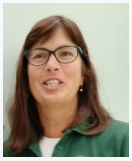
Snippets from Annual Reviews — selected with permission of Coordinator

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY Coordinator Red Duinker: We are most proud of the effort we made this year to connect with other groups in our community. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and we continue to nurture these relationships. Being a part of our community is very important to us as Master Gardeners.
Our meetings often have what we call 'Garden Talk' when we put away the business and just talk as friends about our gardens, this is always the best part of the meeting!

LANARK Dale Odorizzi , Coordinator: Among the things that make us proud:
• We have an excellent relationship with all 5 of our County Horticultural Societies. They often come to us to advertise our events on various technology platforms
• Great Seed Give Away - Canadian Tire has once again donated their unsold seeds to us. We sorted and distributed them to Junior Gardener programs, Food banks and Community Gardens across the county, and to school gardening programs.
• Our most recent Edible Garden Newsletter had about 1500 FB views.

MUSKOKA Coordinator Sandra Hartill :
Having 2 new and young MGiTs join our group is totally awesome!!!

RIDEAU 1000 ISLANDS
Astrid Muschalla, Coordinator:
We are proud of the TU that we arranged for our region. Education and networking make our meetings worthwhile.



MISSISSAUGA
Michelle Wilson, Coordinator:
Our highlight is that our very small group, with the help of a local Hort Society, managed a 4 day event at the GTA Home and Reno Show providing advice and kid's garden.

Another way we have reached out to the gardening public is by building a relationship with Port Credit Library. We provide clinics, seminars for them and they advertise our group through their internal library mailings and put our plant sale ads on their board.

GEORGIAN BAY: Anne Bossart, Coordinator: The small size of our group means there is time for general gardening discussion at our meetings in addition to administrative matters. However, we have not had the resources to hire speakers and we take turns presenting the educational component of our meetings.

NORFOLK COUNTY Anne Faulkner, Coordinator:
Our very small group held 2 public clinics and gave 11 presentations to a total of 525 participants.
Our meetings are worthwhile because we enjoy learning so try to have an educational component at each meeting.

SUDBURY Wendy Gauthier, Coordinator:
Our involvement in the Sudbury Garden Festival remains a highlight with our group. We operate an advice clinic, provide organizational help and operate a plant sale. Shared learning makes our meetings worthwhile.

OTTAWA-CARLETON:
Nancy McDonald, outgoing Coordinator: The change of meeting location to Kitchissippi United Church hall was a big highlight. It was difficult to leave Building 72 in the arboretum at the Experimental Farm but we simply had outgrown it. We will keep our connection to the Friends of the Farm.
We are most proud that our group is friendly, enthusiastic, collaborative and enjoys working together. It is never a problem getting members to step forward and volunteer.

GREY COUNTRY Roberta Brignell, Coordinator:
Our Recruitment month advertising in February brought in two new members.
Educational component, favourite tool component, exploring new venues each month to hold a meeting around the district and social time all make our meetings worthwhile.

ESSEX-WINDSOR. Susan Kelsh, Coordinator:
Activities with Horticultural Societies all over the county make up most of our interaction within the community. We are also active with information Clinics at the Garden Centres such as Colasanti's Tropical Gardens most Sundays from September to May and Canadian Tire in April and May during their busiest part of the season.

ALGOMA: Maria Smith, Coordinator: We participated in two Seedy Saturday Clinics, one of which we helped organize. We also hold weekly clinics at a pollinator garden we helped organize.

Algoma MGiT Tracy Spurway

This is a picture of Maria Smith - now on her 33rd year of volunteering as a Master Gardener. She was disappointed this year when her scheduled surgery for breast cancer was just before the Coordinators' Conference - too close for her to undertake the long drive. She lamented to me that she would miss connecting with the other coordinators, something she enjoys. The note she sent with this picture was "me (before the hair fell out)". She says "Life is better when we find humour in our tough adventures!!" Kelly Noel

Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the January 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:	Tena van Andel, Toronto
Director of Membership:	Pam Love, Durham Region
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Director of Relationship & Partnerships:	Ingrid Janssen, Durham Region
Director of Revenue Development:	vacant
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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 & Anne Bossart, Georgian Bay
MG Advice Clinic Manager for Canada Blooms: Christine Spence, Etobicoke
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Adrienne Hanbidge, Toronto

