



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the June edition of *Inside MGOI*, the Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc. (MGOI) newsletter.

The Newsletter aims to be the voice for Master Gardeners! This is your venue for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 29 Master Gardener groups throughout Ontario. The Newsletter features member milestones, group projects and activities, short member profiles, upcoming events such as regional technical updates – anything about the functioning and happenings of our groups and our members. Please feel free to submit pictures – they are most welcome!

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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 Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Vacant

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INSIDE MGOI

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

June 2023

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Theresa Love

We were happy to present Theresa with her Master Gardener certificate at our June meeting. Theresa lives 3 hours away from Thunder Bay and is an active member of our group. She holds the position of Secretary. Congratulations Theresa!



Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners Trowel Award, 2023

Lynda Bobinski

by Lynda Lahteenmaa

Congratulations to Master Gardener Lynda Bobinski, recipient of the TBDMG Trowel Award for 2023. Lynda's contribution at the local and provincial levels of this organization has been exemplary.

Lynda became a Master Gardener in 2012 and since then has taken on several leadership and developmental roles as Education Coordinator, Webmaster, Facebook Moderator and Coordinator. At present she serves as the Corporate Secretary for MGOI.

We honour her for being a role model master gardener. She guided our group through the challenging COVID era to transition and adapt to a new virtual way of communication and connection for our group to remain functional. Her efficient and compassionate leadership

has bolstered our group to become more resilient to the ever-changing world. We appreciate and are grateful for her insight, fun ideas, and dedication. Most of all we value her knowledge and experience that she continues to share with us and the public we serve.

Congratulations Lynda, and with it comes all our best wishes.



*MG Lynda Bobinski, left with
Coordinator Andrea Steinhäusser*

Happy Gardening!



Durham Master Gardeners

10 Year Anniversary

Cori Whittington



MG Cori Whittington, left with MG Norine Blyth, right

Congratulations!



MGOI, please meet Cori:

by Norine Blyth

Cori is a very busy member within our group and we so appreciate all the hard work that Cori gives to the group. Once again, I have chosen to do an interview style discussion for all to get to know Cori.

Please give a brief description of your working career:

I am a retired teacher. I taught elementary school students from grades 4-8. Although I taught most subjects, my favourite classes were teaching Science and Technology, something we could often do outside.

What made you interested in becoming a Master Gardener?

Being outside, enjoying nature has always been important to me. I grew up in the fields and woods. I have always had plants and gardens in my life. I was the Eco Schools rep. for my school.

I heard Master Gardeners answering questions on gardening shows. I was hoping to work in the horticultural field when I retired, and I saw the Master Gardener courses as a way to get the education and experiences that would help me.

Where did you take your education – Guelph, Dalhousie, self-study?

I took my courses through Guelph.

Are you on any other gardening related committees/groups?

I work and volunteer at Windreach Farm in a variety of capacities. I also work at Native Plants in Claremont.

What committees did you sit on for both DMG & MGOI?

Present: I am currently the Membership person for Durham Master Gardeners.

Past: I have been the Secretary and on the Program Committee for Durham Master Gardeners.

Further education/courses gardening related:

I have taken 2 more greenhouse courses: Greenhouse Management and Winter Growing.

What are some of your loves of gardening?

I enjoy growing native plants, especially flowering shrubs, and I grow fruit and veggies.

Any words you might want to have written?

I enjoy doing membership for the group because I get to meet so many wonderful, like-minded people.



Toronto Master Gardeners

Anniversary Milestones

At our June meeting, the Toronto Master Gardeners recognized our long service members who received their badges.

35 Years

Rosemary Dobson

25 Years

Barbara Evans

20 years

Georgie Kennedy

Tena van Andel

15 Years

Sheila Smith

Susan Lipchak

10 Years

Connie Hitzeroth

Dorothy Smyth

Nancy Durocher

5 years

Gail Bebee

Janet Gaisford

Lisa McKay

Patrick Smyth

Virginia Barton

Members who were not able to attend included: Lindsay Dale-Harris (25 years), Thad Rachwal (20), Lesli Musicar (15), Judy Clark (15), Maureen Hulbert (15), Elaine Johnson (10), and Emma Rooney (5).

We appreciate their years of service and look forward to more years working together!





left to right, Rosemary Dobson, Barbara Evans, Georgie Kennedy, Tena Van Andel, Sheila Smith, and Susan Lipchak

Master Gardener Status Achieved

At the TMG June meeting – preceded by a members' plant swap and a fantastic tour of the Toronto Botanical Gardens' peonies by guest speaker Durham MG Ingrid Janssen – we celebrated our newly graduated Master Gardeners in Training.

