Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., District IIB Newsletter

The B Gardener





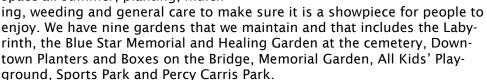


DeWitt Millennium Garden Club

The DeWitt Millennium Garden Club was founded in the year 2000. There were eighteen charter members and now 18 years later we have grown to 62 members.



Our main fund- raising project is the geranium sale beginning in March. Distribution is in May, and about that time is when we start gearing up for summer work in the many gardens scattered around the city. Each garden has a chair and a committee. They take care of their space all summer, planting, mulch-



In the fall the Daffodil committee plants thousands of daffodil bulbs at several locations in the city and township. Last year they planted the on and off ramps on Airport Road at I-69. In the spring the nodding heads of the daffodils around the city is a breathtaking sight. At the Healing Garden, there is a brick path that wanders through the center between the berms. Bricks can be purchased and inscribed to recognize an individual or in memory of a loved one.



In early March we feature a noted speaker and provide door prizes and refreshments. Our Youth Committee is present at several Farmer's Market days and has a booth at the Christmas Market in December.

We have a great group of ladies and gentlemen members who pitch in and

work on many committees and projects. One project is the cups of cheer in December; this year 160 cups were filled with greens and decorations for residents at various assisted living homes in the area.

We welcome all of you to visit

our club meetings held the second Thursday of months September through May. We meet in the all-purpose toom of the Redeemer UMC at the corner of Clark and Schavey Roads in DeWitt. Our meeting time is 6:30 PM.

Submitted by Barbara Best, DMGC Member

We ask that IIB Club Presidents make this newsletter available to all their members and provide printed copies to members who do not have access to the web. It can be downloaded from the District IIB website. The newsletter will no longer be sent as an e-mail attachment. To be added or removed from the District's e-mail distribution list, please contact Sue Wittick.

District IIB Steering Committee







Lynn Keelan, Howell Garden Club, 517-304-3329, <u>boomerage47@yahoo.com</u>, 2765 Earl Lake Road, Howell, MI 48843-8613 - District Director

Peggy Bryson, Meridian Garden Club, 517-614-9428, <u>plbryso@gmail.com</u>, 5512 Jessael, Bath, MI 48808-9791 District Treasurer, FaceBook Administrator, Website Administrator, Recording Secretary

Barb Ketchum, Mason-Sycamore Creek Garden Club, 517-331-2027, <u>baketchum15@gmail.com</u>, 1036 W Barnes Rd., Mason, MI 48854, Member Services to Clubs, Event Coordinator

Sue Wittick, Meridian Garden Club, 517-242-8259, <u>witticks@gmail.com</u>, 4103 Breakwater Drive, Okemos, Mi 48864-4413 - Communications, Newsletter, Graphics & Printing

Any IIB club member is welcome to attend District IIB Steering Committee meetings. The next meeting will be held on February 8th at Win Schuler's Restaurant, 115 S Eagle St., Marshall 11:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Discussion topics will include the IIB budget, fund raising, and event planning.

District IIB Steering Committee Member News



 $II\mathcal{B}$



Lynn Keelan, District Director

District IIB is getting more creative in many ways. I love our new logo with the two big letter B's and the two cute bees. Thanks to wonderful suggestions for fundraising, we are making plans. Our coffers need filling, so we want to offer some items for garden club members to buy to support District IIB. The profits will stay in District IIB to be used for worthwhile projects or needed items. More details will be forthcoming.



We are in the process of setting up 4 local Beehive Buzzes, a coffee meeting with local club presidents to meet with me and the steering committee. Our goal, besides meeting everyone personally, will be to generate ideas for a summer Presidents meeting with representatives from all 16 clubs.

I hope you are planning to enter your prized horticultural specimens in "We Love Michigan" NGC Standard Flower Show, March 15-18, 2018. If you aren't entering or volunteering to help, please come see your fellow club members' entries and enjoy the show.

Planning is well underway for both the April 18, 2018 Spring, Partners in Gardening and October 25 Fall District Meetings. In between there is the MGC State Convention in Kalamazoo June 5-6, 2018.

