

# *The Meridian Gardener*



Sunflowers in the Village . . . . . photo by sue wittick

September 2017



VOLUME Nine

The official publication of Meridian Garden Club, Inc.



# 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.

September 2017

Volume Nine

Website - [meridiangardenclub.weebly.com](http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub](http://www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub)

## Monthly Meeting September 18, 2017

Meridian Township Municipal Building  
5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos MI 48864

Bring a Guest Month

### Agenda

- 8:30–9:00 Refreshments/Social time (BYO Cup)
- 9:00 Business Meeting
- 10:30 Program: *Master Plan for Meridian Township Parks*



Lu Ann Maisner

Director of Meridian Township Parks and Recreation

Luann will provide a PowerPoint presentation on the new master plan for the Meridian Township parks. This will include all of the major changes that will be taking place over the next four to five years.



Hostesses: Paula Richardson, Kathy Koryba  
 Flower Power (8 am): Miriam Minshall, Sue Leahy  
 Environmental Moment: Patty Cotter  
 Horticulture Moment: Sue Leahy

## Update Contact Information



Please change Anne Davich's email address in your yearbook to xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.

## A Gardener's Journal



Oh boy, the kids are back in school so you know it's time for us to get back to Garden Club meetings. I get that same feeling that I did as a child when I see my friends at Club in September that I haven't seen all summer. So much catching up to do.

Next month on October 11<sup>th</sup> is the District IIB Fall meeting that your Garden Club is in charge of putting on. I do hope to see many, many faces there so we can put our best foot forward and do a bang-up job. Madeline Masterson and her committee have worked long and hard on this, and your support is greatly appreciated. Great programs, food and shopping, what more could you ask for? Please see Sue Kropschot's article regarding registration for the meeting in this newsletter.

Your Yearbooks will be ready for pickup at our first meeting on September 18, with coffee time beginning at 8:30 am. As you continue reading this newsletter you will find information regarding that day's program.

As we continue on through the harvest season, here's hoping all your canning lids pop. See you in a week!

Jodie

## Dear Meridian Garden Club Members:

Our State Quarterly Publication, the Fall 2017 "**Through the Garden Gate**" is now available on line.



Click [here](#) to download and to learn more about what is happening in our clubs, districts, states, regions, and national organizations.



Our National Publication "**Netscape**" for Fall 2017 is also available on line now. Click [here](#) to download and to learn more about what is happening in Landscape Design and educational opportunities



District IIB Fall Meeting  
 Wednesday, October 11, 2017  
 8:00am - 3:30pm  
 "Autumn Treasures"

**Where:** Eagle Eye Banquet Facility  
 1550 Chandler Rd, Bath, MI 48808

**When:** Registration 8:00am - 9:00am  
 Vendors and Silent Auction 8:00 am - 3:30pm

**Program:** 9:00am - 3:00PM

**Cost:** \$30-(includes -continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack) - **Check payable to Meridian Garden Club.**

**Morning Speaker**  
**National Parks, National Trails, and the National Scenic Trail in Your Backyard**  
**Mark Weaver** of the National Park Service is Superintendent, North Country National Scenic Trail. He will give a power point presentation on the National Parks and Trails system and on the scope of the North Country National Scenic Trail.

**Afternoon Speaker**  
**Laughing with Ed**  
**Ed Kaiser** and his wife, Sue, live in rural Williamston, Michigan. In the warmer months, they enjoy gardening, especially daylilies. Ed will share a humorous talk on his love of gardening and what he has learned along the way

**In Addition**  
 We have received a request for District IIB members to bring to the October 11 event any milkweed seed pods available to them, any variety - common, butterfly or swamp. They will be used for planting an area at Sleepy Hollow State Park. A receptacle for them will be at the Registration table. How nice that our clubs are viewed as a cooperative resource for efforts such as this.

**Garden Day at MSU**

**Tressa McAllister**

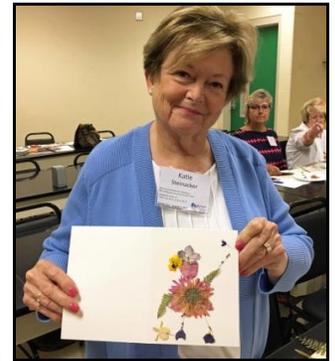
August 5 was a fun day and a beautiful one for this event. Meridian Garden Club was present in a big way with our sales booth, chaired by Sue Lohman, and pressed flower workshops presented by Kris BeLonge and Tressa McAllister. Thanks to club members who volunteered to assist in these efforts or participated in the workshops! Also thanks to Patty Cotter for bringing this opportunity to our attention!

The crafting sessions were fun and relaxing with plenty of talent exhibited! Participants were impressed with the wealth of our floral materials as they made two greeting cards and were inspired to continue creating at home.

