



# Grass Roots Column

A Publication of  
Lakeshore Garden Masters Gardening Club

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

September, October 2019

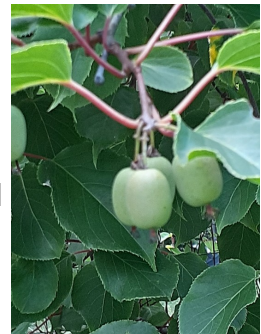


## Where did the summer go?

I think I say that every single summer. When the days are sunny and warm, they seem to go so quickly. I think that in Michigan we have so much cold weather other times of the year, we try to pack in as much as we can in our summer season so that it does go extra fast.

What I am enjoying are the fruits (and vegetables) of my labor from the beginning months of the year. I now am appreciatively overwhelmed with cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, and of course, zucchini. Somehow, they all taste better when they are grown from your own garden.

I have tried a new gardening system of tubs for some of my plantings that self-water for about a week. I am going to talk about these at our next meeting as well as the *Perils and Pleasures* of picking plants from gardening catalogs. Due to the enticing pictures, I now grow Kiwi, Honeyberries, Jostaberries, Dragon Tongue, and Rattlesnake beans. I never would have heard about these plants, if I had not read about them in all the gardening catalogs I get. I am going to talk about what I have learned about these and other plants I grow and how to best pick plants that will be successful from catalog ordering.



That meeting will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at our new location at Hackley Public Library in downtown Muskegon. The potluck will be at 6:00 PM. I will start the presentation at 6:30 PM, and we will have the business meeting after that. We have to be out of the library by 8:00 PM. I will end at about 7:15 PM to make time for any questions.

I hope to see you at Hackley Library. Be sure to invite a friend or two to come to our meeting. We welcome any people who are interested in learning more about gardening and who enjoy the company of fellow gardeners.

Your President and Fellow Garden Lover,

Jean Baker

## LGM Purpose

The purpose of the Lakeshore Garden Masters is to bring together gardeners for fellowship, plant exchange, educational programs, and support for volunteer garden projects.

## LGM Fall Meeting Schedule

### September 23 – Hackley Public Library

Pot Luck and meeting beginning at 6:00 PM  
Jean Baker will talk about her watering system as well as the *Perils and Pleasures* of picking plants from gardening catalogs.



### October 21– Hackley Public Library

Pot Luck, Election of Officers, awards and updates on all aspects of the 2020 project for the Monet Garden begin at 6:00 PM.



## Calendar of Events

September 3 Monet Garden  
September 19 Monet Garden  
September 23 LGM monthly meeting  
October 1 Monet Garden  
October 21 LGM monthly meeting



## 2019 Leadership Council Officers

**President:** Jean Baker  
Baker2j63@frontier

**Vice President:** Kathy Nielsen  
whikmn@yahoo.com

**Recording/Corresponding Secretary:** Sue Fiebelkorn  
Sfeebe5@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:** Sharon Rubelman  
onesister123@gmail.com

## Trustees

Two year term:

**Denise Thompson**  
thegardeningqueen@frontier.com

**Carole Wolfe**  
whisperingpines6857@yahoo.com

One year term:

**Jean Freye**  
Jean.freye@gmail.com

## Committee Chairpersons

**Monet Garden**-Linda Hecksel  
Hecksel@aol.com

**Newsletter Editor**-Marsha Green  
greendooredu1@comcast.net

**Webmaster**-Marsha Green  
greendooredu1@comcast.net

**Membership**--Susan Thorpe  
holbox04@gmail.com

**Plant Sharing**-Kathy Nielson  
whikmn@yahoo.com

## Plant Sharing Rules

1. Bring a plant; take a plant
2. Bring healthy plants with no disease or insects attached!
3. Label everything
4. Put seeds/bulbs in a zip-lock or envelope
5. Bring plants in a sturdy container; plus a container to take home plants
6. New LGM members are especially encouraged to participate.



## 2019 Schedule For Monet Garden

Hello fellow gardeners,

I hope everyone has had a successful gardening season. No season is ever perfect, but I know I've had a good year! The Monet Garden has had a good year also! Thanks to a handful of workers who have shown up regularly to work and work hard. The garden is looking great this year! Hopefully we can continue with the improvements this fall and into next summer. If we can follow through with our plan, the garden will truly be a gem!

There are two dates yet this fall to work in the garden: Sept 19, Thursday, from 10:00-1:00 PM and Oct 1, Tuesday, from 5:00-8:00 PM. We can add more dates if needed and if the weather holds out.

