

Thru the Garden Gate



Vol 3, No. 1 for September, October, November 2009
 The official publication of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Member of Central Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

inside

President's Message	1
Community Garden	2
Landscape Design Sch III	3
MGC Board of Directors (New)	3
Refresh Illinois	3
Blue Star Marker Restored	4
President's Goals	5
Environmental Studies Sch I	5
District Meetings	5
Flower Show Symposium	6
Gardening Study Sch III	6
Scholarship Awarded	7
Donations & Memorials	7
MGC 2008 Project for Awards	8
Flower Show Sch IV	9
World Gardening	10
Clubs on the Grow	10
NGC Scholarship	10
2009 Calendar	11
Legislative Update	12



A note ♪ from Lynn:

It is a privilege and an honor to accept the position of 2009-2011 Michigan Garden Clubs President and follow in the footsteps of the women who have previously held this office since 1931.

That's 78 years of enthusiasm, knowledge and making a difference in our communities. As I begin, I'd like to thank all the former Presidents, officers and members for their dedication, wisdom, service, and their foresight to make Michigan Garden Clubs the organization that it is today. I feel now, as I'm sure the past 39 Presidents have felt, overwhelmed with the task ahead, but joy in the knowledge of what can be accomplished.

Our theme for 2009-2011 is *"Growing more than Gardens"*

Being a member of MGC is not solely about planting flowers or trimming trees, it's about inspiring each other with our ideas, and love of gardening. It's about enhancing ones' life through education and finding beauty in change and developing relationships.

Do you know of the wildflower sanctuary located north of White Cloud, Michigan? Loda Lake is the only dedicated wildflower sanctuary in our National Forest system. In 1937 the Forest Service invited the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan, now Michigan Garden Clubs, to assist in creating a sanctuary for native plants. It was designated as a Wildflower Sanctuary on December, 1949.

To further our support of Loda Lake and promote Michigan Garden Clubs, this administration's fund raiser will be to offer clothing merchandise with an embroidered MGC logo. Proceeds will benefit the Loda Lake Wildflower Sanctuary and help to preserve its natural beauty for many generations.

To honor our military personnel, my wish is to increase the number of Blue Star Memorial Markers throughout Michigan. This marker program was developed by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. in 1945 to pay tribute to the Armed Forces that defended our Country in World War II. There are 37 markers throughout Michigan. Do you think, during the next two years, we could increase that number to 50 markers?

Yet another way to continue our support for our service men and women and their families was a project created by Florence Smith, a former president of MGC. She encouraged garden clubs across Michigan to plant a yellow ribbon of flowers to show support for our military.

We will co-ordinate our yellow ribbon of flowers project with our National Garden Club President, Renee Blaschke's project "Golden Days". She has request the mass planting of daffodils at retirement centers, public grounds, and Blue Star Memorials sites. Our National President has asked that we partner with our community leaders to identify blighted areas and develop community gardens.

Many of you are parents and former teachers. Children, like the ones you've raised, love to have someone read to them. Here's your opportunity, if you're not be able to dig in the soil, or get down and pull weeds, to read to a group of children and then donate the book to your local library. Be sure to place your garden club name in the book, you may find a new member who wishes to join a garden club. Contact your local librarian for suggestions on books that they may have on their wish list. A list of children's gardening books will be available on our web site or see page 5 of this document. Share with me the number of books your club donated to your library or school.

Every President wishes to increase membership in our organization. I'm asking that each club have a publicity chairman to spread the word about the local garden clubs and MGC. Create business cards, let others know who and what you're doing for the community. And there is a "publicity" book award!

Our Mission is to provide education resources and networking opportunities for our members and to promote the love of gardening, floral and landscape design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

Community Garden River Valley Garden Club

Elizabeth Palulis, President, River Valley Garden Club

With the cooperation of the Chikaming Township Park Board of Berrien County Michigan and a \$50,000 grant from the Pokagon Fund, the River Valley Garden Club has established a 1.5 acre organic community garden. Marianne DeAngelis, R V Garden Club member, has been the initiator and leader of this project.

Local farmers have given hours of volunteer time to clear and till the area.

The plots are available to anyone. A donation of \$30 is suggested but not mandatory. Participants are asked to use only organic methods of growing vegetables and flowers and practice water conservation. All participants are asked to “plant a row for the hungry” and garden club members will deliver produce to local food pantries and homeless shelters.

The official publication of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. A 501(c)3 organization.

Lynn Dinvald, State President

“Growing more than Gardens”

Treasurer: Sue Wilbur cswilber@yahoo.com

Editor: Gayle Nigg gayle@glga.net

Calendar: Lynn Dinvald ydoublelne@aol.com

Article Submission Deadlines:

Jun/July/Aug Issue: April 1;

Sep/Oct/Nov Issue: July 1;

Dec/Jan/Feb Issue: October 1;

Mar/Apr/May Issue: January 1

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

President: Renee D. Blaschke

1412 NE 7th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957-1202

Phone: h 512-360-2738 c 512-848-0885

Website: www.gardenclub.org

email: renee.blaschke@sbcglobal.net

Theme: “The World Around Us-Love It-Beautify It-Protect It”

Central Region Director: Joan Hood

1504 Ave A., Webster Groves, MO 63119-

5220, email: tolewg@aol.com

Phone: 314-962-9421

Theme: “The Future is Now”

Fall Bulb Planting Leads To Spring Rewards

Judy DeJaeger, Horticulture Chair

Although you're putting the garden to bed for winter, there is still bulb planting if you want to enjoy spring flowers. Bulbs need time to develop solid root systems before winter sets in; it's best to plant when temperatures remain below 60°F.

