Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Happy Spring!

Welcome to the March edition of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI) Newsletter. Our focus is on you, Master Gardeners! This is your vehicle for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 31 Master Gardener groups throughout Ontario. The Newsletter features member milestones, new group projects, short member profiles, upcoming events such as regional technical updates – anything about the functioning and activities of our groups and our members. And pictures – please feel free to submit pictures!

Contributions to future editions of 'Inside MGOI' may be sent at any time to the Newsletter Editor, Isabel Belanger, newsletter@mgoi.ca.

MGOI Board Members:

President:	Claudette Sims, Halton
Vice President:	vacant
Corporate Secretary:	Terri Briggs, Lake Simcoe South
Treasurer:	Cathy Thompson, Prince Edward Cty
Director of Communications:	Kelly Noel, Ottawa-Carleton
Director of Education:	June Streadwick, Niagara
Director of Events:	vacant
Director of Membership:	Pam Love, Durham Region
Director of Operations:	Suzanne Zacharczyk, Etobicoke
Director of Relationship & Partnerships:	vacant
Director of Revenue Development:	vacant
Director of Central Region:	Katherine Mathewson, Durham
Director of East Region:	Sue Flinders-Adams, Peterborough
Director of North Region:	Kathleen Gorsline, Lake Simcoe South
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Rhonda Grein, Kitchener
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Karen Sciuk, Kitchener

Committee Members

Recording Secretary/Statistician: Rhonda Grein, Kitchener
Webmaster: Jim Cook webmaster@mgoi.ca
Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke newsletter@mgoi.ca
Twitter: Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County
Facebook: Linda Hugli, Sudbury
MG Advice Clinic Manager for Canada Blooms: Christine Spence, Etobicoke
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Adrienne Hanbidge, Toronto

In This Issue

- Master Gardeners
  - Milestones
  - Master Gardeners Out & About
  - Upcoming Events
- MGOI
  - Upcoming Events

INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

March 2018

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

15 Year Anniversary
Kelly Noel

Master Gardener Status Achieved
Cynthia Anderson

New Master Gardener in Training
Andrew Fleming

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved
Linda Gordon

Suzanne Zacharczyk, left presents Linda Gordon, right with Her Master Gardener Certificate

Kitchener Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training in 2017
Sarah van der Stam - Jan 2017
Ed de Vries - March 2017
Heather Kelly - March 2017
Kathy Pearson - March 2017
Kim Silva - April 2017

Durham Master Gardeners

5 Year Anniversary – Congratulations!
Cori Whittington
Katherine Mathewson

Durham Master Gardeners Cont'd

New Master Gardeners in Training
Shalini Asha Bhaloo
Norine Blyth
Robynne Dunn

Master Gardeners of Niagara

15 Year Anniversary
Diana Jones (January)

10 Year Anniversary
Tricia Golob (March)
Linda Wade (February)

5 Year Anniversary
Judith Cook (January)
Kathleen Livingston (March)

Master Gardeners in Training
Leigh-Anne Legault
Marcey Leggett
Iqbal Mauthoor
Larry Quattrini
Michelle Young

Transfer
Bev Campeau transferred to Niagara from the Mississauga group

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Rebecca Lamb

Becky Lamb (left) with Alex Wiens, Coordinator

Master Gardeners Out & About:
Projects & Events

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Almonte Seedy Saturday
Details: Judith Cox (pictured below) participated in the Almonte Seedy Saturday by giving a talk entitled "Purple Carrots, Honey Bees and Magic."

Name: Ottawa Home Show
Details: Ottawa MGs held another very busy advice clinic at the recent Home Show

Stephanie Sleeth, Fran Dennett, Claire Leduc, Margaret Ryan and Angelina Singson ready to answer questions

Kitchener Master Gardeners

Name: 7th Annual Seedy Saturday
Date: Saturday, February 24, 2018, 9:00am to 2:30pm
Details: This was a joint venture with GardenKitchener (KHS), Kitchener Master Gardeners (KMG), the Kitchener Public Library (KPL) along with the District 19 Ontario Horticultural Societies. Our goal was to top last year's attendance of 500 gardeners, which we exceeded with an estimated 700.
It included:

- A series of 7 well attended horticultural seminars, one given by KMG on soils and composting.
- A successful membership drives by all organizations.
- A seed swap with advice table manned by KMG.
- A children's seed planting activity with well over 100 participants.
- A vendor market place featuring local seed companies, soil and compost suppliers, garden centres and other relevant enterprises.

