



The IIB Gardener



April, 2019



Julie Partee

IIB Member of the Month

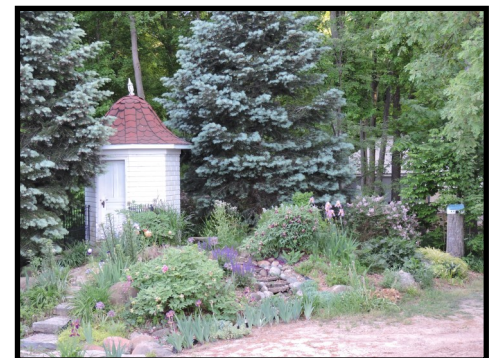
As a child, I was REQUIRED to weed the flower beds and vegetable garden at my parent's home. I did not love it but did it because I couldn't go to the lake every day if I didn't finish my home chores. I first became seriously interested in gardening when we, as a married couple, bought our first house in St. Johns. My interest grew as we began remodeling our house, planting a vegetable garden, preserving the vegetables/fruits and working in the existing beds. As I got older, my interest in gardening continued to grow. Then we moved to Laingsburg.



The Laingsburg property is wooded, requiring a lot of work to not only learn how to garden primarily in shade but also reclaiming ground and preparing it for planting. I love to be outside and am consumed when working in my flowers/shrubs. When I am working in my flowers, my mind thinks of nothing else. I love all flowers but am especially fond of Tall Bearded Iris, Peonies (regular, tree and Itoh) and Roses. Of course, those three require a lot of sun so it's more challenging to find suitable locations for them.



We also have a pond and it is fun to watch the otters, Hooded Merganzers, Wood Ducks and Blue Herons, and other birds and animals which use our pond to feed all year round.



I became involved in the Across the Fence Post Garden Club as a charter member in 2001. I have been president, secretary and temporary treasurer for most of my time in the garden club. Although we are now a small club, we continue to serve the Laingsburg and Perry areas.

District IIB Steering Committee



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

Peggy Bryson, Meridian Garden Club, 517-614-9428, plbryso@gmail.com, 5512 Jessael, Bath, 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, 48854, Member Services to Clubs, Event Coordinator

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

Anne Crimmins, Hartland Home and Garden Club, anne.dave@comcast.net, 248-342-7129, incoming District Director

Any IIB club member is welcome to attend District IIB Steering Committee meetings. The next IIB Steering Committee Meeting will be April 10, 1:30 pm at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.



District IIB Steering Committee Member News

Lynn Keelan, District Director

What a wonderful District IIB is! I am so proud of what we have accomplished with such talented and hardworking members. It is such a delight to enter, visit, host, judge, and clerk in our March IIB Flower Show. There are many tasks that require a huge yearly effort. Kudos to Lois Snover-Hanson and her crew!



We have a wonderful day planned for April 18, a little different than most district meetings. *Swing into Spring* will have a morning speaker, no vendors, no auctions, a make-and-take project, a short description of a vision board idea, and awards. Wonderful food catered by Tomato Bros in Howell will be enjoyed. Let's have a great turnout and welcome Spring. Thank you Barb Ketchum for thinking outside the box, keeping it simple, and reducing the cost.

I am so very proud of our district. We have some great new leaders who will keep IIB alive and well. Congratulations to the new team! Our present Steering Committee will help all we can to ensure a smooth transition.

Peggy Bryson, Treasurer, Website Administrator



Congratulations to Lois Snover-Hanson and her dedicated team on producing the gorgeous "Gourmet Gardening" March flower show. I'd love to showcase photos of your show entries on the District website, so please send them to me.

The site also needs your upcoming events, some club logos and meeting information, photos and descriptions of your projects. If there is other information you'd like to see featured on the site, or if you observe errors, just let me know. And let me know if you think the District needs a Facebook page where we can promote the great work of our clubs to a broader audience. Happy Spring!

Barb Ketchum, Events, Member Services

The sun has been teasing us into thinking that spring is around the corner, while the wind is telling us to wait a little longer. In the mean time, registration has been rolling in for our *Swing Into Spring* Event on April 18th. I look forward to seeing many of you there. I can't wait to get charged up for spring and summer in my garden!