**Photos by Tressa McAllister and Kris BeLonge**



Man roasting hotdog over campfire



Katie Steinacker



Student and Kris BeLonge



JoAnn Peterson

**Needed: 1 Gallon Pots**

**Mary Lou Hatfield**



Farm House gardeners need pots for the first week in October to pot up plants for the Spring Plant Sale. Please bring clean pots to the September 18 meeting.

*Thigmomorphogenesis Info:  
Why Should I Tickle My Plants*



Click [here](#) for more information about this interesting topic.

*Request for Milkweed Seed Pods*



We have received a request for our members to bring to the October 11 District meeting any milkweed seed pods available to them, any variety - common, butterfly or swamp. They will be used for planting an area at Sleepy Hollow State Park. A receptacle for them will be at the Registration table. Please pass this request on to your members. How nice that our clubs are viewed as a cooperative resource for efforts such as this.

*How to collect milkweed seeds*

Leave some **Pods** in the area you are collecting to insure the plants continue to propagate and thrive in that area. A good rule of thumb is to take 1/3 and leave 2/3. Positively identify the plant before collecting the **Pods**. **Milkweed seeds** look alike in most species and are very difficult to identify by the **seed** alone.

*2017 Newsletter Deadlines*



<u>Month</u>	<u>Articles Due</u>	<u>Print Date</u>
October	October 5	October 8
November	November 9	November 12
December	December 7	December 10



We are planning another Panera fundraising night on September 26 from 4 to 8 PM. Flyers for the fundraiser are attached to this newsletter mailing, available on our website and Facebook page, and will be distributed at our September 18 meeting. You may photocopy the flyer to give to family, friends and neighbors (or, point them to the flyer on our website), remembering that each person must present a flyer on paper or their cell phone when they place their order for our club to get credit for their purchase. Both take-out and eat-in orders qualify.

Panera's donation will be based on the amount of sales associated with these flyers. The more people who present flyers, the larger percentage of their purchases the Meridian Garden Club will receive. Panera's tiered donation scale:

- \* 20 - 30 flyers: 10% of net sales from redeemed flyers
- \* 31 - 49 flyers: 15% of net sales from redeemed flyers
- \* 50+ flyers: 20% of net sales from redeemed flyers

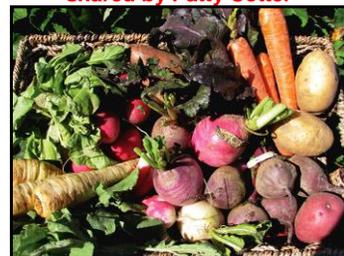
Remember: "Tuesday, September 26, between 4 PM and 8 PM at the Okemos Panera restaurant on Central Park Drive!"



Marilyn Higgins	September 9
Carole Armstrong	September 11
Kay Pyciak	September 14
Mary Ann Martin	September 18
Peggy Bryson	September 25
Kathy Rhodes	October 2
Bev Johnson	October 10
Sue Wittick	October 14
Peggy Hartmann	October 24
Mary Ballard	October 27

*Better Late than Never*

by Patrick Byers  
shared by Patty Cotter



Click [here](#) to learn more.

## Meridian Garden Club Website and Facebook Pages



Attention Meridian GC members! How many of you have explored the Meridian Garden Club Website in the past year? You might be surprised at what you find. You can look at several sections without using the password, but if you would like to look at our photo section and other things in depth, you can easily drop in by using the password - xxxxxxxxxxxx (no spaces). Our monthly meeting information is posted, as well as the monthly minutes, past newsletters and bylaws. Drop by, take a look and enjoy. You may also access our Facebook page by clicking on the f symbol at the upper right of each page.

<http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/MeridianGardenClub>

## Educational Opportunities



### Environmental Studies School, Course III

Location – Holland, Michigan  
Date October 16-17 2017

For more information, contact local Chair, Deannie Picciotti Cell 616-283-7744 [dmp77@charter.net](mailto:dmp77@charter.net) or Registrar, Lynn Miller 616-676-2274 [lmiller.garden@yahoo.com](mailto:lmiller.garden@yahoo.com)

### Landscape Design School, Course III

Location - Kalamazoo, MI  
October 23 – October 24 2017

Contact Carol Beckius for more information.  
[cbeckius@chartermi.net](mailto:cbeckius@chartermi.net)  
[Schedule and Registration](#)

### Garden Study School - Course I

Location - District IIA  
Date - Spring 2018

### Tri-Refresher

Location - Kalamazoo  
Date - June 7, 2018 - day after MGC State Convention

## 2018 District IIB Standard Flower Show



Show chair Lois Snover Hanson says to be looking for the Flower Show Schedules that will be distributed at the Fall District IIB Meeting for the March 2018 District IIB Standard Flower Show. The Title is:



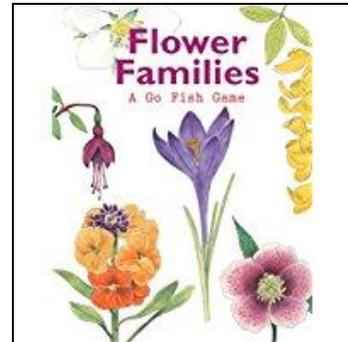
## "We Love Michigan"



Pick up your Schedule and tell a class consultant what you would like to enter - Horticulture, Design, or Botanical Arts. Your choice! Watch for further information.

