

TWIGS

The Garden Club of Greater Lansing



Member of: Michigan Garden Clubs Inc. District 2B,
National Garden Club Central Region,
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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The Rose Garden at Frances Park looks wonderful. It reminds me of my youth when we would have picnics once a summer at the park. Other times we would go over to the park, play and then watch people doing ski jumps off the ramp in the river.



(Overhead drone from news station)

June Knostman a former member of the garden club, a judge for flower shows, a designer and strong leader in the world of gardening and flowers, made a substantial donation to spearhead this renovation. The updated Rose Garden includes a wide path known as the Bridal Walkway. It also includes

another walkway that brings people down to the Arbor area for greater access to the gardens. Joanne, Sherry, Deb and I braved the very hot and humid weather to support and acknowledge the importance of June in this community, club and park. Click on the link and you will see a snippet of the Dedication.

<https://www.wilx.com/2024/06/21/lansing-parks-recreation-unveils-new-renovations-frances-park/>



(A rose at France Park Rose Garden-professional news picture)

I took a moment to look at our Blue Star Memorial. What a lovely place to stop and take a moment for reflection. The new bench provides a welcome seat. Thanks Team.

We have been battling this hot humid weather. Some extra watering, plants dying back, some have had slow growth and others are wilting. Climate change is making me rethink what I will plant. I am in the process of redoing some of my garden beds. Plants that are making it in this weather will live another year and might be repeated in other beds.

I am looking to add another tree possibly two. I never thought my little yard would support that many trees but I am finding it will. The added shade will also help keep my home cooler and provide an environmental asset.

The Lavender Tour was wonderful. A small group of us had a great experience. Ronalee, Sherry, Deb, Carol M., Sandy, her daughter, and Joan spent the morning learning about lavender and then took many pictures. Carol also checked out the Lavender Festival at Imlay. The peace, serenity and quiet buzz of bees created a beautiful and sensory filled experience.



(Ocimeae Lavender Farm Webberville)

PROGRAM YEARBOOK

Ronalee has been busy updating our yearbook. This is no easy task. **If you have made any changes to your information, please send that to Ronalee.** We would like to have this book completed and ready for distribution at our tea. This puts the pressure on to get things done, proofed 2 or 3 times and off to the printer. Please be patient as we are all very busy.

Ronalee and Joan are working on the yearbook. It is our plan to have them available at the tea. We hope you will join us and pick up your yearbook.

MEMBER UPDATES

Welcome the following new members:

(Content Redacted)

The membership team is putting together a few options for orientation. Look for emails in the upcoming weeks. Questions, Renee, Nanette or Joan will help you out.

(Content Redacted)

LAVENDER TOUR

We met in Webberville at the Ocimeae Lavender Farm. Sandy Oleson took copious notes from our speaker's presentation. Lavender has three types:

1. Lavender Augustifolia (true lavender) shorter stem. Sweeter bud. Less oil. More expensive.
2. X-intermedia (more camphor. More oil)
3. Stoecha. Spanish lavenders. We can't grow here. It is a poof with two ears

The type of plants in the different cultivars are:

True English Lavenders:

- *Hidcote (dark blue/purple)
- *Melissa
- *Munstead

X-intermedia:

- *Grosso
- *Provence
- *Phenomenal (her favorite)

Through the distilling process using forced steam you get two products. Oil and water. The oil is used for many products. The steamed water is for Hydrosol. It is bottled and can be sprayed on you for a refreshing spritz. Both products can be used in medicinal ways.

Ocimeae (name of the lavender farm) is a tribal name for square stemmed plants. Lavender is square stemmed and a relative to the mint family.



(*Phenomenal* will grow to a 3x3x3. You must have space if you want to plant multiples of this plant.)

If you have not trimmed and shaped your lavender when picking and cutting you get the leggy stems and woodiness in the stem. Cut in down in the dead of winter. It should spring back in the next growing cycle.

SUMMER TEA

“At first it seemed that green things would never cease pushing their way through the earth, in the grass, in the beds, even in the crevices of the walls. Then the green things began to show Buds and the buds began to unfurl and show color, every shade of blue, every shade of purple, every tint and hue of crimson.” Quote from *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgkin Burnett.

A LITERARY TEA IN THE GARDEN will be held on Monday, August 12, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the home of Deb Johnston. Please bring a favorite book with a passage marked relating to gardens or tea. A \$5.00 donation toward the music is suggested. You will receive an email to RSVP and sign up for a dish to pass from Ronnie Polad. Please do so by August 8th.

In conjunction with the Michigan Garden Clubs partnership with local food pantries, we will be collecting canned good donations at this event. For more information on this program click on the link giving@glfoodbank.org In event of extreme heat or rain, the tea will be held same day, same time, in the Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson

St., Grand Ledge, on the second floor. There is an elevator for your convenience.

