

# *The Meridian Gardener*



Black Eyed Susan's . . . . . photo by sue wittick

August 2017



VOLUME Eight

The official publication of Meridian Garden Club, Inc.  
Member of Michigan, Garden Clubs, Inc., Central Region garden clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc





# The Meridian Gardener



Newsletter of the Meridian Garden Club, Inc.

Editor: Susan Kropschot

Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., Central Region Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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Website - [meridiangardenclub.weebly.com](http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub](http://www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub)

## A Call For All Hands On Deck!

**Jodie Szalankiewicz**

On October 11th, Meridian Garden Club will have the honor of hosting the Fall District IIB Meeting at the Eagle Eye Banquet Center.

We want this meeting to be remembered as one of the best and we need your help to do that. There are a number of jobs to be done that day, both sitting and somewhat active positions. Everyone attending must pay the registration fee of \$30, for which you will receive a continental breakfast, delicious lunch (gluten free and vegetarian selections are available) and an afternoon snack. The fee also includes two fascinating programs. In your free time bid on silent auction items and shop the numerous vendors.

If you haven't already signed up to help you may do so at the September 18th regular meeting. Please be prepared to pay your registration fee on that day as well.

As you know, your club won the first ever "Garden Club of the Year" Award for a large club, so we have a reputation to uphold. The new State President, Carol Brodbeck, and her 1st VP, Janet Hickman, will be in attendance and will assist with the meeting. Let's show them what we've got!

## Tropical Plants

From Michigan Gardening Magazine

Shared by Patty Cotter



For more information, click [here](#) .

## A Gardener's Journal



The summer, as usual, is flying by. Other than the need of rain it has been a lovely summer. I've only lived in my home for 2 years, but this summer my perennials have taken off. How is your garden growing? Have you learned any new tricks this summer? Any tips that you would like share? Did you tour any amazing gardens? If so, write a couple of paragraphs and email it to Sue Kropschot for an article in our newsletter. Let's share the wealth.

This is the time of year to start collecting things that you see laying about on the ground. I'm collecting at least 45 Norway Spruce pine cones for the swags we will be putting together at the November 30th workshop that will be led by our fearless lead designer, Lois Snover-Hanson. What are you collecting? Do you remember where that wild rose bush was blooming this spring? Go back to it in a month or two when the rose hips have turned red and cut some and bring them in for our workshop. Those tiny little wild rose hips look beautiful in arrangements, wreaths and swags. So while you're out walking keep in mind the things you will want to bring into your home this fall and beyond. (I am not encouraging trespassing)

Unfortunately, I was ill on the day that the Gallivanting Gardeners visited Lynn O'Shaughnessy's gardens and greenhouse, but I heard it was amazing. The group then went on to Specialty Growers in Howell. I was lucky enough to go back to Specialty Growers last week. Our Yearbook picked up another sponsor and I picked up another four plants lol.

Our first program, on September 18th, will be Lu Ann Meisner, Director of Meridian Township Department of Parks and Recreation. She will be sharing with us all of the exciting plans that the township has for the parks. The master plan is amazing and its execution over the next 4 to 5 years will only make the township a better place to live and visit. Don't forget, September is Invite a Guest Month!

*Jodie Szalankiewicz*

To learn more about the Meridian Garden Club and to access our meeting calendar, archived photos, previous newsletters, and minutes, take time to check out our Website: Click on [meridiangardenclub.weebly.com](http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com) Password: forgetmenot.

Click on [www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub](http://www.facebook.com/meridiangardenclub) to find us on Facebook:



**District IIB Fall Meeting**  
**October 11, 2017**  
**8:00am - 3:30pm**  
**"Autumn Treasures"**

**Where:** Eagle Eye Banquet Facility  
 1550 Chandler Road, Bath, MI 48808  
**When:** Registration 8:00am - 9:00am  
 Vendors and silent Auction 8:00am - 3:30pm  
**Program:** 9:00am - 3:00PM  
**Cost: \$30** - (includes continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack) **Check payable to Meridian Garden Club.**

**Morning Speaker:**

**The Second Century of the National Park Service**  
 David Goldstein, an urban fellow with the National Park Service, will talk to us about the Park system's Centennial and the work being done in the city of Detroit. David is an engaging and passionate speaker.

