

Garden Club Journal

Editor: Suzanne Singleton

November 2016

October days are swiftly passing with glorious color changing of the leaves. Sadly, we note the ending of the blooms. Thankfully, I still have geraniums and roses blooming, and now have chrysanthemums to tide me over till the snow falls!

Thank you to all who participated in the recent Clump Sale. It was a real pleasure to see so many plant materials on display. At the October 12 meeting, we also welcomed **new member, Otto Baumgart**, and learned about "wild birds" from speaker, *Brian Hintz*. We proudly presented **Mary Lenart-Kirchoff** a bouquet, recognizing her as **Volunteer of the Year** and nominee for the ISCC Annual Luncheon. See *Events on page 4* for details.

In the waning days of autumn, don't miss the opportunity to drive past the **Bryant Branch Library** on Michigan Avenue to see the display that **Carol Chrzastek, Judy Henn and I** arranged along with Library Director *Marianne Bartles*.

A total of 19 members attended the **District 1, Fall Conference**, where we were recognized with several *Central Region Awards*, thanks again to *Mary Lenart-Kirchoff, Awards Chair*. One of the speakers, *Joe Tychonievich*, also inspired us with his talk about planting seeds, waiting for them to sprout, and even trying to cross pollinate and raise different varieties.

Excitement is building for our **20th Holly Berry Brunch** to be held on **December 3rd**. Many have already donated an item for the raffle gifts. Please think about what you can purchase and donate, or ask your local merchants to donate gift certificates, then **call Laurine Griffin** to find out the best time to drop off your items (313-274-8930). *Not sure who to sit with?* Call me to reserve by October 31 while price is still \$30. For another \$5, add your name to the growing list of *benefactors* to be noted in our program. Can you *volunteer* at the event by selling raffle tickets or as a runner? If so, call HBB **Chairperson Kathy Gapa** to offer your assistance 313-371-1572 home or 313-445-3571. I encourage each of you to bring a potential member as a guest to the **November 14** Meeting to hear an exciting program on *Decorating for the Holidays!* See *you there!*

President Mary Bugeia



KEY MEETING DATES

Board Meeting -
Wed., Nov 2, 10:00 am
McFadden Ross

General Meeting
Mon., Nov 14, Noon
1st Presbyterian Church

Hostesses: Terri Bungee
and Mary Dietrich

Program: **Decorating for
the Holidays, English
Gardens**

Raffle - Watch for ticket
seller near check in

Exhibits:
Artistic - Fall/Thanksgiving
Horticulture - Gourds/Dried
Plants

Horticulture Therapy:
Wed, Nov 9th, 9:45 am
Oakwood Common
Assisted Living Activities
Room - Thanksgiving
project designed by Mindy
Delano

GCD Member Sharon Snider Brings Joy to Beaumont Hospital

The **Palliative and Restorative Integrated Services Model (PRISM)** team offers palliative care to patients at Beaumont (Oakwood) Hospital. Originated by Christine Westphal, Director and Nurse Practitioner in Oakwood's Palliative Care Program in 2007, the PRISM project is intended to bring joy to patients who are hospitalized with serious illnesses. Each Tuesday throughout the year, 15 to 20 patients receiving palliative care are identified to receive floral arrangements.

Sharon Snider, a GCD member since 2003, obtains in-kind donations of flowers from Harry Miller Florist and delivers them to the hospital, where she and Marge Resetar, a long-time hospital volunteer, arrange the flowers in bud vases for delivery to patients. Additional back-up for Sharon has been provided by GCD members Sharon Olshansky, Sue Fradkin and Eve Toohey.

FYI: Garden Club of Dearborn has participated in the PRISM Petals Project since 2009.



Sharon Snider along with Marge Resetar of Beaumont Hospital as they prepare floral arrangements to brighten the day of patients in Palliative Care.

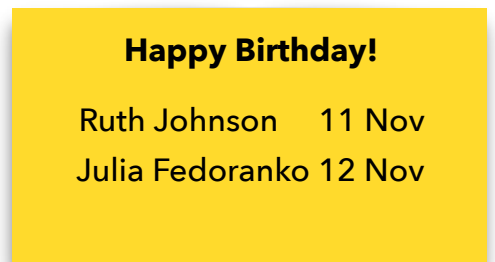
Civic Beautification at Bryant Library



Marianne Bartles, Library Director, was delighted when Garden Club members **Carol Chrzastek, Judy Henn** and **Mary Bugeia** recently assisted her with fall decorations at the Bryant Branch Library, located along Michigan Avenue in the heart of Dearborn's historic downtown. "This simply would not have been possible without the help of Garden Club members" said Bartles in expressing thanks to the Club.

Garden Club Welcomes New Members

At the October 10 General Meeting, Garden Club of Dearborn welcomed new member, Otto Baumgart. Sponsored by his wife of 50+ years, Paula Baumgart, and Linda Gunderson. Otto is retired from Ford Emissions and enjoys photography in addition to his obvious love of gardening.



