland Schools Conference Center, 2111 Pontiac Lake Rd. Waterford, MI 48328 [www.mgsoc.org](http://www.mgsoc.org)

### **June 17-18, 2016**

Master Gardener College – Prince Conference Center, Grand Rapids

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Newsletter Deadline: Please send all newsletter articles and information for printing before the deadline on March 8, 2016 to: Linda Ladoski: [tladoski@greatlakes.net](mailto:tladoski@greatlakes.net)

## **Master Gardener Class March 3, 2016**

There will be a Master Gardener Class beginning on Thursday, March 3, 2016 in Macomb County. The 14-week class is on Thursday evenings, 6-10 PM at the Macomb County MSU Extension Office, Verkuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd, Suite 12, Clinton Twp. Registration is online and the cost is still \$300. Click [here](#) for more information.

The class will be held about 50 miles from Lapeer County Library and 37 miles from Imlay City Library. Tuition Assistance is available from the Association. If you know anyone interested please contact them. Volunteers may do the volunteer hours in their home counties and take the class where it is available.

If you have questions contact me or email to: [lapeercountymastergardenerassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:lapeercountymastergardenerassociation@yahoo.com)

Mary Paine

## **2016 LCMGA BOARD MEMBERS**

Co-President: Georgia Ellis  
Co-President: Ron Gotowicki  
Vice-President: Ken Mitchell  
Treasurer: Mary Paine  
Secretary: Linda Ladoski

Director: Ron Klocek  
Director: Jane Schade

## **LAPEER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016 - 6:30 PM**

**MAYFIELD TOWNSHIP HALL  
1900 N. Saginaw  
Lapeer, MI 48446**

**\* BUSINESS MEETING \*  
\* 2016 BUDGETS \*  
\* SPEAKER: CANDICE MEYER \*  
\* SEED CATALOG EXCHANGE \***

**(PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR NAME BADGES)**