

# Thru the Garden Gate

## Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Report 2021 — 2022



Official Publication of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. a 501 © 3 non-profit organization and member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Central Region National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The MGC, Inc. **Mission** is to provide education, resources, and network opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral and landscape design, and environmental responsibility.

### In this issue...

MGC President	1
Contacts	2
MGC Bylaws	4
First VP/President-Elect	5
District Reports	5
Second VP & Committees	8
Third VP & Committees	9
Fourth VP & Committees	11
Technology Committee	13
Awards Committee	14
Finance Committee	20
Meetings/Member Services	22
Standing Committees	22

## MGC Elected Officer Reports

### President’s Report 2021-2022

Monica Taylor, President

### Celebrating Our Success!



Monica Taylor

We began this administration with our first Board Meeting, June 4, 2021, via Zoom. On August 3, 2021, the Executive Committee and Board members met in Lansing to discuss the Strategic Plan for this administration. We set the course to move forward.

#### Homegrown National Park

We continue to partner with the Homegrown National Park to encourage best gardening practices and promote the message of restoring biodiversity and ecosystem function by planting native plants and creating new ecological networks. As a partner with Homegrown National Park, we monitor and report Michigan data for “Get on the Map” in each issue of MGC Newsletter, *Thru the Garden Gate*:

Starting Data on	<u>Apr 6, 2021</u>	<u>June 15, 2022</u>
Active Counties	39	59
Active Zip Codes	94	232
User Count	124	410
Plantings Count	167	643
Planted Acres	373.42	959.213

#### Blue and Gold Memorials

Four Blue Star and Six Gold Star Dedications were held. It is an honor to be part of these dedications and to pay tribute to our Armed Services.

Continued on next page.

**Schools and Education**

Commitment to offer Schools to our members continues with something for everyone. We successfully offered Gardening School, Course 3 & 4 via Zoom. Environmental School Course 3 & 4 were held in person in Midland, MI. Landscape Design Course 3 & 4 were held in Grand Haven, MI.

**Michigan Flower Shows**

- *Our Solar System* flower show was held at the Ludington, MI Library sponsored by Mason County Garden Club.
- *Color Me Fall*, a flower show at the *Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park*, was held in Grand Rapids, MI. This show was sponsored by Kent Garden Club, West Michigan Flower Arrangers Guild, and the Garden Clubs of District IV.
- *Follow the Yellow Brick Road* flower show was held in Holland, MI and hosted by the Holland Garden Club.
- District 2B member clubs participated in a flower show held at the Lansing, MI Home & Garden Show.

**Flower Show Symposium**

Flower Show Symposium was offered in Okemos, MI. Participants enjoyed learning about Design Techniques from Lynn Fronk and delighted in the Horticulture discussion with Sue Kirkman. We welcomed many out-of-town guests and were pleased that Carol Yee, our Central Region Director, was able to join us.

**Restructure of Michigan Consultants Council (MCC) & Michigan Association Accredited Judges (MAAJ)**

A committee of each group meets monthly to work to restructure their group. There is a representative from each District. Each group selects a representative to serve on the MGC Board. The goal is to become an active part of each District team and become more engaged with the member clubs in their District, by providing support and education.

**District Activities**

Six of the Districts in Michigan were able to hold their Fall Meetings in person. District 5 held their meeting virtually. What a delight to meet so many of our members and hear about all their accomplishments. They have made significant efforts to stay connected.

Six Spring District Meetings were held across the State. District 6 invited District 2B to attend their meeting. Lots of opportunities to share ideas and connect with each other.

**CONTACTS**

MGC, Inc. President  
Monica Taylor  
president@migardenclubs.org

MGC, Inc. 1st Vice-President  
Nancy J Ryan  
1stVP@migardenclubs.org



NGC, Inc. President  
Mary Warshauer  
Mwarshauer@gardenclub.org



NGC Central Region Director  
Carol Yee  
lmscyee@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor  
Carol Lauffer  
newsletter@migardenclubs.org

Continued on next page.

District Directors each have a zoom account to facilitate their District Presidents meetings, offer the District zoom account for use by Member Clubs and facilitate other meeting as needed.

### **Member Meetings**

Member Meetings via Zoom moved to Friday Morning in July. Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. (MGC) continues to offer Member Meetings twice a month via Zoom. Twenty-three Member Meetings were offered with a focus on Awards, Gardening, MGC Website, Photography Tips, Scholarship Program, the Homegrown National Park initiative, Youth Awards, Growing Orchids, Holiday Décor, History of Aprons and connection with gardening, Waterways, Grant Opportunities, Raised Bed gardening, Vegetable Gardening, Oudolf Detroit Gardens, and Botanical Jewelry. Over 600 members attended.

### **Social Media**

We continue to connect with our members through the Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. Facebook page and seven Facebook Groups. Facebook Groups include Edibles, Growing Native Plants, Floral Design, Horticulture/Arboriculture, Photography, Container Gardening, Artistic Crafts, and Black Swallowtail Butterfly Group. As of May 2022, we had 1234 members visiting these groups.

### **New Adventure**

With the inspiration and talent of Lynn O'Shaughnessy, a 2022 Michigan Native Plant Engagement Calendar and Reference Guide was developed and published. Two hundred ten calendars were sold. Lynn is already planning the 2023 calendar!

### **Scholarships**

We had 100% participation from the 15 universities we work with to award Scholarships. Karin Maupin, Scholarship Chair, the MGC Volunteer Resident Agents and Suzanne Budrow, donations need to be congratulated on a job well done. Our total Scholarship awards were \$21,000. In addition, the NGC Scholarship winner, Chloe Summers received an additional \$4500 scholarship. This is a program we can be enormously proud of. It is with immense pleasure to announce that the MGC Board has approved the MGC Scholarship amount will be increased to \$1500 each.

