

The Meridian Gardener



GEORGIA STYKA
TREASURER

SIMAR PAWAR
SECRETARY

MELODY POTTER
SECRETARY

JODIE SZALANKIEWICZ
PRESIDENT

LINDA MOGYOROS
VICE PRESIDENT

SHARON THEROUX
VICE PRESIDENT

DISTRICT IIB DIRECTOR - LYNDA FOSTER

MERIDIAN GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS 2017-2019

JUNE 2017



VOLUME SIX

PHOTO BY SUE WITTICK



The Meridian Gardener



Newsletter of the Meridian Garden Club, Inc.

Editor: Susan Kropschot

Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., Central Region Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

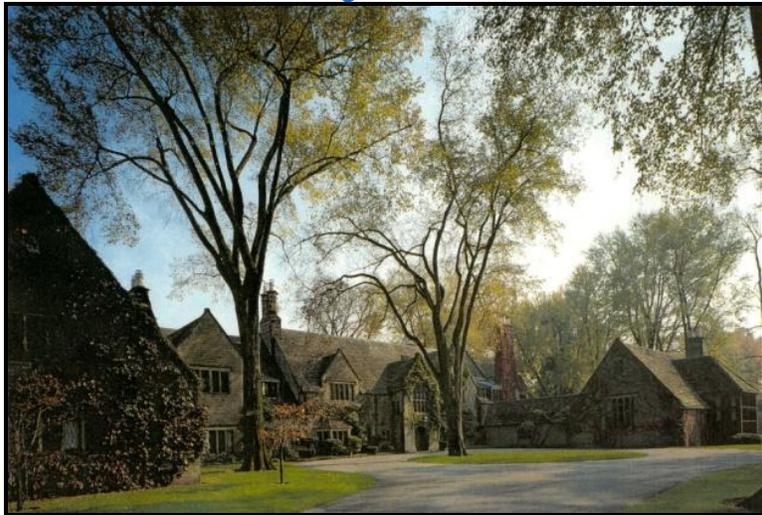
June 2017

Volume Five

Website - meridiangardenclub.weebly.com

Facebook - www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub

Gallivanting Gardeners 2017



Tuesday, June 20, 2017. We will be visiting the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, Gardens and Grounds located in Grosse Pointe Shores (90 miles, 1 hour 25 min drive.) The visit includes a 5-minute video of the Ford family, a guided tour of the house and grounds which includes the pool, the rose garden, other informal gardens and the gift shop. We would schedule approximately 2 hours for the tour. The docent led tour includes a look at the landscape planner Jens Jensen and how he and Edsel Ford worked together to plan the grounds.

Lunch will be at the Watermark Restaurant, 24420 Jefferson Ave., St. Claire Shores.

Menu Choice:

1. Mini Maurice Salad with Soup
2. Veggie Wrap with Soup
3. ½ order of Fish and Chips with Coleslaw
4. Mini Lobster Macaroni and Cheese with a Small Salad

Lunch includes choice of drink (coffee, tea, juice or soda), rolls and butter and carrot cake.

We will meet to car pool at the Meridian Mall, behind Youngers for the Home at 8:30 am and leave promptly at 9:00 am.

Cost of the tour and lunch is \$21.00. Choice of meal is due by contacting JoAnn Peterson by email - [REDACTED] before June 13. Checks should be made out to: Meridian Garden Club and mailed to Georgia Styka, [REDACTED]

"A Gardener's Journal"



Wow, your new board members have hit the ground running. We are calling possible program presenters to set the coming year's programs which you will hopefully find fun and informative. We are also calling members to fill open chair and committee positions. Some people have held their position for several years and it's time to relieve them and thank them for a job well done. So if you get a phone call, please think about accepting the position. Taking on a new responsibility can be daunting, but we are all here to help you if you need it. If I said I wasn't nervous taking on the task of president, that would not be the truth. Meridian is an amazing group, one that I am proud to be a part of. I want to continue all the wonderful projects that the club is known for and we can, if we all work together.

On May 31st Meridian Township held a Senior event in Wonch Park. MGC participated by giving a demonstration on how to pot up a planter for your patio using the Thriller, Filler, Spiller technique and talking to and answering questions from the township residents. It was a lovely day to spend in the park. If you have not been to Wonch Park lately, go check it out. The township has placed outdoor exercise equipment along the Trail for everyone's use. It's quite unique for this area.

