

Macomb County Master Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

October 2023



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Contact Information

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Macomb County MGA

PO Box 380463

Clinton Township, MI 48038

Board of Directors

Karen Burke - President

Linda Simpson- Director at Large

Sara Grix - Secretary

Ellen Collins - Treasurer

Katie Baker (newly elected)

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General Information

Follow us on Facebook:

Macomb County Master Gardener Association

Next Board of Directors Meeting is Wednesday, October 25th 4:30pm (zoom)

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

Upcoming MCMGA Education

To register for events:

[Click Here](#)

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

Please remember to bring your membership card and wear your Master Gardener Badge to all events.

Letter from the Board



GOODBYE SUMMER, HELLO FALL!

We have to admit our summer was spectacular! Along with moderate temperatures, it was refreshing having Mother Nature help with watering all our flowers, vegetables, shrubs, trees and lawns. And she gave us a bountiful return indeed!

We hope everyone who attended the September annual meeting enjoyed Jim Miller's informative presentation (page 6) and appreciated the anniversary festivities! Reminiscing 10 years of service displayed through Jean Persely's wonderful photo slide show was enjoyable. Thank you, Jean! Eating yummy cake and winning nice prizes was a bonus. The prizes were donated by English Gardens, Linda Simpson, Jean Persely, and Diane Reynolds & her Demo Garden volunteers. Thank you all — You really made the event special!

We'd like to welcome back, Sara Grix and Ellen Collins, who were re-elected to another 2 year term on the board. And a special welcome to Katie Baker, a new EMG who stepped up to run and was elected to serve a 2 year term on the board. Sara, Ellen & Katie will serve alongside Karen Burke and Linda Simpson who have a year remaining on their terms. We will do our best to keep MCMGA growing and bring you high quality educational programs this year.

Many thanks and Happy Aach-tober 🕸️👻🎃!!

MCMGA Board

Board Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023

Attendees:

Ellen Collins, Karen Burke, Sara Grix, David Lowenstein, Linda Simpson

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:32pm.

The August 2023 board meeting minutes were approved.

Professional Comments:

- Dennis Beltz is going to be given a proclamation from Clinton Township on Oct 4th at 11am for his work as a Master Gardener at the Senior Center.
- Horticulture trivia returns on October 23rd at 7pm: Trivia is free to the first 50 EMGs who register and \$5 for anyone else. Members of the public are welcome: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/triviaoct/>
- Geology of Macomb County Soils lecture: Oct. 30th 7-8pm: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/geology-of-macomb-county-soils>
- Master Gardener Banquet 2024 - A committee is being formed to plan the banquet. Please contact David Lowenstein if interested: lowenst6@msu.edu

Treasurer's Report:

Ellen reported that the organization's finances are healthy. Some money has been taken in for the native plant sale already (the sale is Sept. 9th).

Program:

- September 19* @ 6:30pm - Jim Miller - Planting Bulbs for Spring Blooms (10 year anniversary at VerKuijen building)
- October 3 @ 6:30pm - Seed Saving - Jean Persely (VerKuijen building)
- November 14 @ 6:30pm - Plant This Not That: Native Alternative to Common Landscape Plants - Valerie Malaney (Zoom meeting)
- December - no meeting

*denotes Quarterly meeting

- Luke from MI Gardener will be a speaker in February 2024
- Karen looking at a hydroponics talk
- Karen will look into a speaker for foraging
- Other possible places to have meetings: MISD, Macomb Community College

Old Business:

- Board will start reviewing old SOP. Updating parts of SOP and will share with membership in January.
- Grant recipient receipts - Linda has reached out to them and received a reply from a few recipients.
- Linda let grant recipients know about presenting at the September meeting.
- Lisianthus recipients have been selected for the year.

New Business:

- Idea of project leaders to share about their projects for approximately 5-10 minutes at each education meeting.
- Gather a list of MCMGA members that have been in the BOD positions over the years.

Next board meeting: October 25th at 4:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.

