

The Grapevine

Bulletin of the Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association

September 2006 Volume 10, Issue 9

Computer geek finds new career in gardening

Mike Harvey never planned on a career in horticulture.

While he gardened with his mother and grandfather from childhood through his teen years, he earned an associate degree in computer programming and worked in information technology.

"I spent 19 years writing, coding and testing programs," says Harvey.

But his interest in plants continued into adulthood and he found himself stopping in at Telly's Greenhouse in Troy several times a week.

That led to a part-time job at Telly's in 2000, which turned to full-time in 2004 when his former company outsourced all the information technology staff.

"I couldn't ask for a better thing to be doing — and what I thought would be the



Mike Harvey is the perennial buyer for Telly's Greenhouse in Troy.

worst thing, talking to customers — has become what I enjoy," says the perennial buyer, who also handles customer sales.

The Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association features Harvey as its guest speaker this month. His topic is "Ground Covers."

"Ground covers are usually a utility plant in garden beds, doing the same sort of things mulch does — unify a planting bed, provide cover for the bed, even add color."

However, ground covers are being used "a lot more and in ways that are new," Harvey explains.

"In the future, they may be the alternative to lawns, which are very labor intensive when it comes to keeping up with weeding, the chemicals, fertilization and especially watering, which may become more expensive as we're able to water less and less."

And there are more to ground covers than the Big Three — pachysandra, vinca and sedum.

"Absolutely, there are more groundcovers today and a lot of them are

Next meeting

- 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, at the Andersen Enrichment Center, Ezra Rust Drive
- 7 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. business meeting
- 7:30 p.m. — 8 p.m. refreshments
- 8 p.m. — 9 p.m. Mike Harvey of Telly's Greenhouse in Troy, discusses "Ground Covers"
- **NO GUESTS!!!**
- **Please wear your badge**

overlooked," Harvey says.

He'll provide a Power Point presentation and may even have a few plants on hand for Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association members to see for themselves.

"Being the perennial buyer may sound like a dream job, when someone's paying you to shop, but it's not easy, believe me," he says.

"You have to have a feel for what people will respond to now, next week, next month. Of course, you're always going to have a situation where some things may not sell, but I'm surprised both ways — the things that are popular

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Plant exchange Sept. 21 at 'Sny Park'

Advanced Master Gardener Ruth Sny will host the annual fall plant exchange at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, at her home, 4465 Mackinaw, near Shattuck Road.

Pot or bag plants and label with pertinent information, including the name — common and/or botanical, light requirements, height, color, its growth habit — to help new owners make the right choice for their gardens.

Numbers will be handed out to

members on arrival. Plants will be selected in groups by numbers, just like the spring plant exchange.

Please arrive a little early and place giveaways in Sny's driveway. You may want to bring a chair.

Only members may attend and you do not have to bring plants to participate.

Please, take only the plants you select during your turn. At the spring event, several members "lost" their selections when it started to rain.

'Autumn Affair' has books, bulbs, more vendors

Yes, there are speakers at SVMGA's annual fall seminar on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Just look at Page 7 of this newsletter to see the details.

And there's also a book sale, more vendors and a bulb sale.

This year, SVMGA will have a variety of books for sale, related to this fall's conference topics, including books by the keynote speaker, Bill Cullina.

And they will be priced below retail offerings — so bring a checkbook.

In addition, Cullina will autograph the two books of his that SVMGA will have for sale:

"Native Trees, Shrubs and Vines," a guide to growing and propagating North American woody plants, and *"The New England Wild Flower Society Guide to Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the United States and Canada."*

Other books for sale include: *"IPM for Gardeners"* by Raymond A. Cloyd,

Philip L. Nixon and Nancy R. Pataky;

"The Truth about Garden Remedies,"

by Jell Gilman;

"Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest, an Illustrated Guide to their Identification and Control,"

by Elizabeth J. Czarapata, and

"Landscaping with Native Plants."

Member Cora

Schaefer has pulled

together an array of vendors, who will sell a variety of garden-related goods.

Those confirmed so far include **French Garden Creations**, featuring herbal soaps, salves, essential oils, body butters, lotions and bath fizzies, made by owner Colleen French.

Two Rivers Paper and Pottery offers handmade papers and pottery by



Author Bill Cullina, keynote speaker for "An Autumn Affair for Gardeners" on Saturday, Oct. 7. (Photo by Jeff Carmichael)

Donna Hoff-Grambau.

