



## 2023-2024 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)



The Annual Christmas party was a great success. Thank you Don Caley and Carol Hilf.



**SOMETIMES A TREE  
TELLS YOU MORE  
THAN CAN BE READ  
IN BOOKS.**

C. G. Jung (1875 - 1961)

*Milford Garden Club Established 1948*

*A member of the Michigan Division*

# January 2024 Newsletter



## President's Report

### Susan Absher

A special thanks goes out to Carol Hilf and Don Caley for putting on a fabulous Holiday Party. The food was great, and there was plenty of it. As a Polish vegetarian, I had to pass on the Golumpki (stuffed cabbage) and the kielbasa dressed in Kapusta (sauerkraut). The band was an unexpected treat. I was led into thinking we'd all be singing holiday carols and such. What a surprise! I was told that the dancing was a "first" at a Milford Garden Club Holiday Party, so congratulations to Carol and Don for making that distinction.

Another thank you goes out to members who brought in those tasty confections for our dessert table: Nancy Nordin, Pat Coppersmith, Denise Tyler, Cindy Bauman, and Jackie Swenson.

By the time you receive the Newsletter, it will be January 2024. Yikes! Despite losing members to the warmer climates, there are many of us who face the cold blustery Michigan weather. Tea Time will still be on the calendar for January and February. Gathering with members will warm our hearts and souls while others who have taken off for Florida and the like, will have the hot sun to warm their toes.

Keep Lisa Hill informed of any events taking place this winter that might make for a great field trip.



*Happy New Year!*



## Lee House Fundraiser



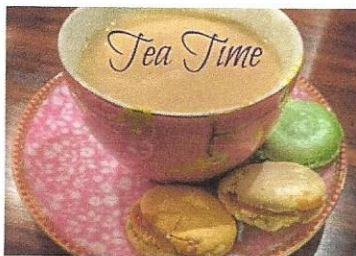
This year the Garden Club donated \$476.00 (maybe a record) to the Lee Home. Due to the generosity of our members, they will be able to enhance the lives of the residents. There are currently 7 residents living in the home. One of them has been there since it was opened 46 years ago and another's mother originally set up the home for her challenged daughter to have a place to live after their passing. They plan on spending some of the money on a field trip to Frankenmuth, when the residents heard that they got all excited. They will also plan some other outings closer to home. I was treated to a tour of this lovely old home and was impressed. It is decorated in a traditional Victorian décor and is in very good shape. The residents and staff send a hearty thank you to the members of the Milford Garden Club.

Diane DeVincent



## Tea Time

Tea Time will be January 25, @ noon. Meet at Stella's Table, 340 Town Center Blvd, White Lake. If you plan to attend please let Susan Absher know.



## Say Hello to our newest member

Isabelle Davis

Milford, MI 48380

## From the Editor



Thank you everyone who sent me regular content and interesting contributions in a timely manner. Please send anything other members would find interesting. Your input makes these pages more relevant to all MGC members. Please send your contributions to: [jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com)

## Help Native Bees find Shelter this Winter!

We love our local pollinators and yet don't often think about those that don't live in hives. Many, such as newly mated bumblebee queens, sweat bees and dwarf carpenter bees don't leave us in the winter, but



live under leaves or in underground nests. We can help our native bees survive. As you clean up your garden, you can create nesting and overwintering sites by leaving leaves, decaying plants and logs. If perennial stems are left a foot tall, bees can nest in their cavities. Let your new perennials grow around these stems to give the new bees a chance to hatch.

Lee Doyle



## Winter Garden Tips for Zone 5 & 6

- Mulch to protect from frost heave
- Snow is a good insulator
- Don't worry about snow on branches
- Please DON'T pass the salt!

Don't fret over your outside plants during the winter season. Plants from climates with cold winters have evolved to survive winter by going dormant.

That means not just dropping leaves and slowing or stopping growth, but also reducing the amount of water in branches and root tissues. The lower concentration of water in a plant's tissue acts like a natural antifreeze.





## Around Town and Beyond

**Michigan State Extension** has several online programs scheduled for January 2024. For more information or to register for any of these programs go to [msu.news@msu.edu](mailto:msu.news@msu.edu)

**Jan 8 - 29 Plant Quest** Join Michigan State University Extension in hosting nationally known experts to explore a vast selection of native plants for the residential landscape, exciting new plants, trees and shrubs for the forward-thinking gardener, and show stopping plants that have leaves that will light up your landscape. The sessions will meet every Monday during the four weeks.

**January 31 Pruning workshop** MSU will lead an on-line workshop that is designed to help participants learn best practices for pruning and the proper equipment it takes for each job. Participants will be able to ask questions and interact with the instructor.

