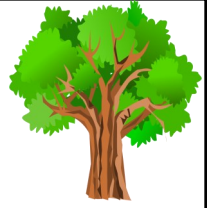




Taylor Garden Club



"Growing Together"

Volume 29 Issue 8

taylorgardenclub.org

April 2019

From Your President

As members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (we are 1 of 6,539) we are eager in keeping with the philosophy on which the organization was founded. All clubs are concerned with community beautification, roadside development, good horticulture practice, litter control, environmental action, education of youth and the restoration and preservation of historic sites.

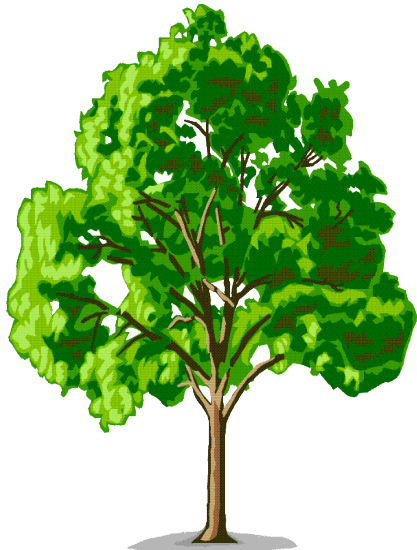
Together we have worked very hard at establishing and maintaining the gardens at Heritage Park. We know it has at times been difficult and some members have put a lot of time into this project. I hope we can work with the city to keep it manageable for us to maintain.

Since we are affiliated with the National and Michigan Garden Clubs, we will work on the projects they put forth for us. Our goal should be to "cover Michigan with pollinator gardens." We will try to get our scouts or youth to help in the gardens. A native plant garden is easier to maintain and also attracts pollinators.

Our clean-up day is scheduled for April 27, 9 am!

Bev Brown

Celebrate Earth Day by bringing a tip or garden hack to share at our meeting on how you "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" in the garden. Your name will be dropped in a bucket for a chance for a prize!



Upcoming Events

April 18th, Thursday, TGC Meeting. Ford Senior Center, 6750 Troy, 7:00 pm. "Luther Burbank" Debra Reid of The Henry Ford gives us a look at the life of this pioneer of agricultural science.

Hostesses: Arlene Mohr, Mary D'Herin, Julie Victoria, Michelle Hightower, Phillis and Max Green.

April 22nd, Monday, Earth Day

April 26th, Friday, Arbor Day

April 27th, Saturday, Clean Up Day at Heritage Park. 9 am. Come help get the beds ready for spring and summer.

LOOKING AHEAD:

May 18th, Saturday, TGC Public Plant Sale at St. John's Church, Northline and Telegraph Rds. Set up at 8 am Sale 9 am - 2 pm.

June 5 - 6th, Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. 88th Annual State Conference Theme: "Beauty and Balance, Earth and Water" Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, Michigan. See michigangardenclubs.org for information and registration.



Growing Great Gardens

Taylor Garden Club's largest annual fundraiser was a success again this year. There were several other gardening events happening on the same day which probably explains why we had fewer registrations this year. There were 350 people signed up and in the past the event attracts more than 400. Icy roads and also prohibited about 20 people from attending even though they had registered in advance.



Taylor Garden Club's table was beautifully decorated by **Jan Foltin** and **Mary Fitzpatrick**. In addition to selling gloves several garden club members painted rocks and hid them around the college. As people found one, they were told to return it to the garden club table for a prize. All the rocks were found and recipients were thrilled to be rewarded with a lovely metal garden stake.

Did you know that you can come and shop at the vendor tables all day even if you do not register to attend the conference? Our own **Jill Parrish** is a very popular vendor at GGG with all her creative items for sale also. Craft Show signs are posted on Northline and I saw many people coming in just to shop.

Thank you to all of our members who helped set up on Friday at the college and to all those who worked at the event on Saturday. The names of everyone who helped will be read at our next garden club meeting. By that time all our expenses and income will have been tallied and I can announce our profit amount for this year.

Thanks again to all those involved by attending or working for this important community educational event and TGC fundraiser. If you couldn't make it this year be sure to get there next time. It is an outstanding event.



