

Roots & Shoots



Master Gardener
Society of
Oakland County, Inc.



December 2012 – January 2013



December 11, 2012 @ 5:45pm
MGSOC General Society Meeting & Location
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
5631 North Adams Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Holiday Potluck



January 8, 2013 @ 6:30pm
MGSOC General Society Meeting & Location
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
5631 North Adams Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Speaker : Gary Eichen

Education: "Insects/Diseases of Trees and Shrubs Often Missed by Homeowners"

A business meeting will take place, prior to the start of our Educational Program.



February 12, 2013 @ 6:30pm
MGSOC General Society Meeting & Location
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
5631 North Adams Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Speaker : Dale White

Education: "Updates on Using Organic Fertilizers and Amendments"

A business meeting will take place, prior to the start of our Educational Program.



Carol's Corner

As fall deepens and we head into winter, another Master Gardener Training Class has ended and we have 47 enthusiastic trainees chomping at the bit to make the world a better place through horticulture! At the same time I'm looking forward to our winter class. We have already interviewed 32 people as I'm writing this and I know that the next class will be just as nice as the class that's just ended. The winter class is an evening class on Thursdays from 6:00pm-10:00pm and runs 1/24-4/25. If you know anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming a Master Gardener, please have them contact Linda Smith at 248-858-0900 or smithlin@oakgov.com for an application. The application deadline is January 4.

As the year wanes it becomes a time of reflection for many of us. There is so much to be grateful for. Counted in my long gratitude list... Oakland County Master Gardeners! In the same way you enrich so many lives through your volunteering, you enrich my life both professionally and personally. Thank you!!

The New Year will bring changes to the MGVP that I hope you'll be able to live with. There will be a \$20 recertification fee which will be termed a subscription fee. This fee will cover the costs of the new record keeping system (volunteer management system), and may help to fund a much needed part-time administrative assistant for the State MG Office. Once we migrate to the new web-based volunteer management (record keeping) system, I think you'll like what you'll see.

Please turn in your hours in by the middle of December

Current MG records will be migrated from the current Record Keeping System to the new system in early January. We encourage all current MGs to enter your hours into the current Record Keeping System ASAP so we can make a clean transition to the new system.

Your MG volunteer and educational history will not be migrated to the new system, so if you want to keep your history for your records, you can go to the "hour submission history" page, in the current system, and print the yearly breakdown page or click on the view all and print that. This history detail will not be retrievable once we go to the new system. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Morris at morrisc@oakgov.com or call 248-858-1639. If you go to the Michigan Master Gardener Program website there's a tutorial on the new system. The link to the website is http://mg.msue.msu.edu/mg/for_master_gardener_volunteers. Look at the left hand navigation section and you'll see "For MG Volunteers". There's also information on the Michigan Master Gardener Association.

I'm looking forward to the MGSOOC, Inc. Holiday Potluck on December 11. It's always a fun time and as usual MGV's just keep on giving by bringing both non-perishable food donations for Gleaners/Oakland Food Bank and a gift for those less fortunate at HAVEN.

No matter what holiday you celebrate this season, relish the time spent with your friends and families. As the cold winds blow, we naturally slow down to rest up for next years' growing season. I hope your dreams are filled with beautiful gardens.

The Year at a Glance—MGSOC Meetings/Events for 2013

January 8	Gary Eichen	Insects/Diseases of Trees and Shrubs Often Missed by Homeowners	
January 28		MGSOC Board Meeting	7PM @ Extension ofc.
February 12	Dale White	Updates on Using Organic Fertilizers and Amendments	
March 12	Scott Bates	Pond Construction and Setting Up Container Water Gardens	
March 18		MGSOC Board Meeting	7PM @ Extension ofc.
April 23	George Papadelis	Ornamental Grasses	← At Telly's Greenhouse in Troy
April 20	MGSOC Conference	Elements of Design for Sustainable Landscapes	MSU Conference Center, Troy
May 14	Todd Renshaw	The Art of Growing Bonsai	
May 20		MGSOC Board Meeting	7PM @ Extension ofc.
June 11	Bob Williams	Practical Phragmites Control	
July 9	Janet Macunovich	Design Tips for Garden Art	
August 13	TBD	TBD	
August 19		MGSOC Board Meeting	7PM @ Extension ofc.
September 10	TBD	TBD	
October 8	Cathy and Frank Genovese	Christmas Tree and Spruce Declines	
October 21		MGSOC Board Meeting	7PM @ Extension ofc.
November 12	Trevor Newman	Edible Landscaping – From Consumers to Producers	
December TBD	Holiday Potluck		

