



The IIB Gardener



October, 2018



Garden Club of Greater Lansing



Club of the Month

The Garden Club of Greater Lansing (GCGL) was founded in 1931 as the Lansing Branch of the Women's National Farm and Garden Club. GCGL joined the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan, Inc. in December 1933. Since its inception, it has been involved in the Lansing community as well as in state garden club activities and events. One of our former members was President of the National Council of State Garden Clubs (now NGC), and past Central Regional Director. Numerous members have served on boards and committees of NGC, MGC, and District IIB. Our membership frequently has included accredited and master flower show judges. As the oldest garden club in the Lansing area, GCGL has evolved as the city and greater Lansing community have grown and changed. Our active members all participate in a variety of committees and activities.



The GCGL mission is "to provide horticultural and educational resources, and networking opportunities for members; to promote the love of gardening, floral and landscape design, and to promote civic and environmental responsibility."



Our largest and oldest program is the Greens Market, which was started in 1934. Fresh greens are made into decorated wreaths, swags, boxwood trees and arrangements and are offered to the public on the first Saturday of December.

Another long standing program is the Corn Project which was founded in 1979. This program teaches kindergarten and first graders in area schools about planting and nurturing seeds and how plants grow. In the spring of 2018 the Corn Project served over 3800 students from 33 area schools. Club members distribute pots with soil, seed and instructions for planting. With teacher supervision, the students learn to plant seeds and to promote plant growth. They also take home seeds with instructions for planting and care.



GCGL meets on the second Monday of each month. We also take field trips to visit area activities that support member interests. Members participate in a wide variety of programs and civic projects, including Arbor Day, the Blue Star Memorial Plaque Garden in Frances Park, District IIB Flower Show, Greens Market, Junior Gardening, Festival of the Trees, Be a Visitor in your Own Home Town and Neighborhood Beautification which recognizes outstanding gardens in the community.

Communication with members and the community include our Yearbook and Twigs, the Club Newsletter; Facebook; and the Website. Every new member is given a "green book" which is a loose-leaf notebook with more detailed information about committees and activities, Club Constitution and Bylaws, greens preparation for use, and other helpful information.

We continue to enjoy our programs and our friendships. New members are welcome as we work and learn together.

District IIB Steering Committee



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

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

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

Sue Wittick, Meridian Garden Club, 517-242-8259, witticks@gmail.com, 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 IIB Steering Committee Meeting will be October 11th, 1:30—4:00 pm, at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 100, Okemos.

District IIB Steering Committee Member News



Lynn Keelan, District Director

October is a wonderful month in Michigan. We have sunshine, fall colors, cider, donuts, apples, frost tolerant plants and flowers and, of course, garden club meetings. Our clubs are in full swing with activity. We have received club yearbooks and they all look like winners to me!

An added bonus to our fall schedules is having the Central Region (CR) Convention in Frankenmuth, October 21-22. Garden club members from seven states will gather to enjoy "Little Bavaria," with speakers, vendors and camaraderie. The CR Convention will also have a NGC Specialty Horticulture Show. Will I see you there?

I anticipate a wonderful IIB District Meeting hosted by Brighton Garden Club on October 25th. With the unusual title, *Avant-Garden: Blending Nature, Art and Fashion*, I'm certain that we are in for a treat. We will hold our first IIB photography exhibit there. The IIB Photographers have been practicing their art in preparation for the display.

Our Steering Committee is approaching its first anniversary of service. We have been trying to "put the bloom back in IIB." New leadership will begin in June 2019. A new District Director must be named this fall even though the position won't officially begin until June. Please consider what you can do to help so we can keep blooming!



Peggy Bryson, Treasurer



The MGC Board of Directors recently approved a change to its rule on distribution of surplus funds from events and meetings. While surplus revenue from schools and conventions remains distributed at 50% to MGC and 25% each to host club and District, the split for District and leadership meetings now is 50% to the District and 25% each to host club and MGC. That means that more funds could be available at the District level for distribution to clubs in the form of community project grants.

