



January, 2019



Sherwood Garden Club



IIB Club of the Month



The Sherwood Garden Club was organized in 1992 to make a small village bloom into a place people want to visit. Members of the Green Thumb GC and Marshall GC assisted. We soon had many interested members who wanted to beautify our little town.

We now are a busy group of gardeners working year-round to make our community a beautiful place.

Special gardening events are held seasonally.

In March we begin the year with spring "perpetual care" for our two cemeteries

by distributing 41 flower pots and corner post pots to grave sites which we water and fertilize throughout the summer.

March also starts out SGC scholarship selection of two graduating seniors who attend Sherwood Township's three school districts. Two \$300. awards are presented at our July meeting.

Twice a year we donate Kleenex tissue to all three elementary schools in Union City.

In late spring we beautify our downtown and its north and south entrances by planting and maintaining 13 flower pots. Members care for these with watering help from the village throughout the summer.

Our hardworking officers keep everything moving smoothly by organizing tours to members' gardens, field trips to local nurseries and learning sessions highlighting the latest, helpful gardening tips. Our club historian creates a beautiful scrapbook recording our endeavors, and including photos of our members.



As winter approaches, we again undertake "perpetual care" by cutting greens and placing pots and wreaths on cemetery graves, noticeably those of past club members and our Revolutionary War soldier.

When our year ends, we enjoy our families and dream of planting spring flowers. As in most small villages, we work together with the township, village and store owners to keep every program funded. We take our sun hats and garden gloves off to salute everyone who helps to beautify our small town.



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

Any IIB club member is welcome to attend District IIB Steering Committee meetings. The next IIB Steering Committee Meeting will be January 15, 1 pm at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. Any IIB member is welcome to attend!



District IIB Steering Committee Member News

Lynn Keelan, District Director

Happy 2019 to all! I hope your celebrations and family get-togethers were all wonderful. Now a new year begins with hope of lots of happiness.

Some garden clubs will be missing those snowbirds, but the hardy ones will carry on with meetings and activities

Our IIB Photographers Interest Group is growing and now has a Facebook page, thanks to Peggy Bryson.

The Kids in Toyland flower show was great with lots of entries and awards. You can check out some photos on the IIB website. Thanks to all who entered or worked on this successful event.

Floral designers are encouraged to enter the orchid flower show in late Feb. It is open to the public as a part of the Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show and Sale. Contact Sue Wittick to enter the design classes and try to take advantage of this opportunity to purchase orchids and growing supplies.

Don't let winter give you cabin fever. Instead, help your Garden Club by bringing a friend to a meeting. Be sure to check out what other IIB Clubs are doing that might interest you. Steering Committee members are planning to make many winter visits to IIB garden clubs.



Happy New Year!



Peggy Bryson, Treasurer, Website Administrator

The Steering Committee will soon begin work on a District budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year. It would be helpful to know whether your club is considering applying for a community project grant in the coming year, or if you have other thoughts on allocation of District resources. For example, it has been suggested in the past that a wireless projector would be useful. Thanks to generous Brighton merchants and the generous club members who purchased silent auction baskets, pollinator pins and earrings at the October District Meeting, \$1,038.20 was added to the District treasury. You can find the current District budget and monthly treasurer reports on the District website under District News/Financial Reports.

The IIB Photographers have posted some gorgeous photos on their Facebook page. And there are interesting posts about how a photographer achieved an effect and upcoming events. If you would like to be added to the IIB Photographers secret Facebook group, just send me a Facebook friend request and then drop me a note (plbryso@gmail.com) to tell me that you would like to be added to the group.

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, Events, Member Services

As Barb continues to heal from her knee surgery, her brain continues to buzz with possibilities for a IIB Spring Meeting. Please contact her, if you are willing to help in any way.



Sue Wittick, Communications, Fund Raising, Interest Groups



How the time zooms when you are having fun! I'm ready for all the wonderful opportunities that our garden clubs and Interest Groups will offer in 2019. When you join a garden club you can add a variety of events and activities to your calendar. In addition, your opportunities are multiplied by all the events at the district, state, and national levels. You begin to feel like the **Grand Prize** winner in a game show! Check out all the January options in this newsletter.