### **Communications**

District Directors each have a Zoom account to facilitate their District Presidents meetings, offer the District Zoom accounts for use by Member Clubs and facilitate others meetings as needed.

As I reflect on this past year with its many challenges it is important to recognize and thank all the MGC Board members who have offered their time, talent and dedication to the mission and goals of Michigan Garden Clubs. We have achieved a lot and should be proud of our accomplishments.

We are a volunteer organization, and it is imperative that we continue to review all our processes and work to simplify tasks. Working together we make a difference. Thanks for all you do to support the mission of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

*Monica Taylor*





**The following Bylaw changes were approved by the MGC Board of Directors on April 7, 2022. The additions/revisions are underlined.**

### **Revised MGC Bylaws**

(Approved by the MGC Board of Directors April 7, 2022)

#### **ARTICLE VII: DUES - Page 4**

7.1 The fiscal year of MGC, Inc., shall be from June 1 through May 31.

7.1.1 All dues are payable to MGC, Inc., on June 1 and delinquent after September 1 of each year.

7.1.2 Member clubs and Associate Organizations failing to remit dues October 1 shall forfeit membership and all privileges.

7.1.3 After September 1, all new member information should be sent to MGC, Inc., but dues will not be collected for new members at this time.

7.1.4 Dues for new members joining after September 1, shall be paid on June 1 of the following year and are delinquent after September 1 according to Article VII: Dues, 7.1.1.

#### **ARTICLE XI: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Page 6**

11.1 The Board shall:

11.1.1 Be composed of elected and appointed officers, District Directors, chairs of standing and special committees, the Advisory Council (Former State Presidents), and Chairs of the Michigan Consultants Council and Michigan Association of Accredited Judges.

**District Activities/ Membership Committee**

**Chair: Nancy J. Ryan,  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-Elect**

The 2021-2022 fiscal year represented the continued challenge of Covid but also the re-start of many in person activities across the state. Over 500 members attended the in person Fall District Meetings. The District Directors did an outstanding job working with host clubs to support the fall gatherings following the local guidelines to provide a safe and comfortable environment.

The use of Zoom Meetings has proven to be a valuable tool to conduct business and connect with our member clubs. At present there are 136 Member Clubs and approximately 4700 members. There was a loss of five clubs and membership shrank statewide by 2%.

For the year the Membership focus has been continued improvement in the annual club roster process in the spring turning to Membership Recruitment efforts for the remainder of the year.

The individual summaries from each of the seven District Directors follow.

**District 1: Director Anne Ryan**

I felt like Perry Mason's private detective Paul all summer trying to track down and make contact with the 29 Garden Club Presidents in my District.

Because the club rosters were not due until September 30, I had no idea who was President of each club. This took a lot of time and phone

calls, add to that, summer vacations and some Clubs having co-Presidents and one club having 3 people sharing this job, it was rather challenging. In addition, I worked on organizing the Fall District Meeting that my club was hosting, which involved picking a theme, finding a date that worked for everyone, negotiating the price, the menu, acquiring our tax-exempt paperwork, designing the invitation, the program nametags, and center pieces, organizing the hostesses and preparing the budget and final Budget.

Then came sending out the survey, following up on the survey and tabulating the results.

Planning Spring leadership conference was next which was pretty much the same as Fall Meeting. I also facilitated clubs in my district with monthly Zoom meeting and updated rosters with new and deceased members. Add to this monthly District meetings, Executive Board meetings, Regular Board Meetings and Central Region Board meetings as well as writing 4 articles for the MGC newsletter *Thru the Garden Gate*. I have been busy.



©Clauffer

**District 2A: Director Mary Moore**

The Roster update process was sent to each club and completed.

District 2A had a great Fall Conference held in October 2021.

Asked each club to appoint a Roster Manager.

Presently planning the Spring Leadership Conference on April 22, 2022.

Acquired pictures and memorials for the MGC Annual Conference.

Planning for the Fall District Conference in Adrian on October 14, 2022.

**District 2B: Director Carol Grainger**

Our district appointed and elected a new Director, Carol Grainger.

This was a year that 2B was assigned to coordinate and host the MGC 2022 Annual Conference. Since this District functions with a Steering Committee, it was in full command with a Coordinator and partial team to work on the Conference. The Clubs within our District took on different tasks to pull the annual event together. All clubs were very cooperative and engaged.

Our District hosted a Tri-fresher, 2 flower shows, a Symposium, and a District Meeting.

This spring, District 2B decided to join another District for the Spring Leadership Meeting.

District 2B lost one club and members remained strong in all the other clubs.

District 2B Steering Committee and Club Presidents meetings were conducted monthly with Zoom and attendance was steady.

Along with the monthly informational meetings, we published a quarterly report to MGC and a District newsletter.

Two clubs were awarded the Plant America Award. As a wrap-up for our District, things are going well, and much is already in the works for the next program year.



Fernwood Botanical Gardens Niles MI

**District 3: Director Michele Armstrong**

The abundant activities and achievements of the nearly 800 members of the 30 garden clubs of District 3 in SW Michigan highly impact their membership and community. Limited space allows me to highlight only a few.

The Kalamazoo Garden Council was nationally recognized, and attended, for their sponsorship of the first all virtual Zoom MGC Gardening School held in 2021.