Buy bulbs from local garden centers or catalogs that offer top quality features – large, firm and of good color. Good drainage soil and six hours of direct sunlight a day are recommended. Fine wire mesh or sharply crushed rocks/shells will deter rodents, skunks and other small mammals. A rule of thumb – plant three times the bulb's height. Place large bulbs 4-6 apart, smaller bulbs 1-2 apart with the bulb point end up. After emerging in the spring, fertilize with a bulb fertilizer. Once flowers fade, remove the flower stem before seed pods appear. Let the leaves turn yellow; this provides nourishment for next year. Plant among perennials or add summer annuals; this hides dying leaves.

Here's an idea. Why wait for summer to design your containers? Fill a 1-gallon plastic pot with soilless potting mix. Don't worry about planting three times as deep here. Place large bulbs, say daffodils, in the bottom, next medium-sized bulbs, like tulips, last plant small bulbs, grape hyacinths, on top. Set the pot in a dry-leaf trench, water well, and cover with 12" of leaves. If you have squirrels, put wire mesh over the area. Early spring, remove the leaves. When the first sprouts appear, place pot in a decorative container. Put soil in the bottom of the decorative container, set the pot level with the top rim, and fill the rest with soil. Plant pansies or other cool-weather flowers in bare spots. You'll get rave reviews – everyone will wonder how you got your container flowers to bloom with such ease.

Discover the Wonder of Nature's Secrets Through the Eyes of a Child

Debra Zilka, Youth Activities Chair

It is both an honor and a privilege to have been appointed MGC's Youth Activities Chairperson by President Lynn Dinvald for 2009-2011.

My goals are as follows:

- ◆ To disseminate NGA's answer to the question “Why Youth Gardens?”
- ◆ To motivate and inspire you with ideas for projects that would include the youth of your community.
- ◆ To encourage you to partner with community leaders for the purpose of involving your youth.
- ◆ To be a vehicle by which youth leaders can network and share ideas.
- ◆ To showcase or encourage you to showcase your youth projects on the local, district, and state levels.

August marked a milestone within the youth-activities arena, as Smokey Bear celebrated his 65th birthday. If you recognized Smokey's birthday, or are planning to, I would love to hear about it.

I am very much looking forward to establishing a direct relationship between myself and you as the leader of a youth group or project. Please feel free to contact me with news and pictures about your projects, or any questions/concerns you may have: Debra Zilka, 36801 Porter St., Romulus, MI 48174-1236; email: dlzilka@earthlink.net.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY SCHOOL

Series XVIII - Course III

September 30th & October 1-2, 2009

LOCATION OF COURSE: MSU Radiology Department - Room 110
184 Service Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824-1376

HOTELS: Contact Directly

AGENDA & TOPICS: go to the MGC web site at: www.michigangardenclubs.org - Click on: Education; then Landscape Design; then Registration Sheet

READING LIST: Book "Stewards of the Land – A Survey of Landscape Architecture and Design in America" and a National Gardener subscription which can be obtained from NGC at 1-800-550-6007 or, online at www.gardenclub.org. You must have the 3 year subscription to the National Gardener to receive credit for the course.



REGISTRATION

Landscape Design School, Series XVIII - Course III

Registration Deadline—**September 15, 2009**

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Garden Club or Organization: _____

I prefer vegetarian lunches - circle Y or N

For New Students: Single Day - \$40.00 Exam Fee \$5.00

Wednesday, September 30th (lunch included) @\$40.00 _____

Thursday, October 1st (lunch included) @\$40.00 _____

Oct 1st or Oct 2nd —Exam Fee @\$ 5.00 _____

Total Enclosed. \$ _____

For Landscape Design Consultant - \$37.50 Refresher Fee \$5.00

Wednesday, September 30th (lunch included) @\$37.50 _____

Thursday, October 1st (lunch included) @\$37.50 _____

Refresher Fee. @ \$ 5.00 _____

Total Enclosed. \$ _____

Make Checks payable to: **MGC – Landscape Design School**

Note: A \$10.00 processing fee assessed if canceled after registering; no refund after September 15th deadline.

Mail registration form, check and label (from the National Gardener) stapled to registration form, to registrar.

REGISTRAR: Anne Wineman
2139 Arbor Meadows Drive
DeWitt, MI 48820-8834
Ph: 517-669-3152
E-mail: winemana@comcast.net

New Appointments To The MGC Board Of Directors

Award list is on the MGC web site www.michigangardenclubs.org

- ◆ Newsletter editor—Gayle Nigg, gayle@glga.net (Place "MGC" in the subject line)
- ◆ Calendar Chairman—Lynn Dinvald, YdoubleLNE@aol.com (Place "CALENDAR" in the subject line)
- ◆ Awards Chairman—Bobbie Quick, bobbierae2001@yahoo.com

New Crafts Chairman for MGC

Mary Van Tassel, of Westwood Garden Club in Kalamazoo, has several programs to offer clubs; Pressing, Pounding and Waxing of Flowers, She has been giving these programs for area clubs and at the Wedel's Spring Expo. All ages have a good time. Call to schedule a program. 269.375.1708

INVITATION TO REFRESH IN ILLINOIS CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION OCTOBER 25-27 2009

October is the time of year to harvest the fruits of a summer's gardening. It is time to enjoy the company of friends and share ideas. What better way then to come to Central Region Convention and Multirefreshers. We have planned events for all interests.

Refresh in Illinois—The NGC Central Region Multi-Refresher October 25, 2009

Multi-Refresher Registration - Early registration is encouraged because attendance at the Multi-Refresher is limited. Convention attendees will receive preferential admission to the Multi-Refresher.

Registrations forms for the Multi-Refresher, Convention and Hotel available on MGC web site www.michigangardenclubs.org under Newsletter & Events.

Registrations will not be accepted and refunds will not be given after October 15, 2009.

Environmental Concerns

Karen Jencks

Endangered Species Perspective – “That’s a Bad Situation, But It Really Doesn’t Concern Me”

In the United States alone, 744 species of plants and 541 species of animals are listed as threatened or endangered, with 4 more animal species currently proposed for the listing. Many of our aquatic species are facing serious troubles. One third of the United States fish species, two thirds of its crayfish species and almost three quarters of its mussel species are in danger.

