



Charlevoix Area Garden Club

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Editor: Sarah Leonard

October 2016

Community Garden Spotlight Post Office Garden



Situated on busy Highway 66, the Post Office Garden is one of the most viewed of our community gardens. In 2000, the initial year for CAGC involvement in this garden, chairperson Christel Gibbons and her crew planted perennials from their own gardens, along with 200 daffodil bulbs. They inherited a space that was filled with day lilies (most soon removed), a weeping birch tree (still there today), a bank of "shrubus unknownus", and very poor soil infiltrated with construction debris and salt. Over time the soil has been amended and the non-blooming, water and sun-robbing shrubs replaced by flowers and junipers. Perennials bloom all season, starting in late spring with sweet woodruff, lupines, and continuing on with iris, daisies, purple cone flowers, day lilies, hydrangea, hollyhocks, and finally Rudbeckia. The knockout rosebush continues to bloom and spread every year. The alliums that grow from bulbs we plant from the Bulb Sale are an annual feature 

and it is fun to hear the comments from the Post Office patrons about the "blue flowers." (We spray paint them after their blooms have faded.) Brightly colored geraniums planted along the sidewalk are strongly visible from the highway.

It is a joy taking care of the plantings here, and we receive many compliments during our work times from people visiting the Post Office who appreciate the beauty of the flowers in this garden.

-Submitted by Sue Wilson

Welcome New Member



Rhea Dow with Celia Sinclair

Celia Sinclair was born and raised near Detroit. She and her husband Jeff have lived in Ann Arbor, Barcelona (Spain), San Francisco, Washington D.C. and Cleveland. They spent most of their married and family years in Cleveland where they raised a son and a daughter. They now have a year-round home on Boyne City Road. Celia studied art history in college but took additional courses in computers and engineering which resulted in a job at Chrysler and later a computer firm. She is now a novice gardener and looks forward to enhancing her gardening skills. Celia was sponsored by Rhea Dow.

Welcome Celia!



October Meeting

October 11, 2016

12:00 PM (note time change)

Pot Luck Luncheon

See item below for more October meeting information. Please bring a dish to share and your own plate, cup, and flatware.



November Meeting

November 8, 2016

1:00 p.m. (note location below)

Location: Bridge Street Blooms
Friendship and Floral Design

Instead of evergreens, we will make holiday decorations using boxwood. Bring enhancements from home. We will provide boxwood and some mini decorations. Thanks to Chris Helstrom for allowing us to meet at Bridge Street Blooms!

Program for October meeting will be at 6:30 pm at the library.

Along with Lake Charlevoix Association, we are hosting Professor Alan Steinman, Director of Annis Water Resources Institute at Grand Valley State University.

He will discuss stressors to the Great Lakes, consequences and possible solutions.



CAGC Annual Plant Sale

We've had several requests to dig plants for the 2017 plant sale; however, we are running short on pots. If you have any extra pots, please contact Janet Gilbert by email at janet.gilbert@sbcglobal.net or phone [231-547-0928](tel:231-547-0928). We will arrange to pick up the pots.

-Submitted by Janet Gilbert



Message from Our President

The trees are finally beginning to show fall colors and many of us are putting our own and the civic gardens we work on to bed for the winter. Our October meeting is now the month for our Annual Meeting with election of officers, presentation of the budget and awarding of MGC Life Membership recognition. Nominations from the floor for the CAGC officers and directors will be open if anyone wants to nominate someone (with their permission) to add to the slate of officers and directors presented by the Nominating Committee (see list below).

The potluck lunch is always a great meeting with members bringing a favorite dish to share. We will have a Business Meeting but a reminder that there will not be a speaker at the meeting. We will meet at the library that evening at 6:30 to hear a speaker that we are co-sponsoring with the Lake Charlevoix Association. I hope we can have a good turnout to support this program.