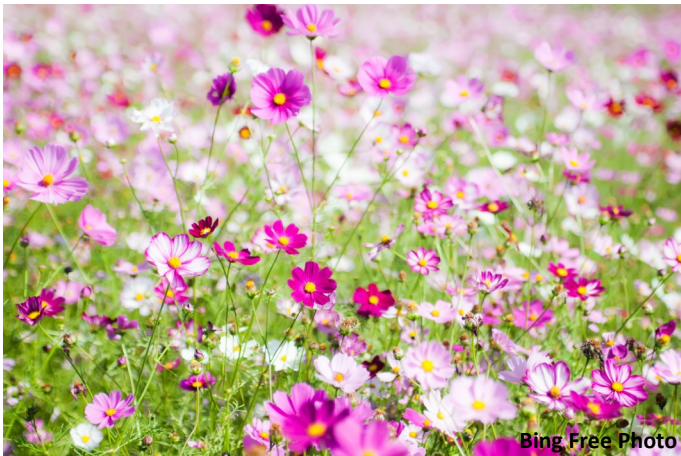
The Petal Pushers GC and Landscapers GC dedicated a Gold Star Memorial at the Air Zoo Museum in Kalamazoo.

Additional garden walks, community plantings, environmental speakers, plant sales and giveaways,

growing eatables, arbor day youth projects, holiday cheer for shut-ins, etc. are on the Michigan Garden Clubs District 3 Facebook page and the individual club's website and social media sites.

The festive Fall District 3 meeting, hosted by Chula Vista GC in Plainwell, was well attended with everyone enjoying a day of speakers, shopping, and sharing gardening stories.

Fernwood Botanical Gardens was the wildflower backdrop for the *Spring District 3 Grow + Share + Connect Leadership* meeting, hosted by Indian Hills GC, for clubs to share solutions and ideas on being a strong spirited club. Club connections increased with monthly Club President's Zoom Sessions coordinated by me, a privileged District 3 Director.



#### **District 4: Director Carol McGregor**

The 15 Garden Clubs of District 4 had a challenging 2021 year while emerging from a pandemic and starting to hold club meetings and events again. They started holding in person or hybrid meetings and continued with their outdoor Community projects.

After MGC held a successful Zoom Convention, it was decided to hold the District Fall Meeting in person, hosted by the Kent Garden Club. Wow,

what a turn out we had and everyone was smiling and happy to see their garden club friends at last.

Following that event, most clubs started to have fall events and Christmas parties, often wearing masks. However, winter and now Spring, has brought us together planning our summer outings and projects and we held a Spring Leadership meeting in Whitehall/Montague in May hosted by the Dirt Daubers Garden Club.

Looking forward to 2022 being a busy and productive gardening year.

#### **District 5: Director Dorothy Sandoval**

The fiscal year began with updating the 22 club Rosters and 929 members in District 5.

Meetings were held to plan the Fall'21/Spring'22/ Fall'22 District meetings. Other meetings included DD meetings with 1VP, Executive Committee and Board meetings.

Club President Meetings were established and the meetings are held every six weeks to support the leaders and share information.

Data collection included a survey to find out what's most important for club presidents to continue leading their clubs into the future.

Club photos were collected to be used at the MGC State Conference, a listing of events were gathered to showcase what clubs are doing around the state, and presidents were asked to submit the name of deceased members during the fiscal year to be memorialized at the State Conference.

Club President Reports were compiled and submitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> VP and President of MGC.



**District 6: Director Kathleen Sauber**

District 6 appointed Sue Hendrix as District 6 Treasurer.

The Roster Process for District 6 was completed for all 15 clubs before the deadline.

The Evergreen Garden Club of Midland hosted the Fall District 6 Meeting in Midland on 10-2-21, attended by 60 members.

District 6’s Midland Council hosted Environmental Studies School Sessions 3 & 4 in Midland in October & November 2021.

A Zoom meeting was held in District 6 to interview and honor our SVSU Scholarship winner on January 5, 2022.

President’s Zoom meetings have been held on a regular basis.

Newsletters are sent to District 6 Presidents on a regular basis.

The Spring Leadership Meeting was held in Mount Pleasant in April sponsored by the Evening Bloomers Garden Club.

Several District 6 Zoom and in person planning sessions have been held for the 2022 Fall District Meeting on October 12, 2022 which will be hosted by the Caro Garden Club.

District 6 had one club, The Evening Blossoms Club of Breckenridge, resign. District 6 currently has 359 members.

The group looks forward to the 2022-2023 and the continued return to in person events. The use of Zoom Meetings to support MGC and Club meeting and events will also continue.

**Civic Affairs Committee**



**Chair: Judy Lindemulder,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Legislative Chair: Jennette Meyer**

Black Swallowtail Bill: HB5642 Annual Report: On December 14, 2021 Rep. Brixie introduced HB 5642 with Rep. Lilly as co-sponsor, to make the Black Swallowtail Butterfly the official state representative of all pollinators, i.e., Michigan’s state butterfly. The bill was assigned to the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee and



on March 17, 2022 club members were invited to attend a committee meeting, to introduce and testify on behalf of the bill.

A delegation led by, Rep. Brixie, Included MGC members, fourth graders of the Okemos Montessori School, their parents, and teachers, Jeanette Meyer, MGC Legislative Chair, Sue Leahy, and a representative of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class testified at the hearing. Jeanette and Sue gave the conclusions of research and studies as to why the Black Swallowtail would benefit Michigan's agriculture, currently and into the future and differences of other butterflies.

Sue gave the history of the butterfly and the school representative pointed out to the committee that Michigan is one of two states without an official butterfly and asked that we not be the last! Iowa is the other state without a butterfly.

As a committee member pointed out, Iowa beat Michigan for the Big 10 basketball championship. Let's not let them beat us in naming an official state butterfly!

It is very important that we keep our letters of support going to the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee members, especially its chair, Rep. Howell. Rep. Brixie's staff have pointed out that it is incredibly important that we continue to remind the committee members of the importance of HB5642 as the Black Swallowtail is a perfect representative of pollinators which are so necessary for Michigan crops.

## Loda Lake Wildflower Sanctuary

**Karen Motawi, Chair**

Since June 2021, I have submitted quarterly articles to *Thru the Garden Gate* about the sanctuary as

well as listing donors.

Contributions of \$7,317 have been deposited and thank you notes sent to donors, families of those remembered through memorial gifts and individuals honored through donations.

