

Grass Roots Column

A Publication of
Lakeshore Garden Masters Gardening Club



March-April, 2020

www.lakeshoregardenmasters.org



Hello Gardeners!

Spring is just around the corner? A sure sign of this is the arrival of my Seed Savers Exchange 2020 catalog! I joined this organization while living in Dubuque, Iowa, while working with the Dubuque Community Garden Coalition.

My first introduction to gardening was at my grandparent's home in North Muskegon. My grandmother was very proud of her flower garden particularly, her bright red peonies. My grandfather grew the vegetables and saved seeds. Every time I would visit with my children, we would go to the garden first and look for grandpa. He was always doing something interesting out there! On one particular visit, I ate three radishes from the garden only to find out later that my grandfather had planted them for seed as they were heirloom! Oh my! Gardener's Rule of Thumb...Always ask before you pull up a carrot and eat it! You just never know...

Anyway, my grandparents taught me about our connection to food, how a garden creates community, and you always plant a little extra for the neighbors or a family in need. When we gathered at my grandmother's table, Everyone was family and no one left hungry. Much like the garden, there was an assortment of colorful varieties at any given meal.

What an honor it is to be your president this year! I am looking forward to lively discussions, field trips, speakers, and the rededication of the Monet Garden! Thank you so very much to the Leadership Team for the guidance and assistance with planning this year's calendar. We have such a wonderfully diverse group of gardeners with many talents! I am looking forward to getting to know all of you!



One of my goals this year is to grow our membership! Please invite interested people to the garden or to one of our meetings. I met several of you while pulling up weeds!

Our first meeting of the year will be on March 23, 2020, at the Hackley Public Library. I can't wait to get started!

Debra Berry,
President, Lakeshore Garden Masters

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.

March Meeting

March 23 - General business meeting to update everyone on what's new for LGM in 2020 at Muskegon's Hackley Library.

April Meeting

April 27 – Meeting at Hackley Public Library with speaker Carol DeVries on the topic of “Discovering Day-lilies”



See Page 4 for additional information.

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
6. New LGM members are especially encouraged to participate.



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.



2020 Leadership Council Officers

President: Debra Berry
gallery51east@gmail.com

Vice President: Open

Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Sharon Schafer
sharonschafer2@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sharon Rubelman
onesister123@gmail.com

Trustees

Two year terms:

Cathie Krol
fkrol23@gmail.com

Chantal Yousif
Chantal.yousif@gmail.com

One year term:

Carole Wolfe
whisperingpines6857@yahoo.com

LGM Committee Chairpersons

Monet Garden-Linda Hecksel
Hecksel@aol.com

Membership--Susan Thorpe
holbox04@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor-Marsha Green
greendoored1@comcast.net

Webmaster-Marsha Green
greendoored1@comcast.net

Plant Sharing-Open Position
Volunteer needed



Hello to all our amazing gardeners!

As I write this, the snow is covering the ground and actual gardening is far off. But, we all know we can plan and garden in our head no matter what the weather.

This summer will be a big time for the Monet Garden, a very busy time! We will need all the help we can get! We have done some major renovations already: new walkways, new pond, new signage. Now it is time for the plants.

We will be moving plants and adding new ones. We hope to tame the garden, get it under control! We will have lots to do before the July 23 rededication date. I am including a schedule for work sessions at the garden. We will be adding extra dates as we get closer to the dedication date. We want to have the garden looking its best.

Thanks for helping keep our garden looking good!

