

Hello, Everyone!

Watching all the daffodils and tulips emerge, especially after a fresh rain, is such a reassuring sign of more beautiful things to come. Spring is probably the most beautiful of Michigan's seasons.

Our **May 8 General Meeting** will be packed with activities. We will have our **Annual Clump Sale**, always offering a surprising assortment of plants for us to exchange, and we will have a **presentation** by one of our club members, **Jennie Somers**, who will share her tips on **Growing Roses** in your garden.

Plans for our July 29th **Mid-Summer Splendor** Flower Show/Garden Walk are progressing slowly. *MGC, District I Director, Ruth Moline* was excited that our Club would be scheduling one. She expressed the importance of scheduling flower shows not only to provide an opportunity for members to enter an exhibit and win a blue ribbon, but also to provide opportunities for approved judges to maintain their certifications, as well as student judges to gain experience. Members of Dearborn Heights and Garden City Clubs are looking forward to participating. So, plant your flowers (either in the yard, or in a container) and let the competition begin!

In addition to the show, we will have a few amazing gardens to stroll through. The **First Presbyterian Church on Brady** will be the headquarters for the show and to pick up a map for the garden walk.

Mark your calendar for our **Annual Meeting** (see page 4 for details) to be held at the *Dearborn Country Club*. **Past President Mary Lou Herrst** will be making arrangements, so if you have special dietary needs, please let her know. Also, thank you in advance for sending your \$25 check to GCD Treasurer, **Laurine Griffin**, 22750 Alexandrine, Dearborn, MI, 48124.

And, as our club Fiscal Year is ending soon, our **V.P. Membership - Elena Lovelace** reminds you to send your *membership renewal form* and \$30 dues to her at 21531 Edna, Dearborn, MI, 48124, if you wish to be listed in this year's directory.

I look forward to seeing you at all of these Springtime events!

Mary Bugeia, President

Member: Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Key Meeting Dates in May

Board Meeting

May 3, 2017, 10:00 am
McFadden Ross

General Meeting

May 8, 2017, 12:00 noon
1st Presbyterian Church
Brady, Dearborn

Hostesses:

Marie Komnenic
Marlene Lemire

Program:

Jennie Somers Roses
Growing Roses in an
Urban Setting

Exhibits:

Artistic - Garden Art
Horticulture - May Blooms

Horticulture Therapy:

May 10, 2017, 9:45 am
Oakwood Common
Late Bloomers



L to R: Elena Lovelace, VP Membership; Mary Bugeia, President; Mary Lou Herrst, Past President and Sponsor; Debbie Cox, Member; and Pat Long, Secretary.

Welcome Debbie Cox

Debbie Cox was welcomed to Garden Club of Dearborn during the April General Meeting. A native of Dearborn, Debbie introduced herself to members at the meeting, noting how she treasures all things Dearborn, including Garden Club. Debbie cares for her elderly father and continues to teach piano lessons. She is an avid gardener and has participated in other volunteer organizations, where she and (sponsor) Mary Lou Herrst became acquainted. Welcome, Debbie.

Member Profile: Donna Wallace

Donna Wallace joined Garden Club of Dearborn in 1998, following 25 years as a assistant preschool teacher at Chapel Day School (Christ Episcopal Church). An active member of the Late Bloomers (formerly Petal Pushers) Study Group for several years, Donna has served GCD as Friendship Chairman and Awards Chairman. For nearly 20 years she was a raffle gift wrapper for the Holly Berry Brunch. Donna's garden consists of vegetables, spring-flowering plants such as Lenten Roses, and a host of other purple, pink and white blossoming plants. She has hosted several events in her backyard garden, including New Member Welcome Teas and parties. Her garden includes several plants which were purchased from the GCD Annual Clump Sale. Donna is the proud mother of three daughters and four grandchildren.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Margaret Rombach	4 May
Ethel O'Day	9 May
Donna Wallace	10 May
Phyllis Brim	11 May
Judy Chandler	15 May
Marietta Lynch	23 May
Chris Nowak	31 May
Carol Chrzastek	21 May
Eve Toohey	28 May

Clump Sale Reminder:

Please divide your perennials and share them at the GCD Annual Clump Sale. Label your plants as follows:

- name (common or taxonomic classification)
- sun or shade loving
- height when fully grown



Garden-related items that are in good shape, such as vases, pots, tools, baskets, books, pictures, or garden art can also be donated for sale to benefit the Garden Club of Dearborn.

