



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the June 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.

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INSIDE MGOI

**Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.**

June 2019

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Durham Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Gini Sage

Member Profile

We celebrated Gini Sage's 15 year anniversary with Durham Master Gardeners at our May meeting. Tracey Smyth presented Gini with a card and a pin, and we enjoyed black forest cake!

Gini joined the Durham Master Gardeners in May 2004 and achieved her MG certificate the following year in 2005. She has been an active member for 15 years and has the unique status of being our longest serving member. Gini served as our treasurer for many years and regularly commits volunteer time to community garden endeavours, local horticultural advice clinics, and has authored some of our more successful presentations.

We congratulate Gini on her 15 years of service to the community.



Tracey Smyth presenting Gini Sage with a pin and card

Gini has over 30 years of gardening experience in urban and country settings. She is an active Master Gardener, volunteered with Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc. (MGOI) for over a decade, and is a member of local garden societies. Her primary interests are expanding the use of native plants in the urban landscape, as well as the incorporation of vegetables and herbs in ornamental gardens.

Gini graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry. She also earned an Ontario Diploma in Horticulture and Certificate in Landscape Design from the University of Guelph. After retiring from a full-time career in Automotive Engineering, she now operates her own business, *Spirit of Spring Design*, which provides garden design focused on developing creative solutions for landscape problems and aims to bring gardening knowledge to the home gardener in their own environment.



Guelph – Wellington Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Kiki Alwan

Kiki brings a lot of horticultural experience to our group and we look forward to taking advantage of her skills.



Grey County Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Jackie Campbell

10 Year Anniversary

Rebecca Baker

5 Year Anniversary

Brad Dewys



Toronto Master Gardeners

30 Year Anniversary

Anna Leggatt



Anna Leggatt

25 Year Anniversary

Anne Kotyk

15 Year Anniversary

Barbara Anderson

Ellen Eyman

10 Year Anniversary

Josée Couture

Cathy Kozma

Alan Malcolmson

Doryne Peace

Sylvia Sarkus

5 Year Anniversary

Marion Comper

Judith Lavin

Alexis Yanaky

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Dianne Azzarello

Daniel Doane (absent from photo)

Cathy Goring

Margaret Rousseau

Barbara Stewart

Wai Yeung



Newly Certified Toronto Master Gardeners



Muskoka Master Gardeners

25 Year Anniversary

Linda Dronseika

One of our members, Linda Dronseika, received her 25 year MGOI pin. Our group celebrated this with a lovely planter for her to enjoy.

Unfortunately, Linda has had some health issues which have prevented her from attending our meetings.



Linda with her 25 year pin and beautiful planter



Simcoe County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Shellby McNabb



Membership Co-ordinator Joan Nieman-Agapas, (right), welcoming Shellby (middle) and Stacie MacLean, an interested visitor, to our special meeting

At our May 2019 meeting (and mid-year social) we were pleased to celebrate as we welcomed Shellby McNabb as a new MGIT to the Simcoe County Master Gardeners. Shellby has already achieved her Horticulturist Certificate through Guelph University and is a welcome addition to our group! She has already signed up to write an article for our website and join us for our Garden Day activity by running a children's planting demonstration.

Former Simcoe County Master Gardener Recognized

Peggy Staite-Wong was a long-time resident of Barrie and a Simcoe County Master Gardener since 2000. Peggy sadly passed away in the fall of 2017.

She was a passionate environmentalist in the area and volunteered in the Barrie Arboretum (located in Sunnidale Park) for eight years. She was the leading force behind the master planning of the most recent additions to Sunnidale Park, the Tranquility Garden and the pesticide-free native landscape. Peggy was part of the steering committee that raised more than \$100,000 toward construction of a new pavilion in this same park.

At a special ceremony on June 15th this pavilion was re-named "The Peggy Staite-Wong Pavilion" as an honor to Peggy, and to recognize all that she had accomplished for the city and the park that she loved.



Survey Alert – Coming Soon!



Help us Make a Plan

Have your Say

We want to hear from everyone!!

Complete the Survey to Help Us Grow as an Organization

How can we keep our aging members?

How can we keep our trainees?

How can we fill roles in our Groups?

How can we fill those empty seats on the Board?

Do the Survey to Help us Grow

We need to Hear from You!

Share your valuable insight, feedback and ideas

It's That Important!

Please Complete the Survey

Watch your email for the Survey Monkey invite

Don't wait - complete it as soon as you get it!