Stone Cottage Gardens, with David and Mary Moore of Gladwin, will have weeder gloves, soil amendments, liquid fertilizers, assorted perennials, daylily roots, deer repellants, frogs and many other items.

Richcrafts, with Judy Rich, has unusual garden bricks and stepping stones, along with flower presses, seed boxes, etched mirrors and glass, windsocks and painted glass

Mary Lee Huber makes one-of-a-kind, hand-painted clothing with flowers and herbs

Brenda Hoppe will have troughs and cast stone urns.

Wild Ones, Mid Mitten Chapter, with Lucy Chargot.

Several other vendors have yet to confirm.

A list of the 39 different types of bulbs available for sale and ready for fall planting were listed in the August newsletter.

Story by Darlene Damp, editor

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Harvey shares lifetime of knowledge...

and the plants that are not."

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Although he's made several buying trips, to deal with growers in Michigan, Canada and Ohio, Harvey also has to juggle his responsibilities on the sales floor.

"The real world is that we've got to sell the product," he explains.

He does spend time with specific growers, looking at new introductions and how they can stimulate an ever increasing array of perennials.

"I never thought of myself as knowing so much, but people who work here and customers are always asking my advice. I don't have the formal schooling — although I would love to get a

horticulture or landscape architectural degree — but I get plenty of opportunity to share the experiences I do have."

And as his boss, George Papadelis, always has a busy schedule, Harvey has been pulled in as a speaker.

His first were for Master Gardeners in Flint and Grand Rapids on native plants, closely followed by a talk at the Hosta College in Ohio.

He's also discussed native plants at the store and developed a new talk on bamboo.

"I've done a limited number of designs and installations, too," Harvey says.

"It's just been a great experience. People appreciate my background and I like dealing with people who are

Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association mission statement

"Joining together as Master Gardeners, our mission is to promote our enthusiasm and knowledge of gardening by a wide variety of educational and volunteer activities in a spirit of fun and friendship."

Letter from the President

The other day I was surfing the Net and I saw something that really made me stop and think.

Some 70% of all plants purchased by gardeners in the United States are sold by Lowe's, Home Depot, K-Mart and Wal-Mart. If that percentage gets any higher all of our gardens could end up looking alike.

I have nothing against the four big box stores, but I find very little at these establishments that is new or exciting to add to my plant collection.

If you garden like I do you're always looking for something different, something that challenges, and delights. I personally feel their buyers lack imagination as they all offer the same things year after year. Thank you Abele's, Boehler's and Lisiks.

On Sunday, Aug. 27 we did something that has become an annual event at our house: the Michigan Hosta Society Work

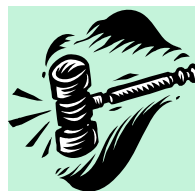
Day and meeting at Hidden Lake Gardens. What a high, spending the day with 100 or so fellow Hostaphiles!

The morning is spent planting, weeding, identifying, tagging and chatting on the nationally recognized Hosta Hillside. After lunch, the Michigan Hosta Society holds its annual meeting and plant auction. All of this and one of the best gardens in the U.S.

Ruth Sny and Nancy Hales have been busy accumulating perennials at "Sny Park" for the SVMGA plant sale Friday, Sept. 15, at the Saginaw Farmer's Market. They have a nice array, but please don't stop bringing your contributions to Ruth for the sale.

Any plants not sold at the market will be available at the association fall plant exchange on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Aileen Cowan and Judy Henning have



everything under control for the fall conference, "An Autumn Affair for Gardeners," on Saturday, Oct. 7, at Saginaw Valley State University's Curtiss Hall. The only thing lacking now are attendees. Please get your registration in before the price increases.

The season is winding down at the Children's Zoo at Celebration Square. The next big push is accreditation by the American Zoological Association. If attained, it will mean prestige for the zoo and perks for the members.

Patti Decker and the Horticulture Committee can use all the help possible this fall, doing their part in the process. If you need hours, call Patti. This is a good way to accumulate hours — and help a worthy cause.

Remember, we are back at the Enrichment Center. I look forward to seeing you all Sept. 27.

Grey

Meet the Gardener — Shelley Whitehead of Bay City

"Chick trips," "chick cruises" and book tours!

This Master Gardener loves to travel... any chance she gets! Her journey began in Wilmet, Ill., born the daughter of the president of Lake Forest Garden Club. Shelley Whitehead says her mom won numerous blue ribbons for floral arranging and always had a large, lovely garden.