The list of endangered and threatened species goes on and on. You may be thinking, “That’s a bad situation, but that issue in state really doesn’t concern me. It does not impact me or my family.” Take a few minutes to read this modern fable and then share this viewpoint with young and old.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service list for Michigan has 22 threatened and endangered plants and animal species. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources lists 15 mollusks, 19 insects, 23 fish, 21 birds, 5 reptiles, 2 amphibians, 8 mammals and 310 plants a threatened and endangered. This list is comprehensive with the common names included. The good news – the gray wolf has been taken off the list!

The most complete database for Michigan’s plants is maintained by Michigan Natural Features Inventory, a cooperative program of the Michigan State University Extension, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. They report Michigan has lost 46 native plant species in recent times, and 51 endangered plants, 210 threatened plants, and 110 plants listed as special concern. About 23% of Michigan’s native plant species are at risk.

Endangered species will survive with YOUR help! Be aware – show your care.

*Photo taken of
memorial at the
Garden Club of
Dearborn Dedication
6/25/2009*



Every Gardener is a Designer at Heart

Kathryn Clary - MAAJ President

Horticulture and Design are the calling cards for a garden club. Some gardeners have a horticulture or design preference. These two areas of gardening are not always the opposites that they may appear. They share a common bond. They both need a design plan. Whether we are developing a garden, or constructing a floral design we need to use the Elements and Principles of Design. The elements of color, light, space, line, form, pattern, texture, and size are the components that make up design; and balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion, and scale are the directions on how to achieve artful results. We use them instinctively. They apply to every art form and we couldn’t plan a proper garden design or do a floral design without them.

One place gardeners come together to showcase their horticulture and design talent is a flower show. Flower shows are a wellspring of creativity, and provide inspiration and educational benefits to our membership and the public. They are a place where I can’t help but feel . . . every gardener is a designer at heart. For Flower Show Information Contact: Nancy Johnson, gizabwacket75@live.com - Design Study Series of basic flower arranging: Marie Smith, mhsrhs@aol.com

Deannie Picciotti District IV Director



I’m a Master Gardener and I joined Holland Garden Club in 1998 to have fun and work with children in Garden Therapy.

I took Landscape Design School to learn about what to do with our landscape. Later I was the local chair for the Landscape Design School in Holland.

I’ve chaired Garden Therapy, Boys & Girls Club projects, holiday home tour, was the newsletter editor, put the yearbook together several times, and served as club treasurer, 1st V.P and President. I thought it would be a good idea to go the Flower Show School after several failed attempts to exhibit in flower shows. I’m also a member of West Michigan Flower Arrangers Guild and serve as the secretary.

I’ve served as chair Loda Lake Wildflower/Visiting Gardens, MGC Awards Chair and Florence Smith’s President’s Project Chair. Jeanne Poll and I chaired the MGC Annual Convention in Grand Rapids with the help of the talented clubs of District IV. I now have the challenge of following Jeanne Poll as the District IV Director; she was an awesome District Director. I am serving on MGC Finance Committee, Second Vice President of MAAJ and Treasurer of Michigan Consultants Council.

Blue Star Marker Restored

Muskegon was one of the 4 Garden Clubs having “lost” Blue Star Markers which had been dedicated during the 40’s. In their plan to locate this lost marker, they talked to many townspeople who remembered the Marker but no one knew where it was.

Marilyn Swanson, Muskegon’s Garden Club President, wrote a letter to the Muskegon Chronicle and within 4 days a surprise! A retired Highway employee called to report that he remembered carefully packing it away in a County Warehouse, during his work on the highway construction. The Marker has been restored and will be rededicated on November 11, 2009, Veterans Day. We are grateful that this Club will give their present voices to the voices of the past, who prayed and earnestly dedicated this marker to honor the Armed Forces. We are grateful that these wishes and prayers are renewed.

For further information on Blue Star, call or write: Lorrie Dyal, Michigan Blue Star Chairman, 1205 Heirloom View, Okemos, 48864, phone: 517-282-3671, e-mail: LeDyal8@gmail.com

District I Fall Meeting October 6

District I Fall Meeting hosted by the Taylor Garden Club. For info, contact Virginia Froehlich, 734-675-2944 or vafroehlich@comcast.net.

District IIA Flower Arranging Classes October 9 & 23

October 9 and 23: District IIA Beginner Flower Arranging Lessons at the Saline District Library, 555 North Maple Road, Saline from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The cost of \$35 includes both days' instruction, a step by step manual, and all supplies to make four fresh flower designs. Bring clippers and a brown bag lunch. Checks can be sent to Mary Pulick, 1745 Stonebridge Dr. South, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, 734-665-4703 or marypulick@gmail.com

District IIA Fall Meeting October 22

Spend a fall day in the beautiful surroundings of the Polo Fields setting. Enjoy the panoramic view of autumn colors from the dining room or wander out on the balcony for a breathe of fresh air.

District IIA Fall meeting hosted by the Good Thyme Garden Club of Ann Arbor will be Thursday, October 22nd, 2009. Our meeting will be held at the Polo Fields Country Club located at 5200 Polo Fields Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

For information please contact, Pat/Pete Wilcox, 4469 Augusta Ct., Ann Arbor, MI., p-734.663.8795, ppwilcox@comcast.net or Margaret.Jahnke@gmail.com, p-734.604.9256.

We hope to see you there.

