

# 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

A review of the recommendations to bylaws and constitution took up our time in January. Ronnie will be doing her presentation on websites in the future.

In February we will have the list for people to sign up for different committees and chairs. In addition, the list for the upcoming meetings will be available too. You will be signing up for meetings to chair, luncheon committees, etc. Program committee mtg and budget are coming up. Joan Lenhard

### BOARD MTG

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

### CLUB MEETING

Next club member meeting is Feb 13 @9:30 @ the church. This will be a busy mtg. We will try again for a first team meeting. We will review the updates from the bylaws and constitution.

Our speaker Kathi Domiguez and Jenny Bond will bring samples of design that can be produced in miniature. Arrangements will be approximately 5 inches. Bring your creative ideas for this hands-on session. Both Kathi and Jenny have years of experience in design, judging and helping people put ideas to design outcomes.

The design is themed for Valentines Day. You may bring some greens, dry flowers or if you have anything in bloom. Containers will be provided

along with flowers that reflect the Valentine theme. Email by Jan 30<sup>th</sup> and let us know if you plan on attending.

This is a ***Soup and Sandwich Luncheon***. Check page 40 for information on the luncheon. Questions call the lunch chair listed on page 30 of our book.



(Reflections Dow Gardens)

### HORTICULTURE

As I write in mid-January, it feels like we skipped winter this year. By the time you read it, you may feel differently. My grass is still green, I had at least 15 robins in my back yard yesterday, there are large buds on my Star Magnolia, and the daytime temperatures continue to hover above freezing. I honestly don't know how this will affect some of our plants that rely on winter for a time of dormancy.

Since we assume that normal will return, this is the time of year for catalogs, dreaming, planning, and purchasing. Remember to start by reviewing your pictures and notes from last summer. What did you like? What worked/ What needs to be fixed?? Following are a few questions to ask yourself.

Which plants look overgrown? If your plants were crowding themselves or other plants, perhaps they need to be divided. Or something may need to be moved.

Where does your garden look empty? Perhaps something did not thrive well, or plants just didn't fill out the space as well as you expected. Should you add more? Change direction? Add a garden ornament??

Which plants did not bloom as well or as long as you expected? Remember the concept of "right plant, right place." Were they getting enough sun or shade? Do they have sufficient moisture? Is there enough breathing room for them to grow?

Did some plant disappoint you? Perhaps it wasn't as tall as you wanted, or it was too tall, too bushy, too few flowers, wrong color, wrong shape. Would it look better someplace else, or should it just be removed and replaced?

How did the changing seasons affect the look of your garden? Did you have color and interest from spring to fall? Were there areas that looked "empty" or boring during part of the summer? Could you group early blooming plants with mid-summer and late summer bloomers for a continuous show? Personally, I like foliage to keep my garden looking colorful in areas that have fewer blooms.

Where can you add something new? To be honest, most gardeners can't ignore all of the choices in the piles of new catalogs or the garden centers when they open. I can start out looking for something specific, only to order or take home "just a few" more than I planned.

Whatever your plan, this is the time to enjoy the possibilities. We can play a little in this season

while we wait for spring to really come and stay. Plan, dream, order, plan, dream, order more. Wait till the robins are here to stay. Then find a home for all of your new finds. Barb Amundsen

### BY-LAWS, CONSTITUTION

Ronnie has updated our current documents with the recommendations from our members. It is important to make these changes since Covid. Many clubs never thought they would vote, do business or even chat on line for meetings. We will have these available for review and discussion at our January meeting. Please come prepared with specific questions. Joan Lenhard

(Content Redacted)

**GREAT NEWS** – Nanette and Renee have agreed to co-chair the membership committee. Thanks ladies.

### FIELD TRIPS

I am looking to plan a field trip to Walters Gardens in Zeeland. This trip will be July or August. The other trip would be to Oudolf Gardens in June. These trips would be all-day adventures. If you are interested in either of these trips, I will need to know your intentions. Joan Lenhard

### GREENS MARKET

A review of expenses/purchase along with income was presented at the January meeting. Reports and oral information was presented.

### CONFERENCES

The District Leadership Conference on April 25 will be hosted by GCGL at Grace United Methodist Church. This meeting is being arranged by Ann Schoals. She is the liaison to D2B. We will need members to sign up for hosting duties.

The Fall Conference host clubs are Looking Glass and Grand Ledge. They are still looking for sites

State conference is June 6-7 @ Grand Rapids Sheraton on 28<sup>th</sup>.

(Content Redacted)