Shelley dreamed she would be married in that special place and that she did September 8, 33 years ago.

Prior to that, Shelley attended a small college in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Suomi Jr. College (now Finlandia University).

Because "the line for teachers was too long," she decided to study speech pathology. She graduated from Northern Michigan University in Marquette, knowing it was not really what she wanted to pursue.



Shelley Whitehead pauses for a photo at the Saginaw Township Playscape.

Returning to Lake Forest, she went to work at the post office as a carrier and clerk. In the meantime, she saved her money for a trip with a college roommate, traveling throughout Europe.

Her girlfriend knew another college friend also traveling in Europe and told Shelley that they were going to try to hook up with this "nice guy," if possible.

Their schedules crossed in Amsterdam

and for a week they all traveled together in Switzerland and Italy, parting in Florence.

The nice guy also was a graduate of NMU, but Shelley had never met him. Out of money, Shelley went back to the States.

One month later, Jett Whitehead returned to Saginaw and called her. Less than a year later ...the garden wedding.

Saginaw was to be their home as Jett was to work in the family business, Whitehead Office Products.

Says Shelley, "This is where I found my niche, accounting!"

She stayed on in the business even after Jett left to open his own business, Out of Print Books, in 1990. The business involves the buying and selling of rare books, but modern American poetry is his real love.

Shelley, who retired from Whitehead's in 2004 now travels and assists Jett in book fairs across the United States with customers from all over the world.

Having some extra time on her hands, Shelley took the Master Gardener class in winter 2004.

"I like digging in the dirt," says Shelley.

She also has been faced with a rather unusual gardening challenge. She and Jett own a large apartment building on Center Road in Bay City, "The Simmons Apartment."

Their apartment alone has 10 rooms! Because land is limited, she has had to make small perennial beds on the sides of the apartment building and little "pocket gardens" here and there.

Odds and ends

Pot up your extra plants for SVMGA fund-raiser!!

Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association needs to replenish its coffers so it's having a plant sale Friday, Sept. 15 at the Saginaw Farmer's Market, starting at 8 a.m.

Ruth Sny and Nancy Hales are coordinating the fund-raiser to add to the general fund.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Sny at 792-5688 or 928-7315.

There's still help needed in pricing, transporting and selling plants — as well as getting any leftovers back to Sny's home for the annual fall plant exchange Thursday, Sept. 21.

Please deliver plants to Sny's home at 4465 Mackinaw before the sale.

Pond seminar Sept. 13

Discover more about earthen ponds at a seminar from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, at the home of Darlene Damp and Craig Beins, 5566 Baker Road, Bridgeport.

The Soil Conservation District is sponsoring the event and will have speakers, a native plant sale by Aileen Cowan and hot dogs.

Please bring your own chair. For more information, call 781-4077, ext. 4.

Make a Difference Day seeks Master Gardeners to help teens

Lend a hand as area students clean up and improve the yards of senior veterans Thursday, Oct. 26.



The annual Make a Difference Day — or day of “doing good” serves as the kick-off for National Youth Service Day. The day begins at 7:45 a.m. at Andersen

Enrichment with team building. The high school students then go by bus to their individual work sites from 9 a.m. to noon.

Each site will have 10 to 15 students, an adult leader, a student leader and a Master Gardener.

Master Gardeners are responsible for selecting plants for the yard following guidelines to be given, and to make sure the plants are put in properly.

Some sites will require pruning. Master Gardeners do as much, or as little, physical labor as they wish.

“The point is to have the students do as much of the work as possible,” says Gail Caird, Advanced Master Gardener, who has helped spearhead the project with Joe Madison for several years.

Make a Difference Day is sponsored by the Saginaw Community Foundation and United Way of Saginaw County.

Volunteers must register prior to the event, as only one or two Master Gardeners are needed per site, depending on the project.

To volunteer, call Joe Madison at 790-6417, or Gail Caird at 793-1942.

Try a hand at making soap, lotions and potions Sept. 30

MOUNT PLEASANT — Learn more great ways to put your garden to work when the Isabella County Master Gardener Association hosts two hands-on workshops



They are set for Saturday, Sept. 30, with Colleen French of French Garden Creations at the Isabella County Building, 200 N.

Main.

Soap-making in a Crock is from 10 a.m. to noon and costs \$35. Master Gardeners and others will make fragrant, bubbly, handcrafted soap in a crockpot that is ready to use as soon as it finishes cooling.