District III Fall Meeting Railroad Gardens Thursday October 8

The Four Flags Garden Club of Niles, will be hosting the District III Fall Meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2009 at the Village Seventh-Day Adventist Church, in Berrien Springs. The theme for this event is: Railroad Gardens: Past and Present. Registration, continental breakfast and shopping all begin at 9 am followed by the business meeting at 9:45 am. In the morning, Four Flags Garden Club President, Elaine Metzger, will speak on "The Historic Niles Railway Gardens". In the afternoon options will include:

- ◆ Greg Leyes of Ginger Valley Garden Center speaking on Roses
- ◆ Tour of the Paul Busse Railway Garden at Fernwood Botanic Garden and Nature Center, Niles
- ◆ Tour of the (3) Rock Canyon Garden Rail Road at the home of Ned and Phyllis Ruetz in Buchanan

Contact: Elaine Metzger, 269-683-5292 or Phyllis Davis, 269-695-5275

District IIB Fall Meeting A Harvest Of Heirlooms Thursday October 15

Historic Williamston and the Brookshire Inn create a charming setting for District IIB's Fall meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2009. Your hosts are The Dansville Backyard Buds, The Mason Sycamore Creek and The Williamston Red Cedar Garden Clubs, Bill Pinoch, from Nature's Heirlooms will discuss heirloom plants and the growing popularity of CSA Farms (Community Supported Agriculture). In the afternoon, Brian Babiasz, from Van Atta's, creates fall containers. Registration forms will be mailed late August. For more information, please contact registrar, Arla Weaver by phone at, 517-655-1839 or by e-mail at:

arlaira@broadstripe.net

President Lynn Dinvald message continued from page 1

So what are my Goals as your President?

GOALS

- Contribute to Loda Lake Wildflower Sanctuary by purchasing MGC logo merchandise
- Plant ribbons of yellow flowers and/or daffodils
- Encourage community gardens
- Dedicate a Blue Star Marker to honor our military
- Read and donate garden related books to the children's library
- Grow your garden club membership

These are my goals and I believe there is something here we can all do to enrich our lives and others too. Together, we will experience the true meaning of "**Growing More Than Gardens.**"

Book selection for children:

The Gardening Book, by Jane Bull

Green Thumbs: A Kid's Activity Guide to Indoor & Outdoor Gardening, by Laurie Carlson

From Seed to Plant, by Gail Gibbons

How Groundhogs Garden Grew, by Lynne Cherry

Roots, Shoots, Bucket & Boots, by Sharon Lovejoy

MGC WEB STORE IS NOW OPEN!

The MGC Logo Spiritware that you may have seen at your Spring District Meeting can now be ordered on-line through www.michigangardenclubs.org

Please visit on a regular basis to see the clothing and merchandise available. Additional items will be added in the future. Come shop with us in a secure environment.

Environmental Studies School Course I — District III.
Watch the newsletter and MGC web site for updated information as it is available

49th Flower Show Symposium

September 14-15, 2009 ♦ McCamly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan

Please mark your calendar to attend the two-day Flower Show Symposium in Battle Creek, Michigan on September 14-15, 2009. The Horticulture instructor will be Dorthy Yard, from Pennsylvania who will be teaching Hardy Ferns and Grasses on September 14. The second day, Trece Chancellor from Alabama, will be teaching the design segment with the topic of "Light, Color and Action".

District IIB's chairman for this event is Lois Snover Hanson and the Registrar is Marlene Glotfelty, 635 N. Linden Street, Marshall, MI. 49068.

HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

Register directly with McCamly Plaza Hotel, 50 Capital Avenue SW, Battle Creek, MI. 49017, (269) 963-7050, Hotel Rate - \$94.00 until 8/14/09. To register online: http://reservations.ihotelier.com/crslg_reservation.cfm?groupID=352737&hotelIID=11822

Directions to hotel available at: Web site www.mccamlyplazahotel.com



SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

Sept. 14 & 15, 2009 Deadline: August 31, 2009

Name _____

Address _____ City, State & Zip _____

Phone/E-mail _____

FULL COURSE, (exam or audit fee included, lectures, 2 continental breakfasts, 2 lunches & dinner Monday night	\$130.00
FULL COURSE (No credit, lectures, 2 continental breakfasts, 2 lunches and dinner Monday night	\$125.00
Dinner Monday night only MAAJ Council meeting and program	\$ 25.00
One Day 9/14/09 - 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Hort. 1 lunch\	\$ 65.00
One Day 9/15/09 - 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Design, 1 lunch.	\$ 65.00

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please mail Registration form and Check (payable to MGC Judges Symposium to Marlene Glotfelty, Registrar, 635 N. Linden St., Marshall, MI. 49068-0154

Gardening Study School, Course III

**See page 11 for subjects Course III*

The Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. is hosting, and District VI of MGC, Inc. is presenting Course III of Gardening Study School, September 21-22, 2009, in Midland, Michigan. The school is designed to benefit all gardeners, from novices to the most experienced and masterful gardener. For more information call or e-mail co-chairmen Bethany Goodman, 1-989-835-3580 or BGGoodman@aol.com , or Sue Wilber, 1-989-832-2792 or cswilber@yahoo.com. Cost of the school is \$60, plus \$5 if the student wants to take the exam or "refresh" their already earned "consultant" status. The fee includes printed materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and breaks for both days. A check, payable to MCG, Inc. Gardening Study School and registration form should be mailed to registrar Donna Dolinski, 914 Scenic Drive, Midland, MI 48642. Registration deadline is September 10, 2009. No refunds after September 15, 2009; 989-832-7931; rdolinski@aol.com. Further communication with registered students will be via e-mail or U.S. mail. **Registration Deadline: September 10, 2009**

NAME: _____

GARDEN CLUB: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

FULL COURSE REGISTRATION: Sept. 21 & 22, 2009 \$60.00 \$ _____

Includes study outlines, two continental breakfasts and two lunches

Taking Exam? Yes No Refreshing? Yes No \$ 5.00 \$

PART TIME REGISTRATION: Monday, Sept. 21 2009 \$35.00 \$ _____

Thursday, Sept. 22, 2009 \$35.00 \$ _____

Meeting at First United Methodist Church from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days.

