



St. Louis Master Gardeners

Annual Report 2018

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




Extension
University of Missouri

 MISSOURI
BOTANICAL
GARDEN



St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee 2018-2019

*Bottom Row; l to r
Anne Rankin Horton,
Marsha Hobbs Smith,
Jan Gowen, Durinda
Mullins Top Row; l to r
Cheryl Rafert, Diane
Grubbs, Terry Milne,
Susan Hackney, Gloria
Mahoney*

St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee

2018 – 2019

Chair	Marsha Smith	May 2017 – May 2020
Treasurer	Jan Gowen	May 2018 – May 2021
Secretary	Durinda Mullins	May 2018 – May 2021
At Large	Diane Grubbs	Sep 2018 – May 2019
At Large	Gloria Mahoney	May 2016 – May 2019
At Large	Cheryl Rafert	May 2016 – May 2019
At Large	Anne Rankin Horton	May 2017 – May 2020
At Large	Terry Milne	May 2017 – May 2020
At Large	Susan Hackney	Sep 2018 – May 2021
At Large	Harriet Blickenstaff	May 2018 – Aug 2018
At Large	Nona Swank	May 2016 – Aug 2018
Ad Hoc	Betsy Alexander	

Staff



University of Missouri Extension
Justin Keay - Field Specialist in Horticulture (left)

Holly Records - Educational Program
Coordinator, St. Louis County (not shown)

Missouri Botanical Garden

Daria McKelvey – Supervisor, Kemper Center
for Home Gardening (right)



Master Gardener Program

St. Louis Master Gardeners are certified after completing a training course that covers a wide range of horticultural subjects taught by staff from the University of Missouri Extension, the Missouri Botanical Garden and other professionals from the local community. After completing the initial training course, trainees are certified as Master Gardeners after completing 40 hours of volunteer service. Each year thereafter, Master Gardeners must donate 40 hours of volunteer service and acquire 10 hours of continuing education in order to retain their certification.

The Master Gardener program is coordinated by an Advisory Committee consisting of nine active Master Gardeners who are elected to three-year terms. The five subcommittees of the Advisory Committee are Communications, Education, Membership, Outreach and Fundraising.

The Advisory Committee works with the Program Coordinators from the Missouri Botanical Garden and the University of Missouri Extension as well as the Volunteer Coordinator.



Congratulations to the St. Louis Master Gardener Class of 2018!

Mark Banaszak	Katrina Harris	Anne Marie Mayuga
Rachel Bartels	Mary Harris	Kelsey McClure
Beverly Branneky	George Holtzman	Lynnette Miller
Ronald Brown	Mary Hopkins	James Morrison
Leah Burnett	Joshua Hovis	Sherry Moschner
Peggy Conroy Oge	Alex Hromockyj	Raghib Muhammad
Beverly Dyson	Laura Hudson	Marc Nielsen
Hannah Ehrlich	Sally Keasler	Veronica Putz
Deborah Eldridge	Peggy Kelly	Samantha Rector
William Erker	Maisah Khan	Cade Robinson
Diana Finlay	Barb Kinsella	Myra Rosenthal
Mark Flush	Kelly Beth Konieczka	Karen Sanders
Jim Gierse	Beth Kusmin	Ed Schmidt
Sheri Goldsmith	Julie Lakey	Lynne Seacord
Joanne Graham	Montserrat Lavid	Kimberly Smith
Jeanne Grone	Mackenzie Leek	Adrienne Stahl
Debbie Grossman	Paula Lemerman	Patty Taillon-Miller
Julie Guariglia	Ronnie Lodato	Linda Tolie
Amy Hanson	Maureen Malone	Erica Williams
Julie Harms	Linda Massey	John Zalewski
Bridgett Harris		



St. Louis Master Gardener Class 2018

From the Chair

In 2018 Master Gardeners continued the traditions held since the organization's establishment in 1983, dedication to education and community service. St. Louis Master Gardeners contributed 38,100 volunteer hours to the St. Louis area by working with various community groups to beautify parks and recreational areas, organize youth programs, support community gardens and teach others about gardening.