The class will make two batches and cover ingredients, safety, fragrances, herbs and flowers to add for color, texture and scent, cutting, storage, and labeling requirements.

Participants take home one-half pound of soap and a copy of “The Soaper’s Cookbook.”

Lotions and Potions is from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and costs \$35. It covers easy ways to use herbs you grow.

The class will use herb-infused oils to make a two-ounce herbal skin lotion,

cocoa butter lip balm in a Victorian-style tin, and a body/room spray.

In addition, there is an aroma therapy lesson plus a copy of “Herbal Possibilities.”

Registration is due Friday, Sept. 22. Class sizes are limited. Call Tracey Knack at 772-0911, ext. 302

More Master Gardeners obtain certification on-line

Five more Master Gardeners have turned their hours in on-line and recertified for 2006.

They include Gail Coffman Bender, basic Master Gardener, while Patricia M. Decker, Victor C. Knowlton, Gloria J. Schuler, Ruth A. Sny and Stella K. Thelen have recertified.

With the availability of entering your hours on-line, Master Gardeners can keep a running tally monthly of both their education and volunteer hours.

Simply go to the Saginaw County Master Gardener page and click on Volunteer Hour reporting and start entering!

The deadline is Dec. 31, 2006.

Gardening seminar Sept. 17

DETROIT — The Michigan School of Gardening presents “The Unusual Gardening Conference” from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at the Detroit Zoo, Ford Education Center.

Keynote speaker Janet Macunovich and photographer Steven Nikkila offer “Eight Months of Color: The Search for the Missing Hues.”

It also features Pam Palechek, providing a world garden tour; “Vines that Ate the House” with Sue Grubba; “Practical Solutions to Water Garden Mysteries” with Scott Bates and “Seeking Perfect Plants for Your Rock Garden” with Tony Reznicek.

Cost is \$95, or \$75 for Practical Gardening Institute members. Master Gardeners receive six education hours. For information, go to <http://www.michingangardening.com/UGCPDF.pdf>

Hands-on workshop offers

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Volunteer opportunities!!!

Class helpers still needed...

Master Gardener Coordinator Nancy Burd still needs class helpers for Thursday, Sept. 21 and 28, Oct. 5, and Nov. 2, 9 and 16.

Call her at 758-2504 or e-mail burd@msu.edu.

Rail Trail weeds & bulbs...

The Rail Trail needs weeding again, says Aileen Cowan.

And she needs six volunteers to plant bulbs, tentatively set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11.

Call Cowan for details and to sign up at (989) 865-8784 or scratchcreations@att.net.

I-75 southbound rest area...

The fall planting of bulbs at the southbound I-75 rest area is Saturday, Oct. 21.

Please contact project chairman Gloria Schuler at 892-7679 or e-mail globobarama@excite.com.

MSUE hotline...

Master Gardener Coordinator Nancy Burd needs volunteers to man the hotline and answer gardening questions.

She would like to have enough volunteers to man the telephone daily and is meeting with the Genesee County Master Gardener Coordinator to see how that can be accomplished.

Those interested also may attend a special Integrated Pest Management training session Wednesday, Oct. 4, in Genesee County. There is room for five people to attend.

Burd said Wil Hufton, longtime hotline expert, is planning to retire.

Call her at 758-2504 or e-mail burd@msu.edu.

Saginaw Children's Zoo...

Mark your calendar now for group work days at the Children's Zoo: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Oct. 21; and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 for fall clean-up.

Patti Decker says volunteers will put

the gardens to bed Nov. 4 and prepare the pond for winter. If time allows, volunteers may start decorating for the Holidays in the City (Friday, Nov. 17).

Rain dates may be on Sunday (Check with Decker).

If the scheduled work days don't fit your schedule, call Decker at 792-6633 or e-mail rizzobfrank@aol.com.

She will e-mail times and dates for any additional work days.

Small blue flags have been put in areas around the zoo that need special attention such as weeds pulled, flowers deadheaded or monitored for watering needs.

Please remember to sign in and out at the admission booth.

Saginaw Art Museum...

Volunteers will meet from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 14, fall clean-up at the Saginaw Art Museum, 1226 N. Michigan.

Please contact Shelley Whitehead at 892-0719. 892-0719.

More odds and ends....

(Continues from page 4)

natural dyeing with plants

MIDLAND — Shelly Buckman, horticulturist, knitter and spinner, leads a hands-on workshop on natural dyeing Saturday, Oct. 7.