Pam Love, Director of Membership



Master Gardeners Out & About: Projects & Events

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

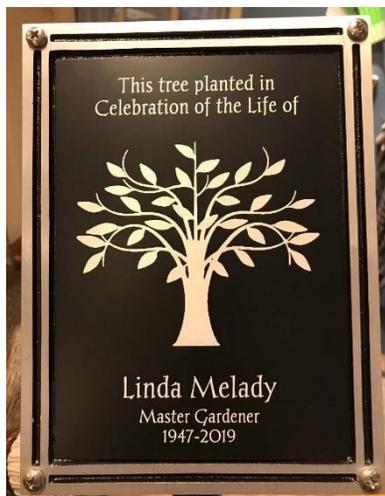
Name: We say goodbye..

Details: On June 8th PEC MGs gathered in Linda Melady's beautiful garden to celebrate her life. The weather was glorious, and her children and their spouses, Michael, Jessica, Jeff and Jennifer had the garden looking its best. We all had a wonderful day together remembering Linda and all the kindness and beauty she spread wherever she went.



*Back row: Steve Storms, Ren Duinker, Julia Lamoca, Alice Lumley, Marianne Malachowski, Susan Warrack, Linda's son, Michael Hagan.
Front Row: Joyce Young, Barbra Stock, Kim Beaugrand, Linda's daughter, Jessica Hagan.*

Then on June 11th we planted a tree at the Macaulay Heritage Garden where Linda helped maintain the gardens for many years.



*Virginia Mitchell, Marianne Malachowski, Sabeena Grewal, Susan Warrack, Milli Hunt, Hart Duinker, Michiel Duinker, (not in the photo: Barbra Stock), Joyce Young and Ren Duinker.
Photo by Jane Corey*

Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardeners (MGOC)

Welcome new MGIt: Andrew Arcello

Name: Mini Talks at Ottawa Farmers' Markets

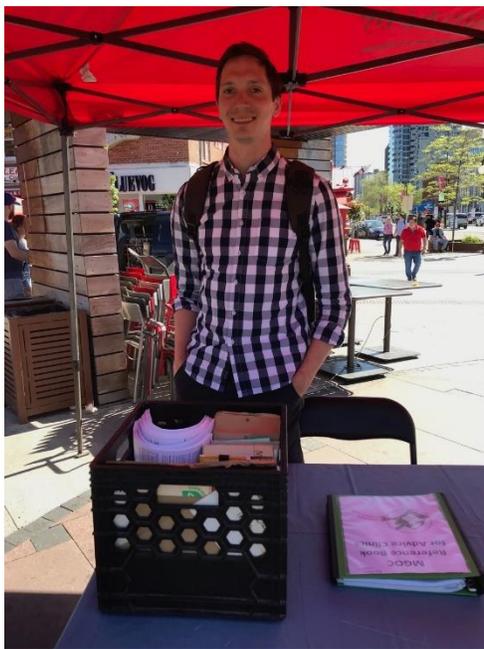
Details: It takes courage to think outside the box and try something different. But Master Gardeners are up to a challenge. This spring, Master Gardeners in Ottawa-Carleton decided to trial a series of 'mini talks' at a few Ottawa farmers' markets.

In past years, we've always paired up to answer gardening questions from market shoppers. This year, we also offered a series of short, snappy, and interactive talks with lots of practical gardening tips. As shoppers watched, there were talks on growing in containers, a pruning demonstration and ways to attract wildlife to the garden.



A big 'thank you' to all of our master gardeners who decided to step outside their comfort level and try something new.

Speakers included Edythe Falconer, Claudette Russell, Barbara Long, William Pellerin and Coordinator Julianne Labreche. With any luck, this mini talk series will continue this fall.



William Pellerin shares his knowledge on vegetable growing at a 'mini talk'

Name: Aberfoyle Market, Harriston Market, Gardenscape, Beginnings

Details: Our MG group had participants at all of these venues, doing workshops, answering questions and showing off gardens. Diane Marchese held a herb workshop for new gardeners at a community group called Beginnings. They discussed ways of reusing food containers as plant containers. Our MG group sponsored the materials.



Diane leading the herb workshop at Beginnings



Guelph – Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Guelph Arboretum Garden – Roots & Shoots

Details: This spring we again planted woodland plants in the Arboretum garden. The garden is just behind the Arboretum centre on a dry hill. We keep it mulched and watered. Over time it is filling in. We work with Sean Fox, the Horticultural Manager at the Arboretum to decide what to plant and how to maintain this garden underneath trees.