One check for \$605 was paid out for materials used by the Forest Service to build a footbridge in a wet spot on one of the trails.

The balance of the Loda Lake Endowment Fund held at the Fremont Area Community Foundation is \$54,942 with a current spendable balance of \$7,500.

The MGC Loda Account balance is \$12,500.

I met with United States Forest Service personnel to discuss needs and future plans.

I gave 2 PowerPoint presentations over Zoom, including a Friday Member Meeting on planning a trip to the sanctuary.



## Education and Schools Committee



### Chair: Denise Clegg, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President

I was appointed to the role of Third Vice-President in December of 2021 and was elected to the position at the April 2022 Board of Directors meeting.

Since December, I have overseen the updating of the Consultants list for each school. Please review your status if you have not already done so. Michigan Consultants Council and Michigan Association of Accredited Judges have reorganized into committee form.

I wrote an article called, "Why Participate in a School," for use in newsletters and am happy to discuss its content in club and district meetings.

I also produced a tri-fold brochure about NGC schools.

### Environmental School

#### Chair: Bethany Goodman

Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. (MGC) has encouraged the environmental educational arm of the organization throughout Michigan since the early 1990s. MGC presented its most recent Environmental School, hosted by Midland Garden Council, by presenting Course 3 in September and Course 4 in October 2021.

Professional and college educational experts presented course topics and field trips on ecology, plant biodiversity, environmental science, backyard wildlife habitat, networking/outreach, historic environmental actions and leaders, sustainability in the general realm as well as specific Land, Air, and

Water areas of interest and concern.

Eleven students completed the course work and are now recognized by National Garden Clubs, Inc. as consultants, bringing the total to eighty-six consultants state-wide.

### Gardening School

#### Chair: Denise Clegg

Gardening School completed its Series 21, Courses 3 and 4 during the fiscal year. Presented totally over Zoom, the school was attended by members and nonmembers from across the country.

All test takers passed each course with an average score of 92%. Taking the test is not a requirement of any school for attendance.

In Michigan 22 new consultants completed all 4 courses. Some completed courses in other states or at the NGC sponsored course and recently achieved consultant status.

By presenting virtually we were able to have well recognized speakers from other areas of the country without incurring travel expenses. Highlights of the School were:

- Dr. Todd Barkman, Biology Professor, Western Michigan University spoke on *Basic Botany*;
- Author, Barbara Schaedler spoke on *Propagation*;
- International recognized speaker, Mark Lonstroth spoke on *Growing Fruit*;
- Local gardening expert, Linda Whitlock took us on a virtual tour of her home garden; and
- Nationally recognized, Carol Allen spoke on *Nomenclature* while keeping all present attentive.

## Landscape Design School

Chair: Ruth Moline

Landscape Design School found itself with new leadership this fiscal year with Ruth Moline assuming this responsibility. It took some time to achieve an organized structure and confirm documentation for all consultants.

Records for consultants, provisional consultants and students are being kept in a new format making it easier for all to send attendance data to school chairs across the country by using NGC Form 6, *Application for Consultant Accreditation* and Form 7, *Application for Refresher*.

The update to the consultants list was completed in March 2022. If you are a consultant, you should review it for accuracy on the website. Course 3 was presented in October 2021 and course 4 is scheduled for May 2022.

Landscape Design School has provided 2 speakers for the upcoming August 2022 Refresher course. Look to the website for details as soon as they are finalized.

## Michigan Association of Accredited Judges

Representative: Mary Jo McElroy

What is **MAAJ**? It's a group of 50 members – National Garden Clubs (NGC) Accredited and Student Judges -- aptly named **Michigan Association of Accredited Judges**. They are the dedicated people who encourage, support, educate, and evaluate NGC flower shows across the state.

MAAJ's purpose is to ensure that floral design, competitive horticulture, and botanical arts are woven into educational, leadership, and

informational events throughout Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

Annual accomplishments of this team included:

- Reconstituting as a Committee under MGC's Third Vice-President;
- Arranging for 10 invitational floral designs to be featured at the American Peony Society's June 2022 convention in Ann Arbor;
- Planning a continuing education event (aka Symposium) for September 13-14, 2022 for interested parties; and
- Establishing a Michigan Platinum award to be given to an MGC State or District Standard Flower Show that includes three or more educational and/or youth exhibits.



## Michigan Consultants Council

Representative: Nancy Stark

The Michigan Consultants Council (MCC) reorganized into a committee with Nancy Stark, former President of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., and Nancy Ryan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President leading the way.

Each District has its own representative on the committee who will be keeping the consultants for Environmental, Gardening, and Landscape Design Schools aware of what is happening. Consultants should have already received an email from your district representative explaining the changes.

To find out more about the role of the MCC representatives please go to the website

education tab at <https://migardenclubs.org>.

The funds generated in the past years from MCC are now being used to offset costs of Refreshers and activities. These events will provide all Consultants the opportunity to attend educational programs and schools sponsored by MCC to continue their educational opportunities and maintain National credential status.

## Gardening/Conservation Committee



**Chair: Nancy Smith,  
4<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

### August 2021

- Created bookmark per Monica Taylor's request on Homegrown National Parks.
- Emailed new committee members and sent sample of the Homegrown National Parks bookmark.
- Edited bookmark and sent final copy to Monica.
- Received an email with favorable comments from Karen Joy regarding bookmark.
- Contacted chairpersons Rita Crowley, Karen Joy and Pam Carter via email to introduce myself. Also asked each to keep a running list of things they are working on for their respective chairperson assignments.

### September 2021

- Mailed 20 native plants patches to Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club for youth group.
- Worked on changes needed for HGN bookmarks.
- Contacted chairpersons to request their reports for June 2021 through Aug 2021.