The Dewitt Millennium Garden Club has some great plans in the works for the Fall District Meeting to be held on October 25, so save the date for another great day with District IIB!

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.



Hi. I'm **Anne Crimmins**. I'm a member of the Hartland Home & Garden Club and I live and garden on five wooded acres in Hartland Township, Michigan. I am an Advanced Master Gardener and I took the Master Naturalist program from MSU Extension. I am most passionate about conserving our earth. In fact, if there was a Doug Tallamy fan club, I would be a member! I enjoy exploring our wild places and I am learning more and more about gardening with native plants. I also love to sew, quilt, cook, and read.

My garden club is currently planting a native plant demonstration garden around the historic Cromaie Library in downtown Hartland. We are updating and replacing the gardens we have maintained for over 20 years that were damaged by the construction of a new wing to the library and the loss of several large trees. We have been raising money and preparing the site for over a year and this Spring we finally get to plant!

It was the hard work, enthusiasm and outreach efforts of the current Steering Committee that influenced my decision to become a member of the new steering committee. We have momentum in our district and the new interest groups are creating a buzz! The Michigan Garden Clubs project 'Michigan Pollinator Gardens' matches my passions and I will do my best to keep our momentum going. I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Introducing the New IIB District Treasurer for 2019-2021

I am **Ronalee (Ronnie) Polad**. I live in the Dimondale area, am a member of the Garden Club of Greater Lansing and have been for about a year. I retired from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission in 2002 and the Michigan Licensed Beverage Association in 2015. I have a degree in Accounting from Western Michigan University.

I have been a volunteer for EVE, Inc. (End Violent Encounters) for over 20 years and have served on their board.

My interest in gardening is more photographing rather than growing. My garden is on my deck in containers. I also like to make greeting cards using flowers made of paper.

Ronnie is a member of IIB Photographers, and IIB Crafters.



Additional members of the 2019-2021 IIB Steering Committee will be introduced in a future newsletter.



Sue Wittick, Communications, Fund Raising, Interest Groups



I am happily anticipating the exciting spring events in District IIB—our district meeting, getting our gardens ready for planting, plant sales, the installation of new club officers, and passing along the responsibilities and fun of representing the district to a new IIB Steering Committee. Under the leadership of Anne, Ronnie, and other volunteers (to be introduced soon), IIB will continue to be in very capable hands!

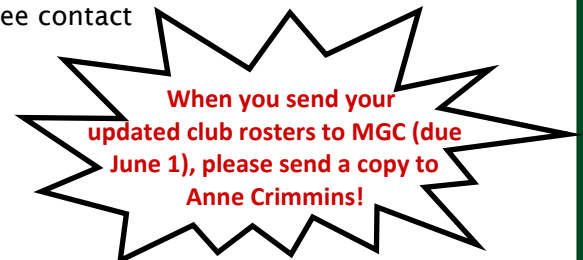
When we *Spring Into Spring* at our April 18th event, I'd like to sell IIB earrings, pins, note cards (featuring the work of IIB Photographers), and garden signs. We thought that by making some signs in advance for common plants, they might be easier to sell "on the spot" and generate more orders (as well as some profit for our district).

If you can help with any of these, please let me know:

- Working at the sales table at our April 18th District Meeting
- Helping assemble garden signs and packages of note cards on April 10, 1:30 pm at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.
- Selling IIB items at your club's spring sales or other events open to the public (or inviting someone to come and sell for the district.)

Speaking of garden signs, if you order them soon for your club, they can be delivered to you on April 18th. These signs, bearing both common and botanical names for plants, help to educate both our own members and the public. You can find ordering information (and lots of choices) on the IIB website by scrolling to the bottom portion of the entries on the Home screen.

In the same location on the website is the information you need for ordering IIB pins, earrings, and tee shirts—which also could be delivered to you (or someone in your club) on April 18th. The IIB website and password can be found on the bottom of page 5 in this newsletter. Steering Committee contact information is at the top of page 2.



