



## 2022-2023 Executive Board

President: Susan Absher

VP Publicity: Gail Cooper

VP Programs: Nancy Nordin

Treasurer: Diane DeVincent

Secretary: Lee Doyle

Past President: Linda Smith

Website:

[www.themilfordgardenclub.org](http://www.themilfordgardenclub.org)

Email:

[mifordgardenclub@outlook.com](mailto:mifordgardenclub@outlook.com)



## October Meeting

**When:** Thursday Oct 12, @ 6:30 pm for social 1/2 hour, 7:00 pm meeting

**Where:** Milford Senior Center  
1050 Atlantic, Milford, MI

**Speaker:** Emily Duthinh

**Program:** Importance of Rain Gardens

*Milford Garden Club Established 1948*

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

# October 2023 Newsletter



## President's Report

### Susan Absher

A special thank you to **Gail Cooper** for filling in for me at the September meeting, while among other things, I was witnessing the fiery sunset at Dead Horse Point State Park in breathtaking Utah.

I'm happy to say several things were approved at the September meeting: the purchase of a projector to ensure the proper delivery of presentations; Beacon Hill Golf Course as the venue for the Fall 2024 Division Council Meeting; and continuing the Divine Raffle with only the 50/50 drawing.

If any member can provide information as to the profits of the basket raffle at our Garden Walks, please let someone on the board know. Although the raffle has a long-standing tradition in this event, it is important to also note whether it is profitable. Members donate time and money to various projects within our organization. It is worthy to find out if this tradition should still continue or whether the donation of time and money can be better used elsewhere.

Five homeowners have committed to showing their gardens for next year's Garden Walk. There are 2 that have been visited and a couple more that have been suggested to contact. I am confident that we will have 1 or 2 more who will have committed by the October meeting. Hence, the job duties of the chairperson(s) will be highly reduced.

Previous chairpersons of the Milford Garden Walk will be contacted to help the Board come up with a job description of the chairperson. It is hoped that with a more defined expectation of duties that one or more people will be encouraged to take on this role.

Embroidery orders for clothing will be taken at the October meeting. Clothing needs to be tagged with your name on the spot where the item is to be embroidered. Embroidery will be offered at the April meeting as well. The cost of the embroidery will be reduced if members submit their clothing at these times for a better rate.

We will be looking to create a committee to work on the Fall 2024 Division Council Meeting at the October General Meeting. The Board is very

*Continued on page 2*

## Presidents Report Continued

enthusiastic about hosting and expects there will be many who will want to volunteer for this event. These are the sub-committees we have come up with so far and the members who have already offered to take on these positions:

Centerpieces:

Vendors: Barbara Amey

Greeters:

Name Tags:

Beacon Hill Liaison: Nancy Nordin

Prizes/Gifts:

Registration: Diane DeVincent

## October Membership Meeting

As I sit at my kitchen table looking at my hummingbird feeder and waiting for my morning hummers to arrive, I am appreciative of the information Allen Chartier provided on Hummingbirds at our meeting last Thursday. Many of you echoed my enjoyment of the presentation.

Our speaker for our October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting is Emily Duthinh who is an adjunct professor at Wayne State. Her focus is on land conservancy. She Chairs Oakland County's Invasive Species Management team and is co-founder of Oakland Phragmites and Invasive Species. She will be speaking on the importance of rain gardens for both residential and commercial properties. Rain gardens are an essential part of the ecosystem. I hope this piques your curiosity as it has mine. I hope to see you at our October meeting.

Nancy Nordin



## Greeters

The friendly Person greeting us at the October meeting will be **Brook Qualman**.

Greeters need to be at the Senior Center at 6:30 to greet members and guests as they arrive.



## Club News

Year Book Correction How in the world did I get the years wrong on the front of the book? I know it was the first thing I changed. Anyway, I have corrected the rest of the books and will bring Stickers to the next meeting for anyone who would like to fix theirs.

Brook

## From the Editor



Thank you for your wonderful contributions to the October newsletter. Your input makes these pages more relevant to all MGC members.

You can send your contributions to:  
jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com

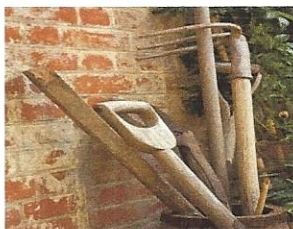
Jackie Swenson

## Tea Time

There is no information about the October Tea Time.