So, please enjoy your club meetings and participate in helping your local club and community efforts. Stay in touch with District IIB happenings and introduce a friend to the fun of belonging to a garden club.

Peggy Bryson, Treasurer and Website

It's been a quiet month for the District treasury, but that's about to change. We are beginning the process of developing a budget for fiscal 2018-19. It's due to MGC by February 15. The District checkbook balance remains \$633.52. You can find a copy of the most recent monthly treasurer's report on the District website. (Click "District News" on the main menu and then "Treasurer's Report" on the sub-menu.)



Sue Wittick, Newsletter Editor

Thank you for all your comments about the District IIB Newsletter and your suggestions for improvement. This month several changes have been made:

- The newsletter is no longer being sent by e-mail attachment. Announcements will be sent to my mailing list when a new newsletter is available on the District IIB website.
- The number of articles about NGC, CR, and MGC has been reduced.
- A calendar has been added (see page 8).
 - This newsletter is shorter.

In this issue your will find lots of new "happenings" in District IIB including:

- Beehive Buzz gatherings—see page 6 and 9
- District IIB T-shirts—see page 3
- District IIB Interest Groups—see page 8







Barb Ketchum, Member Services to Clubs, Events

Plans for the District spring meeting on April 18 are well underway. We have two interesting speakers lined up. Some great new vendors will be there, along with favorites from previous meetings. In addition, we will be hosting a small flower show and sharing information about new activities in the district. I hope you plan on joining us. Presidents and Treasurers can expect the invitation letter by email in early February. Registration opens March 1st!

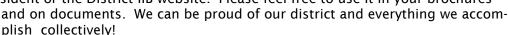






Sue Wittick, Communications, Newsletter, Graphics/Printing

The District IIB Steering Committee adopted this new *logo* at our last planning meeting. It is available from your club president or the District IIB website. Please feel free to use It in your brochures







District IIB members are expressing all sorts of wonderful ideas for field trips, workshops, schools, sharing between clubs, nature crafts and MORE! Unfortunately, the district is working with limited funds at this point. So, I volunteered to be the (interim, I hope) chair of *fundraising* and now I need some committee members! I'm certain we can collect all sorts of ideas to raise funds that will go right back to serving our 16 garden clubs. We will be developing fundraising ideas for individual clubs as well. My goal is to have committee members from every club and to make good use of technology so we can limit the occa-

sions when we physically need to gather.

Our first project is *District IIB T-shirts* and they are ready to order right now. Just imagine what fun it will be to see everyone wearing one at our district meeting on April 18th! The shirts are now available in 2 styles, 8 colors, and 7 sizes. The traditional style is 100% soft cotton, and the ladies style has a bit of polyester adding shapeliness and stretch. Order forms are attached and are also on our IIB website. (MGCDistrict2b.weebly.com; password: 2bgardeners). If you order right away, you should be able to pick up your shirt in February from your club president!



IIB Tri-fold Display

District IIB will have a display board at both the March Flower Show and the District Meeting on April 18th. Clubs may put any small handouts on that table (e.g. bookmarks, event announcement cards, club brochures.) Please let me know what you plan to bring so we can plan accordingly.



New District IIB Website, Peggy Bryson

(MGCDistrict2b.weebly.com password 2bgardeners)



If you've explored the new District website, you've likely noticed that, while there is a lot of information available, there are also a lot of empty spaces, particularly relating to individual clubs. We'd like to fill those and need your help to do that. This month, let's focus on club meetings. Please let Peggy [plbryso@gmail.com; 517-614-9428] know when and where your club meets and whether guests are welcome so she can add that information to your club's page on the site.

We've learned that some are experiencing difficulty navigating the new District website. Just click on the menu items at the top of the page to get to the sub-menus that provide more detail and links to what's available. We increased the size of the site menu, which runs across the top of the page under the District name, and we've added a new menu item, Site Map, that will take you to a page with links to all the menu and sub-menu items. Just click on the subject that you want to see.

