

# Garden Club Journal



Editor: *Mindy Delano* [mindyanddaisy@comcast.net](mailto:mindyanddaisy@comcast.net)

More info: [www.gardenclubdearborn.org](http://www.gardenclubdearborn.org) / [president@gardenclubdearborn.org](mailto:president@gardenclubdearborn.org) / Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc & National Garden Clubs, Inc

## Key Meeting Dates

\*\* Board Meeting on  
Wednesday, Mar 7 @ 10  
am @ McFadden Ross

\*\*General Meeting on  
Monday, Mar 12 @  
noon @ First Presbyteri-  
an Church...Hydrangeas  
101 presentation by  
David Cooper of English  
Gardens.

\*\*Horticulture Therapy is  
Mar 14th at 10:00 am  
with Judy Henn as de-  
signer of the project, at  
Oakwood Commons  
Assisted Living.

March 12th Hostesses:  
Elaine Trocino, Margaret  
Rombach, & Judy Henn

May your blessings  
outnumber  
The shamrocks that  
grow,  
And may trouble avoid  
you  
Wherever you go.  
-Irish Blessing

## *President's Message*



Hello...the month of March really starts us thinking about spring, seeking signs of new growth peeking through patches of snow... left over from a very snowy winter. Our program for March 12th should stir our anticipation! David Cooper, from English Gardens, will discuss "Hydrangeas 101" on how to select and care for different varieties.

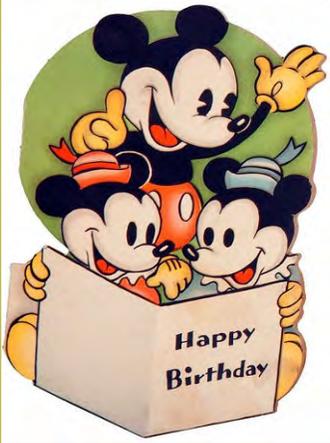
At our February 12 meeting, we had a wonderful Valentine Tea arranged by the Late Bloomers, led by Judy Henn. THANK YOU ladies! Such tasty treats! We also enjoyed a lovely lunch...meatballs, chicken & mashed potatoes, courtesy of Marie Chapman, in honor of her 90th birthday. Then, Mindy led us in a project to transform little vinegar bottles. We had fun working with pretty napkins, using decoupage to secure the design to the bottles, and creating a beautifully decorated container. They can be either bud vases, or as a charming vinegar bottle to serve at a table. They make excellent gifts!

Coming March 17, is "Growing Great Gardens" hosted by Taylor Garden Club at WCCC, in Taylor. \$45 until Feb. 23, then increases to \$60. Make your reservation at [www.taylorconseratory.org/events/ggg](http://www.taylorconseratory.org/events/ggg). Call Carol Chrzastek re: sharing rides (313) 450 -3441.

Sadly, our dear, sweet member, and Past Club President, Eve Toohey, passed away February 15. A member for 41 years, she taught us about gardening, was a mentor for flower shows, helped with clump sales, assisted with horticulture therapy, and exhibited kindness everyday to everyone. A memorial gathering will be Friday, March 9 (4-7 pm) at Howe Peterson Funeral home, and mass on Saturday, March 10 (11 am), at Sacred Heart church. She will be missed, but will remain in our hearts.

Kudos to Mindy for her informative articles in our newsletters and the local Press & Guide. The article about Calibrachoa informed us about the difference between it and petunias, and gives us incentive to think about warm weather planting. I am anxiously waiting to read about the next featured flower/plant!

*I look forward to seeing each of you at March 12 meeting. Regards,  
President Mary Bugeia*



### March Birthdays

Kathleen Gapa	Mar 5
Otto Baumgart	Mar 9
Terri Bungee	Mar 17
Jennie Somers	Mar 20
Eleanor Dolega	Mar 27
Suzanne Singleton	Mar 27
Sharon Snider	Mar 29



Submit mail, email, or phone info to Mindy by 20th of month! (313 565-1266)  
mindyanddaisy@comcast.net

# The Potting Shed

By Mindy Delano

## Grow a Potted Shamrock Plant!



When March rolls around, like clockwork, shamrock plants emerge, tempting everyone to bring in the house a most charming plant. This plant would be ideal if decorating for a St. Patrick's Day event, or making it a prize for clubs who enjoy raffles.

