



MACOMB COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

 August 2022 

Email address:

macombcountymga@yahoo.com

Website: www.macombcountymga.org

Mailing address:

Macomb County MGA

PO Box 380463

Clinton Township, MI 48038

Board of Directors

Dennis Beltz (Vice-president)

Karen Burke (Director)

Ellen Collins (Secretary)

Sara Grix (Treasurer)

Dave Putt (President)

Message from the Board

Greetings Members!

We had a great turnout for our July MCMGA meeting featuring MCMGA member, Pam Gors, who spoke about hummingbirds and orioles. Thank you Pam for your excellent presentation. In addition, Pam donated some items to MCMGA. Thanks again Pam!

Our August 9 meeting will be our first "MCMGA on the Road" meeting. This one will take place at the Charity Garden. Hope to see you there. We plan to hold one meeting each year at one of our Master Gardener Projects.

In this issue you will find the order form and plant list for the 2022 Native Plant Sale which will take place on Saturday September 10 at the Octagon House in Washington. We hope you will help support MCMGA by placing an order. We will have the information up on the website soon so you can pay on-line if you so choose. You can also mail a check to our PO Box or bring a check and pay for your plant order at the August 9 meeting.

We want to thank Dawn Piper for doing a wonderful job as editor of our monthly newsletter for the past two years. However, we are in search of a new editor. If this is something that interests you, please send an email to macombcountymga@yahoo.com.

Please enjoy your last full month of summer!

General Information

Follow us on Facebook: Macomb County Master Gardener Association



Next Board of Directors Meeting is September 6 at 4:30 PM (zoom)



If there is anything you would like to have included in the next newsletter, please send an email it to: macombcountymga@yahoo.com

UPCOMING MCMGA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



To register for any of the following events, go to:

<https://macombcountymga.org/upcoming-meetings>

Please remember to bring your membership card and wear your MG badge to all events.

August 9, 2022 Meeting

"MCMGA On the Road Meeting---A visit to the Sts. Peter, Hubert and Thecla Community Charity Garden"

For our first "On the Road" meeting we will pay a visit to the Charity Garden located at 43785 Gratiot, Clinton Twp., behind Kingsborough Castle. Go through the arch and all the way to the back. Witness the amazing amount of vegetables that are grown each year to support local food pantries and their compost system. You need to provide your own transportation. Free for everyone.

September 13, 2022 --Annual MCMGA Meeting/Elections

"Autumn Jewels--The Science Behind the Scenery"

Cheryl English, popular speaker and owner of Black Cat Pottery, will discuss the chemical and biological processes that go into our annual fall fashion show and get a glimpse of the beauties of our own native species as they go through their annual transformation. This is also our Annual Meeting. Free for MCMGA members + 1 guest, \$5.00 donation requested for all others.

October 18, 2022 Meeting

"Family Program--Bats & Halloween"

Ian Ableson, Stewardship Director for the Six Rivers Land Conservancy will present a program about the ecology and conservation of our native bats. Following the presentation we will take a short bat/Halloween hike at the Nicholson Nature Area. This is a program for the whole family--children and grandchildren, too. Free for MCMGA members and 2 children, \$5.00 donation requested for all others.

Recent Program Education Hours; enter into VMS as follows: (check our website for handouts or recordings)

July 19 – MCMGA “Hummingbirds and Orioles” with Pam Gors
1.0 Education Hr.

June 22 – MCMGA “The World of Honey” with Dave Putt
1.0 Education Hr.

May 11 – MCMGA “Identifying and Reporting Invasive Species” by Kirsten Lyons
1.0 education Hr.

April 19 – MCMGA “Water Gardening” by Irene Townsend
1.0 Education Hr.

March 21 – MCMGA “World of Bees” by Dave Putt
1.5 Education Hrs.

February 15 – MCMGA “Introduction to Orchids” by Kristen Uthus
1.0 Education Hr.

January 18 – MCMGA “Winter Sowing” by Jean Persley
1.0 Education Hr.

Fundraisers

Kroger Rewards:

This is a great program, just sign up and Kroger does the rest, all at no cost to you. Having a Kroger card does not automatically sign you up for the Community Rewards.

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to go beyond being a part of the community to also helping create a stronger community. We appreciate your participation in our Community Rewards program to help accomplish that mission!

