



Cross Pollination

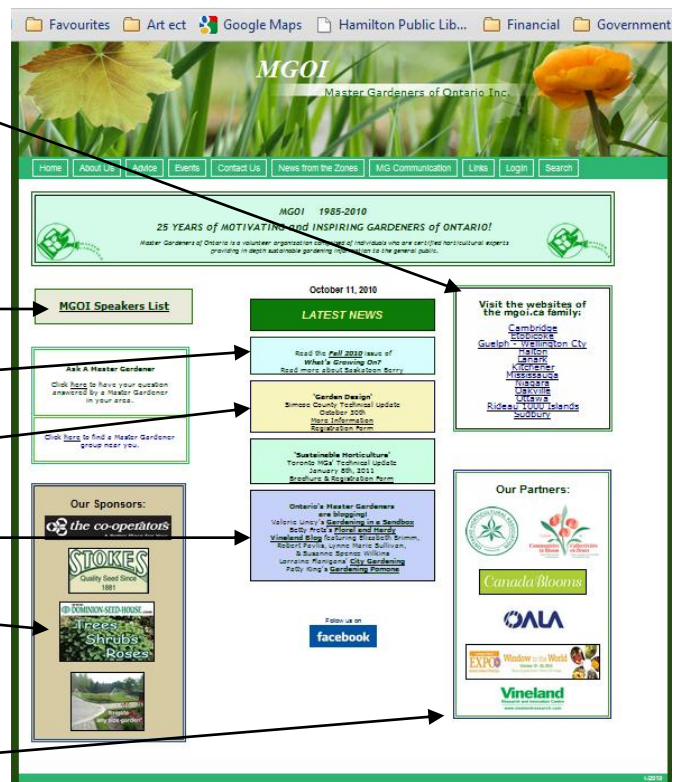
November 2010

Coordinator's Corner

Have you been to the MGOI website lately? Linda Hugli, the webmaster, has done an amazing job, constantly revamping and updating the website to respond to the needs of our members.

The MGOI home page provides one stop shopping for a number of items:

- Links to all the MG groups who have a sub domain website with MGOI including our own
- MGOI speakers' list which includes speakers, topics, fees and other useful information to help you find a speaker for your local horticultural society or garden function
- The current edition of the MGOI newsletter "What's Growing On"
- Information about upcoming Master Gardener Technical Updates
- A number of garden blogs including Patty's "Gardening Pomona"
- Links to MGOI sponsors such as Dominion Seedhouse and Stokes Seeds
- Links to MGOI partners such as Canada Blooms, Vineland Research Station, the Ontario Horticultural Association, Communities in Bloom and Landscape Ontario



So whether you want to check the dates of the next Canada Blooms, or you have forgotten which groups are having a Technical Update or you want to check what your local horticultural society meeting topic will be, you can easily find it all on the Master Gardeners of Ontario home page at mgoi.ca.

Claudette Sims



Brown Bag *Show and Tell*

Those of you who were at the October meeting will no doubt remember Larry's Brown Bag Show and Tell. He showed us the fruiting bodies of three really interesting plants and we tried to guess what they were. Although he didn't have all the botanical names at the time, he very kindly sent them to be included in our newsletter.

This tree is a living fossil and the world's oldest known tree. Pollution and pest resistant, this is Larry's boulevard tree. It turned out to be female. The books say that a female Ginkgo is undesirable because the fruit smells badly. None of us could detect any bad smell from the fruit.

1. Do you recognize this fruit?



There are three kinds:

- Capital Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* "capital")
- Chantecleer Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* "Chantecleer")
- Redspire Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* "Redspire")

The Redspire is the one Larry and Eloise have in their garden.

2. How about this fruit?



3. Some of us thought this last one was a physalis or ground cherry.



This plant turned out to be an Eloise experiment which attracted a lot of attention. The photo below shows the arrangement of the seeds. This plant is in the Sapindaceae or soapberry family which includes lychees and rambutan. Ground cherries or physalis are in the solanaceae family, along with Datura, belladonna, paprika and tomatoes.



Answers:

1. Ornamental pear - Poirier Ornamental (*Pyrus calleryana* "Redspire")
2. Maidenhair tree (*Ginkgo biloba*)
3. Love-in-a-Puff (*Cardiospermum Halicacabum*)

Garden Events

- **Chrysanthemum show at Gage Park:**
October 29 to November 7, 2010 theme:
Hamilton - City of Waterfalls **Speakers
Schedule at**
<http://www.hamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/694F57E6-DA74-45EE-8F35-24A5F49B50D9/0/speakersseries2010.pdf>
- **An Evening with Freeman Patterson:**
Gardening with what you have Saturday,
November 6, at 7 p.m. The Meeting
House, 2700 Bristol Circle, Oakville
Tickets: \$35 available from the Oakville
Horticultural Society or online
at:www.oakvillecentre.ca/1135.htm More
information about this inspirational show
by internationally acclaimed photographer,
writer and gardener is available at
www.oakvillehort.org



Halton Master Gardener Meetings

- December 1st
- February 2nd
- March 2nd
- March 30th
- May 4th
- June 1st

Check our website for details of future meetings at
www.haltonmastergardeners.mgoi.ca/Meetings.php

Workshops & Technical Updates

- **January 8, 2011 – Toronto Master Gardeners Technical Update** at Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East. Sustainable Horticulture
- **Speakers and info:**
 - Dr. David A. Galbraith, "Exploring Sustainability and Naturalization of Urban Gardens"
 - Dr. Rebecca Hallett, "Are you Bugged? Getting to Know the Good Insects in Your Garden."
 - Sean James, "Sustainable Gardening: Making it Happen"
 - Cost is \$35.00 including lunch.
 - Contact: Registration Coordinator: Linda Boyko lboyko@kpmg.ca
 - Brochure and registration form on the MGOI home page: mgoi.ca
- **Halton Region MG Technical Update,** September 17th , 2011
- **International MG Conference: Color it Green in a Wild and Wonderful Way** October 11th -14th, 2011 Charleston, WV <http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu/>

RBG

- **Doorways to the Holidays:** November 27 to December 9; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

