

## 2014-2015 Annual Report



### MGAWC PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The Master Gardener Association of Wayne County (MGAWC.org) is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to:

- Distributing current research-based gardening information
- Increasing environmental awareness
- Promoting gardening activities
- Supporting volunteerism

MGAWC seeks to reach increasing numbers of gardeners in Wayne County and southeast Michigan with quality activities at accessible locations and convenient times, offered free or at affordable rates.

**THANKS, UM-D EIC** for hosting our meetings and activities throughout the year, as well as providing educational programs to our group and the public.

### YEAR AT A GLANCE

*MGAWC's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30*

#### October 2014

**Dahlias** by Keith Berven, Ph.D., Southeastern Michigan Dahlia Society

#### November 2014

**Henry Ford Estate Garden Restoration** by Karen Marzonie, Director of Landscapes, Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane

#### December 2014

**Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet**

*Let's Go Gardening* to Mary Koehler

Nancy Lindley Award to Jim Komienksy

#### January 2015

Annual Meeting Inclement Weather, Speaker Rescheduled

#### February 2015

**Attracting Bluebirds in Michigan** by Kurt

Hagemeister, President, Michigan Bluebird Society

#### March 2015

**Native Plants** by Kyle Kandilian

#### April 2015

**Spring Primer—Answering Questions During *Let's Go Gardening*** by Dean Krauskopf, Ph D

#### May 2015

**Tour of EIC Projects, UM-D** by David Susko, PhD

#### June 2015

**Hardneck Garlic** by Les & Donna Abel, Michigan Garlic Farm

**Wholesale Shopping at Christensen's Plant Center**

**Members' Garden Walk at Neuroths' in Canton**

#### September 2015

**Green Roofs** by Kim Roth, Christensen's Plant Center

---

Distributing current gardening information 🌻 Increasing environmental awareness

Promoting gardening activities 🌻 Supporting volunteerism

## 2014-2015 Annual Report



### BOARD MEMBERS

Valerie Maczko  
President, Hospitality

Hans Neuroth  
Vice President, Grants

Lynda Neuroth  
Board Secretary

Tonja Nudi  
Treasurer, *Let's Go Gardening*, E-mail  
Distribution Lists

Jackie Stengel  
Monthly Programs,  
Facebook Page

Hans Neuroth  
Grants

LeRoy Wolff  
*Let's Go Gardening*



**THANKS, MGAWC VOLUNTEERS** for donating valuable time, talent, energy, expertise, contacts and out-of-pocket expenses to various community projects this year.

### GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Grants:

Michigan Bluebird Society \$100

The Gardens at Drew \$205

Environmental Interpretive Center \$100

### 2014/2015 MEMBERSHIP

We finished the year with 118 members, including nineteen people from a MG training class. Twenty-six members joined at the *Growing with Master Gardeners* Conference.

### MGAWC MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Members meet on the second Thursday evening of most months at the Environmental Interpretive Center (EIC) in the northwest corner of the University of Michigan-Dearborn (UM-D) campus.

- 7:00 to 7:30 p.m., Networking
- 7:30 to 8:00 p.m., Activity Announcements
- 8:00 to 9:00 p.m., Educational Program by Guest Speaker

Park in the only parking structure on campus or in lot C with the signs on the lampposts.



The board is going to need input of the membership in the coming year to help them decide the future of MGAWC.



## 2014-2015 Annual Report



### INFO ON VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

For information on the all-volunteer Master Gardener Association of Wayne County, MGAWC volunteer efforts in the community, or becoming a member:

Master Gardener Association of Wayne County  
22930 Nowlin, Dearborn, MI 48124

[www.mgawc.org](http://www.mgawc.org)

### ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Marion Harris  
Scholarships,  
Stewardship Saturdays,  
*Growing with Master  
Gardeners*  
Conference Database

Margot McCormack  
Membership,  
Garden Walk, Trips

Vacant  
Hospitality

Elaine Weider  
Historian

Vacant  
Speakers Bureau

Nancy Kaczynski  
*Grow Info* Newsletter  
*Growing with Master  
Gardeners*

Heidi Neuroth  
Web Site, [mgawc.org](http://mgawc.org)



### GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The endowment fund for long-term support of grants and scholarships has grown. According to bylaws, the principal cannot be touched without membership approval. Interest generated from this fund will be used to subsidize future grants and scholarships.

### COST CONTROL AND INDEPENDENCE

With no paid staff or office, MGAWC has minimal overhead. The all-volunteer non-profit group is financially self-sufficient. MGAWC benefits from sponsorship by the Environmental Interpretive Center

Our income was down as we did not have a *Growing with Master Gardeners* conference this year. We had the added expense of developing a new website. The Board works hard at keeping the expenses low; however, the cost of everything is going up. Somehow Val presents us every meeting with coffee, tea, hot cocoa, water and snacks all for \$5.59. We have many wonderful members who bring magnificent goodies every month. Other special members provide give-away gifts at no cost to our group. Nancy Kaczynski creates our *Grow Info*, keeping us up to date on the latest gardening news. We are so fortunate to always have great speakers. We are truly blessed to have such a generous and talented family of gardeners. I want to thank everyone for all you do to keep our group going and making it so much fun.

## 2014-2015 Annual Report



### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- *GrowInfo* newsletter
- On-line info and resources of interest to area gardeners at [www.mgawc.org](http://www.mgawc.org)
- Seasonal plant sales at wholesale nurseries
- Educational speakers and handouts at meetings
- Opportunities for volunteering and networking
- Network to support community programs that promote gardening activities
- Volunteer recognition that supports and encourages excellence in community programs
- E-mail alerts of upcoming activities
- Trips to gardens, flower shows and places of interest
- Membership directory
- Food, Fun and Fellowship

### MGAWC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Publish a quarterly newsletter to keep volunteers informed about community activities
- Offer college scholarships for students studying environmental or gardening subjects
- Review grant requests and provide grants to groups for projects supporting the MGAWC mission
- Hold an annual holiday party and awards ceremony
- Support and recognize volunteer excellence throughout the year
- Visit gardens and flower shows
- Sell reference books, gardening gloves and tools
- Answer questions at farmers markets and nurseries
- Conduct annual fall conference to educate gardeners
- Distribute information to garden clubs through members
- Tend demonstration gardens throughout the county including historical, children's and enabling gardens
- Contribute to community gardening and landscaping projects
- Provide quality speakers to interested groups