

Milford Garden Club

Newsletter



April 2023

2022-2023 Executive Board

President: Susan Absher

VP Publicity: Gail Cooper

VP Programs: Nancy Nordin

Treasurer: Cindy Bauman

Secretary: Janet Kinney

Past President: Linda Smith

Website:

www.themilfordgardenclub.org

Email:

mifordgardenclub@outlook.com



April Meeting

When: Thursday April 13 @ 6:30
pm for social 1/2 hour, 7:00
pm meeting

Where: Milford Senior Center
1050 Atlantic, Milford, MI

Speaker: Janet Macunovich

Program: Butterflies & Butterfly
Gardens

Milford Garden Club Established 1948

A member of the Michigan Division Woman's National Farm and Garden Association

President's Report

Susan Absher

I HOPE EVERYONE READS THIS NEWSLETT IN A TIMELY FASHION. IF YOU DON'T, I HOPE YOU READ THE EMAIL THAT WILL SOON FOLLOW OR YOU MAY MISS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A VOTE ON SOME VERY IMPORTANT MATTERS.



I asked Jackie to hold off on printing the Newsletter because I needed more time to gather information to pass on to the general membership. As I

have said before, I listen to everyone and if they have legitimate concerns or interesting ideas, I try to set things into motion.

A couple of things have been brought to my attention, and as the saying goes, I hope to "kill two birds with one stone." The Milford Garden Club has apparently never had a consistent identifiable logo. Also, there is an interest in purchasing clothing and having it embroidered as well as having water bottles engraved.

An embroiderer was contacted and provided sage advice, but she declined to design the logo. She didn't feel qualified and suggested we hire an artist to create the design instead. Ideas were proposed to the artist along with historical references about the Milford Garden Club. The estimated cost of the custom embroidery designed by the artist was quoted at around \$100. The artist should have the design completed by the end of this week. The Board agreed it would be a worth while purchase.

It was also brought up at the Board Meeting to consider purchasing the design. The digital logo would then be used to print stationery, the Welcome Packet and an array of other items including water bottles. The rights to the digital copy would cost about \$200. This expenditure will come up for discussion and possibly a vote at the next general meeting.

At this time, the clothing being considered for embroidery includes a garden

Continued on page 2

President's Report continued

hat, shirt, and apron. Again, this is also to be discussed at the April Meeting.

It has come to the Board's attention that Dolores Donnellon had posthumously donated \$350 towards the restoration of the three bird houses in Arthur's Park. Joe Gawle, a friend of Brook Qualman, has offered his carpentry skills to restore the birdhouses either by repairing or replicating them at no cost for his labor. He is expected to have them done by early June. They will be a welcome addition to Arthur's Park for this year's Garden Walk.

Gail Cooper has offered to take pictures of members who have not yet submitted a photo to the pictorial directory. She will be taking photos at the social time prior to our meetings.

Sue Tompkins has the website updated. If you have an idea of what also could be included on the site, please contact her.

Lastly the Division Spring meeting is on May 11. It is sponsored by the Troy Garden Club, but will be held in Birmingham. I will have a sign-up sheet at the April meeting. I'll also have a few registration forms available for those interested. We will meet at the Senior Center and carpool from there to the event.

Welcome New Members

Ron & Becky Wilson

Cathy Jones

Be sure to say Hi, and introduce yourself to our newest members.

Tea Time

April Tea Time will be April 27

Destination unknown at this time! Watch for an email blast.



To forget how to dig the earth and tend the soil is to forget ourselves.

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)



Dates to Remember

2023

April 13, 6:30/7:00 pm General Membership Meeting
- Janet Maconovich Butterflies and Butterfly Gardens

April 17, 5 pm Board Meeting

April 19, 10:30 am Annual Daffodil Day Tour

April 22 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Heavenly Scent Stained glass tree workshop

April 24, May Newsletter deadline

April 25, 10am Patio Pots @ Bogie Lake Greenhouse

April 27, Tea Time

May 9, 9 am Arthur's Park Spring Clean Up

May 10, Rain Day for Arthur Park's Spring Clean UP

May 11, Michigan Division Spring Council Meeting

May 11, 6:30/7:00 pm General Membership Meeting -
Carol Brodbeck - Attracting Birds to Your Garden

May 15, 5 pm Board Meeting

May 23, the club will plant the annuals at Arthur's Park

June 3, Garden Market 10 am - 12 pm

June 8, 6:30/7:00 pm General Membership Meeting

June 19, 5 pm Board Meeting

June 21, 5: pm Preview Party for homeowners and garden hosts and hostesses

June 23, 4: pm - 8: pm & 24 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Garden Walk

