



Growing Our Minds and Gardens

Michigan Garden Clubs District IIB 



A Letter from Your District Director

If some of you are wondering where I took off to, I went to Mayberry! Not really...but Mount Airy, NC is the home of Andy Griffith and there is a museum there to honor him. I wanted to see some of the town's Mayberry replica sites.

Fans of The Andy Griffith Show can step back to a simpler time when they visit Mount Airy. Actor Andy Griffith grew up here, and it's no coincidence that a stroll down Main Street in the "Friendly City" reminds people of the town of Mayberry on the endearing popular '60s hit TV series, The Andy Griffith Show. Fans of the show can visit Floyd's City Barber Shop, the Old Mayberry Jail, Snappy Lunch, and even Andy's childhood home. I wanted to revisit the spirit of The Andy Griffith and think about how Aunt Bee might impact people's lives in a town like Mayberry. I live in Williamston, often called "the friendly city" and it has a lot of similarities to a "Mayberry".



Let me tell you, the day we visited, the town was decked out. There were so many beautiful front yards with Halloween and fall decorations. Pumpkins, cornstalks, strawbales, bright flowers, and much more. There was a festival, so navigating a drive through was challenging. We did stop and talk to people, and everyone was friendly.

My point in telling you this story is that this town takes pride in being referred to as a "Friendly City". I find we often forget how to make people feel at home when they come to visit. The charm and shared values of Mayberry still lives in Mt. Airy...do they live in your town?



"Our gardens are like the Welcome Mat to our homes".

"Garden Clubs Civic Gardens are like Welcome Mats throughout our Cities and Towns, Villages and Burgs".

*Your Friendly District Director,
- Carol Grainger*



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HOW TO USE THIS ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Aunt Bee is helping us learn how to use our *electronic garden tools* to connect with other clubs and members through this newsletter as well as our District 2B, MCG and NGC websites.

1. As you read through the newsletter click on graphics, logos or underlined text.
2. Ask a garden club or other friend to assist you. No computer? Ask your club president or other member to print it for you. *You will get only a small portion of the content when printing.*



We hope you will enjoy reading this Newsletter!

We also hope you get some educational value from it and appreciate the links we have included.

*We welcome comments, suggestions and any ideas for content on going.
What did you like?
What would you like to see?
Would you like to contribute?
Please let us know your thoughts.
Sincerely – [Carol Grainger](#)
Director District IIB*



District IIB of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. is 14 clubs and 659 members strong. We share a love of gardening, respect for our environment, a thirst for knowledge, and a willingness to share our expertise. We beautify our communities, tend our gardens, make awesome floral arrangements, nurture pollinators, attend and present educational programs, and come together to learn and enjoy fellowship.

Meeting Days and Presidents

Brighton Michigan Garden Club - 2nd Thursday
Nola Hogge and Lynn O'Shaughnessy

DeWitt Millennium Garden Club - 2nd Thursday
Missy Koos and Deb Logsdon

Eaton Rapids Home & Garden Club
Brenda Wineman

The Garden Club of Greater Lansing- 2nd Monday
Joan Lenhard

Hartland Home & Garden Club - 2nd Wednesday
Judith Knitter

Howell Garden Club - 4th Wednesday
MaryLou Dell

Looking Glass Garden Club, Clinton Co - 1st Monday
Janice Thelen

Marshall Area Garden Club - 3rd Tuesday
Alice Schneider

Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club - 2nd Tuesday
Dianne Jackman

Meridian Garden Club - 3rd Monday
Georgia Styka

Sherwood Garden Club - 4th Tuesday
Donna Musolf

Webberville Garden Club - 1st Wednesday
Julie Hath

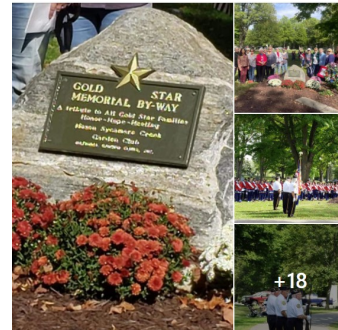
Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club - 2nd Monday

Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club

On October 16th the Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club celebrated the completion of the Sunflower House Learning Center. The Sunflower House Learning Center is located behind the historic Pink Schoolhouse on Ash Street in Mason. [Click to view larger images>](#)



It was such a beautiful day on September 26, 2021 when we dedicated our Gold Star Memorial marker at the Veterans Memorial Garden in the Maple Grove Cemetery with the Mason community. The program began with the National Anthem sung by Inetta Smith and an invocation, followed with patriotic music played by the Mason High School band. The local American Legion and the VFW participated along with our MGC officers. The Mayor of Mason and City Manager accepted the marker on behalf of the City of Mason. We concluded with a gun salute from the American Legion, a blessing from US Navy Veteran, Neil Darling and the playing of Taps. [Click to view all images>](#)



October 2, MSCGC kicked off a pilot project, Down Home Daffodils 1,000 bulbs were planted with community volunteers along each side of M-36 that runs through the middle of town. We partnered with the City of Mason and Dart Bank of Mason on this project. They are naturalized plantings which can be mowed as part of the natural landscape. Our plan is to continue to plant roadside spaces throughout the community the first Saturday of the year! We are working with the community to encourage individual homeowners to plant daffodils as well. Springtime will bring a river of sunshine yellow as you drive through town! [Click to view all images>](#)



