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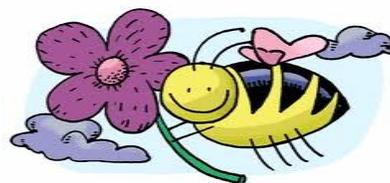
DOWN TO EARTH



2015

VOLUME 13

6



FEATURE ARTICLE

THESE HARDY, SHADE -TOLERANT PERENNIALS ARE A VERSATILE ADDITION TO ANY GARDEN

No wonder hostas continue to be one of the most popular perennials—they work well as border plants, specimens, groundcovers and container plants, and they're hardy to Zone 2. In fact, despite myriad new introductions of these tough, shade-tolerant perennials, it's still not uncommon to see eager growers at auction bid hundreds of dollars per plant for promising new specimens.

But forget the plain-Jane, thin-leafed, green types of old. Lately, some interesting breeding developments have led to plants with vibrant springtime colours that stay true all season, and specimens with blue, green, yellow and white foliage combinations. As well, there are now varieties with flat, curled, cupped, wavy, puckered, embossed, ruffled, wrinkled and pleated leaves—some furrowed with sunken veins or edged with distinct, crimped undulations (think pie crust) along the margins. Other new cultivars tolerate more sun or have thick leaves tough enough to fend off slugs and snails. Some plants have white or purple, funnel or bell-shaped blooms with exceptional fragrance (thanks to a *Hosta plantaginea* parent).

More than half of all new hostas come from sports or mutations of existing cultivars because hostas are genetically unstable and predisposed to sending out leaves that are different from the rest of the plant. The use of tissue culture (micropropagation) to produce huge quantities of hostas from tiny bits of dormant bud tissue has increased both the speed with which hosta cultivars get to the garden centre and the availability of these new introductions. In fact, the time from discovery to garden centre can now be as short as three

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

years, compared with an average length of six years to bring a new hosta to market.

Currently, there are some 6,000 hosta cultivars available. But with so many new ones constantly coming on the market, how do you choose those truly worth growing? I asked two prominent Ontario hosta growers—Jack Kent, owner of The Potting Shed, a retail nursery specializing in hostas and daylilies in Cayuga, and Margot Dargatz of Hosta Choice Gardens in Appin—for their picks, then weighed in with my own.

Hostas 101

Cultivation: prefer rich, moist, well-drained soil, but very tolerant of various soil types, humidity and hot and cold temperature extremes

Location: full sun to part shade

Flowers: tubular or bell-shaped; white or shades of lavender; some fragrant. Cultivars bloom for several weeks from June to early fall

Fertilize: with general purpose 10-10-10 granular fertilizer; top-dress with compost in fall; supplement with liquid feed if needed

Bare root plants: should be soaked in tepid water for 30 minutes before planting. Spread roots over a mound of soil at bottom of planting hole; backfill with compost or rich garden soil; firm gently. Water well

Container plants: dig planting hole twice as wide as pot and 30 centimetres deep; loosen soil around hole to a size equal to mature plant width. If pot bound, gently spread out roots and plant hosta at same depth as it was in the container; gently firm soil. Water well

Foliage: deciduous; some cultivars are late to emerge in spring. Fall colour varies from pale to bright gold, bronze and orange

Divide: hostas in spring, except for *H. sieboldiana* and *H. 'Tokudama'* cultivars and other less-vigorous hostas, which should be divided in early to midsummer. Keep divisions to a generous size for best growth (when dividing in summer, cut larger leaves in half to reduce moisture loss)

Size 'em up

miniature types = less than 30 cm tall and wide

small types = 30 to 60 cm tall and wide

medium types = 60 to 100 cm tall and wide

large types = more than 100 cm tall and wide

20 hot hosta cultivars

Golds and yellows

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

HOME GROWN 816

I have an area where they had to tear out my drain field and replace it and all the grass is gone. I want to put seeds in that area but when and how do I do this? How about using that new Zoysia grass I have read about?

