



May 2018 Newsletter

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Question of the Month:

- Planting potted spring bulbs.

Club Pictures:

- None this month

GARDENING IN MAY

Where to begin? If we are really past the last frost, there's so much to do! Here goes.....Indoor plants and seedlings intended for life outdoors in the warm seasons, should be transitioned gradually. [Quick-growing veggies](#) sown in April will be ready for harvesting. Continue sowing more seeds for continual harvests. [Soil temperature is your best guide](#) for deciding seed sowing times. Each plant type has its own preferences. Still have old perennial growth from last year? It's time to remove it, making room for new growth. Remember to turn [your compost pile \(2x per week is ideal\)](#), to keep the microbes working. Grow new plants from cuttings: [see what you can propagate now](#). Set up rain barrels. Have fun out there.

[More complete list here](#)

Update: 2018 Garden Walk Preparations

Committee Co-chairs Sue McCabe and Carolyn Ritt

The 2018 Garden-Walk/Boutique will soon have many people walking through and admiring the beautiful gardens that our homeowners have opened up to all of us. July 14th will be another exciting day that takes preparation. - as you already know since many of you were the Lead for certain committees last year and we thank you for all you did.

Confirming Project Leads

Sue or I have verbally spoken with each of you regarding your role to Lead a garden-walk committee for July 14, 2018. We are very grateful for your past leadership and for taking this year's Lead responsibilities.

We recently sent an email memo to all of you confirm that you will be taking the Lead for your committee group. By May 1 please reply by email to Carolyn that Yes you will Lead your committee as listed below:

Proposed Project Leads:

- Tickets Joanne Reed
- Garden Hosts Diane Wilberding
- Farmers Market Albert Gibson
- Refreshments Linda LaRocque
- Flower Sales/Gathering Debbie Wildt
- Treasure Barn Sales Lynn Kasper
- Jonker's Flower gathering Nancy Daugherty
- Garden Boutique Nancy Daugherty
- Garden Owner Gifts Carol King
- Coverings for Tables Pat Gaston
- Ask-the-Gardener table Dianne Fox
- Girl Scout Garden Anne Long
- Preview Party Social Committee/Anita Upson
- Publicity Kendra Kingsbury
- Garden photos/ticket design Meme Williamson
- Garden Descriptions Sally Van Assche and Meme Williamson
- Garden-Walk Article for SH Tribune Sally Van Assche

Please start:

- assembling your committee members
- communicating with your committee
- planning actions
- saving all supply receipts for reimbursement
- letting Sue or I know any questions/support you need

Again thank you for leading your group and for making the 2018 Garden-Walk (Club's biggest yearly money maker) a huge success!

Garden Walk Volunteers Needed

Our Garden Walk is a fun project but it takes the whole club to make it a success. It's only enjoyable if we all share in the effort needed to accomplish this event. Please take a look at the above specific areas that will need your help. Contact the individual leads for a job that interests you or contact the Garden Walk Committee below. Thank you for your help!

Arbor Day Event Summary by Nancy Brown

This was a great experience for me; I was able to facilitate Arbor Day in place of Debbie Wallter due to her absence. With detailed instructions passed along to me, I successfully executed this special project day. I had a great turn out for the separating of the trees that included eight members and three community volunteers.

The participants respectively:

- · Nancy Brown
- · Barb Chartier-Raudonis (or as some of us call her Rhododendron!)
- · Albert Gibson
- · Nanci Mahan
- · Sue McCabe
- · Sally Van Assche
- · Diane Wilberding
- · Dan Williamson
- · Alexis Brown
- · Hunter Brown
- · Tom Wilberding

The boxes were distributed to members to take to South Haven Elementary Schools: Maple Grove Elementary School, Lincoln School, St. Basil Catholic School and Preschool, and St. Paul Lutheran School.

The distribution members respectively:

- · Nancy Brown
- · Barbara Reber and Nanci Mahan
- · Dorothy Renton
- · Dan Williamson

The delivery and presentation at Maple Grove went well. The office staff was receptive and accommodating to my arrival, and I was welcomed by my 3rd Grade Teachers and Students by their classrooms. I could clearly see that students had been introduced to Arbor Day that morning, and were eager to ask questions and visually see the trees that would be passed out later that day. After explaining Arbor Day and answering questions all the students thanked me.

Over all this was a positive experience, and I enjoyed delegating Arbor Day.



Packing of the evergreen seedlings at the Bailey Museum. Here is Diane and Tom Wilberding. Now that's a date!



The hand off of the seedling by Albert Gibson. Next stop is delivery to the Elementary Schools



And here are the stars of the show heading off to become beloved by 3rd graders throughout South Haven!

PS..... we haven't included pictures of any students or the schools for safety reasons. But I heard from all involved that there were many, many happy children and lots of smiles all round. Great job everyone!

May Events



Club Monthly Meeting

May 14, 2018 -12:30 pm

Presentation:

"Four Seasons of Color Gardens"

Location: 1st Congregational Church

Hosts: Judy Stackpole & Judy Jungman

Presenter: Lorraine Fedorchak-Kraker. Lorraine is an advanced



Club Social Event Cancelled

May 11, 2018 - 5-8 pm

Spring Renewal & Walk

We are so sorry but the weather has thrown a curve ball to everyone this spring. It seems we might be a full 2 weeks, or more, behind this growing

Master Gardener, Ornamental Horticulturalist and Certified Green Industry Professional.