Don your favorite hat, wear your lacy white gloves, and even dress as a favorite character if you like. We look forward to sharing a relaxing tea party with you! Click on the registration link. You will be able to sign-up and identify what you are bringing.

(Content Redacted)

Directions Library: Saginaw St west towards Grand Ledge to Jefferson St (M110) light and turn right. Turn right at Taylor St area to parking in the back of the Library.

SUMMER GARDEN TOURS

It was a super-hot humid day for a garden tour but these gardens were worth the flower and petal tour.



(Beautiful contrast, texture and design. Moira)

We saw 3 gardens and 3 pools. I was hoping to fall into all three. Each pool was inviting.

We started at Moira's place in Williamston. Moira just joined our club. These gardens are being transformed as some trees have been taken out, others moved. Plants added and plans for further changes are on the agenda. The bright pops of color draw your eyes around the garden. The tall grasses, Hakonechloe grass and buttercups add height, color and depth. The hydrangeas brought out shape, color and bloom. The pool had wonderful pot arrangements strategically placed to keep your eyes in motion.



(Light bright plants in a darker area creates eye appeal. Moira)

This property backs up to our next stop. Through the gate and we were at Heather's home. This is Moira's daughter. Heather included a wonderful vegetable garden that was created by her husband. He built the raised beds and put in the tall fence. Heather added the veggies and fruit. Between the vegetables and fruit this family will be sustained with freshness for the next few months as everything ripens. Heather wanted strawberries but needed to keep the birds away from pecking at the fruit. She used fake wooden strawberries in the top rack.

Soon the birds lost interest and now she has rows of fresh strawberries.

Heather continues to develop areas of her property with nice relaxing areas with great vistas, pots of flowers and constantly reworking and adding to her treasures.



(Look for the owls on the post guarding the eaves trough of strawberries- Handmade raised beds filled with food for the family. Small seed starter and holder of young plants. Heather)

The last stop on the tour was at Soleil's place. Her garden beds were distinct and lined with small rocks. This kept everything contained.

The gardens here varied greatly. Soleil used a wide range of plants in each of her beds. She would pair up plants based on need of light, shade and water. Soleil used texture, height and color throughout the garden. She also used many pots for punches of color.

What I learned from touring all of these gardens are the resourcefulness of the gardeners. All three gardeners shop Market Place on FB, go to sales, barter or look for ads where people are thinning their gardens and you dig you take ads. I guess all of us learned a little about shopping for products.



(Texture, color, height add dimension to the garden. Beyond the fence is a deep valley that is also being developed. Soleil)

BOARD MTG

Our next board meeting will be Mon. Aug 26th at 9:30 at the church.

CLUB MTG

Our next club meeting is Mon. Sept. 9th at 5:00 pm at the church.

MGC CONFERENCE

Plans are underway for next year conference. We will be heading to Holland. The team is already fast at work making plans for a fun event.

Have you ever been to the Philadelphia Garden Show? Would you like to go? A trip is being planned for Feb 27-Mar 3, 2025. Details call 989-423-0524 ext 1, or email tours@jagmotorcoaches.com

REGIONAL /DISTRICT INFORMATION

It is exciting to attend our Fall District 2B event. Please mark your calendar for Tuesday October 22, 8-4. The Mason Sycamore Creek Club is our host. The theme is **GOODNIGHT GARDEN.** at the Ingham County Fairgrounds. Plan for a whole day of fun. The building is on (M36) W Michigan, next to the County Park. **Cost is \$30.00 per person. If you know you would like to attend now, please register by sending a check to our treasurer John McCarthy.** Be sure to include a note as to what you are paying for. We will also register in Sept at our mtg. Final information must be received and sent by Sept 15th.

NGC Project Pathway of Success and how clubs, the district and the state can participate. Central Region Convention is at O'Fallon, IL October 17-19, 2024

Did you know that the District 2B has additional opportunities for your fun and enjoyment. Right click on any of the links, select OPEN HYPERLINK and see more information. This takes you to FaceBook. You can read the description without making an account or login.

- [Artistic Crafts Group](#)
- [Growing Native Plants Group](#)
- [Floral Design Group](#)
- [Horticulture/Arboriculture Group](#)
- [Photography Group](#)
- [Edibles Group](#)
- [Michigan Garden Clubs Black Swallowtail Group](#)



(Soliel's backyard. Beyond the fence is more garden areas that she is working on.)

Gardening and quilting are a perfect match. Ladies would gather in a circle to share the workload as they made quilts from flower bags, seed bags, and maybe scraps of fabric if they were lucky enough to have it. The meetings are called "Circles" because this shape was used when the women would sit around a quilt, finishing it together.

During the winter we meet to learn the different aspects of quilting, including its history. For example, the Underground Railroad used quilts to show a safe path for people escaping from the South to the North. We also study the history of quilts around the world, different techniques, quilting basic and how to read patterns.