On September 18, 2021, MSCGC celebrated the life of our dear friend Barb Ketchum with her family and friends. We shared stories and poems and dedicated a beautiful garden bench in her memory. We ended the program with a butterfly release. Barb is dearly missed and will always be in our hearts. [Click to view all images>](#)



Other Club and Social Media News -

Brighton Michigan Garden Club –

After much work last Fall - digging (salvaging plants from old Victory Garden to winter over), cleaning (took plants to “bare root”), fertilizing (cow manure), and clearing (we mowed and buried the entire old VG under cow manure, dense cardboard and 4 inches of wood chips), we at last put the Old Victory Garden to bed, and welcomed our team back to the “New Victory Garden” in May 2021 to begin planting many perennials intended



Mounds of purple asters really add a pop of color.

to be drought tolerant and low maintenance, after they get settled into their new home, which may take several years. Organizing plants by height, bloom time and flower colors, we substantially completed planting the New VG in two work days in May (many BMGC members joined in this effort), using many plants from the old VG, as well as seedlings or larger plants donated by members or purchased at a discount from a Howell nursery (64 creeping thyme seedlings for new pathway through the garden, are barely visible in pictures, behind small rock garden cornerstones at beginning of path). We added a pergola (courtesy of Bill and Dianne Schrock, and Home Depot) over one of the benches (two benches were salvaged from the Old VG) at the Southeast corner of the New VG to provide shade for our members (water bottles, tools, etc.) as well as for the Gleaners volunteers who manage the much larger vegetable garden for the Livingston County Food Bank (seen in background of some pictures).

Brighton Garden Club's Perennial Garden welcomes you into the Gleaners Food Bank Victory Garden. Volunteers for both gardens get a treat.



Look at how big and beautiful the Yarrow has gotten



The Shasta Daisies are still going strong in October.



The people working on the Gleaners Victory Garden appreciate the benches...and the beautiful view...when they need to take a break.



Jennifer Peitz, she and Peggy Fukuda are our fearless leaders.



A sleepy bumble bee on a Coneflower.

Gleaners Victory Garden



Stephanie supervised the Gleaners Food Bank Victory Garden this summer. Just down to the last of harvesting. She has a little trick to keep the deer away, at least for a while, a little piece of Irish Spring soap hanging from a garden stake. **Good job Stephanie** and thanks for all your hard work!

DeWitt Millennium Garden Club –
DMGC members have been busy putting all

our gardens to bed for the winter. We meet by Zoom in October and had a very informative presentation on the Brown Marmorated Stinkbug and [Swallow-Wort Biological Control](#) by Marianna Szucz, Associate Professor of Entomology at MSU. [Learn more about stink bugs from MSU.](#)



Brown Marmorated Stinkbug

The club also ordered 1,500 daffodil's bulbs that were given out to club members and also the DeWitt community at our October Farmer's Market. The left-over bulbs will be planted by DMGC members around the new city hall.

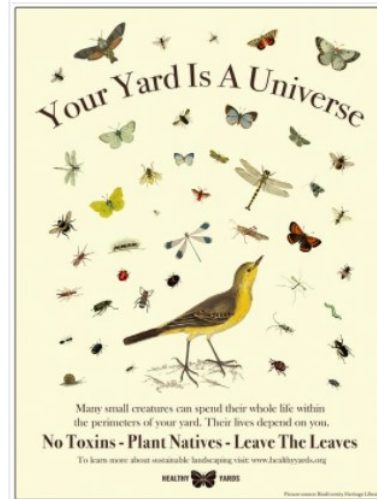


Pale swallow-wort flowers, deadly to Monarchs

Eaton Rapids Garden Club -



Garden Club of Greater Lansing –



Facebook post from GCGL

Five members came out to the District IIB Fall Meeting. We had a great time learning about herbs and it was so good to visit with friends from other clubs! Thank you, Marshall Area Garden Club, for organizing the event.

Grand Ledge Garden Club -

Art and the Garden- The Grand Ledge Garden Club has many wonderful artists among its membership. Over the past few years many programs have been presented by members utilizing their skills both as artists and as gardeners. Programs by Carol Emerson, Diane Sanderson, Jean Vicary, Marilee Goldsberry, Annette Ryan, Dess Johnson, Jeanette Foster, Bette



Shattler, included wreath-making, Christmas ornaments, pumpkin painting, floral painting, photography, birdseed ornaments, flower arranging, landscaping, pressed flower items, decorating, etc. Over the 80 years of this Club, art in many forms, has been an important part.

The five City gardens, and Memorial Tree Trail, tended by this Club. and the City, have many artistic elements, encouraging others to try to add these ideas to their home gardens. We welcome new members and their skills to our organization, and hope visitors will enjoy the beauty that is Grand Ledge.



Hartland Home & Garden Club -

The Hartland Garden Club was hard at work Wednesday with fall clean up in the Cromaine District Library gardens!

We enjoyed the beautiful pollinator plants and the pollinators that love them throughout the summer and we can't wait to enjoy them once again when spring rolls around.



Facebook Post Fun - from the Hartland Garden Club

For all you fellow mum killers! Look at this 😂😂 We can just turn them dead things into Christmas decor! Who knew lol



Looking Glass Garden Club -



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

Company Name | [Website](#)



Visit our website