**Foundations of GARDENING**

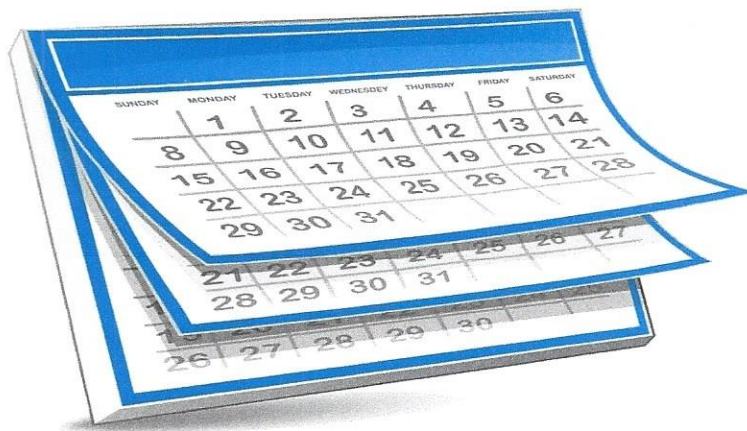
Foundations of Gardening is a 10-week online certificate course that includes weekly webinars delivered by MSU Extension horticulture experts and learning modules with readings, videos and interactive activities.

**Winter session 2024**  
February 1-April 11  
Thursday evenings  
6-8:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$350  
Accepting scholarship applications  
November 1-30  
Registration begins  
December 7, 2023

**English Gardens**  
Make Life Beautiful

House Plant Hoopla, January 27-28 10am to 5 pm, All locations. A weekend full of House Plant education, styling tips, deals and more! Check the English Gardens website for more information.

January 25 - February 22, 2024  
Master Rain Garden Training Program. For information contact Jacy Garrison at [rainsmart@therouge.org](mailto:rainsmart@therouge.org)



## Dates to Remember

January 25, Tea Time

January 26, February Newsletter Deadline

March 14, General Membership Meeting

March 18, Board Meeting

April 11, General Membership Meeting

April 15, Board Meeting

April 17, Daffodil Luncheon

May 9, General Membership Meeting

May 18 & 19, WNFGA National Meeting, Hershey, PA

May 20, Board Meeting

June 1, Annual Plant Sale

June 13, General Membership Meeting

June 21 & 22, Annual Garden Walk

September 25, Fall Division Council Meeting



Goldner Walsh has several workshops scheduled for January. For more details and to register go to: [goldnerwalsh.com](http://goldnerwalsh.com)

**January 6** Taking Care of Topicals

**January 13** Carnivorous Terrarium Building

**January 20** Tropical Terrarium Building

**January 27** Epiphyte Mounting



# grow

## 2023 - 2024 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: Diane DeVincent & Karol LaHaie

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

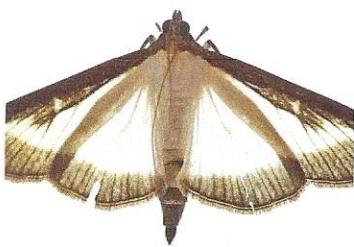
Tea Time Group: Mary McFarland

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)



Adult box tree moths

## In The Garden

If you have seen anything in your garden or when wandering that you think would delight other gardeners please send pictures and description to me at: [Jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com](mailto:Jacquelyn.swenson@gmail.com)



This adorable Christmas Gnome has been greeting guests on Susan Abshur's porch through the Holidays. Susan made him at a workshop put on by Willow Nursery in Northville.



This is Susan Absher's After Christmas Tree. Susan stops at a nursery in Germantown, Wisconsin to pick up a tree every year. The German owner flocks real trees with a preservative. It will last until Easter without water.

Last years After Christmas tree dressed for Easter



The box tree moth quarantine has been extended to include Oakland and 11 other counties in Michigan.

In May 2021, the USDA announced the discovery of box tree moth in the continental U.S. and initiated efforts to control them. Infested boxwood shrub shipments reached six states, including Michigan. Following the 2022 detection the first quarantine zone was established in Michigan.

Homeowners should be aware of their location with respect to the quarantine zone. If you have boxwoods in your landscape MSU Extension encourages homeowners to monitor for infestations. Utilizing preventative sprays is a good way to reduce the likelihood of an infestation.