TOTAL \$ _____

Godbold Uses Garden Club Ties to Help Students

BIG RAPIDS – Annually, a Ferris State University student benefits from the Michigan Garden Clubs Scholarship. This year, Courtney Johnson of Levering was the 2008-09 scholarship recipient. Johnson is a student in the Ornamental Horticulture Technology program at Ferris.

The scholarship has helped defray the cost of attending school for countless students over the years thanks to the commitment and dedication of one Michigan Garden Clubs member in particular: Betty Godbold of Big Rapids.

Godbold, a member of the Big Rapids Garden Club since 1964, has been the driving force behind the scholarship.

The mission of the Michigan Garden Clubs is to provide educational opportunities and resources, among other opportunities, through not just gardening, but community service, scholarships, and social and youth activities.

Godbold has a special certification in landscape design and has held several positions within the organization throughout the years, including Loda Lake chairman and the State Scholarship chairman for the National State Garden Clubs.

The scholarship is available to students enrolled in such fields of study as horticulture, landscape design, plant pathology, land management and other related fields.

For more information or to make a gift to a state university, please contact Nancy McGilliard, MGC Scholarship Chairman, nmcgilliard@comcast.net



Pictured are Courtney Johnson of Levering and Betty Godbold of Big Rapids.

NGC Five Star Membership awarded to Dan Abbott.

National Garden Clubs, Inc., as part of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. State Convention in Kalamazoo MI on June 2, 2009, awarded to Dan Abbott, 2890 E. Huckleberry Trail, Farwell, MI, a Five Star membership in NGC. As of January 1, 2008. A Five Star Certificate may be awarded to a garden club member who has completed all four National Garden Club schools (Environmental, Landscape Design, Gardening Study, and Flower Show School) and has attained Master Status in all four schools.

Dan is the 19th person to be recorded as a Five Star Member of NGC. Mt. Pleasant Federated Garden Club will be among the first, if not the first, garden club in the nation to elect as its president a Five Star member of NGC (National Garden Club). Congratulations Dan!



Thank You from Dan Abbott

Dan writes: Thanks to everyone in MGC, especially all of those who were unable to be included at the 2009 MGC Convention in Kalamazoo. True enough, Eileen Abbott was the beginning, and the motivation for me to achieve NGC 5-Star membership. However, without the NGC format, and without all of MGC, and Mt.

Pleasant Federated Garden Club, there was absolutely no way I could have been awarded the 5-Star membership. It required

many people and garden clubs to provide the opportunities which I have enjoyed, and all the other members of MGC to provide the environment to encourage me to continue. A most sincere Thank You to every member of MGC. I did it; everyone can do it.

Most sincerely,

Dan Abbott,

President of Mt. Pleasant Federated Garden Club, and 5-Star member of NGC.

MGC Scholarship Donations & Memorials

As we begin a new fiscal year, scholarship donations continue. Students will be chosen in the fall to receive the benefits from your contributions. Thank you to all the clubs and individuals who support this vital program of MGC. Listed are donations received since June 1. Send scholarship donations to Nancy McGilliard 2339 Sapphire Lane East Lansing MI 48823.

Scholarship Donations \$725 June 1, 2009

Chemical City GC, Gull Prairie GC, Holland GC, Kalamazoo GC, Shoreline GC and Williamston Red Cedar GC

Memorials \$725

JACK PASSFIELD from Karen and Hollis Jencks, Edie and Robert Ho, Kathlyn Butus, Sharon Yantis, Lynn Dinvald, Mary & Mike Pulick, Nancy Goulette

GERRY GOVIG from Mary and Mike Pulick
RAY HOSTETLER, father of Bobbie Quick, from Lyn Butus and Michiana Landscape Study Club

PETE DASHNER from Lyn Butus, Karen & Hollis Jencks, Bob & Edie Ho, Florence Smith, District I, Nancy Goulette

EDNA ROBINSON & JUDY LOVELL from Saline Stone and Thistle GC

Newsletter Delivery

MGC, Inc. encourages members with web access to download the MGC Newsletter at <http://michigangardenclubs.org> or elect to have the newsletter e-mailed directly to you. The Newsletter is available as a Word.doc or a PDF format on the web. It is e-mailed as a PDF file. If your computer does not have Adobe Reader for PDF files, you can download a free version at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/read-step2.html>. Help us reduce printing and postage costs. Help conserve trees and save landfill space – get your news electronically!

MGC 2008 PROJECT FOR AWARDS Presented at the 2009 Convention in Kalamazoo

We would like to announce Garden Clubs who have received recognition from Michigan Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs. When the Higgins Lake Environmental Program was discontinued MGC made the remaining funds available for Awards.

The following Individuals and Clubs are the recipients of recognition from MGC, CR and NGC: Sally Ouellet: NGC #38 Calendar Flower Arranger of the Year

Karen Motawi (Big Rapids Garden Club)
MGC \$25 MI #7 Photography

Judy Nykamp (Holland Garden Club)
MGC \$25 MI #4 Horticulture Article

Paul Rodman (Taylor Garden Club)
MGC \$25 MI #11 Feature Article

Berrien Springs Garden Forum (medium size club)
MGC \$50 MI #2 & NGC 73 Civic Project with Native Plants
NGC Certificate of Commendation and \$750

Brighton Garden Club
MGC \$25 Yearbook 30-44 members

Burr Oaks Garden Club (small size club)
MGC \$50 MI #1 Civic Beautification

Colon Garden Club (small size club)
MGC \$50 MI #6 Elsie Cook Landscape Design

Edelweiss Garden Club (medium size club)
MGC \$25 Publicity Press Book

Friendly Garden Club of Traverse City (medium size club)
MGC \$50 MI #1 Civic Beautification