Questions: Pat Knoop, Vice President, Programs 313.271.1719

Lily of the Valley (Suzanne Singleton, Contributor)

Mother's Day always seems to fall around the same time that Lilies of the Valley are in bloom. As a young girl, I found this was very important when arranging a bouquet to place on a tray along with my Mother's "breakfast in bed" on her special day. Since then, these flowers have held a special place in my heart. Their wonderful **sweet fragrance** has been reproduced in lotions, colognes, and soaps, and the plant has become the subject of various paintings.

A **herbaceous plant**, the Lily of the Valley originates in temperate parts of Europe and Asia, but it can be **found across the Northern Hemisphere today**. Lily of the Valley grows in woodlands and mountains, on sandy, moist, well-drained soil, or in partial or deep shade (it tolerates direct sun only in areas with cool climate). Many of you probably have them somewhere in your gardens.

Despite its name, it is not a true lily; it actually belongs to **the asparagus family**. It is **also known as "May Lily"** because it blooms during the May and represents birth flower of May. Some of the best known and most **commonly cultivated varieties** of lily of the valley are: "Rosea" (with pink colored flowers), "Fortin's Giant," and "Albostriata" (with leaves covered with white stripes). Lily of the valley is perennial plant that can survive many decades in areas with cool climate.

The plant is **cultivated mostly for ornamental purposes** and can reach **4 to 8 inches in height**. Under optimal conditions, it quickly spreads and forms large colonies. Lily of the valley has slender rootstock and two large oblong leaves with prominent veins. It produces **small, white, bell-shaped flowers that are arranged in the form of a one-sided spike, made of 5 to 15 drooping flowers** on top of the stem. The plant produces flowers with both types of reproductive organs (perfect flowers). Fruit of lily of the valley are orange-red berries, filled with few small seed.

Propagation is mostly via rhizome.



Lily of the valley was often used in the past as antidote for gas poisoning, in treatment of heart disorders, epilepsy, skin burns and to induce sedation, however. It is rarely used today because of its toxic nature.

The Lily of the Valley was often used for the preparation of wedding bouquets during the Middle Ages because it symbolizes modesty, chastity and purity. The flower is also known as **Our Lady's tears** or **Mary's tears** from [Christian legends](#) that it sprang from the [weeping](#) of the [Virgin Mary](#) during the [crucifixion of Jesus](#).

For more information, go to:

www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/bulbs/lily-of-the-valley/growing-lily-of-the-valley



Garden Club of Dearborn
Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Dearborn Country Club

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Business Meeting: 11:00 am

Luncheon: 12:00 noon

Checks to *Garden Club of Dearborn* (\$25) or Cash
 Please respond to Laurine Griffin, by June 1, 2017

Questions: *Mary Lou Herrst (313) 336-3184*

Mark Your Calendars - Events in May *(also see Michigan Gardener)*

- May 6, 2017, 10:00 am - **Clematis Pruning Workshop**, Black Cat Pottery, 3903 Grayton St., Detroit, MI 48224; *One hour instruction & one hour demo/hands-on supervised practice.*
- May 6, 2017, 1pm - **Container Gardening with Herbs**; Telly's Greenhouse & Garden Center, 3301 John R Road, Troy, MI 48083; \$5 plus materials,. Register: 248-689-8735
- May 8, 2017, 11:00 am, **Annual GCD Clump Sale**, First Presbyterian Church - Mitchell Hall
- May 13-14, 2017 **Michigan All State Bonsai Show**, Frederik Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids
- May 16-17, 2017 **45th Annual Spring Plant Sale**, Cranbrook House & Gardens, Bloomfield Hills