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- Master Gardeners
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  - Master Gardeners Out & About
  - Upcoming Events
- MGOI
  - The President's Corner: Coordinators' Conference 2019
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- Snippets from the Annual Reviews

INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

January 2019

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Muskoka Master Gardeners

Erratum - November 2018 Newsletter
Editor's note: Muskoka Master Gardeners consist of 8 Master Gardeners, not the 5 as printed in the November edition of the Newsletter. Established in October 2018 the group includes:

- 1 Master Gardener Emeritus
- 5 Master Gardeners
- 2 Master Gardeners in Training (MGiTs)

Grey County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training
Paulette Kirkey
Andrée Levie-Warrilow
Welcome to Grey County Master Gardeners!

Other
Unfortunately, we lost two valued members of the group at the end of the year. Sue Connelly and Pat Wyszynski (Draves) are leaving to have more time to devote to other volunteer opportunities in the community. Sue and Pat, both past coordinators, were with the group for more than 15 years. Their contribution has been an example to all of us, and we will miss them.

Master Gardeners Emeriti
Two of our founding members, Verna Beckenhauer and Paul Statia, have decided to retire from "active service" but will continue to make their knowledge and experience available as "Master Gardeners Emeriti". As is our custom when a founding member retires, we will be donating gardening books to libraries chosen by Verna and Paul.

Master Gardeners – the Next Generation
Master Gardener Brad Dewys and his wife Josie had twin boys, Hector and Henry, on January 3rd, 2019. It won't be long before the future Master Gardeners and their older brother Benjamin are helping Dad in his vegetable garden.

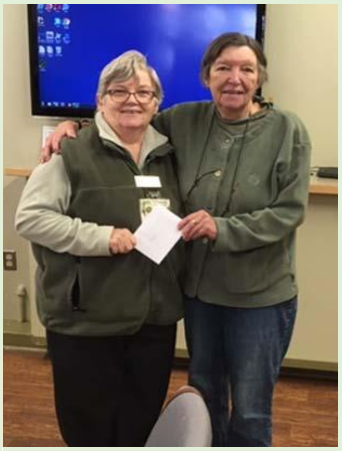
Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

In Memoriam
Linda Melady (1947-2019)

Prince Edward County lost one of its Master Gardeners in January and we are all very sad.

Linda had a keen eye for beauty. She saw it in everything and everyone and left the earth more beautiful than she found it. Linda was an avid gardener her entire life and had a deep connection with nature. She was a whiz at plant identification and helped many people with their garden designs. She was an extremely generous, kind person and she opened her heart and her home to everyone. As one of our MGs said: "There's nothing more important than having the ability to make people smile when they see you and Linda surely wrote the book on that".

15 Year Anniversary
Steve Storms
Karen Starczynowski
Alice Lumley



Alice Lumley, left with Ren Duinker, PEC Coordinator
Photo: Alex Wiens

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Member Profile

Nancy McDonald completes her successful term as MGOC Coordinator
Photo: MG Diane McClymont Peace

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton (MGOC) surprised Nancy McDonald in late 2018 with a celebration to thank her for completing a two-year term as MGOC Coordinator. Some highlights of her term include finding a larger location to accommodate our growing membership and helping to organize several successful fundraising events.

It just so happened that the same night that MGs toasted her accomplishments with a ceremony and cake, Nancy was also celebrating her 49th wedding anniversary. Now that's real commitment and dedication!

Nancy will be missed for her positive, enthusiastic leadership style and her ability to get tasks done in a relaxed, friendly manner. A retired nurse with roots in PEI, her down-to-earth approach was always evident. Thank you Nancy for doing a top-notch job. We hope you will continue to share your gardening talents and people skills with us for many years to come.

Master Gardener Julianne Labreche replaced Nancy as Coordinator on January 1, 2019.

Guelph and Wellington Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary
Bob Newman
Judy Brisson

10 Year Anniversary
Sean James
Diane Marchese
Inger Knudsen
Ann Inglis

5 Year Anniversary
Kay Verdone

From left to right: Judy, Kay, Diane, Sean, Bob, Inger

Toronto Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training
Ann Elliott
Desre' Kramer
Cynthia Levine-Rasky
Hani Louis
Karen Martin
Kathy Martin
Gail Pahwa
Morty Shapiro
Frankie Wright
Jennifer Ziorli
Welcome to Toronto Master Gardeners!