Maryanne Weiler, MG for 30+ years & MGOI nominee for the 2018 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards manning the seed table

MGiT Sarah van der Stam ran and organized the children's seed planting activity

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Brampton Seedy Saturday

Phyllis Hall, left & Susan Quirk, right

Date: March 10, 2018
Details: Coordinated by MG Phyllis Hall, Mississauga Master Gardeners attended the Brampton Seedy Saturday. Seeds collected from members were sold and gardening advice provided.

Name: International Home and Reno Show 'Little Green Thumb Children's Garden'
Dates: Feb 16 – 19 2018
Details: Shirley Daniels and Michelle Wilson coordinated this event. Mississauga MGs held a four day Advice Clinic and a Kids' Garden where the children made crafts and learned about planting seeds and growing a bean. The Chinguacousy Garden Club and Horticultural Society did a great job helping in the Kids' Garden. It was a fun event for all.

Shirley Daniels, left & Susan Quirk, right

Durham Master Gardeners

Name: Legends Centre Community Garden Partnership
Details: We have joined with the Legends Centre Community Garden (LCCG) in Oshawa to assist their members in better vegetable gardening. We will be hosting two presentations, *Starting from Seed* and *Introduction to Vegetable Gardening*. LCCG is donating a raised bed in which we will be establishing a teaching garden with different themes from year to year. We will also be hosting a monthly "Master Gardener in the Garden" session from May through to September.

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Seedy Saturday, Picton
Date: February 24, 2018
Details: We always enjoy Seedy Saturday - it brings out all the gardeners and we get to talk about gardens and dream about spring's arrival. We also answer a lot of questions, hand out a lot of advice sheets on starting seeds, and numerous other topics of interest to gardeners.

Alex Wiens at Seedy Saturday, Picton 2018

Steve Storms at Seedy Saturday, Picton 2018

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners cont'd

Name: Membership Night

Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Details: PEC MGs will be holding a Membership Night. We look forward to welcoming gardeners from The County and surrounding areas to drop by and discuss what we do and how to become a Master Gardener. Coffee, tea and sweets will be served.

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."
Audrey Hepburn

Master Gardeners of Niagara

Name: Niagara Parks Greenhouses
Details: During the dreary winter months Niagara MGs engage in monthly hands on sessions at the Niagara Parks greenhouses to assist in preparing plantings for the spring.

Name: Advice Clinics & Shaw Festival Guild Garden Tour
Details: Members of the Niagara group are busy organizing and getting ready for advice clinics in garden centres, as well as the annual participation in the Shaw Festival Guild Garden Tour.

Canada Blooms 2018

Dates: March 9th – 18th
Details: Master Gardeners were on hand over the entire 10 days of Canada Blooms, Canada's largest garden show, answering garden questions from the public. Master Gardeners staffed two booths: Ask A Master Gardener One-on-One clinic; and a general advice clinic. Questions ranged from help with orchids to when to prune hydrangeas to how to get rid of Japanese Beetles to how to deal with boxwood blight.

Toronto MGs Karen Hughes, left & Susan Lipchak, right

Toronto MGs Tena van Andel, left & Carol Hayden, right, provide advice at the One-on-One booth

UPCOMING EVENTS

Etobicoke Master Gardeners & Humber Arboretum

Name: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series – Growing Your Own Food & Microgardening
Date: Saturday, March 31, 2018, 10 a.m. – noon
Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum.
To register please visit: humberarb.eventbrite.ca

Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: Horticultural Therapy & Seasonal Gardening Activities Program
Date: Thursday, March 29th - 10-12 noon
Location: Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Boardroom, Owen Sound
Details: Grey County MGs had the opportunity to partake in a Horticultural Therapy Course offered by a member of the RBG in Burlington. This year we will begin implementing what we learned within our communities. At a workshop for Activity Co-ordinators we will be creating a plan for 2018. Those involved are Retirement Homes, Nursing Homes, Canadian Mental Health Association, Indigenous Mental Health Association and the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind). We believe that gardening is truly for everyone!
Workshop Topics are:

- What is Horticultural Therapy and what are the benefits for seniors?
- Discussion of expectations, activities, venues, and community involvement.
- Creating a plan for 2018: roles, goals & evaluation.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Backyard Living Expo
Dates: April 6th – 8th, 2018
Place: The International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd, Mississauga, ON L4V 1E8
Details: EMGs will host Advice Clinics and a Children's Garden. More details are at:
http://www.thebackyardlivingexpo.com/

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Children's Garden Award
Deadline for Entry: April 15th, 2018
Details: Working with the PEC Horticultural Society, we have now officially launched our Children's Garden Award which will be presented annually. We will be using the award to seek new members and promote Master Gardeners. The award is open to all children between the ages of 8 and 12 who live in Prince Edward County.