If you are a garden club member and did not sign up for Growing Great Gardens this year you missed 3 phenomenal speakers. I heard comments all day about how much folks enjoyed the speakers and surveys turned in at the end of the day were extremely complimentary. Not only were the presentations educational but many times throughout the day the crowd in the auditorium was roaring with laughter at their humorous photos and narration.

People came dressed in their finest or funniest green apparel in honor of St. Patrick's Day. We had a surprise visit from **Digger the Garden Dog** dressed up as a Leprechaun. **Karen and Jim Taylor's** Golden Retriever was invited on stage after lunch and is now a therapy dog working in hospitals and nursing homes.



Nancy Smith



New Research on How to Help Monarch Butterflies

Edited from: Keith Matheny, Detroit Free Press 4:30 p.m. ET March 14, 2019

For years, lovers of monarch butterflies have planted milkweed to help the declining species along. New research out of Michigan State University, however, says monarch-lovers should consider chopping down at least some of their milkweed plants later in the summer.



"From a monarch's perspective, they need milkweed, but not all milkweed stems are equal," said Nate Haan, a postdoctoral research associate in MSU's Department of Entomology

"When they are flying around looking for the best places to lay their eggs, they are seeking out younger, more tender stems that haven't flowered yet. As summer progresses, those stems get more and more hardened."

Haan's research, published in the peer-reviewed, scientific *Journal of Biological Conservation*, shows that mowing a third of milkweed patches in June and July, respectively, resulted in more monarch butterfly eggs laid on the regenerating milkweed than on the remaining, undisturbed third of milkweed plants. "Milkweed is really robust," he said. "If you chop some down in the middle of summer, in a couple of weeks it will send up new shoots."

It's a phenomenon that has been observed for generations, Haan said — "even some observations going back to the 1800s that after hay fields got harvested, the fields got mowed, and the milkweeds that came back up had a lot of monarch eggs on them." But no one had ever tested the anecdotes in an empirical study before, he said. The mowing has an added benefit, Haan said. "Monarch eggs and caterpillars get eaten by predators such as ants and spiders," he said. "We wondered if the disturbance of the milkweeds would also knock back predator populations, providing a window in time where predators are less abundant and the eggs and caterpillars are better allowed to thrive. We found that was the case, too. It takes a few weeks for the predator populations to build back up" after a milkweed mowing.

Brenda Dzedzic of Westland, a conservation specialist for the nonprofit Monarch Watch in Michigan and author of the book, "Learn About Butterflies in the Garden," said she is not surprised by the findings of Haan's research. "It absolutely makes sense," she said. "Monarchs, if you have a (younger) plant, the butterfly will lay its eggs on that because it's more tender. Only if there's nothing else around will they lay their eggs on the larger, tougher leaves."

Don't misuse his research. Haan doesn't want people taking a lawnmower to the entirety of their milkweed stands this summer. Instead, use a weed whip to take down about one-third of an area's milkweed plants around mid-June; then do the same to a different third of the plants in mid-July. "What I guess will happen, on that new growth, is you'll see a lot more eggs and caterpillars," he said.

Keith Matheny: 313-222-5021 or kmatheny@freepress.com.

Happy Birthday ! April Birthday Greetings to:



Raquel Knuth

Ruth Murphy

Arlene Mohr

Shirley Williams

Hazel Woodruff

Also:

John Muir

Thomas Jefferson

Melania Trump

Clara Ford (Henry's Wife)

Why Plant Native?

Since Michigan Garden Clubs Inc. is affiliated with Wildflower Association of Michigan, I want to highlight a few reasons to landscape with native plants.



From the *Wildflower Association of Michigan* website

- ◆ Michigan's native plants and plant communities are part of our natural heritage and should be preserved for future generations.
- ◆ Native plants are beautiful and can greatly enhance landscapes with their distinctive foliage, graceful forms, and colorful flowers and fruits.
- ◆ Native plants are easy to grow and maintain because they, unlike plants from Europe and Asia and even other regions of our own continent, are well adapted to our soils and climate. Plants native to our state will thrive in your yard without fertilizer or pesticides. Once established, they will even require less water!
- ◆ Native plants provide food and shelter for wildlife.
- ◆ Landscaping with native plants helps reduce greenhouse gases and other factors of climate change.

