



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the July 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.**

July 2023

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Halton Master Gardeners

35 Year Anniversary

Roseanne Nelson



Roseanne Nelson, right, receives her 35-year badge from Coordinator Kate Sault

Profile

Roseanne has always been interested in plants and horticulture. When speaking about her love for gardening she mentions that "There are lots of family photos showing me (as a child) next to flowers, and I am smelling or picking them!

Over the years I often visited

the RBG (Royal Botanical Gardens) and Edwards Gardens (now Toronto Botanical Garden or TBG) to admire the planted areas. When I was a stay-at-home mom, I drove from Scarborough to Hamilton to take flower arranging courses.

It was when I had my first child and was expecting my second that I heard about the Toronto Master Gardener group that was starting at the TBG. I applied, wrote the exam, and was accepted. I was pleased to be part of the inaugural group of 20 MGs in that group. I then spent the next two years completing the required courses, all done by hand and submitted by mail. There were two copious binders complete with tiny rolls of slides to illustrate the material. When graduation day arrived, I was sick with a terrible flu; my mother attended on my behalf and accepted my certificate.

Our family moved to Oakville in 1988. I continued to commute to Toronto to attend MG meetings until around 2003/04. Fortunately, around that same time the Oakville group was just being created, and I immediately joined. We were approximately 17-18 members at its inception, but due to attrition our group became too small to respond to all the requests we received. I was delegated to scout around and visit the Mississauga and Halton groups so that our members could decide where they would like to move and eventually most of us joined Halton, with the rest going to Mississauga.

I have also had a career outside of my love for gardening. I worked as a translator after graduation from U of T in 1978, then spent a number of years in computer programming. I returned to university in 2000 to take a BEd and graduated from Brock University in 2001. I was fortunate to immediately obtain a teaching position with the Peel District School Board and taught elementary school French and French immersion for 19 years, retiring in 2020, just as the Covid pandemic took off.

When I had my own garden at our first home in Scarborough I was able to pursue my passion for horticulture. When we moved to Oakville and I brought with me as many of my plants and shrubs as I could. Retirement was intended to provide more time for me in my garden, but life has had more surprises for me. From 2019 to 2022, I was blessed with 5 grandchildren. I now divide my time between helping to care for the little ones and my garden. So far, they all seem to share Oma's love for plants!"



Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Cathy Krar

Marianne Lepa

Cathy joined Simcoe County Master Gardeners in 2020 and opted for the self study route. She worked very hard over the past few years, studying the Manual and participating in the coaching clinics developed by ours group and the Lake Simcoe South MG group. She wrote the exam in March and we were delighted to present her with her Master Gardener certificate at our Annual Meeting this June.





Cathy Krar, right being presented with her Master Gardener certificate by Gail Cocker, SCMG coordinator, June 2023

Cathy is an experienced gardener with a passion for protecting and remediating the environment. She wrote a couple of articles for our local paper this year, one on identifying and removing dog strangling vine and another encouraging readers to “ditch the lawnmower.”

Marianne joined the Simcoe County Master Gardeners in 2020 and as an experienced gardener, opted for the self study route. Besides reading through the topics in the Manual, Marianne participated in many webinars during the Covid years. Marianne wrote the exam in March and we were delighted to present her with her Master Gardener certificate at our Annual Meeting this June.



Marianne Lepa, right being presented with her Master Gardener certificate by Gail Cocker, SCMG coordinator, June 2023

Marianne is passionate about growing your own food and is actively involved with the Cook community garden in Collingwood, both in terms of organization as well as running a series of workshops for new gardeners. Recently she received the highest praise when some of her students opted to rent their own garden plots for food growing.



London Middlesex Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Nicole Steward-Seekins

Nicole joined our group in June 2020. She has been an active gardener for more than 25 years.

Nicole completed a Horticultural Diploma. She currently runs the Ilderton Gardeners Facebook Group (300+ members) and led that local community

group through a call to action for homeowners to adopt horticultural and ecological best practices in 2022. Nicole is actively learning and experimenting with an unheated seasonal greenhouse. She is also interested in pest management. Nicole is our co-captain for planning our education sessions.