News from around our District

Hartland Home and Garden Club



The Hartland Home and Garden Club will hold its annual Spring Tea on Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00 pm,

Hartland Consolidated School Senior Center, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell. Cost is \$20.00 per person.

Reservations are required by April 10th. Contact Anne Crimmins at 248-684-1116 or anne.dave@comcast.net.

~ Janet Houston, Co-President

VanAtta's Greenhouse and Flower Shop Workshop Schedule, Haslett

- April 13th, 12 pm. *Caring for Annuals*—free seminar
- April 13th, 3 pm. *Floral Arranging*—free seminar
- April 20th, 11 am. *Creating Combo Pots*—free seminar
- April 20th, 12 pm. *Basic Tree and Shrub Planting*—free seminar
- April 27 and 28th, 12—4 pm. *Annual Spring Open House*—food, flowers, raffles, sales, music

Home Depot Workshops

- April 20th, 10:00-11:30 am, *Container Gardening*, Okemos and Howell stores, free but register in advance online.

Your club news could be listed here!
Please send articles to Sue Wittick by the 20th of each month for the next issue.

IIB Photographers



This Interest Group met on March 25th to hear Wayne Pope, photography instructor at Lansing Community College present *Flower and Garden Photography*.

The photo challenge was "Winter Photography" and Jerry Bayer (Williamston RC Garden Club) won the popular vote award.

Members also critiqued the photography exhibit at the *Gourmet Gardening Flower Show*, offering suggestions for next year.



Jerry Bayer's photo "First Snow"



The IIB Photographers Interest Group meets from 1:30-3:30 pm on the 4th Monday of each month. To join this group, contact Sue Wittick, 517-242-8259, witticks@gmail.com.



Members of IIB Crafters had great fun creating gift bags and boxes from recycled papers in March in a crafting workshop led by Peggy Fankhauser (Meridian GC). This was one small way to encourage awareness of protecting the environment by following 3 Rs (reuse/recycle/repurpose).

If you would like to join the IIB Crafters Interest Group, contact Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259. Your ideas for gardening-related craft projects are welcome!

IIB Quilters

This group is currently seeking a leader (or co-leaders). To volunteer or to join the group, please contact Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259.

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

Password: *7states*

MGC District IIB

<https://mgcdistrict2b.weebly.com/>

Password: *2bgardeners*

IIB Youth Gardeners

IIB Youth Gardeners members met on March 11th at Spagnuolo's Restaurant in Okemos. Ronnie Dush reported that he will present youth gardening during one of the break-out sessions at the June 2019 MGC State Conference in Traverse City, likely increasing recognition of District IIB! Sharon Rodgers reported that the Mason Sycamore Creek club is working with the Master Gardener Program in order to provide Junior Master Gardening Certification for the children in their youth club.



The interest group next joined the Williamston RC club for a presentation for their members and the public on *The Eastern Bluebird* including its life cycle, habitat and nesting preferences.

To join the IIB Youth Gardeners Interest Group, contact Ronnie Dush, ronniedush@gmail.com, 989-307-0248

IIB Designers

All IIB members are welcome to join IIB Designers on April 24th, 10 am—noon at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. Members will create topiary designs using only flowers found at the grocery store. Additional information found in the Handbook for Flower Shows is on page 94 from the Botanical Arts section is shown below.



Topiary

- a. A contrived tree form having a visible trunk/s created by the exhibitor and embellished with cut plant material.
- a. Non-plant material may be used to embellish the topiary.

In these workshops, garden club members learn techniques and practice their skills as novice floral designers. Members from the Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club will be providing refreshments.



To join the IIB Designers Interest Group, contact Kathi Dominquez, dominguezk@comcast.net or 517-669-5112.

Flower Show News, Lois Snover-Hanson

Our *Gourmet Gardening Flower Show* seemed to be well received by the viewing public. I extend my thanks to EVERYONE who made it a success. We exhibited 208 pieces of horticulture!

If you have any suggestions for a title and theme for our March, 2020 show, please let me know! IB Designers will be drafting that schedule in July.

