

Garden Club Journal

Editor: Suzanne Singleton

September, 2016

WELCOME BACK!

I hope each of you had some relaxing days during this warm summer. I enjoyed most of it, except for the weeding I had to do in my yard!

Garden Club members have been busy during the summer with projects including the **Enabling Garden event** described inside this issue. Other projects included the **Horticulture Therapy Group**, **the Monarch Way Station** and the **NGC "Plant Pink for Breast Cancer" Project**.

At the Annual Meeting in June, we were proud to announce all the awards our club earned, including the **NGC Triple Diamond Club of Distinction**. **Many thanks to everyone who participated** in the projects that made this possible, and to Mary Lenart-Kirchoff taking the lead on all the awards forms. (See Page 4 for details)

Pat Knoop and Sharon Olshansky have been busy arranging a variety of interesting programs for the 2016-17 year. Our "Welcome Back" meeting in September will be chaired by Mary Lou Herrst, and we'll hear a presentation by former President, Suzanne Singleton.

Rose Wiggle will be taking reservations for the **MGC District 1 Fall Meeting**, to be hosted by the Taylor Garden Club on **October 12**. Rose will turn over checks, payable to "Garden Club of Dearborn" to our Treasurer, who will write a single check for the event.

Although December may be a long way off, it's important to mark your calendars now for the **Holly Berry Brunch to be held on December 3**. Our Chair this year is **Kathy Gapa**. Let's all do what we can to help her.

For the past nine years Judy Henn has accepted the brunch raffle gifts and stored them in her basement. With her move to a new (smaller) residence in Dearborn, we are in need of a volunteer to take over this very important responsibility. Ticket sales begin in September and the price is \$30 until November 1st. Thereafter, tickets will be \$35 each.

I look forward to seeing each and everyone of you in September!

- Mary Bugeia, President

KEY MEETING DATES

Board Meeting -
Wed., Sept 7, 9:00 am
McFadden Ross House
Brady St., Dearborn

General Meeting
Mon., Sept 12, Noon
1st Presbyterian Church
Brady St., Dearborn

Hostess: Mary Lou Herrst

Program: Garden Travels
Speaker: S. Singleton

Exhibit:
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Horticulture Therapy
Wed, Sept 14, 10:00 am
Oakwood Common
Assisted Living, Activities
Room

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Member News: Community Projects

Workers in the *Enabling Garden*, under the leadership of **Pat Knoop**, hosted a 'Garden Tea' on August 8th to show off the beautiful flowers they grew this year. The weather was great and attendees enjoyed many tasty refreshments while they admired the lovely flowers and pollinators.

The Enabling Garden group employed the theme, "Recycle and Re-use," which was evident by the Christmas plates and napkins, an antique feather Christmas tree, and refreshments including black and green iced tea, served in 1950's pitchers.

According to Mindy Delano, "Special jar lights twinkled, and a whimsy of garden adornments were companions to spectacular flowers. Jazz music crooned while Garden Club members welcomed visitors and old friends in a setting that could only be described with one word - *Magical.*"

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Karen Marzonie	9/2
Helen Petricko	9/3
Sue Fradkin	9/4
George Popovich	9/5
Mary Lee Myler	9/9
Betty Gorka	9/9
Shirley Barrick	9/10
Linda Stechison	9/15
Jean Johnston	9/21
Mary Lenart-Kirchoff	9/22
Betty Brown	9/24
Carolyn Lashchuk	9/26



Left to right: Chairwoman Pat Knoop, "veteran" Enabling Garden member, Sharon Olshansky, and new Garden Club member, Carmen Kossayda-Gudan. Forty-four guests partied at the Third Annual Evening Tea at University of Michigan-Dearborn's Enabling Garden.



Chatterbugs at the buffet include: left to right: Judy Chandler, Chairwoman Pat Knoop, Jo West, and Rose Wiggle. Wiggle recently earned a City Beautiful Award for outstanding landscape, on Francis Street.

On August 10, GCD members used flowers from the Enabling Garden for their *Horticulture Therapy* project at Oakwood Common. Other members planted pink flowers as part of the *NGC 'Plant Pink for Breast Cancer' project*. Under the direction of **Elena Lovelace**, a section of Mt. Kelly Cemetery is dedicated to pink flowers. At the Historical Museum (Commandant's Quarters) members, **Carol Chrzastek, Judy Henn, Jo West and Mary Bugeia** planted pink petunias to increase Breast Cancer Awareness.