Durham Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Dolly Konzelmann

Congratulations to Dolly for achieving Master Gardener Status on July 15, 2023! Dolly completed her education through Guelph University.

She sits on our executive board at Durham Master Gardeners as one of our Program Committee Members. Dolly, again congratulations and we look forward to you being a member of DMG for many years!



Nicole, left with coordinator Sandra Elfman



Durham MG cont'd

Ontario Service Awards Recipients

Exciting News! Three of our members were voted for this Award for outstanding volunteer service! Thank you for your service and dedication. Congratulations to

Pam Clark for 15 yrs service

Ingrid Janssen for 10 years service

Judy Rivers for 5 years service



Northumberland Master Gardeners

Garden Hero Award

Paul Battilana



Paul, left receiving his award from Lorraine Coulas, Secretary and Linda Wallis, President of Brighton Garden Club

Northumberland Master Gardener Paul Battilana is the Recipient of a Garden Hero Award, an initiative of The Year of the Garden 2022. A local garden group can nominate one volunteer who makes a difference as their garden hero. The Garden Hero is recognized with a certificate and their name is listed on the Year of the Garden 2022 Website.

Paul received this recognition from Brighton Garden Club because of his contributions to the group. Paul was instrumental in starting a Seed Library at the local Brighton Library. Seeds can be borrowed and donated by local gardeners. Paul continues to challenge and support local gardeners through his volunteer work.



Editor's Pretty Garden Picture

In the July request for input we had asked members to send in pictures of their gardens as part of the summer feature. Unfortunately, I was the only person who submitted one.

This is a picture of *Callirhoe bushii*, or Bush's poppy mallow, sometimes called winecup – previously *Callirhoe involucrata* var. *bushii* – native to the American south mid west. I didn't plant this but I did order *C. involucrata* seeds in late 2019 for winter sowing. They didn't germinate so I must have disposed of the potting mix in the garden and voilà, my 2023 mystery plant. I was not able to identify it until it bloomed because *C. bushii* has unusually shaped velvety soft leaves, different from *C. involucrata*. Generally I associate winecups with full beating sun but this one seems to like life amongst the *Tiarella cordifolia*.



Calling all MGs & MGITs

Special Summer Feature – Gardens of Ontario Master Gardeners

We would like to feature a photo of YOUR garden in the August issue.

Please send a photo to newsletter@mgoi.ca. Include your name, group and a caption or paragraph telling us what we are seeing.



MGOI Summer Workshops in Niagara

by Ramona Christiansen, Mississauga MGIT

On Saturday and Sunday, July 15th and 16th, 2023, I had the pleasure of attending the summer workshops held at the Niagara School of Horticulture in Niagara and it did not disappoint! If you have never been before it is a great weekend of learning with excellent instructors in a beautiful setting. On our first day our instructor was *Darrell Bley* (Instructor/Curator of Woody Plants) who taught the course: **Conifers, Up Close and Personal**. We concentrated on the genera *Pinus*, *Abies*, *Picea*, *Larix*, and *Thuja* with a couple of other conifers thrown into the mix to spice things up. As you can see from Photo A, we were able to identify differences between the different species and genera not only with the naked eye but with stereoscopes. Photo B is the lovely *Pinus ponderosa* with its exquisite purple new growth and our instructor Darrell Bley in the background.



Photo A



Photo B

On Sunday, our instructor was *Randan Redekop* (Technical Instructor of Construction and Equipment Training) who walked us through **Raised Garden Planters – Getting Creative with Space**. We learned important design elements along with the terms Hugelkultur and Biochar. The session ended with Randan and his colleague Megan building a small raised planter for us.

Darrell and Randan are extremely knowledgeable and truly enjoy teaching. Their enthusiasm for the plant world was infectious. I personally loved that they both allowed us Master Gardeners to ask as many questions as we wanted! Photo C is a group shot of all the attendees and our instructor Randan.



Photo C



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 position 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 Robynne Dunn, Central Region Director, 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!