## Fall Clean up and Daffodil Planting



Fall clean up and daffodil planting for Arthur's Park and the Senior Center will be Tuesday October 24, 9 am, (rain day October 25, 9 am). Thank you for signing up at the September meeting. We have 8 volunteers. We will need more! Besides the clean up we will be planting daffodils at Arthur's Park. If you have an auger that would help with planting the daffodils. We will also be trimming back many of the plants.

Thank you in advance!

Kathy Blackburn



## Herbal Thyme

The herb group has a new name: Herbal Thyme. In September we discussed and learned about lavender. We tasted a lavender drink, lavender honey thyme carrots and blueberry lavender preserves. Everyone who attended took home a lavender sprig...such a relaxing fragrance. A lavender plant and lavender scented items were displayed.

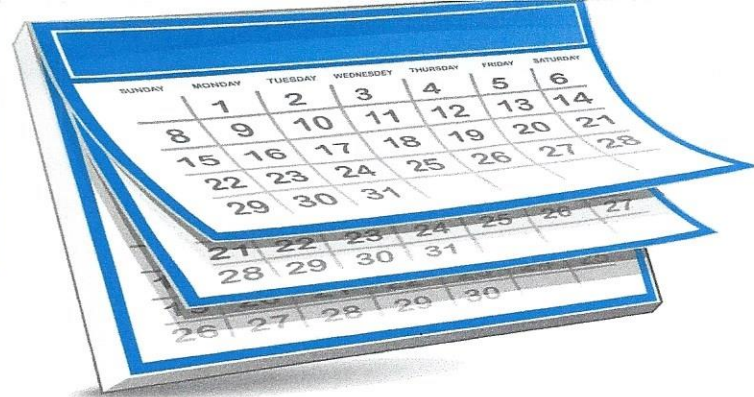
Herb books from our own library were also on display to check out. Two novels were introduced where the author uses herbs in their stories. Authors: Susan Willig Albert and Phillippa Gregory.

Our next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2023 at 1 pm at the Milford Public Library. We will be discussing GARLIC.

We're inviting all to attend. Again, anyone can bring food items to share, recipes, craft ideas, information on garlic and stories to tell... after all, it is Halloween month!

Herbally Yours,

Shelley Dale



## Dates to Remember

### 2023

September 27, 9 am Fall Division Council Meeting

October 4, 10 am Julia Hofley's Garden

October 9, 1 pm Herbal Thyme

October 12, 6:30/7:00 General Membership Meeting

October 16, 5 pm Board Meeting

October 24, 9 am Fall clean up and Daffodil planting

October 25 9 am Rain day for clean up

October 26, November Newsletter Deadline

November 9, 6:30/7:00 General Membership Meeting

November 20, Board Meeting

November 27 December Newsletter Deadline

December 5, 11 am Christmas at Meadow Brook Hall

December 14, General Membership Meeting



## Cauliflower Soup

1 small head of Cauliflower, washed then cut off florets

1 small onion diced.

½ cup butter

1 32-ounce container of vegetable broth

2 tablespoons flour

1 tablespoon salt

1 tablespoon pepper

2 cups heavy cream

Nutmeg



Melt butter in sauce pan then sauté onion. Add salt and pepper, a dash of nutmeg and flour. Whisk in vegetable broth and bring to a rolling boil. Add cauliflower and simmer until cauliflower is tender (approximately 45 minutes). Using a potato masher, lightly mash cauliflower. Add Heavy cream. If soup is too watery, mix 2 tablespoons of corn starch and ¼ cup water and stir into soup until consistency you desire is reached. Use shredded sharp cheddar cheese to top each cup of soup.

Submitted by Nancy Nordin



## Field Trip News

We have 2 enticing field trips in the works. The first is a visit to Julia Hofley's beautiful garden on October 4 @ 10 am. There is no cost for this trip.



