



# Taylor Garden Club



*"Growing Together"*

Volume 29 Issue 2

taylorgardenclub.org

October 2018

## From Your President

## Upcoming Events

October has arrived

and that means the record heat is over!

The fall weather is a very welcome change for me. Days are cooler and nights are great for sleeping. I really look forward to the changing of the landscape, putting gardens to bed and PUMPKIN EVERYTHING!!!!

Did you know the heaviest pumpkin in North America weighted in at 2261.5 pounds! Grown in Rhode Island, it has a comparable plant hardiness zone as us, maybe you could be the next winner! Gardening is always a challenge and we just hope for the best.

Don't forget if you come across any plants or seeds in your garden that you'd like to share with fellow gardeners, please bring them to our October meeting and we will exchange.

I hope to see you then!

*Bev Brown*

**October 9th, Tuesday, Field Trip to Plymouth Apple Orchard.** (see pg. 2)

**October 10th, Wednesday, District I Fall Conference and Luncheon** Hosted by Farmington Hills Garden Club (see pg. 4)

**Oct. 12th, Friday, Clean Up Day at Heritage Park.** Come get the beds ready for winter. 10 am till noon.



**Oct. 18th, Thursday, TGC Meeting. Ford Senior Center, 6750 Troy, 7:00 pm.** Festival of Trees Workshop. (see pg. 4)

**October 22-23rd, Monday-Tuesday, Central Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention at Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI** (see pg. 4)



## “Turn Off the Violence: Turn on Health”

TGC once again joined in this family event at Heritage Park Sheridan Pavilion. Sponsored by the *Taylor Rotary* and *Beaumont's Healthy Taylor* various community groups set up tables for fun and education.

The Rotary supplied hot dogs and drinks for everyone. TGC had a station where children could paint a rock, “bling it up”, let it dry while having fun, then take it home. Thanks to **Jan Foltin, Lois Adams, Mary FitzPatrick, Barb Kotarsky Jill Parrish, and Debbie Drumsta** for helping the families have a great time.



Beaumont



## Looking for new additions to your garden?

A few members brought plants in September, but hopefully more will bring some to the October meeting when we will exchange plants we want to remove from our yards, hopefully for something we'd like to try in our yards.

Bring something to give away and maybe you will go home with something new. If not at least you can make a fellow member happy.

### FYI - (For your information):

Add to your yearbook:

Barbara Kotarsky email: babsrobish1940@gmail.com

Julie Victoria 4450 Harding, Dearborn Hts. MI 48125 313-850-1406

Fanny Felton 14130 Westgate Redford, MI 48239-2857 313-673-5659 twee50@aol.com Birth: May 16

Ruth Murphy 9653 William Taylor, MI 48180-3740 313291-9582 rthnnllprl@gmail.com Birth: April 21

## On The Road Again To Plymouth Orchard & Cider Mill

Tuesday October 9th

10685 Warren Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170

Car Pool leaves Ford Sr. Center at 10 am



We didn't make it last year because of bad weather. So - we scheduled it again. Hopefully the weather will allow for a great time this year.

The \$5 cost includes a wagon ride, a snack of cider and donut, and an apple. You can pick out a pumpkin from the patch to take home for an additional \$2.50.

Since 1977, Plymouth Orchards has been a local cider mill for families to enjoy fresh-pressed, award winning apple cider, fresh-made donuts, crispy caramel apples and a fun farm experience. They have fresh mums and pumpkins in the cider mill garden.

During the visit, you can watch apple cider being made, grab a bag of homemade donuts and browse the cider mill shop.

## Happy Birthday !

### October Birthday Greetings to:

Carolyn Archibald

Sandi McCown



## Alliums for the Flower Garden

ONIONS, shallots and garlic are members of the allium family that belong in the vegetable garden. But there are many ornamental alliums that deserve a hearty welcome in your perennial gardens.