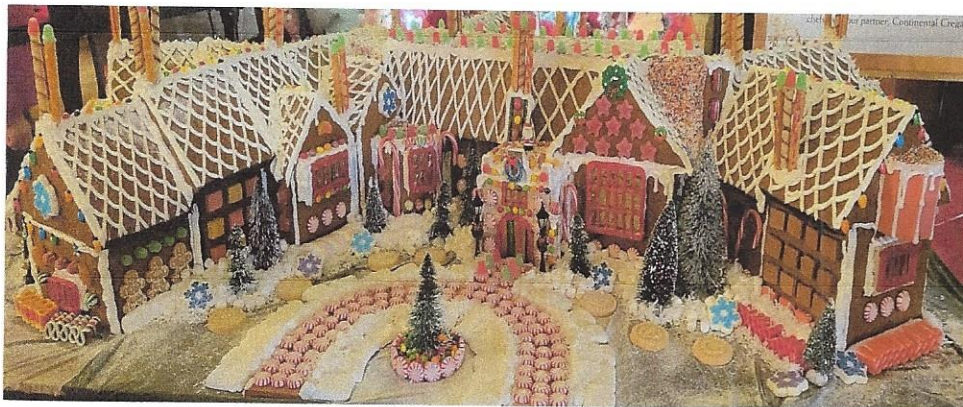
For more information visit <https://extension.msu.edu>



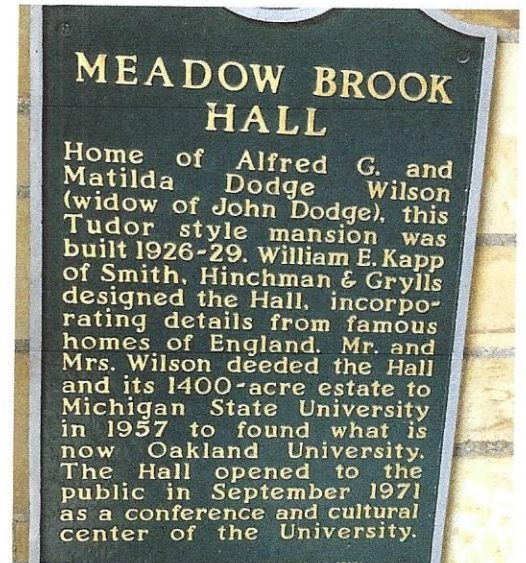
# Christmas at Meadowbrook Hall

In early December we had the pleasure of visiting the stunning Meadow Brook Hall in all its Christmas splendor. The self-guided tour was ideal as our large group of 18 enjoyed the luxury of touring the home at their own pace. If you are a fan of history, architecture or design then the time spent here was an absolute treat and well worth the drive!

Photos by Susan Absher and Jackie Swenson



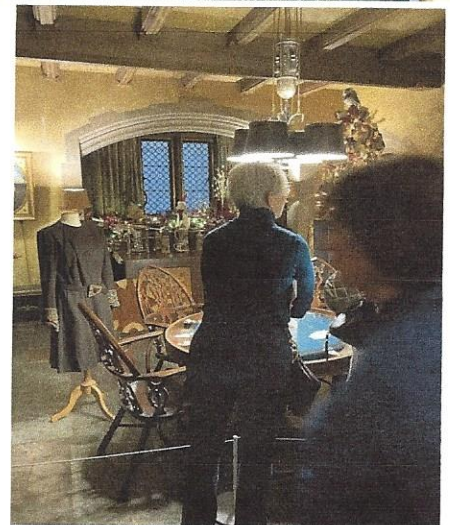
This is an amazing Gingerbread replica of Meadow Brook Hall.



One of MANY Trees on display



Standing Guard



Orientation - then we scattered !



The dinning room set up for tea



No trip to an historic site is complete without time in the gift shop!



## Scandinavian Kringler

Heat oven to 350 F

1 C unbleached flour

1/2 C butter chilled

2 T ice water

In small bowl, add flour and butter. Using a pastry blender, cut the butter into flour until particles are the size of small peas. Sprinkle with water, 1 T at a time until soft dough forms. Divide dough in half. On ungreased cookie sheet, press each half into 12 X 3 strip.

1/2 C water

1/2 C butter

1 C unbleached flour

3 eggs

1/2 t almond extract

In a medium saucepan, heat water and butter to boiling. Remove from heat: immediately stir in 1 C flour until smooth. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating until smooth after each addition. Stir in almond extract. Spoon 1/2 of the batter over each crust, spreading to within 3/4 inch from edges. Bake at 350 F for 50 - 60 minutes or until golden brown and puffy. Immediately remove from pan onto cooling rack. Note: topping will shrink and fall.

1 C powdered sugar

1 T butter softened

1/2 t almond extract

2 - 3 T milk or cream

Sliced almonds or chopped nuts, if desired

In small bowl mix all frosting ingredients except nuts, until smooth. Spread on cooled Kringler. Sprinkle with nuts.

Cut each Kringler into serving slices.

