



Taylor Garden Club



“Caring and Sharing”

Volume 28 Issue 6

taylorgardenclub.com

February 2018

From Your President

Upcoming Events



*One seed can start a garden.
One candle can light a room.
One step can begin a journey.
One smile can lift a spirit.
One conversation can start a friendship.
One person can make a difference.*

*Happy Valentines Day
to Great Friends*

Remember Valentine’s Day.

It’s not just for couples, it’s to celebrate LOVE in all forms.

Love is all around us.
One LOVE that we all share is flowers.

What I need to live has been given to me by the earth.

We all LOVE Gardens.
We all LOVE Gardening.

I believe that LOVE built this Garden Club for all of us to share the JOY of Gardening with others!

Sandra Thompson

February 16th, Thursday, TGC Meeting. Ford Senior Center, 6750 Troy, 7:00 pm. “Caring is Sharing” Maria Burt TGC member shows us how to transform aluminum cans into lovely pins to wear or gift to others.

Hostesses: Nancy Smith, Stephany Keenoy, Zack Keenoy, Mary Krzeczowski, Jamie Elkins

LOOKING AHEAD:

March 8th, Thursday, Field Trip to DIA. Depart Senior Center 12:30 pm “Thursdays at the Museum: Art Talk - In the Garden” This talk explores the hidden meanings behind images of flowers, plants and gardens in some of our most favorite works of art. If Senior bus is available cost is \$3. Otherwise we will car pool.

March 17th, Saturday, Growing Great Gardens. 8 am – 4 pm, Wayne County Community College, Northline Rd. Be sure to tell all your friends about this wonderful event. Have you registered yet?

Saturday, April 28th, The Master Gardener Society of Oakland County, Inc. 6th Annual Educational Garden Conference “Gardening and All That Jazz – Life Lessons From the Garden” At the Oakland Schools Conference Center, 2111 Pontiac Lake Road, in Waterford. This is an all-day seminar. Early bird tickets are \$80; after March 14th, the price increases to \$90. For more info and to register: www.mgsoc.org

February is National Bird Feeding Month

Millions of wild bird enthusiasts now traditionally make special efforts in February to feed, watch and protect wild birds. Over 50 million people regularly feed wild birds in the USA.



TIME TO VOLUNTEER!

Like to Read?
Want to Read to Kids?



TGC donated the NGC book "The Saved Seed" to all the elementary school libraries in Taylor recently and as a result the principal of Kinyon school has asked if we could provide readers to read to classes during March is Reading Month.

If you are interested in being part of this group call **Mary Krzeczowski**.

State of the City Display

Taylor Garden Club along with many non-profit groups in Taylor will have a table at WCCCD on February 15th for the 2018 State of the City Address.

Help is needed to set up the display, staff the table from 11 am till noon, and take down after the address.

If you can help with this call **Sandra Thompson**.



Growing Great Gardens

Get your "garden fix" even though the weather outside is saying, "too soon".

Be among passionate gardeners from the tri-county area in a warm place and don't get dirty. Register for Growing Great Gardens.

Even if you register to attend, you can volunteer to help set up on Friday at Wayne County Community College covering all the vendor tables with plastic tablecloths and filling folders with our literature.

Call **Nancy Smith** and let her know you can help.

FYI - (For your information):

Our condolences to Cheryl Smith on the death of her husband.

Welcome to new members: Lynn Grant * Sharilyn Schleicher * Julie Sebest

Bev's Bulletin

Our February meeting "make and take" requires you to bring 2 empty and clean, aluminum cans and a pair of scissors. The can must be thin, such as a pop can, monster drink or beer!

The club will provide the rest of the supplies.

It's February...that means spring is just around the corner! (fingers crossed)! A little reminder....we have a few events coming up and need volunteers.

Saturday, May 21st is our annual plant sale and our **Saturday July 14th** "Taylor In Bloom" garden walk is taking a life of it's own! We need to all pitch in, however we can, to make our fundraising successful!

During these long cold days, it's kind of nice to waste some time scrolling the internet and sipping some tea. I've come across a few websites that have peeked my interest that I'd like to share.

www.almanac.com
www.motherearthnews.com
www.usda.gov
www.crosscountypheasantsforever.org
www.nutrition-and-you.com
www.oldhousegardens.com
www.thegardenlore.com
www.growitalian.com

Do you have any to share?

Bev Brown

Happy Birthday !

February Birthday Greetings to:



Maria Burt

Ken Hughes

Max Green

10th Annual Growing Great Gardens Conference



Saturday, March 17, 2018 marks the 10th year Taylor Garden Club, Taylor Conservatory and Wayne County Community College District have partnered together to offer Growing Great Gardens to the public. This successful partnership began when members from each organization met in 2007 to plan an event that would appeal to both new and experienced gardeners at an affordable rate. We planned a day of gardening, learning, fun and hoped financially just to break even that first year.

