



# Charlevoix Area Garden Club

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: Sarah Leonard

April 2016

## Community Garden Spotlight



### Butterfly Garden



The creation of the Butterfly Garden at the former Charlevoix Middle School was a collaboration which began with the joint effort of the school principal, Mr. Keith Haske, a group of core garden club members, and a group of students in the Kiwanis sponsored Builders Club. Working with the students we moved along swiftly after a ground breaking ceremony on May 1, 2004. The entire project was based on teaching the children by sharing the experience of preparing the land, choosing the proper plants to attract, host and feed the butterflies while also considering their life cycle. It was a place of enjoyment and was used for Science and Art Projects by several teachers.

In 2013 the school district closed the school and we downsized the gardens eliminating two entire sections. We now get occasional help from students attending Recovery High School and we hope it is a good experience for them. Although smaller in size, we continue to concentrate on a welcoming habitat for Butterflies especially the Monarch. This year we applied for and will be certified as a "Monarch Waystation" and will be named and recognized as "Monarch Haven". There are several further requirements to fulfill this certification, therefore we invite you to join us any Thursday morning during gardening season as we continue to develop and beautify this lovely spot in our community.



-Submitted by Mary Kengle

## Charlevoix: Where Magic Happens



### Garden Walk 2016

There is still time to be part of our biggest annual fundraiser. Wednesday, July 13th is the day we make garden magic! Call Joyce Herbert to sign up to be a Hostess or Docent. Call Charlotte Koger or Mary Lynn Heid to see what else needs to be done. Your help is needed to make this year's event truly magical!

-Submitted by Mary Lynn Heid

### Flower Show

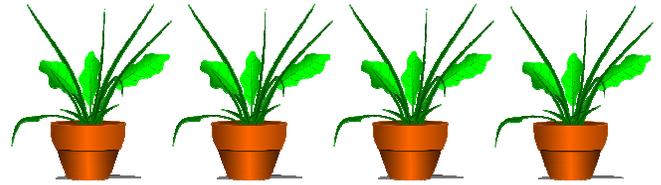
#### The Flower Show Schedules are Ready

Months and months of hard work have resulted in the production of a beautiful flower show schedule. Patti Aikin has completed the final artistic work and the schedule is ready for distribution at the April meeting for each and every one of our members who wish to participate in the flower show.

The schedule has all the information you will need to enter the horticulture and/or design sections of the flower show, Charlevoix: Where Magic Happens. Please take your copy, read it carefully and make decisions on where you can best participate. We will have the schedules available at the May meeting also for those who aren't able to make the April meeting.

We look forward to having a large percentage of our club participating in the show. Make note of the chairs of both design and horticulture and ask these gals your questions or get advice on how you can best participate.

-Submitted by Audrey Etienne, General Chair



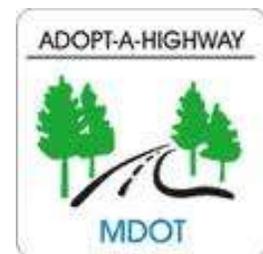
## CAGC Annual Plant Sale Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

The 2016 Plant Sale is coming soon. We have reserved Ferry Beach again this year so there will be plenty of room at that location to fill up with plants.

We need your help in getting plants to sell. In the past several years we have had over 400 plants donated by garden club members and friends. We know you will come through again with your potted plants this year.

As soon as you see some green sprouting through the ground in your flower beds, start thinking about where your perennials are too crowded. Your entire garden benefits from giving them room to grow and eliminating competition for your soil's nutrients. Now is also a great time to amend your soil with compost, either homemade or purchased. After that you'll be ready to pot the excess plant material and/or make room for the new ones you will purchase at our plant sale. We have lots of pots, if you need some call Cecilia Bustos at 636-295-0789.

-Submitted by Sue Wilson



### Adopt-A-Highway

The spring Adopt-A-Highway pick-up will be Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 9:00 am at the Congregational Church at the corner of Park and State Street for the required safety video. Wear sturdy waterproof shoes and bring gloves.

Rain date is Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, same time, same place.

-Submitted by Carrie Minch

April 2016



## April Meeting

April 12, 2016

1:00 PM

**Fungi Aren't Just for Eating**

Marilynn Smith, "the Mushroom Lady", will discuss the role of fungi in our ecosystem and how they impact our gardening.