We have recently upgraded our Community Rewards system, and as a result, your Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number. **(CQ024)** Please reference the new number when contacting us for assistance. New members can enroll by searching for either the **new number** or the **name of your organization**.

Kroger Community Rewards.com

Sign in/Register for Kroger Rewards Account

Proceed as directed

Edit Kroger Community Rewards, enter Kroger Plus Card #

Enter NPO – CQ024 or Macomb County Master Gardener Association

You will see group name on right side of page. Questions/Problems: 877-576-758

Other Events and Opportunities:

Michigan Master Gardener Association Calendar

August 2

[Veggie Investigators 4-H Club](#)

August 3

[Interlochen Arts Academy Horticulture Garden Tour](#)

August 4

[Large-scale pollinator habitat through the Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund's Seed a Legacy program - webinar](#)

August 6

[Garden Tour - Yardeners 29th Annual Garden Tour](#)

[Honey bee colony health inspection workshop in Augusta, MI](#)

[Heroes to Hives workshop in Augusta, MI](#)

August 7

[MGAGCM Genesee County Garden Tour 2022](#)

August 9

[Veggie Investigators 4-H Club](#)

August 10

[Michigan Beekeeping August Office Hours - Webinar](#)

August 13

[2022 MSU Tollgate Farm Home Grown Gardening Series/ZOOM](#)

August 14

[Prairie Flowers & Ecology with Graig Elston](#)

August 15

[Wild Ones River City Chapter-Hudsonville Nature Center-Field Trip](#)

Yardeners of SCS

29th Annual Garden Tour. It will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 9am until 3pm. Tickets and maps will be available on the grounds of the Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum starting at 9am. Please come to see some lovely private gardens; \$5 per person, children 12 and under are free.



Native Grasses		Quart Containers (4 ½" x 4 ½" x 5")		\$6.50/each		
<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	
Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Warm		
Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Shade-Part	Medium	Cool		
Brown Fox Sedge	<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Full-Part	Wet	Cool		
Common Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Full	Wet	Cool		
Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Warm		
June Grass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Cool		
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Warm		
Prairie Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Full	Dry	Warm		
Purple Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Warm		
Purpletop Grass	<i>Tridens flavus</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Warm		
Side Oats Grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Warm		
Switch Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Warm		

Native Flowers		Quart Containers (4 ½" x 4 ½" x 5")		\$6.50/each		
<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	
Alleghany Monkey Flower	<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	Full-Part	Wet	Spr-Fall		
Black-Eyed Susan (annual/biennial/ short-lived perennial)	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Sum-Fall		
Black-Eyed Susan/Showy/Orange Coneflower (true perennial)	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Sum-Fall		
Blue Stemmed Goldenrod	<i>Solidago caesia</i>	Shade-Part	Dry	Fall		
Blue Vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Full	Wet	Spr-Sum		
Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Full	Wet	Summer		
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Full	Dry	Summer		
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Summer		
Compass Plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Summer		
Culver's Root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Sun-Shade	Wet	Summer		
Cup Plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Full	Medium	Sum-Fall		
Downy Sunflower	<i>Helianthus mollis</i>	Full	Medium	Sum-Fall		
Early/False Sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Spr-Sum		
False Nettle	<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	Shade-Part	Medium	Summer		
Foxglove Beard Tongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Spr-Sum		
Giant Sunflower	<i>Helianthus giganteus</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Sum-Fall		
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Spr-Sum		
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Full-Part	Wet	Sum-Fall		
Hairy Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	Full-Part	Wet	Spring		
Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Full	Dry	Summer		
Hibiscus/Rose Mallow	<i>Hibiscus laevis</i>	Full-Part	Wet	Summer		
Hoary Vervain	<i>Verbena stricta</i>	Full	Dry	Summer		
Horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Sum-Fall		
<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	
Joe Pye Weed	<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>	Full	Wet	Summer		
Lanceleaf Coreopsis/Sand Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Full	Dry	Spr-Sum		
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Full-Part	Dry	Summer		
Maximilian Sunflower	<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Full-Part	Medium	Sum-Fall		
Missouri Ironweed	<i>Vernonia missurica</i>	Sun-Shade	Wet	Sum-Fall		

Minutes of the July MCMGA Board Meeting

Attendees: Dave Putt, Dennis Beltz, Karen Burke, Sara Grix, Ellen Collins

Meeting called to order at 3:04PM.