Garden Club of Dearborn (small size club)
MGC \$50 NGC #15 Horticulture Therapy

Hartland Home & Garden Club (small size club)
MGC \$50 MI #2 & NGC 73 Civic Project with Native Plants
NGC Certificate of Commendation AND \$1000

Holland Garden Club (large size club)
MGC \$25 MGC First Place Yearbook 100-299 members
\$25 MGC First Place Newsletter (large size club)
\$25 MGC First Place Publicity Press Book,
NGC First Place
\$25 Club of Distinction Highest Points 311

Kalamazoo Garden Club
MGC \$25 MGC First Place Yearbook 45-69 members

Kent Garden Club (medium size club)
MGC \$25 MGC First Place Yearbook 70-99 members
\$25 MGC First Place Newsletter (medium size club)
\$25 MGC President's Award

CR \$25 Central Region Award #4 Celebrating Treasures in Publicity First Place

CR \$25 Central Region Award #2 Celebrating Our Future First Place

Lakeshore Garden Club of Lexington (large size club)
\$50 MI #9 Caroline Gray Award
\$50 MI #4 Horticulture Educational Activity

Lakeshore Garden Club of Lexington and Port Sanilac Garden Club
NGC First Place FOR
\$25 NGC #29 Blue Stare Memorial Landscape
Each Club \$25 from MGC

Livonia Garden Club (medium size club)
\$50 Horticulture Therapy

Lotus Garden Club
\$25 MGC First Place Yearbook under 20 members

Meek's Mill Garden Club (small size club)
\$25 MGC First Place Newsletter

River Valley Garden Club
\$25 MGC First Place Yearbook 20-29 members

Spirit of the Woods Garden Club (medium size club)
\$50 MGC #4 Horticulture Overall Program

Sweetwater Evening Garden Club (small size club)
\$50 NGC 49 Community Landscape

Taylor Garden Club (medium size club)
MGC \$50 NGC Butterfly **AND NGC First Place \$500**
MGC \$50 MI #9 Caroline Gray Award
MGC \$25 NGC Educational Brochure

World Gardening

Chris Rochman

From our donations this past year 16 young people were able to attend high school who otherwise could not have done so. In addition, at the 4-H center we helped some youngsters who were not in high school learn some horticultural skills that would help them in the job hunt.

Donations received since the last Newsletter until the end of June 2009 are:

The Garden Club of Greater Lansing
Milan Garden Club
The Little Garden Club of Midland
Chemical City Garden Club

Seed and Sod Garden Club
Farmington Garden Club
Holland Garden Club
Evening Bloomers Gardening

River Valley Garden Club
Meridian Garden Club
Yard and Garden Club of Flint
Stone and Thistle Garden

In addition to the above a donation was made from District IIB's spring meeting where a group of talented members made items from recycled materials and then sold them. These creative members are Kathleen Brood, Dianne Gooding, Linda Foster, Robin Kashenidev, Patricia Molitor and Karen Lewis.

A BIG thanks to all of the above. Make checks out to Michigan Garden Clubs, put World Gardening in lower left hand corner and mail to Chris Rochman, 4806 Holly Way, Ann Arbor 48103-9448.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE IV

Hosted by Michigan Garden Clubs and District I ♦ **September 17-19, 2009, Ann Arbor, MI**

MGC Local Chairman Della Haydon 734.427.9410 MGC Vice Chairman Florence Smith 248.553.0994

Thursday September 17, 2009: 7:45-8:00: Registration, Class: 9:15am-5pm; **Friday, September 18, 2009:** 7:45-8:00: Registration, Class: 9:15am-5pm; **Saturday September 19, 2009:** 9:00-12:00 Written Examination.

Instructor of Horticulture: Dottie Howatt from Delaware presents Collections and Displays. She will also teach Flower Show Procedure. Instructor of Design: Jo Kruffman from Arkansas speaking on tables and miniatures. *See biographies below.**



FLOWER SHOW COURSE IV REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline: September 1, 2009

Make checks payable to MGC District I Flower Show School. Send to Registrar: Angie Wilke • 32241 Barkley • Livonia, MI 48154-3513; 734.427.5353 • wilke1210@tds.net

No Refunds after September 1, 2009. A \$10.00 Check processing fee will be charged for refunds prior to the deadline.

NAME: _____

GARDEN CLUB: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

FULL COURSE REGISTRATION:

Sept. 17, 18, and 19, 2009 Full Course with Exam \$95.00 \$. _____

Sept. 17, 18, and 19, 2009 Full Course no Exam \$90.00 \$. _____

PART TIME REGISTRATION:

One-day Horticulture with Exam. \$55.00 \$. _____

One-day Horticulture NO Exam \$50.00 \$. _____

One-day Design with Exam \$55.00 \$. _____

One-day Design NO Exam \$50.00 \$. _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Location: Holiday Inn - North Campus, Ann Arbor (same as last two courses) 734.769.9800

***DOTTIE HOWATT**, a resident of Wilmington, DE is an Accredited Master Judge, a NGC, Inc. Flower Show School/Symposium Horticulture Instructor, a Daffodil Instructor for the American Daffodil Society, originator of the Prospective Instructor Program (PIP) and a member of the new FSS Horticulture book committee. She holds a BS degree in Horticulture from the University of MD. Dottie also heads a Children's Cancer Foundation, The Sunrise Children's Foundation, and works to develop programs and camps for children and young adults in the mid-Atlantic region.

***JO KRALLMAN** is a Master Judge and Accredited National Garden Clubs Instructor of Design, Flower Show Procedure and Symposiums. She is a member of Riverdale Garden Club of Benton, Designer's Study Club of Little Rock &. Verna Garvin Design Study Club of Hot Springs.

She has given programs and taught Flower Show Schools and Symposiums in thirty (30) states and Mexico .