You can find information about the grants and the application form on the District website under Forms/Grants at <https://mgcdistrict2b.weebly.com/club-grants.html>. While District IIB's current budget did not include funds for grants in 2018-19, there are now sufficient funds available to make small grants, and the steering committee is already planning to provide for grant funding in the 2019-20 budget. So if your club is undertaking a community project that could use some extra funding, check out the guidelines for these grants and consider applying for one.



We ask that IIB Club Presidents either make copies of this newsletter for members who do not receive e-mail, or encourage them to subscribe so a copy will be sent by US mail. To subscribe, please mail a \$15 check (payable to District IIB) to Peggy Bryson. To be added or removed from the e-mail distribution list for this newsletter, please contact Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259.



Barb Ketchum, Member Services, Events


I am looking forward to attending the District II B meeting this month. Brighton has developed a unique theme "Avant Garden" and I can't wait to see the results. Remember the sign up deadline for your club to turn in payment is October 11. My club, Mason Sycamore Creek, is donating a fall themed basket for the silent auction. Join the fun and donate either an item or basket. Lets make this meeting a rousing success. Hope to see you there!



Sue Wittick, Communications, Newsletter, Fundraising, Interest Groups

A **BIG THANK YOU** is due to the volunteers who repaired all the IIB earrings so they can be sold at the Central Region Convention and our district meeting. They were Peggy Bryson (Meridian GC), Patty Cotter (Meridian GC), Peggy Fankhauser (Meridian GC), Barb Ketchum (Mason Sycamore Creek GC), and Julie Partee (Across the Fence Post GC). They didn't stop working until every pair was perfect!



 Now we have our pins and earrings, note cards, t-shirts, and plant markers to sell. What shall we do next? Let me know your ideas for future fund raising possibilities!

Three of our Interest Groups are meeting this month.

- IIB Photographers will take their cameras to the Ledges in Grand Ledge on October 9th. They are hoping to capture some fall color in that beautiful setting.
- IIB Crafters will be making adorable fabric pumpkins on October 12th. See page 5 for photos and details.
- IIB Designers will meet on October 17th to make *grouped mass designs*, a type new to the 2017 NGC Handbook for Flower Shows.

We are planning to assemble the IIB Youth Gardeners group in October and are working on a date for that. All IIB members are welcome to participate in any Interest Group activity—so come and join us!

I am pleased to see that we are slowly adding some volunteers to help with district leadership beginning in June 2019, but more are needed. Please consider giving a little of your time to help IIB serve its members. I'm looking forward to the return of **LOTS** of the volunteer forms that will be available at your October club meeting and are also available on the IIB website. See page 4 for details.

Q&A

This new section is designed to answer your questions about IIB, MGC, CR, NGC, or anything related to what we do in our clubs or gardens. If we can't locate an answer to your questions, we will put it out to the membership.

If you have a Q, we'll find an A!

Q Where can I find information about available awards?

A Check out the MGC [website](#), (login-member; password-mgcgrow)
"Awards" is one of the options at the top of the page and has a pull down menu.

Q When and where will the schedules be distributed for the December and March flower shows?

A At the IIB District Meeting in Howell on October 25th. Flower show schedules are also posted on the IIB website.

Q How can I sign up for classes in Design, Botanical Arts, or Photography in these flower shows?

A By contacting the consultant listed in the schedules for the classes you wish to enter.

Q Do I have to join an Interest Group to participate in an activity?

A No, the meetings are open to all IIB members.

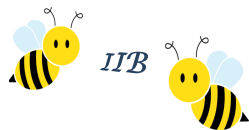
Q What happens when I join an Interest Group? Are there dues?

A Joining an Interest Group simply adds your name to their mailing list. You still can choose your own level of participation. There are no dues but, depending on the activity, there may be a small charge for supplies.

Q How can our club contribute to the MGC Scholarship Fund?

A Complete a donation form and send that with your check to the name and address shown on the form. Donation forms can be downloaded from the MGC [website](#). (See pull down menu for Scholarships.)

District IIB Needs to Name a New District Director!