Flower Show News



Lois Snover-Hanson, Meridian Garden Club, District IIB Flower Show Chair, 517-694-8091

On February 21, IIB Designers will meet at the DeWitt Fire Station. We will be studying Armature Form and making floral arrangements that fit with the title "Up Without a Ladder." This is an educational event and everyone is welcome!

The Greater Lansing Orchid Society will hold its annual Orchid Show at the Michigan State Plant and Soil Science Conservatory on February 25-26. We are hosting a small flower show for designs with orchids, called "*Orchids on the Move*." Orchids will be available to designers at the IIB Designer's meeting on February 21.



Our 2018 Standard Flower Show "We Love Michigan" will be held at the Michigan State Pavilion March 15-18. Please look around your house for any Michigan items that could be used for staging.

We plan to give the **Marilyn J. Lee award** at both the Spring and Fall 2018 District IIB Meetings. The application forms were sent to club presidents and are also available on the District IIB website. Your club can't win this civic beautification award if you don't apply!

The Spring 2018 District Meeting, April 18th, will feature a Horticulture Specialty Flower Show "Bee Ready for Spring." Bottles for your cut specimens will be provided.

On **April 24**, the IIB Designers will host a "**Spring Fling**" Flower Show, at the DeWitt Fire Department. This show will feature the designs that were new in the 2017 Edition of *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Armature, Assemblage, and Cascade.

Schedules for all these flower shows can be found on the District IIB website. (MGCDistrict2b.weebly.com password 2bgardeners)

Orchids on the Move

Floral Designs with Orchids

February 24 - February 25, 2018

* Entries may be placed on February 23 between 1:30-7:30 p.m. * Judging arrangements begins at 8:30 a.m. February 24 * Show open noon-5:00 p.m. February 24 11:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m. February 25

> Plant and Soil Science Conservatory Michigan State University



Horticulture Specialty Flower Show

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

In conjunction with the Michigan Garden Clubs (MGC) District IIB Spring Meeting Eagle Eye Conference Center, Bath, Michigan



Small-Standard Flower Show

Wednesday April 25, 2018

Entries placed 9:30-10:00 a.m. Judging of show 10:00-10:45 Show open 11:00-12:00 noon Presentation and discussion of Cascade Design

> DeWitt Fire Department 911 W. Main Street DeWitt MI 48820







District IIB Club February Meeting Dates and Program Topics

- 6—Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Nightmares and Successes, 6:30 p.m. at Mason Historical Museum, 200 E. Oak St. Mason
- 8-Brighton GC What's New for 2018? (Telly's Greenhouse), 10:30 a.m., Brighton Community Center, 555 Brighton Street, Brighton
- 8—Dewitt Millennium GC In Our Gardens—A Year in Review (Anne Crimmins), 6:30 p.m., Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavev Road, DeWitt
- 8—Eaton Rapids GC Meeting for lunch, 1:00 p.m. If anyone would like to join us please call or text Brenda @ (517) 740-8862.
- 12—GC of Greater Lansing Eye-tracking and Horticultural Choices (Dr. Bridget Behe and Dr. Pat Huddleston, MSU), 9:30 a.m., Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Boulevard, Lansing
- 12—Williamston Red Cedar GC Lunch Bunch (idea session), 12 noon, Carol Grainger's home
- 12—Hartland H&GC Ten Ways to Kill Your Tree, Hartland Senior Center, 9525 E. Highland Road, Hartland
- 13—Across the Fence Post GC, 6:30 p.m.
- 18—Howell GC Written in Stone (Sheryl Lynn; Hartland Geology and Lapidary Club), 6:30 p.m., Howell Auditorium, Livingston County Public Safety Complex—EMS, 1911 Tooley Road, Howell
- 20—Marshall Area GC Oaklawn Community Gardens (John Curtis), 7:00 p.m., Marshall United Methodist Church, 721 US 27 North

Editor's note: If your club isn't listed, it's because I don't know your meeting plans! If you didn't submit a yearbook for judging, please send me this information so your club can be included in future issues. Sue Wittick



March District IIB Standard Flower Show We Love Michigan Kathi Dominguez







The March 15-18, 2018, District IIB Standard Flower Show date is quickly approaching! We are asking for hosts (club members) to watch over the exhibits for all hours that the Home Show is open to the public. Please consider signing up for a 2-3 hour time slot. Ask a friend or bring a car full. Sign up together for this much needed volunteer job. Club members may either contact me directly or add their name to a form a club meeting.