Judy Brisson planting Anemone canadense in the Roots and Shoots garden



From left to right: MGs Jennifer McKenna, Lianne Krane, Heather Rajotte, Donna Lehman shared their gardening knowledge at the Aberfoyle Market



Muskoka Master Gardeners

Name: Short Articles

Details: Muskoka MGs are busy planning our summer activities. One of our members, Rosemarie Meyer, has written short articles for the Muskoka Seniors Magazine and they have been appreciated and enjoyed by many.



Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Name: A Day In the Garden with the Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Details: As our “Garden Days” activity we partnered with our local museum to present *A Day In the Garden with the*



Simcoe County Master Gardeners on June 22nd, 2019. One of our projects was to plant (and maintain) a period-specific garden at the pioneer church on their demonstration grounds. We were located beside this garden and offered demonstrations throughout the day.



Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: Donation to the Library

Details: When one of our founding members retires from “active service” it has been our practice to donate a gardening book or books of their choice, totalling approximately \$50.00, to their local library. On May 24th we presented two books by Mark Cullen, “The New Canadian Garden” and “The Canadian Garden Primer – An Organic Approach” to the Southgate Ruth Hargrave Memorial Library in Dundalk, to recognize the contribution of Paul Statia, MG Emeritus.



Paul Statia (left) & Coordinator Vicky Thompson (right) present books to Librarian Phyllis Lichty

Name: Advice Clinic - Durham Herb Fair

Details: We held our first Advice Clinic at the Durham Herb Fair in 2005 and have not missed a year since then. This year the fair was bigger and better than ever with more than 45 vendors. We were kept busy answering questions and doing what we love to do – talking about gardening.



Jackie Campbell (left), Roberta Brignell & Gary Kenny ready for questions at the Durham Herb Fair

Name: Advice Clinic – Ginkgo Footprints Garden

Details: Emily and Dennis Bi are the creators and owners of Ginkgo Footprints garden. Since 2014 they have hosted a garden open house, “Among the Peonies”, to share their magnificent collection of peonies with the public. In addition to garden tours and special workshops on painting and yoga, the Grey County Master Gardeners were there to help with problems.



One of Emily & Dennis' gorgeous peonies



(from left) Margaret-Ann Brennan (MG), Emily Bi, Vicky Thompson (MG), Andrée Levie-Warrillow (MGIT)



Coordinators' Conference & Annual General Meeting

The date for the Coordinators' Conference & Annual General Meeting is Saturday, October 5th, 2019.

The location isn't set as I'm not sure whether or not we're able to go back to Landscape Ontario.

For now it's just "location to be announced". *Claudette Sims, President MGOI*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Name: Wildscaping in Kingston Ontario

Dates: August 12th & September 7th, 2019

Details: The Project:

Rideau 1000 Islands MGs are spearheading a community wildscaping project in the Kingston region this summer and fall. They are working with community partners and homeowners to turn front lawns into ecological 'wildscapes' mimicking natural ecosystems as a way to regenerate the health of the spaces where we live and work.

Each yard will be an individual project, suited to the site conditions and working toward a specific theme and goals. Regenerative gardening criteria will be employed on all of the sites and the SOUL Organic Land Care Standard will be the overall guideline.

The Workshops:

To set the stage for the project, Regeneration Canada will be hosting a gardening workshop on **Monday, August 12th** to prepare stakeholders and engage the public in the techniques of climate and ecosystem restoration and the possibilities of regenerative and rewilded gardens and landscapes.

A follow-up workshop on the naturalistic approach to planting design will be held **Saturday, September 7th** with special guest speaker, [Tony Spencer, The New Perennialist](#). Further details will be posted closer to the event date.

Full details can be found here:

https://organiclandcare.ca/Land_Care_Events/

Mississauga Master Gardeners



Name: Canadian National Exhibition

Details: Spring has sprung and the summer fun soon begins. When you are making plans ahead try to fit in some time at the CNE which runs from Aug. 16 to Sep. 2 this year. Your admission is free for volunteering that day.

Like last year we will have two places for MGs for each of three time slots: 10:00am-1:00pm; 1:00pm-4:00pm; and 4:00pm-7:00pm. To volunteer, contact Susan Quirk for your choice of shift: organicsince16@gmail.com

Good Gardening for now!

Shirley Daniels, MMG

Susan Quirk, MMG

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Friends of the Central Experimental Farm
Lecture Series

Details: In 2019, Ottawa-Carleton MGs have partnered once again with Friends of the Central Experimental Farm to provide a popular local lecture series.

The last remaining topic is:

From Pots and Small Plots - Come Edible Flowers and Herbs!