The most important thing is first. Do not use Zoysia grass; it is a warm season grass. It does not do well in Michigan because if it gets zapped by even a light frost, it turns brown. That means for most of the time other lawns are going fine, you have a tan bathmat in your yard. It grows well with hot, dry summers and in cold weather, it rolls up the sidewalks and goes home. It is not bought as seed but as plugs. But you want to look for some kind of sunny mix of seeds that contains bluegrass, perennial rye and fine fescue. If this is a drain field area, it should be full sun or tree roots will soon be ruining an expensive repair. Never buy a mix that includes annual rye grass because it will only be around for a year and then you have bare spots. Your area to seed needs to be raked to flatten it. If you want to add any topsoil or compost to the area, add it and rake to mix in to your existing soil. If you do not, water will not move correctly through the two-layer mess. Purchase your grass seed and keep the tag that tells the percentages of the included grasses. If you need more or have to repair a portion, look for a mix that has very similar proportions of the same grasses. Rake the area lightly to establish little grooves. When the seed is distributed and watered, a small amount of soil will gently shift over the seeds. Use straw as a light mulch over the seeds. It will keep the seed from drying rapidly and prevent this looking like a bird buffet. Think of the mulch like a lattice. It is fifty percent shade and fifty percent light. It ends up being cross-hatching that allows some light through. Water the seed and straw to help it stay in place. The trick is going to be keeping the soil damp until all the seeds germinate. Rye grass will take about a week to germinate if the soil is warm enough. Fine fescue will take about two weeks but bluegrasses take three to four weeks to grow. The ideal times to seed are from mid-April to mid-May and from mid-August to mid-September. Notice the word was “ideal” and not “only.” But the farther you get from those dates, the more difficult it becomes because of temperatures and natural rainfall opportunities.

I use hardwood mulch in my flower bed but it is doing something that appears to be very wrong. It clumps together in big pieces and when I break it apart, there are tiny white threads on the inside and it is damp. I am worried about my plants and I think this is also bad for beneficial insects. How do I fix this?

There's not much to fix. What you are describing are natural products of decomposition. This is what mulch is supposed to do. It is dead wood and then fungi, with moisture and warmth, begin the decay process. The white threads are the mycelium of the fungi. It is beginning to decay. Eventually, the wood that is closest to the soil surface rots. And that's the time you would add more mulch. As you observed, the mulch turns into big plates that are cemented together. This can cause rain to be repelled from your “cedar shake roof.” In the spring, use a bow rake or cultivating rake and pull the mulch out to the edge of the garden. You can use this opportunity to add two inches of compost or composted manure or a sprinkling of fertilizer. Then rake the mulch back into place. The trip out and back in will break up clumps of mulch. When you are done, you can top dress with enough new mulch to give you a total of two or three inches in the bed. The new mulch will make it look clean and cute. You don't need to worry about beneficial insects. Most of them will be flying to the garden. The few that walk in are used to walking on these kinds of material so it feels like home. But if beneficial insects are important, find out what kinds of living plants attract them. It might be something like dill or parsley. Add those plants so they have a reason to drop by. Think of the old baseball cliché of build it and they will come.



COOKS CORNER

Chicken Marsala

By Chef Winkler

INGREDIENTS

- 8 ounces fresh button or cremini mushrooms, stems removed and sliced
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- ½ cup plus 1 splash sweet Marsala wine, divided
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- ½ cup heavy cream
- ½ cup chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter

PREPERATION

In a small pan, sauté mushrooms in 1 tablespoon of the olive oil until lightly caramelized. Remove mushrooms from heat and set aside in a small bowl.

Carefully slice each chicken breast lengthwise, making four thinner pieces of chicken total. Lightly salt and pepper the chicken breasts.

Heat remaining olive oil in a 10- to 12-inch skillet and brown chicken breasts on each side until almost done (They will continue to cook in the sauce in Step 6.). Remove from skillet and keep warm.

Deglaze the pan with the 1/2 cup Marsala wine. Add the garlic. Continue to cook until wine is reduced to be thick and syrupy (au sec).

Add cream and reduce slightly.