The Meridian Garden Club will be sponsoring a *Sunshine and Shadow in my Garden* Flower Show on June 3rd at an iris farm in Okemos. The show will include both horticulture and design classes, focusing on iris flowers and hosta leaves. The complete schedule will be available soon.



One of the Michigan Garden Clubs objectives is
“to advance the art of gardening, landscape design,
floral design, and the study of horticulture.”
Our flower shows address most of those items!

Top Award Winners

Horticulture:

- Joanne Bauer (CCGL) — *Arboreal*
- Lynn Keelan (Howell) — *Growers Choice*
- Jolanta Piecuch (Williamston) — *2 Growers Choice and InterCity Council*
- Lynn O'Shaughnessy (Howell) — *Collector's Showcase and District Director's Award for Horticulture*
- Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian) — *Miriam Petrides*
- Janet Sudak (DeWitt) — *Growers Choice*



Design:

- Mary Ballard (Meridian) — *District Directors' Award for Design*
- Pam Dewey (District III) — *Petite*
- Peggy Hartmann (Meridian) — *Table Artistry*
- Marie Smith (Meridian) — *Designer's Choice*
- Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian) — *Petite*
- Sue Wittick (Meridian) — *Lois Snover-Hanson Award*

Special Exhibits:

- Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian) — *Educational Exhibit*
- District IIB — *Appreciation Award for Educational Exhibits*

Botanical Arts:

- Peggy Fankhauser (Meridian) — *Botanical Arts Photography*
- Lynn Keelan (Howell) — *District Directors' Award for Artistic Crafts*
- Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian) — *Botanical Arts Crafts*



Peggy Fankhauser's photograph of her Tradescantia spathacea, "Moses in the Cradle"



Tressa McAllister's "Wake Up" design

Blue Ribbon Winners for Design: Lisa Emerson (Looking Glass); Jeannie Bosworth (Webberville); Pam Dewey (District III); Tressa McAllister (Meridian); Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian); Peggy Hartmann (Meridian); Ann Schoals (Greater Lansing); Marie Smith (Meridian); Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian)

Blue Ribbon Winners for Horticulture: Bernadine Bennett (DeWitt); Jenny Bond (Greater Lansing); Joanne Bauer (Greater Lansing); Lauren Bosworth (Webberville); Brigitta Bruning, Patty Cotter (Meridian); Diana Emerson, Kathi Dominguez (DeWitt); Doug Emerson; Rita Ghose, Mary Lou Hatfield (Meridian); Rene Hoppe (Webberville); Lynn Keelan (Howell); Sue Kropschot, Tressa McAllister (Meridian); Ava Modert (Webberville); Irmgard Neils; Lynn O'Shaughnessy (Howell), Julie Partee (Across the Fence Post); Jolanta Piecuch. Melody Potter Kay Pyciak, Marie Smith, Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian); Janet Sudak (DeWitt), Terrie Tomak (DeWitt); Helen Tanner (Meridian), Jim White; Martha White (Meridian), Brenda Wineman (Eaton Rapids), and Sue Wittick (Meridian)

Blue Ribbon Winners for Botanical Arts Crafts: Jet Johnson (Webberville); Lynn Keelan (Howell), Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian)

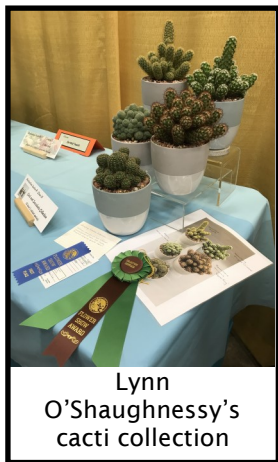
Blue Ribbon Winners for Botanical Arts Photography: Joan Lenhard (Greater Lansing); Marlas Greiger (Howell); Peggy Fankhauser, Peggy Hartmann (Meridian); Barb Ketchum (Mason); Jolanta Piecuch, Sue Wittick (Meridian)

Blue Ribbon Winners for Educational Exhibit: Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian)



Jolanta's 100% botanical necklace





Lynn O'Shaughnessy's cacti collection

Horticulture Entries:

