

# TWIGS

## The Garden Club of Greater Lansing Newsletter Member of: Michigan Garden Clubs Inc. IIB Division, National Garden Club Central Region, National Garden Club Inc.

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### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Kathi Dominguez from the DeWitt club and Master we had the opportunity to put together. This hands-on activity provided people with the skills to understand scale and use of material.

### BOARD MTG

Next meeting is Monday March 6 @ 9:30 @ via zoom. To attend contact Ronnie to get on email list.

### CLUB MEETING

This is a Sandwich Luncheon. Please bring your sandwich and tableware. The luncheon committee will provide snacks and dessert.

Violets are a genus of flowering plants with around 1,000 species. Viola is the botanical name for violets, violas, and pansies. Some Viola species are perennial plants, some are annual plants, and a few

Note - Despite their common name and similar blossoms, African violets are not a type of violet.  
Barb Amundsen

(8" Miniatures made by our members)

### BY-LAWS, CONSTITUTION

Ronnie has updated our current documents with the recommendations from our members. You will as a club we can continue to operate in the future. Well done group.

(Content Redacted)

### CONFERENCES

### DISTRICT 2B & MGC

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE BOOK & MEMBER UPDATES

**UPDATE:** The visitation for Beulah is scheduled for

### FINDING INFORMATION

they send to us. You can so read those newsletters on their site. Please take time to explore these websites.



Our first evening meeting and we had a wonderful group of folks getting together. The many hands who helped set-up and clean-up did a great job. The fresh flowers arranged at each table provided the right touch to prep us for our speaker. The food prepared with loving hands tasted super. It felt great to gather and get back to some sort of normalcy and business.

Presenter Lois Snover-Hanson provided members information about garden shows and our biggest show in March 2023. Lois had numerous examples of a 12-inch design. She explained the differences in the designs and the requirements that each design met for a show if required.



(Gardens by the Conservatory Belle Isle)

The trip to Belle Isle for the Oudolf Gardens went beyond our expectations. I couldn't be happier that the weather co-operated on our first bus trip. I have seen the gardens in the spring of this year and I can tell you they looked nothing like what we saw on this occasion. As many said, "we could go once a month and be surprised at what is in bloom". This evolving garden is a true **GEM** in the state.



(Rainwater Garden & Carillon Peace Tower Oudolf Garden Belle Isle)

The design by Peit Oudolf was to be of one garden style. He has provided three designs in one garden. This is a first and only in his national designs. He also took into account the need to connect space. He asked for the grounds around the Nancy Brown Peace Carillon Tower so that he could create a linear design linking the Remick Band Shell, Levi J Barbour Memorial Fountain with the Anna Scripps-Whitcomb Conservatory.

The vision the activists of Detroit had to create a garden and Piet's vision to design a garden provided the State of Michigan with a focus on environment, beauty, conservation and development that has been very well executed. For more info: <https://www.oudolfgardendetroit.org>

Joan Lenhard

### OCTOBER MEETING

Evening meeting of soup and salad. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass. The dinner chair and committee will provide desserts and let us know what we might need. Demonstration on design and building greens for wreaths and more for the program. See you for dinner at 5:00 pm.



(Oudolf Garden Belle Isle)

### HORTICULTURE

Autumn brings comfortable days to work outside, wonderful cool nights for sleeping, and attempts to harvest every delicious bite before we compost our vegetables, herbs and annuals. Autumn also brings the wonderful beauty of changing leaves and amazing colors.

The color changes always fascinate me. Throughout the growing season leaves absorb sunlight so that the plant can make food for their growth. The cells in leaves contain chlorophyll; the chlorophyll

absorbs energy from sunlight and the plants use that energy to transform carbon dioxide and water into nutrients for the plants. The chlorophyll gives many leaves their green color.

For some plants the chlorophyll is combined with a significant amount of other pigments. This allows the summer leaves to vary from shades of green, to additional colors from yellow to burgundy to blue, variegated to leaves with edgings and so much more. Even for leaves of varied colors, plants still have chlorophyll cells that work beneath the surface to keep them nourished.

Many green leaves contain additional pigments of yellow and orange (carotenes), deeper orange (xanthophyll) and reds (anthocyanins). Through most of the growing season for green leaves the chlorophyll is dominant and masks the other colors. In fall the days become shorter and temperatures fall. These changes cause the leaves to stop making nutrients. The lack of nutrients makes the chlorophyll cells break down. The breakdown causes the chlorophyll to become colorless, which means in turn that the hidden colors become visible.

Additional chemical changes in the leaves may cause the development of additional red anthocyanin pigments and sometimes the deep red-purple colors. The range of autumn colors from yellows and oranges, reds, purples, and browns are caused by the mixing of varying amounts of residual chlorophyll and the additional pigments in the leaves.