Please Don't Eat The Daisies - Eat Your Weeds



The tantalizing topic for a talk on a Tuesday evening in August was “Wonderful Weeds,” a twist on a subject with which gardeners are all too familiar. While many of us wish that “something” would eat the weeds we love to hate. Jan Burns, owner of Burns’ Botanicals, invited us to eat and enjoy them ourselves.

Jan sells and uses natural beauty products as well as organic products and gave us an overview on the handling and preparation of several common weeds available for human consumption.

She began with dandelions, which she says are considered to be one of the five most nutritious vegetables on earth. Though they are bitter and an acquired taste, they are high in calcium, iron and zinc. Dandelions, along with burdock and milk thistle, are considered liver cleansers. Young leaves make good additions to salads and are best picked in spring or fall because summer’s heat makes them even more bitter. All parts of the dandelion are edible, and it’s an ingredient in over half of all herb blends on the market. With the flowers you can make tea, wine, fritters and seasoning. The root can be broiled, steamed, roasted and toasted for coffee.

Violet blossoms and leaves, Jan says, can be made into a soothing tonic for a dry cough, but not if you’re allergic to aspirin since they contain salicylic acid. A violet salve, made from leaves and flowers can soothe skin inflammations and sunburns, and diaper rash as well.

Many of us are familiar with the healing ability of plantain on insect bites and stings. It is best used as a salve or an infusion because it leaves something to be desired taste-wise. You can use an infusion to clean a wound, then as a compress, and the salve to help the wound heal.

Nettles, Jan says, are considered the most nutritious wild vegetable in North America, being 25% protein. While nettles are said to reduce allergic reactions, they are certainly quite capable of providing such reactions so you never deal with them without wearing gloves. Nettle vinegar is used as a mineral tonic to keep bones strong as it contains calcium, iron and chlorophyll. You can make your own by putting nettles in cider vinegar and using it as a tonic.

The ground ivy or Creeping Charlie can be made into Gill Tea by infusing one ounce of herb to one pint of boiling water sweetened with honey or sugar. Let it steep and cool down. Add ice and you have a cooling elixir. Creeping Charlie is used for many other things from eye wash to allergy remedy to dissolving kidney stones. Chickweed is known for treating skin irritations and inflammations as a salve. As a food, chickweed can be added to salads and dips as well as turned into a pesto with basil or parsley.

Many other “weeds” can be incorporated into our menus. Lamb’s quarters is interchangeable in any recipe that calls for spinach. Fresh purslane leaves and stems can go into cold salads, chicory can be added to coffee or used plain as coffee and sumac makes a tart iced tea.

When contemplating any herbal treatment, always consult a professional like your doctor or pharmacist because drug interactions can be fatal. Also, consider that a treatment period of at least six weeks is urged because you must allow time for the herbs to work. When using a medicinal tea, for instance, it is recommended that it be consumed six times per day for at least a month.

The important things to remember when using weeds or herbs is to make sure they are fresh, safe for you, and not exposed to toxins. Always start with simple, mild herbs and rub some on the inside of your arm. Wait 24 hours. If there is no reaction, try making a tea and drinking a small amount of it. Wait another 24 hours before taking a larger dose. Always do your homework before your experiments. Research the material you want to use and be safe. Know what other weeds and herbs are in the same families, especially if you have sensitivity to something. Happy Weeding and Eating!

—Submitted by Susan Tatus McLarty

Pruning: Learn It Before You Get Snippy!



Sue Grubba spoke about pruning at our October general meeting. She assured us that there is no one way to prune correctly, BUT there are lots of ways to do it wrong. When you prune it's good to have a partner, a person who can help you visualize the finished result and catch the branches and get them out of the way. A shrub or tree should not be pruned until it has been in the ground for a year. Never remove more than 25-30% of the branches of a tree. A tree or shrub should not be pruned more than once a year, and March is usually a good time, although spring-blooming shrubs are usually pruned after they bloom. Summer-flowering shrubs can be pruned to the ground if desired.