July 13, 6:30/7:00 pm General Membership Meeting

Field Trips

April 19 Annual Daffodil Day tour at Belle Isle and luncheon at the Detroit Yacht Club. Tickets are now \$60. Anyone still interested in going can find more information at: <https://michdivwnfga.weebly.com/daffodil-day-ticket-shop.html>



Create A Planter

Mark your calendar for Tuesday April 25 @ 10 am and plan to join us for a visit to Bogie Lake Greenhouse to get a jump-start on your spring patio pot planting



Bring your favorite pot and spend the morning connection with other members as you select blooms to brighten your patio. The greenhouse is your oyster; you will be among the first

visitors this season to hand select the perfect sprouts from their inventory and plant them on site. After your pot is complete, Bogie Lake will store it in their greenhouse, nurture it, give it the TLC it needs. Then they'll return it to you when it is bursting with color and ready for the outdoors.

Not a bad deal, huh?...Garden club membership has its perks!



Lisa Hill

Michigan Division

Women's National Farm and Garden Association, Inc.

Mark your Calendar: The Spring Division Meeting will be hosted by the Troy Garden Club and held at The Community House in Birmingham. The speaker at the Spring meeting (May 11) will be Kerry Ann Mendez of Kennebunk Maine. Ms. Mendez's presentation will be "Power UP Garden Beauty and Power DOWN Garden Maintenance".

From the Editor

Thank you everyone who submits their newsletter articles timely. The newsletter is a great way to keep in touch with what is going on with activities and news from our members. It is much easier for me to have meaningful news to share than to go scrounging to fill the pages. The deadline for the May Newsletter is April 24.



Jackie Swenson

Greeters

The friendly people greeting us at the April meeting will be Brook Qualman and Janet Kinney. Thank you ladies. Greeters are still needed

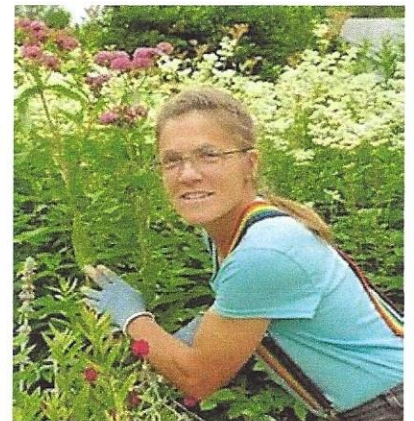


Barb Brennan

for the July & August meetings Greeters need to be at the Senior Center at 6:30 to greet people as they arrive. If you are able to help fill these spots please contact Barb Brennan _____;

This months speaker is Janet Macunovich.

Janet is one of my favorite garden speakers. When I googled her for a bit of information to share I got lost in her website—it was so incredibly fascinating! Here are just a few lines about Janet and her husband Steve Nikkila.



They have 30 years experience as professional gardeners and trainers. They share what they've learned in thousands of gardens about practicality, beauty, fun and simplicity. These are tried - and - true ideas and tools that we've developed or received from others, share through speaking engagements and on their website www.gardenatoz.org

grow

2022 - 2023 Committees

Community Outreach: Sue Grifor

Devine Raffle: Sheila Myers

Email Distribution: Lisa Willard

Facebook: Lisa Willard

Field Trip Coordinator: Lisa Hill

Garden Walk: Linda Becker

Barbara Amey

Garden Maintenance: Kathy Blackburn

Greeter: Barb Brennan

Historian: Anna VanHyfte

Holiday Party: Janet Kinney

Bonnie Lynch

Hospitality Coordinator: Pat Coopersmith

Membership: Terri Hardick

Mentoring: Diane Pearson

Name Tags: Marion & Dale Benedict

Newsletter: Jackie Swenson

Plant Sale: Lisa Hill

Scholarship: Linda Sturgeon

Sunshine: Kathy Barker

Tea Time Group: Mary McFarland

Website: Sue Tompkins

Yearbook: Brook Qualman

WNF&GA (National): www.wnfga.org

WF&GA (Michigan Division): www.michdivwhfga.org

Plant Sale Boutique

The new chairpersons for the Boutique portion of the Plant Sale are Don Caley and Carol Hilf

SALE

In The Garden



I always know it's spring when I get the email from English Gardens that the cold tolerant pansy's have arrived.

Happy Spring



If you have seen anything in your gardens or when wandering that you think would delight other gardeners please send a picture and description to me at jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com

Do You Know?