The first Growing Great Gardens attracted 180 attendees and slowly grew to 350+ in 2017. Gardeners from all over Southeast Michigan and beyond now regularly attend. Many attend year after year recognizing the quality and organization of this event. TGC members are encouraged to support this event since besides being an educational service to the community it has turned out to be our biggest fundraiser of the year.

In the beginning, we offered classes on a variety of subjects presented by local speakers. For the past four years we have been able to bring in nationally known speakers who are experts in specific areas of horticulture. Two years ago an optional *Lunch & Learn* session was added for people who wish to eat their lunch and listen to a speaker at the same time. This session is held in a conference room with limited seating capacity and sells out immediately.

GGG attracts garden related vendors from all over Michigan who set up in the halls leading to the auditorium and in two large conference rooms. TGC members **Jill Parrish** and **Maria Burt** are among the vendors who sell their beautiful garden items at the event. Our *GardenMarket* with over 30 vendors has been at capacity for several years and vendors are rotated each year to offer the very best shopping opportunities for the attendees. Shopping is open to the public from 9 am to 4 pm.

Registration is now open for this year's conference. An early bird rate of only \$45 applies until February 23.

The four sessions offered in the auditorium are:

1. Jaw, Dropping, Traffic Stopping, Get Your Neighbors Talking Containers
2. Beauty and the Bees: A Different Way of Looking at Garden Design
3. Ten Months of Blooms in the Shade Garden
4. Backyard Foraging.

The optional Lunch & Learn session for an additional \$10 is The Wildcrafted Cocktail.

For additional information about GGG contact **Nancy Smith**.

A registration form and class description is included in this newsletter for your convenience.
Register now for the discount rate.

“Each person must live their life as a model for others.”

~Rosa Park (Born Feb. 4)

February- Bird-Feeding Month



Red-bellied woodpecker
at my suet feeder.

There's no telling what you're going to end up with as far as weather goes. So, make sure your bird-feeders are well loaded with all the good things that birds need to survive. Hanging a container of sunflower seeds in your backyard is a great way to make sure that you have birds in your yard all year round, though of course you're likely to get your share of squirrels too.

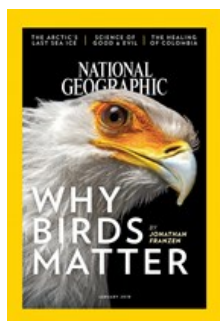
Just make sure that the bird-feeder is out of reach of cats, this isn't a free lunch for felines you're serving!

Editor's comment:

In my case, I've realized a hawk in the area has made my bird feeding station his/her bird feeding station too. I've found feathered remains of morning doves twice lately, and once actually saw the hawk as he quickly swooped down and snatched one of the ground feeding doves and took off through the pines with prey in tow. Only feathers floating to the snow to reassure me I hadn't blinked and made the whole thing up.

2018 Year of the Bird

"Year of the Bird", is an initiative by National Geographic, the National Audubon Society, BirdLife International and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to mark the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. It was the most powerful and important bird-protection law ever passed, protecting birds from wanton killing.



January Issue

In honor of this milestone, nature lovers around the world are joining forces to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" and commit to protecting birds today and for the next hundred years.

"If you take care of birds, you take care of most of the environmental problems of the world."

Thomas Lovejoy Biologist and godfather of biodiversity

(Continued on page 5)



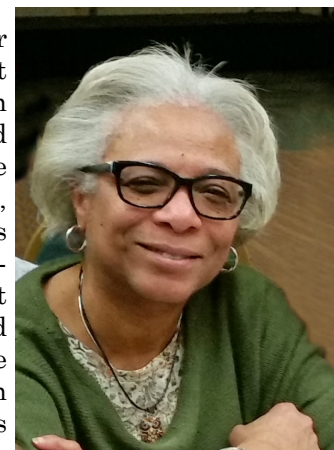
Member Spotlight



Our February Spotlight shines
on Member **Sheila Birmingham**.

Sheila is a new member of our club, joining in October 2017. She joined for the comradery of gardeners and people interested in gardens. She enjoys meeting new people, the community based activities, and speakers & trips. It's all a lot of fun.

Soon after Sheila and her husband Charles bought their home in Taylor in 2010, she began her second gardening adventure. She is a research kind of person, so she attended seminars like Growing Great Gardens, took courses at WCCCD, read books and digested as much as she could from the internet on gardening, butterflies, bees and birds.