Peterborough Master Gardeners

Name: The 2018 (and 18th Incredible) Peterborough Garden Show

"The Garden Show for Gardeners"

Dates: Friday, April 13th (5 pm to 9 pm)
Saturday, April 14th (10 am to 5 pm);
Sunday, April 15th (10 am – 4 pm)

Location: The Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road, Peterborough, Ontario

Details: The Peterborough Horticultural Society and the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners are thinking spring! ADMISSION: Daily - $8 Advance, $9 Online, $10 @ the Door
Weekend Pass - $14 Advance, $15 @ the Door & Online
Click HERE for advance tickets
Speakers include Dianne & Gary Westlake, Jillian Bishop, Ken Brown, Dan Cooper, Kathryn Pimmett, Garry Edwards, Sean James, and Gladys Fowler.
For more info email: info@peterboroughgardenshow.com,or check out our new redesigned Garden Show webpage or Facebook!
We get lots of bus tours and have a bus coordinator so grab a bunch of gardening friends and come and visit!

Norfolk County Master Gardeners

Event: Life Underground – Interaction between Plants & Beneficial Fungi

Date: Tues. April 17, 7 pm

Location: OMAFRA Auditorium, 1283 Blueline Road, Simcoe

Cost: Pay what you can

Details: This talk by Dr. Larry Peterson is open to all gardening enthusiasts interested in how plants and fungi have co-evolved to form symbiotic relationships, and how both plant and fungal partners benefit.

Durham Master Gardeners

Name: Durham Master Gardeners Invasive Species Workshop

Date: April 21, 2018

Details: We have been fortunate to be approached by the University of Toronto, Scarborough Campus, to host a workshop on invasive plant species, identification, and control, as part of their "Invasive Species Awareness Day." Other partners will include the Toronto Region and Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Parks Canada, the Invasive Species Centre, Toronto Field Naturalists, Friends of the Second Marsh, and the town of Richmond Hill. Guest speakers will include leading invasive ecologist Daniel Simberloff and U of T bio-control researcher Sandy Smith.

The event is open to members of the community and should be a great day. Mark it in your calendar!

Northumberland Master Gardeners

Dates: June 12th, departing Cobourg in the early morning – June 13th, returning in the evening.
Details: Northumberland MGs have organised a bus trip to Ottawa. Anyone who would like to join us would be welcome!
We will visit Rideau Hall for a tour of their private gardens! We will stay in the heart of the Byward Market at the Novotel Hotel. We will also visit Rideau Woodland Ramble on day two in Merrickville, and two private gardens in Gananoque. A dinner in Kingston on day 2 is included in the fee of $300.00. For more information contact us at nmgo13@hotmail.com

---

Brantford Master Gardeners

Event: Gardens on Parade
Date: Sunday, June 24th, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine
Details: Brantford Master Gardeners and Brant Animal Aid Foundation present 'Gardens on Parade' – six private gardens to delight and inspire.
Tickets: $10.00: available at Nicols Florist Greenhouse and Garden Centre, 846 Colbourne St. E., Brantford; The Bookworm, 331 Brant Ave., Brantford; and at Walters Greenhouse and Garden Centre, 363 Governors Rd. E., Paris ON
For more information call Anne @ 519-442-3458 or Dorothy @ 519-753-9063.

Update on MGOI Summer Workshop – 2018

Dates: July 14th & 15th, 2018
Details: The 10th Annual MGOI Summer Workshop is now fully booked; this means that all 60 spaces have been filled which is extremely gratifying, and a sign that this event is growing in popularity as it is the first time that all available spots have been booked by March. This annual workshop fulfills in one enjoyable weekend the essential requirement of keeping Master Gardeners and Master Gardeners in Training current, and meets MGOI's mandate of continuing education.
The courses offered this year are:

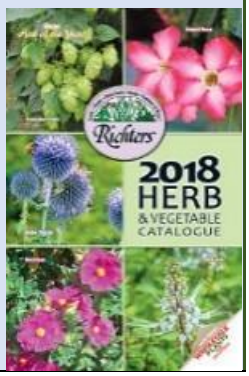
- Four Season Vegetable Gardening
- Climate Change – The Horticultural Implications and Approaches to Success
- Practical Insect ID – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

A waiting list in in place, and names will be taken from this list in the event of a cancellation. They will be taken in the order that they are received.
Any questions can be answered by Yvonne Causer, ycauser@hotmail.com or June Streadwick, streadwick@sympatico.ca.

COORDINATORS – MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

2018 Coordinators' Conference

Date: October 13, 2018
Location: Landscape Ontario, Milton ON

Richters Herbs

Details: Richters Herbs offers seminars at their greenhouse location throughout the year. For more information visit: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=./events/events.html&cart_id=2154123.16186. They also offer free on-line seminars at: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events2016.html.
The 2018 Richters catalogue, filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds, is available.