Nestle chicken breasts into the skillet, add the mushrooms and broth and spoon sauce over top. Simmer, uncovered, until chicken is cooked through, about 5 minutes.

Transfer the chicken to a serving platter and keep warm.

Swirl butter into the sauce remaining in the skillet, season to taste with salt and pepper, and allow to reduce slightly. Add a splash of Marsala wine to the sauce and pour over the chicken. Serve immediately.



DIANTHUS

The quintessential cottage flower, pinks are treasured for their grasslike blue-green foliage and abundant starry flowers, which are often spicily fragrant. Depending on the type of pink, flowers appear in spring or summer and tend to be pink, red, white, rose, or lavender, but come in nearly all shades except true blue. Plants range from tiny creeping groundcovers to 30-inch-tall cut flowers, which are a favorite with florists.

MASTER GARDNER ASSOCIATION

REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 21, 2015

The Master Gardener Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Vicki Laurin.

Announcements: Jim Harrow made several announcements.

The Plant and Pest Hot Line needs volunteers – especially Monday and Wednesday. President Laurin has the Hot Line calendar available for those who want to sign up.

MSUE is having Open Houses throughout the State. Our time is scheduled for June 15th, 3-6 pm. It would be helpful to have Board members and Plant and Pest Hot Line people present for the Open House. The event will be held in the main conference room.

Review of Minutes: The April 16, 2015 minutes were presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Judy Newman, seconded by Helen Mitts. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The April beginning balance was \$32,074.46, with income of \$3,326.50 and expenses of \$3,171.57. April's ending balance was \$32,329.39 plus \$10.00 from the Square Up account for a total of \$32,339.39. Income was generated by the banquet, stone and compost sales. A breakdown of expenses included DTE, banquet costs, donations to Outreach and the Bee Symposium. Nettie Sparks made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and it was seconded by Millie Daron. The motion was accepted by the members.

Special Projects – Kay McCullough:

Carol Groat is in desperate need of the fabric that she uses in the grow labs. She has lost her source for this material. It is brought in bolts. Carol passed out samples so members can be on the lookout for it. This fabric works very well in her project and it is hoped that it can be found.

Joanie Snyder has reserved the date of July 19th for our annual picnic. Gloria Roudebush made a motion to accept this date and it was seconded by Alicia Ellis. The motion passed. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass and their own table service. June 2nd is planting day for Crossroads.

Alicia Ellis has purchased several succulents for the Desert Oasis Garden and needs help planting them. Tuesday is the work day from 9 to 12.

Standing Committees – Katie Van Patten:

Sabrina spoke about the bus trip. To date 21 people have signed up. She brought signup sheets to hand out. The trip is scheduled for June 25th. The cutoff date to sign up is June 1st.

Gloria Roudebush needs help at the Davison Farmer's Market June 13th. Diane Collison volunteered.

Alan Grove spoke about open positions for Ask-A-Master Garden. There are 4 spots available this weekend and 5 openings next weekend.

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EDITORIAL

HE Surely the weather hasn't been cooperating lately but I have made great inroads with the boarder in front of the house. Last years project was an Ohio Blue stone retaining wall which didn't quite get finished until this spring. Some perennials were planted but a couple didn't make it through the winter. Flowers have been relocated in the hope of better shelter from the north wind plus additional perennials have added more color. Mulch has been added creating a vibrant splash contrasting to the greenery. I missed the opportunity to divide the hostas to fill in another area but that is on the top of next years list. The decision was made not to plant any annuals this year which are planted in front of the weeping cherry which needs to come down as it has seen better days also there was some budget constraints. As the summer progresses a little bit here and a little bit there will enhance what had become a rather aging non descript focal point with no curb appeal.

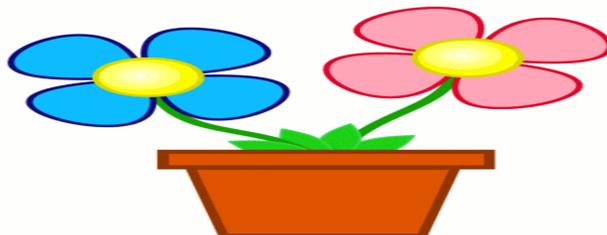
I live on a dirt road and until it is graded and chlorinated it is a dust bowl. This year a tree was planted on the front yard to ward off the dust. It will not grow fast enough for me but in time it will be a treasure.