Date: Tuesday September 10, 2019

- With Master Gardener Nancy McDonald



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners



Technical Update: Wild About Herbs

Date: Saturday, September 14, 2019

Location: Picton, ON, in The County

Cost: \$35 includes lunch

Details: Conrad Richter is the owner of Richter's Herbs in Goodwood, Ontario and a leading authority on herbs. His wife, Aku is originally from Ghana and is passionate about the healing nature of herbs. They will be presenting you with two lively discussions. Conrad will speak on herbs you should know and Aku will tell you about some of the herbs she loves and how she uses them.

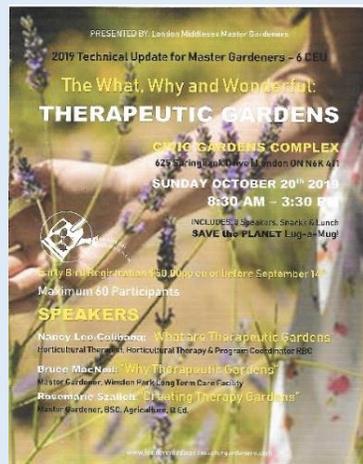
Registration Information: Tickets go on sale June 1st. We only have 70 tickets available so get your tickets early, from Eventbrite at <https://wild-about-herbs.eventbrite.ca>. Plan a weekend in The County!

London – Middlesex Master Gardeners

Name: Technical Update: The What, Why and Wonderful of Therapeutic Gardens

Date: Sunday, October 20th, 2019, 8:30am – 3:30pm

Place: Civic Gardens Complex, 625 Springbank Drive, London, ON N6K 4T1



www.londonmastergardeners.com

Speakers: Nancy Lee-Colibaba, Royal Botanical Gardens; Bruce MacNeil, MG; Rosemarie Szalich, MG

Cost: \$60. Early Bird only \$50 - Register and pay before Sep. 15th!

Registration Information:

Lanark County Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Ontario Native and Invasive Plants – Friends and Foes

Date: Saturday October 26th, 2019, 8:30am – 3:00pm

Location: Kitchissippi United Church, 630 Island Park Drive, Ottawa

Cost: \$35 (includes Lunch)

Registration Information: www.lanarkmg.blogspot.com or www.mgottawa.ca

Save the Date!



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.



Of Possible Interest to Master Gardeners

Richters Herbs

Details: Richters Herbs offers seminars at their greenhouse location throughout the year. For more information visit:

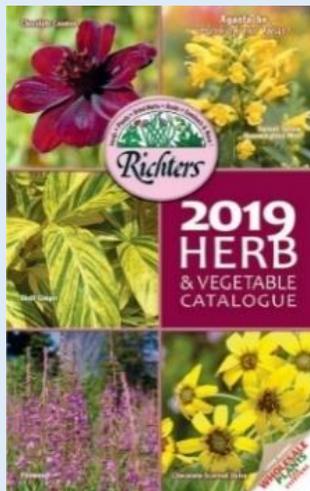
https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=../events/events.html&cart_id=2154123.16186.

They also offer free on-line seminars at:

<https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events2016.html>.

The 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/>



National Children & Youth Garden Symposium

The American Horticultural Society is holding a 3 day [National Children & Youth Garden Symposium](#) for educators, non-profit professionals and others working directly with children and youth in garden-based settings. The symposium will take place on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, Madison in Madison, Wisconsin from July 10th through 13th, 2019; this is a wonderful opportunity for garden educators to gather and learn from each other.

Providing the next generation with the knowledge and tools to create a sustainable environmental future and finding ways to maintain and grow the gardens and programs that nurture our youth is the focus of the 2019 symposium. NCYGS will explore innovative sustainable gardening curriculums and practices, “green” career resources, and will highlight model partnerships for attracting the human, financial, and intellectual capital needed to sustain youth gardening endeavors. Attendees at the Symposium will:

- participate in almost 50 [peer-led educational sessions](#)
- hear thought-provoking [speakers](#) including Detroit Dirt’s Pashon Murray and Soul Fire Farm’s Amani Olugbala present on current topics including closed-loop waste management and food justice
- [tour outstanding local sites](#) such as the Madison Children's Museum, Allen Centennial Garden, and the Troy Kids' Garden
- meet and connect with colleagues and peers working in the youth gardening sector

Registration is available online at:

<https://www.ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/youth-gardening/ncygs/2019-registration-rates>

A detailed schedule can be found at:

<https://www.ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/youth-gardening/ncygs/2019-schedule>

