



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside MGOI

Welcome to the April 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 get 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, Niagara
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Director of Education:	June Streadwick, Niagara
Director of Events:	vacant
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Director of Operations:	Suzanne Zacharczyk, Etobicoke
Director of Relationship & Partnerships:	vacant
Director of Revenue Development:	vacant
Director of Central Region:	Katherine Mathewson, Durham
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Director of North Region:	Kathleen Gorsline, Interim Director
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Rhonda Grein, Kitchener
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Karen Sciuk, Kitchener

Committee Members

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

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INSIDE MGOI

Newsletter of the

Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

April 2017

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Master Gardeners of Niagara

15 Year Anniversary

James Lee

10 Year Anniversary

Karen Walsh

Yvonne Causer

Master Gardener Certificate Achieved

Kathleen Livingston – of note is that Kathleen came to Niagara Master Gardeners from Saskatchewan



Lanark County Master Gardeners

20 Year Anniversary

Ankaret Dean (January 2017)

15 Year Anniversary

Dale Odorizzi



Dale Odorizzi & Ankaret Dean



Master Gardeners of Ottawa – Carleton

10 Year Anniversary

Gail Labrosse



Durham Master Gardeners

New Members

Judy Rivers

Mihaela Oancea



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Edel Schmidt, April 2017

New EMG Assistant Coordinator

Patti Wibe, as of March 2017

New Master Gardeners in Training

Lance Dawson, February 2017

Ferenc Kiss, March 2017

Isabel Tarnai, March 2017

Ontario Volunteer Service Awards

The following EMGs were awarded Ontario Volunteer Service Awards. Congratulations!

15 years:

Dianne Pettet

Jean Sinclair

10 Years:

Nancy Dattrino

Marsha Gettas

5 Years:

James Graham



Jean Sinclair



From left to right, Sandra Niemy with recipients Marsha Gettas, James Graham, Diane Pettet, Nancy Dattrino



Guelph – Wellington Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Dorothea Stephan, joined February 26, 2017

Diane Reid, joined April 20, 2017

Ontario Volunteer Service Award

- Nominated by MGOI

CONGRATULATIONS! to Sean James

Claudette Sims, President of MGOI, wrote: "**Pam Love (Director of Memberships) and I wanted to sincerely thank you for all your hard work and dedication. You are an extremely knowledgeable member who continually strives to learn and share your passion for gardening by giving talks, inviting discussion and writing articles that foster Master Gardeners. You enthusiastically use social media to promote gardening and environmental issues. You are an inspiration to us all!**" Sean attended the awards ceremony in Mississauga on April 19th.



A Moment for Membership

Guest Columnist Tena van Andel

A is Appreciation for Awards.....?

We would like to do the Awards of Excellence again at the 2018 Coordinators' Conference.

But wait.....

We have no Director of Events.

But wait again.....

We have no Awards & Recognition Committee.

Three years ago, you voted for MGOI to improve its organizational structure by changing from a geographically represented structure to a functional structure. This exciting change was envisioned to spread the workload, involve more members and make us a dynamic, well known and respected force of nature.

Problem is we're not fully functional.

Requirements for the positions vary in responsibility and time commitments. Please don't think you don't have enough time. So many of our board members still work, are also Coordinators for their groups, and sit on the Board. There are so many positions to choose from that require various amounts of time – it would be easy to find one that suited.

There are pioneer positions. We've never had somebody responsible for some crucial tasks needed to run an efficient organization. How exciting to be the one who goes down in MGOI history for leading the way: Director of Partnerships, Director of Revenue, Media Relations, etc. Heck, they might even raise a statue to you some day!

There are also many 'keep up the good work' positions. For example, the Director of Events and the Director of Education have been running a weed free community garden for years now. The procedures are in place and all that is needed is the ability to implement, and a fresh idea or two. Easy peasy!

The Director of Membership has plans for a "Month for Membership" and for another Awards of Excellence.

We would love to appreciate more people!

If you are a Director, there is a conference call every month or so and two separate, day long in person meetings – one in October and one in the spring. Travel expenses are covered as are lunch and snacks!

