Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Welcome to the May 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:

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Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke newsletter@mgoi.ca
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MG Advice Clinic Manager for Canada Blooms: Christine Spence, Etobicoke
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Adrienne Hanbidge, Toronto

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INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

May 2018

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Grey County Master Gardeners

Of Interest

Grey County MG Verna Beckenhauer, middle, received a 2018 Ontario Volunteer Service Award.

Toronto Master Gardeners

Of Interest

The following Toronto Master Gardeners (TMGs) received 2018 Volunteer Service Awards:

Nancy Croil

Nancy's 20 years as an MG have been filled with different activities, including:

- Plant ID and documentation at Riverdale Farm
- Extensive involvement with *Through the Garden Gate (TTGG)* – Nancy participated in the management team and in scouting for gardens as well as manning gardens on the event day

As an MG she enjoys 'the endless opportunities to learn in the complex field of horticulture'.

Petra Donnelly

In 5 short years Petra has participated in too many TMG activities to list, but here are a few:

- Favourite activities: Canada Blooms advice clinics and early morning tours
- Rewarding experience: Technical Unit thank you note leader – 'We received many positive responses from donors'
- Most time-consuming experience: *TTGG* Manager with Barbara Evans – together they restructured when and how gardens were scouted and created the documents to support this new role

Barbara Evans

In her 20 years as a MG, Barbara has been involved with almost every imaginable activity. Highlights include:

- Advice clinics
- Presentations
- MGOI conference committee

'By far the most satisfying: my years organizing *Through the Garden Gate* with Petra Donnelly. We completely revamped and improved *TTGG*'.

Ida Harding

With 20 years of Master Gardening under her belt, Ida has filled several roles:

- Served for 6 years on the executive as info-line coordinator (including Loblaws info-line for 3 years)
- Enjoys advice clinics at Canada Blooms and elsewhere
- Volunteered at *Through the Garden Gate* every year

A favourite activity: since retiring, *Gardening under Glass* with children at Allen Gardens.

Jane McCulloch

A TMG since 1987, Jane shares these observations:

- Volunteering for the *Through the Garden Gate* tours and at the annual plant sales: 'Always a fun opportunity to help as well as to learn'.
- 'Being a TMG is so interesting and lots of fun. I realized just how easy it is to learn when one is passionate about a subject'.
- 'There are many great opportunities to learn more and share my knowledge with other excited gardeners'.

Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Larry Aldebert

Larry received his 15 year pin this spring.

We are so proud of him!

Essex – Windsor Master Gardeners

Of Interest

Susan Kelsh, member of the Essex-Windsor Master Gardener group and group secretary, achieved the Horticulturist Diploma with Distinction from University of Guelph.
Here is Susan's spring garden in all its glory.

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Kim Beaugrand
Robin Reilly

Of Interest

Joyce Young, below, is celebrating her 90th birthday with The County MGs. Joyce has been a Master Gardener since 2001, and she continues to do so much for our group.

Left to right: Susan Warrack, Joyce Young, Ren Duinker, Steve Storms, Barbra Stock

President's Corner

Dear Master Gardeners,

I'm happy to announce that Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI) is now an official partner of **Garden Days - Les Journées du Jardin**, the annual Canada-wide celebration of gardens and gardening. Our logo and name now appear on their website and we are part of the 'Network of Champions'. Besides having free publicity and support for your local activity, there are a number of ideas for involving your entire community.

If you have not already done so, I encourage you to **register any garden related event taking place between June 16th and 24th** inclusive **at no cost** on the Garden Days website http://gardendays.ca/

The vibrant public relations, social media and digital advertising campaigns that support Garden Days are about to kick into high gear which will send the public to the site to check out activities in their neighbourhoods.

Please join in **promoting** this celebration of gardening across Canada through your **Master Gardener newsletters, websites and social media accounts.**

- Register your activity at this link: http://gardendays.ca/en/events/submit
- A complete list of activities by province is here: http://gardendays.ca/en/events
- **For next year**, consider proclaiming an official garden day for your community; click here for info: http://gardendays.ca/en/declare-your-citys-garden-day

Hope you enjoy this wonderful day in your garden!

Claudette Sims, President
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

Master Gardeners Out & About:
Projects & Events

Brantford Master Gardeners

Name: Bite of Brant
Date: April 11th & 12th, 2018 – Burford Fairgrounds, Burford ON
Details: Brantford Master Gardeners participated in this annual event held at the Burford Fairgrounds. Approximately 500 students, over the course of 2 days, attended the school trip where they learned about agriculture and horticulture.
The Brantford Master Gardeners' theme was 'Growing a Pizza'. Students were shown where various ingredients found on a pizza come from, such as dough from wheat and cheese from dairy. They were also shown how to transplant and care for their choice of tomato, basil, oregano or pepper seedlings. It was a fun and educational day for the students.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: 14th Annual Plant Fair & Sale
Date: May 26th, 2018 from 10am – 1:00pm
Details: Another amazing plant sale was held in the driveways of EMG Marsha Gettas and her neighbour. Between 9 and 10 was particularly busy with early morning shoppers.

Some of us were lucky enough to visit chickens in Marsha's neighbour's backyard – part of the city-run 3 year pilot project.

