

The Grapevine

Bulletin of the Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association

November 2006 Volume 10, Issue 11

Rosarian returns to Master Gardener roots

She's a Master Gardener, an author, a well-known speaker — not to mention a noted rosarian.

Nancy Lindley will share her expertise on "Shrub Roses" this month when the Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association hosts its November session at the Andersen Enrichment Center.

"It's a new talk I've just developed and I think it ties in with how popular this variety has become," says the owner of Great Lakes Roses, near Belleville.

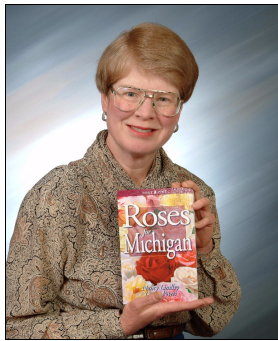
"They're also more winter-hardy and disease-resistant. And they've also been improved to bloom more freely."

Lindley, a Cleveland native, made her home in Midland with husband Roger for 10 years, after moving there from Texas.

"I took the Master Gardener class when Bay City, Midland and Saginaw were combined in classes at Delta College, back in 1993.

"We had a nice garden at our new home, but I didn't know what all the plants were."

When her employer downsized, the pair moved to Belleville and opened their own nursery. Lindley had grown to love roses, even putting in a rose garden at the



Nancy Lindley of Great Lakes Roses nursery holds her book, "Roses for Michigan."

Dow museum as part of a Master Gardener project.

"I had never propagated a rose before," says Lindley, who with her Master Gardener contacts, the MSU horticulture department and visiting other rose growers made the leap to a new career.

Today, they have six employees working at their 10-acre facility, growing 500 to 600 varieties and selling more than 30,000 plants annually.

"We don't ship," says Lindley. "I enjoy the interaction with people, giving talks twice a week during the season at our nursery and traveling in the winter to speak elsewhere in the state."

It's part of the public service aspect she picked up from the Master Gardener program, she adds.

To help potential buyers, the Lindleys have put in a professionally designed demonstration rose garden, using roses, along with evergreens, flowering shrubs and more to show how different rose varieties fit into the landscape design.

"It's one thing to look at the picture of the rose on the tag, but quite another to see how it looks and performs in the garden," Lindley said.

"Here in Michigan the Canadian Ex-

Next meeting

- 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, at the Andersen Enrichment Center, Ezra Rust Drive
- 7 p.m. — 8 p.m. Nancy Lindley of Great Lakes Roses, discusses "Shrub Roses."
- 8 p.m. refreshments
- 8:30 p.m. business meeting
- **NO GUESTS!!!**
- **Please wear your badge.**

plorer can make a nice climbing rose, but in the pot, it looks real straggly.

"I also have a little vegetable garden that people get quite interested in because I grow some unusual things — but all are edible."

Her goal is to sell varieties appropriate to Michigan.

"Otherwise, the buyer is just being set up for failure. If we can get them the right rose, they've taken that first step to success."

While she won't bring rose samples, due to the late date of her talk, Lindley

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Members elect 2007-08 officers

Susan Hunter Scott is the new president of Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Association.

She and her new board begin their two-year terms Monday, Jan. 1, after a unanimous vote at the October meeting.

Serving with her are Karen Tilden, vice president; Melva Bond, secretary; and Mary Andrews, program chairman.

SVMGA members will vote again in November to replace Sherry Burkhart, treasurer, who resigned due to upcoming surgery and family responsibilities.

Bill Wegner, nomination committee

chairman, will submit the name of Crystal Kauer as Burkhart's replacement. She is an accountant who has served as treasurer for Kochville Township and bookkeeper for other organizations in the Saginaw Valley.

Program Chairman Mary Andrews will solicit members for topics and speakers for 2007 meetings.

To volunteer your garden for a summer meeting contact her at 797-3319 or iyahmary@yahoo.com.

July, August and the fall plant exchange are open dates.

Minutes of the October 25, 2006 meeting

Grey Gitzen welcomed 83 members to the Andersen Enrichment Center.