Pictured in the photo (in the lovely setting of the Toronto Botanical Garden's courtyard) are, from left to right: *Ruth Wiens, Margaret Rousseau (mentor), Jacqueline Tilford (mentor), Rosanne Masterson, Bonita Parshuram (mentor), Ann Elliot, Wendy Walgate, Georgie Kennedy (mentor), Heather Crisp*
background: *Dianne Azzarello (mentor) and Natalie Vompa, Amy Buckland, Cathy Kozma (mentor), Aruna Panday, Alexis Yanaky (mentor)*



Rideau Thousand Islands Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Marie McKenna

Congratulations Marie for achieving MG certification through U of G this spring!



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Member Profile

Joyce Young, 1928-2022

by Ren Duinker

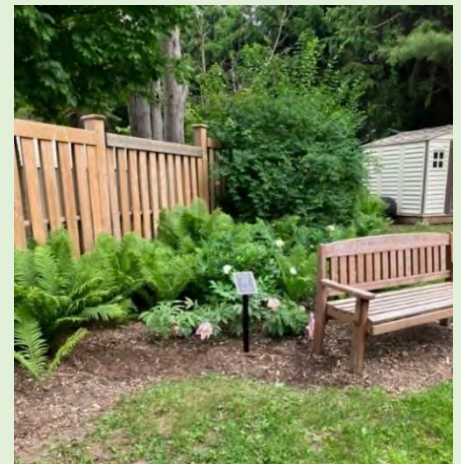


Joyce Young's generosity spread across her community throughout her life. When we approached her church, St. Andrew's in Picton, to ask if we could install a plaque in her honour, the church gardener, Leslie Graham, showed us a new bed of gorgeous peonies

that Joyce had donated to the garden. It was the perfect spot for our plaque.

We want to thank Leslie and the Reverend Lynne Donovan for their kind cooperation. We all continue to celebrate Joyce; her peonies lift my spirit every time I visit the garden.

Thanks again Joyce!



Grey County Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Stephanie Fletcher



Stephanie Fletcher (l) receives her MG certificate from GCMG coordinator Margot Byers (r). Photo: E. Brims

by Carole Warren
Stephanie grew up in Coventry England, where both grandfathers had classic garden allotments (wish we had more here) and her mother nurtured a veggie garden. Soon after she and her husband, Paul, moved to Canada in 2001, Stephanie began gardening in

earnest on a property near Stouffville, starting – with help from her father-in-law – with a vegetable garden at the end of her property (that she watered by hand), and her first Hugelkultur garden.

In 2020, after retiring from a successful career as a marketing manager and moving to Thornbury, she dove into horticulture with both feet. She began working on her Horticulture Diploma through the University of Guelph, and shortly after that joined Grey County MGs. Right out of the starting gate Stephanie brought her considerable energy and leadership skills to a number of projects, including presentations and the annual plant sale. She is currently the group's Advice Clinic and Events Coordinator. As anyone who has met her will agree, Stephanie "makes things happen rather than talking about making things happen." (She completed all five courses for her horticulture diploma in a year - need I say more?)

Her own in-town garden includes a 20 by 40 foot vegetable garden, flower borders, and (a much coveted by me) purple beech hedge. Changes are afoot to add more conifers and native plants to the mix, because "you can always squeeze in more plants." Of course you can. Congratulations, Stephanie!



Meet Dianne Wheler New Director of Operations

Retired for 3 years from a business career, my background includes 40+ years of experience in operations and administration. At retirement I was the Director of Merchandising for TSC Stores (now Peavey Mart).



As the new Director of Operations I bring a combination of my passion for gardening with the organizational skills I developed in my career. Since retiring I have pursued my passion for gardening and the outdoors. I belong to the Stratford & District Horticultural Society and the Ingersoll Nature Club, and am currently enrolled in the Pollinator Steward Certification program with Pollinator Partnership Canada.

I reside in northwest Oxford County and recently attained Master Gardener status with the Stratford and Area Master Gardener group; I volunteered as the Co-Education Coordinator. I took my three required courses for MGs through the University of Guelph and intend to complete the rest of the courses for the Horticultural Certificate. Claudette Sims, the former president of MGOI, was my MGIT mentor in the spring of 2021.

Welcome Dianne!



MGOI Board Vacancies

Karen Sciuk, President MGOI

MGOI currently has two (2) board vacancies: Vice President (VP); and Director of Communications. The Director of Communications is an immediate opening. The job description for the VP follows below and the Communications Director job description is on the right.