Across the Fence Post: Peri Bianchi, Julie Partee
DeWitt: Bernadine Bennett, Kathi Dominguez, Janet Sudac, Terri Tomak
Eaton Rapids: Brenda Wineman
Garden Club of Greater Lansing: Joanne Bauer, Jenny Bond, Sue Kesti, Ann Lipkowitz
Howell: Lynn Keelan, Lynn O'Shaughnessy
Looking Glass: Bannon Emerson, Diana Emerson, Doug Emerson
Meridian: Kris Belonge, Brigitta Bruning, Patty Cotter, Kathleen Denisi, Margaret Fankhauser, Rita Ghose, Jean Goetz, Mary Lou Hatfield, Colleen Hyslop, Sue Kropschot, Marty Lejeune, Mary Ann Martin, Tressa McAllister, Gail Meadows, Jolanta Piecuch, Melody Potter, Kay Pyciak, Emma Reardon, Marge Ritchie, Marie Smith, Lois Snover-Hanson, Shirley Tsai, Helen Tanner, Martha Shortlidge-White, Marna Wilson, Sue Wittick
Webberville: Cassie Bosworth, Lauren Bosworth, Rene Hoppe, Madeline Johnson, Ava Modert

Design Entries:

DeWitt: Kathi Dominguez, Terri Tomak
Grand Ledge: Jeanette Foster
Greater Lansing: Barb Amundsen, Jenny Bond, Joan Lenhard, Ann Schoals,
Howell: Lynn Keelan
Looking Glass: Lisa Emerson
Mason: Laura Grainger, Barb Ketchum
Meridian: Mary Ballard, Rita Ghose, Diane Flatley, Peggy Hartmann, Sue Lohman, Tressa McAllister, Linda Mogyoros, JoAnn Peterson, Jolanta Piecuch, Marie Smith, Lois Snover-Hanson, Sue Wittick
Webberville: Jeannie Bosworth, Julie Hath
Williamston: Ann Campbell, Lynda Foster, Carol Grainger, Mary Reed, Gloria Richards
Other: Pam Dewey, Evelyn Flynn, Ruth Moline



Jeannie Bauer Bosworth's "Pinch of Spice" design

Botanical Arts Craft Entries:

Ann Campbell (Williamston), Diane Duffield (Howell), Jet Johnson (Webberville), Lynn Keelan (Howell), Barb Ketchum (Mason), Cindy Langenberg (Grand Ledge), Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian), Melody Potter (Meridian), Judy Royce (Webberville), Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian), Jodie Szalankiewicz (Meridian)

Botanical Arts Photography Entries:

Peggy Bryson (Meridian), Lisa Emerson, Peggy Fankhauser (Meridian), Laura Grainger (Mason), Marlas Greiger (Howell), Peggy Hartmann (Meridian), Jet Johnson (Webberville), Lynn Keelan (Howell), Barb Ketchum (Mason), Joan Lenhard (Greater Lansing), Ronalee Poland (Greater Lansing), Mary Reed (Williamston), Lynn O'Shaughnessy (Howell), Julie Partee (Across the Fence Post), Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian), Diane Sanderson (Grand Ledge), Sherry Sevic (Webberville), DeDe VanDouser (Webberville), Sue Wittick (Meridian)

Special Exhibits Entries:

Edible Flowers, Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian); *District IIB Clubs Add Spice to Life,* Sue Wittick (Meridian)

Judges:

Rita Crawley, Pam Dewey, Kathi Dominguez (DeWitt), Evelyn Flynn, Bethany Goodman, Marilyn Hartley-Kik, Maggie Jones, Richard Lim, Lynn Miller, Ruth Moline, Norma Stancati, Steve Sage, Monica Taylor, Angie Wilkie, Kathleen Willingham.