Early in May volunteers did a clean up at the old Farmers Market and to that end there was some bulbs up for grabs. A good deed was done and those that were interested made out with some plants to add to the garden.

SHE As a gardener there are many things that make us happy and excited. It is surprising that sometimes the things that you most dread or think you could never do are the most rewarding experiences. Last week I put myself in a position that I really was uncomfortable with and was totally was totally out of my comfort zone. I agreed to do a presentation representing Master Gardeners at the Davison Farmers Market. I was fine until an hour before I had to leave and I got the jitters and then the heebee geebees came alone. My husband gave me an encouraging pep talk and we were on our way to Davison. I wasn't sure I was going to be able to pull this off, but as the presentation started and people started asking questions I realized that I was answering their questions and giving them tips and advice and I wasn't nervous anymore. I DID IT! I did what a master gardener is suppose to do. TEACH. What a feeling of accomplishment.

WoJo's Fundraiser

WoJo's Garden Splendor has generously offered our association a 10% of purchases made by persons who mention Genesee County Master Gardeners at checkout. The fundraiser days are Thursday, June 18th and Saturday, June 20th. Please remember to shop at WoJo's these days and tell the cashier that you are a Genesee County Master Gardener.



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Loretta spoke to the attendance of 75 at the banquet and the fact that over \$1200 was generated for our organization. Cheryl English, our speaker, was both educational and entertaining.

Old and New Business:

Peter Mikilens of the Flint Township Parks and Rec Committee made a presentation to the membership. They are seeking assistance and advice from master gardeners to help with the development of the Township's park. The park was established approximately 8 years ago on about 50 acres. There is a paved path linked to Genesee Valley. This will eventually be linked to a path in Chevy In-The Hole. They have an active, involved committee but need master gardener expertise. The contact person is Supervisor Karen Miller. The next meeting is at the Flint Township Civic Building May 28th. The membership was invited to look around the park and come to the meeting to make suggestions. The park has received Monarch waystation designation. Funding is available and grants have been applied for to help with the purchase of mulch, perennials and annuals.

Randy Tatro presented a new fundraiser that was suggested by Chris Green, our bulb sale source. There are two types of Japanese maple trees available for sale. They are 3 feet tall and in 1 gallon pots. He brought a sample of each to the meeting. They are available for \$10 with half of that going to our association. He needs prepaid orders by June 2nd. Ruth has put the announcement on List Serve. Tonight was the last night for bulb sales.

Kay had tickets available for MG members for \$5. She needs volunteers to help put out directional signs for the Garden Tour. Maggie has some openings for help at the various gardens on the tour.

Merrie Benoit brought in a box of gloves in to be taken by the members as well as grape hyacinths bulbs. Please take as many as you like.

Katie explained that the June meeting will be held at Wojo's on Court Street. The speaker would be early at 5:30. Our business meeting will follow. Everyone is requested to bring a chair, and any extras, as well as our own drinks. For anyone who mentions master gardeners on June 18th and 20th when making their purchases, Wojo's will donate 10% of the purchase price to our organization. Our speaker for the evening will be Bob Filter, who will speak about roses.

President Laurin went through the flyers that were available on the table and encouraged everyone to review them. The Hot Line calendar is also available.

Gloria Roudebush announced that the Michigan Hosta Society has their annual garden walk scheduled for June 13th. It is free and Glen Pace, a recent speaker, has his garden on the tour.

Vicki visited the Grand Blanc Garden Market and was impressed with the setup. It runs through the month of October.