The Enabling Garden (Excerpt from The Potting Shed by Mindy Delano)

A gem of a garden exists right here in our very midst. You already know about it, if, by chance, you walk or bike on the Rouge Gateway Beltway Hiking and Biking Trail, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. This beautiful, fragrant flower garden, as well as the adjacent herb garden, is worth a visit if you are an admirer of all things great and small in the horticulture world. It was built in 1997 from a donation by the Detroit Garden Club, and falls under the auspices of the University's Environmental Interpretive Center's (E.I.C.) Community Organic Garden. The flower garden, planted on seven raised beds, is a project of one the Garden Club of Dearborn's study groups, called the Enabling Garden group. The *raised beds offer easier access for those who are challenged by health issues, such as wheelchairs*. The study group began to seriously organize, in 2009, in terms of members, purpose, flowers, and themes. Six gardeners emerged in the sign-up to join the Enabling Garden group, headed by Pat Knoop, Chairwoman for the last seven years. According to Knoop, "Two original members remain - Betty Brown and Sharon Olshansky - who definitely deserve recognition for their hard efforts. And now we've grown to 14 members!" Knoop, a former teacher, draws upon her multitasking teaching methods with kindness, patience, and unbounded energy. Call it wisdom, a hobby, or a love of nature, Knoop unfailingly can answer questions, providing explanations in her soft spoken voice, interjected with cute, small chuckles.



Foreground: Betty Brown is an active member in the Enabling Garden since its inception. Each Fall she opens her house up for the Enabling Gardeners to design and create Mussie Tussies, dried flower wreaths, and ribboned, small lavender bouquets. The projects are then sold at the Garden Club's Clump Sale. Pictured with Kris, from the Community Organic Garden.

Indeed, sharing fellowship and exchanging knowledge on horticulture is a common thread through all the Garden Club's study groups, but Enabling Garden functions in two additional ways - as an *educational demonstration garden*, and a *production garden* whereby harvested flowers, fresh or later dried, are utilized by the monthly Horticulture Therapy group. Horticulture Therapy's success relies on the Enabling Garden's yield of flowers. Ever mindful of this purpose, members faithfully tend, dead-head, mulch, compost, weed, and water the garden throughout spring, summer, and fall. Additionally, the Enabling Garden group adheres to being "organic" by utilizing methods in line with the Community Organic Garden, several feet away. Gardeners are prohibited to use synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. Excluded are woody perennials, like trees or shrubs, and invasive plants. Organic weed control is accomplished by mulching; fertilizing is composting. Organic home remedies assist weed control on gravel pathways. Old-fashioned hand-pulling of weeds prevails, however. Two flower beds have been designated with particular themes that dictate the color of the bed. In compliance with the National Garden Club and the Michigan Garden Club, an all yellow flower bed shows support of our military, veterans and active duty. The second flower bed, Plant It Pink, is planted with pink flowers in support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

Recognition

Thank you to every member who raised funds, worked on projects and publications, and served on the administrative board, resulting in the following Awards.

Michigan Garden Club Awards

- ★ Photography - First Place District 1, First Place Michigan Garden Clubs (for photos taken during enabling garden event at UM-D Community Organic Garden)
- ★ Triple Diamond Club of Distinction (only District 1 garden club to achieve this top level)



National Garden Club Central Region Awards

- ★ Sharing Our Gardens - Third Place (for enabling garden event at UM-D Community Organic Garden)
- ★ Sharing The Future - Third Place (for Monarch Waystation at UM-D Community Organic Garden)

National Garden Club Awards

- ★ Yearbook - District 1 Honorable Mention - Elena Lovelace
- ★ Newsletter - First Place District 1, Second Place Michigan Garden Clubs
- ★ Brochure - First Place District 1, First Place Michigan Garden Clubs
- ★ Website - First Place District 1, First Place Michigan Garden Clubs
- ★ Butterfly- First Place District 1, First Place MGC (for Monarch Waystation at UM-D)
- ★ National Garden Club President's Project Service in Action - Conservation in Action Roadside Development Award - Second Place (for Monarch Waystation at UM-D Community Organic Garden)
- ★ National Garden Club President's Project Service in Action - Monarch Watch/Waystations - First Place, Large Club (for Monarch Waystation at UM-D Community Organic Garden)

Upcoming Events:

Sept 7: At 7PM, Historian Ken Keisel will be giving a lecture at the McFadden Ross House about the Civilian Aviation History of Dayton Ohio.

Sept 23: Party from 5-11 PM outside the McFadden Ross House. \$10 cost includes a souvenir glass mug with one free fill of beer, a wine cooler, or root beer.

Sept 28th – October 2: Dearborn Historical Museum's antiquarian book sale.