As the fall colors appear, more changes take place. The leaves become cut off from the moisture in stems; this makes them separate and drop off. At the point where the stem of the leaf is attached, a special layer of cells develops. Because of this, when the leaf is finally blown off by the wind or falls from its own weight, it may leave behind a leaf scar.

Temperature, light, and water all influence the degree and the duration of fall color. Low temperatures that are above freezing are ideal for the anthocyanin formation that produces bright reds. However, early frost can weaken the brilliant red color. Rainy or overcast days tend to increase

the intensity of fall colors. From this we can expect the best autumn color to develop in years when the autumn weather has many days that are overcast, dry, and cool (not freezing).

Whatever the weather, enjoy the color. It never seems to last long enough. Barb Amundsen

(Content Redacted)

### Greens Market

Prices to come at our next meeting. A tentative workshop to assemble the swag frame is scheduled for Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow.

### PUBLIC GARDENS –SCOTT & BLUE STAR MEMORIAL

Last Wednesday Barb Lowes and I put the garden "to bed" for this year. We finished a general cleanup and left the rest to provide for fall and winter interest. This year's garden was a little sad and never looked good enough to display last year's award. However, lessons were learned and we have great hopes for next year. Like this year, we'll need good participation for spring cleanup and planting. A well-attended start makes it possible for the smaller group to maintain the garden for the rest of the season. So, in preparation for next year's glorious garden, a 6-point plan is in place.

1. Parks will raise the bottom beds (add soil) sometime in the next month. Annuals will be pulled and creeping jenny will be saved. The statue will be cleaned, prepped and wrapped for winter storage.

2. This is the time when we can best see the structure of the garden and thin out overgrown perennials. Let me know if you're available to help. We'll find a time. Weather for the next few weeks looks good for gardening.

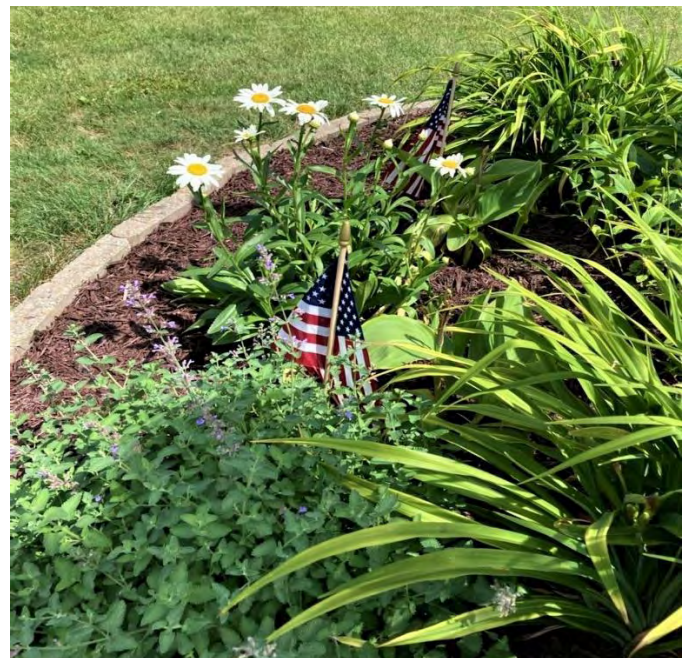
3. Hostas that need to be dug out. Let me know if you'd like them for your garden. We can arrange a time to dig for you to take home.

4. Two members are working on a plan to take care of the pond plants.

5. Please keep Scott Garden in mind when starting your plants next spring. Kindly grow some colorful flowers for us. This should help supplement what we get from the City and incorporate more color (not that we don't appreciate all the yellow lantana.)

6. Maybe we could consider individual donations of roses or large perennials as a remembrance of someone? There's got to be a meaningful way of doing that. Maybe a nice plant marker? Thoughts?

But, best of all -- don't lose track of your folding chairs and good recipes because all club members should rest up for **SCOTT SUNKEN GARDEN 2023 FIRST ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP AND TAILGATE PLANTING PARTY**. Daiva Devereaux



(Blue Star Memorial)

It has been a beautiful summer with the addition of new perennials and division of the daisies at the Blue Star Memorial. The fall rains continue to nourish the plants, bringing more beauty late into the season.

Thank you, Linda Brownell and Ellen Bloomer, for all the garden sprucing, weeding and pruning. Thank you, Robyn Carlson for drafting the enlargement of the garden, suggestions and contributions of plants, wreath, flags and many volunteer hours. This beautiful garden has been made possible with the many volunteer hours by committee members. Lansing Parks staff have partnered with this team of women by keeping the plants watered and spreading mulch.

Ellen and I shared Robyn's draft for enlarging the garden with the board and Park staff and wait for the estimate of expenses and time frame for work to begin. Sue Kesti

### **BOARD MTG**

Monday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:30-10:45 @ GUMC. Bylaw and Constitution meeting at 11:00-11:45.



(Oudolf Garden Belle Isle)