



# Charlevoix Gardener

## GARDENING WITH A NATIVE PALETTE

A Publication of the Charlevoix Area Garden Club, Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. & National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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

Editor: Kathie Briggs

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### BOTANICAL ART



Doesn't it look like our "Pink Showy Lady Slipper"? It's actually a GLASS sculpture that is part of the Hans Godo Frabel exhibit "Reflections in Glass" that is now appearing at the McKee Botanical Gardens in Vero Beach, FL. On exhibit are about twenty endangered orchid species (such as the one above) as well as a plethora of interesting "human" figures that have been placed in the water features in the gardens. It is an AWESOME exhibit and worth sharing with you! Here is one of the "human" figures in the "Balancing" series:



*Wish you were here! -- Mary Watson Chavez*

### 2009 CAGC COOKBOOK NEEDS YOU!

#### Second Call!

You are invited to submit your favorite **recipes (as many as you'd like)** and personal comments about those recipes for publication in the very first CAGC cookbook, *(Cooking with a Native Palette)* coming out in late spring!



You may submit your recipe(s) by going to the website ([www.cookbookpublishers.com](http://www.cookbookpublishers.com)) or by filling out the paper forms available by contacting Peggy Brennan.

If you plan on using the website here are the steps that you must follow:

1. Once at the website, scroll down to the link to "utypeitonline".
2. On the next screen go immediately to the "login" at the top right corner.
3. Enter the username: CAGCcookbook.
4. Enter the password: yummy.
5. Click on "add a recipe".
6. Fill in the form on the screen and don't forget to add your "personal" notes! They are what will make this cookbook a success! Then click "continue".
7. The next screen is for "ingredients"; fill in one ingredient at a time then click "add". When you have listed all the ingredients you will add the directions.

*Editor's note: entering recipes on the website is fast and fun and you can even preview other members' entries.*

*Submitted by the Cookbook Committee*

## IN MEMORIUM Barbara MacArthur

Our wonderful and dear mother passed away early this morning, Sunday, December 14 after a courageous battle with a rare form of leukemia. As was her typical fashion, she was more concerned about those she left behind than her own passing. We, her family, will miss her more than words can say. She was deeply loved by many and we were all so fortunate to have her in our lives. Thank you for your support, prayers and, encouragement throughout this difficult time.

*Laurie MacArthur, on behalf of our entire family*

## REMEMBERING BARBARA



When I think about Barbara MacArthur I think of the quintessential "top shelf" human being! Her first love was her family and extended family. She was so gracious that when you were in her presence she made you feel as if you were a part of that family.

Barbara was an active member of our Garden Club in many respects. As the Chair of the Conservation Committee for 25 years, she made sure that we had a program or two on conservation-related topics each year and, as an ardent writer, she was a regular contributor to the Club's Newsletter. As an activist, she regularly attended City of Charlevoix meetings; she advocated reducing the number of billboards along our highways; and she played an important role in having a sign ordinance in Charlevoix. She reached beyond our "borders" and was involved in other important issues as well. Conservation was one of her passions, and through her advocacy, enthusiasm, and dedication, she made an impact on our club, our community as well as our state.

Her warmth and honesty of character make her greatly missed by us all.

*Submitted by Mary Watson-Chavez, President*

## TRIBUTE TO OUR "SWAN"



Take another look at the CAGC 2009 Yearbook, for it is the last in a series of wonderful works by Patti Aikin! She has always done an outstanding job, but this year's is extraordinary! She knew it would be her last and as such it is her "masterpiece" for sure!

Several changes were suggested and executed by Patti. How many did you recognize?

1. The size has changed to make reading and printing much easier and economical.
2. Membership data is in the MIDDLE and is printed on colored paper making it easier to find.
3. Organizational matters are in front of the book before the membership pages.
4. The club operations and program info follow the membership pages making it easier to find.
5. The cover is laminated keeping it clean for years to come!
6. Look for drawings of native plants throughout the book.
7. Details on when our community projects and gardens became "ours" -- (who was instrumental in establishing it and date established).
8. Details on events and an extended list of web sites to visit.
9. On the back cover you will find a "swan singing" and that is evidence that this was Patti's SWAN SONG!

THANK YOU, Patti, for a wonderful yearbook! --

*Submitted by Mary Watson-Chavez, President*

## DONATIONS

Memorial Garden by Mary Watson-Chavez:

*In memory of Jeff Gowdy*

*In memory of Randy Silver*

*In memory of Bill Heugh*

*In memory of Patsy Ramsey*

*In memory of Barbara MacArthur*

*In memory of Mary Pew*

*In memory of John Riecker*

CCCF endowment fund (CAGC) by Rhea and Michael Dow

*We thank you for your donations.*

## ANOTHER SWAN SONG



How does it go? "Two swans a swimming"? 2009 ended yet another era for the Garden Club; when the December 2008 Newsletter went to press it would be the last one edited by Past President Joan Nowak. All

in all, she put the Newsletter together for three years (a club record). But that's not the only record Joan set, her Newsletters were the recipients of the State and National Garden Club awards for clubs with over one hundred members. Way to go, Joan!