The State Convention was held June 7th and 8th in Ann Arbor. Meridian's three delegates were myself, Georgia Styka and Linda Mogyoros. This was my first state convention and I looked forward to it. I'll fill you in on all the news out of the convention in the July newsletter.

I'll be the first to admit I'm not the most serious person at times, but I take the responsibility you have entrusted me with seriously. I will always try to do my best for you and the club. Thank you for this opportunity.

Jodie Szalankiewicz



2017 Bee Palooza
Shared by Patty Cotter

Click [here](#) for further information about this event being held on June 18, 2017, at the MSU Horticulture Gardens.

2017 Old Town Garden Tour
Cristy Bennett

Dear Ladies: I am forwarding this email from Michael Beebe, President of the Friends of Turner-Dodge House, to spread the word about the Old Town Garden Tour to your respective Garden Clubs. Michael is on the planning committee for the Old Town Garden Tour. His own home garden will be part of the at least 12 gardens that will be open to visit on Saturday, July 8. I know this will be a super special event. Just seeing Michael's backyard garden is worth the time and ticket!! I guarantee it! I am attaching a few pictures taken in his garden last summer (our GCGL visited his garden on our annual garden walk last July). Thanks in advance for sharing this info about the Old Town Garden Tour.
Blessings, Cristy

"Old Town in Bloom"

North Lansing Urban Garden and Patio Tour
Saturday July 8th from 12-6 PM (rain date Sun, July 9th)
Cost: \$15.00 in advance, \$17.00 day of tour
For tickets or more information visit: oldtownevents.com or contact Michael Beebe at [redacted]



Roundup Information
shared by Patty Cotter

Here are a couple of articles from landscape organizations with information about Roundup. Click [here](#) for article 1. Click [here](#) for article 2.

Plant Sale Report
Jean Goetz

Sale day May 19th was cold. It was very, very cold! Despite the weather, our club earned \$2500 profit. Terrific! Our gratitude to everyone who supplied plants, goodies and their time setting up and staffing shifts. Debbie and I think you are wonderful!

No exaggeration, it was COLD. Staffers wore winter coats, socks, flannel shirts, vests, fleece, long johns, hats, gloves, and ear muffs. A few members wrapped themselves in blankets! First prize was a tie between Sue Lohman and Toni Santone who wore them all!



Then there was our beach boy, Larry Aronson, who showed up for his garden specialist shift wearing a T-shirt and shorts!
"Aren't you cold, Larry?"
"Naw, I'm warm."
"Can I pin this, 'How May I Help You?' flower on you?"
"Sure."
"How about wearing this metallic green derby hat with the question marks?"
"Sure."
"Can I take your picture?"
"Sure."
Larry is certainly a good sport!

There were lots and lots of garden goodies this year! Members' garages must be looking very tidy! Mine is. I filled a table top on Thursday before the set-up folks arrived, which allowed me to avoid the puzzled looks of...What is that?...and...Why would anyone buy something like that?

The best garden goodie story happened at the end of sale. A preschool boy spied five, foot tall, colorful garden dwarves. Not seven, just five. Two must have escaped! It was love at first sight. His Mom said he could take them home and hide them in the garden before his brother came home from first grade, then they could search for them. The little guy was thrilled. He and the dwarves disappeared, and then he reappeared with a joyous smile to say a big thank you to all of us!

Salesmanship was the order of the day, and many of us were caught up with enthusiasm. The garden goodie gals strategized that moving select goodies to the outside sidewalk would entice buyers back to the goodie table and make more sales. Various treasures made the trip, and it worked!

As I was helping at the pre-pay totaling table, a quiet, dignified gentleman approached with one of Jodi's 48 hanging tomato plants. My mouth started running, extolling the benefits of a hanging tomato plant in a sunny doorway, where one could pick one tiny tomato and pop it in one's mouth. Sooooo delicious, especially on a sunny day with the sun enhancing the flavor! In disbelief, I ended with, "There's nothing quite like a hot tomato!"

Hope to see you all at next year's sale!