Millie Daron motioned that meeting be closed and it was seconded by Mary Gartland. The meeting closed at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Loretta Ellwood Secretary

MMGAGCM 2015 Educational Bus Trip

Fredrick Meijer Gardens and Wooden Shoe Herb Farm - Thursday, June 25, 2015 Leaving at 7:30AM (Sharp) from U of M Flint parking lot and arriving home around 5:30 PM

Meijer Gardens - Tranquility Zone: A Japanese Garden Environment for Families. Use your imagination as you explore this Japanese Garden environment! Walk quietly on the stepping stone path and over the bridge. Rearrange the boulders and rake the "sand" in the Zen-Style garden. Turn over rocks and lily pads to find fun facts and challenges. Discover hidden information throughout the exhibition. After a Docent guided tour of the gardens we will enjoy a boxed lunch of your choice. After Lunch enjoy some free time on your own before leaving for our next destination. The Wooden Shoe Herb Farm is a working farm. The farm consists of the shop, greenhouse, drying barn with classroom, surrounded by acres of organically grown herbs and perennials. The farm is owned by Brenda and Ron Ginther.

ITINERARY Leaving at 7:30 am sharp from U of M Flint parking lot and arriving home approximately 5:30 pm (Please arrive by 7:00AM for check in) 7:00 AM BOARDING BUS BEGIN 7:30 AM BUS DEPARTING U OF M FLINT PARKING LOT. 9:30 AM ARRIVE AT FREDRIK MEIJERS GARDENS 11:30 AM BOX LUNCH IN CAFE 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM FREE TIME TO ENJOY THE GARDENS AND SHOPPING 2:00 PM LEAVING GARDENS 3:00 PM ARRIVE AT WOODEN SHOE HERB FARM 4:30 PM LEAVE HERB FARM

Bus holds 56 people, registration will be first come first serve. Master Gardeners will receive 5 educational hours. Registration is open to everyone. The cost of the trip will be \$55.00. DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015

Please make your checks out to: MGAGCM Mail completed form to: Sabrina Vandyke 2364 N. Belsay Rd Burton, MI 48509

Names: _____ No. of People:

_____ Cell#:

_____ Amount:

_____ Email:

Please Indicate Your Lunch Choice (Circle choices, please) Beef, Ham, Turkey or Vegetarian on either a Spinach wrap or Wheatberry bread (includes fruit or chips, a cookie and beverage of choice) OR a Michigan salad with or without chicken, cookie and beverage. QUESTIONS, CALL (810) 407- 0808

BANQUET 2015

It was a beautiful spring evening, unlike recent years, when the 27th Annual Master Gardeners Volunteer Awards and Recognition Banquet was held April 16, 2015 at Crossroads Village. This was a perfect setting for the recognition of the hard work and hours by the Master Gardeners of Genesee County.

Wendt's Catering provided a great meal as usual. There were many donations by our member gardeners and various local vendors for the silent auction. A 50/50 raffle was held as well as a raffle drawing for three prizes.

After a short business meeting, our speaker was Cheryl English of Black Cat Pottery. Her topic "Bringing Home Natives" was enlightening as well as entertaining. Her power point presentation was colorful and informative. She explained to us the importance of using native plants and their value to pollinators, birds and butterflies and other native species of wildlife and plants. We came away with a better understanding of the role our native plants play.

Congratulations are in order for our "Distinguished Master Gardener of the Year", Millie Daron and our "Outstanding Master Gardener of the Year", Carol Groat. Both ladies are well deserving of their respective awards as they are true representatives of our organization. They each give a good portion of their time to support our organization as do our all members. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Earning 500 hour pins were Katie Van Patten, Gwen Barney, Carol Bobb, Patricia Manning, Lois Henderson, Theresa Henderson, Denise Procunier, Patricia Witte and Carol Taylor. Nine members earned their 1000 hour pins: Dan Kah, Michelle Chockley, George Rappold, Loretta Ellwood, Sabrina Van Dyke, Trudy Brewer, Roxann Banks, Jo Thielen and Nettie Sparks. Our two 1500 hour pins ladies were Millie Daron and Vicki Laurin. Earning her 2000 hour pin was Roselie McCarthy. Jim Harrow earned his 2500 hour pin and Floyd Butcher his 3500 hour pin. 5000 hour pins were earned by Ruth Simon and David Groat. Carol Groat received her 6000 hour pin.