Judges for Branches:

Lisa Emerson (Looking Glass), Marie Smith (Meridian), Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian)

Clerks:

Jenny Bond (Greater Lansing), Ronnie Dush (DeWitt), Diane Flatley (Meridian), Marty Lejeune (Meridian), Deb Logsdon (DeWitt), Ruth Monkman (DeWitt), Julie Partee (Across the Fence Post), JoAnn Peterson (Meridian), Jolanta Piecuch (Williamston), Katie Steinacker (Meridian), Terri Tomak (DeWitt), Lillian Vanhouten, (Howell), Tammy Voss (Williamston)



Lynn Keelan's Begonia rex-cultorum "Shadow King"



Hostesses:

Across the Fence Post: Julie Partee, Barb Swartz

DeWitt: Bernadine Bennett, Peggy Brown, Kathi Dominguez, Ronnie Dush, Terri Tomak, Anne Wineman

Grand Ledge: Marilee Goldsberry, Judy Hedlund, Cindy Langenberg, Kaylene Luft, Annette Ryan, George Ryan

Greater Lansing: Deb Albert, Jenny Bond, Sue Kesti, Joan Lenhard, Barbara Lowes, Linda Norwood, Ronnie Poland, Cherie Rogers, Ann Schoals, Barbara Spottek

Hartland: Vera Edblad, Janet Houston

Howell: Ann Groth, Mary Lemons

Mason: Mary Backus, Coni Barlow, Kathy Bishop, Marty Herriff, Brenda Hershberger, Barb Ketchum

Meridian: Diane Flatley, Rita Ghose, JoAnn Peterson, Jolanta Piecuch, Katie Steinecker

Webberville: Jeannie Bosworth, Rene Hoppe, Joan Vogt, Bill Wheeler, Janice Wheeler

Williamston: Carol Grainger, Rosemary Lewis, Mary Reed, Diane Silva, Tammy Voss, Cathie Ware, Liz Williams, Joan Wright

Flower Show Committee, Lois Snover-Hanson, Chair (Meridian)

Joanne Bauer (Greater Lansing), Kris BeLonge (Meridian), Jenny Bond (Greater Lansing), Ann Campbell (Williamston), Fred Campbell, Kathleen Denisi (Meridian), Kathi Dominguez (DeWitt), Diane Duffield (Howell), Lisa Emerson (Looking Glass), Jeanette Foster (Grand Ledge), Lynda Foster (Williamston), Ted Foster, Jim Hanson, Peggy Hartmann (Meridian), Julie Hath (Webberville), Colleen Hyslop (Meridian), Lynn Keelan (Howell), Diana Leipprandt (Williamston), Tressa McAllister (Meridian), Jolanta Piecuch (Meridian), Jodie Szalankiewicz (Meridian), Sue Kropschot (Meridian), Linda Mogyoros (Meridian), Marie Smith (Meridian), Ron Smith, Mary Weathers (Meridian), Sue Wittick (Meridian)



Lynda Foster's
Assemblage Design

Peggy Hartmann (Meridian) brought these cookies to the Flower Show for the enjoyment of all our volunteers. She had so many requests for the recipe that we decided to print it in the IIB newsletter.



Peggy Hartmann's Granola Bars

Ingredients:

- 3 cups old-fashioned oats
- 1 cup mixed nuts
- 1/2 cup pumpkin seeds (or any other seeds or nuts)
- 1/2 slivered almonds
- 1 cup dried cranberries or raisins or combination!
- 1 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Line a 9 x 13 pan with parchment paper, lightly sprayed with non-stick spray
3. Mix all ingredients together in a bowl and spread into prepared pan, evenly pressing.
4. Bake for 20-25 minutes until edges are golden brown.
5. Allow to cool for 5 minutes in pan, before using parchment to lift from pan. Use a



Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist **Melinda Myers** speaks at many of the major flower shows and garden events throughout the U.S. and is a dynamic presenter! She hosts Melinda's Garden Moments radio and TV and was a presenter at the Home and Garden Show at the MSU Pavilion last week.

Melinda mentions our flower show in her newsletter!

Gardener's Tip

Gardeners have always been upcycling. We have garages, sheds and basements full of discards we plan to convert into planters, trellises and garden art. The Michigan Gardens Club, Inc. Standard Flower Show housed at the Lansing Home and Garden Show displayed lots of flower arrangements in recycled items. I saw everything from an old tape dispenser and muffin tins to a 1st prize winning miniature arrangement by Jeannie B. of the Webberville Garden Club. She used whole nutmeg, oak leaves, Spanish moss, eucalyptus and bittersweet to create her arrangement in an old nutmeg container.