Jim



Master Gardeners Out & About

Projects & Events

Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners

Name: Fort William Historical Park

Details: Fort William Historical Park celebrated its 50th Anniversary on July 11th, 2023.

The Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners were invited to set up a booth near the park's working garden. A display was created showcasing the Three Sisters planting method



Lynda Bobinski, left with Coordinator Andrea Steinhäusser



Andrea Steinhäusser, right with a FWHP volunteer

which was popular with the Haudenosaunee. The tradition is to plant corn, beans and squash in the same mound. Also, a hands-on children's activity was created. It involved planting several beans in a peat pot to take home. The types of beans (*Phaseolus* spp.) offered included Blue Jay bean, scarlet runner bean, Mandan black bean & Arikara yellow bean.



Lynda Bobinski, left with a FWHP volunteer

Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: Toronto Master Gardeners Video Series on the TMG YouTube Channel

Details: Toronto MGs Dorothy and Patrick Smyth are the creators of a series of helpful, hands-on videos of a number of their chosen gardening tasks. These have become a popular resource for established and emerging gardeners who might benefit from seeing how another gardener deals with a particular gardening topic.



Their latest video, "Pruning an overgrown cedar", went up on the TMG YouTube channel a few weeks ago – at the perfect time for the best time of the year to perform the task: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DcarUHWdgcg>.

This month, their TMG video, "Pruning a Woody Lavender", has surpassed 108,000 views: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZI9i52JZYw>

Patrick and Dorothy's top 5 most popular videos have a combined viewership of over 175,000, with the top 5 videos to do with pruning representing 86% of total viewership. These are solid indications that many home gardeners enjoy watching the gardening experiences of Toronto Master Gardeners.

Asked about the idea for their video series, Dorothy and Patrick explain: "It was spring in the early days of the Covid pandemic that our Coordinator at the time, Tina Cesaroni, suggested to members that we should create 'How To' videos of the everyday workings in our gardens for the TMG YouTube channel. Since working the garden is our everyday activity, this sounded like something we could try. The hardest part was mastering the technology side of things and the most joyful part has been seeing how popular the videos seem to be. Our goal was to help new gardeners."

Please do take a look if you have a chance!



Stratford and Area Master Gardeners

Name: Stratford Garden Tour

Details: The Tour, hosted by Garden Stratford on July 2nd, showcased nine private gardens in Stratford. A variety of gardens were on display, from the mature to the newly developed. All had interesting characteristics and a wealth of plant material, some in shade and others in full sun.

Stratford Master Gardener Leslye Glover was one of the garden hosts. She has been working on her garden for the last ten years and has a variety of native and non-native plants that attract bees, butterflies, wasps and birds.



Leslye's Garden, Stratford 2023

Master Gardeners Aline Kouhi-Klemencic, Diane Wheler, Don Farwell, Chris Harwood and Jim Fitzgerald were on hand to answer questions in five of the other gardens.

The event was well attended, in spite of the rain; over 370 people attended.

Name: Softwood Cuttings Workshop

Details: The Stratford and Area Master Gardeners partnered with Garden Stratford to put on a workshop, "Taking Cuttings of Shrubs". Participants learned the difference between hardwood and softwood cuttings. They took cuttings of various species and learned how to prepare, plant and care for them.

Thank you to Don Farwell for sharing his expertise and to Maureen Cocksedge for opening up her garden to us.



Softwood Cuttings Workshop, July 2023

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Tour of Humber Arboretum

Details: On a sunny July 10, 2023 morning, the Etobicoke Master Gardeners (EMG) conducted a tour of the Humber Arboretum for the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners. The Humber Arboretum is located in Etobicoke, in the northwest corner of Toronto. Established in 1977, the 250 acre Arboretum site spreads along the West Humber River beside Humber College, and has extensive landscaped garden beds, woodlands and valley walks.



Jim Graham, EMG, leading the tour in a woodland area

The tour group included 56 members consisting of Master Gardeners from Peterborough and Area MGs, Northumberland MGs, and members of the Peterborough and Omeme Horticultural societies, their friends and families.