Bev Brown

The Buzz on Bees



Honeybees fly 12 to 15 mph and beat their wings more than 200 times per second!

There are about 4000 species of native bees in the U.S.

Only female bees sting

Bees enjoy a caffeine buzz in the morning! About 55% of flowering plants are estimated to have caffeinated nectar, and bees tend to visit these more frequently.

Bees are put into 2 groups based on tongue length.

When selecting plants to attract bees look for single flower tops, the double flowers (although beautiful) produce less nectar and make it difficult for bees to access pollen. Also, hybridized plants are bred not to produce seed and thus produce very little pollen. So - once again native and heirloom varieties are best for our pollinator friends.

Heroes to Hives

A unique program through Michigan State University Extension that helps veterans through professional training and community involvement centered around beekeeping. Veterans leave the program with beekeeping knowledge, and personal and professional relationships that open up opportunities and give long-term peer support.

Since 2016, *Heroes to Hives* has trained 128 military veterans and spouses.



The main *Heroes to Hives* instructional beehive is housed at the beautiful and peaceful Kellogg Biological Station Bird Sanctuary, providing our veterans and instructors a quiet natural setting. Other sites are in Chatham, East Lansing, Frankenmuth, and Traverse City. In 2019, sites in Escanaba, Canton, and Manchester, MI will be added, and the online portion of the program will be opened to all veterans, National Guard members and spouses across the US.

Michigan is home to 640,000 veterans facing a multitude of challenges as they transition from military to civilian life. These can include anxiety, depression, service related health issues and disabilities, and finding careers that are personally rewarding.

Honey bees provide pollination services to 35% of agricultural crops grown, a service worth almost 20 billion dollars in the US each year. Beekeepers face more challenges than ever before, with pests, pathogens, poor nutrition and pesticides making beekeeping more difficult, and expensive.

Community building is a specific focus of *Heroes to Hives*, and our approach to teaching allows veterans to feel comfortable and supported in a peer network of veteran beekeepers. Our students also engage their larger communities through "live hive" demonstrations of beekeeping management techniques at beekeeping events around Michigan.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020 PROGRAM
WILL BE AVAILABLE IN NOV. 2019

At the last TGC meeting the membership voted to support this program with a \$500 donation.

Saturday, 11 May 2019

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Examples of Acceptable Items

Household paints, stains, dyes

Floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaner

Furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers, solvents

Pharmaceutical Waste
(NON-CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ONLY)

Nail polish, glue

Fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides

Antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline

Automotive batteries and dry cell batteries, fluorescent bulbs (all types)

Fire extinguishers, smoke detectors

Mercury thermometers, thermostats, elemental mercury and electronics recycling

Computer CPU's, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice

Cell phones, fax machines, copiers, and televisions

Only household generated products from Wayne County residents will be accepted. Items that will not be accepted include: commercial waste, industrial waste, radioactive material, explosives, ammunition, 55 gallon drums, household trash, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, yard waste, roofing shingles, & concrete. For information on how to dispose of these items, please contact the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936.

Location:

Henry Ford College
5101 Evergreen Rd., Dearborn, MI 48128
(Just south of Ford Road)

www.WayneCounty.com





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



Taylor Garden Club

Club 392 District 1

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



Fiesta Bean Salad

Servings: 4 (as main dish)

Skinnytaste.com

Ingredients:

2 cloves garlic, minced
3 Tbsp fresh lime juice
1 Tbsp extra virgin olive
1 tsp cumin
pinch crushed red pepper flakes
1/2 teaspoon salt
15 oz can black beans, rinsed and drained
1 cup canned chickpeas, rinsed and drained
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
1/4 cup minced red onion, finely diced
1/4 cup cilantro, chopped (or parsley)
1 medium avocado, diced

Other suggestions:

1 cucumber diced
1/2 yellow pepper diced

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the garlic, lime juice, oil, cumin, crushed red pepper, and salt. Whisk together.

Add the black beans, chickpeas, tomato, onion and cilantro. Mix well.

When ready to eat, gently mix in avocado and serve right away.