See you in the garden,
Linda 231-557-6317



2020 Work Schedule/Monet Garden

April	7	5PM-8PM
April	23	10AM-1PM
May	5	5PM-8PM
May	18	10AM-1PM Plant annuals; short meeting see Page 4
June	2	5PM-8PM
	18	10AM-1PM
July	7	5PM-8PM
	16	10AM-1PM
Aug	4	5PM-8PM
	20	10AM-1PM
Sept.	1	5PM-8PM
	17	10AM-1PM
Oct.	6	5PM-8PM
	22	10AM-1PM



LAKESHORE GARDEN MASTERS 2020 Calendar of Events

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



Lakeshoregardenmasters.org

Contact: Susan Thorpe 248-310-2312

***Saturday, March 7** – MSUE Smart Gardening Conference at DeVos Place, Grand Rapids 9 – 4 pm
Registration and payment deadline are February 28. Register at www.events.anr.msu.edu

***Saturday, March 14** – *March Garden Day* event at the Grand Haven Community Center. 8 am to 3 pm. Registration is required and seating is limited. Online registration: <http://www.wmnl.com>. Educational presentations from regional experts on native plants, dwarf conifers, bulbs, water quality and lessons from great gardeners. Delicious lunch is included in \$50 registration fee.

Monday, March 23 – General business meeting to update everyone on what's new for 2020 and potluck (bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage.) at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library Lower Level meeting room. Guests are \$5, members free.

Monday, April 27 – Meeting at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library with speaker Carol DeVries on "Discovering Daylilies" with info on selecting, raising and propagating any sun loving plant. Potluck starts at 6 pm. Bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage. Or come for the presentation at 6:30 pm. Guests are \$5, members free.

Monday, May 18 – 4-7pm (come when you can!) Monet Garden Work Bee to plant the annuals in the garden and pruning where needed. This is a potluck meeting so bring an easy dish or item to pass that does not require heating or refrigeration, your table setting and a beverage. Also bring gardening tools for planting/pruning.

June 22 Meeting at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library with Cathie Krol presenting a class on Succulent Wreaths and you will take your creation home! Potluck begins at 6 PM, bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage or come for the presentation at 6:30 PM. Guests are \$5, members free.

Thursday, July 23 – 11-2 pm Monet Garden Re-Dedication event to celebrate the gardens' 20th Anniversary and to thank all of our wonderful donors, supporters, contractors and much more! Light refreshments, music and Muskegon dignitaries will be present.

***July 27 – August 7** is the *Michigan Plant Tour* which includes Walters Gardens. (Walters Gardens, Inc. 1992 96th Ave. Zeeland, MI 49464). This is an optional event for any interested gardeners to gather and plan a wonderful day tour! Go to www.canr.msu.edu/planttour/ to register. The site has not yet updated their 2020 info as of this writing, so keep an eye on this site for current information.

Monday, August 24 Meeting at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library for a presentation "Art-Paint Like Flowers" or "Making Tea from Herbs" with Jan Meeuwsen, Master Gardener and WHTC Radio host on the Garden Show. Potluck begins at 6 PM so bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage. Or come for the presentation at 6:30 PM. Guests are \$5, members free.

Monday, September 28 -Meeting at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library for a presentation by Jean Baker on "What's New in Gardening? Tools, Tips and Techniques" 6 PM Potluck so bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage or come at 6:30 PM for the presentation.

***September** (date TBD) trip to *Leila Arboretum* in Battle Creek. This is about 1.5 hours from Muskegon and we suggest carpooling. Bring a lunch or purchase at the Arboretum. Leila Arboretum features 2,500 marked trees and plants, dozens of gardens and walkways, dramatic pieces of public art, horticultural training center, Fragrant Hill Pavilion on the overlook, Fantasy Forest and Peace Labyrinth. Go to www.lasgarden.org for details of this beautiful site.

Monday, October 26 – Our final meeting of the year features Election of Officers, highlights from Monet Garden, awards, new members. Potluck at 6 PM so bring a dish to pass, your table setting and beverage. This is an important meeting so don't miss it!!

Asterisk (*) *Italics* items are optional fun things to do for any number of members to arrange and attend.

Lakeshore Garden Masters-General Membership Minutes

September 23, 2019



The LGM September meeting began at 6:30pm at Hackley Public Library. There were seventeen attendees, including two guests.

Jean Baker gave a presentation titled "The Perils and Pleasures of Gardening by Catalog." She said to always do research before purchasing and also check internet sites and gardening forums. Always read the company's plant replacement policies. Jean also showed us a new container system which makes vegetables easy to grow and helps to keep them from drying out. Did you know the Walker Library in North Muskegon has a seed library?