Interested candidates should contact me, Karen Sciuk at president@mgoi.ca.

Board Vacancy – Vice President

I do not expect to continue my term past the end of 2024 and would like to find a VP to start as soon as possible so that they will be well aware of how the Executive functions prior to becoming President.

We like to appoint MGs interested in this position to the Board as VP before they transition into the President's position.

Please see the VP job description below and feel free to contact me, Karen Sciuk at president@mgoi.ca.

Job Description – Vice President

- Supports and works closely with the President to assist with his or her duties, especially regarding governance
- Monitors the progress of the organization's goals and objectives
- Reviews information submitted in Annual Reviews and in the Annual Report in order to recognize achievements, share best practices, and identify potential areas of concern
- Assists the relevant Director to resolve potential areas of concern, and if necessary, bring them to the attention of the Board of Directors
- Works with the Director of Membership and others to fill vacant Board positions
- Assumes the duties of the President in his or her absence
- Succeeds the President

Job Description – Director of Communications

The Director of Communications oversees the Communications Committee which is responsible for managing internal communications:

- **Website** and subdomains – managed by Jim Cook, our webmaster.
- **Newsletter** – managed by Isabel Belanger, our editor.
- **MG membership database** – managed by Kelly Noel, former Director of Communications.
- **MGOI group email** – managed by Kelly Noel, former Director of Communications.
- **Handbook updates** – managed by Past President Claudette Sims with input from the Board.
- **MGOI facebook group** – administered by Claudette Sims and Cathy Kavassalis.
- **MGOI twitter** – administered by Dale Odorizzi.

Currently the Director of Communications is directly responsible for these specific tasks:

- **Coordinators and Board Member Contact Lists** – manages updates and distribution to the website, newsletter, and internally.
- **Email Communication** – communicates board decisions to Coordinators, e.g. policy changes/clarifications/updates, events, surveys, and reminders in conjunction with Regional Directors.
- **info@mgoi.ca Emails** – either responds directly or forwards the inquiry to the appropriate Board member or MG group, in particular forwarding new member inquiries to the Membership Committee.



Board Vacancy, Fall 2023

Central Region Director

If you have been wanting to be part of the MGOI Executive here is your opportunity. The Central Region Director expects to retire from this position in the fall, leaving a vacancy.

For more details and a copy of the Job Description, please contact Robyn Dunn, Director of Operations, at robynneone@hotmail.com.

Messages from the MGOI Webmaster, Jim Cook

Advertising Technical Updates

Does your group have a technical update you'd like to advertise on the MGOI home page? We can link to your website.

Please forward information to Jim at webmaster@mgoi.ca.

Thank you.



Master Gardener Group Websites / Links

The MGOI website lists current links to group websites, and social media such as Facebook and Instagram: <https://mgoi.ca/groups/>.

This is a reminder to please inform me of any changes to your links to keep them up-to-date.

My address is: webmaster@mgoi.ca.

Thanks!



Master Gardeners Out & About

Projects & Events

Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners

Name: 2023 Annual Plant Sale

Details: The Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale was held June 3rd at a new venue and was a great success. We sold donated plants, gardening books and embraced the 'plant purple' theme.



Group shot of volunteers: back row, l-r, Carole McCollum, Theresa Love, Aili Dampier, Rosemary McNabb, Andrea Steinhäusser, Sylvia Goodheart, Lynda Bobinski; front row, l-r, Laura Jones, Lynda Lahtenmaa, Hedy Koski, Kaylee Ritchie. Missing is Jack Van Gemeren



Name: Look, Listen & Learn 2023

Details: During the plant sale we offered a Look, Listen & Learn session with 3 workshops.

Gardening for Everyone – Learn How to Grow Vegetables, Herbs & More

Details: Lynda Bobinski and Laura Jones gave a presentation on growing and harvesting vegetables and herbs in your garden or in a container. The topics included planning, seeds, soil, planting, watering and care.



Lynda Bobinski (left) & Laura Jones

Spectacular Succulents

Details: Lynda and Andrea focused on the conditions required to successfully grow succulents indoors and outdoors. They also demonstrated how to propagate them, showcase succulents in a variety of containers, and overwinter them.



Andrea Steinhäusser (left) & Lynda Lahtenmaa



Starting Roses & Rhododendrons from Cuttings

Details: Sylvia and Theresa demonstrated how to prepare rose and rhododendron stems and how to root them. As well, they discussed the best time to do it and the proper care as they grow.