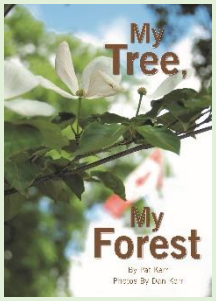
Algoma Master Gardeners

Member Profile

Pat Kerr, a Master Gardener in Training with Algoma MGs has published two books on tree care: *My Tree, My Forest* and *We are Planting a Forest*.

Pat Kerr, MGiT, Tree Hugger & Author

My Tree, My Forest is a 200 page book with 23 colour pages on how gardeners are curators for some of the world's most endangered species. The book encourages gardeners to support endangered / threatened species by planting native trees from seed and by cross pollinating trees showing signs of resistance to invasive conditions.



We are Planting a Forest is a 34 page, full colour children's book encouraging the planting of trees from seed and discussing tree genetic diversity. It was written for reluctant school age readers with an interest in environmental issues and is a legacy to ensure children will continue to plant diverse genetics.

Pat was very surprised when she was advised that she was to receive an honorary membership in the International Society of Arboriculture in 2011. She was writing fill-in articles for their magazine whenever a member missed a deadline and found the work to be rewarding in itself. The work stretched until she was writing for a number of professional tree care and landscaping trade publications.
https://www.isa-arbor.com/
http://www.treesaregood.org/

My Tree, My Forest started from those articles as a personal manual to make it easier for her to source information on rare and endangered trees for her own garden. As it expanded, she started hearing from arborists that the vast amount of information about trees was not accessible to gardeners and they wanted change. Over the years, she saw the passion of gardeners.

She is positive that, with a little encouragement, endangered, rare and threated habitats can be brought back, perhaps not as they were 100 years ago but in new and innovative ways as an asset to our future. It includes little things like not sending leaves and dead wood to landfill and acknowledging the land around our homes was compressed during construction.

For more information regarding these books please contact Pat at kerrpad@sympatico.ca. Her FaceBook page is: https://www.facebook.com/pat.kerr.395.

Pat wishes to thank Algoma Coordinator Maria Smith for all her support and encouragement through the publishing process.

The President's Corner

Claudette Sims, President MGOI

Coordinators' Conference & Annual General Meeting

We now have a date for the Coordinators' Conference & Annual General Meeting. It is Saturday, October 5th, 2019. The location isn't set as I'm not sure if Landscape Ontario will have finished their renovations or not. So for now it's just "location to be announced".

Master Gardeners Out & About:
Projects & Events

Durham County Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Christmas Party
Date: November 29, 2018
Details: On the evening of November 29th Durham Master Gardeners enjoyed their annual Christmas Party. Thanks to Karen Durnin who was a gracious host.

It was a great opportunity to get to know our new members. Anne Van de Velde, one of our newest members, was on the party planning committee.

Gini Sage, Norine Blyth, Melissa Meisinger, Ann Joyner, Judy Rivers

Anne designed unique conversation starter name tags for our members. For example, Pam Love's was 'Ask me about my new tree'. Tracey Smyth's was 'Ask me about my pond'. Anne's was 'Ask me about Monet's garden' - she has been there - lucky lady!

Anne suggested: 1) that we bring donations for the food bank; and 2) a "Getting to know you Bingo" game; she sourced some gardener-appropriate gifts for the winners. The bingo cards had: Find someone who 'boxes like'; 'grows fruit trees'; 'raises bees'; 'took courses at Guelph'; 'mulched their leaves'; and even 'who would like to chair a meeting in 2019'? We got some volunteers for that one.

An abundance of delicious food was enjoyed by all! After dinner Ingrid Janssen led a plant trivia quiz.

Ingrid and Tracey thanked everyone for a successful year for our group. We have eight new members thanks to our efforts. They recognized members who held offices and helped the group during the year with some beautiful amaryllis. They also announced our group's nominations for the 2019 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards. In the picture below are Sherry Dodson, Tracey Smyth and Karen Durnin. Also nominated are Isia Yeo and Elaine Davidson who could not attend that evening.

Thanks again to our hostess Karen Durnin and the party planning committee: Pam Love, Robynne Dunne, Judy Rivers, and our new member with great energy and ideas, Anne Van de Velde. Thanks also to all our members who pitched in to help set up and clean up that evening.