She served the Arkansas Federation of Garden Club's as State Flower Show Schools Chairman for many years and is the chairman of their Judges Credentials & Symposium. She is a former state president and editor of the Arkansas Gardener. She has served NGC as Design Instructors Chairman, served on the Reading Exam committee, the Vision of Beauty Calendar Committee and is currently the Flower Show Achievement Awards Chairman.

She is currently Vice President of National Flower Arrangers, a division of NGC.

Caitlin Taylor Earns NGC Scholarship!

Caitlin Taylor, from Charlevoix, Michigan, a sophomore enrolled in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' School of Planning, Design and Construction at Michigan State University, is the recipient of one of the \$4000 National Garden Club Scholarships for 2009-2010.

Caitlin, who was MGC's 2009 National Garden Club Scholarship winner, also received a \$1000.00 scholarship from MGC. Her application was forwarded to the National Scholarship Chairperson, where it was considered for one of thirty-five \$4000.00 National Scholarships.

Caitlin is studying Landscape Architecture, and her career objectives include designing landscapes, parks, communities and gardens that blend beauty, functionality and sustainability.

After graduation, Caitlin plans to pursue a Master's degree in environmental design, urban planning, or landscape architecture, with an eye toward becoming a licensed landscape architect. Because of her interest in sustainability, she hopes to use her education to design sites that are innovative in their use of materials and space and have a positive effect on the surrounding environment.

The 2010-2011 College Scholarship Brochure, with the complete rules and application form, will be forwarded to Michigan colleges and universities as soon as it is available (later this year). For further information regarding the scholarships contact Virginia Froehlich, MGC Scholarship Chairman, (734) 675-2944 or vafroehlich@comcast.net.

Spring-Flowering Bulb Suggestions to Plant This Fall

Carol Sue Brodbeck, Advanced Master Gardener

Though crocuses, daffodils, tulips, and irises are common heralds of spring in our gardens, why not plant some less-common ones, such as Desert Candles/ Foxtail lilies (*Eremurus*), Quamash (*Camassia*), or *Fritillaria*. . .

Please check the MGC website
Writers' Corner for
"the rest of the story"

"Clubs on the Grow"

80 Years and Going Strong! (District III)

Indian Hills Garden Club began October 5, 1929 in St. Joseph, Michigan with eleven women who shared a love of gardening. Mrs. Max (Daisy) Hoffmann was the first president of the club. This year the membership will celebrate its eightieth anniversary. The principals on which the club was founded and which continue to be its foundation today are to:

- ◆ Further the knowledge and love of gardening
- ◆ Cultivate the knowledge of conservation principles
- ◆ Encourage civic plantings
- ◆ Share the advantages of association.

Meetings held once a month, March through December, include socializing and educational opportunities. Currently there are 32 active members, 18 associate members and one honorary member. Throughout the club's eighty year existence, the members have been actively involved with gardening-related projects in the community. In 1977, IHGC played an integral role in the development of Milton Park, a community landmark. Club-sponsored home and garden tours helped provide funds for the project. The club continues to support the programs of Sarrett Nature Center in Benton Harbor and the preservation of Grand Mere State Park in Stevensville.

The longevity of Indian Hills Garden Club can be attributed to its members' willingness to share their gardening knowledge and skills with others and their commitment to serve the local community. Happy 80th Indian Hills Garden Club.

The Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club (District IIB)

Founded in 1925, The Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club continues as the 2nd oldest volunteer service organization in Williamston.

The objectives of the club are: to stimulate the love and knowledge of nature among amateur gardeners; to aid in the protection of native trees, plants and birds; to encourage home gardening, landscaping, civic beautification and flower arranging; to aid one another in garden planting as well as maintain an active membership in the District, State and National Garden Clubs.

Members currently plant and maintain the gardens at the Gazebo, Old Mill Park, Public rest rooms at McCormick Park, Library, Depot, War Memorial Wall and the seasonal community planters.

Annually, the club sponsors The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster contest for students from 1st through 5th grades with many students winning awards. On Arbor Day the club purchases, wraps and sells 1,500 evergreen seedlings to the elementary school students. During the holidays members decorate mugs for distribution to local nursing homes.

Over time, Williamston has won numerous awards and honors. October 15th, Williamston will cohost the District IIB Meeting to be held at the Brookshire Golf Club in Historic Williamston.

Newest Club (District V)

By-the-Bay Garden Club of Suttons Bay was founded this spring and, with 21 members and growing, is well on its way to making a difference in the Suttons Bay area. Already the new club has planted 30 barrels throughout the village's main street, with the members watering and maintaining the plants over the summer. The Suttons Bay Chamber of Commerce generously provided funding for the flowers. Members weeded and mulched under trees in the village, adding to the beauty of the area. In addition, they planted pots for the community's new Visitor's Center and planted a variety of perennials under the village's welcome sign. The Village Manager asked them to create a design and select 15 new trees for the community's North Park. Many members then helped with the planting of crab apple, oak and maple trees. And the group is only a few months old...!

Elected as officers are Judy Hoefler, president; Marilyn Norwood, vice president; Earlene Hill, treasurer; and Lori Oberson, Membership Officer. Sandy Richardson will stand for election as secretary in September.

Calendar items: 2009 August, September, October, November

Also check MGC web site for updates

August 12, 2009

MCC Meeting Michigan Consultants Council meeting and tour Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, 10:00AM. Lunch/tour on their own. Members entry fees paid by MCC. Registrar: Mary Pulick 734-665-4703 or mpgardenclub@aol.com.

August 14, 2009

Lotus Garden Club of Monroe - Kayak Lotus Tour, August. 14. Registration www.lotusgardenclub@yahoo.com \$50 Fee includes paddle and lunch. Advanced registration is required 2 weeks for Homeland Security.

August 27, 2009

Ludington - Flower Show Mason County Garden Club "On Broadway," 1:00-4:00pm, Contact Diane 231-843-8112.