It is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dow Gardens, Eastman and West St. Andrews, and costs \$25.

Call (989) 631-2677 or (800) 362-4874 to register.



Half price book sale on now

EAST LANSING —

The Horticulture Gardening Institute is sponsoring a 50 percent off sale at their Web site.

Visit www.gardeninginstitute.com and click on 50% books and CD-Roms in the What's New box.

There are a number of books by Allan Armitage, a nationally known author and speaker. He will be the keynote speaker at

Dow Gardens 2007 Know and Grow seminar Saturday, March 3. (See story in August newsletter.)

Master Woodlot Steward class in Roscommon

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Woodlot owners and others who want to learn forest management techniques and share their newfound knowledge may attend a Michigan Master Woodland Steward program training session Friday through Sunday, Sept. 22-24, at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, near Roscommon.

The intensive training program teaches others the importance of wise forest stewardship.

Participants will explore such topics as forest and wildlife ecology, tree planting, forest management and tree identification during classroom and outdoor learning experiences.

Instructors include Michigan State University forestry faculty and other woodland management experts.

Master Woodland Steward graduates are

asked to complete a forestry-related project in their communities or commit to 30 hours of volunteer service within one year.

This service may include working with local MSU Extension offices or conservation districts, helping woodlot owners understand stewardship options for their land, planting trees or teaching children about forest management.

Cost is \$300, including lodging at the MacMullan Center, meals, reference books and refreshments.

The \$250 commuter fee includes reference materials, meals and refreshments only. Registration is limited.

Applications are available from any MSU Extension county office or online at www.for.msu.edu/mws/.

For information, call the Roscommon County MSU Extension office at (989) 275-4670 or e-mail kidd@msu.edu. It is sponsored by MSU Extension, the MSU forestry department and the state Department of Natural Resources.

Minutes of the August 23, 2006 meeting

Grey Gitzen welcomed 43 members to the Channel 25 Weather Station Garden in Clio.

Judy Henning moved that the minutes of the July 2006 meeting be approved as published; Ruth Sny seconded the motion.

Jan O'Dell read the following treasurer's report:

Balance as of last report	\$6,141.97
Deposits 7/26/06 to 8/22/06	\$1,320.00
Expenses 7/26/06 to 8/22/06	\$267.71
Balance as of 8/22/06	\$7,194.26

Funds for the fall seminar \$4,470.26
As of 8/22/06 we have 167 paid members.

Ruth Sny moved that the treasurer's report be accepted; Aileen Cowan seconded the motion.

Nancy Hales was unable to be at the meeting. She did ask that members who received project funds get their receipts in.

Aileen Cowan reported that 43 people have signed up for the fall conference.

She asked members to please sign

up. The cut-off date is Friday, Sept. 15; after this date the cost of the conference increases by \$5.

Cowan also mentioned that she has many native grasses for sale, many of them grown with Michigan seed.

Ruth Sny had a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping with the plant sale.

Members need to label the plants and can bring them to her house any time. Her cell phone number is 928-7315.

The plant sale will be at the Farmer's Market on Friday, Sept. 15th. Set up is at 8 a.m.

Aileen Cowan will see if she has any luck getting in contact with someone to inspect the plants. Sny has had no luck so far.

Any plants that do not sell will be at the SVMGA fall plant exchange at Sny's house Wednesday, Sept. 20.

The price for the trip to the gardens of Ireland through MSU is approximately \$3,900/double occupancy.

Members of the nominating committee are working on a slate of candidates for officers for the next two years. They should have nominations to present at

the next meeting.

The August issue of the Michigan Gardener has an article about the seminar in it.

Channel 12 is doing an interview with Chuck Martin, Judy Henning and Aileen Cowan about the fall seminar Friday, Sept. 1, at 10:00 a.m.

Channel 5 will be doing a radio interview. Mary Andrews asked that Mark Torregrossa mention the seminar on his program.

Following refreshments Mark Torregrossa talked about the Weather Garden and the difference in taking the class in 1997 as compared to taking the class in 2006.

He found he has learned a lot over the years between the two times he took the class.

The Weather Garden is composed of mostly annuals and vegetables.

His theme this year was tropical and the garden includes many lovely tropical plants.

After giving members a tour of the garden Torregrossa gave members a tour of the television station as well.

