



Taylor Garden Club



“Growing Together”

Volume 29 Issue 1

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September 2018

From Your President

As September rolls around I am looking forward to our Taylor Garden Club meetings and events! I hope everyone enjoys and learns a little something with the things that we've planned.

This year we are going to plan a “Flower Show,” I am so excited about it! It has been many years since our club has put one on. We have a few field trips planned and some educational speakers to share their knowledge. We are going to help out a little more than usual for The Festival of Trees and help raise funds for the children who so desperately need it.

I hope everyone is looking forward to seeing the familiar faces you've missed over the summer and welcome a few new ones!

Everyone should have been notified about our early field trip to Sandhill Crane Vineyards. It was scheduled at this date because it is time to harvest the grapes.

I'll see you all on Sept. 20th for our meeting.

Bev Brown

Upcoming Events

September 12th, Wednesday, Field Trip to Sandhill Cranes Vineyards Meet at Senior Center at 11 am for a fun day at the Jackson area winery.

Sept. 20th, Thursday, TGC Meeting. Ford Senior Center, 6750 Troy, 7:00 pm. Get together with gardening friends and talk about the summer past and help plan for the club year to come.

LOOKING AHEAD:

October 9th, Tuesday, Field Trip to Plymouth Apple Orchard

October 10th, Wednesday, District I Fall Conference and Luncheon Hosted by Farmington Hills Garden Club

October 22-23rd, Monday-Tuesday, Central Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention, Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI (see p 2)



Looking for new additions for your garden?



Take part in the club plant exchange at the October meeting. Bring something you would like to exchange for something new for your yard.

You can put out the word at the September meeting for what you have and what you would like to get. That way you are more likely to find a good match.

Happy Birthday !

September Birthday Greetings to:

Beverly Brown

Jeanine Fennessey

Brenda Garner

Mike McCown

Anna Nowak

Marilyn Silka

Mary Taylor



Ellen Sicotte

Mary Sobran

JoAnne Winchel

“Turn Off the Violence: Turn on Health”



TGC will once again join in this family event at Heritage Park. It is always the third Thursday of September (this year Sept 20th). It is sponsored by the Taylor Rotary and Beaumont's Healthy Taylor.

A variety of stations are set up under the Sheridan Open Air Pavilion and the Rotary supplies hot dogs and drinks for everyone. This year TGC will have a station with a craft for children to make and take home.

Beaumont

If you would like to help out contact Beverly Brown.

FYI - (For your information):

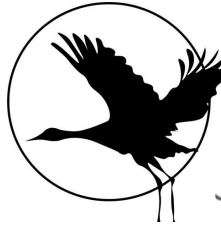
Our condolences to **Hazel** and the Woodfuff family on the passing of her husband and our club member **Ken Woodruff** in August. Many of our members have been ill this summer. **Lois Adams, Verna Paul-Brown, Betty Trombetta** were all hospitalized. **Sandra Haines** had a knee replacement. And **Anna Nowak** faces surgery in September. If I missed some member I apologize but these are the folks I knew about.

Keep in touch with one another. We need to share our strength.

Hope you signed up

We have a field trip planned to Sandhill Crane Winery Sept 12, 2018 in Jackson MI leaving the senior Center at 11 am with a tour of the vineyard at noon and a lovely lunch with wine tasting. \$18 per person includes luncheon buffet and tour.

It will be harvesting time there so we can see how that takes place.



Sandhill Crane Vineyards

Monday/Tuesday October 22-23, 2018

2018 Central Region Convention

“Michigan's October Fest”

Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth, MI

Includes: a Horticultural Specialty Flower Show, speakers, tours, workshops and vendors,

Key Speakers:

Jan Bills has spoken at TGC. Her delightful and engaging presentation will provide a “take home message”- why gardens should be our love, not our labor of love!

Kyle Bagnall program manager of Whiting Forest of Dow Gardens in Midland.

Gene Hopp, his firm grows, designs and plants most of the large floral displays throughout the Frankenmuth business district.

For registration materials visit:

www.ngccentralregion.org/2018-convention

Registration
till Sept 21st.
without late fee.



September Is Time to Divide Peonies

Adapted from articles by
Sandra Mason, Master Gardener Coordinator U of Illinois and Richard Jauron, Dept. of Horticulture U of Iowa

Peonies are one of the few perennials that survive better with September transplanting than spring planting. They are a common Midwestern flower whose popularity grew out of the need for Memorial Day cut flowers. Peony history goes back to cultivation in China over 2,500 years ago. Continued breeding has produced hundreds of cultivars. Because peonies are so common, we sometimes overlook their beauty. They are hardy, durable, perennial plants with large fragrant flowers.

A complaint heard about peonies concerns their short bloom period of two-weeks. Stretch this by anticipating the peony buds opening, just as you anticipate the coming of summer. Selecting early and later season peonies can stretch the flower period to six weeks. Look for some of the newer cultivars which have stouter, sturdier stems.