### October 2021

- Submitted article to Gate Newsletter regarding native plants and how to obtain MGC Native Plants Patch and PowerPoint.
- Recreated bookmark file in various forms and emailed to Lynn O' Shaughnessy for use in an Appointment Calendar soon to be sold by MGC.
- Writing article on the benefits of native plants in the garden to be included in the Appointment Calendar.
- Attended District 1 conference and luncheon.
- Attended District 2A conference and luncheon.
- Attended Awards Judging in Lansing.
- Attended MGC Winter Executive Board Meeting via Zoom.
- Sent committee reports to Nancy Ryan and Ann Todd.

### November 2021

- Sent second scholarship information email to WSU. First attempt on 10-7-21 had not been answered.

### December 2021

- Received an email from Karin Maupin that a student from Wayne State had been selected to receive an MGC scholarship.

### January 2022

- Received and replied to an email from Rita Crowley with an attachment of an article for the Spring edition of Thru the Garden Gate.
- Attended membership meeting via ZOOM Friday, Jan 7 2022.
- Received and responded to an email from Karen Joy on article she wrote for the Gate newsletter.
- Attended National GC Zoom presentation on Membership.
- Sent updated versions of PowerPoint and brochures on Native Gardening and Native Gardening Patch to Charley for the website.

## Horticulture/Arboriculture

### Horticulturist: Pam Cater

- Attended MGC Conference June 2021
- June: MGC Zoom Presentation
- July: Submitted article for *Gate* newsletter
- September: Attended MGC Board Meeting
- October: Submitted article for *Gate* newsletter
- January: Submitted article for *Gate* newsletter
- February: Attended Face Book Meeting (virtual)
- April: Attended MGC Board Meeting on Zoom
- April: Submitted Arbor Day article.

## Environmental Issues

### Chair: Rita Crawley

News articles and media postings were reviewed for information as they may relate to our club policies and objectives.

I posted on the various MGC, Inc. Facebook Group Pages to communicate to members about environmental concerns or events throughout the state of Michigan.

I wrote articles for our newsletter on issues regarding our environment as they follow the newsletter theme. I have completed requests from our state President regarding special reports for “Homegrown National Park” and Earth Day, etc.

As the advisor for our newly re-aligned Michigan Consultants Council and as the District

representative for 2A for the newly re-aligned Michigan Association of Accredited Judges, I kept in mind issues concerning the environment that fell within my responsibilities.



Tima Miroshnichenko Photo

## Technology Committee

**Interim Chair: Charley Bohland**

### Artistic Crafts Facebook Group

**Chair: Liz Bohland**

For the past year I have been the Facebook admin for both the Michigan Garden Clubs Artistic Crafts group and the Michigan Garden Clubs Edibles group.

I try to encourage members to share ideas and ask questions.

Recently I was added as the admin of the Facebook Container Gardening group to help Another member.

I am also working on a clay craft presentation for a fall Friday Morning Meeting.

### Roster and Database

**Manager: Janet Hickman**

Utilizing Excel spreadsheets created for each club, updated Club Rosters were compiled for each District to assure MGC provided current, accurate information to our insurance agent and to NGC as required in the fall.

Additionally, District updates were compiled every month to 6 weeks, and updated in Constant Contact for MGC Communications and Presidents lists Updated periodically for our MGC President and the Credentials Chair for the Annual Conference.

This past year we evaluated several commercial Customer Relationship Managements (CRM)

service options for managing our rosters.

This past year we evaluated several commercial Customer Relationship Managements (CRM) service options for managing our rosters. Unfortunately, we have not yet found a good, cost-effective tool suitable for our organization. In the interim, updates have been made to the current roster program and the process, including asking clubs to name a roster manager who is comfortable editing the spreadsheet so that updates are provided electronically, improving the accuracy of our club member information.

### *Thru the Garden Gate Newsletter*

**Editor/Publisher: Carol Lauffer**

There were four quarterly newsletters during the year, with issues published in June 2021, September 2021, December 2021, and March 2022. The issues were sent via Constant Contact, published on the MGC website, and mailed via USPS to members without email addresses.

This year themes were established for each issue. Summer featured Wildlife and Pollinators; Fall highlighted Trees, Shrubs; and Youth Activities; Winter included Spring gardening and Seeds; and Spring presented Horticulture and Landscaping. This effort to use themes for each issue was somewhat successful but it may take another cycle to sharpen those efforts.

Regular features were the President's message, calendar of events, *Homegrown National Park* Record, District highlights, and Recruitment/Retention articles. Other officers and committees submitted articles in their areas of interest.

Using Constant Contact reduced the USPS mailing costs over the year to an average of \$479 per issue. Unfortunately, only about 40% of Constant Contact recipients accessed their issue. Hopefully more will use this service in the future or view the newsletter on the website.

## Awards Committee



Chair: Sue Soderberg



The award year began with some significant changes in the National Garden Club Award Program. Some awards were eliminated, many renamed and combined. NCG also introduced scoring rubrics for each award. This information was published in a new GC Award Handbook, which looked very daunting in the beginning. NGC offered Zoom training on the new procedures which MGC in turn offered on a Monday Morning Meeting in July and August 2021.

I began receiving 2021 Award Applications in August. Most were sent electronically and in the beginning some problems arose with printing which was quickly corrected by our webmaster.

On October 25th we had a full day of Award and Yearbook judging. Approximately 35 MGC members were in attendance for this job and completed it in one day. Approximately 40 MGC and 42 NGC awards were judged in addition to 24 yearbooks, five Garden Walks and three Award of Honors. During the last year 18 Member Achievement Awards were presented.

Award winning clubs are listed by district on the next three pages.

## MGC/NGC Scholarship

Karin Maupin

MGC has had a very successful 2021-2022 Scholarship Season. All fifteen universities participated which is the first time we have had 100% participation.