Theresa Love (left) & Sylvia Goodheart

Name: June Meeting & Potluck

by Lynda Lahteenmaa

Details: It has been a tradition for the Thunder Bay and District Master Gardeners to have their June meeting with a potluck dinner and social. We thank Marcus and Andrea Steinhäusser, our current Coordinator, for opening their lovely home and beautiful garden to us on June 12. We deeply appreciate their kindness and warm hospitality.

None of the virtual meetings can match this kind of interaction among members; it's the most effective way to bond while sharing food, garden stories and celebrating members for their achievements. It is also a delightful way for members to relax, enjoy each other's company, learn more about each other, and have fun talking about plants.

It's going to be a busy growing season for the group. In July, we will be giving advice and answering questions in each garden during the Thunder Bay Art Gallery Annual Garden tour.

We will also be volunteering at the Fort William Historical Park during Natural History Days to provide children's gardening activities. We are also involved with the Regional Food Distribution Association in their fund-raising event and providing gardening advice. In the fall the Master Gardeners will be at the Hymers Fall Fair and Murillo Fair.



Left to right: Sylvia Goodheart, Lynda Bobinski, Theresa Love, Lynda Lahteenmaa, Andrea Steinhäusser, Hedy Koski, Aili Dampier, Kaylee Langen, Rosemary McNabb, Carole McCollum



Grand Erie Master Gardeners

Name: June 1, 2023 Zoom Meeting

Details:

- The upcoming plant sale was discussed in detail with master gardeners assigned to each of three pickup locations in Brantford, Cambridge and Norfolk County. An update was given on our current social media status (Facebook and Instagram) and promotional materials and marketing were discussed.
- The box tree caterpillar life cycle was discussed as well as alternative plants to replace infested boxwood.



- Preliminary discussion of a potential Grand Erie Master Gardener garden tour for 2024 was also held.

Name: Native Pollinator Plant Sale

Details: The Grand Erie Master Gardeners 2023 native pollinator plant sale was a success! Our sales goal was met and customers picked up their purchased plants in Brantford and Cambridge on June 3rd, and at South Coast Gardens near St. Williams on June 4th. One lucky customer, Melanie, won the draw for a signed copy of Lorraine Johnson's and Sheila Colla's book "A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee". No doubt this book, together with her newly purchased plants from our plant sale, will be helpful to her as she continues to create more pollinator gardens at the Charlotteville Brewing Company near Simcoe Ontario. Melanie is also planning a native Paw Paw fruit infused beer for later in the year! A huge thank you goes out to Master Gardener Kevin Kavanagh who provided the native plants for our sale.



Our lucky draw winner Melanie receiving her new book from Master Gardener Kevin Kavanagh, right



Guelph – Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Plant Sale

Details: Our 2023 annual plant sale was held May 27th at Riverside Park in Guelph. This was a collaborative effort with Pollination Guelph, Enabling Gardens and Nature Guelph. The day was very successful with many enthusiastic gardeners. Perfect weather!



Master Gardeners Elizabeth Steggle and Rosemary Fernandez-Walker (hat) at the advice table



Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

Name: "Biodiversity" and Native Plants at the Warkworth Lilac Festival: East Region Partnership with Northumberland Master Gardeners and Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners

Details: With partial funding provided by MGOI, the East Region Partnership with Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners and Northumberland Master Gardeners hosted "Biodiversity and Native Plants at the Lilac Festival", an educational presentation by Paul LaPorte on May 27th. The presentation was excellent! Paul is extremely knowledgeable and a great speaker. The room was buzzing with the positive energy of the attendees after Paul's presentation.

The morning presentation was followed by a native plant sale with plants from Paul's Ephemeral Ark Nursery.



A delicious selection of box lunches was provided and donated door prizes were drawn.

Northumberland Master Gardeners and Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners volunteers provided advice at the Master Gardener booth on the Lilac trail for the afternoon. There were lots of questions which made it fun and worthwhile for the public and the volunteers.



Organizing Committee, L-R Judy Kaufmann, Carol Anderson, Cheryl Harrison, Christa Bisanz



Presentation underway with Paul LaPorte



L-R, participant Heather Grassie with PMGs Joanne Windrem, Joan Harding, Chris Freeburn, Sue La Jeunesse



L-R MGs Kat Kinch, Christine Westbrook, Paul Battilana, Carol Anderson, Christa Bisanz

Name: PMG Plant Sale

by Chris Freeburn

Details: On Saturday, June 3rd PMG held our annual plant sale. This was our second sale since Covid and the introduction of Jumping Worms. Our group was cautious, washing roots and potting up in fresh soilless mix. We had a good variety of shade and sun perennials. Native plants were highlighted and several of our group had planted from seed. A wide variety of tomatoes were also for sale and we sold herbs, lettuce and annuals grown from seed by several Master Gardeners.