A sign-up sheet is being sent with this newsletter. We are asking club Presidents to make this available at club meet-

ings and then to send the names and contact information of volunteers for specific time slots to me.

This is a fun job! What's better than spending time at a flower show? In addition you get to meet lots of nice people, promote your club, MGC, and District IIB! The openings fill fast, so don't delay.

Also, we are in need of *one clerk* for the same flower show. Clerking duties are coordinated with judging and take place, Thursday, March 15th, from approximately noon to 4:00 pm. Clerks work in a team of two, to assist the panel of judges, who are working to judge exhibits entered into the Flower Show.

If interested in being either a host or a clerk, please contact Kathi Dominguez at 517-927-4665; 501 W Geneva Dr., DeWitt, MI. 48820; dominguezk@comcast.net.



https://www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/spring_program/

Beehive Buzz

A Beehive Buzz assembles IIB leadership and club presidents for coffee and conversation. They will be held in February at 4 locations in our district—Howell, Marshall, Okemos, and Lansing, with 4 clubs specifically invited to each one. Please pass your questions, ideas, and suggestions to your club president so he or she can represent you at these gatherings.



News from Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. (MGC)

Jean Goetz, MGC 2nd Vice President in Charge of Civic Affairs Black Swallowtail News...Coming Event

Helpers Needed

We have a booth (#3003) at the Lansing Home and Garden Show at the MSU Pavilion March 15-18, 2018. This will be an educational exhibit highlighting pollinators and the Black Swallowtail, which we hope will become our Michigan State Butterfly.



Free Admittance

We need many D II-B member volunteers to work a 3-4 hour shift. Exhibitors receive a badge which allows free entrance to the show! When your shift ends, you will be free explore the other exhibits including our wonderful flower show.

The Job

There will be a large tri-fold display board with handouts, pins, and support sheets. Your job will be to talk to lots of curious people, answer questions, distribute handouts to adults and butterfly fans to children, request signatures of support, and sell Black Swallowtail pins if requested.

Date	Day	Shift I	Shift 2	Shift 3	Schedule:
March 14	Thursday		3-6	6-9	Please contact me to complete the schedule and request your ID badge.
March 15	Friday	12-3	3-6	6-9	Jean Goetz 517-349-4791; 517-449-3323;
March 17	Saturday	11-3	3-6	6-9	goetzj88@gmail.com
March 18	Sunday	10-1	1-4		7 -

Annual Reports from All Clubs are due March 1st!

MGC asks club presidents to submit their Annual Report Form which is used to determine Club of Distinction Awards. The form can is available on the MGC website in a fillable PDF format. You will find it here http://michigangardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/club-of-distinction-2017-2018-July-fillable-final.pdf Be sure to ask for help from your club members!



Your completed reports (3 pages) can be sent by U.S. mail or e-mail to IIB District Director Lynn Keelan (boomerage47@yahoo.com, 2765 Earl Lake Road, Howell, MI 48843-8613), MGC President Carol Brodbeck (6410 Crane Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197-8850, MGC17President) and MGC First Vice-President Janet Hickman (6136 Recreation Dr PO 1278, Bellaire, MI 49615-8405, jchickman@charter.net).

Will your club earn a Club of Distinction (CD), Silver CD, Gold CD, Platinum CD, Diamond CD, Double Diamond CD, or Triple Diamond CD award? Awards will be announced at our April 24th District Meeting! District awards from 2016-2017 were listed in the December 2017 District IIB newsletter.



Wetlands for a sustainable urban future





Alyce Doss, MGC Scholarship Chair

What is the purpose of Michigan Garden Clubs' Scholarship Fund?