Why should YOU even consider these opportunities?

- You can claim every hour you volunteer.
- When you were interviewed in your quest to be a MG, you were encouraged to help run not only your own group but eventually the organization.
- MGOI NEEDS YOU! We have exciting ideas on becoming a dynamic, essential, much respected and well known organization, but there are not enough team members to implement these ideas.
- You will feel rewarded and fulfilled. Your work is important to both fellow MGs and to the communities we serve – e.g. organizing the Awards of Excellence, a successful Coordinators' Conference, Annual reports, etc.
- You will get to know fellow MGs and forge new relationships within the horticulture community – Landscape Ontario, Canada Blooms, Garden Council of Canada, Honourary MGs, media personalities – the possibilities are endless.

The work we do as Master Gardeners is important. We can't continue nor move forward without help.

Please contact Pam Love, pamlovenews@gmail.com or any of our Directors who would be delighted to hear from you to explain the details of any position you are interested in. You can also go to the MGOI website for detailed information on most of the positions.

Thank you to Tena van Andel, guest columnist, for this article. Tena has been trying to find someone to be the Director of Events since October 2016 and is desperate enough to use a cute kitten picture.



Pam Love, Director of Membership

Master Gardeners Out & About: Projects & Events

Lanark County Master Gardeners

Name: Augusta Park Community Gardens

Details: Lanark County Master Gardeners Gerda Franssen and David Hinks have worked to develop Augusta Park Community Gardens. This year, the group is installing a Rain Collection System and have received a grant from MGOI to assist in that project. They also have received a donation in Memory of Al Currie, a founding Lanark County Master Gardener who has passed away.



Treasurer Margaret Inwood hands the cheque to Gerda Fransse

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Boreal Garden Project Funding

Details: The PECMGs challenged the other Master Gardener groups to use their grant money from 'Good News to Grow On'

to support the Boreal Garden Project. We are very pleased to report that six MG groups accepted our challenge. This is very timely for the Boreal Garden Project since they recently learned that their provincial funding was cut. With our



support they will now be able to seek other sponsors to continue this important project.

From the PECMG and on behalf of Steve Vassallo at the BGP, we would like to thank all the MG groups for their support!

Name: Macaulay Heritage Park

Details: Prince Edward County Master Gardeners have played a very active role in the maintenance and revival of the Macaulay Heritage Park for many years. We adhere to historical correctness whenever possible, only using pre-1850's plants. We met on a glorious day to plan our projects for the gardens this year.



PECMGs involved with this project are: Virginia Mitchell, Susan Warrack, Linda Melady, Marianne Malachowski, Elaine Metcalf and Ren Duinker.

Name: Presentation to Prince Edward County Newcomers Group

Date: April 20, 2017

Details: Barbra Stock, a long-time MG and Ren Duinker, a recent graduate, gave a lively talk to the Newcomers Group about Becoming a



Master Gardener, The MG Mentoring Program and what MGs have to offer their communities. The Newcomers were very welcoming and showed great interest in what we had to say.

We distributed information about the MGs, Wild Parsnip, and Starting Seeds Indoors. Several of the Newcomers have since contacted us to ask for garden consultations. Working together with other groups in our area is always a grand experience and mutually beneficial.

Master Gardeners of Niagara

Name: Niagara Hospice

Details: Master Gardeners of Niagara will be constructing and assisting in the planting of two new raised beds for the facility's kitchen. We will train kitchen staff on the planting, care and maintenance of the herbs and leafy greens that will be in their kitchen garden.

Ontario Volunteer Service Awards - Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI)

Congratulations to the following Ontario Master Gardeners who were nominated by the MGOI Board of Directors for the 2017 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards!

<i>Maria Smith, Algoma</i>	<i>30 Years</i>
<i>Holly Rupert, Thunder Bay</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Bruce MacNeil, Kitchener</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Ingrid Janssen, Durham Region</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Sean James, Guelph-Wellington</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke</i>	<i>5</i>

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: "Upcycle Challenge" at the Ottawa Home & Garden Show

Details: Catherine Disley and Stephanie Sleeth proudly show their entry on behalf of the Master Gardeners of Ottawa – Carleton.