We had a successful sale with 24 PMGs in attendance. It was a fun time and we were able to give lots of advice to new and learning gardeners.





Foreground L-R, Anne Trudel-Inglis, Gary Westlake and Joan Harding with a customer



This local environmental stewardship action is recommended in the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) Watershed Report Card.

Riparian habitats support high numbers of wildlife species and provide an array of ecological functions, including water quality protection. Native trees and shrubs provide important biomass and biodiversity to create pollinator pathways.



L-R, Laura Gardner, Cheryl Harrison, Rachel Burrows, Sharleen Ward



Stratford and Area Master Gardeners

Name: Native Tree Planting

Details: Stratford and Area Master Gardeners with the support of over 35 volunteers from the community planted 400 native shrubs along the river from St. Vincent Street to John Street in McLagan Park on June 3rd. Last fall, community volunteers planted 400 shrubs along the bank of the Avon River from the John Street Weir to the railway trestle.

This project was made possible with a grant of \$5,200 from the Donald McTavish Conservation Fund held within the Stratford Perth Community Foundation and community donations of \$2,268.



Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Spring Plant Sale

Details: Our spring plant sale was held at the beautiful Riverwood Conservancy on Saturday, May 27th, a gorgeous sunny day. Our plants were a combination of homegrown seeds and plants from our gardens. Our plants started from seed included vegetables, herbs, annuals, perennials and native perennials. Our members answered lots of questions and guided many customers towards the plants they were searching for, or what plant was the best for their gardens. For a glimpse into our day, please watch the video below.

<https://youtu.be/5Yndnr1fb8Y>



Back row from left: Natalie Scola, Diana Westland, Jennifer Beale, MJ Kucerak

Front Row from left: Karolina Marques, Ramona Christiansen, Emma Chow

Missing from photo: Donna Hormozian and Susan Quirk

Name: Garden Tour

Details: We had the pleasure of touring five of our members' gardens on a lovely June day, Saturday the 17th. Every garden was unique with the common thread being the love of plants. Lots of discussions were had trying to identify and diagnose as we wandered through each garden gathering ideas and being inspired by the creativity and knowledge of the Master Gardeners. Such a personal and fun June outing!

Below is a video of our garden tour. Enjoy!

https://youtu.be/FZIFknE_H_0



Standing from left: Stuart Plummer, Ramona Christiansen, Diana Westland, Donna Hormozian, Maureen Neglia

Seated from left: Emma Chow, Jennifer Beale, Susan Quirk, Catherine Fleming



Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: 'Hands On' at Niagara Parks Greenhouses

Details: The Niagara group spent a lovely morning in late May volunteering at the Niagara Botanical Gardens (NBG). The jobs involved helping edge the beds in the rose garden and planting pachysandra in another part of the NBG.



Niagara MGs brandishing some tools of the trade at the Niagara Botanical Gardens rose garden in May





An image of the rose garden from the Niagara Parks website. The rose garden boasts over 2,400 roses and is one of North America's largest Victorian rose gardens.

Name: Ask A Master Gardener

Details: Throughout May and June each year, Niagara MG volunteers offer 'Ask a Master Gardener' sessions at a local garden centre, Rice Road Greenhouses, which gives a donation to the group in return. The volunteers walk among the displays and plant tables and offer advice where needed.



Mary-lyn Hopper, left and Brenda Sawchuk at Rice Road in May



Brenda Sawchuk

Name: Open Gardens

Details: On June 11 our group had an Open Gardens event where a number of members offered tours to other MGs. It was a fun event that offered a chance to trade stories, share information, talk about individual gardening passions and have some great conversations!



Participating in Open Gardens were:



Barb and Alan Large



Lynn Fournier, right, with Marie Claire Groulx





Carolann Moisse (in photo) and Dan Cooper



MG Michele Young



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Plant Sale

by Gail Walker

Details: Prince Edward County Master Gardeners held a very successful plant sale on Saturday May 27th in Picton. We generated a record profit of \$2,190 and had approximately 100 different customers visit us for both plants and advice.

We trace our success to the 500+ quality plants donated by our 11 active members, a moderate increase to our pricing, and the introduction of Square for debit / credit transactions that accounted for 25% of our sales.