Julia is a speaker on all things garden related, a contributor to the Michigan Gardener magazine, and the head of the Hardy Plant Society. I've not had the pleasure of visiting her garden yet but I'm told

that I'm in for a real treat! Please follow the link below to sign up. For those interested in carpooling we'll leave from the senior center around 9:10 am. We'll visit Julia's garden and stop for lunch before returning. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084FA9AE2BA1FD0-44454886-julia>

The next field trip will surely put us in the holiday spirit when we visit Meadow Brook Hall to view the home in all of its holiday splendor on December 5 @ 11 am. Many of us have visited this stunning home in the past (including myself) but another visit is always good for some holiday inspiration and cheer! The cost is \$13.00 and the deadline for registration is October 4. Please send payment to Lisa Hill



Please follow the link below to sign up. For those interested in carpooling we'll leave from the senior center around 10 am. We'll visit Meadowbrook and stop for lunch before returning.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084FA9AE2BA1FD0-43535573-meadowbrook>

I hope you can join us!

Lisa



## Happenings Around Town

These are not coordinated field trips. Please contact Heavenly Scent Herb Farm directly to register for these events.

810-629-9208

### Painted Cardinal and Birch Tree on a Vintage Window

Saturday October 21, 10 am—12:30 pm \$74.75

Ladies Night Out Preview our Christmas trees, ornaments and décor in all of their sparkling beauty. Get inspired with this year's themed areas: Winter Woods, Angelic Snowflakes, Flocked Cardinals, Wrapping Station, Woodland Owls, and Crimson Dior.

Draw for a percentage off of your purchases.

Enjoy light refreshments.

The first 25 ladies will receive a special gift!

Friday, November 3, 6:00 - 8:30 pm

## Do You Know

What is the topic of the October General Meeting speakers presentation?

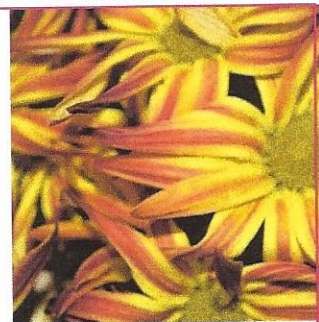


The winner of the September question was Brook Qualman.

In the future all respondents with the correct answer will be entered into a drawing to take place before the DeVine Raffle. The winner of that drawing will receive three tickets for the DeVine Raffle.

### Chrysanthemums

Autumn's Jewel Flowers Chrysanthemums, or mums are the quintessential autumn flowers with Jewel colors and diverse shapes, from pincushions to spiders. Mums belong to the daisy family.



Generally Chrysanthemums symbolize friendship, trust, joy, optimism, longevity and fidelity.



## 2022 - 2023 Committees

Community Outreach: Sue Grifor

Devine Raffle: Sheila Myers

Email Distribution: Lisa Willard

Facebook: Lisa Willard

Field Trip Coordinator: Lisa Hill

Linda Becker

Garden Walk: ??????

Garden Maintenance: Kathy Blackburn

Janet Kinney

Greeter: Barb Brennan

Historian: Anna VanHyfte

Holiday Party: Carol Hilf

Don Caley

Hospitality Coordinator: Mike & Cindy Bauman

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](http://www.wnfga.org)

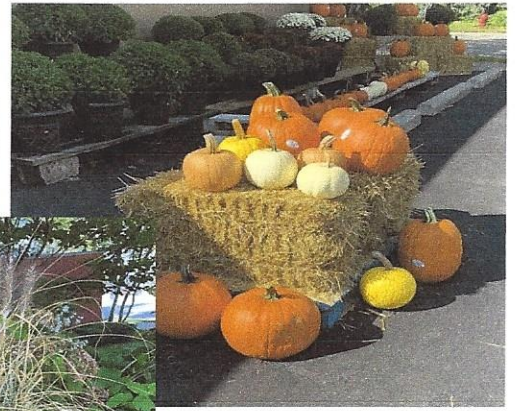
WF&GA (Michigan Division): [www.michdivwhfga.org](http://www.michdivwhfga.org)

## Earth laughs in flowers

*Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 = 82)*

## In The Garden

More of my wandering  
around the Village and  
surrounding areas



These beautiful mums are  
from Bogie Lake Nursery



Along Duck lake Rd  
South of M59



It's almost  
pumpkin time  
again!