The organization focuses on education through the efforts of the St. Louis Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau, by volunteering for organizations that provide education to the public such as Audubon Bringing Conservation Home, the Horticulture Answer Service and the Plant Dr. Desk.

Highlights of 2018 include:

- 38,100 volunteer hours
- 346 active Master Gardeners (volunteered at least 40 hours each)
- 61 newly certified Master Gardeners under the guidance of Holly Records
- 11 Continuing Education programs
- 101 Speakers Bureau presentations
- An annual Holiday Party for socializing
- Expanded use of Facebook both private and public pages
- Development of a new website deployed in early January 2019
- Renewed membership in MOMGA and increased participation
- \$4000 in contributions to Gateway Greening and the Missouri Botanical Garden

This year we are fortunate to welcome Daria McKelvey, the Supervisor of the Kemper Center for Home Gardening as the new Master Gardener Program Coordinator from the Missouri Botanical Garden and Justin Keay, Field Specialist in Horticulture, as the new Master Gardener Coordinator from the University of Missouri Extension. We are delighted to have their guidance and support!

We are looking forward to a great 2019 in the community and in the garden!

Continuing Education

The Education Subcommittee works diligently each year to provide opportunities for St. Louis Master Gardeners to keep current on developments in horticulture, and a wide range of gardening topics. Each Master Gardener must acquire 10 hours of continuing education credits each year to maintain their certification. In 2018, the Education Subcommittee scheduled eleven free-of-charge continuing education classes at varied times to accommodate the schedules of Master Gardeners.

Continuing Education Classes for 2018

DATE	TOPIC / PRESENTER	LOCATION
Feb 2 Fri 9:00 AM	Grasses, Sedges & Rushes with Victoria Hatfield	Kemper Classroom
Mar 13 Tue 9:30 AM	New American Gardening with Chris Carl	Missouri Room, Ridgway
Apr 23 Mon 10:00 AM	Native Plants and Container Gardening with Susan Helm	Kemper Classroom
May 21 Mon 10:00 AM	The Next Invasive Plant Comes to Town with Scott Woodbury	Kemper Classroom
Jun 2 Sat 9:00 AM	Open Garden Tour with Nathan Urben	253 Ballwin Ave, Winchester, MO 63021
Jun 19 Tues 10:00 AM	Open Garden Tour of R & R Ranch with MG Stacy Rolfe	18222 Wildhorse Creek Rd, Chesterfield MO 63005
Jul 12 Thurs 10:30 AM	Tour of New Oertli Family Hardy Plant Nursery with Derek Lyle	3445 Bent Avenue
Jul 26 Thurs 10:00 AM	Gateway Greening Giving Grove Orchard Project with Dean Gunderson	Kemper Classroom
Aug 11 Sat 10:00 AM	Front Yard Gardening with Native Plants with James Faupel	Kemper Classroom
Oct 25 Thurs 10:00 AM	Native Landscaping with Perennials for Pollinators with Dave Tylka	Kemper Classroom
Nov 27 Tues 10:30 AM	Wildflowers of the Texas High Plains with Daria McKelvey	Kemper Classroom

Speakers Bureau 2018

The Speakers Bureau, coordinated by Master Gardener, Betsy Alexander, is an active contingent of 20 Master Gardeners that give presentations on a wide variety of gardening and gardening-related topics to garden clubs, community groups, schools and other organizations throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan area and beyond. The Speakers Bureau currently offers 56 presentation topics available to the public. The Speakers Bureau is one of the primary ways that the Master Gardeners offer gardening education services in the St. Louis area. A fee of \$50 per presentation also provides a source of income to the Master Gardener organization.