It was Joan's imagination that led to the newsletter being put on our Club's website, and with the help of her son it became a fait accompli. Our members can now go to the website and read past issues at their leisure - a stunning feat!

We will surely miss her encouraging words to submit an article or two for each newsletter! Joan is an expert in editing and proofreading. She has the knack for coming up with just the right words for every occasion. We sincerely hope that she'll continue to post articles in the 2009 Newsletters even if she is not at the "helm" anymore. THANK YOU, Joan for a job well done!

*Submitted by Mary Watson-Chavez, President*

## NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY

Each year the Book Review & Community Education Committee researches and purchases "gardening" books, which are donated the library. The 2008 donations are listed below. We hope you will "check them out" and enjoy the selections.

*Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan.* Steiner. c2006

*Essential Gardener.* Derek Fell c1990.

*Weekender's Gardening Manual.* Patricia Taylor. c1989.

*Premium Plants: Perennials for the Great Lakes States.* David MacKenzie. c2001.

*Carrots Love Tomatoes.* Louise Riotte. c1998.

*Green American Magazine.*

*Self Taught Gardener.* Sydney Eddison. c1998.

*Garden Color Book.* Paul Williams. c2000.

*Time in a Garden.* Mary Agria. c2006.

*Gardening with Perennials; creating beautiful flower gardens for every part of your yard.* Fern Bradley. c2000.

*Orchids of the Western Great Lakes Region.* Frederick Case. C1987.

*Submitted by Berta Molasky, Chair*

## FLORAL DESIGN GROUP MEETS AT MARVIN'S GARDENS



The Floral Design Study Group's December meeting was held at Marvin's Gardens where Debbie, their resident designer, was on hand to assist members with creating holiday arrangements.

Clockwise from top: "The Design Group" (Ingrid Nedwick brought her daughter-in-law, Meghan Nedwick who was visiting from Alaska.) Ingrid's Arrangement, Marge McGoff with Joan Nowak's Arrangement, Patti Aikin's arrangement.



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD COMMENTS FROM OUR RECIPIENTS

*Dear Members of the Garden Club,*

*We all know that we reap what we sow (and I also like to say we sew what we rip)... I was absolutely overwhelmed when I heard my name read as a life member. Actually I almost soiled my plants!!! I feel like I have been given so much more from the garden club than I can possibly give back. In the process of keeping Charlevoix beautiful, you have kept my life beautiful, full of many laughs, and lunches, and great friendships. Thank you so very much!*

*Love, Barb Clagett*

*Dear Garden Club Members,*

*It was a real thrill and honor to be named a CAGC Life Member this year. With so many talented and hard working members I never thought that I would ever even be nominated for the award, let alone receive it.*

*Again, thank you all so much. It is truly a joy to be part of this outstanding organization."*

*- Nancy Cleland*

## WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Our gardens can look a bit achromatic in the winter but winter has a beauty of its own as you can see from this photograph of winter visitor to Mary Chavez's garden.

Just for fun we are inviting members to submit their favorite winter photograph. Each month a photograph will be published in the newsletter. The contest will end when the first photograph of something blooming in 2009 in the Charlevoix area is received.

Send your digital photograph to [kathie@kathiebriggs.com](mailto:kathie@kathiebriggs.com) or mail your photo to: Kathie Briggs, 13595 Phelps Road, Charlevoix MI 49720



NEXT MEETING  
LAWN, LUSCIOUS LAWN  
FEBRUARY 10 2009  
1:00 p.m.



Does all this snow make you dream of a green, soft and lush lawn next summer? At our next meeting **Ben Barlett** from the **MSU Extension Service** will give us details about exactly how to achieve that dream in an eco-friendly way. Everything from preparation, planting, over-seeding, aerating, fertilizing, etc. will be discussed. You will want to run barefoot through the grass after this one. **We look forward to seeing you at the Library.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Early January: Charlevoix Conservation District  
MSU Shrub/Tree and Native Plants catalog sent

January 13 *Honey I Shrank the Lawn* Dr. David Michener, U of M, [burroakgardenclub@yahoo.org](mailto:burroakgardenclub@yahoo.org)

February 5-8 District IV "A Tropical Paradise"  
West Michigan Home & Garden Show, De Vos Place, Grand Rapids

February 21 *Know & Grow Seminar* Dow Gardens, Midland

FLORAL DESIGN GROUP MEETING  
TUESDAY, January 20, 2009, 1:00 at the Library

Remember the meeting date has changed to Tuesday and watch for an email announcing the new year's theme and the lesson for January. If you're not currently a member of the design group but would like to join us this month to try out a lesson call Marge McGoff at 547-5421 for more information.

*Submitted by Marge McGoff, Chair*