As northern gardeners it would be nice to enjoy our landscapes all year long. Year-round color and interest for the garden cannot be achieved in a single visit to the garden center - you need careful planning and research (or experience by trial and error). Achieving year-round color in the garden requires learning about plants' habits and growth. Lorraine will help us to understand what goes into making a successful four-season garden.

Designing Ideas

season. Due to the delay and the Host Gardeners schedule - we are forced to cancel the event.

Watch for an email just in case we can do a pop up visit to one of the gardens to see the mass of trillium!



Recommended Event

May 2018 / Contact Rosebay for the date

On Your Own

Rosebay Nursery Plant Sale

Rhododendron & Azaleas
6394 Old Allegan Rd,
Saugatuck, MI

Cost: Free

Rosebay Nurseries holds an open house and public sale only once per year. It's the only time you can get a



Are you Interested Event?

May 19 and 20, 11 am - 5 pm

Grand Rapids Heritage House Tour

A number of Club members are interested in attending. Please RSVP if you would like to join us. THERE WILL BE 2 CAR POOL SIGN UP SHEETS (FOR BOTH SAT AND SUN) AT THE MAY CLUB MEETING.

look at the best plants on the market. And if we are lucky, the weather will co-operate and there will be fields of flowering shrubs to enjoy and purchase. The sale is usually Mother's Day weekend but you should check Rosebay's website for the actual date(s) and times of the open house sale at <http://rosebaynursery.com>

[Visit Rosebay website](#)



Discover great architecture, amazing interiors, eclectic décor and spring gardens. The Heritage Hill Historic District dates from 1843 and our 1300 homes represent Michigan's finest collection of 19th and 20th century American architecture. Tour welcomes you inside 7 restored private houses and three historic buildings.

Cost: Pre sale tickets are \$18.00 and includes a shuttle bus between homes. Tickets purchased on that weekend are \$25.00.

Need more information?
Phone: 616-459-8950
E-mail: heritage@heritagehillweb.org

[Heritage Hill Tour Details](#)

[Yes I'm Interested](#)

May Other Area Events

Saturday, May 5 - 10 am till noon **Spring Ephemerals Field Trip on Kal-Haven Trail**

Meet up at: F Avenue / Alamo Crossing of the Kal-Haven Trail
Near the intersection of 10th Ave St North and W G Avenue in Kalamazoo [Map](#)
Join Sue Hodapp, Master Gardener and Conservation Steward, for a nature walk down the Kal-Haven Trail. This two-hour trek will offer participants a view of spring ephemerals and wildlife on an old abandoned railroad right-of-way, commencing in a wetland at the foot of the Kalamazoo Moraine, traveling up the moraine, and concluding in a southern mesic forest. Come, test your skills at identifying plants and trees, right from the trail's edge. [More Details](#)

May 8 @ 12:00 pm - May 11 @ 6:00 pm

[Tulip Time Flower Show In Holland](#)

[Herrick District Library](#), 300 S. River, Holland, MI 49423

The annual Standard Holland Tulip Time Flower Show. Sponsored by the Holland Garden Club. The theme this year is "In Your Garden" (12 months of gardening) Free of charge and open to the public. [More Details](#)

Sunday, May 20, 2018, 1 – 2:30pm

Propagation of Plants in Gravel

Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve
13988 Range Line Road, Niles, MI, 49120 / 269-695-6491

In this class you will learn about using gravel as a medium for plant propagation. Gravel offers both superior drainage and an environment that minimizes competition from weeds. Gain some practical experience rooting a variety of succulents to take home while learning about in-ground seed propagation and protecting spring bulbs from herbivory with gravel amendments. \$12 (Members \$10) [Registration](#)

June Meeting and Field Trip



Club Meeting

JUNE 11, 2018 -12:30 pm

**Program: Club Working Session
and PLANT EXCHANGE**

Location: 1st Congregational Church

Hosts:

Carol King & Diane Wilberding

Presenter: None

This is a much needed working session to catch up and update us all on Club business and up coming projects and events.

Special emphasis will be on the Garden Walk scheduled for July 14th.

Also if you have any ideas for the Yearbook or suggestions for tours or field trips please bring your ideas!

And now for the Plant Exchange.----
It's that time of year to share your plant bounty with your friends and club members. Bring potted plants



Club Field Trip

Sat June 23, 2018 10:00- Noon

Carpooling from Church at 9:15 am
Cost: Free / purchases extra

Summerhouse Lavender Farm
2975 65th St., Fennville, MI 49408

We will visit a tranquil Lavender Farm and Japanese garden in rural Fennville. The scent of lavender follows you throughout the outdoor spaces. Pick or purchase Lavender flowers, plants, or products. There will be a presentation and demonstration of Lavender distillation and oils. Or you can simply sit and enjoy the smell of the Lavender field and sounds of the water feature. Book readers welcome!