-Submitted by Carolyn Navarre

2017 Proposed Slate of Officers

Carolyn Navarre, President
Diane McMahon, 1st Vice President
Joan Nowak, 2nd Vice President
Nancy Cleland, Recording Secretary (6 mos)
Kathy Tepper, Treasurer
Sandy LaLonde, Director
Kris Jones, Director
Joanne Hawkins, Director



Adopt-A-Highway

Our fall pickup finally happened on Friday, September 30th, our rainy day optional date. With only 5 hardy souls (see photo) we gathered 14 bags of litter in 10 woman hours. Some of our more interesting finds included an upholstered chair cushion and a Dora the Explorer potty chair (in 4 parts). Thanks to all who pitched in!



Carrie Minch, Janet Gilbert, Cecelia Bustos, Cindy Vermeesch, Sarah Leonard.

Purple asters and brilliant red highbush cranberries celebrated our end of season. And inspiration peered from the rocky Lake Michigan shoreline in the form of tiny spruce trees growing with determination.

-Submitted by Carrie Minch



November Newsletter Deadline

Submission deadline for the November issue of the CAGC newsletter is October 26th.

Send your information and articles to:
sawleonard@gmail.com.



Conservation News

"Fall migration is an energetically expensive task even for those birds traveling within the United States. Just as we humans require refueling stations for our cars (and stomachs) during trips to the cider mill, birds require their own refueling stations to replenish energy reserves. A fate much worse than a stalled car or a rumbling tummy, birds that fail to find enough food during migration may never reach their destination.

Creating a refueling station means creating healthy habitat that includes native plants, particularly those that produce fall (and spring) berries that are high in nutrients. Berries contain fats, carbohydrates, and proteins, which are all necessary nutrients for migrating birds. However, fat provides the best source of fuel as it releases twice the amount of energy per gram as other nutrients. Michigan native plants that produce berries high in fat include spicebush, downy arrowwood, silky dogwood, and Virginia creeper. By including a variety of berry-producing shrubs and vines in your refueling station, you can provide a range of nutrients at different periods of time to support many migrant songbirds."

Excerpt from "Jack Pine Warbler", Sept./Oct. 2016
-Submitted by Carrie Minch



Bulb Sale at Applefest Set-Up Help Needed

In the past we had a group of husbands who "helped" (actually they did all the work) in getting our 10 x 20 tent erected for our booth at AppleFest. They did a marvelous job, but as fate would have it, they are not available this year due to absence or injuries. **WE ARE IN DIRE NEED OF MEN TO HELP US OUT!**

We have few male members and are counting on them, also, but if there are others who can muster at **NOON on Thursday, October 13 at East Park**, we would truly be beholden. The tent is classified as being an "easy-up", but we still need help because of its size and weight!

Please reply to alphafever68@gmail.com (Mary Chavez) as soon as possible.

-Submitted by Mary Chavez



December Meeting and Luncheon Invitation

The annual holiday luncheon and officer installation is Tuesday, December 13th at Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant.

Social time begins at 11:30 a.m.

lunch will be served at noon.

A sign-up sheet will be e-mailed to each member soon.

Please return sheet with lunch selection and check at the CAGC November meeting or mail to:

Shirley Polakowski

301 Mason Street

Charlevoix, MI 49720

Please mail by November 18th!

Contact Anne Golski with questions at [231-675-2164](tel:231-675-2164)

Ways and Means Committee



We received our order for the Joyce Chen Unlimited scissors (the yellow ones) just in time for AppleFest! The price went up! We still have EIGHT pairs that were purchased a year ago at a much better price! **The bottom line is that I will bring the EIGHT pairs for \$25 to the November CAGC meeting!**

The new ones will be marked at \$30!

-Submitted by Mary Watson-Chavez



Flower Show 2016 News

Kathie Briggs posted our Flower Show Designs -- blue ribbons only -- on her blog wordpress. She wants all members to know about the posting and how to access it on the CAGC blog:

<https://cagcdesign.wordpress.com>.