



MGSOC General Meeting, Troy Community Center: 04-14-2026

Business Meeting:

President Craig Smith called the meeting to order at 6:25pm and welcomed our members.

President's Report (Craig Smith):

- Craig brought the new MGSOC Master Gardener of the Year plaque which we passed around for everyone to see. Congratulations to Betty Peters as this year's awardee.
- A Master Gardener Extension Banquet is planned for **August 13, 2026** at Glen Oaks Country Club. MSUE is helping to fund in an effort to keep ticket prices lower. Future MSUE Awards will begin focusing on groups / projects instead of individuals.
- Craig reported that the Board is reviewing our financial procedures as the State of Michigan increases its auditing of non-profit organizations. We also want to increase fiscal transparency with our members.
- Our MG Garage Sale (with Macomb MG) will be **July 17 -18, 2026** at Telly's. George is setting up one of his barns for our use. Craig is currently looking for donations (old tools, gently used books, yard art, etc.) Please contact him, crsgto@live.com if you have items you'd like to donate.
- Craig noted MGSOC will be having a **May 24, 2026** work day at Hana's Garden, 2795 Seymour Road, Oxford 48371. MGSOC has partnered with Telly's Greenhouse to help refresh the Garden which was dedicated in 2021 to commemorate the four Oxford high school students who were shot. Please come out and help if you're available.

Vice-President's Report (Sally Bolle): Sally brought several copies of our reprinted MGSOC cookbook. Cookbooks are \$25 and are a fund raiser for the Society. Get your copy at the **All that Jazz-Designing a Better World** Conference on April 25, 2026 at Oakland University.

Treasurer's Report (Dianah Foster): Dianah presented the Treasurer's report. She detailed how our two accounts (savings and checking) work together. Income this month has been conference registrations, memberships, and vendor fees. Expenses this month have been conference fees, facility charges, surety insurance bond, and award plaques. Currently, balances are higher due to all the conference activities. Contact Dianah directly if you have specific questions.

Secretary's Report (Steve Smith): We are investigating moving our merchandise sales to an online vendor. This eliminates maintaining an on-site inventory, merchandise can be ordered on demand to your specific size and color, and delivery is directly to your home. Many organizations use a third-party vendor to provide logo ware. The Board will continue to investigate and report back to the membership.

Educational Conference (Betty Peters): Current registration is 275. Assistance is still needed for several conference support tasks, please help out if you can. Contact Deanna Richardson, jrttc@yahoo.com or visit the signup genius page: [2026 All that Jazz Conference Volunteer Sign Up](#) If you are in need of other conference information, please contact Betty Peters at betty@peters-inc.com

Membership (Julie Bird): No report

Hospitality (Kathy Sobanski): As always, please remember to email Kathy SobanskiK@yahoo.com if you are bringing food to our meeting.

Corresponding Secretary (Cecily Roney): No report

Bowers Farm (Nancy Schmid): West Bloomfield Schools continues to partner with Oakland County Parks and Recreation as the county assumes responsibility for the Farm. Nancy reported that Volunteer Garden Days were starting 4-15-26. Pre-ordering for the Native Plant Sale is open at [Michigan Native Plant Sale Order Form 2026 Registration](#). Last day to pre-order is April 30, 2026. The plant sale pickup date is June 6, 2026. Nancy reminded the group that Piechnik's will give a 15% discount on plants if you show your Master Gardener badge. Another excuse for me to keep my badge in my car!

Merchandise (Denise Brown): No report

Door Prizes & Raffles (Janie Grissom): No report.

MSU Extension Report (Melanie Fuhrmann): No report. Melanie's contact info: furhma19@msu.edu Sherry Riedel's contact info: riedels2@msu.edu

Meeting ended at 7:00p

MAY MEETING LOCATION CHANGE: May 12, 2026 at Telly's Greenhouse, 3301 John R Rd., Troy, 48083. Same process as usual, register by 6pm, business meeting at 6:30, and then our education presentation. We will return to the Troy Community Center for our June 10, 2026 meeting.

PRESENTATION: Amanda Koran introduced Jean Persely who spoke on "Pick a Pollinator". Her handout was emailed out to our members on 4-15-26.

WELCOME NEW and RENEWING MEMBERS:



Jacquelyn Cutright, Francine Lange, Beth Soboleski, Bill (William) Waggoner II



Lisa O'Brien, Nancy Doerr

IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

April 30, 2026:	Last day to pre-order Native plants online from Bowers Farm
May 12, 2026:	MGSOC General Meeting at Telly's Greenhouse, Troy
May 24, 2026:	MGSOC Workday at Hana's Garden, Oxford
June 6, 2026:	Pick up Native Plants at Bowers Farm
July 17 & 18, 2026:	Master Gardener Garage Sale at Telly's Greenhouse, Troy
August 13, 2026:	MSUE EMG Banquet at Glen Oaks, Bloomfield

Submitted, Steve Smith, MGSOC Secretary