Picture courtesy of: https://www.thestar.com/life/2018/05/25/chicken-experiment-runs-afoul-of-torontos-bylaw-for-coops.html

Guelph – Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Children's Education Event
Details: We ran a Children's Education Event for five days during March break. There was great participation and much enthusiasm from the students.

Pat van Benthem with a captivated audience

Pat van Bentham, right, is joined by Kay Verdone

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Macaulay Heritage Gardens
Details: The Macaulay Heritage Gardens group met to plan this year's maintenance of the gardens and projects. MG's Virginia Mitchell, Marianne Malachowski, Susan Warrack, and Ren Duinker are a part of this hard- working group.

Name: Plant Sale
Date: May 26, 2018
Details: The annual plant sale for so many of our groups is the big fund raiser of the year. Our group is very small but what a team! We had a very well attended plant sale this year and the weather cooperated, the plants looked great and many people went home happy with the plants they'd found. I'm sure you'd all agree: it's a lot of work, but it's worth it just to get out and meet with the community, share some plants and talk about our gardens.

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Mississauga Master Gardeners Plant Sale
Date: May 26, 2018
Details: The Mississauga Master Gardeners Spring Plant Sale took place on Saturday May 26th, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A great selection of plants came from the gardens of MMGs.
The Sale was held in the barn at The Riverwood Conservancy (TRC) located at 4300 Riverwood Park Lane, Mississauga, L5C 2S7.
https://www.theriverwoodconservancy.org/events/day.listevents/2018/05/26/-.html

Mary Jean Kucerak, Emma Chow, Suzanne Moreau, and David Pavanel comprised the Event Team.

Mississauga MGs mingling with customers

Essex – Windsor Master Gardeners

Name: Spring 2018 Essex-Windsor Master Gardener Video Presentation of "Call of the Forest – Forgotten Wisdom of Trees"

Date: Monday, 28th May 2018
Details: Courtesy of MGOI – all active and emeritus members were invited to this 85 minute special screening. Light refreshments were provided.

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Plant Sale
Details: This year Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton participated in the Friends of the Farm Mother's Day Plant Sale with both a sale table of our own and an advice clinic.
It was a gorgeous sunny day!

MGs Fran Dennett and Joan McNab answer a question – Fran and Joan have been doing this for 32 years!!

MGiTs Amanda Carrigan and Sheila Currie at the sale table!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Lee Valley Advice Clinic
Dates: from 12:30 – 4:30 pm on:
Sunday, June 10, 2018
Sunday, July 8, 2018
Details: Etobicoke Master Gardeners will host Advice Clinics at Lee Valley on three Sundays in May, June and July. Their address is:
167 Chrislea Road, Vaughan, ON
For directions to Lee Valley visit www.leevalley.com

Toronto Master Gardeners

Event: Open House to Recruit New Master Gardeners
Date: June 18th at 7:00pm
Location: Toronto Botanical Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, ON M3C 1P2
T. 416-397-1341
Details: If anyone has a friend or knows someone who is interested in joining the TMGs please encourage them to visit our open house.

Brantford Master Gardeners

Event: Gardens on Parade
Date: Sunday, June 24th, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Details: Brantford Master Gardeners and Brant Animal Aid Foundation present 'Gardens on Parade' – six private gardens to delight and inspire. Please join us, rain or shine.
Tickets: $10.00: available at Nicol's Florist Greenhouse and Garden Centre, 846 Colborne St. E., Brantford;
The Bookworm, 331 Brant Ave., Brantford; and at Green Heron Books, Paris.
For more information call Anne @ 519-442-3458.

2018 National Extension Master Gardener Coordinators Conference

Dates: August 6-9, 2018
Location: Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Details: This year's conference for group coordinators is a great mix of learning and networking opportunities. Our guest speakers and selected coordinators will be presenting on topics ranging from program development to diversity and inclusion.
We have also very intentionally built in ample space and time for networking and brainstorming with peers and colleagues from coast to coast.
Everything you need to know is online https://fyi.uwex.edu/emg2018/.
Registration is currently open and is $200 U.S. per person until June 1. You can register online at: https://fyi.uwex.edu/emg2018/registration/.
Lodging information is also available on the website.

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)
Date: August 17 to Sept 3, 2018
Details:
Hello Master Gardeners,
Spring is underway but now it is time to plan for the summer event of the year!
The CNE runs from August 17th to September 3rd this year, and Master Gardeners will be there again. Just like last year we will have two places for Master Gardeners for each of three time slots: 10:00-1:00; 1:00-4:00; and 4:00-7:00. This is ideal for getting in more hours if you need them.

Mississauga Master Gardeners Cont'd

The CNE means entertainment, concerts, shopping and fun for the whole family. You will get your free admittance ticket so stay and enjoy the day and evening. The sign-up sheet goes out May 31st to all coordinators. As always the first email received is the first on the list. Hope to see you there!
Co-coordinators Shirley Daniels and Susan Quirk

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series - Birds, Bees and Veggies
Date: Saturday, Aug. 18, 2018, 10 am – noon
Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum. Future workshops will take place on Nov. 17, Jan. 19, 2019, Feb. 23, 2019, and Apr. 13, 2019. Stay tuned.
To register please visit: humberarb.eventbrite.ca

COORDINATORS – MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

2018 Coordinators' Conference

Date: October 13, 2018
Location: TO BE ANNOUNCED – it cannot be at Landscape Ontario this year because of renovations.

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.