Thanks for the work and support of the garden

Linda, Monet Garden Chairperson  
231-557-6317

### Fundraising Update for the Monet

Purchase:

- in-ground perennials and shrubs
- pond plants as needed
- paint for bridge

Under consideration:

- Sign upgrade

The formal re-dedication event will be in June of 2020.

Susan Thorpe, chair of fundraising for the garden, expects to wrap up the fundraising by the end of summer. She states that she has found this to be a very rewarding project both personally and for the Monet Garden.



Collection of lost but found tools from the Monet. They will be available at the next Monet work session on September 19, at 10:00 AM.

### Daylilies-Smart For Difficult Growing Spots

Searching for an extremely hardy, salt-tolerant and durable perennial that can withstand many different site conditions? Then the daylily is for you. It is often seen next to busy curbsides and roadside mailboxes, and it returns year after year. From curbsides battered by heavy snow loads, salt spray and sometimes compacted conditions, the daylily is resilient; a smart choice for difficult sites



### MSU Extension Hotline Available

As the growing season continues, many gardeners often have questions related to their yards and gardens. Do not delay in getting your question answered. Any gardener may call the Michigan State University Extension lawn and garden hotline staffed by Consumer Horticulture staff and specially trained Extension Master Gardeners from across the state. **Open now Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 12 noon and 1-4 p.m. EST, call 888-678-3464.** From plant identification to what is happening in your lawn to possible insect or disease problems, lawn and garden hotline responder teams from across the state are ready



## LAKESHORE GARDEN MASTERS 2019 Calendar of Events

Dues \$15.00/year or \$5.00/event as guest

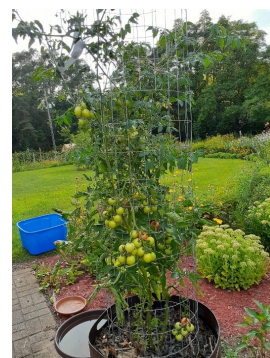
[Lakeshoregardenmasters.org](http://Lakeshoregardenmasters.org)

Contact: Susan Thorpe 248-310-2312 for info

We welcome new members and look forward to seeing you at one of our future meetings! We have monthly speakers on a variety of gardening topics. We are also the caretakers of the Monet Garden and invite you to be a garden helper. See our website for more information or contact Susan.

### **September 23rd - at Hackley Public Library in Downtown Muskegon\*.**

Jean Baker, president of Lakeshore Garden Masters will speak on her unusual watering plan and also what enticing catalog pictures have done to her garden. The Potluck starts at 6:00 PM for everyone. Please bring a dish to pass, your beverage, and table setting. Meeting will adjourn promptly just before 8:00 PM\*.



### **October 21 Meeting and Elections! – at Hackley Public Library in**

*Downtown Muskegon\**. Meeting begins at 6 PM with Election of Officers and Awards for LGM. We will be showing a video of the beginning of the Monet Garden and give updates about all the renovations. Potluck starts at 6:00 pm for everyone. Please bring a dish to pass, your beverage, and table setting. This is our last meeting of the 2019 year!



### **\*Hackley Public Library-New LGM Meeting Venue**

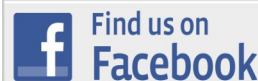
Hackley Public Library, located at 316 West Webster Avenue in downtown Muskegon, is the new meeting home of Lakeshore Garden Masters. Parking should not be an issue since there is a parking lot behind the library to the north and also limited parking along the street. The room being used is in the lower level and access is available from the entrance at the back of the building with no stairs to climb.



**HACKLEY**  
Public Library

Potluck time remains the same (6:00 - 6:30 PM), this will be followed by the speaker who will conclude their presentation by 7:30 PM. The LGM business meeting will be after the speaker is finished at 7:30 PM. The group must exit Hackley Library by 8:00 PM because that is the library's closing time.

Don't forget to check FACEBOOK for both the Lakeshore Garden Masters page and also the Monet Garden page. Feel free to post on these pages and share with interested friends.



## July Meeting Minutes From The Sodini Blueberry Farm



The evening of July 22, was a beautiful one with the sun bright in the sky and the blueberry fields loaded with berries. About eleven of us enjoyed a light supper and met the owners and learned more about blueberry farming and more varieties than ever thought possible. It is always interesting to learn new things and hear what hard work it is to be a farmer. We later were turned loose in the field to pick a pint for ourselves and no one went away without a full bucket.