Etobicoke Master Gardeners Jim Graham, Christine Spence and Peggy Mooney led three groups on the one-hour tour, through the formal gardens and the upper woodland, discussing native and non-native plants. EMG members Sarah Thompson, Leslie Ferguson, Jennifer Hagan, and Janet Haynes Graham provided support, answering questions and helping to keep the groups together.

EMG has a continuing relationship with the Humber Arboretum that began in 2012, supporting the Arboretum's outreach program with a series of gardening workshops (most recently webinars) for the public, as well as occasional arboretum tours on subjects such as invasive plants and tree identification. Please contact the EMG if your group is interested in a tour of this largely unknown arboretum. Recommended tour time is 2 hours.



Members of the Peterborough and Area Tour at the Humber Arboretum Entrance

Dr. Joseph Brueckner was an accomplished amateur plant breeder of cold-hardy rhododendrons. He donated approximately 1000 shrubs consisting of over 60 different hybrids and species of rhododendrons, evergreen azaleas and deciduous azaleas. We were honoured to have Dr. Brueckner's daughter at the event; she took people on tours of the beds of rhododendrons.

The Riverwood Conservancy also took people on tours of the trees planted in the area. As always, interacting with the public is a pleasure, but also visiting the other tables of groups in Mississauga enhances our experience at an event.



From left: MGs Ramona Christiansen, Diana Westland, Councillor Ward 1 Mississauga Stephen Dasko and MG Jennifer Beale

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: City of Mississauga 2023 Garden Day Celebration

Details: On Saturday, June 24, MMGs participated in this wonderful event hosted at Brueckner Rhododendron Gardens. We were invited by the city to promote our group and to connect with and educate residents, alongside other amazing community groups who also celebrate all things garden related. The Brueckner Rhododendron Gardens, established in 1983 by Dr. Joseph Brueckner, is truly a beautiful site to visit.

Grand Erie Master Gardeners

Name: July 30th Private Garden Tour

Details: The Grand Erie Master Gardeners are looking forward to meeting in person on July 30th for a private garden tour of a designated heritage native garden in Normandale, Ontario. Lots of photos to follow next month! Since we are so geographically spread out, it will be a real treat for many of our members to be able to visit in person instead of over zoom.



Name: Laura Rodger's Walk in Silver Lake Park, Port Dover

Details: MGIT Laura Rodger was walking in Silver Lake Park in Port Dover a few months ago when she spotted a large stand of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) along the shore of the lake inside the park. She contacted the Port Dover Lions Club, who own and maintain the park for the community, to report the sighting. They were not familiar with the invasive plant but were very open to learning more.

Since then Laura has been volunteering on behalf of GEMGs and helping out the Port Dover Lions Club and the Silver Lake Revitalization Project by creating an iNaturalist Project. The goal of this project is to develop an inventory of all the flora in the park so that invasive plants can be identified and eventually removed and replaced with environmentally beneficial native plants. If any members are visiting Silver Lake Park in Port Dover between now and October 31st, please feel free to take photos and add them to the "**Silver Lake Revitalization Project Plant Inventory Initiative**" project on iNaturalist. Every observation helps!



MGiT Laura Rodger with Japanese knotweed in Silver Lake Park, Port Dover



Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners

Name: PMG Bus Trip 2023

Details: The PMGs were excited to be on the road again! After a three-year hiatus we all loaded onto a bus at 0800 on July 10th and headed out for 2 days of garden touring, learning, retail therapy and the pleasure of one another's company.

The monumental task of planning, organizing, implementing and herding 54 gardeners was taken on by our fearless, tireless experts, below. They are the dream team of trip organizers!



Photo L-R: Bus Tour Committee members Rachel Burrows, Joanne Windrem, Joan Harding, Gladys Fowler, Sharleen Pratt

Our first stop was the beautiful Humber Arboretum: <https://humber.ca/arboretum/>, coordinated by arboretum manager Jimmy Vincent. Etobicoke Master Gardeners Jim Graham, Christine Spence, Peggy Mooney, Sarah Thompson, Leslie Ferguson, Jennifer Hagan and Janet Haynes Graham met us and generously treated us to coffee, juice and scones and then gave us a guided tour and answered questions. Many thanks to the wonderful members of Etobicoke Master Gardeners!