Submitted by Anne Birkam

Next board meeting:
**5:30 p.m. Wednesday,
Oct. 4, at MSU Extension,
1 Tuscola**

Newsletter deadline:
Monday, Oct. 9

Send submissions to
**Darlene Damp, editor,
shrew@att.net
(Preferably as a Word
document)**

View the newsletter at:
**Web1.msue.msu.edu/
mastergardener/saginaw/**

Whitehead accepts challenge — plans new hidden garden...

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Shelley also does container gardening with pots and window boxes. A favorite perennial, iris, from her mom's garden was planted in Bay City in 1985.

More challenges face Shelley since two neighbors replaced a cyclone fence with a privacy fence.

It's given Shelley a new back drop and space for a new garden — a hidden garden.

She plans to create a seating area for her eight apartment dwellers and will suspend old iron grates in the garage windows with window boxes in front of them.

She has collected these grates for 10

years.

Shelley's volunteer work, earning her Advanced Master Gardener status, has centered around the gardens at the Saginaw Art Museum.

Says Shelley, "my first love is museums, second are gardens and third are zoos."

Emily Dickinson and Dylan Thomas, two "poetic" cats, share life with Shelley and Jett.

I wonder if they go along on all the trips.

I'd ask, but the Whiteheads are gone again, this time to the historic Nickerson Inn, a bed and breakfast in the quaint town of Pentwater, here in Michigan.

It's a surprise celebration of 33 years of poetic marriage.

AN AUTUMN AFFAIR FOR GARDENERS

8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday, October 7, 2006

Saginaw Valley State University, Curtiss Hall, University Center, MI

The Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association says don't give up on gardening just because the leaves turn color! Instead, please attend our third annual fall seminar. Here's what the day includes:

- **Keynote speaker Bill Cullina**, author and nursery manager of the New England Wildflower Society's Garden in the Woods in Massachusetts, opens the session with **"What the Heck's Gonna Grow There!!! Native Trees, Shrubs and Vines for Challenging Situations,"** looking at their aesthetic allure and ecological appropriateness. Cullina closes the seminar with **"Beyond Black-Eyed Susans and Border Phlox: Exceptional Native Perennials for Creative Gardening,"** by profiling outstanding native perennials yet to be discovered by the gardening public.
- **Sally Shepardson**, Advanced Master Gardener, offers **"Environmentally Sound Gardening and Integrated Pest Management."** Learn how common cultivation techniques and fertilizer/pesticide use impacts the environment along with practical solutions for treating problems in your own yard.
- **Charles Martin**, Dow Gardens horticulturist, discusses **"Green Pollution: Invasive Plants in Michigan,"** including problem plants for native landscapes, that create more maintenance for busy gardeners.
- Early registration \$50, including box lunch/snacks, by **Friday, Sept. 15; \$55 after.** Vendors, checks/cash. Master Gardeners earn 4 education hours. Call Judy Henning, (989) 799-4136 or Aileen Cowan, (989) 865-8784 or e-mail judrich@sbcglobal.net or scratchcreations@worldnet.att.net. Conference brochures: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/>

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail (conference purposes only) _____

- Please check if you are a Master Gardener. Please choose a lunch entrée (chips, fruit cup, cookie, drink included):
 Turkey and roast beef on croissant, or Vegetable pita

Mail check (\$50 for each person attending, payable to **SVMGA**) to SVMGA Treasurer Jan O'Dell, 5122 Hickory Court, Saginaw, MI 48603. **No refunds; substitutes accepted.** SVSU is located between Saginaw & Bay City on M-84, near I-75.

Upcoming 2006 programs

- 9/15 — Plant sale to raise funds for SVMGA at Saginaw Farmers Market
- 9/21 — Fall plant exchange at Ruth Sny's Saginaw Township garden
- 9/27 — Mike Harvey of Telly's Greenhouse, Troy, "Ground Covers"
- 10/7 — "An Autumn Affair for Gardeners," annual seminar with Bill Cullina, author and plant propagator; Chuck Martin, Dow Gardens horticulturist; and Sally Shepardson, Advanced Master Gardener, Saginaw Valley State University, Curtiss Hall.
- 10/25 — Bob Kuszmaul, "Propagation of Shrubs"
- 11/15 — Nancy Lindley of Great Lakes Roses, "Winter Hardy Roses"
- 12/6 — Annual Christmas potluck

Meetings from January to April and September to December are at the Andersen Enrichment Center. Meetings in May through August are at members' homes or other garden sites. For field trips, call Amy Fitkin, 781-1670.