Seventeen students received MGC scholarships totaling nineteen thousand dollars plus the MSU Burleigh Horticultural Scholarship brought our total budget to eighteen students and \$21,000 plus. There is still \$1,000 in the budget that will be awarded to our MGC choice for the NGC program if they do not receive a scholarship.

Notification was sent to Bill.com the first week in January.

All MGC scholarship students were invited personally to apply for the NGC scholarship and their agents were alerted. Eight students applied and sent their materials in by February 1.

A committee was formed to evaluate the applications and met Friday, February 18. All participants were evaluated using a rubric based on the NGC guidelines. Students and universities were anonymous to members of the committee. Members of the community, college graduates, young, old, gardeners, teachers and professional landscape employees made up the selection committee.

All materials concerning our NGC pick had to be to NGC by March 1. **Chloe Summers** was awarded the NGC, Inc. **Osa Mae Barton Scholarship**. Monies are awarded in July.

Good communication between MGC and agents, agents and universities, universities and MGC and students is one of the primary reasons we had a

Continued on page 19.

## 2021 MGC and NGC Awards by District

District 1	Club	Size	Dist	MGC	NGC
CE#9 Landscape Historic Gardens	Livonia GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
EC#3 Wildlife Survival	Livonia GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#2A Website	Livonia GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#4B Newsletter 3-12 pgs	Livonia GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE-4B Publications	Livonia GC				C in A**
MAE-4B Newsletter 3-12 pgs	Taylor GC	L	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MAE-4G Publications	Spirit of the Woods GC				C in A**
<b>District 2A</b>					
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Edens GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Hillsdale GC	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	C of C *
MGC #2 Civic Beautification Natives	Hillsdale GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tie	
CE#1 Community Gardens	Edens GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE#7 Blue Star Memorial	Edens GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
CE#9 Landscape Historic Gardens	Hillsdale GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE 2B Facebook page	Edens GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE 4B Newsletter 3-12 pgs	Saline Stone and Thistle	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> tie	
<b>District 2B</b>					
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Mason Sycamore Creek	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	
MGC #2 Civic Beautification with Natives	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tie	
MGC #3 Horticulture	Williamston GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #3 Horticulture Individual	Jolanta Piecuch		1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #6 Landscape Design	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #8 Native Trees	Williamston Red Cedar	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #14 Environmental	Williamston GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography (individual)	Jolanta Piecuch		2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
CE #1 Community Gardens	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE #7 Blue Star Memorial	Mason Sycamore Creek	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE #8A Landscape of Public Gardens	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
CE #9 Landscape of Historic Gardens	GC of Greater Lansing	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MAE-2B Website	Williamston Red Cedar	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE-2B Social Media/Website	Williamston Red Cedar				C in A**



## 2021 MGC and NGC Awards by District

District 2B continued	Club	Size	Dist	MGC	NGC
MAE #1 Membership	Williamston Red Cedar	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE #1 Membership	Brighton GC	L	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE #4 Newsletter 3-12 pgs	Brighton GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE #4 Newsletter 3-12 pgs	Williamston Red Cedar	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> tie	
MAE #4 Newsletter 3-12 pgs	GC of Greater Lansing	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MAE-4C Publications	Mason Sycamore GC				C in A**
<b>District 3</b>					
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Kalamazoo GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Portage GC	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MGC #6 Landscape Design	River Valley GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MGC # 8 Native Trees	Chula Vista GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography	Chula Vista GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography (individual)	Jeanette Meyer		2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #16 Holiday Trees	Portage GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#4 Newsletter 1-3 pgs	Chula Vista GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE-4A Publications	Chula Vista GC				C in A**
<b>District 4</b>					
MGC #6 Landscape Design	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC # 11 Featured Article	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE #5B Beautification Project	Tri Cities GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE#8A Landscape of Public Gardens	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
FD #2 Floral Design Program	Tri Cities GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#2B Facebook	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#2C Web Site	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#4B Newsletter 3-12 pages	Kent GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	
MAE#4B2 Group of Clubs	District 4		1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
<b>District 5</b>					
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Boyne Valley GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Petoskey GC	L	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #1 Civic Beautification 2 <sup>nd</sup> project	Boyne Valley	L	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Traverse City GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	

## 2021 MGC and NGC Awards by District

District 5 continued	Club	Size	Dist	MGC	NGC
MGC #3 Horticulture	Petoskey GC	L	HM	HM	
MGC #9 Carolyn Gray	Petoskey GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	HM	
MGC #9 Carolyn Gray	Seedums GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #9 Carolyn Gray	Charlevoix GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #11 Featured Article	Portage Lake GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #11 Featured Article	Petoskey GC	L	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
MGC #14 Environmental	Boyne Valley	L	HM	HM	
MGC #15B Share the Harvest	Spirit of the Woods	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #15B Share the Harvest	The Friendly GC	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MGC #15B Share the harvest	Boyne Valley GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>s</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography	Spirit of the Woods	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MGC #7 Photography	Spirit of the Woods	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
G#2A Edible Gardens	Spirit of the Woods	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
G#2A Edible Gardens	Friendly GC	M	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE# 1 Membership	Spirit of The Woods	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#2B Facebook page	Mason County	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE#2B Facebook page	The Friendly GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#2A Social Media/Website	The Friendly GC	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	C in A**
MAE#2C Website	Mason County GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
MAE#4 G Brochure	Spirit of The Woods	M	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE#4B Newsletter 3-12 pages	Charlevoix GC	L	HM	HM	
MAE#4B Newsletter 3-12 pages	The Friendly Garden Club	M	HM	HM	
MAE#4C Newsletter 23-24 pgs	Mason County GC	L	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
MAE-4B Publications	District 5				C in A**
MAE-4B Publications	Portage Lake GC				C in A**
<b>District 6</b>					
MGC #1 Civic Beautification	Evening Bloomers GC	S	1 <sup>st</sup>	HM	
MGC #7 Photography	Evening Bloomers GC	S	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	
CE #7 Blue Star Memorial	Evening Bloomers GC	S	HM	HM	

\*C in A—Certificate in Appreciation  
 \*\*C of C—Certificate of Commendation

Awards continued on next page two pages.

successful year. Also the combining of the MGC program with the NGC scholarship offers an incentive both to students and their advisors. MGC and students is one of the primary reasons we had a successful year. Also the combining of the MGC program with the NGC scholarship offers an incentive both to students and their advisors.