### What is a Shamrock plant?

This plant arrives in nurseries, from growers who plant the tiny bulbs early on. Called *Oxalis regnellii*, it's a small plant, reaching height around six inches. Leaves come in various colors, although green is the overwhelming popular choice. The delicate flowers bloom off and on during fall, winter, and spring. Leaves are appealing because they resemble clover, and many think the plant brings good luck. The leaves open in daytime and close at night. The shamrock plant has easy growing habits and adds a touch of spring to the indoors during winter months.

These plants belong to the wood sorrel family of the genus *Oxalis*. Care is simple once you become aware it has a period of dormancy. While typical outdoor flowers are in their prime in summer, the shamrock plant favors a long, dormant nap.

When leaves die back, this sign indicates a time of darkness to rest. During dormancy, there is limited watering and withholding of fertilizer.

Dormancy will last anywhere from a few weeks to three months, depending on the cultivar and conditions. Upon the new arrival of little shoots, dormancy is broken and it's time to re-position the plant into a sunny window or bright, sunny spot in the house. Resume traditional watering and fertilizing and you will be awed by very pretty leaves and blooms.

### Growing the Shamrock Plant

In autumn, shoots will begin to emerge, so it's a sign to proceed with watering. Soil should remain lightly moist, watering two to three times a month. Allow soil to dry out between waterings. Fertilize after watering with a balanced houseplant food.

Growers plant the tiny bulbs in fall or early spring. Typically, consumers buy the shamrock plant when foliage is growing and pretty, white flowers are blooming. Exotic varieties provide the best indoor performance. A wild wood sorrel growing outdoors cannot thrive as an indoor plant.

Take a chance and enjoy the shamrock plant. It just may grant you a bit of luck!  
(pictures on page 3)



When is an Irish potato not an Irish potato?

When it's a French fry!



Left: the Shamrock Plant has either darkish purple/black leaves or typical green. There are some that have pink blooms as well.



## Culture Calendar



March 7: Dearborn Historical Museum: Lecture by Bruce Harkness on Edmund Thiede @ 7 pm

March 9: Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church: "Celtic Celebration" (Detroit Concert Choir) at 8 pm Tix: \$10-\$20 tickets@eventbrite.com Free parking

March 9: Our Lady of Good Counsel: "Mozart's Prague" 47650 N Territorial, Plymouth Tix: \$10-25 Ph (313) 576-5111 Presented by DSO

March 10: St. Linus Spring Craft Show : St. Linus School (10-3) \$1 admission, 6466 Evangeline, D.H.

March 16: Congregational Church of Birmingham: Piffaro, delightful prog f/Germany & low countries; 1000 Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills @ 8 pm Tix: \$10-35 Ph: (734) 228-4338

March 17: Canton Village Theater: "Chinese Spring Festival" @ 7 pm Tix: \$5 Ph: (734)394-5300, 50400 Cherry Hill Rd, Canton. Free parking

March 18: First United Methodist Church: "Tchaikovsky Spectacular" 45201 N Territorial, Plymouth @ 2 pm Tix: \$10-30 Free parking Presented by Michigan Philharmonic

March 19: DSO Chamber Recital: Church of Divine Child, @ 7 pm; tix \$10-15 @ www.churchofthedivinechild.org. Composers are Leonard Bernstein and Johannes Brahms. Free parking

March 23: Dearborn Historical Museum: Lecture "The Origin of Street and Place Names in Dearborn" @ 7 pm

March 24: Dearborn Historical Museum: Museum Guild Craft Bazaar, free, 10-3 pm

March 30-31: Fox Theatre, Detroit: "Sound of Music" Tix: \$30-70 Ph 313 471-3200

Past President, Patti Mack, is recovering nicely from her knee replacement. A visit with her on Valentine's Day, caught her by surprise, but she still was in good spirits and laughing. She expressed an interest in the Napkin Decoupage, and was upset it was on the same day as her surgery. She opened her present...a decoupage vase made by an anonymous Garden Club member, and Patti exclaimed over it. She is waiting for the 2 kits that Paddi Matzelt purchased for her and ready to show off her craftiness! Who was the gentle spirit who made Patti's vase? An angel, that's who.