September 2, 2009

State Finance Committee, 1:00pm, Location: Plymouth Congregational Church, East Lansing

September 3, 2009

State Board Meeting, 10:00, Location: Plymouth Congregational Church, East Lansing.

September 3, 2009

South Haven - Flower Show 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Lake Michigan College

September 5, 2009

Ann Arbor - Flower Show "Are We There Yet?!!!" Sponsored by Ann Arbor Garden Club. Design entries Bonnie Ion, bion@umich.edu, 734-769-2015 by August 21, 2009. Flower Show Chairman, Marie Smith, mhsrhs@aol.com, 734-223-0596 for more information.

September 12, 2009

Scottville - Plant Sale. Mason County Garden 9:00-Noon. Scottville Farmer's Market, Contact Diane 231-843-8112

September 12, 2009

Port Huron - Flower Show. "A Novel Idea" by The Blue Water Garden Club. Saturday, 9 am-6 pm. Contacts: Valerie 810-982-3266 or Janet 810-385-7712

September 14, 2009

Battle Creek - 2009 Flower Show Symposium. September 14 & 15, 2009. McCamly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, MI. Contact: Sharon Yantis 269-327-6837

September 17, 2009

Flower Show School - Course IV. Holiday Inn, 3600 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor. Contact Della Haydon 734-427-9410.

September 21, 2009

Gardening Study School Course III. September 21-22, 2009, Midland First United Methodist Church. Contact: Donna Dolinski 989-832-7931

September 25, 2009

District V 2009 Fall Meeting North Central Community College, Petoskey. Hosted by Petoskey Area Garden Club. Contact Sharon Francis 231-347-2854

September 26, 2009

Lowell - Sale of Dried Plants & Herbs, September 26-27, 11-5 pm, Fallasburg Park,

September 29, 2009

2009 NGC Fall Brd Mtg St. Louis, Missouri, September 29—October 3

September 30, 2009

Landscape Design School - Course III. September 30, & Oct 1—2, 2009, MSU - Radiology Department. Contact Anne Wineman at 517-669-5112 or by email at winemana@comcast.net

October 6, 2009

District I 2009 Fall Meeting. Hosted by the Taylor Garden Club. For info, contact Virginia Froehlich, 734-675-2944 or vafroehlich@comcast.net.

October 8, 2009

District III 2009 Fall Meeting. October 8: "Railroad Gardens: Past and Present". Berrien Springs, 9:00 am. Village Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Hosted by Four Flags Garden Club of Niles. Contact: Elaine Metzger 269-683-5292.

October 9, 2009

Saline - Flower Arranging Class. Oct. 9 & Oct. 23: District IIA Beginner Flower Arranging Lessons at the Saline District Library, 555 North Maple Road, Saline from 10 am to 2 pm . Cost of \$35 Checks can be sent to Mary Pulick, 1745 Stonebridge Dr. South, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, 734-665-4703 or marypulick@gmail.com

October 9, 2009

Charlevoix - Applefest. October 9-11th 2009 -- Bulb Sale during Apple Fest Weekend

October 13, 2009

District IV 2009 Fall Meeting. President's Meeting - Holland (details to follow)

October 15, 2009

District IIB 2009 Fall Meeting, "A Harvest of Heirlooms," **Hosts:** The Dansville Backyard Buds, The Mason Sycamore Creek & The Williamston Red Cedar Garden Clubs

October 20, 2009

District VI 2009 Fall Meeting. "Shhhh - The Garden is Sleeping." Host: Owosso Garden club. Location Shiawassee Readiness Center, 9:00am-3:00pm Contact: Kathryn Gehrs-Pahl, President gpahl@chartermi.net

October 22, 2009

District IIA 2009-Fall Meeting. Host: The Good Thyme Garden Club of Ann Arbor. Theme for this event is "Thyme for Autumn Pleasures."

October 25, 2009

NGC Central Region is offering a Multi-Refresher, Sunday, October 25, 2009.

October 26-27, 2009

77th Central Region Convention, Naperville, Illinois - October 26-28. Registration dead line before October 15, 2009. Registration forms available on www.ngccentralregion.org.

November 11, 2009

State finance Committee, 1:00pm, Location: Plymouth Congregational Church, East Lansing.

November 12, 2009

State Board Meeting, 10:00, Location: Plymouth Congregational Church, East Lansing.

*Subjects for Gardening Study School-Course III

"Factors That Influence Plant Growth"

"Pruning Techniques"

"Techniques For Growing Outdoor Flowers"

"Classifying Plants (Plant Taxonomy)"

"Teaching Tour of Botanical Garden"



Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Gayle Nigg - Editor
970 Carrie Ave
Plainwell MI 49080-9517

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Anne Wiseman, Legislative Chairman

July 1, 2009

In June Congress passed the Clean Energy and Security Act for energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gases. Governor Granholm is working on attracting new investment and creation of thousands of “green” jobs. Germany’s largest producer of solar technology plans to manufacture photo voltaic batteries in Michigan. The sun shines in Michigan as much as it does in Germany.

With the automotive downturn tourism is now our most profitable industry. Congress has designated the Beaver Basin, covering 13 miles of Lake Superior shoreline in Pictured Rocks, as wilderness, also the Pickett Lake, last remaining lake sturgeon spawning grounds.

Due to shrinking funding 13 State Forest campgrounds have closed. The “Recreational Passport Proposal” aims to add \$10 to license plate renewals to implement funding.

Legislation to make Michigan’s bars, restaurants and casinos smoke-free is bogged down in party politics. Senate Republicans and House Democrats each passed versions of the bill, (Democrats exempted casinos) - losers, restaurant patrons and workers.

Also on the table is legislation for;

- ◆ adoption of low-carbon fuels,
- ◆ regulation of electronic bill-boards,
- ◆ plans for proposed new coal plants are put on hold
- ◆ large penalties for the Vreba-Hoff Dairy CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation) for water and air pollution.