Volunteering is good for you! It decreases your risk of depression, increases social interaction and helps build a support system based on common commitment and interests. You can enjoy a sense of purpose and fulfillment and increase your self-confidence while supporting your garden club and District IIB! A meeting will be held in January or February, 2019 (date TBA) to plan responsibilities for the next IIB Steering Committee. If you would like to be included, please contact me for details. (witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259)

News from around our District



"Tea in the Garden" is this year's theme of the Christmas tree decorated by **Across the Fence Post Garden Club** members for the Turner-Dodge House Christmas tree extravaganza. The tree is decorated in pink and green with dried *Allium cristophii* 'Giganteum' and 'Purple Sensation', *Artemisia ludoviciana* 'Silver Queen', *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' and 'Bobo', *Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle', *Salix matsudana* 'Tortuosa' "Curly Willow", *Chasmanthium latifolium* 'Northern Sea Oats' and *Vitis vinifera* 'Grapevine.' Also on the tree tea cups with attached saucers are clothes pinned to the branches with pink and lime green/white polka dot ribbons running the height of the tree. Clear lights, silver bulbs and pink fans finish the design. This is the fourth year the club has decorated a tree at Turner-Dodge with a different theme each year, last year winning favorite tree by visitors and a check.



The Meridian Garden Club celebrated this holiday season with a luncheon. Each of the 11 tables was decorated differently in creative and festive fashions. Since everyone brought one of their favorite dishes, the food was as special as the table décor!



Pressed flower designs made by Meridian Garden Club members

IIB Photographers

The next IIB Photographer's meeting will be held on January 14th, 1:30-3:30 at the Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. The topic for the meeting will be photographing still life scenes. Participants are asked to bring a camera, components for small scenes, and portable lighting (if available), so we can all practice.



Optional:
Consider making a light box and bring it with you.

For directions see:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyxzC5kqbyw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6fnHEvLyAE>
- <https://www.wikihow.com/Create-an-Inexpensive-Photography-Lightbox>



CHALLENGE

Bring a black and white 5"x7" photo that you have taken since the last meeting. The best by popular vote will be featured in the February issue of *IIB Gardener*.

IIB Photographers

To join the IIB Crafters Interest Group, contact Sue Wittick, 5172428259, witticks@gmail.com

IIB Youth Gardeners

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



IIB Crafters

To join the IIB Crafters Interest Group, contact Sue Wittick, 5172428259, witticks@gmail.com

IIB Quilters

To join the IIB Quilters Interest Group, contact Linda Mogyoros, 517-712-2622, turtlehatch@att.net



The next meeting of IIB Youth Gardeners Interest Group on Thursday, January 10th, will be a "double feature."

- Peggy House (DeWitt Millennium GC) will answer everyone's questions about the NGC/MGC "Smokey Bear-Woodsy Owl" program.
- Everyone is invited us to attend The Williamston RC GC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Awards presentations.

The group plans to meet at the Red Cedar Grill, 150 E. Grand Ave. Williamston at 5:30 for dinner and the IIB Youth Gardeners meeting. The Awards program starts at 7:00 pm at the school, approximately a five minute drive from the restaurant.

This will be an excellent opportunity to discover what you need to know for your club to participate in this fine NGC/MGC program! Everyone is welcome!

Please RSVP to **both** Ronnie Dush (IIB Youth Gardeners Chair), ronniedush@gmail.com, 989-307-0248; and Carol Grainger (Williamston RC GC president), carol@creativelearninglinks.com, 517-655-3752, so that appropriate reservations can be made at the Red Cedar Grill.

IIB Designers

The next meeting will be on February 20th, 10 am—noon at the Michigan Nature Association in Okemos when we will experience freedom of style for a Botanical Arts-Design class called "Anything Goes."

To join this interest group, contact Kathi Dominquez, dominguezk@comcast.net or 517-669-5112.



IIB Crafters

This Interest Group is planning an event at Painting With a Twist in Lansing. This is serious fun (but not serious art) for everyone—even those who have never held a paint brush. Please let Sue Wittick know if you are interested in attending and she will try to arrange a time that works for the majority of would-be participants. The cost is \$35/person for a 2-hour session and you will come home with a painting! Some samples are posted below.



Q&A

This 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.

Q—I'm confused about the photography classes for the March flower show. Am I supposed to mat my photo entries or not?

A—NGC rules require that the displayed photos are matted. Our district purchased black mats so they would all be identical. IIB volunteers will attach your photo to a mat and hang them on the display. Please submit your photos by March 13 to any of the photography consultants. You do **NOT** need to purchase a photo mat!

Q—Can I still purchase the pollinator pins and earrings?

A—Yes you can! Contact Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259.

Q—Are we going to have a IIB Spring Meeting or not?