Five seed packets can be "checked out" at a time.

The LGM business meeting followed the presentation. It is time to think about topics for the 2020 calendar. Contact the president or vice president with ideas for presentations or speakers.

Graphics House will be replacing the Monet Garden sign. Florence Bright-Stahl is generously donating \$500 towards the new sign. Funds in the Community Foundation will cover the rest. There was an affirmative vote to make the sign two-sided. Also discussed was adding Monet Garden donation information to the sign.

Susan gave a *20 for 20 Campaign* update. This successful campaign is now closed. \$22,834.24 was raised by donations to the Muskegon County Community Foundation and Go Fund Me page.

Expenses include \$11,309.50 for pathways by Seller Contractors, \$4500 for pond renovation by Lakeshore Aquascape, \$417.89 for electrical upgrades to pond lighting, and \$400 for Monet Garden brochures. The remaining balance from this campaign is \$6206.85. The Community Foundation Fund has roughly \$7000 for our use. Future needs include Monet Garden signage, boulder engraving, 20th anniversary event, and Landscape Architect services and plant replacement.

October 21, 2019

Fifteen members attended the meeting. There was one guest, Lori Zahdeh, who decided to join LGM.

The meeting began at 6:30 pm with a presentation about the Monet Garden. Susan Thorpe showed a video taken at the Monet Garden Dedication Ceremony on June 18, 2002. Florence Bright-Stahl spoke about Muskegon's French history. She presented a new idea for the garden. When cruise ships arrive in port, we could have people in period costumes in the garden. They would share information about the garden and Muskegon's French connection. Florence also presented this idea to Muskegon's Victorian Ladies' Society.

The LGM business meeting began at 7:00 pm. Sharon Rubelman gave the Treasurer's Report. There are 33 paid members for 2019. The LGM account balance is \$4036.78, including \$985.50 of Monet Garden money.

Linda Hecksel said that thanks to Dave Mellema's service group the Monet Garden is put to bed for the winter. She is looking for a landscape designer for the garden.

The attendees accepted the following slate of nominees for the 2020 Leadership Council:

President: Debra Berry

Vice President: Vacant Position - volunteer needed

Trustees: Kathy Krol, Carol Wolfe, Chantal Yousif

Secretary: Sharon Schafer

Treasurer: Sharon Rubelman

New Member Contact: Susan Thorpe

Graphics House is making our new two-sided Monet Garden sign. The Community Foundation information will be on a smaller sign. There will also be a clear acrylic box for our brochures. It will cost about \$1000 for all of the above and includes installation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Fiebelkorn, LGM Secretary



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.

Membership Information

Please Print Clearly

New Member _____ Renewing Member _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Tele. # _____ Cell Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Dues \$15.00 for Year _____ Paid in Cash Paid By Check # _____

Date Paid _____ Dues Received By _____

Can also mailed to:

Sharon Rubelman
1599 Peterson Rd.
North Muskegon, MI 49445



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**





Smart Gardening for Butterflies

Friday, April 3, 2020

9 am to 3 pm

Kent/MSU Extension

775 Ball Ave. NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49503



Cost: \$40.00 per participant

We are thrilled to have Dr. Duke Elsner, “the Bug Guy”, educate us on a topic he is very passionate about. Michigan is home to over 160 species of butterflies. Some are commonplace while others are so few in number, restricted to specialized habitats that a person could look for them for a lifetime without ever seeing one. In this fact-filled class you will learn about many species of butterflies and their life histories, foods, preferred habitats and distribution in the state. There will be information on collecting and photographing butterflies, as well as suggested resources and references. Participants will have an hour for lunch to visit a nearby eatery or enjoy their own delicious meals from home.

Re-certified MSU Extension Master Gardener attendees will earn 5 continuing education hours to be reported by selecting in the VMS the project: *Environmental Stewardship: IPM - Pollinators*

Registration Deadline: *March 21, 2020* or when the class is full.

Register online: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2020SGButterflies/>