We had a great year, and we look forward to a fabulous 2019!

Guelph and Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Roots and Shoots Garden
Details: Guelph Master Gardeners finished another successful year at the Roots and Shoots garden located at the Guelph Arboretum.

Halton Master Gardeners

Name: December Master Gardener Meeting
Date: December 5, 2018
Details: Halton Master Gardeners meet regularly at the Royal Botanical Gardens. The picture is of our meeting area. ... what a beautiful place to meet!

Front row, L to R: Claudette Sims, Donna Fraser, Shirley Novak, Kate Sault, Liza Drozdov, Patty King, Janet Hughes-Mackey

Back row, L to R: Roberta Roberts, Jo-Anne Kempe, David Marshall, Hariette Henry, Lynn Courtney, Megan Sonke, Donna Fraser, Catherine Kavassalis, Sharon Paradis, Walter de Jong, Roseanne Nelson

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: 'The Power of Words in First Nations Territory Acknowledgements': by Claudette Sims, President MGOI
Details: I would like to express my support and thanks to Claudette and MGOI for bringing this important matter to our attention. PEC will be discussing it at our next meeting. Thanks Claudette!
Ren Duinker, Coordinator, PECMGs

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: TMG TU
Date: January 12, 2019
Details: Toronto Master Gardeners hosted another fun and educational Technical Update (TU) again this year. Master Gardeners came from across Ontario to attend the all-day TU, and fully half of the Etobicoke Master Gardeners group was there. The theme of the day was 'Fascinating Fungi' and featured the following fascinating topics.

- The Kingdom of Fungi with Dr. Jean Marc Moncalvo, Senior Curator of Mycology, Royal Ontario Museum
- Life Underground: Plants Interacting with Beneficial Fungi with Dr. Larry Paterson, Professor Emeritus, University of Guelph
- The Art Behind the Science of Mushroom Growing with Natalie Jaroszewski, Proprietor, W&T Mushrooms Ltd.

Master Gardeners raptly listening to Dr. Moncalvo

UPCOMING EVENTS

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series – Pruning & Tool Care
Date: Saturday, February 23rd, 2019
Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum, workshops will take place on Feb. 23 and Apr. 13, 2019. Stay tuned.
To register please visit: humberarb.eventbrite.ca

Guelph and Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Technical Update - Native Plants
Date: February 24th, 2019
Location: 1096 Victoria Road, Victoria Park Golf Club
Cost: $55 preregistered
Registration Information:
https://www.gwmastergardeners.ca/

Stratford Master Gardeners

Name: Stratford Garden Festival
Date: February 28th to March 3rd, 2019
Details: Master Gardeners from across Ontario as well as Stratford are again playing a major part in the upcoming Stratford Garden Festival. As well as providing many great presentations, there will be an advice booth sponsored by the Stratford MGs. Check it out at: https://lungontario.ca/stratford-garden-festival

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Peterborough Master Gardeners

Name: A Day for Gardeners
Date: Saturday, March 2nd, 2019 – 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM
Price: $35 Early Bird / $40 after February 9th
Details: Come join us for a fun day of learning, lunch and friendship at the Activity Haven Centre, 180 Barnardo Avenue, Peterborough ON. Select 3 of 6 gardening sessions presented by MGs. For more information call (705) 876-1771 or email mahiggins@sympatico.ca.

Registration forms are available at:
https://peterboroughmastergardeners.com/events/

Stratford Master Gardeners

Name: Gardening 101
Dates: March 27th, 2019
Details: Stratford will be offering a series of four workshops in late March and April 2019 for beginning gardeners at the Stratford Public Library. Cost is $50 for the workshop series. Topics include:
March 27 – Garden Basics
April 3 – Vegetable Gardening
April 10 – Pollinators and Native Plants
April 17 – Container Gardening
Register at: https://stratfordmastergardeners.ca/
Any questions, please contact: sdmastergardener@gmail.com

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Friends of the Central Experimental Farm Lecture Series
Details: In 2019, Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton will partner once again with Friends of the Central Experimental Farm to provide a popular local lecture series. Topics are as follows:

Title: Savvy Choices for Spring 2019
Date: Tuesday April 2, 2019
- With Master Gardeners Mary Shearman Reid and Stephanie Sleeth

Title: The Art of Rock Gardening
Date: Tuesday April 16, 2019
- With Master Gardeners Josie Pazdzoir and Rob Stuart