In order to stay in compliance with MGC bylaws, our district needs to identify a member who is willing to serve as IIB **District Director** (DD)! This position will be a member of a Steering Committee who will share the duties of serving the district. Our DD would also be a member of the Michigan Garden Clubs Board of Directors—a great opportunity to learn about the activities of our “parent” organization! **This position begins June 1, 2019.**

In both the August and September IIB newsletter, lists of volunteer positions were presented for your consideration. These three IIB members have come forward to help:

- **Ron Overton** (Looking Glass Garden Club) has agreed to serve as the Chair of an NGC **Environmental Studies School** in our district to begin in 2020.
- **Deb Plichta** (Looking Glass Garden Club) has agreed to serve as Treasurer for our **Environmental Studies School**.
- **Jolanta Piecuch** (Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club) has agreed to serve as a member of a new IIB Steering Committee, beginning in June 2019.
- **Sue Wittick** (Meridian Garden Club) has agreed to continue to lead the IIB Photographers Interest Group.

Many positions are still available (and one person could cover more than one position):

Please help share the responsibilities of serving the district! For additional information, please contact any member of the current IIB Steering Committee. Contact information is on the top of page 2 of every newsletter.

How Can You Help?

Please complete the District IIB Volunteer Form that was sent with this newsletter! It's also on the IIB website.

Central Region Convention, October 22-23

Willkommen to Frankenmuth

The Central Region (CR) Convention will be held in the historic Bavarian Inn Lodge. The early-bird registration deadline has passed but you can still attend by paying a small late fee. Come for the speakers, the vendors, the October-fest atmosphere, a flower show, and to meet garden club members from 7 states!

Click [here](#) for the schedule of events, [here](#) for the flower show schedule, and [here](#) for the speaker bios. A bus tour to Dow Gardens has been added with information [here](#). For lodging information phone the [Bavarian Inn](#) at 989-652-7200 and ask for Michigan Garden Club, Group # 12L7QB. Click [here](#) for additional information about Frankenmuth. Every day there is like Christmas!

Please contact [Sue Wittick](#) if you are planning to attend and willing to help with the sale of IIB pins and earrings!

District IIB Items for Sale

- **IIB Pins**—\$5.00
- **IIB Earrings**—\$8.00
- **Plant Markers**—\$2.18 each for 15” size
- **Note cards featuring bees in flowers**—\$5 for set of five cards, 5 different pictures
- **IIB T-Shirts**—\$15 for most sizes

To order, scroll down on the Home page on the IIB [website](#) or contact Peggy Bryson, 517-614-9428. plbryso@gmail.com



IIB Photographers



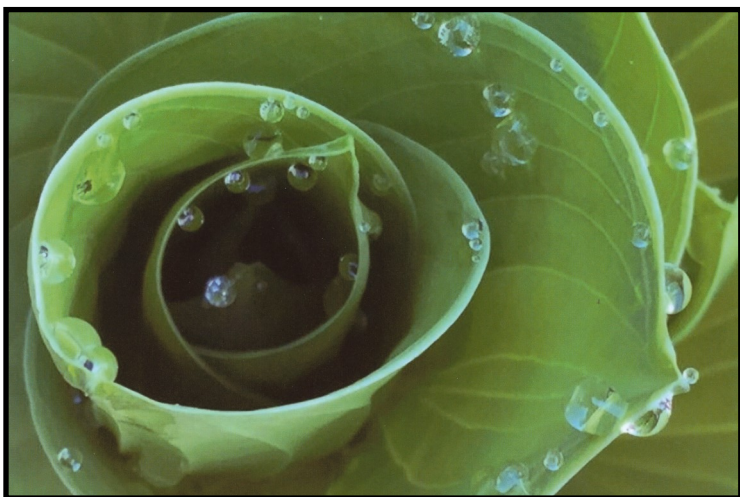
The IIB Photographers Interest Group met on September 18th. Sue Wittick presented "Get Addicted to Editing." The photography schedule for the March IIB flower show was finalized. It has since been posted on the IIB website and sent to all club presidents for distribution. Any IIB club member or member of IIB Photographers may enter a photograph. Please see the schedule for submission requirements.

The group will be taking a field trip to the Ledges on October 9th, stopping first for lunch at 11:30 at the Log Jam Restaurant, 110 W Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. The next meeting will be on November 5th, 10:00 am -12:00 noon, at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 100, Okemos. The presentation topic will be "Black and White Photography."