**Afternoon Speaker**

**Laughing with Ed**  
 Ed Kaiser and his wife, Sue, live in rural Williamston, Michigan. In the warmer months, they enjoy gardening, especially daylilies. Ed will share a humorous talk on his love of gardening and what he has learned along the way

*August and September Birthdays*



Linda Mogyoros	August 3
Emma Reardon	August 4
Marie Smith	August 6
Kathy Koryba	August 6
Diane Robinson	August 8
Toni Santone	August 9
Polly Murray	August 9
Delores Bouton	August 10
Judy Gomoluch	August 14
Paula Richardson	August 17
Cindy Chalou	August 30
Marilyn Higgins	September 9
Carole Armstrong	September 11
Kay Pyciak	September 14
Mary Ann Martin	September 18
Peggy Bryson	September 25



**FUNDRAISING NIGHT**

"We are planning another Panera fundraising night on September 26 from 4 to 8 PM. Flyers for the fundraiser are attached to this newsletter mailing, available on our website and Face book page, and will be distributed at our September 18 meeting. You may photocopy the flyer to give to family, friends and neighbors (or, point them to the flyer on our website), remembering that each person must present a flyer on paper or their cell phone when they place their order in order for our club to get credit for their purchase. Both take-out and eat-in orders qualify.

Panera's donation will be based on the amount of sales associated with these flyers. The more people who present flyers, the larger percentage of their purchases the Meridian Garden Club will receive. Panera's tiered donation scale:

- \* 20 - 30 flyers: 10% of net sales from redeemed flyers
- \* 31 - 49 flyers: 15% of net sales from redeemed flyers
- \* 50+ flyers: 20% of net sales from redeemed flyers

Remember: **"Tuesday, September 26, between 4 PM and 8 PM at the Okemos Panera restaurant on Central Park Drive!"**



**"Digging in the Dells"**



**Save the Date!**  
**Central Region Convention**  
**October 4-5, 2017**  
**Chula Vista Resort**  
**Wisconsin Dells**

Convention Brochure and Registration  
 Workshops, Seminars and Registration







Jodie Szalankiewicz

Okay you don't have to be a rock star, but if you volunteered to help organize the 2018 plant sale you'd be a rock star in our eyes!

We are looking for a couple of people to chair the plant sale. Mary Lou Hatfield has volunteered to answer any questions you may have; she also has quite a few tips to share. I worked with Mary Lou two years ago. Trust me all things are in order, all banners tracked down and stowed away ready for 2018.

This is our biggest fundraising event which enables our club to do good work and donate to worthy causes. Our club is one of the larger ones because fellow gardeners see the good we do and want to be a part of it. But without funding we could not do all the good things that we are doing now.

The plant sale is a club activity. You won't be doing this alone. Everyone who's chaired before is more than happy to answer any questions and so are the officers. There are folks who have done the same job year after year, and when you put those signup sheets out they will sign up. It's when we come together that we find our strength.

## July 2017 Gallivanting Gardeners

Joann Peterson

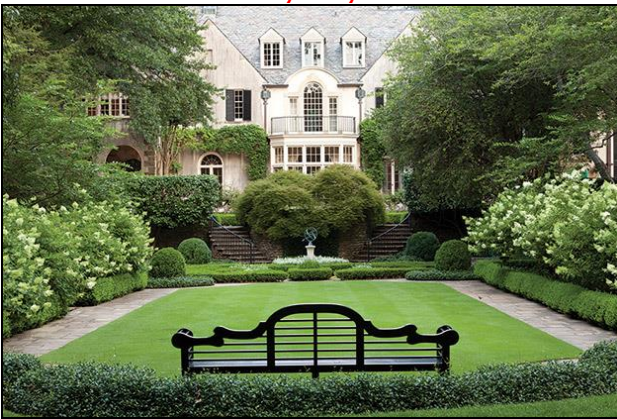


In July, twenty Gallivanting Gardeners traveled to Howell to visit the private gardens of Lynn O'Shaughnessy and Specialty Growers nursery and display gardens.

Lynn clearly enjoys working in her gardens. She has outlined her shade gardens with stone paths in a mosaic design. Her colorful annual gardens are artistically designed and plentiful. Inside her greenhouse are her specialty, Pleurothallid orchids. We thank Lynn for graciously hosting us at her beautiful Howell property.

At Specialty Growers, owner Karen Bovio gave us a tour of her expansive gardens and told us how her business was started. She explained how her gardens are set up according to the needs of the flowers, not according to the alphabet. We left with our trunks full of her beautiful flowers. We will be back.

### Green on Green Gardening From Michigan Gardening Magazine Shared by Patty Cotter



Click [here](#) for more information.



Lunch was enjoyed by all at Aubree's. Great pizza and salad!