Etobicoke MGs meeting us at the Humber Arboretum



We then travelled to the country acres belonging to OHA (Ontario Horticultural Association) member Jim Mabee. We were thrilled to see and learn about his unusual trees, a *Stewartia pseudocamellia* (in bloom!) and a very rare *Franklinia*.



<https://www.finegardening.com/plan-t/japanese-stewartia-stewartia-pseudocamellia>

Next on the agenda was a stop at Pam Martin's beautiful country garden. She kindly provided very delicious treats, a charming gift shop and a beautiful door prize.



In Pam Martin's beautiful garden

We travelled on to Stratford to check in at the Holiday Inn and then it was off to dinner at the Elmhurst Inn and Spa. Fabulous!

Day two, our first stop was Deep Purple Lavender Farm in Umbro: <https://deepurplelavender.ca/>. What a beautiful spot! The lavender was in bloom, the lemonade was delicious and their shop was irresistible!

Next was a visit to Colour Paradise Greenhouses, <https://www.colourparadise.com/>, where there was some more serious shopping with a 10% discount resulting in happy albeit poorer gardeners!

After a delicious box lunch (from Bauer Kitchen) in Waterloo Park we had a short drive to the private garden of David Hobson, a writer, blogger and photographer: <http://home.golden.net/~dhobson/>. His beautiful garden is a creative, visual treat that left us all dazzled!



In David Hobson's fabulous garden

Next stop was Bee Sweet Nature Company, <https://beesweetnature.ca/>, where we were able to purchase honey products and a selection of plants grown from their "hand-collected Ontario sourced seeds". It was wonderful to hear about their work and their vision! Our last stop was the Grand Chalet in Milton for dinner – then home to Peterborough.

Some of us may have arrived home tired but I know that we were all inspired by the people we met, the gardens we experienced and the things we learned.



Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: The Great Glen Villa Caper

by Rebecca Last – MGOC Coordinator

Details: Each year, MGOC organizes a summer outing. This year's event was especially ambitious. Inspired by our new Executive Assistant Coordinator Odette McIntyre and our Social Coordinator Gayle Singer, a group of about 20 MGOC members carpooled to Sherbrooke, in Québec's Eastern Townships on Saturday, June 24. For those unfamiliar with La Belle Province, June 24 is Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, La Fête nationale for Québec, so the roads were busy with Quebecers heading out on motorcycles and in RV campers to enjoy their long weekend.

Arriving Saturday, we gathered at [Glen Villa Art Gardens](#) outside the picturesque hamlet of North Hatley. Our hostess Patterson (Pat) Roop Webster, a writer, visual artist, and garden designer, met us on her spacious covered patio and described some of the features of the



gardens, which extend over 250 acres and feature mostly her own art, which reflects the history of the land.

Unfortunately, storm clouds were also gathering so we only got to see a small fraction of the gardens' many attractions. Our consolation prize, however, was nearly an hour's exclusive conversation with Pat who explained her approach to developing the site and her many inspirations.

While we enjoyed Pat's hospitality, we also had a spectacular view of the storm moving across Lake Massawippi, which abuts Pat's home and gardens.



Photo: R. Last

The hotel dining room is one of many installations at Glen Villa that reflects the history of the land. Pat has painstakingly constructed the mosaic tile under the "dining table" from crockery she recovered on the site of the old hotel, which used to accommodate visitors to Lake Massawippi. The hotel burned to the ground in the 1930s.

Following the garden visit, some of us explored North Hatley before checking into lodgings in the [student residence of Université de Sherbrooke](#). Although spartan, the residence was immaculately clean and very reasonably priced.

That evening, our group enjoyed an evening out at [OMG](#) – a converted church that is now a happening burger joint and bar. I think we were seated in what used to be the choir balcony because there was a vertiginous climb up several flights of stairs to get there.