Everyone is welcome!

"Best of the Bunch" selected by popular vote

Close-up by Jolanta Piecuch, Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club taken with iPhone 6



Landscape by Marlas Greiger, Howell Garden Club
Taken with Samsung Note 5 cell phone

IIB Crafters

The IIB Crafters Interest Group will meet on Friday afternoon, October 12th, to create fabric pumpkins. Any IIB member may attend, but first must pre-register with Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259. Participants will be asked to bring their own basic tools, but all other materials will be supplied. The cost for participants, per pumpkin made, will be \$2.50. Marlas Greiger, Howell Garden Club, will be the presenter.





Since the 2017 NGC Handbook for Flower Shows now includes Photography as one of the Botanical Arts, we have added that section to our March 2018 Flower Show Schedule. We will have a practice display at the IIB District Meeting in Howell, on October 25th and the schedule for that has been posted on the [website](#).

Schedules for our March 2019 flower show will be distributed on October 25th. Consultants will be available to sign up members interested in entering Design or Botanical Arts classes.

This is the year for our flower show for kids and that will be held on December 5th at the Best Western Hotel in Okemos. That schedule will also be distributed at our district meeting and can be found on the IIB website. Please look it over, find some kids to work with, and let them get hooked on growing horticulture and creating designs!

A Standard Flower Show

"Gourmet Gardening"



Presented by
District IIB of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Member of Central Region
Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Open to the Public

Admission Prices
Adults: \$9.00 Children Ages 6-14: \$4.00 Children Under five years Free

Show Dates: March 14 - 17, 2019		
Thursday, March 14	3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
Friday, March 15	12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
Saturday, March 16	10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
Sunday, March 17	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	

Located with
The Lansing Home and Garden Show
in the MSU Pavilion
At the Corner of Mt. Hope and Farm Lane, East Lansing, MI

Sponsored by ShowSpan

**Kids in
TOYLAND
Flower Show**

Wednesday, December 5, 2016

Best Western
2209 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI, 48864

Entries placed from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Lunches for judges 11:00 - 11:45
Judging of show 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.
Public viewing 2:00-6:00 p.m.

This Small, Standard, Youth Flower Show
is Sponsored by District IIB,
Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

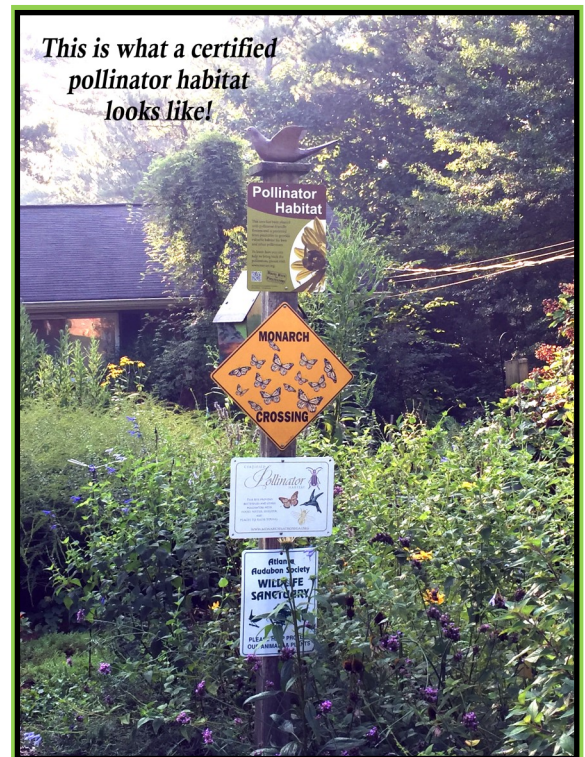



mgcdistrict2b.weebly.com
michigangardenclubs.org/

IIB Designers Interest Group

Wednesday, October 17th is the date of the next meeting of IIB Designers, 10 am—12 noon at the Fire Station in DeWitt. We will be making group massed designs for a class called, "Round and Round We Go." This type of design features a radial placement of plant material. See Handbook page 78.

Grouped Mass Designs



Cindy Brown, Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club, saw these signs while walking in Atlanta.