## August Meeting Minutes from Mellema's Nursery

Almost twenty LGM members braved the weather and participated in a tour and talk from *Mellema's Nursery* near Fremont. A wagon tour started the day visiting the trees and shrubs growing on the property. The Hydrangeas were stunning at this time of year.



Mellema's then provided a delicious lunch for all and Mr. Mellema answered questions and provided the group with the interesting history of the nursery and his family. Later the group toured the potting area of the nursery. Many perennials and shrubs were purchased by club members.



## What is Oak Wilt?

Oak wilt is a fungal disease that affects oak trees. As the name implies, oak wilt causes leaves of affected trees to wilt and turn brown. It is fatal for red oaks, including northern red oak, pin oak, scarlet oak and black oak. White oaks are affected but may survive. The incidence of oak wilt has greatly increased in Michigan in recent years.

### How is oak wilt spread?

Oak wilt is spread from infected to healthy trees in two ways: Through root systems from adjacent infected trees. By certain kinds of beetles, which carry spores between infected trees, logs or even firewood, and fresh wounds (such as pruning cuts) on unaffected trees. The activities of people, such as pruning during vulnerable times, or moving infected firewood, can cause new infections.

### How do I know what kind of oak tree I have?

Oak trees in Michigan can be divided into two main groups: red oaks and white oaks. Generally, red oaks have pointed leaf lobes and white oaks have rounded leaf lobes. The red oak group is more susceptible to oak wilt.

### Management - "What do I do with my tree that has oak wilt?"

Oak wilt is a serious threat to oaks in Michigan's landscape: forests, woodlots, parks, suburban neighborhoods, urban properties; basically anywhere oaks grow. A variety of management strategies can be employed to minimize the development of new infection centers and to combat existing infections. However, the most effective way to protect oak trees is *prevention* - by avoiding injury to trees when beetles are active, and by separating roots between infected and uninfected trees.



### Tree Owners

Property owners can protect their oak trees by understanding oak wilt basics, and by making sure that they and anyone performing work on their trees follow procedures to prevent the spread of oak wilt, including:

1. Do not prune oak trees during the greatest or lower risk periods.
2. Immediately paint any pruning cuts made during greatest risk or lower risk periods with sealing paint (shellac or latex paint).
3. Never allow tree workers to use climbing spurs on trees unless doing tree removal or absolutely needed for hazard abatement.
4. Monitor your trees for oak wilt symptoms, particularly notable is leaf drop during the summer months.

OAK WILT RISK METER
<b>GREATEST RISK</b> APRIL 15 – JULY 15
<b>LOWER RISK</b> MARCH 15 – APRIL 14, JULY 16 – OCTOBER 31
<b>SAFEST PERIOD</b> NOVEMBER 1 – MARCH 14

5. If you suspect oak wilt activity contact an ISA certified arborist and report to the MDNR hotline by emailing [DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov).



# Dues and LGM Membership Information

## Lakeshore Garden Master Dues

Dues for the Lakeshore Garden Masters organization are due yearly from January 1-December 31. They may be prepaid at the October meeting or paid at the March meeting. Cost of the dues is \$15.00. Late dues should be mailed to:

Sharon Rubelman  
1599 N. Peterson Rd  
North Muskegon, MI 49445

## Lakeshore Garden Master Membership

Lakeshore Garden Masters' organization is open to anyone who enjoys gardening. Meetings are once a month and open to members and guests. The get-togethers usually include a potluck, a short business meeting, and a speaker with timely information that pertains to gardens and gardening. Lakeshore Garden Master members also maintain the Monet Garden in downtown Muskegon.

## Lakeshore Garden Masters Membership Information

Renewing member \_\_\_\_ New member \_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Dues \$15.00 for the year 2019

Paid by check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date paid \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to Lakeshore Master Gardeners)

Mail to: Sharon Rubelman  
1599 N. Peterson Road  
North Muskegon, MI 49445-9616

# MONET GARDEN, MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN PAVER PROJECT

**Yes, I want to be an enduring part of this historic endeavor. Here is my pledge.**

Just print this page and mail it with your pledge to the address below. if you are unable to visit the garden, you will soon be able to view the installed and inscribed pavers on this web site.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of standard 4" X 8" paver(s) @ \$ 50.00 each

## **Inscription for paver**

( 3 lines of 12 spaces ea. paver )

Paver one


Paver two


**Please make checks payable to LAKESHORE GARDEN MASTERS.**

**Linda Hecksel, Chairperson Monet Garden  
2181 Green Creek Road  
Muskegon, MI 49445**