Master Gardeners, friends and partners following a delicious dinner at OMG Restaurant in Sherbrooke, QC. Photo by R. Last

The next morning, we enjoyed a potluck breakfast in the spacious residence kitchens. Then it was back into the cars and off home.

Some of us did some sightseeing along the way. For example, my husband and I visited [Abbaye de Saint-Benoît-du-Lac](#) where we were wowed by the gorgeous tile floors and spent way too much money in their gift shop, coming home with a selection of cider and yummy cheeses made by the monks in residence.



Northumberland Master Gardeners

Name: Northumberland Master Gardeners Visit True North Daylilies

Details: We started our July meeting with a visit to True North Daylilies in Warkworth, Ontario on Wednesday, July 19th. The daylilies were in full bloom and the variety of other perennials tempted many of us.

We then moved to Judy Kaufmann's beautiful property in the Northumberland Hills where we toured her garden and enjoyed a potluck supper followed by our meeting.





*From back left: Shelly Fredericks, Suzi Gabany, Paul Battilana, Lori Groves, Victor Frieberg, Stacy Hannah
Second Row from left: Christa Bisanz, Judy Kaufmann, Kat Kinch
Front Row: Claire Blahnik and Riley, our special guest*



Close-up of a daylily with the daylily field in the background



UPCOMING EVENTS

1000 Islands Master Gardeners

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 went 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 Master Gardeners will again hold an Advice Clinic at the CNE.

Leanne Krane, Guelph-Wellington MG, 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 sent out a sign up form to coordinators in early July. 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

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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Live the Garden Life
Vivre la vie de jardin

Enter to win a “Via Rail Garden Getaway”!

The lucky winner and their guest will board Via Rail and set out to visit their favourite Ontario or Quebec garden on Canada’s Garden Route. Enter soon – the contest closes on August 27, 2023 with travel in September or October, 2023.

You could win:

- 2 Via Rail business tickets (in Ontario and Quebec) to the Garden of your choice on Canada’s Garden Route in Ontario or Quebec
- 2 nights accommodation near the garden destination
- Special guided tour of the garden selected
- Plus \$200

[ENTER TO WIN NOW!](#)



CANADIAN GARDEN COUNCIL
CONSEIL CANADIEN DU JARDIN





Gardens and Tourism Coming Together for More Impact

The Canadian Garden Council in collaboration with Destination Greater Victoria has joined forces to organize the International Garden Tourism Conference in Victoria BC, taking place from November 1 to 4, 2023. This innovative event revolves around the theme "Seizing the Moment", recognizing the abundant possibilities for gardens to collaborate with the tourism sector and enhance their appeal as well as their destination, especially post-pandemic, thereby attracting more visitors.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore how garden and tourism experts from various parts of the world are leveraging their garden experiences to develop and promote their destination.

As the hosts of this conference, we are delighted to extend a special \$400 discount on registration fees to our members! Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity and start making plans to join us in Victoria. We look forward to seeing you there!

WHY JOIN?

- **20+ top speakers** from the world's most renowned gardens, tourism industry and media share their experiences and best practices on:
 - **Destination Development:** creating and enhancing visitors' experiences and attractions that increase visitation
 - **Destination Promotion:** working with local/national tourism boards and (online) travel platforms and media to attract visitors and enhance the visitor journey
- **Awards Gala**
- **Unique networking** opportunities and **site-visits**



FOR WHOM?

- **Managers of Gardens, Festivals and Horticultural Expos** (directors, marketing, horticulture, exhibitions) who wish to increase and broaden visitation and create impactful guest experiences.
- **Tourism Boards and Associations** who wish to develop new insights and opportunities to drive visitation to their place and region.
- **Online and offline travel** platforms and operators and (social) media who wish to tap into a growing industry that attracts over a **100 million visitors a year**.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER TODAY!

Hosted by:



Endorsed by:



www.gardentourism.org

Join us this Fall in Victoria, BC!