MICHIGAN GARDEN
CLUBS, INC.
DISTRICT IIB
FALL 2018 MEETING



AVANT
GARDEN
BLENDING NATURE, ART & FASHION

OCTOBER 25, 2018

CRYSTAL GARDENS, 5768 E. GRAND RIVER, HOWELL, MI 48843

8:15 -9AM REGISTRATION, FOLLOWED BY A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:15 -3PM VENDOR SHOPPING FOR GIFTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

**MORNING
PROGRAM**

A BRIEF BUSINESS MEETING, FOLLOWED BY SPEAKER CHUCK MARTIN,
SENIOR HORTICULTURIST & WHITING FOREST GROUNDS MANAGER, DOW
GARDENS (MIDLAND MI).

"CHECK OUT THE CLASSES, CULTURE AND COVERING OF ROSES"

LUNCH

CHICKEN TRAVERSE CITY, MIXED VEGETABLES, WILD RICE PILAF, PENNE PASTA
WITH MARINARA, GARDEN SALAD AND BREAD, RASPBERRY SORBET

**AFTERNOON
PROGRAM**

SPEAKER LAURIE TENNENT, ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER (BIRMINGHAM, MI).
"BOTANICAL ART: INTIMATE PORTRAITS."

BE SURE TO REGISTER AT YOUR SEPTEMBER MEETING, AS FINAL REGISTRATION IS OCTOBER 11TH
COST IS \$30.00 PER PERSON (NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 15TH)

CONTACT REGISTRAR: PEGGY FUKUDA
7745 HAMMEL RD., BRIGHTON, MI 48116
916-835-6708

HOSTED BY BRIGHTON GARDEN CLUB

Invasive Species Alert

Black Swallow-wort

or Dog-strangling Vine

Cynanchum louiseae (*Vincetoxicum nigrum*)

Detected in Michigan

Identification:

- An herbaceous, perennial vine growing up to 7 feet in length
- Leaves are shiny dark-green and oval to heart-shaped with a pointed tip
- Small, star-shaped flowers are dark purple with 5-petals and grow in clusters of 6-10 blooms
- Seed pods are milkweed-like and full of flat, brown seeds covered in fine, white hairs



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Habitat: Black swallow-wort vines thrive in both shade and sun and are found in disturbed areas along roadsides, pastures, old fields and gardens as well as alvar and along fens.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Native Range: Southwestern and Northern Europe

U.S. Distribution: From the Atlantic coast to the Midwest and as far south as Kentucky and Missouri. Also present in Quebec and Ontario.

Local Concern: Black swallow-wort grows rapidly and can cover other vegetation. Seeds are carried on the wind or transported by water. Roots are toxic to mammals, including livestock. Plants are toxic to many insect larvae including monarch caterpillars.



TOXIC

Report this species at www.misin.msu.edu or download the MISIN smartphone app and report it from your phone

Help Wanted!

Linda Mogyoros, with the help of other IIB Quilters, has completed a new banner for our district in a perfect size to hang from a podium at our meetings. Quilt squares, one for each of our clubs, have been stitched together and the front is ready to attach to a backing. They are seeking someone who would be able to do that step for them. If you can help, please contact Linda: 517-694-7914, turtlehatch@att.net

- October 22-23 NGC Central Region Convention, Frankenmuth, Michigan. [Register](#) before September 21 to avoid a late fee.
- October 25 Fall District IIB Meeting, Brighton Garden Club hosting, Registrations due before October 11th
- December 5 Kids in Toyland Flower Show, Okemos Best Western Hotel

News from around our District



Webberville Garden Club

The Webberville Garden Club provided a float for the Fireman's Field Days parade on Saturday, September 22nd. It promoted both the club and their Junior Garden Club. The float took first place!



IIB Garden Club Themes for 2018-2019

- Brighton Garden Club— *If a Flower Blooms, a Bee will Come*
- DeWitt Millennium Garden Club— *Sowing Seeds for Friendship and Blossoms*
- Garden Club of Greater Lansing— *Back to Basics*
- Meridian Garden Club— *Grow and Share*

What's your theme?