Her fairly bare yard began to bloom along with vegetable crops and fruit trees grew. Her yard has 2 apple trees, 2 peach trees, 1 cherry tree, raspberries, strawberries, a vegetable patch and many flowers, including an area to attract butterflies.

She makes her own bird baths. She also reports that she is not good at it yet, but is starting to grow from seed. Sheila said, "Gardening gives me the opportunity to enjoy nature and gives me a feeling of accomplishment. Though my father only had a garden for a short while, I think this is where my first desire to plant came from."

She attended "Growing Great Gardens" last spring, helped with the garden therapy session on Dec. 1st at MediLodge assisting the seniors making paper poinsettias for Christmas, and then brought her husband with her to enjoy our Christmas party in December. So you can see she is really getting into the activities of our club. Sheila even volunteered to have her yard on the Garden Walk this year.

We are happy to have her as a member and are thankful for her enthusiasm and everything she is already doing for our club.

Lucy Barringer

“Right Plant Right Place” Isn’t Just for Plants

It was a bitter, biting cold morning when we left for school that day. Down the street several neighbor boys were surrounding a young dog. Curious, I sent my son over to find out what was going on. He came back with a young hunting dog shivering so hard it’s a wonder he didn’t shake his fur off. “Whose dog?” “Nobody knows” was his reply. “Go inside and get a blanket from the basement. Put it in the crate on the landing, then grab some leftovers from the fridge and we’ll settle her in by the side door.” While my son attended to that I wrote a note for my husband who slept in late and we all hurried off to school so as not to be late.

At noon I came home to explain to husband how we came to have the dog. He agreed to keep the young fella, at least till we found his family. She had four white feet, boots as you will, and as time went by soon Bootsie became a part of our family. She loved to chew especially on wood. Chair and table legs were particularly favored. I tried rubbing them with foul tasting stuff to no avail. She also liked tree bark especially fruit trees.

When she wasn’t chewing she was moving. Around the house, the yard and over fences. As the weather improved she began to follow not only my children but any neighborhood child who had a cookie, candy or in warm weather a Popsicle. As she grew in size so did her territory. We tried to restrict her to a doghouse in the yard with a chain but still we’d go out and the chain would be there and the collar too, but no Bootsie. I did my best to keep her a homebody but it was against her nature.

School began again in September and as Bootsie continued her ways I twice came home from school to calls from Animal Control who had me come and bail her out of the kennel. This could not go on. One of these times she was going to get in serious trouble, get hit by a car or something.

A man at the kennel helped me understand the mystery of Bootsie. “You know what you got here lady is a Tennessee Coon Hound. Bred for hunting and there was no way around it.” He said it with a great reverence, almost an awe in his voice. Since he sounded so awe struck I asked, “Do you want her? Could you take her? She sure could use a home where she’d be appreciated.” He stood dumbstruck for a second then answered, “Why yes, love to have her.” “Then you take her, she’s yours” I said while the smile on his face widened to a full grin. I walked out of there a free woman. Yes, the children would miss her but they’d get over it once they realized they didn’t have to go hunting for her all the time.



I never knew what happened to Bootsie after that, but I believe she found her place. There’s a place for us all you know. And just like plants, we people and dogs do the best when we are in our right place. A shade loving plant will not thrive in the full sun and a hunting dog will never be happy in a small backyard with no coons in neighborhood.

Start looking at those seed catalogues and making your choices spring isn't far away.

Betty Frombetta

(Continued from page 4)

Can we help build a better world for birds by taking simple but meaningful actions?

One thing all gardeners can do to support birds: offer them meals in the garden, particularly by planting natives that support insect life offering needed protein. Nestlings can’t succeed without them.

Another example of choosing plants with birds in mind is tree selection. An oak tree (North American native) supports 534 species of caterpillars while a Ginkgo tree (Asian native) supports 1 species of caterpillars. Caterpillars are a vital source of protein for birds especially at nesting time.



Next deadline is Feb 25th send items to
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Taylor Garden Club

Club 392 District 1
Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
and National Garden Clubs Inc.



Chocolate Peanut Butter Pops

Easy desert to make with kids

from Priscilla Davis

Ingredients:

2 cups cold Milk (Dairy or Almond or Soy)
1/2 cup Peanut Butter (Smooth or chunky)
1 - 3.8 ounce Chocolate Pudding mix (no sugar)
Flat bottom ice cream cones to hold the mixture

Clean egg carton to hold pops while in freezer.

Instructions:

In a mixing bowl blend together pudding and peanut butter, then add milk and whisk till smooth.

When fully blended spoon into ice cream cups and set cups into clean egg carton to hold upright while they set up in the freezer for 4 hours or until firm.

Remove from freezer a few minutes before eating to slightly soften. Enjoy