Our Donations Co-chair received \$6,845 from clubs. The committee is working on a more efficient system of deposits, record keeping, and letters of thank you.

### **Future Activities**

Our committee decided to redesign the Website Scholarship Section. It became obvious that the Scholarship brochure also should be updated.

Past years information (2013-2022) has been collected and data tabulated. Verbiage is being formulated to include summaries of the new legacy program, both for the MGC brochure and the website.

The MGC Scholarship Committee remains optimistic about the future success of the program. The universities had very positive feedback and respect for us. The Agents and the MGC Committee look forward to expanding the scholarship program for the future.

The Hazel Wirick Scholarship sponsored by the Kalamazoo Garden Council at Western Michigan University and the Kent Garden Club Scholarship at Grand Valley State University are prototype legacy scholarships that MGC hopes to attract.

The MGC Scholarship Committee had fun this year. It was very exciting for all involved to help students achieve their goals. Please ask if you have any questions regarding the Committee's work.

### **Yearbook Awards**

**Chair: Mary Krzeczowski**

Forty-two yearbooks were submitted for judging by MGC member clubs in 2021.

A group of volunteers from around the state met in Lansing on October 25, 2021 to judge the yearbooks.

Yearbook Awards were distributed at the District Spring Leadership Meetings. Based on criteria set by NGC Central Region, two yearbooks were sent for Regional judging.

The results of the Regional judging will be announced at the NGC Central Region Convention in October 2022.

### **Youth High School Essay Contest Awards**

**Chair: Kathleen Sauber**

"In the upper grades NGC continues to use competition to force the best 'green thinking' through the medium of sculpture, poetry, and essay. The real learning is stimulating thought about what in the world we are doing to our planet. "(migardenclubs.org)

Essay criteria includes:

- Essay Writing Standards:
  - Introduction
  - Body Content
  - Conclusion
- Word choice, Grammar, Spelling
- Foot Notes and Word Count
- Coversheet
- Demonstrated knowledge of subject

- Enthusiasm, Personal Involvement
- Documentation, photo, illustration, brochure, article

The 2021-22 Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. Essay Contest winner was Olivia Walker, a 12th Grader from Caro, sponsored by The Caro Garden Club.

### Youth Sculpture Awards

Chair: Kathleen Sauber

The Youth Sculpture Contest had some amazing entries again in 2022. The winners were all sponsored by the Caro Garden Club and all 5 winners also took first place at Central Region.

The Sculpture contest winners were:

#### NGC Award

4 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Myra Russell	3rd/Award of Excellence
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Lucia Wasik	Award of Achievement
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Emilia Fulton	Award of Achievement
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Kendra Benn	Award of Achievement
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Maggie Miller	3rd/Award of Excellence

Please consider having your club sponsor this contest! Participation teaches our youth the importance of keeping our planet green. It's also just great fun!

### Youth Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Awards

Chair: Martha Rohr

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl student posters were judged by independent judges. There were 4 judges from the community which included a graphic artist, a Children's supervisor from the library, and a former club member who is an artist plus another artist.

Their selections for First Place winners for every grade went to Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club, Sharon Marr, Chairperson. All Second Place winners turned out to be from Charlevoix Area Garden Club, Ruth Augustine, Chairperson.

First Place winning posters were forwarded to Central Region for further consideration.

#### **Award FS-11A**

District/Region Standard Flower Show

***Color Me Fall***

**September 2021**

District IV

Kent GC

West Michigan Flower Arrangers Guild



### **National Garden Clubs, Inc. Member of Honor Award Central Region Recipient**

***Mary Reed***

Mary Reed is a member of Portage Lake Garden Club in District 5.

Her club nominated her, a committee reviewed all the nominees and one — Mary's nomination was sent to Central Region then on to NGC where she was awarded the *Member Award of Honor*.



### Life Member Achievement Awards

Chair: Virginia Froehlich

#### MGC LMAAs June 2021 – June 5, 2022

Ramona C. O'Brien, Big Rapids GC, June 9, 2021  
 Esther Furgason, Kalamazoo GC, June 11, 2021  
 Elaine Fisher, Caro Garden Club, June 30, 2021  
 Pauline Northrop, Chula Vista GC July 15, 2021  
 Shari Haynes, Charlevoix Area GC, September 14, 2021  
 Pat Sessler, Charlevoix Area GC, September 14, 2021  
 Betty Richards, Meek's Mill GC, September 14, 2021  
 Karen Cook, Mt. Pleasant GC, September 20, 2021  
 Cindy Langenberg, Grand Ledge GC, September 30, 2021  
 Kate Przybytek, Tri-Cities GC, October 11, 2021  
 Bethine Standart Whitney, GC of Michigan, Oct.21, 2021  
 Joan Sorbelli, Port Sanilac GC, November 18, 2021  
 Kathy Wolverton, Kent GC, December 8, 2021  
 Debra Cox, Big Rapids GC, January 12, 2022  
 Lynn Anderson, Big Rapids GC, February 9, 2022  
 Lawrence "Mike" Love, Marshall Area GC, March 15, 2022  
 Ann Schiebner, Grosse Ile GC, May 9, 2022

#### NGC LMAAs June 2021 – June 5, 2022

Arla Weaver, Williamston Red Cedar GC, June 1, 2021  
 Ann Campbell, Williamston Red Cedar GC, June 1, 2021  
 Kathy Kienle, Kalamazoo Garden Council, June 8, 2021  
 Phyllis Straw, Kalamazoo Garden Council, June 8, 2021

### Finance Committee

Chair: Gail Taggart

In addition to reviewing budgets and final reports of School and District events, the Finance Committee has wrestled with a variety of topics. Many have been resolved and others remain to be worked through.

