

TWIGS

The Garden Club of Greater Lansing Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'VE HAD ENOUGH COLD WEATHER!

We had a great meeting in January, lot's of information from Scott Durrett. The luncheon was wonderful! Thanks to Barbara Lowes, Joan Lenhard, Sue Kesti, Deb Albert and Cheryl Rogers.

February will bring a very interesting speaker. Jerrie Nichols of Mid-Michigan Bonsai Club will show us the basics. This is exciting. Learning how to shape and design a small tree, shrub etc.

Linda Norwood is Chairman of the Day with Ellen Bloomer as Luncheon Chair, Karilyn Mull, Ann Lenhard & Barbara Spottek as her helpers. Promises to be a great Soup and Salad Luncheon. The committee will bring the soup so please bring your favorite salad.

At 1:00 p.m. we will be making Valentines for our Veterans in the Saginaw Veterans Hospital. Time to get your crafting on! The veterans really appreciate being remembered.

Other news: Don't forget the Orchid Show at MSU on the 25&26 of February. Our very own Jenny Bond is one of the chairs! March 16-19 District IIB Flower Show at MSU Pavilion. Kathi Dominguez is still looking for hostesses. You can sign up at our next meeting. It's great fun to see the incredible creativity of our members.

As I stated at the last meeting we have started looking for officers to fill positions in our club.

Please think about it. I did have a couple of ladies volunteer to take over an officer position and head up a committee. Thank you so much! Ann Schoals-President

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!

EXCERPTS FROM JANUARY MEETING

Scott from Michigan Energy Options provided us with information to keep our homes safe and run efficiently. His talk covered lights, insulation, roofing, water and tankless heaters, furnaces and geothermal, windows, siding, and even new builds, the use of solar active and passive style. His information kept many of us taking notes on how to improve our home.

His office is in E Lansing. Scott mentioned he would be happy to answer further questions regarding energy.

Sue Kesti is gathering ideas for our upcoming year of meetings. If you have any ideas please be sure to contact Sue.

Discussion surrounding the Greens Market was to gather info so suggestions can be discussed as we move forward. We had a slight decline in our income. The cost of our storage unit has gone up. If you are aware of storage units in the area please check on prices. Joanne would be interested in comparing. Joan Lenhard

MEMBERSHIP DUES

It's that time of year ladies - time for those

pesky dues. Paying them in a timely manner will guarantee your contact information will be printed in the new Yearbook. Dues are \$26 for Regular Members, and \$36 for Associates, same as last year. Be sure to bring your checkbook to the next meeting. If you are not going to be at the February or March meeting send the check to Barb. Barbara Lowes, Treasurer

UPCOMING EVENTS

Orchid Show 2/23-24 Plant Soil Science Bldg.
Noon – 5:00 & 11:00-4:00.

Master Gardener 3/4-6/10 Mondays 5:30-9:30
at Ingham County Fairground Offices.

Horticulture Therapy Conference March 8th at
MSU Plant Soil Science Bldg. Be sure to
register early and get a break on the fees.

Garden Show and Exhibit at MSU Pavilion
3/14-3/17. Be sure to sign-up for hostessing.

HORTICULTURE

February is the grayest, longest shortest month of the year. We're still a month or so away from any signs of spring in the garden, so this is the time of year to keep ourselves going. Here are a few tips.

Treat yourself to early spring by bringing it indoors. The next time you're shopping, pick up a bunch of tulips or pussy willow branches or some other reminder of spring beauty. Go out in your own garden and cut branches to force indoors. Do anything to bring spring colors into your home.

On nice days you can prune some trees and shrubs. You can always cut out damaged branches. Prune as needed except for plants that flower on old stalks. Then wait until after the flowers are over to cut the stems. You can prune shrubs that flower on new stalks now.

Be sure you cleaned and sharpened all of your tools from last year so that they will be ready when you need them, hopefully soon.

Order any plants from your catalogs, but also use catalogs to choose plants you will want to

look for in local garden centers.

Check and recheck your plans and notes from last year. Readjust what you want to change further. Consider where new plants can fit into your gardens. Garden catalogs and publications are great ways to see successful texture and color combinations. Just remember that while the textures, sizes, colors and shapes of leaves go on throughout the growing season, perennials bloom for a limited time, so planning your color combinations and groupings will only work for plants that have the same season of bloom. Sometimes I think that we can plan too much and need to let the plants show us what we may need to adjust.

Look ahead to the March Home and Garden Show for your houseplants to exhibit and arrangements you have signed up to exhibit. Lovely or interesting houseplants and forced branches can be shown depending on how well they have gone through the winter and how well they are groomed. Arrangements need to be signed up for in advance due to limited space.

Most of all, enjoy that spring is coming as the days start to get a little longer. Let's hope for more sunshine too. Barb Amundsen

IMPORTANT DATES

2/4 Board Mtg

2/11 Garden Club Mtg

2/15 Articles for TWIGS

2/25-26 Orchid Show

3/16-19 District IIB Garden Show

CHRISTMAS TREE at TURNER DODGE

What a festive evening for the opening of the Festival of Trees at the historic Turner Dodge House. There were trees on all three floors including the front parlor as well as the mantle of the fireplace. Some folks were dressed formally and some were casual. The dining room table was tempting with many appetizers and sweets. Live music was on all floors and added to the atmosphere.



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Our GCGL tree highlighted the role of bees as pollinators. There were clear balls with bee stickers, pictures of flowers as ornaments, and small bottles of honey for ornaments. A bee "hotel" a book about bees and our pamphlets were under the lit tree. Thank you to Ann Schoals, Ronnie Poland, Jennie Bond, and Donna Craft who contributed to our tree. Sue Kesti

PLEASE SAVE. CUT AND POST BY YOUR COMPUTER

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