The scholarship fund gives Michigan garden club members an opportunity to invest in the future. Annual scholarships are awarded to students attending Michigan public universities, who are enrolled in Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, Agriculture, Floriculture, Environmental Science, Botany, Forestry, Conservation, Land Management and/or relate fields of study that are consistent



with Michigan Garden Clubs objectives. These awards encourage young adults to complete their studies, to advance horticultural education, conservation, and landscape design studies and to promote study of the protection of natural resources.

What Criteria are used to select the \$1000 Scholarship Recipients?

The applicant must be a college sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. In addition, prospective recipients must have declared a major consistent with the objectives of the Michigan Garden Clubs.

Which Universities are offered Scholarships?

Scholarships are offered at fourteen state universities that offer fields of study that support Michigan Garden Clubs objectives.

Two of this year's scholarship recipients.



Makayla Stuart, LSSU Junior enrolled in the Environmental Science program with a Physical Science concentration.



Jennifer Harper, EMU. Enrolled in the MS Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology program.

We're Going Back To School

How can you and your garden club participate?

Donations can be made to the Scholarship Program by individuals and Garden Clubs, often as honorariums and memorials. Clubs are encouraged to include contributions to the Scholarship Fund as a yearly budget item. The MGC Scholarship Fund Donation Form can be down loaded from the MGC website, under the Scholarships - Program Information section.

Lynn Dinvald, Flower Show Judges Credentials Chair

2018 Flower Show Symposium, June 25 & 26, 2018

This is an opportunity for members to learn more about horticulture and floral design for their future flower shows. NGC/MGC offers four schools: Flower Show School, Gardening Study, Environmental and Landscape Design schools. As Dorothy Yard, chairman of NGC Flower Show Schools stated in the Winter 2017 of The National Gardener, "They are all different, yet complement each other. Together they make a stronger garden club member." We agree and hope you do as well. One does not need to be a flower show judge to attend this symposium; one only needs the willingness to learn.



The *Michigan Consultants Council* is sponsoring a <u>Tri-Refresher on July 10, 2018</u> at the W.K.Kellogg Biological Station, Hickory Corners, MI. Consultants who wish to refresh their Landscape Design, Garden Study, or Environmental School credentials should plan to attend. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Registration forms for these two events are available on the District IIB website and on the MGC website. The forms will also be included in the spring 2018 issue of *Thru the Garden Gate*.

NGC Schools http://michigangardenclubs.org/ Education

Environmental Studies School, Course IV, April 17 & 18, Holland, MI Landscape Design School, Course IV, April 24 & 25, Kalamazoo, MI

Registration forms are available on the both the MGC and District IIB websites.

When a new member joins your club, please submit a New Member Information Form to Mary Pulick, Database processing Manager, with a check for the \$6 MGC dues. The form is on the MGC website: http://michigangardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/2017-2018-New-Member-Form-11-2017.pdf and on the District IIB website.





IIB Designers— Since 2008, a group of IIB floral designers has been meeting four times a year to practice specific design types, share ideas and materials, and plan flower shows. The group meets at the DeWitt Fire Station. Contact Kathi Dominguez (dominguezk@comcast.net; 517-669-5112) or Lois Snover-Hanson (517-694-8091) for more information.

IIB Photographers—This group is just forming to learn and practice skills and techniques, share ideas, and critique images related to photography. The 2017 NGC Handbook for Flower Shows includes Photography, and we would like to showcase our own photography exhibit at the Fall 2018 District Meeting. Flower shows in other districts have included photography, so we have some models for guidance. Contact Sue Wittick (witticks@gmail.com; 517-242-8259) if you have interest in this area.



IIB Quilters—Now that we have a new logo, we would like a new banner that features it! This will be a smaller ban-



ner than the one we currently use for display at state conventions, that could more easily be displayed at District IIB events. While considering that project, the idea of IIB Quilters was born. This will be a group for garden club members who are interested in quilting with floral, horticultural, and environmental themes. If you are interested, please contact Linda Mogyoros, turtlehatch@att.net: 517-712-2622.