Thanks also to all the Eastern Regional Coordinators who offered advice about their experiences using Square at their plant sales – you gave us the courage to go ahead with it. Thanks, it worked!



Left to Right: June Crocco, Andie Wiens, Kim Beaugrand, Quentin Wyne, Pam Piercey, Gail Walker, Susan Warrack, Kent Pawziuk, and Diane McDonald. Many Thanks to Dianna Miller for the photo.

Name: Advice Desk, CFUW Garden Tour

Details: by Gail Walker

PEC Master Gardeners June Crocco and Gail Walker provided the advice desk for the annual CFUW (Canadian Federation of University Women) Town & Country Garden Tour in and around Belleville. There were 320 people touring eight gardens and many came prepared with interesting questions for us.

We heard concerns about jumping worms, lots of pest management questions, interest in native plants, and controlling invasive species.



June Crocco, left & Gail Walker



Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: A Pollination Station

Details: We had a lot of fun putting together “A Pollination Station” at Grey Gallery in Owen Sound from June 9 – 19. It was one of six installations for this year’s River District Blooms, a celebration of the city’s downtown. What was, at first, a problem – no ground to plant in – turned into a creative challenge. We used a variety of containers to plant mostly native pollinator plants, highlighting their versatility and beauty along with their virtue of helping our native pollinators.

Led by MG Vicky Thompson, the group included MG Jennifer Deeks, and MGiTs Andrée Levie-Warrilow, Carole Warren and Courtney Brull, with advice and plant material from MG Karen Young (Willow Farm Grasses). Thanks also to MGIT Becky Bouwmeester (Williamsford Landscape Company) for the soil.



*From left, Jennifer Deeks, Courtney Brull, Andrée Levie-Warrilow, Carole Warren, and Vicky Thompson
Photo Anne Dondertman*

Name: Owen Sound Pollinator Symposium

Details: Lots of pollinating going on in Grey County. On June 10th, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery hosted a Pollinator Symposium sponsored by the OPEN Team (Owen Sound North Grey Union Public Library, Billy Bishop Museum, Waterfront Heritage Centre, and the TOM) and Pollinate Owen Sound (POS) led by artist and environmental advocate Liz Zetlin. The day included talks by two members of Grey County Master Gardeners.

MG Elizabeth Brims spoke on her experience founding the grass-roots organization “Pollinate the Blue Mountains” which, with support from the municipality, aims to raise public awareness about the importance of native pollinator plants and create public and private pollinator gardens. Similar organizations exist in Barrie and Collingwood; Elizabeth made the argument of the importance that this pollinator corridor extend west to Owen Sound and Bruce County.

Later in the day, MG Jennifer Deeks gave a well-received backgrounder on the who, what and where of pollination.

Shortly after the symposium, the city of Owen Sound designated two public areas for pollinator gardens. These will be POS’s first projects and GCMG has the opportunity to be in the thick of it.



MG Jennifer Deeks presenting at the Pollinator Symposium/Facebook

Name: Pollinate the Blue Mountains/Suzuki Foundation Pollinator Gardens

Details: Speaking of Pollinate the Blue Mountains (PTBM), Grey County Master Gardeners got their hands in the dirt for one of the organization’s (together with the Suzuki Foundation) recent projects.

Students, staff and parents of Beaver Valley Community School in Thornbury created a pollinator butterfly garden in front of the school, out of an old canoe. (Recycling at its finest.) The kids painted the canoe based on a design by a local artist, Trevor Halton. GCMGs, led by MG Ann Joyner – who is also a ranger with the Suzuki Foundation – with help from MGs Stephanie Fletcher, Elizabeth Brims and Susan Cox, served as advisors for the project and helped with the implementation.





*Butterfly pollinator garden at Beaver Valley Community School
photo Ann Joyner*

Willow Grass Farm supplied the grasses and plants.
(Thanks to MG Karen Young).

The project was a real community effort – many local businesses contributed plants, steppingstones, soil and mulch. The Parent Council at the school supplied funding.

There is another parallel project behind the school. Ten raised-bed butterfly gardens for five specific butterflies have recently been completed. About 80 native pollinator plants and shrubs were planted with an emphasis on spring and fall butterfly supporting plants that the kids will enjoy. The steppingstones were added to give the kids access to explore the garden. Parents are on tap to water and weed every week!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Technical Update – Cancelled

Topic: Eastern Regional Technical Update – Prince Edward County

Date: Saturday, July 8th, 2023

Location: Prince Edward County Lavender

Details: It is with regret that PEC MGs have had to cancel our Technical Update.