The gardener should first determine the primary goals for pruning. Improvement and maintenance of plant health, integrity, structure, and visual appearance are all good reasons to prune. Woody plants are usually healthier if they are open for air circulation and sunlight, thus decreasing fungus and disease susceptibility. Some people prune to limit the size of a plant. Dead and storm damaged wood needs to be removed.

Pruning can establish a central leader and focus on strong V's, which should be at least 45 degree angles for maximum branch strength in the face of wind and heavy snow. It is important to identify the branch collar and cut just above the branch bark ridge where there is a biochemical barrier that protects the tree when it is cut. All branches should aim out with no crosses. Weaker stems, sprouts and suckers should be removed.

Pines can be pruned at the candle stage to limit growth. Yews will put out new growth from the center if they are pruned so that sunlight reaches the inner branches. Arborvitae, Chamaecyparis and Juniper do not form buds on old wood, so a light brush cut is the best way to prune them.

Shrubs can be renewed and rejuvenated by pruning. DON'T just prune across the top of the shrub, but instead, prune out the oldest stems. All flowering shrubs flower best on young wood. Burning bush should be pruned in March; later pruning invites infestations of mites.

Hydrangeas are pruned depending on the variety. Paniculatas like Annabelle should be pruned in March, pruning half the branches to the ground and leaving the other half about 8" tall. Spring-flowering hydrangeas are pruned after flowering. Mopheads that bloom on old wood should be trimmed back to good buds. Oakleaf, lacecap and climbing hydrangeas should all be pruned after blooming.

Roses should be cut back to a bud pointing out around April 15 – not earlier because late frost can cause dieback. Shrub roses can be trimmed after blooming.

Wisteria should be cut back in March to 9 buds per manageable shape. In July they should be gently pruned back a little.

There is so much to learn about pruning, and Sue brought her long professional experience to us.

—Submitted by Jean Gramlich

Bearded Iris



Ann Cline gave a talk on bearded irises at our November Membership meeting, and, as usual, the pictures were the highlight of the evening. She began with discussing ideal growing conditions: lots of sun, well-drained soil and neutral to slightly alkaline pH. Plants grown in the shade probably will not bloom, so at least 4-5 hours of sun are required. Irises definitely do not like wet feet, and the rhizomes will tend to rot without good drainage. Rhizomes should be planted just below the surface in sandy soil and even with the surface in clay soil.

The ideal time to divide irises is one month after bloom, but try not to plant them in excessive heat. They establish their root systems better if they have a long time before the ground freezes. They may or may not bloom the first year. When dividing irises, discard the “mother rhizome” and use the newer rhizomes instead. They should be planted 2 feet apart because they will form a clump in 2-3 years. When placing the rhizomes, place the “toe” facing the front of the garden, and new rhizomes will form off the back. Rhizomes can be kept for weeks before planting without damaging the plant. If the rhizomes are wet, be sure to dry them out before planting.

Irises are quite drought-tolerant, although they thrive with the usual inch of water per week (and when do we get an inch of water a week??). They should be kept weed-free so sunlight and air can keep the rhizomes dry. Irises do not need fertilizer if grown in good garden soil, but if fertilizer is used, it should be 5-10-10. High nitrogen fertilizer is detrimental to irises. Alfalfa granules or pellets are an ideal natural fertilizer. Re-bloomers require a little more water and a little more fertilizer.

Green leaves should be cut in late fall or when transplanting, but brown and withered leaves can be removed at any time. Spent bloom stalks should be cut at an angle close to the base. Iris debris should not be put in the compost pile because borers lay their eggs on the leaves. Iris can benefit from a mulch of sand for winter protection that should be removed in the spring.

There are a number of categories of irises that vary in height, bloom time and flower form. Bearded irises have three upright petals, three falls and a “beard.” They range in height from miniatures up to 8 inches to tall bearded irises over 27 ½ inches. Siberian irises are 2-3 feet tall, and Japanese irises grow up to 4 feet. Miniatures bloom in early May, and the tallest irises bloom at the end of June or early July.