Volunteers Needed



- Fund Raising Committee Volunteers for District IIB. Contact Sue Wittick. Let's try to have one from each club!
- District Historian Is there someone who would like to compile the history of District IIB? This will take some research, looking at old yearbooks, and talking to lots of nice people who have been in the district awhile. Let's document all the things that have made us special over the years! Contact Sue Wittick.
- District Black Swallowtail Butterfly Chair to help promote legislation to make the black swallowtail Michigan's official state butterfly. Contact Sue Leahy: 517-349-3343, Leahys100@msn.com

Websites and Passwords (You can cut this out and place it in your club yearbook for easy access.)

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

www.gardenclub.org Username: member

Password: pumpkin



Michigan Slubs

Central Region, NGC www.ngccentralregion.org

Login: member Password: 7states

MGC District IIB https://mgcdistrict2b.weebly.com/ password 2bgardeners

www.michigangardenclubs.org Login: 2bmember Password: membermgc



Please send newsletter articles to Sue Wittick by February 20 for the March 2018 issue.

The District IIB Steering Committee publishes this newsletter monthly to feature MGC news, district events and the projects and activities of IIB clubs. Each month we plan to feature one club in depth to appreciate what makes us unique and the love of gardening which connects us.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month with the newsletter coming out around the 1st. A notice will be sent to Club Presidents when a new newsletter has been posted on the District IIB website. Send submissions for the newsletter to Sue Wittick.

Dates for your Calendars



- A February 8, 2018 IIB Steering Committee meets at Win Schuler's Restaurant, 115 S Eagle St., Marshall 11:30 a.m. Discussion topics will include IIB budget, fund raising, and event planning. Any IIB members are welcome.
- **B** February 8, 2018 Bee Hive Buzz 2:30—4:30, Win Schuler's Restaurant, 115 S Eagle St., Marshall. IIB Steering Committee meets with representatives from the Marshall, Eaton Rapids, Green Thumb, and Sherwood clubs for coffee and conversation.
- C February 13, 2018 Bee Hive Buzz 2:30—4:30, Firewood Grill, 1202 E Grand River Rd, Howell. IIB Steering Committee meets with representatives from the Hartland, Howell, Brighton, and Webberville clubs for coffee and conversation.
- **D** February 20, 2018 Bee Hive Buzz 2:30—4:30, Champs, Eastwood Towne Center, Lansing. IIB Steering Committee meets with representatives from the DeWitt, Looking Glass, Grand Ledge, and Across the Fence Post clubs for coffee and conversation.
- **E February 21, 2018** IIB Designers Workshop *Up, without a Ladder* 10:00-12:00 noon; Meridian GC to provide refreshments; DeWitt to provide coffee. Project: Armature, a Creative Design featuring an Armature form (grid-like structure). (Handbook page 77)
- **F February 23, 2018** Entries accepted for *Orchids on the Move* Flower Show, MSU Plant and Soil Sciences Conservatory, 1:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
- **G** February 24, 2018 Orchids on the Move Flower Show, MSU Plant and Soil Sciences Conservatory, noon—5:00 p.m.
- **H** February 25, 2018 Orchids on the Move Flower Show, MSU Plant and Soil Sciences Conservatory, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- I March 1, 2018 Bee Hive Buzz 2:30—4:30, Cracker Barrel, 2285 Woodlake Dr, Okemos. IIB Steering Committee meets with club representatives from Meridian, Greater Lansing, Williamston, and Mason Sycamore Creek clubs for coffee and conversation.
- March 15-18, 2018 We Love Michigan, District IIB Flower Show, MSU Pavilion
- **April 18, 2018** Spring IIB District Meeting, Eagle Eye Conference Center, Bath, "Bee Ready for Spring" Horticulture Specialty Flower Show
- April 25, IIB Designers + Spring Fling Flower Show, DeWitt Fire Department, 10:00 am—noon
- May 21, 2018 May 24, 2018 National Garden Clubs Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- June 5-6. 2018 Michigan Garden Clubs Convention, Kalamazoo



February 2018											
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
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4	5	6	7	8 (A B)	9	10					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17					
18	19	20	²¹ E	22	²³ (F)	²⁴ G					
²⁵ H	26	27	28	March 1							