Bob Kuszmaul from D & B Plants gave an informative presentation about the work his company does in propagation, giving Master Gardeners some good tips if they wish to try it.

He also donated several plants for the drawing.

After refreshments, the drawings were held, generating \$221 for the organization.

Besides thanking Bob Kuszmaul for the plants he donated, we thank Abele's for donating the mums, Phil Lisik for the beautyberry bush, Waunita Pettiford for the tote bag with daffodils, Ben Pawlik for the roses in a vase, and Marie Kreinbrink for the tin candleholder.

Congratulations to David Quinnan for winning the tin candleholder; Elaine Rappley, the beautyberry bush; Gail Rosenbrock, the daffodils; Ben Pawlick, Ric Romero and Pat Washburn, the mums; and Bonnie Duclos, Crystal Kauer, Ruth Snyder, Jane Chard and Karen Tilden, the plants brought by Bob Kusz-

maul.

Two people were lucky twice— Judy Porter won 2 of Bob Kuszmaul's plants and Phyllis Shlien won a mum and the roses.

Elaine Rappley moved the September 2006 meeting minutes be approved as published; Crystal Kauer seconded the motion.

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

Balance as of last report	\$12,939.01
Deposits 9/27/06 to 10/24/06	\$6,046.00
Expenses 9/27/06 to 10/24/06	\$7,103.69
Balance as of 10/24/06	\$11,881.32
Funds for the fall seminar	\$9,475.49

As of 10/24/06, we have 168 paid members.

Bill Wegner announced the slate of candidates for officers for 2007-2008.

They are Susan Scott for president, Karen Tilden, vice-president; Melva Bond, secretary; Sherry Burkhart, treasurer; and Mary Andrews, program chair.

Marie Kreinbrink moved the slate be accepted; Pat Washburn seconded the motion.

Nominations were asked from the floor. None were made.

Patti Decker moved to close nominations. Judy Henning seconded the motion. The slate of candidates was accepted and congratulated.

Patti Decker announced a fall clean-up at the zoo from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 5.

Lindley ...

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says she will have rose care supplies. "I'll also touch on that in my talk."

Can't make the meeting? Visit her Web site at www.GreatLakesRoses.com.

Story by Darlene B. Damp, editor

Judy Henning and Aileen Cowan reported that due to the good rate we got from SVSU for holding the conference there, the association made an excellent profit.

They asked for approval to start planning next year's conference and suggestions for speakers and other places to hold the conference.

The one complaint about the conference was the room being too cold.

Jan O'Dell had sample logo wear from Shirley McNier: a jacket, a maroon shirt, a tailored blue shirt, a visor and a 2-color hat. For logo wear, please get an order form from O'Dell.

Any orders taken this evening will be delivered next month. Prices for the items are on the order forms.

Ruth Snyder had a sign-up sheet for the Christmas potluck. There is a limit of 75 people who can attend due to space considerations. You must be a SVMGA member to attend.

Grey Gitzen received an e-mail from Mary McLellan. The policy for achieving Advanced Master Gardener status has changed from 2 years to 5 years after becoming a Master Gardener.

Master Gardeners have until Dec. 31 to complete their hours. Hours must be reported by Jan. 31.

The summer conference has been changed to a spring conference Friday and Saturday, March 15-16, at the MSU Business College Complex. (See related story, Page 3.)

Ben Pawlik had a sign-up sheet for volunteers to put the rose garden to bed at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 18.

Next month's meeting will be the third Wednesday of the month, Nov. 15, due to Thanksgiving.

Submitted by Anne Birkam, secretary

Officers for 2005-06

President

Grey Gitzen 792-0615

Vice President

Nancy Hales 799-2118

Secretary

Anne Birkam 754-7090

Treasurer

Jan O'Dell 793-4357

Program Director

Amy Fitkin 781-1670

Newsletter Editor

Darlene Damp 746-9113

MSU Extension

One Tuscola Street
Saginaw, MI 48607-1287

Master Gardener Coordinator

Nancy L. Burd, 758-2504
e-mail, burd@msu.edu

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, disability, age, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status or family status.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity institution.

