



*Connecting a Community of Gardeners Through Learning*

**May 3rd, 2016 General Membership Special Event  
“The Importance of Pollinators” Cyndie Roech  
Volunteer Project Spotlight**

**Summary**

**Call to Order:** 6:35 pm by Cheryl Gross, MGANM Vice President

**Attending:** Judy Reich, Nancy Larson, Becky Johnson, Cheryl Gross, Nancy Denison, Whitney Miller, Martha Dively, Rick George, Elizabeth Clous, Tom Patton, Glynis Waycaster, Marilyn Newstead, Bruce Barnes, Kathy Marciniak, Marina Deering, Michael Deering, Cyndie and Rob Roech

**Welcome & Introduction:** Cheryl Gross, Vice President, MGANM

**Program: The Importance of Pollinators** Cyndie Roech of GT Butterfly House & Bug Zoo  
Cyndie gave an interesting and informative presentation on protecting our native pollinators and what is going on at the Butterfly House and Zoo which is located at 8840 E. M-72, Williamsburg. Anyone interested in volunteering can get more information on the website. [www.gtbutterflyzoo.com](http://www.gtbutterflyzoo.com). Cyndie ended her talk by choosing names for Free Admission Tickets. The lucky winners were Tom Patton and Martha Dively. Rob Roech was on hand to show us several live specimens from the Bug Zoo.

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Becky Johnson, MSUE Master Gardener

**Peace Ranch** is a local non-profit that serves Children, Families, and Veterans in crisis through equine therapy with rehabilitated rescue horses. Becky Johnson coordinates the volunteers that maintain Ezekiel Memorial Garden. Work bees are held every Tuesday and Friday from 1pm to 3pm in June, July and August. Another opportunity is Spring Farm Day on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Interested Master Gardeners can contact Becky by telephone: 231-276-9296 or by E-mail: [ABTool@charter.net](mailto:ABTool@charter.net). For additional information on Peace Ranch, go to their website: [peac ranchtc.com](http://peac ranchtc.com). This project is listed on the VMS site for entry of volunteer hours.

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Tom Patton, MSUE Master Gardener

The **Leelanau Government Center Gardens** include the native landscaping gardens around the building and the Rain Gardens. The native plant gardens at the Government Center are maintained by and a project of Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. There is an upcoming work bee on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Tom also had information from MSUE on the Master Gardener Training program for anyone interested.

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Elizabeth Clous and Marina Deering MSUE Master Gardeners

**The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park** is a partner of the MGANM and the Garden offers volunteer opportunities for Master Gardeners both in actual gardening and also as docents. Volunteer



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orientation sessions will be held this spring. The Volunteer Coordinator is Sally Weaver. You can reach her at tcbgvolunteer@gmail.com or 231-499-9534.

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Martha Dively & Judy Reich, MSUE Master Gardeners

**The Native Gardens at the Boardman River Nature Center** are maintained by and are a project of the MGANM. Work Bees are held throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall. Contact Martha to be put on the email notification list at DivelyCA@msn.com

In addition there are other Volunteer opportunities with our partner, the Grand Traverse, Conservation District. Of particular note is the upcoming Native Plant Sale. The Master Gardeners will hold a plant sale in conjunction with the GTCD sale. For more Information and a calendar of events, go to the GTCD website: natureiscalling.org

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Kathy Marciniak & Bruce Barnes, 2015 MSUE Master Gardener Trainees

Kathy and Bruce talked about a project they are working on getting VMS approvals for at **The Father Fred Foundation**.

**MG Volunteer Project Spotlight:** Cheryl Gross, MSUE Advanced Master Gardener, Vice President MGANM

**MGANM** (Master Gardener Association of Northwest Michigan) is the local association for Michigan State University Extension Master Gardeners. The association provides educational meetings and volunteering opportunities for members and the community, publishes a bi-monthly E-Newsletter bi-monthly. Participating in the work of the association qualifies as recertification hours. More information can be found on Facebook and the website: www.mganm.org

Following the presentations, Cheryl thanked the participants. A door prize drawing was held. Bruce Barnes was the winner of a book on Butterflies. Attendees had the opportunity to talk with the presenters and sign up to help with volunteer projects.

**Adjournment:** 8:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Reich, Secretary MGANM