The 6/17/2022 board meeting minutes were approved.

Professional Comments

David Lowenstein provided the following via email prior to the meeting:

- * Ornamental grass program is next Tue evening and Wed AM.
- * We have 13 volunteers scheduled for Lavender fest.
- * For any future events at the MSUE office please remember to contact Pam Voss or David Lowenstein to confirm MSUE staff member is able to be the "host."

Treasurer Report

Sara reported that the association's financials are healthy and the following:

- * All grant checks have been cashed.
- * MMGA member updates have been submitted.
- * Kroger and Amazon Smile contributions were credited.
- * The board received a nice note from the Crocker House thanking the association for their grant.

Program

Dennis reviewed remaining meeting presentations for the year. He will follow up with MSUE to book the assembly room, confirm that a staff member will be present for all future dates and inquire about any Covid requirements.

- * July 19 - Quarterly Meeting, "Hummingbirds & Orioles" by Pam Gors. Dennis to confirm speaker fee and Sara will bring a check to the meeting. Dave to forward meeting sign-in sheet and investigate Sign-up Genius accessibility for board members.
- * August 9 - Charity Garden tour & presentation, 43785 N. Gratiot, Clinton Twp
- * September 13 - Quarterly Meeting, "Autumn Jewels" by Cheryl English, guests \$5
- * October tbd - Family night, "Bats" by Ian Ableson, cider & donuts
- * November tbd - "Putting Your Garden to Rest" by Sue Grubba, Dennis to confirm speaker fee and determine if meeting will be in-Person or Zoom.
- * January 2023 - Quarterly Meeting, possible MSUE updates by David Lowenstein

Lisianthus Award

Board members were requested to submit recommendations to Dave. With the award criteria calling for 5 years of EMG experience, it would be helpful to have each member's certification year on the MCMGA roster.

Newsletter Editor

Dave reported that Dawn Piper needs to step away as editor. Dave may handle the August newsletter. Board members encouraged to make recommendations for Dawn's replacement.

Conclusions of MCMGA Board Strategic Planning Session

- * Although there is a small fee associated with the online payment feature for member dues, the board doesn't envision an increase in member dues in the near term.
- * All the board members agreed that an annual budget should be created. Sara will send a budget proposal for 2023. The board will revisit at the August board meeting.
- * Regarding an increase in the dollar amount for the grants, the board will discuss when developing the annual budget in August.

Next Meeting - August 2 at 4:30PM via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM.

Submitted by Ellen Collins, 7/9/2022

Minutes of the July MCMGA Quarterly Meeting

Board Attendees: Dennis Beltz, Sara Grix, Ellen Collins

Dennis Beltz called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

Dennis welcomed the members and made Dave Putt's announcements:

- 1) A copy of the MCMGA strategic plan will be in the September newsletter and on the website.
- 2) Pre-orders for the native plant sale will begin in August.
- 3) There is one opening for the MCMGA Board in September. If interested, please send a short bio to macombcountymga@yahoo.com.

Dennis also reported that Dave would continue to act as technical advisor after his term as president.

The next meeting is Tuesday August 9 at the Charity Garden. The garden is located at 43785 N. Gratiot, Clinton Twp 48306 behind the Kingsborough Castle Banquet Center.

Tuesday September 13 is the date of our annual meeting. Cheryl English will be speaking on "Autumn Jewels."

October 18 Ian Ableson will be speaking on bats.

November's speaker will be Sue Grubba on "Putting your garden to bed," date TBD.

Program Presentation

Pam Gors, from Wild Birds Unlimited (20241 Hall Rd, Macomb 48044) gave an excellent presentation on "Hummingbirds and Orioles." Pam displayed feeders that were good for each species. She also donated small packets of bird seeds for members. Thanks Pam!

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Submitted by Ellen Collins

◆ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ◆

MSUE Demonstration Garden

Perennials predominate in this garden, with the addition of bulbs, annuals and shrubs. These flowering plants are of diverse shapes, sizes, colors, textures and bloom times, creating an earth-friendly habitat to attract and support pollinators from bees to butterflies and other beneficial insects.