The American Iris Society website is www.irises.org. A highly recommended book, The World of Irises is available through the society. The Iris Club of Southeast Michigan maintains seven iris gardens at the Detroit Zoo by the bear fountain in front of the camel display. Peak bloom is usually the last week of May and the first week of June.

The above description of iris culture and types leaves out the loveliness of the flowers that only pictures can provide. I urge all our members to attend our meetings to hear the lectures and enjoy the beauty of the visual presentations as well.

—Submitted by Jean Gramlich

Notes From Nutcase Nursery



Another year is fading before us, and what a trying year it has been for all who cherish the earth and its bounty. Record temperatures, early blooms, frozen buds, painful drought, decimated fruits and forage, an array of plagues the likes of which we have never seen, but likely will again. I hate to sound like Little Mary Typhoid, but we were warned early in the year that extremes would be more the norm than not.

Those in the path and wake of Sandy repeatedly uttered words of disbelief saying they had never experienced a “perfect storm” as this, a nor’easter wrapped in a hurricane. A huge hurricane. The peripheral weather from Sandy that reached my place blew the greenhouse over, pulling 12-inch stakes out of the ground and flinging them. If it hadn’t been for the big willow, the greenhouse would have become airborne, ending up who knows where. Fortunately all of the plants had been evacuated beforehand and just my pots, shelves and paraphernalia got shook up. Nothing compared to elsewhere.



Disaster was widespread, from fires out west and even in Michigan, where miles and miles of earth were scorched to areas where drought brought corn and soy fields to their knees, forcing cattle ranchers to begin selling their herds early for lack of food. The bulletins from MSUE have been advising horse owners to try alternative feed since early August. At that time nearly half of the nation’s corn crop and a third of the soybean crop was in poor or very poor condition. The drought, just through July, covered the United States from Ohio west to California and from North Dakota down through Texas.

Of course we see the effects of those disasters in the market. Read the labels and see how many foods reference corn or soy or both in the ingredients. Corn is even used in packaging. Corn has been a mainstay for centuries, the tallest of the “Three Sisters.”

So how do we prepare for the next round of aberrant weather, which is determined to become more common?

As of early August, farmers and crop scientists concluded that it’s too late to fight climate change (assuming that’s possible). We will have to adapt by breeding more heat and drought tolerant animals and plants. My sources call the process “engineered” but I’m guessing that’s a term less politically charged than “genetically modified.” Whatever the process, without the achievements made by crop scientists in the last forty years, the damage would be much worse per Andrew Wood, professor of plant physiology and molecular biology at Southern Illinois University.

I would love to have a chat with George Washington Carver about of today’s science.



This is the worst drought in our country since 1954. It is expected that the economic toll from it will exceed the \$50 billion plus amount of damage compliments of Hurricane Sandy by three times. In November, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Prediction Center indicated the “merciless”

drought showed no sign of letting up. A farmer in South Dakota had an excavator dig holes and they found that 8 feet down it was still powder. Parts of Oklahoma and Arkansas would need more than a foot of rain to escape their drought. Nebraska and Wyoming are suffering through the driest year ever recorded.

So how do we adapt?

As Master Gardeners, we are trained to manage our environment. We prune out defective wood from trees and use the clippings as pea fence or plant stakes. We limit the use of chemicals and foster areas to attract beneficials. We overlook minor attacks on our charges and defer to Nature's balancing. We grow fruits and vegetables to avoid those that may have toxic associations and we relish the experience of eating locally, which doesn't mean indulging ourselves at the neighborhood restaurant. I was recently tickled at one of the nightly news' teasers asking the question, "Is organic food better for you than non-organic?" I muttered a smug "it's not what's in it, it's what's not in it" at the TV.

Food gardeners cook. Why else would we grow the stuff, if not to eat it? Surely you want to eat what you grow. It certainly beats commercial food for flavor, freshness and purity. But there is a key element required for those qualities to be enjoyed more than once or twice.

Just as in managed forests and fish farms, known as sustainable industries, where harvest and replenishment achieve a balance to insure the longevity of a valuable natural resource, gardeners manage the soil. It's our most important resource, immediately followed by water. Sunlight could be considered a given because it's mostly out of our control if we have chosen our sites appropriately, although succumbing to the occasional "opening up" type of pruning is also perfectly acceptable.

But there are times we feel the need to dramatically alter our environment, whether it's to improve drainage or prevent damage, or just to "make pretty." With an eye toward sustainability, whatever our alterations, they should be done in a way that harmonizes with the current environment. When considering the soil as a resource, we need to replenish what our crops, be they potatoes or roses, remove through the normal course of their lives.

Gardening with an eye toward nature and using cottonseed meal-fed grass clippings and available leaves is not enough to replenish my soil, as evidenced by last year's soil test. It had been way too long between tests and I plan not to be so lackadaisical in the future. Future gardens are at stake. Holding up my end of the bargain is one way of practicing sustainability and preparing for environmental changes. Anything I can do to increase the body of my sandy loam so that it holds water better is a good thing.

The ornamentals aren't as lucky. But then we don't usually eat them. They pretty much rely on the leaves that blow into their beds. When I have the time and wherewithal, I shred the leaves for them. Regardless of the state of the leaves, those beds always get a dose of a slow-release organic fertilizer so the nitrogen can help break down the leaves and also replenish what that action takes out of the soil.

The word "sustain" has many meanings: to give support or relief to, from the Latin *sustinere*, meaning "to hold up." Other definitions provided by my dictionary: to supply with sustenance, keep up, prolong, carry or withstand a weight or pressure, and support. Gardeners certainly do these things

without even thinking. Especially Master Gardeners. We water, prune, feed, stake - - - whatever it takes.

A recent bulletin outlined various ways to sustainably deal with acreage in supporting wildlife. It was directed to those who hunt their own property and suggested slight alterations to manage the landscape, such as opening up areas for forage. Way back in June, the Extension suggested that farmers with irrigation walk their fields and see where there were areas not covered and adjust their systems. The gist of both bulletins emphasizes the stewardly relationship we need to have with our land.

I always smile when I hear or read hydrangea questions because people crave them so and new releases are becoming more frequent so that the cravers can be satisfied. Through years of performing volunteer hours in information booths, the two most frequent questions I've run into are regarding the failure of hydrangeas and wisteria to bloom. If a plant is not performing according to the rule books, it's unhappy. If we are "supplying sustenance, prolonging or supporting" it, then we need to consider the possibility that we are just not in harmony with nature. If something requires an overzealous amount of attention, it's not sustainable. Right plant, right place.

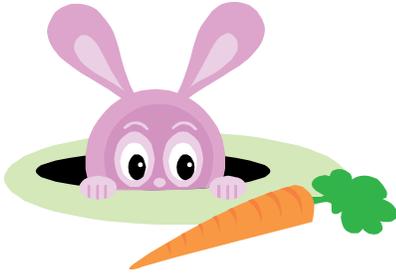
When we design a garden we need to be intimate with the current environment and its ecosystem. We need not be the weeds that Michael Pollan says we've become by insinuating ourselves into nature. So as the flip-side of right plant, right place, we partake in garlic mustard pulls, and invasive plant control, patrols and eradication. Think purple loosestrife, phragmites, buckthorn and the Norway maple. And there's a third side to our work which is saving the endangered flora and fauna threatened by the invasives and other negative forces, such as irresponsible land development.

Speaking of irresponsible, I suspect that I am not the only one who didn't manage to complete every item on "the list" of things to do before the snow flies. I also suspect some of us may not even be finished putting all the beds to bed. I take great comfort in that assumption because I surely don't want to be the only one not done. I still have crops to pick and process. Fortunately we "sustain" the season by employing cold frames and row covers.



My giant cabbage made two big pots of golupki. The other half is on its way to becoming sauerkraut. The Dingo loves it when I pick cabbage and has been helping with garden cleanup by eating the leaves, which she treats as treasures. She will not give them up until there is nothing good left to eat. And yet, I never detect Dingo "gas."

Brussels and broccoli are all still out there as well as carrots, leeks and onions. Some of the Brussels sprouts were enjoyed at Thanksgiving dinner but they and the broccoli won't stay safe for long. Last year's Thanksgiving temperature was one degree off from this year's and we reached 60 degrees in 2010 in the third week of November as well. Taking advantage of the warm days was a must because I knew too soon they would be gone. We gained an hour back but there is no gain in daylight. The rain barrels must be emptied before they freeze. Potted plants need to be dug in. I think back to earlier this year when warm days amazed us and some of us even got a head start on seasonal jobs. Now, instead of getting a head start, I am busy trying to figure out what doesn't have to be done to survive.



We don't bother digging the carrots usually; we just mulch them with leaves and when we need a carrot or two we push away the mulch and dive in with a fork or the garden knife to loosen the soil and then just pull them out. I haven't found all the potatoes yet and they really need to be found. I was hoping to kill two birds with one stone by digging in the pots while searching for spuds but I may have to give up. I've kept cabbage in leaf-filled plastic garbage cans for a few months but I have always wondered how burying produce would work out. I just read a suggestion that a hole about two feet deep should be dug and the cabbage goes in head first with its root end sticking out as a marker. It sounds doable but I just can't get past the idea of spending so much time keeping critters out of the cabbage all season and then burying an unprotected head where I can't see it with all kinds of creatures who could use my stuff for crudites or coleslaw. Plus, the Dingo is not above "paw tilling" and her love of cole crops is too much of a temptation for me to think I could pull it off well.

The cold air is telling me to choose my battles and I am never actually satisfied with my progress in any season. I just have to get over myself. It's now the time of year when we can tell Santa or whomever what we'd like in our stockings, curl up with our catalogs and think about next garden projects.

I've tossed the "S" word around throughout this note from Nutcase and with all of the depressing statistics and prognostications I detailed, I don't really want to be remembered as Little Mary Typhoid, especially around the holidays. I have a hard enough time dealing with those inflatable decorations. The issues of how to we prepare for future weather extremes and how to adapt now will be addressed at the Conference on Elements of Design for Sustainable Landscapes which will be held at the MSU Management Conference Center on April 20, 2013.

The conference is being put on by the Master Gardener Society of Oakland County, Inc. and features four speakers with years of expertise in the horticultural fields of design, renovation, ecology, landscaping, and, of all things, sustainability.

Rick Darke, landscape designer, photographer and author, will present "The Liveable Landscape," in which he places special emphasis on working with richly layered woodland landscapes.

Melinda Myers, a nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, certified arborist, author and columnist will explore eco-friendly renovation ideas from screening, garden art and containers to new plantings designed to fit any venue from a large lot to a balcony.

I mentioned earlier that there are many meanings of "sustain." Dr. Laura Deeter knows that sustainability means different things to different people and that one person's idea of low maintenance is not the same as the next. Dr. Deeter is an Associate Professor of Horticulture at the Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute and she will tell you how to save your back, your garden and your budget by switching from "No Maintenance" to "Know Maintenance."

And how could there be a county conference without Dr. Art Cameron? The Society had him as a special speaker about six years ago and it was a most entertaining lecture. Dr. Cameron will be talking

about “Cultivating Creativity,” through the use of appropriate plants and their placement combined with a variety of elements from bamboo trellises to stepping stones.

Mark your calendars and watch for announcements on the website and the Oakland Gardener. Sustainable landscaping, whether food, ornamentals or a mixture of both, is no passing fad. It’s a term that covers a lot of ground (that’s the second time I’ve been forced to pun but who’s counting?). Its elements are as diverse as our plantings should be. It covers low maintenance, minimal turf areas, pervious surfaces, layering plants to echo nature and so much more. It is enabled through recycling and using local materials and mulching. There are so many facets to sustainability and so much opportunity. And one great opportunity for educating ourselves next year will be signing up to attend the first ever garden conference by Master Gardeners in Oakland County.

I have sustained my deadline long enough. Happy Holidays to All, and to All a goodnight!



In case of severe inclement weather such as snow, ice, hail, rain, strong winds, flooding , tornado watch or other natural calamity this procedure is to be initiated in order to cancel a preset meeting for the Master Gardener Society Oakland County members.

- The President shall contact the Society Executive Board (SEB)
- Determination of cancellation made
- President contacts the following:
 - Master Gardener Coordinator (Carol Lenchek 248.858.0900) OR
Linda Smith 248.858.0887
 - Communications Team (Dick and Peggy Wanat)
 - Project Support Team Leader (Denise Brown)
 - Church Door Poster (Margy Truza)
 - Program Team Leader (DeeAnn Bauer)

The Master Gardener Coordinator leave a phone message notifying callers of the meeting cancellation.

The Communications Team will post cancellation notice on Facebook and MGSOC Website www.mgsoc.org

The Project Support Team Leader will issue an email Blast notice of cancellation.

The Church Door Poster will place a notice on the door at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

The Vice President will notify the appropriate personnel at BSCL of the meeting cancellation.

The Program team will notify speaker of cancellation and advise President re: ramifications if any.

Those Society members who do not have email or who come directly from work need to verify meeting status by phoning the Master Gardener Coordinator and listening to the phone message. This procedure should be completed no later than 3 p.m. of set meeting day.

Happenings at Meijer Gardens



EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS

December 18-22, 26-29

Entire facility is open until 9 pm

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS:

SANTA VISITS (Tuesdays Only) December 4, 11, 18, 5-8 pm

THE ORIGINAL DICKENS CAROLERS (Tuesdays Only) December 4, 11, 18, 6-8 pm

FAMILY ART ACTIVITIES December 4, 11, 18, 6-8 pm

ROOF TOP REINDEER (Saturdays Only) December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1-4 pm

HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES December 4, 11, 18-22, 5:30-9 pm

Members \$60 per carriage, up to four adults

Non-members \$90 per carriage, up to four adults

Reservations required, call 616-975-3151

SING-A-LONG TROLLEY

December 18-22, 5:30-9 pm

Adults \$8, Children \$5

No Reservations required

Classes

Photographing Holiday Lights

Tuesday, December 4 6-8 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Corey Olson

FEE: \$25 members, \$32 non-members

Learn the basics-effective backgrounds, creative angles, light effects and best time of day. Then try out what you've learned amidst 300,000 holiday lights.

Grandma and Me: Decorate a Gingerbread Trolley (Ages 5-7 with Adult)

Saturday, December 8 10_11:30 am

FEE: \$30 members, \$37 non-members

Visit the Railway Garden for inspiration, then use frosting, marshmallows, candy bits and your imagination to decorate a one-of-a-kind trolley.

MASTER GARDENER MARKET

NEW ITEMS IN THE MARKET

16 OZ THERMAL TUMBLERS LONG SLEEVE NAVY TEES
SHORT SLEEVE HEATHER V-NECK TEES

TEES CAPS HATS COOLER BAGS MG MUGS
APRONS MG FANNY PACKS ZIPPERED HOODIES L/S TEES
LANYARDS DARK GREEN HOODED SWEATSHIRTS
HOODED SWEATSHIRT LINED ZIPPERED JACKETS
NYLON ZIPPERED JACKETS L/S DENIM SHIRTS

To order, contact Denise Brown at: denise.brown@cccnetwork.com

Some Information You Should Know

MGSOOC Board Members

President: Tom Hershberger.....(586)573-3954
Vice President: Margy Truza.....(248)644-3560
Secretary: Ruth Vrbensky(248)969-6904
Treasurer: Jean Gramlich(810)714-2343
Team Administrator: Susan McLarty (248)673-8092

MSU Extension Oakland County Coordinator

Advisor: Carol Lenchek (248)858-0900
lenchekc@oakgov.com

Team Coordinators

Bowers Farm: Beth Brown.....(248)681-8512
Project Support: Denise Brown (248)640-5977
Hospitality: Charles Seitz.....(248)496-1590
Hospitality Greeter: Carole Carroll.....(248)321-8669
& Sally Teague.....(248)546-0280
Membership: Lavon Cook.....(248)939-7047
Programs: Betty Peters.....(248)651-8374
Door prize Coordinator: Janie Grissom....(248)887-6096
Trips & Tours: Sandie Parrott(248)394-1532
Corresponding Secretary: Margy Truza....(248)644-3560
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**Currently Available Opportunities: Communications,
Education, Project Support, Volunteer Activities**

Mission Statement

It is the Master Gardener Society of Oakland County's Mission to assist, enable, and encourage its members to use their horticultural knowledge and experience to help the people of their communities, enrich their lives through gardening and good gardening practices.

Michigan State University Extension- Oakland County
“Bringing Knowledge to Life”

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To help reduce mailing expenses, if you have Internet access we encourage you to read Roots & Shoots online at the Master Gardener Society website www.mgsoc.org.

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