### Fall 2017 District IIB Planning Committee Meeting



This is to remind everyone that the next meeting of the Planning Committee for the District IIB Meeting this Fall is set for Tues., August 15, at 10:00am in the Administrative Conference Room at the Township Hall. Be prepared to give a report on the area you are responsible for.

### 2017 Newsletter Deadlines

Month	Articles Due	Print Date
September	September 5	September 9
October	October 3	October 7
November	November 7	November 11



*Sue Nieland with her Casa Blanca lilies.*  
*Su casa is me casa?*

Shared by Kris BeLonge



*Janet's Journal: Gardening and Growing Older Gracefully*

From the Michigan Gardener Magazine

Shared by Patty Cotter



Click [here](#) to learn more about this interesting topic from a knowledgeable Michigan Gardener, Janet Macunivich.

*Save the Date!*



**2018 NGC Convention**  
**May 21, 2018 - May 24, 2018**  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Details

Start: May 21, 2018

End: May 24, 2018

*Meridian Township Camp with the Back Door Gardeners*

Colleen Hyslop

These are all pictures from the Meridian Township camp on August 9. The **Backdoor Gardeners** had ten eager students helping in the gardens and learning about growing vegetables while they had fun.

Below is a photo of all the students in front of Marletta, the scarecrow, after they had placed her in the picket fence garden. Before that happened, they had to add more straw to her after her winter in the barn, and then they carried her to the garden.

The students also had other activities. They thinned our beets, turnips, and carrots. Each took home two turnips and the little carrots. We took the rest of the produce to Haven House. The highlight of the day was spotting a baby bunny in the garden - he will certainly have plenty to eat! The little gardeners also each planted a green bean seed in a peat pot to take home with them.



Students learning about gardening from a master!



Back Door Gardeners and Marletta in the Garden



Carrying Marletta to the Garden



## Summer Stroll Flower Show



The Garden Club of Greater Lansing is presenting a Flower Show, **A Summer Stroll**, on August 25th and 26th, 2017. That is less than two weeks away.

They have many openings in design classes. Please help by entering one of the fun design classes written into this Flower Show.

No doubt your gardens have some wonderful specimens to enter, and/or use to create a design exhibit. Bring your horticulture to exhibit and show us what you've grown.

The **Flower Show Schedule** is attached for you to review and select where you'd like to enter. Please share this schedule with anyone who might be interested in exhibiting.

For questions, please contact the Show Chairperson - Jenny Bond, xxxxxxxxxxxx. To enter a design class, please contact Jenny Bond, xxxxxxxxxxxx

To enter a combination planting, please contact Joanne Bauer,

Let's all help to make this show a success.

**Kathi Dominguez**

## Educational Opportunities



### Environmental Studies School, Course III

Location – Holland, Michigan

Date October 16-17 2017

For more information, contact local Chair, Deannie Picciotti Cell 616-283-7744 [dmp77@charter.net](mailto:dmp77@charter.net) or Registrar, Lynn Miller 616-676-2274 [lmiller.garden@yahoo.com](mailto:lmiller.garden@yahoo.com)

### Landscape Design School, Course III

Location - Kalamazoo, MI

October 23 – October 24 2017

Contact Carol Beckius for more information.

[cbeckius@chartermi.net](mailto:cbeckius@chartermi.net)  
[Schedule and Registration](#)

### Garden Study School - Course I

Location - District IIA

Date - Spring 2018

### Tri-Refresher

Location - Kalamazoo

Date - June 7, 2018 - day after MGC State Convention

## Sedum Plant Pruning: Tips On Cutting Back Sedum Plants

Shared by Patty Cotter



Click [here](#) for information on pruning sedum.

## Dividing Sedum Plants:

Shared by Patty Cotter



Click [here](#) for information on dividing sedum plants.

## Help Needed for Senior Brunch Tables

Jodie Szalankiewicz



Meridian Township anniversary celebration continues on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Willows. They have scheduled a celebration and tribute to Meridian Township seniors age 55 and older. Space is limited so reserve your spot by calling Andrea Smiley at xxxxxxxxxxxx.

Meridian Garden Club continues its partnering with the township by providing 8 table and 2 buffet arrangements. We will be constructing those arrangements on Monday, August 21st, at 10 a.m. at the Willows. I know there's a few of you that have just been itching to do some flower arranging and get some practice in before the Garden Club of Greater Lansing's flower show. I anticipate that this Workshop will last about 2 hours. Please let Jodie Sz know if you'll be able to help. Contact her at xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
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