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners – Eastern Regional Technical Update

Location: Kingston and the Islands

Dates: Events over 3 days: Fri. Aug. 11 to Sun. Aug. 13

Cost and Registration: 50\$; tickets available on Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/biodiverse-garden-tour-talk-and-workshops-tickets-661931513977>

Details:

Friday, Aug. 11, 7pm: Speaker Julia Pupko, ecologist and entomology-lover, lives in unceded Elnu Abenaki lands (Upper Valley, Vermont); she is currently a Forestry Specialist at Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation

Topic: Lady Beetles: Friends of our Gardens and Ecosystems

Across North America there are over 450 different species of lady beetle. Commonly known as ladybugs, these incredible beetles act as critical biological controls of many aphids, mealy bugs, and scale insects, yet few of us really know much about this gardener's good friend.

Unfortunately, many native lady beetle species have experienced drastic declines, likely due to land use change, introduced lady beetle species, pesticide use, amongst other factors. As with many insects, lady beetles are largely understudied, creating barriers to supporting and managing for a species in decline. Julia will focus on some common and rare species in Eastern North America, discuss lady beetle ecology, and include some suggestions to promote healthy lady beetle populations.



She will also provide a case study emphasizing the importance of crowd-sourced platforms and community science projects.

Saturday, Aug. 12, 8 am-3:30 pm: Garden Tour

The garden tour highlights 6 beautiful private gardens and 1 community garden, all embracing the importance of biodiversity. Five properties are in Kingston, one is 15 minutes north of the city, and one is on Wolfe Island. The ferry, free to users, is located at the foot of Princess St., and departs every hour on the hour.

Sunday, Aug. 13, 8 am-4 pm: Participants choose up to 2 workshops, which include:

- A guided walking tour of Belle Island
- The installation of a fruit tree guild in a food forest
- The installation of a Pocket Forest
- The matrix planting of a native plant seed / pollinator garden

London Middlesex Master Gardeners

Name: 2023 Bloomin' Tour

Date & Time: Sun., August 13th from 9am to 4pm

Details: After a successful first year, we are doing the Bloomin' Tour again. This year we have a mixture of gardens including those of Master Gardeners, past Master Gardeners and outstanding individual gardens on our tour.

Tickets: Tickets go on sale July 1st with the proceeds going to the Thames Talbot Land Trust.



CNE – Canadian National Exhibition 2023



Let's go to the Ex!

Dates: Friday August 18 – Monday September 4, 2023

Details: After a three year Covid hiatus MGs will again hold an Advice Clinic at the CNE. Leanne Krane, Guelph – Wellington MGs, has secured a booth for Master Gardeners in the flower show area. Our table will be situated beside a table for the OHA (Ontario Horticultural Association). Education Director Kate Sault will send out a sign up form to coordinators shortly. As in previous years volunteers will get a free admission pass.

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton & Lanark County Master Gardeners

Technical Update

Topic: Wild About Wildflowers

Date: Saturday September 9, 2023

Location: Kitchissippi United Church, 630 Island Park Dr., Ottawa, ON K1Y 0B7

Cost: to be determined

Registration Information: stay tuned...

Details: We are delighted that Michael Runtz has agreed to be our speaker at the Technical Update, coordinated with the Lanark County Master Gardeners.

The two-hour morning seminar is called **Wild About Wildflowers**. Michael's focus is on Ontario wildflowers, especially those found in Algonquin Park, one of his favorite places.

Michael Runtz is one of Canada's most highly respected naturalists. He is also a talented nature photographer and a natural history author. A Carleton University biology professor, he has been involved in publishing fourteen natural history books. As well, he is a dynamic communicator, entertaining audiences with his offbeat sense of humour, uncanny ability to captivate audiences with his wisdom of the natural world, and his adventure stories of trekking Ontario's wilderness.



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: 2023 Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series

Details: Join Etobicoke Master Gardeners and the Humber Arboretum for the 2023 Eco-Garden Community Workshops. Most are virtual and a few are in-person. Registration for these workshops is through the Humber Arboretum at the following link:

<https://humber.ca/arboretum/learn/adult-programs/etobicoke-master-gardeners.html>

Dates & Topics:

- Pruning (virtual), October 14
- Pruning (in-person workshop), October 21
- Indoor Plants (virtual), November 18



Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Seeds Alert

Canadians are encouraged to connect with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before sending seeds abroad. Canada's plant health regulator, the CFIA, plays an important role in making sure seeds from Canada meet internationally agreed upon regulations. Over the past year, the CFIA has seen an increasing number of notifications of non-compliance from foreign countries about seeds exported from Canada without proper phytosanitary (plant health) certification. Seeds can potentially be invasive in some countries or spread plant diseases or other pests. That's why it's important to check requirements with the CFIA. Not meeting requirements has consequences. For example, the destination country may destroy the seeds and issue Canada a notice of non-compliance.