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

Every August I make a promise to put our garden to bed earlier.

Well, here it is November and I'm still not finished. Silly me, I keep adding Hostas to our collection each year, forgetting they need particular care in the fall to enable them to overwinter and thrive the next year.

We have all sorts of Japanese Anemones still blooming profusely — can't cut them down until they've finished flowering.

So, if past years are any indicator, I will be out in the garden in December still putting beds in order for the winter.

From the reports I receive, Ruth Sny



and her committee have an interesting evening planned for the annual Christmas potluck Wednesday, Dec. 13. There are a very few seats left (we are limited to 75).

This is a significant event in our association's history as we are completing our 10th year, and so far, 17 of our charter members are attending.

For those of you who have signed up, remember we will be bringing donations for Hidden Harvest.

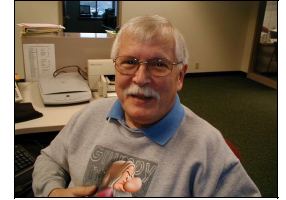
With this, my last letter in the Grapevine as president, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the members of the association for all the support they've given me these past two years.

I've tried to keep ours a viable entity dedicated to teaching and learning about horticulture and gardening with some fun along the way.

The board you selected to serve with me has been outstanding. Thank you Nancy, Anne, Jan and Amy. The five of us made a good team.

To all of you, have a happy and blessed holiday season, and a great gardening year in 2007.

Grey



Odds and ends

State MG chief has new policies

Mary McLellan, state Master Gardener volunteer coordinator, announces several changes.

Master Gardeners now have five years to achieve Advanced Master Gardener status, after becoming certified Master Gardeners.

Master Gardeners must complete their education and volunteer hours for recertification by Dec. 31, 2006, and submit them for approval no later than Jan. 31, 2007.

The summer conference is now a spring conference set for Friday and Saturday, March 15-16, at the MSU Business College Conference Center. Cost is \$75.

It opens with a reception Friday night, cost to be determined. Concurrent sessions will follow the 8 a.m. Saturday keynote speaker until 4 p.m.

Master Gardeners earn 7 education hours. Registration information will be on the state Web site before Thanksgiving.

Way to go SVMGA!

Our third annual "An Autumn Affair for Gardeners" seminar is over and was a success. Our registration was down from 2005, but with the economy the way it is and the cost of gas, we're not surprised.

We were satisfied at the turnout and the evaluations that were handed in by

those in attendance were very satisfied with the seminar.

Bill Cullina, our keynote speaker, was well received. Chuck Martin is always a hit and our own Sally Shepardson had an outstanding presentation.

We could not have put on a successful seminar without the hard work of the following members: Anne Birkam, Dar Damp, Judy Ross, Tom Brubaker, Pat Washburn, Ruth Gardstrom, Brian Ott, Mary Anne Malek, Nancy Kleekamp, Marilyn Karpicke, Nancy Hales, Ellie Robertson, Patti Decker, Margaret Jackson, Grey and June Gitzen, Elaine Rappley, Cora Schaeff and Susan Scott. If we have forgotten anyone, we apologize.

Those who attended the seminar, we thank you for your support and hope that it was all you wanted.

Those of you at the October meeting voted to have a 2007 seminar. Thank you for the vote of confidence.

What we need now is suggestions for topics, speakers and whatever else you think will make our next seminar a success.

Thank you for your commitment to SVMGA.

*Aileen Cowan and Judy Henning,
co-chairs*

I-75 Rest Area looks great

Dear Gloria (Schuler):

The Rest Area again has never looked better since you and the Master Gardener group have dedicated your valuable time and energy in performing your great creation with plants, flowers and shrubs.

The Master Gardener group's personal ownership of the Bay Rest Area is very much expressed in the creations you folks develop. Thank you to all the individuals involved.

The Master Gardener group is very much appreciated and the MDOT/Master Gardener partnership is a very important annual project MDOT wants to continue for many years.