Even when not in flower, peonies are a welcome addition massed in flowerbeds. Plant peonies behind spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils or tulips. As the bulb foliage dies, the peony is there to cover the area and the dying bulb foliage. Peonies are great companions to Siberian iris, lilies, iris, phlox, poppies or perennial geranium. The peony foliage is a beautiful background for shorter annual flowers such as red salvia and dusty miller.

How often to divide peonies? Every 150 years without fail. If your calendar doesn't go that far, just keep in mind peonies do not require regular division for successful blooming the way other perennials such as bearded iris require. Divisions need only be done to increase the planting area or if the plants are growing poorly.

Begin by cutting off the peony stems near ground level. Then carefully dig around and under each plant, retaining as much of the root system as possible.

Dividing large peony clumps requires a few additional steps. After digging up the plant, gently shake the clump to remove loose soil from the root system. Use a sharp knife, to divide the clump into sections. Each division should have at least 3 to 5 buds (eyes) and a good root system. Divisions with fewer than 3 buds will likely require several years to produce a good flower display.

Peonies perform best in full sun and well-drained soils. When selecting a planting site, choose a location that receives at least 6 hours of direct sun each day. Avoid shady areas near large trees and shrubs. Poorly drained soils can often be improved by working in large amounts of compost or sphagnum peat moss.

When planting a peony, dig a hole large enough to comfortably accommodate its entire root system. Position the peony plant in the hole so the buds are only 1 to 2 inches below the soil surface. (Peonies often fail to bloom if buds are more than 2 inches deep.) Space plants 2 to 3 feet apart. Fill the hole with soil, firming it around the plant as you backfill. Then water thoroughly.

In fall (mid- to late November), apply a 4- to 6-inch-layer of mulch over the newly planted peonies. Excellent mulching materials include clean, weed-free straw and pine needles. Mulching prevents repeated freezing and thawing of the soil during the winter months that could heave plants out of the ground. Remove the mulch in early spring before growth begins. (Remember the eyes must not be planted too deep or no flowers will set.)

Peony measles is a fungal disease causing purple spots on leaves, stems, flower buds and petals. It cannot be stopped this year, but sanitation is very important to control this disease for next year. Remove and destroy stems and foliage as soon as they die down this fall. Fungicide sprays in spring can also be used to prevent diseases.

Despite what you were told, ants do not help or hurt the peonies. They are attracted to the nectar and feel it's a great palace to hang out.





Member Spotlight



The Spotlight for September shines on former member **Rosanne Audritsh**

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Last June 2017, my husband Paul and I moved to Spencer, TN. Spencer is a little town of 1,100 people and is located about two hours southeast of Nashville. We decided to move down south to escape the long Michigan winters. We love our new home. Since we have moved here, we have visited several state parks. Two of our favorite parks are Fall Creek Falls State Park and Rock Island State Park. Both showcase beautiful waterfalls. This summer, we hope to chase more waterfalls and do some fishing.

Fall was just gorgeous! Neighbors tell me, however, that the colors weren't as brilliant as those of past years. Winter brought 1.5" of snow and several January days of freezing temperatures. We live on Baker Mountain which is 1,800 feet above sea level and has its own micro climate. Black ice is always a problem on the mountain and results in shutting down roads and closing schools and businesses.

In early spring, we planted a small vegetable garden of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, beans, corn, squash, melon and cabbage. We hope to have a bumper crop for canning and selling at the farm market. Last year we canned applesauce, tomatoes, & beans.

We also put in landscaping this spring. Life is good here! We are making new friends and adjusting to the slower pace of life. Paul put up a blind for hunting and a corn feeder and planted sugar beets and corn for the deer. He built several Bluebird houses and put them up along with several feeders. We sit on the deck and listen to many different birds and animals and try to identify them by their calls. I spend time making quilts, sewing and planting flowers and there is always cleaning to do. Paul grills a lot outside and I put the rest of it together for a nice meal.

Our good friends Lucy & Jim Barringer came down this May and we had a great time taking them to a few different places as they celebrated their 50th Anniversary this year. We all had a great time.

Miss and Love Ya' All,
Rosanne Audritsh

National Gardener Magazine



Every member of National Garden Clubs can read this publication on the MEMBER section of the website without having a subscription.

To access it:

- Go to the NGC website, www.gardenclub.org
- At the top of the homepage, click on Login Member
- Put the word "member" into the USERNAME box
- Put the word "pumpkin" into the PASSWORD box
- Then click the SIGN IN box that will take you to the NGC MEMBERS SECTION page
- On the left side of the NGC MEMBERS SECTION page, click on the third item, **TNG Online**
- That will take you to the page, **THE NATIONAL GARDENER DIGITAL VERSION**

There you will be able to view every issue of **The National Gardener** from July 2011 to the most current issue. The **TNG** is posted online as soon as the copies are mailed from St. Louis, so you can actually access it earlier than most members receive it in the mail.