Lansing Home and Garden Show Report

Jean Goetz, MGC Second Vice-President



Staffing a big show takes many volunteers. This was the case at the Lansing Home and Garden Show, March 14-17, 2019 at booth 3003.

Our efforts to make the Black Swallowtail our Michigan state butterfly gathered 420 signatures of support for our new Senate bill (SB 167)! The public was very enthusiastic. Some folks even remembered us from last year and remarked, "Isn't this done yet?"



Our friendly staffers took time to talk with the public and answer questions. They distributed hundreds of educational brochures and plant "shopping lists" of host plants and nectar plants to attract butterflies.

Many children came running to our booth followed by their parents, thanks to Mary Reed and Cyndy Brown (Williamston GC) who dressed in butterfly costumes and fluttered their wings at the kids! We ran short of butterfly fans on Saturday morning, made more Saturday night, (Thank you, Anne Davich), and finally distributed 280 fans to some very happy children.

Many garden club members, 21 strong, mostly from Meridian GC, staffed our booth in three hour shifts. Thanks are due to Patti Cotter, Mary Ann Martin, Sheila Flynn, Lorrie Schartow, Sue Knapp, Mary Weathers, Emma Reardon, Jan Quiring, Elaine High, Anne Davich, Nirmala Shah, Luann Nelson, Karen Bollman (Williamston GC), Brigitta Bruning, Maribeth Fletcher (MI Capitol docent), Polly Murray, Julie Turner (and her dog!), Sharon Frucci, Joanne Peterson, Katie Steinacker, Jean Goetz (sub).

News Flash: New Black Swallowtail Bills in the Michigan Senate and House

A few days after the show we learned that we now also have a bill in the Michigan House (HB4314), sponsored by Representative Julie Brixie!

Our former Senate bill (SB 298) expired after two years. We now have a new bill (SB 167), again sponsored by Senator Curtis Hertel and others. Be sure to note this new number when you advocate for the Black Swallowtail with government representatives and the public.



Webberville Garden Club Hosts Event for Children

In conjunction with the Greater Lansing Home and Garden Show, The **Webberville Garden Club** enjoyed the opportunity to help and inform 143 kids about the importance of feeding our birds in colder months. The club

helped kids (of all ages) make pinecone bird feeders out of shortening, cracked corn, and sunflower seeds. They also decorated bags to contain their treasures on the way home. We wished everyone a Happy Spring from the Webberville Garden Club and MGC District IIB.

Members who helped with this project were Cassie Bosworth, Jeannie Bosworth, Julie Hath, Ava Modert, Jessica Modert, Jody Royce, Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian GC), Joan Vogt, and Nancy Webb.





It is so important to reach out to youth as they are our future!