Plant Sale Results

Peggy Bryson

The final recounting and recording of the proceeds of 2017's plant sale. Total proceeds amounted to \$2,503.65, a little more than our frozen fingers came up with at the close of the sale. Here is the breakdown:

Atlas gloves:	78.00
Garden goodies:	129.81
Native plants (our share)	174.00
Member plants	2,121.84
Cash sales	524.61
Checks	763.29
Credit Cards	215.75

News from Michigan Garden Clubs 2017 State Convention

Jodie Szalankiewicz

Meridian Garden Club won the Triple Diamond Club of Distinction Award with 4440 points. We are the winner of the 2017 Michigan Garden Club of the Year - large size club!!! Congratulations!!! Attending were Jean Goetz, Sue Kropschot, Sue Leahy, Georgia Styka, Jodie Szalankiewicz, and Linda Mogyoros.



Dear Michigan Garden, Inc. Club Members,

Here's the latest issue of MGC's publication, "Thru the Garden Gate!"

Meet your new officers for 2017-2019 who will be installed at the upcoming MGC 2017 Convention.

This issue includes a reservation form for the Michigan Consultant's Council Summer Conference at Hidden Lake Gardens as well as reports from your MGC board members. Check the Calendar for a list of Garden Walks and Flower Shows planned by clubs across the state.

[Click here to download your Summer "Thru the Garden Gate"](#)

[Link to MGC Website](#)

THE BORN LOSER®



Shared by Patty Cotter

Brick and Barnes House Gardeners Need Additional Help



When the Barnes House addition was built last year, we knew that it would require expansion of the garden at the front of the house to truly integrate the new space. Actually, it will just about double the size of the Barnes House garden, and more hands are needed to get the new space planted and to maintain it. If you can help by joining our group, please contact Brigitta Bruning at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Community Outreach Activities: Senior Health and Fitness Day at Wonch Park

The Meridian Garden Club participated in the Senior Health and Fitness Day celebration on May 31 with a demonstration by President, Jodie Szalankiewicz, on how to make a planter using the "Thriller, Filler, Spiller" concept. Thank you, Jodie, for your lively presentation and for representing the garden club at this community event.

Martha Shortlidge White
Community Outreach Coordinator

2017 Newsletter Deadlines

Month	Articles Due	Print Date
July	July 5	July 8
August	August 8	August 12



Garden Club Artwork On Display

Hand-crafted pressed flower art created by the Meridian Garden Club members is currently showcased in the lobby of the Township Municipal Building.

Artwork will be made available to purchase at a later date. Proceeds will benefit the Meridian Garden Club.

Meridian Garden Club Wine and Art Benefit Night



JoAnn P, Sue L, Tressa Mc, and Sue W



Madeline Masterson



Many framed pieces and note cards were sold. The wine tasting was popular.

Meet the "Other" Pollinators

Shared by Patty Cotter



In the move toward more ecologically sound growing practices, there is no insect that has gotten more attention than the honey bee. Though the honey bee is surely worthy of all our efforts, let us not forget to focus our attention on the many other pollinators that provide an invaluable service and are also on the decline. Click [here](#) to discover those many others.

Lunch Hour Chair Yoga Class



Dear Friends of the MSU Horticulture Gardens

We are pleased to host a Lunch Hour Chair Yoga every Wednesday in June starting this week! It is free and open to everyone and appropriate to those of all skills. Part of the Fresh Air Fitness Summer Series, this relaxing program will be held under the Wisteria in the Entrance Pavilion of the MSU Horticulture Gardens. The major details are below:

- Who: MSU Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends of the Garden
- When: June 7, 14, 21, 28 (Wednesdays) 12:10-12:50p
- Rain Venue: Horticulture Atrium, chairs provided
- Where: Entrance Pavilion to the Horticulture Gardens off Bogue St. Metered parking available in the Visitor Lot.
- Cost: Classes are at NO CHARGE, but registration is encouraged! Click [here](#) to register.
- Instructor: Rebecca Kegler, Assistant Dir., Rec Sports and Fitness Services, Registered Yoga Instructor, 517-353-9663

I've attached a jpg of the flier. You can download a pdf of the flier on our website http://www.hrt.msu.edu/our_gardens