Fun fact:

Plants, like people, will drown faster than starve. Learn your plants watering needs to keep them healthy and alive!



Rosanne and Paul in Spencer, Tennessee

Ford Motor Co. Launches Beekeeping Program at Global Headquarters

DEARBORN, Mich., June 15, 2018 – This month Ford launches a global beekeeping program with six new honeybee hives at its Dearborn World Headquarters in support of honeybee populations, the local ecosystem, and gardening and farming communities.



Megan Milbrath holding a frame of Ford's new bees.

“Sustainability is more than improving fuel economy and reducing waste,” says Kim Pittel, Ford group vice president, sustainability, environment and safety engineering. “It’s about improving the environment we live in for all, and that includes honeybees, pollinators and the ecosystems that depend on them.”

According to the nonprofit, **Pollinator Partnership**, honeybees are essential to the world’s food supply and are in dire need of help.

The six new hives will be inside a walking path extension north of Ford World Headquarters. Employees who initiated the program will be beekeepers managing the hives. This effort builds on Ford’s beekeeping initiative at the historic Rouge factory in 2016.

Adding a creative flourish to the installation, the Langstroth hives the bees reside in will be beautified by special hive shells imagined by Ford’s own designers, who participated in a unique competition to see who could come up with the most aesthetically pleasing and functional home for the bees.

Over a dozen design concepts were submitted, spanning a variety of formats and employing numerous materials ranging from wood, plant matter, acrylic, ceramics, mill foam, fiberglass and metal. In the end, the concept of **Chris Westfall**, a designer of vehicle interiors, was chosen for its overall benefits to colony health. Titled, “Honeycomb Sail,” the design features two sails that wrap around each beehive to provide a peaceful space away from the elements. The design takes cues from both bee wings and a thick drop of honey. One side allows for easy access by the beekeeper and the other entrance is sized just for the bees.

Ford beekeepers will provide data on the 360,000 total honeybees expected to inhabit all six hives as the colonies grow to their full potential of 60,000 bees per hive by the height of summer to the *Sentinel Apiary Program*, a collective of nearly 70 beekeepers from 26 states who track honeybee health and diseases nationally.

“Honeycomb Sail” hive shell created by Ford designer, **Chris Westfall**, will ultimately cover and beautify Ford’s bee colonies in the new walking path extension north of World Headquarters.



<https://media.ford.com/content/fordmedia/fna/us/en/news/2018/06/15/>

MGC Inc. District I Fall Conference

Wednesday *October 10th* 9:15 am – 2:30 pm \$30 per person

Glen Oaks Country Club 30500 13 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills



Enjoy lunch with other gardeners from our district, vendors and these informative presenters.

Ashlee Decker of the Nature Conservancy presents “Oak Openings: Globally Rare in Your Backyard” A look at our unique Southeast Michigan ecosystem .

Lisa Steinkopf explains how there is a plant for every light level in your home in her presentation “The Facts of Light”.



Next deadline Sept. 25th send items to
 Editor Mary Krzeczowski
 10701 Holland
 Taylor, MI 48180-3051
 krz80@provide.net

Stamp

Water Watch:

- The United Nations says people need 13 gallons of water for drinking, food prep and hygiene a day.
- The average person in the United States uses 80-100 gallons of water a day.
- The largest share of that is used for flushing the toilet.



Taylor Garden Club
 Club 392 District 1

*Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
 and National Garden Clubs Inc.*



Lighter Eggplant Parmesan

Skinnytaste.com

- 1 large eggplant (2 lbs)
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 12 oz fat free ricotta
- 1/4 cup + 2 Tbsp Pecorino Romano
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 medium egg
- 2 cups reduced fat mozzarella (I used Sargento)
- 3 cups marinara sauce
- Salt

Simmer sauce on stovetop.

Slice eggplant into 1/4 inch slices. Lightly salt and put in a colander for about 1/2 hour to release excess moisture.

Lay on paper towels to soak up any moisture. Preheat oven to 450°. Brush eggplant lightly with olive oil on both sides and

place on cookie sheets. Bake for 20-25 min, turning half way through, eggplant is now golden brown.

In medium bowl combine ricotta, egg, parsley and 1/4 cup grated cheese.

In a 9x12 baking dish, put a little sauce on the bottom of the dish then layer of eggplant to cover the bottom of the dish. Top with 1/3 of the ricotta cheese mixture, mozzarella cheese and sauce. Add another layer of eggplant and repeat the ricotta cheese, mozzarella cheese and sauce until everything is used.

Top with sauce, mozzarella and remaining grated cheese.

Cover with foil, bake until cheese melts and dish is bubbling, about 30 minutes at 400°.

Remove foil, bake additional 8-10 minutes. Take out of oven and let sit 10 minutes before cutting. Enjoy!