

Marshall Area Garden Club

GARDEN CLIPPINGS



MAGC OFFICERS 2015

PRESIDENT:
Steve Rhodes

1st VP's of PROGRAMS:
Diane Peart
Natalie Rector

2nd VP of MEMBERSHIP:
Lucy Overhiser

RECORDING SECRETARY:
Jamie Evans

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
Judith Mansfield

TREASURER:
Gail Woods

President's Message

Hello from sunny Florida! Ann and I walked our five miles this morning, although it was cool, and we were surprised to see other walkers wearing stocking caps, wool scarfs, and mittens...?!?! Granted, we did see robins gathering like they were thinking of heading north, but it was 60 degrees—hardly cold weather—I guess it is a matter of perspective.

I want to thank **Janet Schoenmeyer** for all the work she has done on our club's behalf in terms of organizing the planned March 20, bus trip to Meijer Gardens and the Grand Rapids Art Museum.

I also want to thank **Natalie Rector** for the work she is doing in terms of coordinating our club's 2015 Garden Tour with a 2015 Cal-Co Quilt show. And, thanks to everyone who is pitching in to keep things going while Ann and I take care of family business here in Florida.

We've spent our first 6 weeks getting the 1980 home we inherited ready for sale - we finally got it on the market February 1. Our plans remain the same - we will return to Michigan May 1 - whether the house has sold or not - sooner if it sells quickly. We look forward to returning to Marshall!!!

Finally, if you have not already done so, please step forward and let **Gail and Mick Woods** know that you want to volunteer to work our Garden Tour held July 11-12. Also, and most important, I believe we may still be one garden short for our tour. Please help Gail and Mick find that final garden - or, better yet - volunteer your garden - you will be surprised how rewarding that can be.

President, **Steve Rhodes**

Please contact:

Editor **Janet Schoenmeyer**,
621 East Dr., Marshall or at
janscho46@gmail.com to submit
articles. Garden Clippings is
published every other month.

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February 17 Meeting

Come explore the world of sprouts, shoots and microgreens with MSU's Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator, **Linda Whitlock**. Microgreens may be tiny, but they've become very popular. They can be found everywhere; from trendy restaurants to the veggie section at the grocery store.

Linda will explain how microgreens such as greens, lettuces and herbs can be cheaply grown indoors year round. She will teach us how they take up very little space, and can be grown and harvested when they are quite young. Generally they are ready to harvest only when they are approximately one inch tall. Come learn more on the subject on February 17.

Social Time 6:30pm, Program 7:00pm, Business Meeting 8:15pm.
1st VP's of Programs, **Natalie Rector** and **Diane Peart**



District 11 Spring Meeting

The Grand Ledge Garden Club and Looking Glass Garden Club will host this year's District 11B Spring meeting. The theme is "Spring into Color". The meeting will be held from 8:30am to 3pm at the Grand Ledge Country Club, 5811 S. Joseph Highway, Grand Ledge. For more information: **Dess Johnson**, (517) 627-7739 or **Janice Thelan**, (517) 626-2023.

March 17 Meeting

Dean Krauskopf, Detroit's WJR's "Garden Expert", will give answers to the top 10 questions people ask about achieving beautiful lawns. He's highly respected by both the home and commercial gardening community. Dean has been a staff member of Michigan State University for over 25 years, teaching in the Horticulture Department and serving the southeastern part of the state. Topics to be covered will be fertilization, weed care, mowing tips and fighting lawn damaging insects. Dean will gladly take questions from the audience, so bring your lawn maintenance questions to the March 17 meeting.

Social Time 6:30pm, Program 7:00pm, Business Meeting 8:15pm.
1st VP's of Programs, **Natalie Rector** and **Diane Peart**



Welcome New Members

Pat Jendryka
617 N. Kalamazoo Ave,
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Email: patjendryka@yahoo.com

Ingrid Ault
305 N. Mulberry St.
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Email: ING AHUFF@gmail.com

Lynda Kulpa
514 N. Kalamazoo Ave.
(269) 248-6999
Email: LundaKulpa@gmail.com

Michigan Wildflower Conference

The 28th annual Michigan Wildflower Conference will be held Sunday, March 8, and Monday, March 9, at the Kellogg Center, Michigan State University.

The conference is designed for persons who are interested in Michigan native plants and their habitats. There will be general and concurrent sessions each day.

Examples of topics to be covered are landscape design, using native plants in your garden, Michigan reptiles and amphibians, restoring and protecting inland lakes, and protecting Michigan dune ecology.

Deadline to register for one or both days is Feb. 25. Cost is \$65 a day. Google "Michigan Wildflower Conference", for further details and information.



GBBC Info

The 18th annual "Great Backyard Bird Count" is taking place February 13 through 16. Anyone in the world can count birds at any location for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count and enter their sightings at: www.BirdCount.org. The information gathered by tens of thousands of volunteers helps track changes in bird populations on a massive scale.



Winter Birds Info

Even though many of us start filling our bird feeders in late fall, we still might worry that our feathered friends won't find enough to eat as winter sets in. However Mother Nature provides birds with extra help.

One help is an activity called caching. In the fall, certain non-migratory birds start taking the bird feeder seeds and storing them in secret hiding places. Jays, chickadees, nuthatches, titmice, woodpeckers and crows cache food.

With some birds using hundreds of caches, a large memory is required to relocate the seeds. Chickadees and titmice in particular, use a physiological response to the need for a bigger memory bank. The portion of their brain called the hippocampus increases in size during the fall and winter. When spring arrives, their brains shrink because the abundant food source of insects has appeared.

Popular storage areas include seeds wedged into the bark of trees, on the underside of small branches or beneath house eaves or shingles.

By providing an easily accessible food source, you can help birds with their caching needs. You can also have a great time watching birds locate secret hiding places and discover them throughout your yard.

Source: *Michigan Gardener*, Nov. /Dec., 2014 Issue Author: **Rosann Kovalcik**
Submission by member **Pam Munsie**

SAVE THE DATES



**"Welcome to my Garden" Tour
and Garden Market
Saturday and Sunday,
July 11 & July 12, 2015**



*Please remember that participation from all
MAGC members in some capacity is necessary
for the success of this event.*