Our silent auction and raffles netted us \$1275.73 to support our various Master Gardener projects. Many thanks go to the members of my committee, Carolyn Malaski, Alan Grove, Christy Jones, Pam Kvasnicka and Anna Thomas. It wouldn't have happened without them. And, of course, a big **THANK YOU** goes out to all our members. You are the ones who make it happen.

HOW TO DIVIDE HOSTAS

It's hard to have too many Hostas, and dividing them every three or four years is a simple way to increase your stock—and they'll be happier, too. Divide Hostas in early spring, when their snouts are a couple of inches out of the soil. Spade around the clump to loosen the soil and pry up the root ball with a garden fork. For a large clump, set it on the ground and, using a clean sharp spade, chop it vertically into half, then quarters, and even smaller if it's a giant one. Each piece should have some roots and at least two or three snouts. Set medium-sized clumps in a wheelbarrow and slice them into chunks with a sharp knife. For smaller Hostas, rinse off the soil and pull them apart with your fingers. Plant the divisions right away in moist, fertile soil and keep them well-watered.

BY Karen York, Canadian Gardener

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According to Margot Dargatz, golden hostas should be subdivided into two categories, “since, generally, the ones that are the brightest gold in the spring will turn green during the summer, whereas the main-season gold hostas are still chartreuse-green in the spring.” Not all references clearly state this difference.

Early spring

‘English Sunrise’ (Zilis 2003)

Small, slow-growing sport of ‘June’; pale lavender blooms in July

Main-season

‘Great Lakes Gold’ (Ward 2000)

Large, with rippled leaf margins; pale lavender blooms in June

‘Rosedale Golden Goose’ (Hadrava 1999)

Large, vigorous, thick; lavender flowers in July (J)

Blues

‘Mississippi Delta’ (Petryszyn 1998)

“Picked for its large size, distinct form (blue-grey, corrugated, nearly round leaves that lie flat) and thickness.” White blooms in July

‘Queen of the Seas’ (Seaver 2001)

Medium; blue-green leaves with heavy piecrust edges; lavender blooms in June (M)

‘Silver Bay’ (Dean 1999)

Small, slow-growing, silver-blue leaves; light lavender blooms in July/August

Variiegated types

Says Margot: “I decided to go for the ones with a unique identifying feature. For instance, there are many green hostas with golden edges, but I would like to be able to identify them in a stranger’s garden without needing to read the label.”

‘Hanky Panky’ (Hansen 2004)

Small, fast-growing; sport of ‘Striptease’; dark green leaves with gold-coloured borders and narrow, white threads in between; violet blooms in July

‘Liberty’ (Machen 2000)

Small; slow-growing, (possibly a tetraploid of ‘Sagae’); thick, dark green leaves edged in golden yellow, which changes to cream in summer; lavender blooms in June/July

‘Rainforest Sunrise’ (Anderson)

Small; sport of ‘Maui Buttercups’; golden-leafed with very dark green borders; pale lavender blooms in July

‘Risky Business’ (Hansen/Avent 2002)

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Medium; sport of 'Striptease'; pure white leaf with wide, deep green borders; violet blooms in July/August

'Spring Fling' (Herold 2000) Small but fast-growing; green leaves with wide, heavily scalloped, creamy white borders; lavender blooms in June

Miniatures

'Blue Mouse Ears' (Deckert 2000) Mutation of 'Blue Cadet'; small, round, slightly cupped blue-grey leaves, edged with wire-thin lines of white; short spikes of lavender flowers in July/August

'Lemon Frost' (Zilis 2002) Bright gold leaves with pure white margins; sport of 'Limey Lisa'; purple blooms in July/August

'Teeny Weenie Bikini' (Elslager 2000) Yellow leaves turn cream-coloured, edged with dark green; dark lavender blooms in August

'X-Ray' (Simmering 2000) Subtly variegated green-and-white foliage in spring, turning light green in summer; heavily rippled leaf margins; bright purple blooms in August