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 Garden Clubs

www.michigangardenclubs.org
Login: member
Password: mgcgrow



Central Region, NGC
www.ngccentralregion.org
Login: member
Password: 7states

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

Your club news could be listed on this page!
Please send articles to Sue Wittick by October 20 for the November 2018 issue.

October Garden Club Meetings and Special Events



- A October 1 **Looking Glass GC** meeting, *Celebrating the Sandhill Crane*, 6:30 pm, Eagle.
- B October 2 **Mason Sycamore Creek GC** meeting, *Planting for Wildlife in the Garden*, presented by Kirby Adams, Michigan Audubon Society, 6:30, Mason Historical Museum, 200 E. Oak Street, Mason.
- C October 3 **Webberville GC** meeting, *Fall Wreaths*, presented by Jeannie Bosworth, 6 pm, 5473 Bell Oak Road, Webberville.
- D October 3 **Howell GC** Outing, *Detroit's Hidden Treasure*, Presented by The Parade Company, 11 am, 9500 Mt. Elliott, Detroit.
- E October 8 **Williamston Red Cedar GC** meeting, *The Healing Qualities of Herbs*, presented by Dr. Simone Ranes and Dr. Allison Nash of Williamston Wellness, 6:30 pm, 1235 E. Grand River Ave., #1-a, Williamston.
- F October 8 **GC of Greater Lansing** meeting, *Preparing for Greens Market*, 9:30 am, Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Boulevard, Lansing.
- G October 9 **IIB Photographers Field Trip**, *The Ledges*, meeting at 11:30 for lunch at Log Jam Restaurant, 110 W Jefferson St., Grand Ledge with field trip to follow.
- H October 9 **Across the Fence Post GC** meeting, 6:30 p.m. at 12374 Pine Ridge Drive, Perry, MI
- I October 10 **Hartland GC**, *Intro to Hypertufa Project*, presented by Superior Landscape Supplies, 6:30 pm, Howell.
- J October 11 **Brighton GC** meeting, *Flower Bulb Pearls*, Presented by Ann Tice, Brighton Community Center, 555 Brighton Street, Brighton.
- K October 11 **DeWitt Millennium GC** meeting and hands-on project, *Creating Floral Arrangements with Pumpkins*, presented by Gloria Wilton, Florist, 6:30 pm, Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, DeWitt.
- L October 11 **IIB Steering Committee meeting**, 1:30-4:30 pm, Michigan Nature Association conference room, 310 Science Parkway, Suite 100, Okemos. Everyone is welcome!
- M October 12 **IIB-Crafters**, *Making Fabric Pumpkins*, 1:30-4:30 pm, Michigan Nature Association classroom, 310 Science Parkway, Suite 100, Okemos. Everyone is welcome, but please pre-register with Sue Wittick.
- N October 17 **Meridian Garden Club Meeting**, *Closing the Gardens of the Historical Village*, 9:00, Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.
- O October 17 **Marshall Garden Club** meeting, *Michigan in Transition: 1600-1800 AD*, presented by Ellen Holste, Pierce Cedar Creek Institute,
- P October 18 **Green Thumb GC Potluck Luncheon**, First Congregational Church 1:00 pm, bring a passing dish and \$5 food pantry donation
- Q October 23 **Grand Ledge Garden Club**, *Fenner Nature Center Tour*, 1:00 pm, 2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave, Lansing.
- R October 24 **Howell GC**, *Everything Apples*, Presented by Donna Frawley, Frawley's Fine Herbarry, Hulbert Safety Complex-EMS, 1911 Tooley Road Howell.
- S October 25 **Green Thumb GC** work session, *Winterize Downtown Beds & Gardens*, 6:00 pm Veteran's Park.



October 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 A	2 B	3 C, D	4	5	6
7	8 E F <i>Columbus Day</i>	9 G, H	10 I	11 J, K, L	12 M	13
14	15	16	17 N, O	18 P	19	20
21	22	23 Q	24 R	25 S	26	27
28	29	30	31 			

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 report on one club in greater depth to foster a deeper appreciation of what makes us unique and of the love of gardening that connects us.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month with the newsletter coming out around the 1st. It will be sent as an e-mail attachment.

Please send all submissions for the newsletter to Sue Wittick.