May the wind at your back  
not be the result  
of the corned beef and cabbage  
you had for lunch.



Happy St. Patrick's Day

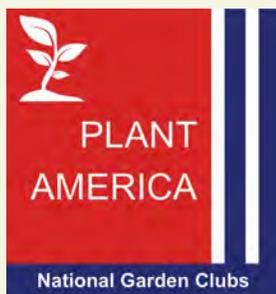
Ruth Moline, District 1 Director, recently wrote in the Michigan Garden Club Newsletter about "giving" back to the community. She stresses that charitable giving should be one of the T's crossed or the I's dotted, "so to speak." Mary Lenart-Kirchoff proposed a charitable giving idea ...let's move forward.



Patti Mack



## National Garden Club Begins Plant America Program



Above: SunPatiens bred by Sakata

National Garden Club is trying all kinds of ways to encourage local clubs to beautify their community, engage gardeners, and to make the public more aware of the importance of their environment.

NGC is continuing their Grant Program for garden clubs who are short on money, and have definite initiative by outlining their community projects with objectives.

P. Allen Smith is providing a fundraising opportunity for PLANT AMERICA Grants. He has advised NGC and offered his expertise for plant selection, for obtaining the plants and for the method of distribution to our members. He believes in the goals of the NGC and is committed to the Program by giving his time, his staff's time and by donating a very generous percentage of the sales. He calls the promotion "Inspiring Gardens Across America."

Beginning March 1 and ending June 15, National Garden Club will be selling plants selected by P. Allen Smith. There are three different collections of plants.

First collection: Peony Flowering Daylily Collection. This group includes three of the most prolific reblooming double-flowering daylilies. \$29.95 for 3 bare-root plants.

Second collection: SunPatiens 'Razzle Dazzle' Collection. These are a hybrid

impatiens bred by Sakata. They are sun-loving and bloom from spring through frost. \$35.95 for 4 SunPatiens in 3" pot.

P. Allen Smith has grown these SunPatiens in containers on his farm, Moss Mountain Farm, where hot Arkansas summers have tested their vigilance, and guess what? No wilting. Each of the four cultivars were picked as the most resilient of the series.

Third collection: Whitewashed Wooden Stand with Succulents. This is the perfect choice for those gardeners without an actual in-ground garden. The wooden stand holds three pots of succulents. \$39.95 for one hen and chick and the other two are succulents.

**Orders** can be placed in two ways:

1. NGC Website Online Shopping @ [www.shopgardenclub.org/shop](http://www.shopgardenclub.org/shop)
2. Mail a check with order to NGC headquarters, 4401 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110.

Items will be shipped according to your gardening zone.

NGC emphasizes that this program is not meant to be "...a bargain for you." They are high quality plants, with competitive pricing, and designed to make this campaign successful so that the Grant program can reach out to communities nation-wide.

The **Lacy Doily Daylily** is a super bloomer, according to on-line nurseries. They indicate that after several seasons in the garden, it is capable of producing 500 fragrant flowers!

The **Unlock the Stars Daylily** is a widely popular daylily, so much that Brecks is already out of stock due to its reliability, and beauty.



**Left: Lacy Doily Daylily** in soft coral pink with ruffled edges and creamy yellow throat.  
**Right: Unlock the Stars Daylily** in lavender-pink edged with picotee of yellow ruffles that surrounds a yellow eye that flares out.