All seeds, including those in small packets for gardeners, must comply with the import requirements of the destination country.

Please share this information with the Canadian public to increase awareness of the important steps to take when shipping or exporting seeds to protect international plant resources, our economy and the environment. The CFIA has spokespeople available for interviews, people who are experts in plant health imports and exports. Our experts are also willing to write and submit a piece if that is of interest. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Media Relations, Canadian Food Inspection Agency / Government of Canada: cfia.media.acia@inspection.gc.ca
Tel: 613-773-6600

Additional links/Background information:

- [Shipping and exporting seeds from Canada](#)
- [Plant health at the CFIA](#)
- [Chronicle 360 plant health](#)
- [Canada's plant health hero challenge](#)
- [Join the plant health movement](#) (Chronicle 360)

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français



CANADIAN GARDEN COUNCIL
CONSEIL CANADIEN DU JARDIN



Garden Hall of Fame
Temple de la renommée du jardin

Canadian Garden Council to Unveil First Garden Hall of Famers

*Inaugural inductees will be revealed as part of
National Garden Day celebrations*

OTTAWA, June 16, 2023 – The Canadian Garden Council is proud to announce it will unveil the first-ever Garden Hall of Famers in celebration of National Garden Day on June 17th.

This marks a momentous occasion in recognizing and honouring several historical Canadian figures who have shaped the garden landscape in Canada. The Canadian Garden Council's Honour Committee meticulously selected the first Garden Hall of Famers group, which includes gardeners, horticulturalists, designers, educators and advocates who have significantly influenced Canada's garden culture and championed the importance of gardens in our society. "Together, our committee made the decision to honour 22 historical leaders as the first Garden Hall of Famers," says David Galbraith, Head of Science at The Royal Botanical Gardens, representative of the Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies and Chairman of The Canadian Garden Council's Honour Committee. "These pioneers have fostered innovation and contributed to the growth of the garden community and horticulture industry in Canada and beyond."



The virtual unveiling of the Garden Hall of Famers allows the public to discover the extraordinary contributions they have made to horticulture, garden experience sectors, and Canada's garden culture. Each of the listed Garden Hall of Famers' achievements has set new benchmarks and serves as an inspiration for future generations.

"The innovative spirit of the Canadian horticulture community is recognized around the world. This Hall of Fame highlights the contributions of pioneers who have helped create a vibrant community and establish this reputation," said the **Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.**

National Garden Day, observed annually on the third Saturday of June, is dedicated to celebrating the beauty and significance of gardens in our lives. It promotes a unique opportunity for gardeners and gardening organizations to come together, share their passion, and promote the benefits of gardens to our well-being, the environment and the quality of life of our communities. The virtual unveiling of the first Garden Hall of Famers further amplifies this message by showcasing each historical member and their remarkable work.

This milestone event promises to be an inspiring and memorable celebration of those who have shaped Canada's horticultural landscape.

Visit the website after June 17th for the list of the first Garden Hall of Famer inductees: livethegardenlife.gardenscanada.ca/garden-hall-of-famers

Follow the Canadian Garden Council on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

About the Canadian Garden Council

Established in April 2014, in partnership with the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association (CNLA), the Canadian Garden Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and advancing Canada's garden experience sector. With board representation from public gardens across the nation, the Council operates as a not-for-profit corporation. Its network encompasses a wide range of stakeholders, including horticulture, gardening organizations, tourism, and associated industries, at regional, provincial, and territorial levels. This diverse representation enables the Council to effectively address the comprehensive array of challenges and opportunities within the garden experience sector.

About Gardens Canada

Gardens Canada, under the leadership of the Canadian Garden Council, aims to inspire and inform Canadians about the many health and well-being, economic, and environmental benefits gardens provide and promote public gardens as the centres of Canada's garden culture.



About the Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies

The Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies includes archives and a program of scholarly study within Royal Botanical Gardens, Ontario (Hamilton, Ontario and Burlington, Ontario). It focuses on collecting and preserving literature, documents, and artifacts relevant to the history of horticulture in Canada.

For more information, please contact:

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You are receiving this newsletter as a member of Canada's Garden Family. (Vous recevez ce bulletin en tant membre de la Famille-jardin du Canada.)

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