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](mailto:jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com)



## Field Trip News

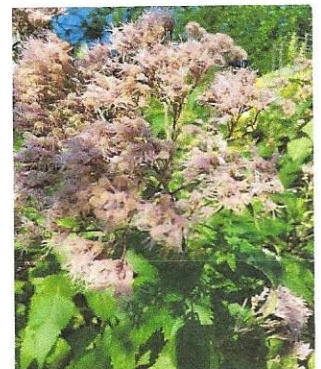
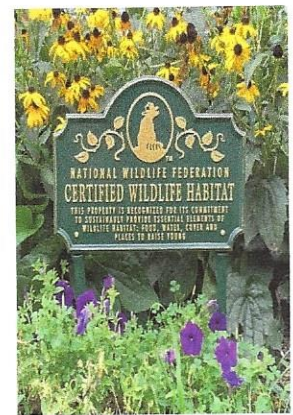
The field trip to Cheryl English's home in Grosse Pointe August 19 was delightful. Her yard is an abundant display of native plants; and believe me when I say that every possible inch has been lovingly designed and planted to attract pollinators and harbor wildlife.

Her yard has even been designated **A Certified Wildlife Habitat.**

It was a pleasure to stroll the yard and shop for handmade pottery. My perfect find was a toad shelter that became the new home for a tree frog that was living under my patio sofa cover.

And to top it all off, we enjoyed a delicious brunch at Alma Kitchen just down the street from Cheryl's home.

Thank you all who attended and thank you **Susan Absher** for the beautiful photos!



# Milford Garden Club Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Proposed Budget

There will be a vote to adopt the 2023/2024 Budget at the October General Membership Meeting

2023/2024

Proposed  
Budget

2022/2023  
Actual

<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>External Income</b>		
Garden Walk	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,444
Bake Sale & Boutique	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,936
<b>Total External Income</b>	<b>\$ 7,900</b>	<b>\$ 10,380</b>
<b>Internal Income</b>		
Donations	\$ 250	\$ 255
Pennies for Friendship		\$ 122
Membership Dues	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,308
Devine 50/50 raffle	\$ 250	\$ 390
Holiday Party		\$ 875
Grant	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Internal Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,950</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 9,900</b>	<b>\$ 13,330</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>External Expense</b>		
Community Sharing	\$ 250	\$ -
Charity Donation - Lee Home	\$ 250	\$ 250
Library Donation	\$ 250	\$ -
Scholarships	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Pennies for Friendship		\$ 122
Speakers for Meetings	\$ 1,800	\$ 750
Special Projects	\$ 300	\$ 626
Website-MILFORDGC.ORG	\$ 450	\$ 426
<b>Total External Expense</b>	<b>\$ 7,300</b>	<b>\$ 6,174</b>
<b>Internal Expenses</b>		
License and Application Fees	\$ 40	\$ 40
Bank Service Charges	\$ 50	\$ 48
Division Meeting	\$ 500	
Master Gardener Tuition Reimbursment	\$ 200	\$ -
Gifts/Memorials	\$ 300	\$ 215
Insurance	\$ 900	\$ 860
Holiday Party	\$ 500	\$ 1,175
Meeting Refreshments/Entertainment	\$ 250	\$ 111
MI Div. Membership Dues	\$ 700	\$ 624
Garden Walk	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,469
Plant Sale & Boutique	\$ 100	\$ 88
Projector	\$ 800	
Printing	\$ 400	\$ 201
Yearbook	\$ 250	\$ 105
<b>Total Internal Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,990</b>	<b>\$ 4,936</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 13,290</b>	<b>\$ 11,110</b>
<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>		
	<b>\$ (3,390)</b>	<b>\$ 2,220</b>

# Milford Garden Club

## *Membership Meeting September 14, 2023*

The Meeting convened at 6:59 p.m.

Nancy Nordin and Gail Cooper presided in President Absher's absence

Nate Nordin was introduced as a new member.

The meeting minutes for August were approved on Lisa Willard's motion.

The new officers were introduced: Diane DeVincent as Treasurer, and Lee Doyle as Secretary.

### **Announcements**

- The deadline for the newsletter is September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Submit a photo and a bio of yourself if you haven't yet.
- Recipe submissions are always welcome, as are articles.
- It has been suggested that we have a newsletter each month, even when on hiatus.
- There is a sign-up sheet for meeting greeters (need two per session).
- Cindy and Mike were thanked for refreshments and others encouraged to sign up for future meetings, indicating savory or sweet treats.