A—We hope to have a Spring Meeting, but we need volunteers to help make that possible. Contact Barb Ketchum, 517-331-2027, baketchum15@gmail.com to share your ideas.





Our *Kids in Toyland* flower show was held on December 5th at the Best Western Hotel in Okemos. 73 children entered horticulture, botanical arts, or design classes and they were all thrilled with the ribbons they won.

Schedules for our March, 2019 *Gourmet Gardening* flower show are available on the [IIB website](#). All the Design, Botanical Arts Crafts, and Botanical Arts Photography classes for the March 2019 District IIB Flower Show require pre-registration. Classes are limited to 4 entries in each one and the Flower Show Schedule identifies a consultant to contact for each class. Pre-registration is not needed for most horticulture classes.

Most of the classes are now full. What follows is a listing of the Design, Botanical Arts Crafts, and Botanical Arts Photography classes that still have openings for exhibitors.

I hope you have been thinking about what you have that would help with the staging and décor for this show. You can bring your contributions on Wednesday afternoon, March 13th, or drop them off with any of the flower show committee members. (See Flower Show Schedule, page 2.)



Current Class Openings in Design and Botanical Arts for Gourmet Gardening Flower Show

Section	Class	Type	# Openings	Consultant	Phone	E-Mail
Design A– Petite	2) “Cookie Cutter”	5” Design	1	Lynn Keelan	517-304-3329	Boomerage47@yahoo.com
Design A– Petite	4) “Baker’s Choice”	8” design	3	Jenny Bond	517-676-2676	jbond@msu.edu
Design B– Tables	7) “Snack Attack”	Tray for One	2	Jeanette Foster	517-231-7662	Gardenfly2003@yahoo.com
Design B– Tables	8) “Farm to Table”	Functional table for three	1	Kathi Dominguez	517-927-4665	Dominguezk@comcast.net
Design B– Tables	9) “Picnic”	Alfresco functional table for 3	2	Julie Hath	468-3273	jhath tds.net
Design C – Designer’s Choice	11) “This and That”	Abstract, assemblage Design	2	Jolanta Piecuch	517-655-9869	Jolantapiecuch@yahoo.com
BA-Photography	2a) “Measuring Precisely”	5”x7” color close-up	2	Peggy Fankhauser	469-5368	Fankhaus@gmail.com
BA-Photography	3a) “Grandma’s Kitchen Table”	5”x7” b/w or sepia	1	Sue Wittick	517-242-8259	witticks@gmail.com



We are looking for four volunteers (two per judging panel) to **clerk** during the judging of the District IIB Flower Show. Date and time to clerk, takes place on Thursday, March 14th, 2019, from approximately 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm. That includes a pre-judging meeting and the actual judging on the flower show floor.

To sign up to be a **clerk** or a **host**, please contact Kathi Dominguez, 517-927-4665 or dominguezk@comcast.net.

We are now signing up members to serve as a floor **host** during the District IIB Flower Show. Hosts are needed to watch over the Flower Show Exhibits during all hours when the Home and Garden Show is open to the public. Several members work together during a time slot. Each time slot is approximately 2 1/2 - 3 hours in length. Garden club members can sign on individually, or in groups - which is always a fun way to work. These time slots fill up quickly, so please get your names in early to assure you’ll get the day and time that best suits your schedule. See the **attachment** sent with this newsletter for dates, times and number of members needed.

A Symphony of Orchids

Floral Designs with Orchids

February 23 - February 24, 2019

Entries may be placed on February 22
between 1:30-7:30 p.m.
Judging arrangements begins at 8:30 a.m. February 23
Show open noon-5:00 p.m. February 23
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. February 24

Plant and Soil Science Conservatory
Michigan State University



"A Symphony of Orchids" is a part of the
Greater Lansing Orchid Society
Show and Sale

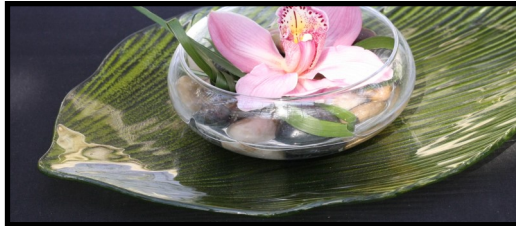
A Symphony of Orchids



Jenny Bond and Sue Wittick will co-chair the annual Orchid Flower Show in conjunction with the Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show (GLOS) and Sale in the MSU Plant and Soil Science Conservatory on February 23-24, 2019. The [schedule](#) for this show has been posted on the IIB website. To register for classes, please contact Sue Wittick.