Questions for this contest come from the newsletter content. If you know the answer email it to:

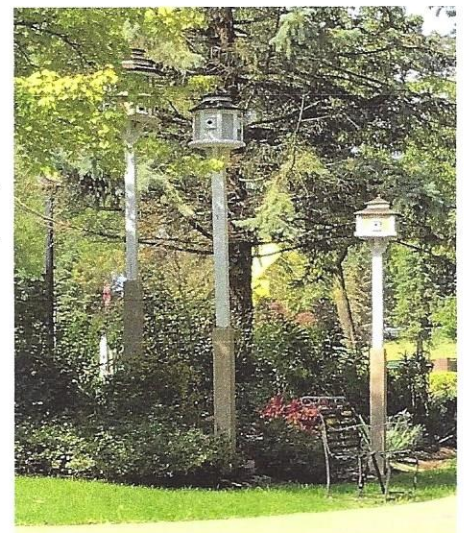
All correct answers will be entered in a drawing. The winning name drawn will receive 3 tickets for the next DeVine Raffle.

The Winner of the March drawing is **Linda Smith**

This month's question is: Who has updated the Milford Garden Club website?

Garden Walk News

Greetings Garden Friends,
The Garden walk committee will be meeting on April 17, after the Board meeting at approximately 6:30 pm. More news will be coming



Member Spotlight

This is a new feature of the newsletter where we will learn more about people who have recently joined the Garden Club and others who have been members longer. The thought is that the more common ground we can find with other members the stronger friendships we can develop.



Lee Doyle

I didn't know what it meant to have a garden until I was in my 40's and moved to a house in Northville with 17 perennial beds. Optimistically, I asked the previous owner (a Master gardener) to explain what was planted in them and how to care for them. "Oh you'll figure it out", she said and off she went. It took me a whole year of steadfastly documenting what came up and when it arrived to understand the depth of my commitment. Not to mention the extensive gravel paths that wound through the garden, with pesky weeds that kept appearing no matter what I tried.

The problem with all of that, is that I also worked full time. At a job that paid me money, not just joy. I am an attorney, having practiced some in the beginning, but soon turning to other professions that make me happier—and allowed more time for motherhood. I raised a daughter (now 40 years old) and adopted three stepchildren. Somehow, I found

time to work in Government Relations at Ford Motor Company and then the University of Michigan as Director of Communications.

Recently widowed, and retired, I'm now turning toward things I enjoy. I'm traveling (to Ireland last June and to Italy this Spring) and giving time to organizations such as the American Association of University Women (AAUW). I love to paint—a first love before I went to law school—and am an obsessive knitter. I may even bring my needles to meetings as I can't seem to sit still for long without them.

I look forward to meeting you all!

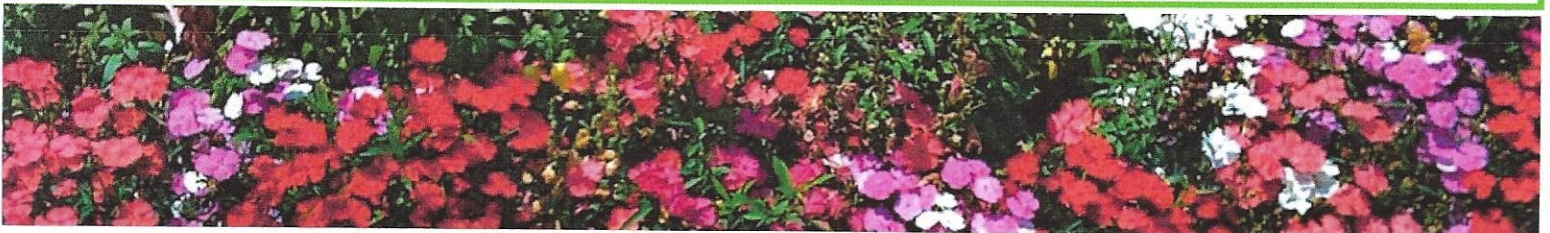
Hello Garden Club!

My name is Winnie Heimke and I grew up in Farmington Hills. My husband, Ralph Heimke, and I raised our family in Wolverine Lake then retired in 2012 and moved to Arizona to golf and live as snowbirds who traveled RV style during the hot summers. After about 10 years we decided to sell our RV and buy a summer home in Milford where my husband grew up.

I was fortunate enough to be a stay at home mom and developed a passion for all of the fiber arts. I knit, quilt and embroider regularly and will fuss around with any craft that passes under my nose.

When we bought our summer house here I was delighted to find my next door neighbor, Kathy, is an avid gardener who sparked an interest in gardening for me. She grows lovely tomatoes, beans and squash, etc., as well as glorious herbs that I have unlimited access to. Lucky Me!