Sun-tolerant

'Jewel of the Nile' (Walek 2000) Medium; sport of 'Dee's Golden Jewel'; dark green leaves with wide gold borders (no two leaves are alike); white blooms June to August

'Stained Glass' (Hansen 1999) 2006 Hosta of the Year, chosen by the American Hosta Grower's Association. Medium; sport of 'Guacamole'; shiny, golden foliage with dark green margins; fragrant, pale lavender flowers in August. Incredible sun tolerance and vigour

Slug-resistant

'Orange Marmalade' (Solberg 2002) Medium; sport of 'Paul's Glory'; foliage has jagged, dark green edges and bright golden orange centres in spring, maturing to yellow, then white by summer's end; pale lavender blooms July to August

'Super Nova' (Zilis 1999) Medium; thick-textured, gold-coloured leaves with wide, blue margins; white blooms in August (colours are the reverse of 'Frances Williams')

'Touch Of Class' (Hansen 1999) Small tetraploid; thick leaves of chartreuse-gold, surrounded by wide, blue-green borders; light lavender blooms July to August.

Flint Farmers Market is in need of volunteers. If interested please call Joyce Bellaire at 810-487-1237.

Davison Farmers Market is looking for volunteers. If interested call Gloria Roudebush at 989-871-4627

Grand Blanc Farmers Market every Sunday, 9AM-3PM . To volunteer please call Beth Fromholz-Davies at 810-288-3253 or Alan Grove at 810-922-8776.

2015 Summer Garden Tour, Fenton Open Gate Garden Club "Summer Garden Tour," Sunday, July 12th, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Seven gardens in Fenton: perennial beds; trees and shrubs; landscape designs; impressive hardscapes; small city lots; private retreats, country acres, lake views. Skilled gardeners answer questions, plants labeled. Maps, garden guides, refreshments, merchant discounts, raffle for garden bench. Advanced tickets, \$8 from members and area merchants. Day of tour \$10 at A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum, 310 S Leroy St. Fenton 48430. **CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE!** For more information contact Esther Littman by calling 248-534-5874 or esther_littman@hotmail.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June MGAGCM membership meeting is June 18, 2015 at Wo Jo's Garden Splendors, 7360 E Court St, Davison. **Bob Filter-Rosarian will be speaking on climbing roses and other special rose forms, and will be starting at 5:30pm.** Our business meeting will follow. Please bring your own chair as there is no additional seating. The fundraiser days are June 18th and Sat. June, 20th. WoJo's will give our organization 10% of purchases made by persons who mention Genesee County Master Gardeners at check-out. Come early to shop.

July's MGAGCM membership meeting is **picnic on July 19, 2015 at Crossroads Village.** Everyone is to bring a dish to pass and their own table service. More details to

MG Bus Trip, June 25, 2015. Deadline is June 15, 2015 to send money to Sabrina VanDyke. Cost is \$55.00.

MGAGCM Gaqrden Tour is June 28, 2015 from 10:00 AM-5:00PM. Tickets go on sale June 1st at the following locations: Bordine Nursery 9100 Torrey Rd, Grand Blanc, Piechnik Greenhouse, 13172 McCumsey Rd., Clio, Vogt's Flowers, 425 S. State Rd, Davison. Walker Farms and Greenhouse, 5253 Atherton Rd, Burton and MSUE Extension Office, 605 N. Saginaw St. Suite 1A, during Extension hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8:30-AM-1:00PM.



MGAGCM OFFICERS (2015)

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THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

Vicki Laurin, vlaurin02@yahoo.com. George Rappold, grappocp@att.net, of counsel Ruth Simon .

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES

MMGA Inc Website at:
www.michiganmastergardener.org

MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:
www.facebook.com/MichiganMG

MGAGCM Website at: <http://gc-mga.weebly.com/>

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Plant & Pest Hotline:
(810) 244-8548
Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 8:30 am-1:00pm

geneseeplantpest@anr.msu.edu

Public Office Hours:
8 am - 1 pm Monday through Friday.

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