Monies raised went to support Habitat for Humanity.



Ottawa-Carleton Upcycle Challenge

Through the Garden Gate 2017 Gardens of North Rosedale & Moore Park, Toronto



MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, Toronto Botanical Garden's *Through the Garden Gate (TTGG) 2017* tour on Saturday, June 10 & Sunday, June 11 will showcase 30 spectacular gardens in the North Rosedale and Moore Park areas of Toronto.

Over the years, Toronto Master Gardeners have volunteered thousands of hours to "animate" the tour gardens with their informative presence and interaction with the public.

We need your help! Rain or Shine!

Two Master Gardener volunteers are required for each garden on both days. That's 120 volunteer spots that need to be filled. Toronto Botanical Garden's event organizers provide volunteers with detailed information about expectations and logistics of the event, and are available to answer any questions you may have. Shifts run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Sign in is at headquarters at 9:00 am both days. Hours will, of course, count towards your own volunteer requirements.

In appreciation, you will receive a free pass to visit the gardens on the day you are not volunteering, as well as a refreshment voucher.

If you would like to participate in this popular garden tour, please contact **Brigitte Richter** at

gardenhideaway@yahoo.ca no later than May 8th.

Kindly provide your name, contact information and preferred volunteer day, Saturday or Sunday (or both!).

Thank you! and Congratulations to 'Through the Garden Gate' on your 30th year!



UPCOMING EVENTS

MGOI

Save the Date

Name: Coordinators' Conference

Date: Saturday, October 14th, 2017

Location: Landscape Ontario, Milton ON

Etobicoke Master Gardeners & Humber Arboretum

Name: Urban Gardening: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series

Date: Saturday, May 6th from 10 am – 12 noon

Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum. To register please visit humberarb.eventbrite.ca

Join the Etobicoke Master Gardeners at the Humber Arboretum for free gardening workshops!
Saturdays, 10 am - Noon

Urban Gardening (May 6, 2017)
Bird Friendly Gardens (June 24, 2017)
Pruning (Sept. 23, 2017)
Soil Health (Nov. 18, 2017)
How to Garden Smart, Not Hard! (Jan. 20, 2018)
Growing Your Own Food & Micro Gardening (March 31, 2018)

At the Centre for Urban Ecology
Humber Arboretum
205 Humber College Blvd., Toronto
416-675-5029
arboretum@humber.ca
humberarboretum.on.ca

Register at Humberarb.eventbrite.ca

Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series
Etobicoke Master Gardeners
www.etobicoke.mastergardeners.ca
HUMBER ARBORETUM
A CENTRE FOR URBAN ECOLOGY

Ottawa – Carleton Master Gardeners

Name: Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton Lecture Series

Dates: May 9th & 23rd 2017

Details: Every year the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm partner with the [Master Gardeners of Ottawa Carleton](http://MasterGardenersofOttawaCarleton.com) to offer timely and informative presentations at Building 72 from 7pm to 9pm. The remaining 2017 lectures include:

[Gardeners, Contain Yourself](#)

Tuesday, May 9 with Rebecca Last

[Going Grassless – Honey I Shrunk the Lawn](#)

Tuesday, May 23 with Julianne Labreche

Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: Shaw Guild Garden Tour

Date: June 10, 2017, 10 am – 4 pm

Details: A tour of 8 magnificent gardens will be on show. Niagara MGs will be on hand to answer questions.



Call 1-800-511-7429 or 905-468-2172 for tickets, or visit

<http://www.shawfest.com/beyond-the-stage/all/#shaw-garden-tour>

M.G.O.I. Summer Workshop – 2017

Dates: July 8th & 9th

Details: The Niagara Parks School of Horticulture is receiving registrations daily, and the response to this year's summer workshop is exciting. We are expecting that every space will be filled. There are three topics: each participant may choose two:

- Creating Gardens – A Designer's Approach
- The Carolinian Zone – Understanding A Unique Habitat
- Urban Agriculture

Details on these three topics can be found on the M.G.O.I. website under "Program Outline".