Volunteers are wanted to help with weeding, mulching, pruning, planting and plant division.

Workdays are Tuesdays 11:00am - 1:00pm and/or Thursdays 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Please contact Diane Reynolds (dmr131@hotmail.com) for additional information.

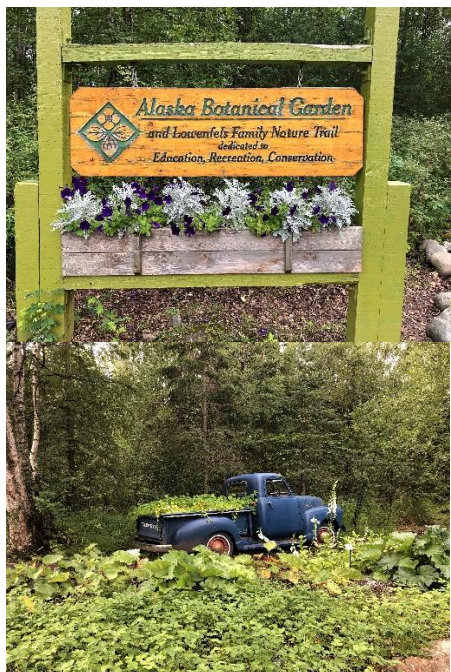
We are located at the Macomb MSU Extension office by Entrance E & F VerKuijen Building 21885 Dunham Road Clinton Township, Michigan Come and join us!

◆ ST. PETER CHARITY GARDEN ◆

43785 Gratiot, Clinton Township (Behind Kingsborough Castle)

St. Peter Charity garden grows and provides fresh vegetables for several food pantries in Macomb County. It's maintained by a crew of volunteers, passionate about fighting food insecurity and feeding the poor. Education is also an important part of its mission. Children from elementary school through high school come to the garden to learn about growing and harvesting vegetables. L'Anse Creuse Public Schools' Pankow Center's Horticultural program brings students to the garden for hands-on experience directly related to their high school curriculum. Of course, our volunteers learn as well.

The garden is very hands on, with opportunities to participate in a variety of activities to suit your interests and abilities. At over 1/2 acre, there's plenty of room for safe distancing. Three experienced Master Gardeners are on site. Bring your own gloves; tools are provided if you prefer. We work March through November. Choose your own hours, we do have a sign in log. Contact email: stpetercharitygarden@gmail.com



A Visit to the Alaska Botanical Gardens by Dave Putt

Where else but in Alaska could you find yourself being ushered by the docents to a safe area in a botanical garden because of a bear roaming through the gardens. It happened to me on my recent trip to Alaska at the Alaska Botanical Gardens. I never saw the bear, but I saw some very interesting themed-garden beds. The Alaska Botanical Gardens are located on the western edge of the city of Anchorage. As you enter the gardens you will first come across a nature trail of native Alaskan wildflowers named after Verna Pratt who authored three books about the flora of Alaska. The first themed garden you encounter is the Anchorage Heritage Garden (photo 2). This garden is inspired by the gardens of early Anchorage homesteaders. Designed by Ayse Gilbert she selected old varieties of plants that would have been cultivated from the early 1900s to about 1930 (including some varieties of beets I had never heard of before). Lile's Garden is named for Lile Rasmuson and early Anchorage gardener. It contains a great variety of peonies which were in full bloom in late July (photo 3). The design concept by Carol Johnson is inspired by Athabaskan beadwork. Next is the Herb Garden (photo 4). This garden is a haven of botanical delights and is maintained by extension Master Gardener Volunteers in partnership with the ABG Herb Study Group. The Rock Garden provides optimal conditions which allow numerous species of alpine plants to thrive, many of which are native to Alaska. The last themed-garden is the perennial garden which was created to demonstrate perennials hardy to Southcentral Alaska and include geum, blue poppy, peony, monkshood, phlox, primrose and catmint. Just installed in 2022 is the unique VW Bus planter (photo 5) which is draped in native and annual plants. In addition to the garden beds there are lots of trails which lead off into the surrounding woods, but most were closed because of the frequent bear sightings. If you get a chance to visit Anchorage, I recommend you spend a couple of hours at the Alaska Botanical Gardens.