



December 2019

MGGC ELSEWHERE

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From the Executive Director ...

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the MGGC staff!

We have had a busy few months since my last report. MGGC had a successful booth at the Grand Rapids EXPO in December (check out the photos below), with many members and potential members stopping by to visit. We talked to many vendors during the slower times to let them know how important it is for them to be a member. Please help by gently prodding your vendors to join the association. Membership Informational packets are available to send you, if you would like them. The session MGGC sponsored on *Best Performing Annuals and Perennials* was very well attended. MGGC was mentioned several times during the event, with many people picking up contact flyers afterwards.

Greenhouse tours are being planned for early next year to greenhouse members and potential members. I recently visited the Kalamazoo area again and the Grand Rapids area, with greenhouse owners showing good interest in our organization. A big thank you to Mike Fassbender and Da

Mast for making these visits with me. Having a member with me really helps give me more credibility and a warmer reception. If you would like to join me on visits, please let Cindy or I know so we can schedule a time that works for you.

Our new website is almost ready for prime time! We are doing a full revamp of our website to better serve our members and show potential members what a great value our organization is. It will have a better calendar page, with events that you may be interested in, an updated member directory, and we will have a Virtual Marketplace for members, to list things they have to sell, think of it as a "Craigslist" for greenhouses. We will send out an announcement when it goes live after the first of the year.

A Survey was sent to all members, to see how many would like to have a "destination" annual meeting in October. The results have shown an overwhelming positive response. I am looking for possible venues for the meeting to present to the board. We will send out additional information in the new year with more details so watch your inbox.

This past year has been a year of change and growth for the Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council and the coming year will be even more exciting. We have tried to send out information pertaining to the greenhouse industry as it becomes available and our Tuesday Tidbit gives business pointers, updates from the Small Business Association of Michigan to help with your everyday business issues. If you have any suggestions for columns or Tuesday Tidbits please send them to us and we will add it to our emails.

Again, thank you for your continued support of the greenhouse industry and MGGC. Cindy and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "GOEFF". The letters are stylized and slanted to the right.

Goeff Hansen



MGGC EXPO booth photos

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, January 14

9:00 am

SBAM Board Room
120 N. Washington Square
10th Floor
Lansing, MI

Membership Renewal

2020 Renewal Invoices were e-mailed mid-October, and mailed in early December.

**If you did not receive one
please let us know at
mail@mifgc.org.**

Welcome New Members

Thank you for joining the Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council. We look forward to a great partnership with each one of you.

Ross Ginter & Tom Roth ~ **Michigan Peat Company**

Do you have a testimonial about MGGC?

We would love to hear it and be able to share on our newly designed website (not yet live).

Contact Cindy Ray at mail@mifgc.org or Goeff Hansen at MainStreet@sbam.org.

MSU hires new weed specialist for ornamentals

The MSU Department of Horticulture welcomes Debalina Saha as a new assistant professor of horticulture specializing in weed management in the ornamental horticulture industry. [Debalina Saha](#) joined the department in July of 2019 and is serving the landscape, nursery, greenhouse and Christmas tree industries.

USDA to Conduct the 2019 Census of Horticultural Specialties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the 2019 Census of Horticultural Specialties this winter to provide a comprehensive picture of the U.S. horticulture industry.

Growers are asked to use their unique survey code to complete the horticulture census online via NASS' secure website. The online questionnaire is user friendly, accessible on most electronic devices, and saves producers time by calculating totals and automatically skipping questions that don't apply to their operations.

For more information about the 2019 Census of Horticultural Specialties, visit www.nass.usda.gov/go/hort.

Point of Interest ~

Far-reaching greenhouse lights color the sky

The Detroit News recently reported about excess light from greenhouses lighting up the night sky from Canada. With the growing cannabis industry, this may soon become an issue in Michigan.

To see photos and read the full article visit:

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2019/11/26/far-reaching-greenhouse-lights-color-sky-leave-some-seeing-red/4248414002/>

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