Master Gardener Society of Oakland County, Inc.
AFFILIATED WITH MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

MGSOC General Meeting, Troy Community Center: 11-10-2026

Business Meeting:

President Craig Smith called the meeting to order at 6:28pm and welcomed everyone. Introduced 3 new members.

President's Report (Craig Smith):

- Our Board met with Macomb County EMG Board on 11-04-26 to look for opportunities to collaborate with activities, fund raising, and speakers. See Board Meeting minutes on www.mgsoc.org for details.
- Craig and Sally have been appointed to the Oakland County Advisory Council.
- Craig reminded everyone of critical dates for EMG recertification process. **Get your hours in by 11-30-26**. Call Craig if you need help.

Date	Event / Task	Comment
November 30, 2026	**EMG hours entry DEADLINE, VC closes**, Gold Badge hours due for 2027 recognition, hours waiver due	Contact VMS Ambassador for hours waiver
January 11, 2027	**EMG Recertification OPENS**: $20	Trainees / Emeritus: $0
January 31, 2027	**Regular EMG Recertification ENDS**	
February 1, 2027	LATE RECERTIFICATION begins, $40	
February 10, 2027	LATE RECERTIFICATION ENDS at Midnight	
February 11, 2027	RECERTIFCATION CLOSED	Hard deadline, if missed may recert April 1: $50

Vice-President's Report (Sally Bolle): A new merchandise inventory will be posted next week. Still exploring an on-line store.

Treasurer's Report (Dianah Foster): Dianah reported our current bank balances. Please contact Dianah dfoster777@comcast.net directly if you have specific questions about our current budget.

Secretary's Report (Steve Smith): Reminder, **all award & scholarship applications are due 12-31-2027**. All application forms are on our website, www.mgsoc.org, email or post your application to Steve (his email/address on applications).

Educational Conference (Betty Peters): 2027 Conference is scheduled for April 24, 2027 at Oakland University. Have started planning committee meetings. Please contact Betty betty@peters-inc.com if you would like to help in the planning.

Membership /Elections (Julie Bird): With our 3 new members, we are now at 105 members!

Hospitality (Kathy Sobanski): Our Holiday Party will be held ***December 8, 2026 5:30-8:00 at Telly's in Troy***, 3301 John R, Troy MI. A Signup Genius site has been set up. Please go to: https://mgsoc.org/calendar-of-events/#upcoming-meetings-2 Please reach out to Sharon Rausch sprauch13@gmail.com if you have questions about volunteering or food.

Corresponding Secretary (Cecily Roney): Nothing to report, please reach out to Cecily roneycecilya1@gmail.com if you know a member is need of a get-well card or just some general encouragement. 😊

Bowers Farm-Discovery Oaks Park (Nancy Schmid): Nancy noted that the season has ended for Bowers Farm Gardens. Will be a busy 2027 with many activities and updates, please reach out to Nancy nancy.c.s@comcast.net to find out more information on how you can help.

Speakers / Presentations (Amanda Koran):

- Amanda noted we have over 120 photos submitted. The Executive Board will choose the five finalists. All five photos will be displayed at the Holiday Party and those in attendance will select the 2026 Grand Prize winner. The Grand Prize winner will receive one-year free MGSOC membership, a gift certificate, and be the featured cover for our membership directory. Please note that all submitted photos may be used in future MGSOC presentations, such as the Gardening and All That Jazz slideshows, or on the MGSOC website.
- A group met to look at potential 2027 speakers. Potential talks on roses, pollinators, birds, hardy perennials, grasses, fungi, and historical gardens are on tap. Amanda will publish the list of topics once everything is finalized. If you'd have other topics of interest, please contact Amanda chase8219@gmail.com .

Meeting ended at 7:00pm

PRESENTATION: Amanda Koran introduced Janet Macunovich who gave a wonder presentation, "Diagnosing Problems" Diagnosis tool and Growing Degree Days chart are posted on Janet's website: www.GardenAtoZ.org Use searchword: "MGSOC" to find information. **TOTAL EDUCATION HOURS: 1.5**

Door Prizes and 50/50 Raffle: Janie raffled off four door prizes to those in attendance. 50/50 raffle collected the maximum $100 and our winner was Meghan Hicks. Meghan donated her winning's back to MGSOC. Thank you and Congratulations Meghan!

WELCOME NEW and RENEWING MEMBERS:

 Vicky Frame, Meghan Hicks, Michele Stoutenburg 

WE ARE NOW 105 MEMBERS STRONG!!

IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

11-30-2026: Deadline for logging volunteer hours into Volunteer Central

12-08-2026: Holiday Party and Pot Luck at Telly's Greenhouse, 3301 John R Troy MI 48083 5:30-8:00pm

01-11-2027: EMG Recertification starts

01-31-2027: EMG Recertification ends

04-24-2027: All That Jazz Educational Conference 2027, Oakland University

Submitted, Steve Smith, MGSOC Secretary