Linda Gunderson and Paula Baumgart (r) welcome retiree Otto Baumgart as a new Garden Club of Dearborn member at the October 10 General Meeting.

Farmington Garden Walk Uncovers Heirloom Flower

by Mindy Delano, Horticulture Chair

A few weeks ago, I seized the opportunity to sign up for the Farmington Garden Walk. Widely known as a charming town, rich in history, its neighborhoods were a pleasure to tour. All seven gardens were absolutely wonderful. Of course, I ran into garden sheds which made me weak in the knees and green-eyed with envy.

One garden, in particular, was a charmer with its old-fashioned perennials, a gurgling pond, and pathways laid with attractive brickwork. Strolling on the pathway of one of the gardens, I stopped dead in my tracks at a flower that I've been trying to identify for years! With excitement, I asked the homeowner the name. He responded, "That's Rose Campion. They're hard to find. I believe it to be an heirloom."

I scribbled the name into my Garden Walk booklet, smiling because the mystery surrounding this flower was solved. My work was now cut out for me. I had to have this flower, and lots of it!



Rose Campion - An Heirloom Flower

- Native of Europe, as early as 17th century and in American gardens by the 1700's.
- First known mention by Thomas Jefferson's garden book. He recorded "Lychnis in bloom" at his boyhood home, Shadwell, in 1767.
- Bernard McMahon published his seed catalog in 1804, listing Rose Campion in three color forms and Jefferson received "Lychnis" from McMahon in 1807.
- Rose Campion (*Lychnis Cororaria*) is an ever-grey perennial that deserves to be showcased. It has erect, felt-like white-gray stalks covered with masses of glowing magenta, or pink, or white trumpet shaped flowers.
- Valued for a long season, late spring to late summer.
- Delightful 1" flowers on equally decorative basal rosette of wooly, silver-gray leaves, providing interest in the winter garden.
- Thrives in full sun or part shade in average, well-drained soil. Moist soil preferred but tolerates dry soil.
- Grows 18-24 inches tall with 18 inches width.
- Drought tolerant; deer resistant; attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.
- Recipient of "Award of Garden Merit" of the Royal Horticultural Society. Plant is ideal for dry gardens, cottage gardens, meadows, and perennial border by providing fabulous color and texture.
- Deadhead spent flowers to avoid self-seeding. Cut back after flowering and leave basal foliage on display.
- Retail Sources: eBay, Etsy, Monticello Museum Shop, Bluestone Perennials

"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust."

- Gertrude Jekyll, English gardener, artist, writer

Don't Rake Those Leaves, Mulch Them Into Your Lawn



It's great to have big shade trees in your yard. But, come fall, you can start to resent them. Those big trees drop leaves, and that means extra work, hassle, and lost time. However, there's good news. A recent study done at Michigan State University shows that you can forget about raking, blowing, and bagging leaves.

As many of you know, mulching leaves requires less time and energy than raking and bagging, while returning needed nutrients back into the soil. Mulched leaf matter disintegrates over the winter and helps to build soil. Grasses build a deeper, tighter root system that helps to retard weed growth. Mulched leaves can also help to retain moisture in the lawn.

To reduce leaf clutter, mulch to dime-size pieces. According to *Scott's Lawn Library*, you'll know you're done when about half an inch of grass can be seen through the mulched leaf layer. Once the leaf bits settle in, microbes and worms get to work recycling them.

Any kind of rotary-action mower will do the job, and any kind of leaves can be chopped up. With several passes of your mower, you can mulch up to 18 inches of leaf clutter.

LEAF MULCHING TIPS

- *Mow/mulch when leaves are dry, using a sharp blade.*
- *Mow/mulch often enough so that you are cutting no more than 1/3 of the grass blade.*
- *Mow once or twice a month during the height of leaf drop.*
- *Bag excess leaf material to place in yard waste bags for curb pick-up on standard service days.*

Upcoming Events

- **November 9, 2016** - 11:00 a.m. Park Place, 23400 Park, **Dearborn Inter Service Club Council** - Volunteer of the Year Luncheon, Honoring GCD Volunteer Mary Lenart-Kirchoff. Contact Sharon Snider for tickets - \$25.00.
- **November 17, 2016** - *groups of eight during 3pm to 5pm* -Exclusive Preview of Sun Porch Restoration Project at Henry Ford Estate for Garden Club of Dearborn - **members only**. Light Refreshments RSVP to Annie Rubel by email to: arubel@henryfordestate.org, or by phone to 313-300-0802
- **December 3, 2016** - **20th Annual Holly Berry Brunch Fundraiser, Dearborn Inn** - Tickets available before Nov 1, \$30; after Nov 1, \$35. Contact *Mary Bugeia*, 313-562-7524