With the help of GLOS members, we hope to have orchids to distribute to those attending the IIB Designer's workshop on February 20th, 10 am—noon at the Michigan Nature Association in Okemos.

Clerks needed—if you would like to help, please contact Sue Wittick, witticks@gmail.com, 517-242-8259.



A **Master Gardener Training Program** will be held at the Ingham County Fairgrounds Community Center in Mason on Monday evenings from **March 7, 2019 to June 13, 2019.**

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

The cost is \$325.00, which includes the 1,000 page training manual. The registration deadline is February 15th for those paying by check and February 22 for those paying by credit card.

To register or for additional information click [here](#) or contact Diane Brown, Rytlews1@msu.edu, 517-676-7207.



The Ins and Outs of Gardening.

The Capital Area Master Gardeners is holding a winter symposium on Saturday, January 26, 2019 and everyone is invited to attend. It will be a great day at the MSU Plant and Soil Science Building with 4 speakers, lunch and shopping. Please register early as meeting space is limited. Click [here](#) for details and registration form.

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 here!

Please send articles to Sue Wittick by the 20th of each month for the next issue.

January Garden Club Meetings and Special Events



- A January 1 **New Years Day**
- B January 3 **Grand Ledge GC, Taking Down the Greens**, 10:00 am, Grand Ledge Library, Grand Ledge
- C January 8 **Mason Sycamore Creek GC, Popcorn Movie Night and Sing-Along to Mama Mia**, 6 pm, 1036 Barnes Road, Mason. (Barb Ketchum's home)
- D January 8 **Meridian GC, Pressed Flower Workshop**, presented by Tressa McAllister and Kris BeLonge, 9:30 am, Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.
- E January 9 **Hartland GC, Potluck**, 6:30 pm, Hartland Senior Center, 9525 Highland Road, Howell.
- F January 10 **DeWitt Millennium GC, Control Pests and Weeds Naturally**, presented by Jolanta Piecuch (Williamston RC GC), 6:30 pm, Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, DeWitt.
- G January 10 **Brighton GC, Training Plants into Creative Shapes**, 10:30 am, Brighton Community Center, 555 Brighton Street, Brighton.
- H January 10 **IIB Youth Gardeners Interest Group, Smokey Bear-Woodsy Owl Program**, presented by Peggy House (DeWitt Millennium GC), 5:30 pm, Red Cedar Grill, 150 E. Grand River Ave. Williamston
- I January 10 **Williamston RC GC, Smokey Bear-Woodsy Owl Awards Presentations**, 7 pm, Discovery Elementary School, 350 Highland Street, Williamston.
- J January 14 **IIB Photographers meeting, Still Life Photography, 1:00 pm**, Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.
- K January 14 **The GC of Greater Lansing, Michigan Energy Options**, presented by Scott Durrett from MI Energy Options, 9:30—noon, followed by **Soup and Salad Luncheon**, Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing.
- L January 14 **Williamston RC GC meeting, Painted Rocks**, presented by Ann Campbell and Tammy Voss, and **Pot Luck Lunch, 12 noon**, Williamston Area Senior Center, 201 School Street, Williamston.
- M January 14 **Meridian Garden Club Foreshadowing—Endangered and Threatened Plant Species**, presented by Jane Kramer, fine art photographer, 8:30 am, Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.
- N January 15 **IIB Steering Committee meeting**, 1:00 pm, Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos.
- O January 16 **Mason Sycamore Creek Youth GC, Forced Bulb Make and Take Project**, presented by Gary Beck from Beck's Greenhouse & Flower Shop, 5:30 pm, Mason Public Library, 145 West Ash Street, Mason.
- P January 19 **Williamston RC GC workshop, Making Cards Using Dried Flowers**, presented by Tressa McAllister and Kris BeLonge (Meridian GC), 1:00 pm, Williamston Area Senior Center, 201 School Street, Williamston.
- Q January 22 **Grand Ledge GC, Birds in the Garden**, 1:00 pm, Grand Ledge City Hall, 300-310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge.
- R January 23 **Howell GC, Reviving Memories of Club Events from the last Year, including a Video of the Arbor-Earth Day Celebration**, 6 pm, Hulbert Safety Complex-EMS, 1911 Tooley Road Howell.



2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 A	2	3 B	4	5
6	7	8 C, D	9 E	10 F, G, H, I	11	12
13	14 J, K, L, M	15 N	16 O	17	18	19 P
20	21	22 Q	23 R	24	25	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.