Dan Medina,

MDOT maintenance supervisor

Hufton stays for 1 more year

Wil Hufton, long-time volunteer for the Master Gardener Hotline, says he plans to stay another year to help train his replacements.

Hufton has dedicated nine years to the project to date.

MSU offers new classes

EAST LANSING — Michigan State University's Saturday Morning Gardener has seven programs on tap for 2007.

Sessions are from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in B109 of the Plant and Soil Sciences Building. Master Gardeners earn 2

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Upcoming SVMGA programs

- 11/15** — Nancy Lindley of Great Lakes Roses, “Winter Hardy Roses”
12/13 — Annual Christmas potluck, must have reservation
1/24 — Ted Waters and Matty Bouvy of Abele Greenhouse and Garden Center, “What’s New for 2007”
2/28 — Mark Hanner, Michigan Hosta Society, “Hosta Culture”

Meetings from January to April and September to December are at the Andersen Enrichment Center. Meetings in May through August are at members’ gardens or other garden sites.

A spring and a fall plant exchange are offered annually, along with a variety of field trips, depending on members’ interests. There also is a fall seminar, **An Autumn Affair for Gardeners**, to help educate all gardeners on current horticulture practices.

More odds and ends....

(Continues from Page 3)

education hours, plus travel time.

They include: Deer Control Strategies, Jan. 13, \$25; Hell Strips, the inhospitable zone between the sidewalk and street, Feb. 17, \$25; Make a Garden Plaque, March 10, \$30; hand-on Perennial Propagation, April 14, \$25; hands-on Container Gardening May 12, \$45; Cooking with Roses July 14 with Nancy Lindley, \$25; and Japanese Beetle Control Aug. 18 with Dave Smitley, MSU entomologist, \$25.

For on-line registration go to www.hrt.msu.edu/outreach/SMG120.htm or call Ann Hancock, (517) 355-5191 ext. 1348.

More certify for 2006

Ruth L. Gardstrom and Margaret E. Jackson have earned Advanced Master Gardener status.

Virginia J. Jossi, Susan D. Lawcock, Sandra L. Lundy, Gail J. Rosenbrock and N. Phyllis Shlien have earned certification as Master Gardeners.

Other Saginaw County Master Gardeners who are newly re-certified in-

clude: Anne Birkam, Gail Caird, Sara Clark, Nancy Cotcamp, Mrian Dalgarn, Darlene Damp, Ruth L. Gardstrom, Alice J. Hudson, Margaret Jackson, Donna Kieselbach, Joseph Leach, Ellie Robertson, Judy Ross, Susan Scott, Sally Shephardson, Susanne Smokoska and Mary Whalen Swift.

Donor, donor, who’s the donor?

Ruth Sny thanks members for the donations at last month’s meeting — but she needs names to put with the items.

“These are all gratefully accepted,” says Sny, “but I can’t remember who gave me what. Please call and tell me so we can give credit where it’s due.”

Call 928-7315.

Plant, pest hotline update...

The Plant & Pest Hotline will need an influx of talented volunteers to answer the phones and return calls, particularly when winter passes and hearts turn to outdoor gardening, says Nancy Burd, MG volunteer coordinator.

The MG hotline will open from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays and Thursdays from October through March and every day

between April and September.

“Your experiences and knowledge are needed to help Saginaw County residents with their gardening challenges. I’m currently creating a Plant & Pest Hotline Handbook and will have copies ready for the next general meeting.”

The handbook will list summer hours. Phyllis Shlein will manage the hotline and schedule volunteers.

**Next board meeting:
5:30 p.m. Wednesday,
Dec. 6, at MSU Extension,
1 Tuscola**

**Newsletter deadline:
Monday, Jan. 8
Send submissions to
Darlene Damp, editor,
shrew@att.net**

**View the newsletter at:
[web1.msue.msu.edu/
mastergardener/saginaw/](http://web1.msue.msu.edu/mastergardener/saginaw/)**