In the summer, we travel together to quilt shows and Shop Hops. If you are interested in joining this District 2B Quilting Circle, please call Linda Mogyoros.

UPCOMING FLOWER SHOWS

July 18-20 The Garden Olympics, Spring Lake.

Sept 21 YesterYear - Meridian Garden Club.

<https://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com>

DESIGNER GROUP

The next gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, July 17, 2024, beginning at 10:00 am ends around noon. The meeting will be held at the Capital Area District Library - 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI. 48864

We will be studying Tables. Read "Handbook for Flower Shows" pages 76 and 77 and in the "Designing by Types" Book, pages 136-152. The theme is "PATIO PARTY". So have fun designing.

In this workshop we will be focusing on "Functional Design" (A table planned and set for actual service of food.) OPTIONS: Bring all components for a 20" round table for two; or, bring a tray set for one, or, use 1/2 of an 8-foot table to create a table design for two. Which every you choose; your design type must include a "decorative unit." In other words, a design that harmonizes with the tableware and is designed applying design principles and elements.

Beverage and snack will be provided, but if you love to bake, all treats are acceptable.

This is a great learning opportunity as our club will be sponsoring a Flower Show in 2025. Come look, watch and see what is being accomplished and how people interpret and design for a functional design in a tablescape. If you don't have the book, check with Joan. Not ready to design stop by and observe.

PRESSING FLOWERS

I know some of you have been collecting small leaves, flowers, petals and other surprises to add to a card. Press more than you think you need. It is nice to share what you have. Ronalee and Reba will have a hands-on program for us next Feb. Bring your creative juices. If supplies are needed that info will be forth coming in a later newsletter.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

The team has met and will soon be finished with the planning for Course 2. What a busy team of people. The team has made great progress with course 2. The team is starting on the logistics of course 3 & 4 which takes place in 2025.

ROAD TRIP FUN July 29 - August 9

We would love to have you visit Walters Gardens, Inc. Each year at the end of July and early August, we host a two-week open house as part of the [Michigan Garden Plant Tour](#). When you visit during this time, we'll have special events and displays you wouldn't see other times of year, which makes it a really great time to visit! If you want to catch up with us but can't find the time to make it to Michigan, you might want to check out what [Trade Shows](#) we will be at this year.



Walters Gardens began as a small, family run 5-acre farm growing perennials for local suppliers. It has since grown to 1,500 acres and over 500,000 square feet of greenhouses. Still family owned, we haven't lost sight of our (bare) roots or the values that made this company what it is. Our commitment to a high-quality product and genetics have led to an expansive collection of plant introductions, lasting relationships with our customers, and a close relationship with Proven Winners® as the exclusive home of Proven Winners™ Perennials.

We hope you will visit us this year as a part of the Michigan Garden Plant Tour! We have spent the last few years renovating our Display Gardens and there are many new things to see. Our top new items for the past four seasons are lined out. The landscape performance of the entire Proven

Winners® Perennial collection can be viewed in two dedicated areas. A new Hosta Walk includes over 100 varieties of Hosta. Likewise, we have comparative areas for our Daylilies and Hardy Hibiscus collections.

Read more about the [Michigan Garden Plant Tour here](#)

PHOTOGRAPHY D2B GROUP

Joan Lenhard, Nanette Mathe, Ronalee Polad, Melinda Pope, Diane Sanderson, Sue Wittick and Lynn O'Shaughnessy are exhibiting their photos at Shiawassee Arts Center as part of the Michigan Garden Clubs 2B Photographers. The show begins July 9. Please join them in celebrating their first juried photography exhibition. Take a short drive to Owosso enjoy the show and take in a meal. There are a few good restaurants in Owosso, or Perry, Laingsburg or St Johns. From breakfast to dinner plan a road trip with friends for a fun day.

Use this link to hear the interview from Melinda and Lynn regarding D2B Photography group and the current show.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq_-EBwzhMM&authuser=0

GREENS MARKET DAY

Renee, Joanne, Ronalee, Jean, Mary, Ann L, Carol O., and Carol M. showed up to practice and learn techniques useful for decorating our greens. Three stations were set up: bow making, pick making and pinecone twisting. Hope others can come for the next workshop. Thanks, crew.

UNIQUE EDUCATION AND TOURS

Fall Perennial Plant Sale for Oudolf Gardens. This event will include education in the morning, picnic lunch, sites and tours of another garden. Click on the link for details.

www.info@oudolfgardendetroit.org

HORTICULTURE

See you next month.

OPOSSUM NEWS

Click on the link to find out more about these valuable night time roamers.

https://nextdoor.com/p/cFgdkDR-ydfJ?utm_source=share&extras=MjQ2Nzc4Mjg%3D&utm_campaign=1719610600219



(Ocimeae Lavender Farm Webberville -Rows of different cultivars)