~ Julie Hath, President, Webberville Garden Club

February Garden Club Meetings and Special Events



- A April 1  **April Fools Day**
- B April 1 **Looking Glass GC, *Native Plants and Birds***, presented by Pam Rasmussen, Assistant Curator, Mammalogy & Ornithology, MSU Museum. 6:30 pm, United Methodist Church, Wacousta.
- C April 2 **Mason Sycamore Creek GC, *Backyard Birding***, presented by Gene Wasserman, Ingham County Coordinator for the Michigan Bluebird Society. 6:30 pm, Mason Historical Museum 200 E. Oak St., Mason.
- D April 3 **Webberville GC *The Art of Making Soap***. 6 pm, Webberville High School, Spartan Center, 309 East Grand River Avenue Webberville, MI 48892
- E April 8 **Williamston RC GC meeting, *Repotting Orchids***, presented by Jerrie Nichols, Greater Lansing Orchid Society. 6:30 pm, Williamston Area Senior Center, 201 School Street, Williamston.
- F April 8 **The GC of Greater Lansing, *Tussie Mussie Hands-On Workshop***, presented by Lois Snover-Hanson, Meridian GC. 9:30—noon, followed by *Sandwich Luncheon*, Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing.
- G April 9 **Across the Fence Post GC, *Planning for the May Spring Festival in Laingsburg***. 6:30 pm at McDonald's Restaurant in Perry.
- H April 10 **IIB Steering Committee meeting**. 1:30 pm, Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.
- I April 10 **Hartland GC, meeting, *Finalizing Plans for April 24th Spring Tea***. 7 pm, Hartland Senior Center, 9525 Highland Road, Howell.
- J April 10 **Mason Sycamore Creek Youth GC, *Spring Garden Preparation and Planting Peas***, presented by Mason SC GC. 5:30 pm, Mason Public Library, 145 W. Ash Street, Mason.
- K April 11 **DeWitt Millennium GC, *Spring Floral Arrangements***, presented by Lois Snover-Hanson (Meridian GC). 6:30 pm, Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, DeWitt.
- L April 11 **Brighton GC, *How to Garden with Comfort, Ease and Simplicity***, presented by Jan Bills, Two Women and a Hoe. 10:00 am, Brighton Community Center, 555 Brighton Street, Brighton.
- M April 15 **Meridian Garden Club, *Window Sill Terrariums***, presented by Mike Underwood. 8:30 am, Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.
- N April 16 **Marshall Area GC *The Fungus Among Us***, presented by Ellen Holste. 6:30 pm, Marshall United Methodist Church, 721 Old US 27 North, Marshall
- O April 17 **District IIB *Swing into Spring District Meeting***. 9:30 am—3:00 pm, Livingston County Public Safety Building, 1911 Tooley Road, Howell.
- P April 18 **Green Thumb GC, *Watching Part II of the movie, "Dirt."*** 1:00 pm. First Congregational Church, 410 N. Broadway, Union City.
- Q April 21  **Easter**
- R April 22  **IIB Photographers meeting**, topic and location TBA.
- S April 22  **Earth Day**
- T April 22 **Mason Sycamore Creek Youth GC, *Planting Sunflower House and Potatoes***, presented by Mason SC GC. 5:30 pm, Pink Schoolhouse, 707 W. Ash Street, Mason.
- U April 23 **Grand Ledge GC, *Container Gardening***, presented by Marilee Goldsberry. 1:00 pm, Grand Ledge Library, 131 E. Jefferson Street, Grand Ledge.
- V April 24 **Hartland GC, *Spring Tea***. 7:00 pm, Hartland Consolidated School Senior Center, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell. \$20.00 per person, reservations required by April 10th to Anne Crimmins, 248-684-1116 or anne.dave@comcast.net.
- W April 24 **IIB Designers, *Creative Form, Topiary Design***. 10:00 am -12:00 noon, Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.
- X April 24 **Howell GC, *Written in Stone***, presented by Sherylynn Everly, Livingston County Gem and Mineral Society. 6 pm, Hulbert Safety Complex-EMS, 1911 Tooley Road, Howell.
- Y April 25 **Green Thumb GC, *Work Session at Veteran's Park***. 6:30 pm, Broadway & High Streets, Union City.

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 or club member 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, witticks@gmail.com.

Additional Opportunities for Your Consideration...

MICHIGAN STATE **S** SPARTANS. 

The MSU Student Horticulture Association is holding a **PLANT SALE** in the Plant and Soil Sciences Building, 1066 Bogue Street, East Lansing.

April 13th 9 am—6 pm
 April 14th 10 am—4 pm

Click [here](#) for information.



Click [here](#) for information.




The globally renowned **W. J. Beal Botanical Gardens** on the MSU campus is looking for volunteers. They will hold an orientation on Saturday, April 20th, 10:00 am—noon, meeting at the pond (or gazebo if it is raining). There is no commitment and you will get a free tour of the gardens, which are located across from the Music Building on West Circle Drive.

Click [here](#) for information on the Beal Gardens.



April 2019




| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---------|---------------|------------|-----|-----|
| 31 | A, B  | 2 C | 3 D | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 E, F | 9 G | 10 H, I, J | 11 K, L | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 M | 16 N | 17 O | 18 P | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Q  | R, S, T 22  | 23 U | 24 V, W, X | 25 Y | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |