









# **Annual Report 2014**

# St. Louis Master Gardeners



Providing Horticultural Information and Assistance to the Public for Community Service and Gardening Pleasure through the Volunteer Efforts of Master Gardeners



Left to Right Front:
Mara Berry
Stephanie Sigala
Diane Grubbs
Alberta Chulick
Leon Zickrick
Back:
Barb Nichols
Margaret Lahrmann
John Hensley
Absent: Ann Case

# **2014-2015 Advisory Committee Members**

Chair	Stephanie Sigala	(2012-2015)
Treasurer	Margaret Lahrmann	(2013-2016)
Secretary	Diane Grubbs	(2013-2016)
At Large	Mara Berry	(2014-2017)
At Large	Ann Case	(2012-2015)
At Large	Alberta Chulick	(2014-2017)
At Large	John Hensley	(2013-2016)
At Large	Barbara Nichols	(2014-2015)
At Large	Leon Zickrick	(2014-2017)



# **Staff**

University of Missouri Extension

Nathan Brandt – Horticulture Specialist

Holly Records – Master Gardener Coordinator

Missouri Botanical Garden

Glenn Kopp - Horticultural Information Manager

Phil Egart – Administrative Assistant



# From the Chair

**2014** was the beginning of our 4<sup>th</sup> decade of Master Gardener community service and gardening pleasure. In addition to the many continuing aspects of the program, there were several very special events.

#### **New Pins!**

For Master Gardeners of long standing and high energy, the most important innovation of 2014 was the program's ability to calculate volunteer hours and reward volunteers with over 1000 life time hours. 164 Master Gardeners are eligible to receive a shining gold and jeweled pin in honor of their contributions (measured at the end of 2013).

**John Stephens**, with over 8000 hours, had the most volunteer hours measured. Future pins will be awarded to each Master Gardener on the completion of units of 1000 hours.

John Stephens with 'Info Guru' Chip Tynan.



#### **State Gardeners Here!**

The high point of 2014 was the Missouri Master Gardener conference (*Birds, Bats, Bees and Butterflies*) hosted by the St. Louis Master Gardeners in conjunction with Master Gardener groups from St. Charles, Franklin, and Jefferson counties. The conference got rave reviews for everything from the workshops to the food at the Saturday night banquet. Getting to talk about plants and gardening for three days straight: Priceless!

### **More Trainees!**

2014 was noted for the first ever concurrent training classes in St. Louis Master Gardening history. In addition to the now traditional afternoon class of aspiring gardeners, an evening session made Master Gardener training available to a wider range of busy students. A bumper crop of trained Master Gardeners was augmented by MG transfers and made for a record 58 graduating in December of 2014.

# Supermen!

Last but not least, in 2014 we elected two Master Gardeners of the Year instead of the usual single awardee. After the Holiday Award ceremony, hard workers Mark Kalk and Chuck Brust took home engraved stones, a small token of esteem for many hours, weeks, and months contributing to the betterment of the Master Gardener program and the community at large. Kemper Center administrative whiz Phil Egart was made an Honorary Master Gardener.

Stephanie Sigala, February 2015

# - Master Gardener Conferent

Welcome to St. Louis!



CityGarden: Where Landscape and Art Intersect Downtown



Happy Shoppers at Bowood Farms

# Birds, Bees, Bats and Butterflies

Missouri State Master Gardener Conference chair Mark Kalk worked with an organizing committee of 14 Master Gardeners for 18 months to create an enjoyable and well-run 3-day conference dedicated to *Birds, Bats, Bees, and Butterflies: Our Partners in Gardening* Held at the Holiday Inn in Kirkwood, MO for 316 attendee gardeners, the conference was the successful effort of 125 Master Gardener volunteers.

On Friday, September 12, attendees sampled five special classes and toured the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center and Earth Dance Farms then enjoyed an end-of-day opening reception in the Missouri Botanical Garden's Monsanto Hall. Saturday's agenda of bus tours was capped by a delicious dinner, awards program and keynote speech *Gardening the World's Plants - A Growing Conservation Challenge* by MBG president Peter Wyse Jackson. Sunday's final day program consisted of 29 classes and workshops before gardeners returned home, heads filled with gardening inspiration.

#### The Ones Who Made It Happen



## **Conference Thank You:**

From Beth Kleekamp: The Franklin County Master Gardeners greatly appreciate the \$500 gift for participation in the Missouri State Master Gardeners Conference. We are pleased that we had a part in making the conference a success. On a personal note, I am glad I worked on the planning committee. I met so many wonderful garden friends.



MGs Going Green

# **Partners**

**Bellefontaine Cemetery Brightside St. Louis Civic Greening Compton Hill Water Tower Park** Flora Conservancy Forest ReLeaf **Gateway Greening** The Green Center **Hanley House Lafayette Park Longview Farm Park** Missouri Botanical Garden **Litzinger Road Ecology Center** St. Louis County Parks **University City In Bloom** 

# Where We Volunteer Hours in 2014

44,383

Master Gardeners have long term relationships with many gardening and beautification organizations in the Greater Metropolitan area. In addition, MG time, knowledge and muscle are contributed to short-term projects that make a difference to almost every community. St. Louis would be a different place without Master Gardeners! Total hours were up from 38, 071 in 2013 and 35,897 in 2012.

In 2014, Master Gardeners partnered with sixteen community gardening organizations who recruited volunteers at the annual volunteer fair. Gardeners also worked on myriad community beautification projects across the metro area.

# **Projects**

**Bring Conservation Home (St. Louis Audubon Society) Builder's Home and Garden Show (St. Louis Convention Center)** Ferguson Farmer's Market "Ask the Gardener Table" Florissant Valley Community College Greenhouse Historic Oakland House; Independence Center Jefferson Barracks Cemetery North Gate (St. Louis, MO) Jr. Treekeepers Program **Kirkwood City Parks** Laumeier Sculpture Park Annual Art Fair (Sunset Hills, MO) **Longview Farm Park (Town and Country, M0) Maplewood/Richmond Heights School District MBG Little Shop Around the Corner** Mount Calvary Church Rain Garden (Brentwood, MO) Mudd's Grove (Kirkwood, MO) **Olivette in Bloom** Paraquad (St. Louis, MO) St. Louis University Urban Project St. Louis University Greenhouse Thurman Gateway Park Prairie (St. Louis, MO) Tillie's Corner (St. Louis, MO)



Work on the Jefferson Barracks Gateway

# Training Classes

Master Gardeners remember most of their 18-weeks of training fondly. In 2014, the program was expanded from the now-traditional Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m. afternoon session to an additional Thursday 6:00-9:00 p.m. evening session. Students were tested weekly on lecture material and on assigned plant genera. Field trips and tours included the MBG greenhouses, Litzsinger Road Ecology Center, and many of the picture-perfect MBG gardens. A record 58 students graduated from the program in December 2014, doubling the number of graduates five years ago in 2010.

Did you know that Master Gardeners originated as a question answering service called the Answer Men? Plant Doctors help the public in this photo.



# Training Schedule 2014

1	Jan. 9	Plant Relationships, Plant Names & Anatomy 1	Glenn Kopp
2	Jan. 16	Plant Anatomy II	Glenn Kopp
3	Jan. 23	Plant Growth & Development	Chris Kirmeier
4	Jan. 30	Plant Propagation	Mark Zigrang
5	Feb. 6	Soils	Steve Cline
6	Feb. 13	Fertilizers/Composting	Nathan Brandt
7	Feb. 20	Woody Ornamentals	Mark Grueber
8	Feb. 27	Pruning	Ben Chu
9	Mar. 6	Lawns	Glenn Kraemer
10	Mar. 13	Native Plants	Cindy Gilberg
11	Mar. 20	Perennials	June Hutson
12	Mar. 27	Annuals	June Hutson
13	Apr. 3	Bulbs	Jason Delaney
14	Apr. 10	Insects	Ronda Anson
15	Apr. 17	Diseases	Nathan Brandt
16	Apr. 24	Vegetables	Eliz. Spiegel
17	May 1	Fruits	Eliz. Wahle
18	May 8	Landscape Design	Terry Milne
19	May 15	Graduation	



Phil Egart, the rock of the Master Gardener Program

Many thanks to volunteer classroom assistants: Linda Anderson, Valerie Donahue, and Paula Miceli as well as Extension staffer Janie Lewis.

#### The Rock

And a round of applause to Phil Egart, Kemper Center whiz, for all he does for the Master Gardener Program. Phil was named Honorary Master Gardener at the 2014 Holiday Awards Program.

# Continuing Education Classes for 2014

Gardeners are a curious bunch of people with a big wide world of interests. To keep up with new gardening information, the Master Gardener program offers a monthly Continuing Education topic (see below) which may include a lecture, tour or demonstration. Diane Grubbs is the Chair of the MGAC Continuing Education Team.

January 25	Plant Propagation Demonstration	South Co. Tech Greenhouse	
January 28	Forest Ecology of Missouri	Michael Walsh, Forest ReLeaf	
March 1	Bamboo Trellis Demonstration	Harold Tennyson, MG	
April 22	Peak Bloom Walk (Ottoman Garden)	Sara Murphy, MBG Staff	
May 3	Bamboo Trellis Demonstration	Harold Tennyson, MG	
May 6	Historic and Important Trees of the Garden	Alan Stentz, MG	
May 13	Peak Bloom Walk (Goldman Iris Garden)	Terry Milne, MG	
June 26	Peak Bloom Walk (Jenkins Daylily Garden)	Chick Buehrig, MG	
July 10	Rainscaping	Ned Siegel, MG	
August 18	Sacred Seeds & Medicinal Plants	Wendy Applequist	
Sept. 12-14	2014 Missouri Master Gardener Conference	Missouri Master Gardener Conference	
October 23	"It's Autumn" Workshop organized and hosted by Nathan Brandt		
	Speakers:		
	Mark Bowers Acorns - They're Not Just for Squirrels Anymore!		
	Nathan Brandt Get to Know Your Winter A	Get to Know Your Winter Annuals: ID & Control Landscape Lighting with LEDs	
	Steve Leu Landscape Lighting with LF		
November 17	Gardening in Urban Soils	James Wagner, Forest Park Forever	
December	none		

# Speakers Bureau

Kudos to the MG speakers! They research and prepare their own talks in PowerPoint, book their own programs, generate the forms needed, create useful handouts, tote equipment, and stay in touch in advance as needed. Not to mention, deliver cogent, useful, and beautiful presentations!

The Speakers Bureau consists of 23 Master Gardeners who represent the Master Gardener program at multiples sites around the metropolitan area in the course of a year. 47 presentation topics are offered ranging from *All about Orchids* to *Winter's Natural Beauty*. 106 presentations were given in 2014, up about 10% over last year's efforts.

Special recognition goes to Speakers Bureau Coordinator Betsy Alexander. An excellent speaker on a variety of topics herself, Betsy is an invaluable source of expertise and enthusiasm for the program.

# **Amazing Eight Top Topics for 2014**

Glades of Missouri - Carol Gravens
Plants of the Bible - John Hensley
Autumn Spectacular - Carol Gravens
Rain Gardening - Ned Siegel
Spring Garden Preparation - Jack Lane
Hydrangeas - Anne Kirkpatrick
Best Gardening Practices for
a Sustainable Garden - Betsy Alexander
Winter Damage - Betsy Alexander



Betsy Alexander sorting day lilies(her favorite flower).



Picking the Perfect Plant

# South Tech High School Greenhouse

The St. Louis Master Gardeners and South County Technical High School have a win-win situation. The projects and plants grown at the South Tech Greenhouse have sustained community gardens through the plants produced and the Master Gardener program via the revenue produced.

The greenhouse counted 43 regular volunteers who propagated approximately 20,000 plants for sale and donation. These included annuals, perennials, natives, aquatics, herbs, vegetables, and tropicals. The plant sale netted over \$22,000 for the Master Gardener program while leftover plants were donated to 13 not-for-profit organizations in the greater Metro area.



Greenhouse godparents Karen Koehneman and Leon Zickrick with Special School District Awards



Tillie's Corner remade

# 2014 Capstone Project:

# Tillie's Corner

Mrs. Lillie V. "Granny" Pearson owned the neighborhood institution "Tillie's Grocery" for 50 years on Garrison Avenue in the historically Black Jeff-Vander-Lou area of St. Louis. After her death in 2006, her grand-daughter and her husband have spearheaded efforts to turn the site into a community resource. Master Gardeners adopted the site and landscaped it as part of their 2014 class Capstone Project.



2014 Master Gardener "Super People" Chuck Brust and Mark Kalk

# 2014 Community Service Awards

# From Gateway Greening's

Michael Sorth: Thank you for being a member of the Gateway Greening family and supporting our work in the amount of \$500. We appreciate that you understand the important role community gardens play in education, neighborhood building, and enhancing the livability of St. Louis. Your support helps us in our mission to empower and educate people to strengthen their communities through gardening and urban agriculture.



Working on Downtown Medians

# The Covering House Donald Frisch

The Covering House is a place of refuge and restoration for girls who have experienced sexual trafficking or exploitation. Its garden space is used for many rehabilitation programs.

# The Water Tower and Park Preservation Society Patricia Tailon-Miller

This organization aims to renovate Compton Hill Reservoir Park back to its original Victorian splendor.

# **Gateway Greening City Seeds Urban Farm** Rachel Deffenbaugh

Providing fresh produce for local charities and the Bell Market, the staff and volunteers work alongside participants from the St. Patrick Center to provide opportunities for the homeless.

#### Tillie's Corner

# Miguel and Carla Pearson Alexander

The site of a former black-owned neighborhood grocery in the Jeff-Vander-Lou area is being transformed into a community garden and playground with the help of the 2014 Master Gardener Class.

# 2014 Master Gardener Volunteer Hours

#### 900 to 1000 Hours Mark Kalk

# 800+ Hours Karen Koehneman

# 700+ Hours Gary Hartman

## 500+ Hours

Claire Chosid Ron Stevens Leon Zickrick

#### 400+ Hours

Mary Jo Anderson Chuck Brust Chris Kirmaier Margaret Lahrmann Ginny McCook Laurian McGrath

## 300+ Hours

Betsy Alexander Ronda Anson Chick Buehrig Carol Gravens Dennis Green Marlene Katz John Lorenz Bonnie Lorenz Susan Pinker Dodd Stephanie Sigala

#### 200+ Hours

Chyrle Arens Mara Berry David Buck Ann Case Rosemary Currie Valerie Donahue Debra Ebel Gordon Gosh Dan Gravens Diane Grubbs John Hensley George Hibbard Barbara Hilton

Chuck Johnson

Pam Klump Chrissie McConnell Deborah Moulton Susan Pang Amelia Patrick Sue Reisel Cvnthia Rill Don Rumer Susan Scott Ned Siegel Karla Standlee Marian Wuest

## 100+ Hours

Monte Abbott Linda Anderson Cathy Arnold Virginia Bangert Nichole Blume Joyce Borgmeyer Jack Breier Rita Buckley **Dennis Chambers** Tobie Chapman Alberta Chulick Marilyn Claggett Susan Collins Sophie Connor Linda Coonrod Debbie Croghan Debra Davis Dave Dennon Mary Deschene Joan Disse Judy Evans Ann Eveker Carole Fehr Rita Gentilcore Keith Gentry Jan Gowen Judith Haldeman **Emery Harmon** Karen Hermann Irene Hindman Karen Hindman Jim Horn David Horton

Anita Isenberg

Maggie Jackson

Veronica Johnson

Doris Johnston Patricia Jones Linda Kalicak Jean Kelly Susan Kennedy Madelynn Kester Anne Kirkpatrick Linda Koenig Deborah Ladd Jack Lane Marilyn Lane Carol Lentz William Lenz Jeff Lund Sarah Martin **Jim Massey** Kelly Mazzacavallo Gary Meyer Cherie Moody Kathee Morgeson Larry Morrison Durinda Mullins Greg Newell Barbara Nichols Ken Olsen Donna Olson Karen Pahuski Mari Parato Lisa Pestronk Lee Phillion Debbie Phillips Judy Portnoy Cheryl Rafert Anne Rankin-Horton Alan Raymond Margie Richards Michele Roberts Ann Robison Linda Robson Martha Schermann Laura Schnure Jodi Smedley Alan Stentz John Stephens **Jean Steward** Maxine Stone

Sarah Strandemo

Peggy Stuckmeyer

Betty Struckhoff

Nona Swank

Harold Tennyson Steve Varga Ianet Vetter Juanita Walker Mary Lee Walter Donna Webster Linn Wells Ken Wheat Sandra Willems Carolyn Willmore Julio Yacula

#### 50+ Hours

Karla Abel Diane Abernathy Helen Albrecht Bonnie Alinder Barbara Anderson Kay Banks Deborah Beezley Katie Belisle-Iffrig Patty Benner Holly Berthold Theresa Biggs Diane Binz Richard Blowers Kathy Bumberry Leigh Butler Wally Cammarata Sue Chaires Bruce Chalker Tina Cheung Jeanne Clerc Megan Clinton Kim Comer-Ross Dick Cone Martha Conzelman Jacqueline Corn Alicia Creighton John Danner Carole Dean Evelyn Dickerman Nancy Dietz Berta Dulle Patty Erker

Karlene Feldker

Kathleen Ferrell

Pamela Fournier

**Joanne Fogarty** 

Chervl Fox

Paula French Joyce Fry Kim Gamel Patrick Ganley Jay Gardner Yvonne Garner **Julie Geary** Michael Georgen Margaret Grant Joan Griffard Julie Grimm Mary Hacking Susan Hackney Patti Hageman Theodora Hart Toni Marie Hayes Jane Helbig Kate Hellmann David Heppermann Jan Hermann Carol Higgins Patsy Hodge Gail Hoffman Sandra Hopkins Margaret Houlihan Linda Howell Charmaine Hutchings Anita Joggerst Meg Johnson Rick Johnston Fran Kempin Mary King Ray Kirkman Lynn Koeneman JoAnn Kresko Yvette Kurtz Bill Lampe Bonnie Langston Linda Lesh Tracie Lewis John B. Lewis Linda Lieb Claire Linzee John Lizzo Jennifer Loman Yvette Luedde Janice Madden Marvin Madrey Gloria Mahoney Pam Manning Susan Maurer KarenMay Sharon McClinton Glenda McGrath

Veronica McGrath Don McQueen Angie Menard Betty Meyer Sandy Meyer Paula Miceli Lauren Michniok Betty Moore Dotty Moxley Laura Murray Robin Musselman Barbara Mutz KarieAnn Neukomm Barbara Novak Mary Jo Nowobilski Kyle Oberle Tammy O'Brien Alison O'Brien Mike Olenjack Jeanne Ortega Fred Ortlip Cathy Osborn Luanne O'Shea Lynna Overby Holly Parks Craig Parmenter Ve'Niecy Pearman-Green Kav Pelikan Frank Peterson Mary A. Pierce Rhonda Porche-Sorbet Denise Pott Fred Rauch JoAnn Rawson Richard Read Holly Records David L. Reindl Betty Reinsch Claudia Rhodes Linda Rudisill Sammy Ruwitch Sarah Samuels Mike Schade Denise Schaedler Gerald Schaefer Jill Schappe Kay Schechter Sarah Schmidt Pamela Schneider

Joyce Schoeneberg

Jim Schuck

Ken Seher

Suzanne Sharp

Ernestina Short

Diane Siegel Anne Silverstein Armetta Smitley Maureen Spaete Meg Spencer Jeanette St. Vrain Suze Stark Donna Steinhoff Holly Stiles Barbara Swanson Mark Sweeney Judy Sweeney Ann Tansey Ian Thomas Richard Turner Ann Tuxbury Leigh Walker Linda Waugh Kathleen West Paul Whitsitt Chris Williams NancyZander

## **Under 50**

Gail Abbott Kelda Abe Silvio Angeli Sharon Baldassare Milissa Beaty Helena Bedalli Carol Berry Lucyann Boston Sandy Brooks Sharon Buchanan Marcia Carpenter Elizabeth Champion Mary Chapman Linda Chase Judy Cody Lillian Collins Michelle Connors Cindy Corley-Crapsey Thom Downey Joyce Driemeyer Karen Easley Jasmine Fazzari Savannah Furman Constance Goss Alex Granda Susan Grossman Linda Harman Pamela Hass Michele Helfrich