### **New Business**

The Executive Board voted in favor of hosting the Fall 2024 Division meeting On September 25, 2024. Venues have been explored, including 212 (too restrictive), Mystic Creek (we are on a waiting list), and Beacon Hill, which is beautiful, and available. The cost for a breakfast buffet would be \$18 per person. The Division would provide \$300 to offset the cost of a speaker. A bar tender, should we want to offer mimosas on a cash bar basis, would be \$100. We would charge \$35 per ticket.

Possible speakers could be Cheryl English on current practices and using no pesticides, Or Michelle Serreyn, Professor of Biological Sciences and expert on native plants. Other suggestions are welcome. Advise Nancy Nordin or Susan Absher.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Diane DeVincent made a brief Treasurer's Report, with details to appear in the newsletter. As of August, the club has a balance of \$17,375.17.

### **Garden Maintenance**

Kathy Blackburn offered a sign-up sheet for Arthur's Garden clean up on October 24, with a rain date of October 25.

### **Field Trips**

Lisa Hill announced two field trips with sign up required on a Genysis link:

- A visit to Julia Hofley's garden on October 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:30, with lunch following.
- Holiday Walk at Meadowbrook Hall December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Discussion**

1. Should we change our DeVine Raffle to a 50/50 cash raffle rather than offer items? After discussion with opinions offered that a 50/50 would make more money and be quicker during meetings, it was voted in favor of a 50/50 raffle for future meetings. Existing articles would be sold at the Plant Sale and Garden Walk.

2. Garden Walk Raffle. Although a license is not needed for our meeting raffles, one would be required for a Garden Walk raffle. We first would have to become a registered agency and then the annual cost would be \$15. Application submitted 6 weeks prior to the event. It was decided that we need more information on how much the baskets earn and whether they are loved. Members were invited to weigh in and a vote was postponed.
3. The Garden Walk has many committee chairs but needs a chairperson. We are encouraging volunteers. Committee chairs include Nancy Kay, Barb Amey, Al and Pat Coppersmith, Brook Qualman, Shelly Dale, Bobbi Kruschel, Sue Grifor, Nancy Nordin, and Lee Doyle.
4. The purchase of a projector to have for programs was discussed, with purchase prices ranging from \$400 to \$800. It was noted that the club has the money. Linda Smith moved that the purchase be made, and the motion was approved.

The Business meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

### **Guest Speaker- Allen Chartier**

Topic: The Ruby Throated Hummingbird

Allen is an expert, having been a birder since age 11, and published several books, including The Birder's Guide to Michigan. There are 360 species of hummingbirds in the world with the greatest diversity in the Andes. The Ruby Throated Hummingbird is the only hummingbird species in the eastern United States and is studied through the Great Lakes Hummernet Project, and most studied in lower Michigan. It is on the Audubon watch list as it declined significantly between 1978-1986. This could be a normal population cycle, but more research is required.

Interestingly, the birds' feathers aren't actually red or green. They have a blue structure with yellow pigment which looks iridescent green in light. They can turn the red color on or off due to aggression or mating. (Similarly Blue Jays are actually brown.) Females are environmentally colored to hide and protect eggs and young. The female is larger, which is rare in the bird world.

They arrive in lower Michigan around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Males breed with many females. The females build the nest and raise the young on their own. Babies are born 3 inches long. Nests are hard to spot. They are the size of ½ a walnut and looks like a bump on a branch. Adult males leave Michigan before Labor Day and females late September, early October. The average life span is 3-4 years. They weigh 2.3 grams, the weight of a penny. They can travel 36,000 miles in migration to Central America.

Direct nest predators include squirrels, racoons, the Blue Jay, hawks and the Common Grackle. Infrequent predators include the Praying Mantis, spider webs, outdoor cats.

Gardens to attract them will include mainly tubular flowers, and can include:

- Virginia Bluebells
- Butterfly Milkweed
- Blue Verbena
- Obedient Plant
- Turtlehead
- Penstemons
- Wild Bergamot
- Bee Balm
- Jewelweed
- Trumpet Vine
- Coral Honeysuckle
- Hosta
- Great Lobelia
- Wild Columbine
- Butterfly Bush

To feed hummingbirds use 4 parts water and 1 part sugar. Change it two times a week and scrub mold. Use a red feeder to attract them, but don't use red food coloring.