Title: Trees and Shrubs - The Backbones of Your Garden
Date: Tuesday April 30, 2019
- With Master Gardener Diane McClymont Peace

Title: Kitchen Gardens
Date: Tuesday May 14, 2019
- With Master Gardener Judith Cox

Title: From Pots and Small Plots - Come Edible Flowers and Herbs!
Date: Tuesday September 10, 2019
- With Master Gardener Nancy McDonald

Name: Garden Days / Les Journées du Jardins
Date: Saturday, June 15th – Sunday, June 23rd, 2019
Details: Garden Days 2019 will take place from June 15th to June 23rd, inclusive. Master Gardener Groups are encouraged to participate by scheduling an event during that time frame.
More information coming soon!

MGOI Summer Workshop - 2019

Dates: July 13th & 14th, 2019
Details: The 11th annual MGOI Summer Workshop will be held at the Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture. All three topics offered this year are of interest and highly educational. They are designed specifically for Master Gardeners and Master Gardeners in Training.

Two of the three sessions may be taken; unfortunately, there is not enough time in a weekend to do all three. This year's topics are:

- Plant Adaptations: 'Tricky Traits and Formidable Features' – Instructor Darrell Bley
- Developing Defences for Diabolical Diseases – Instructor Sue Clarke
- Scoundrels and Scourges: Profiles of Ontario's Pesky Plants – Instructor Kris Mahoney

Details of the sessions are available on the MGOI website, www.mgoi.ca as is all the registration information. Use the member area and look under the "workshops" tab. You may also receive this information from June Streadwick, streadwick@sympatico.ca or Yvonne Causer, ycauser@hotmail.com.

Last year all 60 spaces were filled by the end of February, and registrations are already being received at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. If you are planning to attend, please send in your registration as soon as possible to be assured of a space.

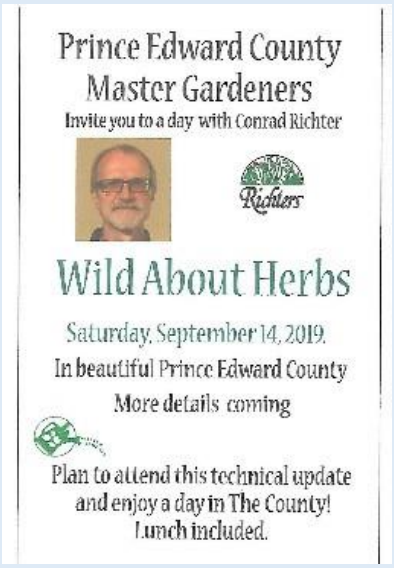
If you require more information, please do not hesitate to contact either June or Yvonne.

Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

Name: MGOI Website
Details: If you would like your Master Gardener event posted on the MGOI website under the **News & Events** tab, please send details to our webmaster Jim Cook at webmaster@mgoi.ca.
Images need to be in .jpeg or .png format.

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Technical Update: Wild about Herbs – A Day with Conrad Richter
Date: Saturday September 14, 2019
Details: Plan to attend this Technical Update which includes lunch with the bonus of enjoying a day in The County!
Stay tuned for more details.



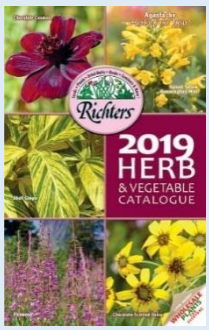
Of Possible Interest to Master Gardeners

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Name: Peterborough Garden Show
Dates: April 26, 27 & 28, 2019
Details: www.PeterboroughGardenShow.com
Speakers:
Mark & Ben Cullen (sponsored by Home Hardware)
Alexander Reford (Reford Gardens, Quebec)
Paul Zimmerman – www.paulzimmermanroses.com
Alex Henderson – CEO, Royal Botanical Gardens
Steven & Emma Biggs – father and daughter gardeners and authors
Carol Pasternak – The Monarch Crusader
Leora Berman – The Land Between
Also: workshops, demos and movies
New Venue: The show is excited to partner with Fleming College and will hold the show in their gorgeous new Trades and Technology Building…

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&car t_id=2154123.16186.

They also offer free on-line seminars at: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events2016.html.

The 2019 Richters catalogue, filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds, is available to download or to order for free on their web-site: https://www.richters.com/