**COPYCAT RECIPE OF MCDONALD'S SHAMROCK SHAKE**

2 cups vanilla ice cream

1 1/4 cups 2% milk

1/4 tsp mint extract

8 drops green food coloring

**Directions:** Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend on high speed until smooth.

**Stop blender to stir with a spoon if necessary to help blend ice cream.**

**Pour into 12 oz cups and serve each with straw!**



March 12th @ Noon:  
The speaker will be David Cooper, horticulturist from English Gardens. His topic is "Hydrangeas 101" and he is well versed in the topic of gardening, and design. Please attend and bring a guest! See you there, & wear green!



**In Remembrance of Eve Toohey**

The Garden Club was saddened by the news that Eve Toohey passed away on February 15.

Eve was a wonderful member of the Garden Club for 41 years, including a term as President. She joyfully attended Study Groups, imparting wisdom on the topic of gardening. She mentored flower arranging and jumped into every project with gusto.

As a member of Sacred Heart Church, she was very active, including Choir, and various charities.

Married to James (who passed earlier), she had three sons, Jim, John and Charlie; two daughters, Mariya and Luisa, of which she raised primarily in Germany. Her husband's career with Ford was in Europe. She had eight grandchildren. They returned to Dearborn and lived in a lovely Tudor on Long Boulevard.

Eve will be greatly missed. We were lucky to have Eve in our life, as her gentle nature made it richer.

Arrangements: memorial gathering on March 9th (4-7 pm) at Howe-Peterson Funeral Home. Memorial Mass on March 10 (11 am) at Sacred Heart Church. Memorial envelopes to be directed to SVdP Summer Camp.

**Helping SVdP!**

Recently, the Sacred Heart/Divine Child St. Vincent de Paul engaged in a fundraiser called Chili Cha-Cha.

It raised \$21,000 to help the needy as well as feed hungry visitors at Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Deep-felt appreciation goes to the Garden Club members who helped make it a success: Mary Bugeia, Sandy Butler, Toohey family, Carol Chrzastek, Sharon Olshansky, Pat Knoop, Carmen Kossayda-Gudan, Barbara Hayes, and Mindy Delano.

Karen Marzonie, on behalf of Ford officials, was able to facilitate the donation of **kitchenware from the "old Pool" restaurant @ Henry Ford Fair Lane!** High 5 to all!



Valentine's Tea on February 12th with Sharon Snider (right), Betty Gorka (left), John Scharf (background). Late Bloomers taking a rest from hosting a great tea!



Decoupage bottles were the subject of the Workshop, Make & Take. Members did artsy crafty stuff really, really well!

*Clayton Herrst volunteered to be the Workshop's Cashier. We thank you, Clayton! Always smiling & helpful!*





## Marie Chapman Celebrates 90th Birthday

Marie Chapman played host to the Garden Club's Valentine Tea, as the same day marked her 90th birthday. She arranged with Park Place to serve the "left-overs" from her celebration dinner the day before, Sunday, the 11th, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church. Garden Club members were treated to the delicious lunch of baked chicken, meatballs, and mashed potatoes. Dessert was set up on its own table by the Late Bloomers which offered a variety of tasty goodies.

She has a sparkling personality matched by a genuine, benevolent nature. She loves to learn new things, especially gardening. In her heyday with husband, Al, they planted trees along Military by their Church to enhance the landscape.

Recently, Marie has assisted the Church in their many projects, including enhancements made to the kitchen, as well as updating the church's banquet

room, with new round, tables.

For years, she has headed up the mission "Socks for Vets" where she collected socks and sent them downtown to the VA Hospital, as well as shelters. She volunteers in other "circles" within her church, aiding different causes.

Marie had been married to Al for 65 years (now deceased). Marie had two sons, Timothy (deceased) and Kim (wife, Elizabeth). Jill is her daughter, married to Richard. She has four grandchildren: Madeleine, William, Lydia Marie, and Henry.

She resides in a lovely home on Fort Dearborn. She designed the family room addition to hold her husband's collections from his world travels. She later designed her kitchen.

Marie said, "It's great to be ALIVE!" This is her 46th year with the Garden Club. Cheers, Marie!



Marie Chapman (seated) with Meredith Scharf.



## Our Logo and affiliations