Enjoy!
Dr Art Cameron
Director, MSU Horticulture Gardens
Department of Horticulture
Michigan State University

Pressed Flower Ponderings



Remember to stop and smell the flowers all summer, start selecting blooms at their best and put them in a thick book such as an old phone book. After a month, remove the blossoms, put them in a clear plastic lettuce box and store in a cool place until you want to use them at home or bring to our next garden club workshop come fall! Some exciting news coming in August-- Kris BeLonge and Tressa McAllister will be doing two workshops on MSU Garden Day on August 5! Sue Lohman will have a booth to sell our framed items, cards, bookmarks, and magnets at that event, so she will need members to help staff our Meridian Garden Club booth! Wa-hoo! I hope we can have a few members to help us on this fun day!

Our event on May 20 at Frames Unlimited didn't turn out exactly as planned, but many positive outcomes resulted from this project! Thanks to garden club members for their support and to our president, Madeline Masterson, for her leadership in this new endeavor! Kudos to the committee for their hard work and to the exuberance of our township helpers, Deborah Guthrie and Andrea Smiley! We gave them several of our art pieces to display at the township, and the wonderful news is that we've sold some already! Also, the Burgdorf wine seller present at the event said that we could display and sell some of our work at his gift shop!

As I look at the finished cards done by members, I am so impressed by the increased skills displayed in the designs! Thank you for your interest and participation and keep "pressing" on this summer!

Tressa McAllister

Cost of Lifetime Senior Pass to National Parks to Rise

Shared by Patty Cotter



Get a lifetime senior pass from the National Park Service before the cost soars, we hear from spokesperson Kathy Kupper. Before August 1, any US citizen age 62 or older can buy a lifetime senior pass for \$10. The cost of that pass starting August 1 will be \$80, the same cost as for a standard annual pass. The pass allows entrance to more than 400 national parks. If you purchase a pass online (Store.USGS.gov/pass) or through the mail, you pay an additional \$10 fee for document processing which you can avoid by getting the pass in person at one of the National Park Service sites listed at the same website.

Save the Dates!!!

Gallivanting Gardeners

Edsel Ford Home & Gardens June 20
Specialty Growers/Private Garden July 17

District IIB Fall Meeting Planning Session July 11

District IIB Design Guild July 19

Project-What do I do with this?
+(2017 Flower Show Plans)

Old Town - Lansing - Turner St August 24-25

Small Standard Flower Show
GC of Greater Lansing

Fragrant Plants for Pathways

These 12 plants make your stroll through the garden smell as good as it looks

by Danielle Ferguson - [Fine Gardening issue 146](#)



click [here](#) for more photos and information



Georgia's pressed flower tattoo - much prettier and less painful than the regular kind of tattoo..



Meridian GC June and July Birthdays

Janet Metzelaar	June 2
Margaret Jahnke	June 15
Marilynn Bezdek	June 18
Marlene French	June 25
Dixie Lahti	June 25
Madeline Masterson	June 26
Mary Lou Hatfield	July 7
Debbie Angell	July 8
Kris BeLonge	July 8
Karen Anderson	July 9
Veneta Stoyanova	July 15
Sheila Flynn	July 30

You May Never Have to Buy These Plants Again

Once you have one, you can grow many more of these 10 popular plants. from May 30 Houzz e-newsletter

Shared by Peggy Bryson



Click [here](#) to access the article.

Kris BeLonge's husband, Bill, has this saying posted on their business sign at the Auto Surgeon.

"NO ACT OF KINDNESS IS TOO GREAT".

Kris says, It is so reassuring to live by this.

What to do with the bevy of broadleaf weeds flowering in lawns



Shared by Patty Cotter

Dandelions, violets and ivy, oh my! Many weeds are currently flowering in turf grass, but not all require control. by [Kevin Frank](#), Michigan State University Extension. Click [here](#).



"Digging in the Dells"



Save the Date!
Central Region Convention
October 4-5, 2017
Chula Vista Resort
Wisconsin Dells

Convention Brochure and [Registration](#)
Workshops, Seminars and [Registration](#)

Tips for stopping common lawn insect pests



Japanese Beetle
shared by Patty Cotter

Click [here](#) for information.