All the information required for registration can be downloaded from the M.G.O.I. website, www.mgoi.ca, member side. If you experience difficulty in obtaining the information, please contact June Streadwick at streadwick@sympatico.ca, 905-934-6137, or Yvonne Causer at ycauser@hotmail.com, 289-969-6587, and either one of us will send you all you need to register. The cost this year is \$260, a slight increase from the previous years, as there is now paid parking at the Botanical Gardens. You will receive a parking pass, the cost of which is included in the fee. **Again this year, M.G.O.I. will**



subsidize each Master Gardener and Master Gardener in Training with \$50, to help offset some of the cost involved in attending.

Arrangements have been made at the Niagara College Conference and Residence Centre for the weekend, with a block of rooms reserved for Master Gardeners. These rooms will be \$109.95 a night, plus tax, and include a light breakfast, free parking, and internet access. The deadline for reservations is June 7th, and any rooms not booked by this date will no longer be available at the discounted rate. To make a reservation call direct: 905-641-4435, Ext. 2009, website www.stayrcc.com/notl. Be sure to inform the agent that you are reserving a room under "Master Gardeners of Ontario", Booking Code 5813.

Technical Update: Ottawa - Carleton & Lanark County

Topic: The Resilient Gardener

Date: October 21, 2017

Location: Ottawa

Details: This Technical Update is hosted jointly by the Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton and Lanark County Master Gardeners. It will be a full day program. Program details available soon.

Richters Herbs

Location: 357 Highway 47, Goodwood, ON L0C 1A0 (north of Toronto to the end of the 404, then east to Goodwood); Tel. 1.905.640.6677 Fax. 1.905.640.6641

Details: Richters Herbs is offering seminars at their greenhouse location this winter and throughout the year. For more information visit:

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

They also offer free on-line seminars at

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

The 2017 Richters catalogue is available and is filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds.



Volunteer Opportunities

Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI)

Position: Director of Events

Timeframe: 2 years: present – October 2018 (potential to stay on until October 2022)

Description: Immediate opening for this rewarding Board position. The Director of Events has the privilege of providing vision and guidance for any event that welcomes MG volunteers from all over Ontario. Detailed procedures and timelines are available.

Teams for both Canada Blooms and the Coordinators' Conference are already in place, so year 1 would be a very leisurely acclimatization to the role.

Have more questions? I would be delighted to answer any questions at casey.vanandel@sympatico.ca.

Be warned! You'll have to be prepared for some gushing about how much fun and how being the Director of Events changed my life. It could change yours too!

Cochrane District Master Gardeners (CDMG)

Position: Co-host for Online Webinar

☑ Co-hosting a live internet webinar via Google Hangouts

Timeframe: Once, on a date of your choosing.

Description: If you have "Google Hangouts" on your internet device (home computer, iPad, Smartphone, etc.) and would like to co-host a live webinar to discuss your favourite gardening subject, this volunteering opportunity is perfect for you.

The Cochrane District Master Gardeners host a monthly YouTube Webinar (live and interactive) for the public. The hosts of the webinar connect via Google Hangout while the CDMG Coordinator displays a slideshow and link to a live chatroom, where the public can ask questions. You won't have to show your face online so don't worry about looking your best. What we need is your gardening expertise and a passion for the subject matter. You can broadcast from anywhere, as long as it is relatively quiet.

Information and photos, included in the Webinar, would be sent to the CDMG coordinator one week before the live show allowing her time to put the presentation together. Demonstration videos may also be included in the presentation as long as there is no audio; the hosts would provide the explanation for the video. A Google Hangout test would be done a couple of days before the event to work out any technical issues.

Total Volunteer Hours: Expect to earn one and a half volunteer hours to the public for the webinar, plus administration time for the Google Hangout test plus your own preparation time.

For more information please contact the CDMG Coordinator, Pamela Dallaire, at pameladallaire@hotmail.com or via phone at 705-262-1506.