101 Speakers Bureau Presentations in 2018!

The most frequently requested topics in 2018 were:

Presenter	Topic	Number of Presentations
Betsy Alexander	Best Gardening Practices for a Sustainable Garden	9
Anne Kirkpatrick	Hydrangeas	8
Marc Hartstein	ABCs of Honey Bees	6
John Hensley	Plants of the Bible	5
Carol Gravens	Plants that Changed History	5
Terry Milne	Vertical Gardening	5

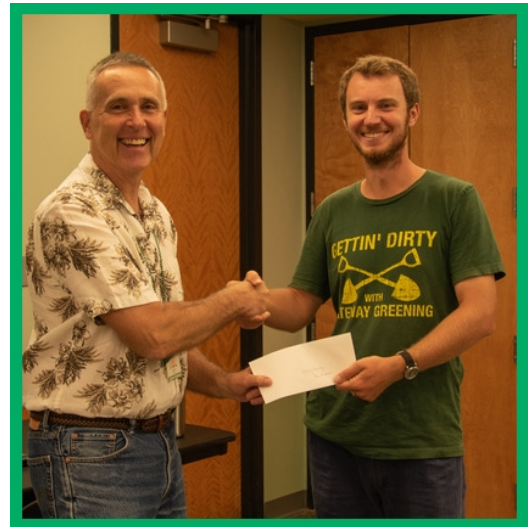
New Programs in 2018

Presenter	Topic
John Hensley	Botanic Gardens Arm Chair Tours
Marsha Hobbs Smith	Companion Planting
Carol Gravens	Problems Common to Many Perennials and Annuals
Carol Gravens	Ten Ways to Add Biodiversity to Your Garden
Betsy Alexander	Victorian Gardens

Community Outreach Grants and Awards

In addition to volunteer service, the St. Louis Master Gardeners have a history of supporting local horticulture groups by donating monetarily to their horticultural and educational efforts in the community. Since 2007, the Master Gardeners have donated over \$80,000.00 to local organizations including Brightside-Stl, Compton Hill Water Tower Park and Preservation Society, Covenant House, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, Gateway Greening, Grow Glendale Gorgeous, Independence Center, International Institute of St. Louis, Lafayette Park, Little Creek Nature Center, Litzinger Road Ecology Center, Maplewood Richmond Heights School, Mason Ridge Garden Club, McCluer North High School, Meramec Community College, Missouri Botanical Garden, Missourians for Monarchs, Paraquad, St. Louis Audubon Society, St. Louis County Parks, Tappmeyer House, Tillie's Corner, University City Children's Center, Kathy J. Weinman Shelter, and South County Tech Vocational High School.

In 2018, the Master Gardeners gave a donation to Gateway Greening in support of their Giving Grove program which focuses on growing different fruit and nut crops in St. Louis community gardens. Ned Seigel, former Chairman of the St. Louis Master Gardeners Advisory Committee, presented Dean Gunderson, Garden Program Manager at Gateway Greening, with a check for \$3000 in support of this program.



In December of 2018, Marsha Smith, Chairman of the St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee, presented Derek Lyle, Horticulturist at the Missouri Botanical Garden, with a check for \$1000. This donation is to support the plant materials for the six planters in Spoehrer Plaza that were donated to the garden in 2011 by the St. Louis Master Gardeners.

Volunteer Hours

In keeping with our Mission of community service and education, the St. Louis Master Gardeners contributed 38,100 volunteer hours in 2018.

Volunteer Sites	Hours
Butterfly House	723
Continuing Education	5041
Garden Tours	266
Gateway Greening	1188
Litzsinger Road Ecology Center	1019
MG Administration	1048
Missouri Botanical Garden / Gardening	5629
Missouri Botanical Garden / Non- Gardening	8666
Parks and Gardens	7380
Shaw Nature Reserve	578
St. Louis City Parks	2106
St. Louis County Parks	2197
Teaching / Advising	2260

Volunteer sites in parks and gardens include Bellefontaine Cemetery, Brightside St. Louis, Clayton Parks, Forest Releaf, Grow Glendale Gorgeous, Independence Center, Kirkwood City Parks, Longview Farm Park, Museum of Transportation, Olivette in Bloom, Paraquid, Tappmeyer House, The Green Center, U City in Bloom and Weinman Women's Center.

Volunteer sites in St. Louis City parks include Carondelet, Compton Hill, Flora Conservancy, Forest Park Forever, Francis Park, Lafayette Park, Soldiers Memorial, and Wilmore Park.

Volunteer sites in St. Louis County parks include Creve Coeur Park, Fair St. Louis Floats, Faust Park, Jefferson Barracks, Laumeier Sculpture Park, and Queeny Park.

Teaching and Advising volunteer hours include working with Audubon Bird Conservation Home, Farmer's Market Activities, the Home and Garden Show, Junior Tree Keeper, School Gardens, and St. Louis Master Gardener Speakers Bureau.

St. Louis Master Gardener Holiday Party

The Master Gardener Holiday Party was held on December 6, 2018 at the Monsanto Center. 136 Master Gardeners were in attendance as well as guests from the Missouri Botanical Garden and University of Missouri Extension. All enjoyed the great food, good company and a chance to win one of the beautiful wreaths created by the Membership Subcommittee as well as the lovely poinsettias given as attendance prizes. Many thanks to the Membership Subcommittee members, Gloria Mahoney (chairperson), Margaret Lahrmann, Stephanie Sigala, Anne Rankin Horton, and Maxine Stone as well as their helpers for this event, Betsy Alexander, Mary Jo Anderson, Renee Barry, Debbie Callahan, Mary Ellen Dockery, Denny Green, Diane Grubbs, Bridgett Harris, Sally Keasler, Bonnie Langston, Kelsey McClure, Sara Martin, Joan Morris, Ned Siegel, Veronica Putz, Cathy Osborn, Mandy Sappington, Kate Smith, Kimberly Smith, Harold Tennyson, and Nancy Zander.



The MG Class of 2018 was recognized. Photos taken are viewable on the Galleries page of the [St. Louis Master Gardener Website](#). Master Gardeners who had reached service milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of continuous service were recognized and were awarded their service pins. Recognized for:

25 years of service (since 1994): Dick Cone, Sophie Connor, Gordon Gosh, David Horton, Ray Kirkman, Chrise Miller, Mary Jo Nowobilski, and Jim Schuck.

20 years of service (since 1999): Judy Evans, Pam Fournier, Pamela Hass, Don Rumer, Betty Struckhoff and Robert Weaver.

15 years of service (since 2004): Nichole Blume, Marilyn Claggett, Dan Gravens, Virginia Lay, Ken Olsen, and Rickey Wells.

10 years of service (since 2009): Helena Bedalli, Theresa Biggs, Chuck Brust, Sharon Buchanan, Claire Chosid, Debra Ebel, Joyce Fry, Meg Johnson, Mark Kalk, Bill Lampe, Pam Manning, Kelly Mazzacavallo, Laurian McGrath, Betty Moore, Laura Murray, Ken Scher, Peggy Stuckmeyer, Sandra Willems, and Donna Zerega.

5 years of service (since 2014): Deborah Beezley, Holly Berthold, Diane Binz, Tobie Chapman, Michelle Connors, John Danner, Mary Deschene, Ann Eveker, Jay Gardner, Rita Gentilcore, Margaret Grant, Kate Hellmann, Karen Hellmann, Gail Hoffman, Patricia Jones, Fran Kempin, Susan Kennedy, Pam Klump, Carol Lentz, Yvette Luedde, Chrissie McConnell, Gary Meyer, Paula Miceli, Lauren Michniok, Deborah Moulton, Dotty Moxley, Robin Musselman, Lane O'Shea, Dawn Olenjack, Mike Olenjack, Lynna Overby, Claudia Rhodes, Denise Schaedler, Gerald Schaefer, Jill Schappe, Pamela Schneider, Nona Swank, Mark Sweeney, Juanita Walker, MaryLee Walter, and Paul Whitsitt.