Submitted by Sara Grix

Lisianthus Award

The Lisianthus Award originated as a way for the MCMGA to express gratitude and show our devoted members how appreciated they are for all of thier work. The name was chosen as the lisianthus is often given to offer recognition and show gratitude. The award will be bestowed quarterly by the MCMGA Board and will recognize the recipient for their service to our organization.



Sarah Jane Hanson and Linda Simpson
Photo Credit Jean Persley

Congratulations to Sarah Jane Hanson for receiving this quarter's Lisianthus award. Sarah Jane was awarded the fifth Lisianthus presented to her on September 19, 2023 by Linda Simpson in recognition to her long term service to our organization.

10 Year Celebration

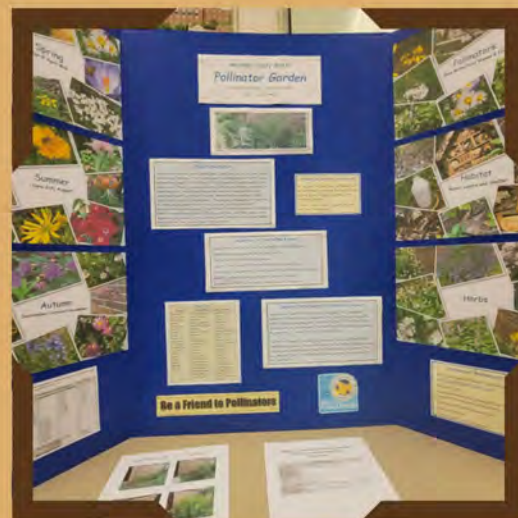
The MCMGA Celebrated our 10 year anniversary during the meeting on September 19, 2023 Everyone was able to enjoy some cake, presentations of grant winners and an education presentation.



Crocker House Gardens



MSUE Polinator Garden



MCMGA Seed Library

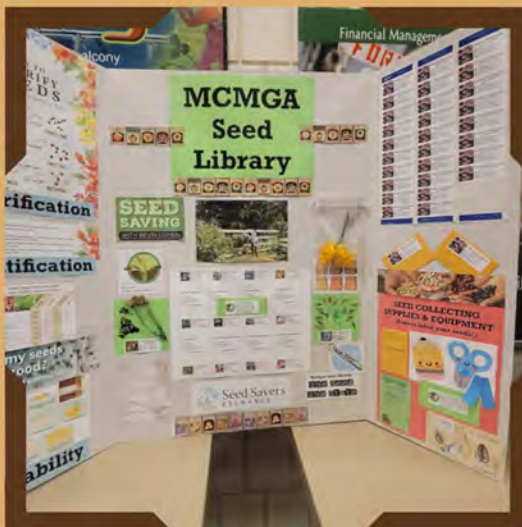


Photo Credits Jean Persley

Education Recap

The MCMGA had a great presentation from horticulturalist Jim Miller for our 10 year anniversary meeting. Jim's presentation was, "Planting Bulbs for Spring Blooms". Jim gave us some excellent tips and tricks.



Jim Miller
Photo Credit Jean Persley

SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

Plant them September until the ground freezes.

Plan a variety of bulbs to provide a show of color from late winter to early summer

- Aconites in January/February to Alliums in June
- Plant bulbs tips up and roots down.
- Plant Tulips deep (8 inches)

Plant for color, height, early mid or late bloomers - choose varieties resistant to critters, disease and bug resistant.

Plant based on use: Do you want to Naturalize, under trees, borders/beds, in lawn, around shrubs.

Plant in masses for best show of color.

DIFFERENT PLANTING TECHNIQUES

Individual: make holes one at a time.

Trench: dig holes to proper depth and as long and wide as desired and scatter randomly and then cover.

Bouquet: prepare hole and place six to eight bulbs per area.

Layering: dig trench plant large tulip bulbs at eight inches, cover with soil then layer with small bulbs and cover with soil.

Forcing: Pot up and refrigerate for eight to 14 weeks (depending on type); then place in a warm location for blooming.