Alliums are plants of exquisite beauty in both flower and leaf, with tough constitutions. These easy-to-grow bulbs come in a broad palette of colors, heights, bloom times and flower forms. They make excellent cut flowers for fresh or dried bouquets. Even crowded gardens can accommodate a few alliums because they don't take up much space. What's more, alliums are relatively resistant to deer, voles, chipmunks, and rabbits



Ornamental alliums are hardy to zone 4 and they have very undemanding cultural requirements. They will grow in most any soil, as long as it is well-drained. Alliums adore sunlight and will perform best when they can bask in it all day long. Since most of them multiply naturally, they can be left untouched in the same area for years. Most alliums bloom in late spring and early summer, helping to fill the gap between spring-flowering bulbs and summer perennials. When alliums have finished flowering, their flower heads may be removed or left in place.

Alliums are drought-tolerant plants that actually prefer to be grown on the dry side. There are no serious diseases or insect pests that bother them. And you won't ever have to worry about rodents or deer, since they seem to have no appreciation for the taste of onions — ornamental or otherwise.

Just remember, there's only one time of year you can plant alliums: in the fall. When buying bulbs remember the larger the bulb, the more food energy is stored inside. Larger bulbs will produce stronger plants with bigger flowers. Allium bulbs are planted after the first frost and before the ground freezes. Daffodils, tulips and crocuses are easy to find at most garden centers, but alliums are not as readily available. You can order them by mail. That way, they'll show up at your door at proper planting time, and there's no chance you'll live another year without these beautiful, long-lasting, pollinator-friendly flowers in your garden.

Bulb size determines planting depth. Large bulbs such as Globemaster should be planted 6" deep, while smaller bulbs like drumstick alliums are only planted 3 or 4" deep. For best results, follow plant-specific instructions on the package.

Alliums usually produce leaves before they send up the first flower buds. For some species, this means the foliage starts to yellow and die back before the flowers have finished blooming. To help hide this fading foliage, plant the bulbs among plants that will cover the dying leaves. Good companions for alliums include hosta, astilbe, perennial geranium and lavender. The allium bulb needs to produce energy for next year's flowers so allow the foliage to die back naturally. Once it has withered, it can be removed with a gentle tug.



Expect to see lots of pollinators when your alliums are in bloom. These bulbs are an excellent addition to any sort of habitat garden.

An allium flower head is a cluster of individual florets and the overall shape may be round, oval or cascading. Colors include white, yellow, pink, purple and blue, and heights vary by species, ranging from just 5" to 4 feet tall. Each type of allium adds its own distinctive style and personality to the garden.





## Festival of Trees Workshop

At our October meeting we will work with **Denise McDonald** the chairman of Tabletop Trees for the FOT in decorating 2 foot trees for the annual fundraiser for Children's Hospital of Michigan.

She will bring a lot of decorations, but it would be helpful to bring glue guns, scissors, wire and any other items you feel would help you in decorating such a tree.

You can still get a tree to decorate personally at home, just notify **Lois Adams**.



**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](http://www.ngccentralregion.org)



## 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 of which Taylor is a part.

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

## October Is Time To:

# 1

Dig up your rosemary, basil, tarragon, oregano, marjoram, English thyme, parsley, and chives to grow them inside as houseplants. Keep them in a cool, sunny spot, and allow the soil to dry out before watering. Snip off the leaves as needed in the kitchen, but do not strip them completely.

#2

Although bulbs can be planted through November, getting them in the ground now gives them plenty of time to establish healthy root systems before winter. Be sure to water well and mulch when planting.

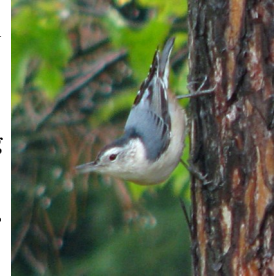
#3

Pumpkins, winter squash, and gourds to be stored should be harvested before the first frost. To prevent fungal disease, be careful not to nick the rinds. Wash them with soap and water, dry well, and move into cool storage for winter. Pumpkins will continue to ripen after being placed in storage.

#4

Broadleaf weed killers are more effective now than in spring, so spray to kill dandelions, creeping Charlie, clover, violets, and all the other offenders. Spot treat instead of broadcast spraying for safer control. Use a non-toxic spray, such as one made from vinegar or ammonium salts of fatty acids.