More info see the farm web site below.

tagged with the plant name and growing requirements to swap.

[RSVP](#)

[Website](#)

Important June Event



MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Annual Meeting & Convention **“Bzzzzz Michigan”** ***Celebrating Pollinators*** **June 5 - 6, 2018**

Radisson Plaza Hotel
100 W. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

A memorable event for you that you won't want to miss. It will provide educational and networking opportunities, (oh yes, and shopping) including:

- Keynote speaker; seminars on birds, bees, butterflies, native plantings.
- Informative exhibits on MGC programs
- Silent Auction
- District Meetings
- Garden Expo Vendors
- The Standard Flower Show, “What’s All the Buzz About”
- Commemorative Program with written Shareholders’ Reports from the Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.’ Board which you can use to share with your Club when you return home
- And some surprises....

Costs:

- Two-day Registration \$120
- Wednesday Only Registration \$95
- Tuesday PM Only Workshops \$35
- Flower Show is Free

Registration

Multiple Days with Options



Pre-Conference Training

Tuesday June 5, 2018

1:00 PM – 5 PM

Leadership Development Seminars
(Choice of 4)

- 501(c)(3) 101 (Non-Profit)
- Awards Process & Recognizing Excellence
- President's Roundtable
- Website 101
- MGC Grow & Share Grants
- Running Executive & Enjoyable Club Meetings
- Planning, Budgeting & Tracking Monies
- Club Program Ideas

Contact [Dan Williamson](#) if you wish to attend -
There may be SHGC Funding available to pay for attendance.

Request Funding

MGC Annual Conference

Wednesday June 6, 2018

7:30 AM – 5 PM

Schedule:

- 7:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Opening
- 1:15 a.m. District Breakout Sessions
- Noon Luncheon and Keynote Speaker
- 2:00 p.m. Seminars
- 4:00 p.m. Annual Meeting resumes and Closing of the Convention
- 5:00 p.m. Adjournment

Speakers / Seminars:

- Brad Morgan - Keynote speaker. Morgan Composting, producers of Dairy Doo
- Jacquelyn Warwick -Bluebirds in the Backyard, Others in the Front



Speakers List

- Tom Small - Native Plants: Gardening as if Life Depends on it
- Heather Catania - Turning Your Backyard into a Certified Habitat
- Wrifton Graham - Bees and Their Habitat
- Ilse Gebhard - Butterflies

Your Invitation



Standard Flower Show

The Kalamazoo Garden Council
Presents:
A National Garden Clubs Standard
Flower Show
Wednesday June 6th
2:00-6:00 PM
Free

The Flower Show will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo on June 6th from 2:00-6:00 PM, just steps away from the Michigan Garden Clubs Annual State Convention breakout sessions. Convention goers may drop off their entries Tuesday afternoon between 2:00-6:00 PM or on Wednesday morning between 8:00-9:30 AM.

More Details

Save the Date!



Hosta Gardens Tour in GR June 9, 2018

The Southwest Michigan Hosta Society agreed to let us join them for their annual Hosta Gardens Tour. This year they are taking a bus to GR to tour selected gardens. All we have so far is the date. Stay tuned as they will provide all the details soon!

Question of the Month
Potted Bulbs Finished Blooming - Now What?



What to do with these beautiful indoor bulbs after flowering? Was the money you spent on this pot of once-blooming flowers wasted? Is there nothing left to do but dispose of the pot along with the bulbs just as though it were a fresh floral arrangement? Absolutely NOT! Hyacinth and daffodil plant bulbs will generally continue to put out blooms, as well as some of the smaller bulbs, like crocus and snowdrops. However, tulips do not come back well after being forced. So why not replant the bulbs in your garden to enjoy for years to come? The process is actually quite simple:

1. Once the plant has stopped blooming, discontinue watering and allow the foliage to die back.
2. After the foliage is dried and brown, remove it from the pot by gently tugging on the leaves until they break from the bulb and come out of the soil. (If the leaves do not pull away from the bulbs easily you haven't waited quite long enough for the foliage to die. It is very important to not remove the foliage prematurely as it helps to put energy back in the bulbs for the next year's blooms.)
3. Remove the bulbs from the dirt and dust them off. Check for any rotten or soft spots on bulbs. If these spots are visible on any bulbs, discard them. Allow the healthy bulbs to dry out on a piece of paper in a cool, dry and dark place (such as a cellar or basement) and then plant them in the fall along with any other bulbs. OR some gardeners do have luck planting these bulbs directly in the ground in the spring once the soil is suitable for planting.
4. **IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER:** This process of artificially chilling bulbs and then forcing them to bloom in pots takes quite a bit of energy from the bulb. Therefore, you may not see blooms for the next few springs. Be patient: once the bulb stores up enough energy, they'll be beautiful once again!

[More Bulb Info](#)

[And more info.....](#)

Submissions Requested! Please provide content for YOUR newsletter. Especially needed is information about club members, activities, pictures or anything educational. Submit by the 25th of the Month.

[Newsletter Submissions](#)

Produced by Meme (melody) Williamson
Please contact me with any comments, issues or corrections.

[Contact Meme](#)

[Visit our website](#)