## Conservation Hint



*From CAGC March Meeting*

We were most fortunate to have Cyndi Bobier-Roach, founder and co-owner of the Butterfly House and Bug Zoo (in Williamsburg, MI), as our speaker for our March meeting.

Cyndi spoke about the danger of the powerful neonicotinoid pesticides and their effects on common pollinators (bees, butterflies, and bats) and on all of us and our environment. Since neonics are neurological inhibitors, they may be the cause of the increase in autism and may have other frightening effects as well. Neonics affect our food supply and entire ecosystems from humankind to birds, frogs and earthworms, for years, once they are in our soil and water. Since many floral suppliers use seeds or plants sprayed with neonics, Cyndi suggests purchasing from places such as Mischel's Greenhouse\* in Williamsburg, which carries neonic free plants.

Cyndi also recommends planting organic native plants that attract and feed caterpillars and provide pollen and nectar for adult bees and butterflies. Suggestions include wild strawberry, Canada anemones, penstemon, shrubby cinquefoil, common and swamp mildweed, yellow and purple coneflowers, spotted bee balm, blue lobelia, goldenrod, New England asters. Native trees and shrubs to plant include black cherry, chokecherry, wild plums, blueberry, blackberry, juneberry, sumac, willows.

Butterflies also like some consistent wet areas for "puddling" where they seek out soil minerals. Cyndi says it is best to plant flowers of different heights and to try to have plantings extending over the three seasons so there is a host of plants for larva and feeder plants for adults to get nectar.

\*Mischel's Greenhouses, Ltd., 11660 Arrowhead Dr., Williamsburg, MI. 800-830-8447  
<http://www.mischelsgreenhouses.com/>

## May Meeting

May 10, 2016

1:00 PM

**Floral Design**



CAGC Member, Flower Show Judge and International Flower Arranger, Marge McGoff, will review the Flower Show Schedule with special emphasis on design classes.



## From our President...

I have been watching the Dairy Grill as we know their opening really signals spring has arrived (although they opened their doors to more winter!). Our winter travelers will be starting to return and our club's busy season will be beginning soon.

Our club activities depend on successful fund raising activities so with the plant sale coming up in May and the garden walk in July, committees are getting these functions organized and will depend on the support and participation of our members to succeed.

I ask each of you to help where you can, working a shift at the plant sale, being a docent at the garden walk, selling tickets or buying plants for your own garden.

Working together we can make this another successful year for our fundraising and our civic gardens.

Thank you all,

Carolyn Navarre



## ***Invasive Species Website***

"Michigan Agencies Create Website to Aid in Invasive Species Management"

"There's a new way to help identify and manage invasive species in Michigan. It's a new website put together by the departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Quality and Agriculture & Rural Development. The site combines each department's online resources involving the management of invasive plants, animals and insects. It describes simple steps everyone can take to avoid spreading the species, like removing seeds and mud from shoes, gear and pets. The site also has pictures and descriptions to help people identify invasive species, as well as information on state and federal laws created to stop their spread, like plants and animals that are prohibited from being sold or possessed in Michigan."

Link to the website:

<http://www.michigan.gov/invasives>

Story from 9 and 10 News website, link:

<http://www.9and10news.com/story/31491396/michigan-agencies-create-website-to-aid-in-invasive-species-management>

-Submitted by Rhea Dow



## ***Just for fun...***

"Everything about butterflies is beautiful. Even naming them seems to have slightly pixilated many a solemn lexicographer: *papillon* in French, *mariposa* in Spanish, *farfalla* in Italian, *schmetterling* in German, *sommerflugl* in Danish. And in English, though the dictionary insists it comes from the Old English, *butterfléoge*, most of us suspect that *butterfly* is just a whimsical way of saying *flutter by*."

From Smithsonian Magazine, August 1995

-Submitted by Carrie Minch

## ***DONATIONS***

A donation was received from Patty Aiken "to honor the memory of Gary Schmidtke and his help in creating Room IV of the Depot Heritage Garden".



## ***May Newsletter Deadline***

*Submission deadline for the May issue of the CAGC newsletter is April 26th.*

*Send your information and articles to:*

[sawleonard@gmail.com](mailto:sawleonard@gmail.com)