I could never compete with Kathy's vegetable garden so I think I'd like to learn more about flower gardening so that we can enjoy the fruits of one another's labor. I so look forward to meeting you all and learning from you!



Milford Garden Club
General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2023

Call to Order: 7:04 pm

Introduction of visitor and acknowledgement of new members.

President's Report by Susan Absher:

Susan discussed the material provided by WNF&GA with suggestions on how to attract new members. She also discussed the updated website and the need for members to submit photos to Sue Tompkins or let us know if they need their photo taken at a meeting so it can be added to the private section of the website. If a member does not want their photo included, they should let us know and we will indicate that their photo is not available.

VP of Publicity Report by Gail Cooper:

Gail asked members to provide photos and descriptions of projects such as, the clean-up at Arthur's Park and Heavenly Scent crafting project, so she can provide them to WNF&GA for inclusion in the next newsletter. The winter newsletter mentioned the Milford Garden Club 9 times which is a great improvement and hopefully we will improve on that recognition. Gail also updated her connections with local papers and was provided information on what the Spinal Column is now called and where copies can be obtained (a copy was provided to Gail compliments of Sue Grifor).

VP of Programs by Nancy Nordin:

Nancy discussed the spreadsheet analysis of the history of presenters from the Clubs' inception (1948 to current). She provided the years when the Club's yearbooks were not found in the archives of files that had been stored. She also shared some interesting changes that have taken place over the years both with the type of programs presented and the expansion of interests and speakers. She also asked about certain events the club held such as the greens market and discussed the possibility of bringing some of these activities back. Nancy also asked for suggestions on next years speakers and offered suggestions for topics such as vertical gardening, invasive forest and garden pests, arts and crafts using repurposed items to create garden art, herbs and herbal products, native plants and an arborist. Suggestions are always welcome. She also addressed some concerns of overlaps in presentations for consecutive years and addressed concerns about April's speaker noting the difference in topic from the speaker from the March 10, 2022. Several members requested copies of the spreadsheet which will be provided.

Treasurer' Report by Cindy Bauman:

Cindy was not present at the meeting and provided the balance in the account which is \$11,390.14

Secretary's Report:

Janet was not present and Nancy Nordin filled in taking notes for both general and board meetings.

Committee Reports:

- *Field Trips*—*Lisa Hill* provided an update on the Heavenly Scent crafting class for the glass and copper tree along with the timing for enrollment and receipt of money. She also let us know that the Highland Club was invited to join in this class which is on April 22nd @ 10: am. Lisa also provided the dates for the Daffodil luncheon on Belle Isle and how to register, the WNF&GA Spring membership meeting which is being hosted by the Troy Club and held May 11th. Registration can be either done online or by mail. Lisa is also heading up the plant sale and provided sign-up sheets for various tasks preparing for the day of the plant sale.
- *Garden Walk*—*Barbara Amey & Linda Becker*, co-chairs for the Garden Walk provided an update and sign up sheets for volunteers to assist on each day of the walk.
- *Welcome Packet Project*—*Diane Pearson* presented the new Welcome Packet she has been working on which will be given to new members. She reviewed the process and polling she did in determining what should be included in the packet. She also provided an update on the timing for receipt of the new Club brochure. The members also discussed how to utilize the new brochure and contemplated asking certain downtown retailers to display a few brochures in their stores.
- *Tea Time*—*Mary McFarland* - Gail Cooper will host the next tea time in March at Duke's. We need to ask Mary for a schedule of Tea Time hosts for the balance of this year.
- *Garden Maintenance Projects*—*Kathy Blackburn* Kathy provided the dates for the Arthur's Park clean-up (May 9th or if raining, May 10th). On May 23rd, the club will plant the annuals at Arthur's Park. Sign up sheet provided.
- *Community Outreach Projects*—*Sue Grifor* Sue discussed the Historical Society's Log Cabin Project, costs and how the Milford Garden Club might assist with restoring the garden which has fallen into disrepair. It is noted that there are some plants that are surviving but not thriving. Sue also discussed how we may be able to obtain a grant from the WNF&GA to use in the garden restoration. The application for this grant will be worked on by Susan Absher
- *Newsletter*—*Jackie Swenson*—Absent
- *Website*—*Sue Tompkins*—Absent
- *Facebook*—*Lisa Willard*—Absent

New Business:

Susan Absher discussed the new Member Spotlight article in each monthly newsletter. The newsletter will feature two members each month starting with the newest members and then will include all others. The first two members were featured in the February newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Our speaker for the March meeting was Susan Julian of Blue Heron Headwaters which is a branch of the National Wildlife Conservancy.