MCMGA Tea Towels

**Get into the Spirit!
MCMGA Tea Towel Preorders
are available at the
October 3rd Meeting!**

Show your pride!

**We have MCMGA tea towels (16"x24")
for sale. They are only \$6 each (our cost).
Bring your cash or check to preorder at the
October 3rd meeting.**

**Jean Persely will distribute at Geology of Macomb
County Soils class on Oct 30 at the Verkulien
Building and the Woody Invasive Removal
Stewardship day at Nicholson on Nov 14, and
other TBD dates/locations.**



MCMGA Meetings

Seed Saving



[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)

6:30 PM October 3, 2023

MCMGA member Jean Persely will discuss the techniques involved in collecting and storing seeds.

Free for MCMGA members + 1 guest.

\$5.00 donation requested for all others.

Verkuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd.
Clinton Twp. MI 48036

Plant This ... Not That

6:30pm November 14, 2023

Plant This Not That: Native Alternative to Common Landscape Plants - Valerie Malaney will discuss the Native Alternatives to Common Landscaping Plants

[Click Here For More Information](#)

(Zoom meeting)

[Click Here To Register](#)

Education Opportunities



Geologic History of Macomb County and Its Role in Gardening

OCTOBER 30TH 2023

7 - 8 p.m.

MSU Extension - Macomb Office (Verkuilen Building)
Assembly Rooms A & B - 21885 Dunham Rd
Clinton Twp, MI 48036

Soil health is essential to all plants and trees, and the right soil conditions and nutrients allow gardens to thrive. Join MSU Extension for a 1 hour in-person lecture on the geology of Macomb County and its influence on our gardening successes and challenges.

Instructor: Jim Selegean, Ph.D. is an engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Detroit and lab director of their Sediment Lab. He also has faculty appointments at Wayne State University in the Geology and Environmental Science Department and the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. He was a graduate of the 2006 Macomb County Master Gardeners program (advanced MG in 2009) and owner of Pasquale's Nursery in Clinton Twp.

Cost: \$3, payable by credit card online

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)

Dig In Series

October 10: Creepy Insects and Cool Pollinators

Presenter: Dr. Nate Walton, MSU Extension Horticulture Educator

Take a peek into the secret lives of some of our creepiest (and coolest) Michigan insects. Learn about some of the bizarre bugs that you may not have known about and some that you maybe wish you didn't. Management and/or conservation options will be discussed where applicable. If you're feeling squeamish about creepy insects, remember, it's a Zoom meeting, so you can always just turn off the video!

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)

November 14: Garden Gifts, Tools and Books

Presenter: Lindsey Kerr and MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator and Colleagues
Gear up for the gift-giving season with ideas from the MSU Consumer Horticulture Team. Join Lindsey Kerr and her colleagues to roll out their favorites. Cool books, garden tools, and gadgets—get great ideas for gift giving to gardening friends...and what to add to your wish list!



Local Events



Yardeners of St. Clair Shores

"PRESERVING THE HARVEST-WHICH METHOD IS BEST FOR YOU?"

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th - 7pm

Presentation by Karen Burke. Join us as we learn about what is available for preserving our bounty (in addition to sharing with family and friends) when harvesting and putting our beds to rest for the winter. Karen, with Honey Hollow Apiary in Macomb MI, has been a vendor at our annual garden tour, and you may have purchased some honey and honey related products from her. She is a Master Gardener and Master Composter.

Trivia

Horticulture Trivia

October 23, 2023 7:00PM - 7:45PM

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2023 - 06:00PM

Zoom

Contact: David Lowenstein

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)

Description: Join MSU Extension on October 23 at 7 PM Eastern for the first of our Winter '23-'24 monthly trivia series about gardening. This is a chance to test your knowledge about all things plants, insects, and garden related in Michigan. There will be 30 multiple choice question/answers during this live event and a prize awarded to the top two scorers. Trivia night is open to gardening enthusiasts, trivia lovers, extension master gardeners, or anyone else who wants to play.

Important Information



Fundraising



**To Sign up Go to 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