Norma Holler

Becky Homan Virginia Horrell John Huelsing, Jr. John Hyland Jessica Idleman Robert Irwin Donna Jensen Kathryn Jepsen Elizabeth Johnson Ruth Jonas Christy Jones Janet Jump Peggy Knippel Julie Kolberg Jack Krings Kevin Kruep Megan Kuban Kathy Kuehn Barbara Lawton Anna Leavev Matt Leigh Elizabeth Mattingly Mary Ellen May Cathy McClellan Sue McCool Michael Medley Patty Mendicino Terry Milne Gloria Mitchem Linda Monday Rosemary Murphy Theresa-Anne Naecker-Tatum Patricia O'Brien Dawn Olenjack Madalyn Payne Sharon Pedersen Mary Ann Pelot Suzanne Ramsey Haubein Joanne Richardson Don Ryan



Jennifer Schamber

# Master Gardener Hours of Service Awards\*

# 8000+ Hours:

John Stephens

# 7000+ Hours:

Ann Case

## 5000+ Hours:

Ronda Anson Carol Gravens Alan Stentz Leon Zickrick

# 3000+ Hours:

Betsy Alexander Mary Jo Anderson Frank Arnoldy Cecelia Beyer Chuck Brust Chick Buerhig Gordon Gosh Dan Gravens **Bob Harris** Jan Hermann George Hibbard Al Hoehn Anita Joggerst Linda Kalicak Mark Kalk Ray Kirkman Karen Koehneman Anita Rayfield Alma Reitz Ron Stevens

#### 2000+ Hours:

Chyrle Arens
Carol Berry
Dennis Chambers
Claire Chosid
Dick Cone
Sophie Connor
Hazel Cox
Kathleen Ferrell
Tom Hardy
Gary Hartman
Albert Hirson
Kitty Hoblitzelle

Jim Horn **David Horton** Doris Johnston Ruth Jonas Anne Kirkpatrick Jeanne Klebusch Joyce Knobbe John Kolar Deborah Ladd Jack Lane Laurian McGrath Jacqueline Mitchell Barbara Mutz Susan Pinker Dodd Sue Reisel Ann Robinson Don Rumer Van Spurgeon Harold Tennyson Robert Vander Linden Linda Waugh

# 1000+ Hours:

Cornelius Alwood Kay Banks Gerry Bickel Linda Bolhofner Lucyann Boston Jack Breier Marian Brown Sharon E. Brown Vincent Burns Wally Cammarata Marcia Carpenter Bill Cassilly Mary Chapman Marilyn Claggett Monica Clapper Lillian Collins Karen Cox Carole Dean Marion Dorffli Joyce Driemeyer Berta Dulle Debra Ebel Judy Evans Jasmine Fazzari

Sue Fields

Abby Flippello Joanne Fogarty Pamela Fournier Anne Frohman Charlotte Goday Jan Gowan Dennis Green Susan Hackney Emery Harmon Jane Helbig Maureen Helfers John Hensley Helen Hilliker Barbara Hilton Iames Hoefener Norma Holler Becky Homan Virginia Horrell Charmaine Hutchings Robert Irwin Maggie Jackson M.D. (Jo) Johansen Rick Johnston Christy Jones Janet Jump Jean Kelly Madelynn Kester Chris Kirmeier Linda Koenig Barbara Lawton William Lenz Claire Linzee J. Marshall Magner **Jim Massey** Ginny McCook Don McQueen Angie Menard Joan Merz Cherie Moody Anne Moore Judy Moskoff Rosemary Murphy Charlie Naeger Don Neal Mary Jo Nowobilski Patria O'Brien Kav Pelikan

Frank Peterson

Rhonda Porche-Sorbet Cheryl Rafert Fred Rauch David L. Reindl John Reiner Stacy Rolfe Vickie Rosenkoetter Sarah Schmidt Andrea Schnapp Joyce Schoeneberg Jim Schuck Rosalie M. Seemann Helen Serotte Ned Siegel Margaret Silver Karla Standlee Suze Stark Cindy Stein Donna Steinhoff Laura Streett Betty Struckhoff Mary Pat Sullivan Barbara Swanson Jim Teng Leigh Walker Robert Weaver Ken Wheat Susan White Carolyn Willmore Carol Wilson Elmer Wiltsch



\* Hours of Service are calculated through the end of 2013. Some are no longer with us.