Our bookkeeping and accounting processes are a burdensome and time-consuming task for our Treasurer and Financial Assistant. In order to reduce the load, we met with our CPAs at Seber Tans and developed a plan to further automate and out-source some functions. The plan is being implemented in steps.

The 2022-2023 budgeting process, involving members of the Executive Committee, District Directors, and appropriate Committee Chairs was completed, timely. The resulting Budget was presented to the Board in April and approved.

Our 'crime/dishonesty' insurance coverage was expanded to include a larger number of Board members, rather than be limited to the President and Treasurer.

Grants, investments and GTEP are tracked and reported on regularly.

The investment subcommittee met virtually with our investment advisors and are reassured by their commitment to proactive oversight of the assets we have entrusted to them, especially during the current market volatility.

Member club's ability to 'get out and get going' on new projects has been difficult as we work our way out of pandemic constraints. In spite of that, \$1,800 in Grow and Share grants were awarded to eight new projects. To date, \$9,161.96 has been

awarded to forty-six projects under this program.

Policies and Procedures were revisited and revised on the subject of monetary Remembrances in the event of a death in our Board and/or current or past Presidents.

Our *Grow and Share Grants* program was extended to allow a \$400 amount for Blue/Gold Star Memorial installations.

Progress continues in the effort to define and document the systems and actions involved in our Scholarship program.

### **MGC Group Tax Exempt Program (GTEP)**

**Chair: Rose A. Houk**

The 2021-2022 renewal and new club application process is now complete.

Twenty-eight clubs are currently members and all have renewed their Affiliation Agreements and filed the appropriate forms with the State of Michigan and with IRS in the Group Tax Exemption Program. Each of the clubs has indicated a continuing interest in maintaining membership in the Program.

As chair of the Program, I reviewed bylaw changes, reviewed the documents required for filing with both IRS and the State of Michigan. I also presented Zoom meetings to discuss changes that should be made to bylaws to assist with the pandemic issues of being unable to hold meetings in person.

I look forward to assisting new clubs in joining the group next year.

### **Treasury Report**

**Treasurer: Barbara Lobdell**

- Collected, tracked and processed deposits and expenses for MGC Events, Schools, Committees, and Officers.
- Issued Monthly Treasurer Reports showing MGC finances.
- Coordinated the filing of various IRS and State of Michigan taxes, reports and licenses.
- Continued to streamline MGC accounting and reporting processes.



©Clauffer

## Meetings/Member Services Committee

### Corresponding Secretary: Kathy Wolverton

As Corresponding Secretary I maintain and keep current the Executive Committee and Board of Directors E-mail roster and send necessary meeting agendas and notices as directed by the President.

I maintain a sufficient supply of club stationary items and give/send to those who request.

This office acknowledges those present or past Board members who experience illness and death within their immediate family with a greeting card and note as directed by the President.

If memorial money is to be given I check with the Treasurer to follow up to ensure this has been accomplished.

### Name Badges

#### Administrator: Terry Harding

All name badges for Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. were ordered from Trophy Trolley located in Traverse City.

Because of the pandemic, badge orders took longer — usually a couple weeks; there was a cost change on September 25, 2021 of \$7.50/\$8 per badge. A price check of badges ordered in 2022 and necessary changes to the order form will be made.

A total of sixteen name badges were ordered in 2019 at \$7.50 per badge; another sixteen name badges were ordered in 2021 at a \$7.50 for 15 badges and \$8 for one badge.

Personal checks from those who ordered badges were made out to Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

No additional expenses such as reimbursement for stamps or mileage were incurred.

## Member of Executive Committee and Immediate Past President

### Janet Hickman

In addition to assisting the current President and First Vice-President with general questions and technology needs, I have assisted members of the Board with setting up their email accounts, One Drive, SharePoint files, and assisted as one of the Administrators for our Facebook Page and Groups.

## Standing Committees

### Nominating Committee

#### Chair: Janet Hickman

The 2021-2023 Nominating Committee, consisting of a member and alternate from each District met by Zoom in fall 2021 to begin the process for the 2023-2025 terms.

In addition to requesting names of potential officer candidates, members of the committee have been asked to assist with facilitating round table discussions at the 2022 District Spring Leadership meetings as a way to help identify potential future leaders.

The chair thanks all members of the nominating committee for their attention to this important task for MGC.



©Clauffer

7888 E BROOMFIELD RD

MOUNT PLEASANT MI 48858-9152

**SPECIAL EDITION**

**MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**

**Newsletter Submission Requirements**

1. Size 12 Calibri font; 1.19 line spacing
2. Submit in MS Word; **NO PDFs**
3. Seasonal themes:
  - Spring — Horticulture/Landscaping
  - Summer — Wildlife/Pollinators
  - Fall — Trees/Shrubs/Youth Activities
  - Winter — Spring Gardening/Seeds
4. Submission deadlines:
  - Spring issue — January 10
  - Summer issue — April 10
  - Fall issue — July 10
  - Winter — October 10

5. Send to: [Newsletter@migardenclubs.org](mailto:Newsletter@migardenclubs.org)

**Note to Contributors:** The editor retains the right to edit articles due to space constraints.

Please feel free to send timely information for each issue focusing on seasonal theme and local district news.

Regular MGC columnists should continue to send articles honoring the current deadlines.

Contact [newsletter@migardenclubs.org](mailto:newsletter@migardenclubs.org) with questions. Thank you!