## 2018 is the Year of the Bird



### The Top Five Threats to Birds May Surprise You

One in eight bird species is in danger of extinction – but what are the main factors driving their decline? They might not be what you think.

Sometimes it's easy to see what's harming birds. The cat with a bird between its teeth, or the tragic pile of feathers by the side of the motorway. But bigger threats are less visual, and less direct. This doesn't make them any less urgent. *Bird Life's* report "State of the World's Birds 2018", found that one in eight birds is in danger of extinction, and 40% of the world's 10,000+ species are declining. Birds in danger include familiar species such as the Atlantic Puffin and Snowy Owl.

#### 1. Industrial Farming

It destroys much-needed bird habitats, especially in tropical regions, but some pesticides are poisonous to birds.

#### 2. Logging

Since nearly two-thirds of species are found in forests, logging is a huge problem for birds.

#### 3. Invasive Species

Few people realize how harmful invasive species are to birds. Over the last half-century, interlopers such as rats and mice have been responsible for more than 70% of bird extinctions. Birds on remote islands are especially susceptible to this threat, as they evolved with few natural predators.

#### 4. Hunting & Trapping

Illegal hunting and capturing of birds can cause huge population plummets in a short space of time.

#### 5. Climate Change

So far, nearly a quarter of bird species studied globally have been negatively affected by climate change. Breeding and migratory cycles are changing. A recent study found that warmer UK springs are causing caterpillar numbers to spike earlier, meaning by the time many bird chicks hatch, there are not enough caterpillars to go around

<https://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/news/top-five-threats-birds-may-surprise-you>



### Saving Milkweed Seeds

Maybe you have tried to start milkweed plants from seed. I have. It isn't all that easy. The seeds need to be harvested when ripe not before. That means the seed pod needs to be brown and starting to break open. If you take them off when they are still green you have avoided getting milkweed seeds all over your yard and the neighbors (a good thing) but the seeds will not germinate.

If you want to use the seeds you must wait until they are truly ripe and dried. The trick is usually to get to them when they have split but before they start flying all over the place. Timing is often difficult.

A friend told me recently to take a rubber band and slip it over the green pods. That keeps them closed while they dry and split open. You can then harvest them easily. Just pick them, drop them into a paper bag and slide the rubber band off when you get back to the garage.

After you harvest them put the seeds a plastic bag with a damp paper towel and keep them in the cool garage or in the frig. They must be cold, damp stratified for months in order to be ready to germinate in the spring.

Or—do what I am planning to do this year. I'm harvesting common milkweed and planting in October. Getting a strip of land ready in the field behind my house now and seeding them this month. That's how they do it naturally. I'm just giving them a little help by using a lot of seeds in a space without a lot of competition.

If you have **good seeds** for me I'll take them. I plan to start butterfly weed in the house in spring for our plant sale. So label your seed as to variety and bring it to the meeting.

Thanks, Mary Krzeczowski



Next deadline Sept. 25th send items to  
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Stamp



# Taylor Garden Club

Club 392 District 1

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



## Carrot Cake - Healthy Style

from Lucy Barringer & Dr. Weil's website

### Ingredients

- 2 cups firmly packed finely grated carrots
- Juice of 1 large orange
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup light olive oil
- 1 cup honey, liquefied in microwave (30 sec.)
- 1/2 cup crushed or chopped pineapple, drained
- 1 cup unbleached white flour
- 1 1/2 cups whole-wheat pastry flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- 3/4 cup walnuts, chopped

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. In mixing bowl, stir together carrots, orange juice, vanilla, olive oil, honey, and pineapple until well blended.
3. In another bowl, stir together flours, baking soda, and spices. Mix in walnuts.
4. Blend dry ingredients into carrot mixture, stirring until just mixed.
5. Pour batter into a nonstick 8-inch-square baking pan and bake for 45-60 minutes until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.
6. Remove from oven, cool slightly, and remove from pan.