## Flower Families Go Fish Game

Illustrator: **Christine Berrie**



Click [here](#) to discover how to get a fun version of a card game similar to "go fish" to play with children.

## Save the Date!



**2018 NGC Convention**  
**May 21, 2018 - May 24, 2018**  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Details  
Start: May 21, 2018  
End: May 24, 2018

 Happy Autumnal Equinox 



## *Porter Orchids Grand Finale Sale*

Dear Orchid Friends, August 28, 2017

Most of you know that Porter's Orchids will be closing soon. We've had our 25% off sale; we've done a 35% off sale and even a 45% off sale, and we still have about 1800 orchids. They are a mix: some seedlings, some mature plants. We have Zygos, Intergenerics, Phals, Cats, both standard and mini, Dendrobiums and others, too many to list. The only genera gone are equitant Oncidiums, Bulbos, Draculas, and nearly all Masdevallias. We still have multifloral Paphs and a few Phrags. We have about one hundred multifloral Phals which we had been selling retail in bloom at \$20, or 2 for \$35. These plants are to bloom next year, and must be sold. Given a brief cold treatment, 70% should double spike. So, to encourage sales before the large sucking sound returns to the gas meter, we are announcing our grand finale: a sale at either \$10.00 or \$5.00. Most seedlings, many Phal multi's, and other small and esoteric orchids will be at \$5.00. No orchid plants will be priced over \$10. All must be sold.

Orchid supplies will also be available: large bags of bark, charcoal, perlite, vermiculate, and coconut chips. Trays, wood baskets, hangers, and even show staging materials such as baskets, and stands, black rug squares, and other orchid paraphernalia will all be for sale.

This grand finale sale will start on Wed. September 13, from 10-5, continuing on the succeeding days of Thursday and Friday, and end on Saturday at 5 P.M.

We thank you for your patronage over these last 21 years, and we've enjoyed sharing our love of orchids with you. We hope to see you at the sale.

Cheers, Bill & Marilyn

## *Here Are a Couple of Good Web Sites*

Shared by Patty Cotter

<http://earth911.com/>

Information on what/how to recycle..cleaning techniques - container gardening

<https://www.gardenvisit.com/>

Photographs, maps, reviews and other visitor information on the most stunning gardens in the US and abroad.

## *Fall 2017 District IIB Planning Committee Meeting*



This is to remind everyone that the next meeting of the Planning Committee for the District IIB Meeting this Fall is set for **Wednesday, September 20th, at 10:00am** in the Administrative Conference Room at the Township Hall. Final approval of Program and Name Tags, etc will take place. Be prepared to give a report on your area of responsibility.

## *The Lowdown on Mulch*

by Barbara Fair - Michigan Gardening



Mulching your landscape not only helps retain moisture and provide insulation for your plants, it also helps define areas of the garden. Click [here](#) to access further information.

## *Move the Plants, Not the Pests*

by Douglas Spilker, Ph.D. - Michigan Gardening Magazine



A potted hibiscus is an ideal flowering container plant, but be on the lookout for harbored aphids. Click [here](#) for further information..



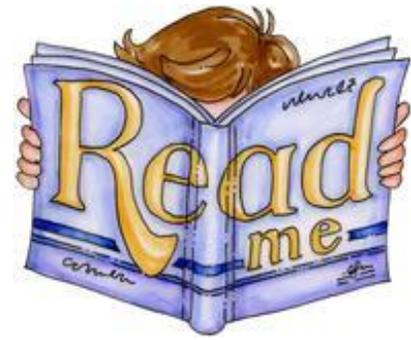
## "Digging in the Dells"



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

Convention Brochure and Registration  
Workshops, Seminars and Registration

## 2017-2018 Yearbook Ready



Come pick up and look at your 2017-2018 Yearbook, share your summer activities, have a satisfying snack and enjoy our speaker, LuAnn Maisner at our September Fall Kick Off meeting.

## Monarchs and Milkweed

Shared by Patty Cotter from Washington Post



Click [here](#) for an article published by the Washington Post.

## Designing with Dwarf Conifers



From Fine Gardening e-newsletter

Click [here](#) for more information about this subject.

## Fruits of our Labor - Butterfly Garden



## Save the Date - Michigan Garden Clubs 2018 Convention



**June 6, 2018**  
**Kalamazoo, Michigan**