REMINDER: December's General Meeting is Wednesday, DECEMBER 2ND, THE FIRST WEDNESDAY.

November 2026 Newsletter

***"Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade."* – Rudyard Kipling**

MEMBER PROFILE: JoAnn Preston



Member since 2011. "A vegetable gardener by birth (farm girl and 4-H member), I have learned a great deal through the TGC. Active in three book clubs, I enjoy historical fiction and my favorite author is **Jennifer Chiaverini** who lives in my childhood hometown of Madison, Wisconsin. I wrote one book with *Storyworth* about childhood and early adult memories and hope to write another focusing on my husband Bob's grandmother who was a published author. I cherish my husband, Bob, our 3 daughters and 5 grandchildren and create a scrapbook for each high school graduation and 50th birthday. I relish working in the THV gardens and adore hearing all the compliments about the gardens from visitors local and international. *Perennial Plant Exchange* is my favorite TGC event to kick off the growing season, followed by the *Garden Walk Plant Sale*. Chairing **Community Outreach** is a great way to work with new and veteran TGC members. *Egg Hunt, Trick or Treat*, and *Cocoa with Santa* bring out Troy's cutest kids. I've demonstrated container gardening with *Summer Camp of Troy Community Coalition* for several years with fifth through eighth graders (I was a high school teacher 50 years ago, then preschool) and this year I was invited to share my love of gardening with 3 and 4-year-olds. I was our school's Girl Scout Leader's Leader and, when my girls were in high school, was a Boy Scout Explorer Post Leader for *Athen's Safe Rides* for 10 years. **I received a national award from Verizon and had makeup professionally done for my photo which was plastered on the side of Washington D.C. buses!** Now I am active in *Troy 100 Women Who Care*. I love talking, as if you didn't know, and greatly appreciate my friends in the Troy Chamber of Commerce and Non-Profit Network where I represent the *Troy Historical Society*. I am proud to be part of the **Troy Garden Club**."

Calendar/November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends (fall back an hour)	2	3 Election Day	4 9:30 a.m. THV Garden 12:00 p.m. Donations Mtg.	5	6	7
8 First day of Diwali 	9	10	11 11:30 a.m. General Meeting Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Herb Study	19	20 Pat Dodge 	21
22	23 Rozanne Oehring 	24	25	26 Thanksgiving 	27	28
29 Pat Guibord 	11:00 a.m. Board Meeting	30				

President's Message *by Karol Carter*



It has been a fun year! Beautiful table settings continue to grace our meeting room. Participation in our Ways & Means has been equally enthusiastic. We've expanded our knowledge by booking informative monthly speakers covering a variety of topics. We enjoyed Jennifer Goldstein's timely horticulture articles and mini lectures. We offered two field trips. The Herb Study Group continued to thrive. We participated in several community outreach events benefiting the Troy Historic Village (THV). We hosted a perennial plant exchange. JoAnn Preston gave presentations at the Troy Community Coalition Summer Camp and the Learning Grove Academy. Members decorated miniature artificial trees or made centerpieces for the Festival of Trees event supporting pediatric research. We cared for most of the gardens at THV plus the main raised bed at the Troy Public Library entrance. Finally, this year's 51st principal fundraiser, our Troy Garden Walk had some major tweaks, including a new name "Garden Styles". All this was accomplished because of the dedication of our officers, committee chairs and participation of the membership. Thank you to all who have given of their time and talents.

Community Outreach



with JoAnn Preston

Pantry Drive for *Troy People Concerned* at November 11th General Meeting

Food Stamps are now called SNAP Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program *which means they cannot be used for household supplies or personal grooming items*. It is hard to imagine how we could keep a family healthy without soap, laundry detergent or toilet paper, but that is probably why these items top the wish list for the **Troy People Concerned Pantry**. The pantry is housed at St. Anastasia church, but is **NOT** for St. Anastasia members (in fact St. Anastasia parishioners are regular providers of food, supplies and donations for the pantry – it receives **NO** government assistance). Please bring your donations to the November meeting and deposit in the boxes near the entrance door. **Greatest needs are:** toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, bar soap, laundry soap, body wash, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes; or if you prefer to bring food items: peanut butter, pasta, crackers, oatmeal, coffee and tea. Thank you for being generous to Troy residents young and old who are going through a rough time at the holidays. Cash, gift cards or checks will also be accepted (no receipts given) if you cannot get to the store. **Make checks out to St. Anastasia with Troy People Concerned Pantry in the memo line.**

(Reprinted from October's newsletter)

Hospitality



Jackie Wilson, Chair

TGC members have signed up as indicated below. Please arrive by **11:45 a.m.** with your food item and be sure to provide a serving utensil. Bring your own plate, cup and utensils. Let's save the planet!

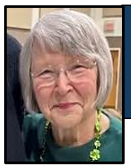
Finger Food: JoAnn Preston, Mary Becker, Linda Chambers, Karol Carter, Sue Purcell, Becky Thornton, Eileen Winkel, Barb Stuecheli, Cyndi Yosin, Becky Crocker, Marcia Mayer, Lori Brubaker
Green Salad: Norma Frame, Pat Hauer
Pasta Salad: Pat Dodge, Sally Bolle
Fruit Salad: Karen Cox, Janet Henning
Dessert: Lisa Derderian, Frances Stage, Joan Burcar, Darcel Connors, Kimberlee Urwiller, Pat McDermitt
Centerpiece: Deb Hancock
Cleanup: Sue Purcell, Tina Battle

Finally, we are asking all members to police their table area and stick around to help with hospitality clean-up.

Keep Smiling!

(Note: The meeting will begin promptly at Noon)





Speaker Series

with Rebecca Jaye

Dr. David Roberts, President and CEO of *The Plant Doctor*, was delightful as he spoke with knowledge and humor about trees. Over the course of his career he has discovered a variety of new tree diseases and pests and specializes in their accurate diagnoses and treatment. He strongly encourages reading product labels because a chemical used for one plant can cause serious problems in a neighboring one. Less watering can also be a solution. He wrapped up the presentation by answering a multitude of questions from the membership and receiving enthusiastic applause.





Moving on to November 11th: **Jennifer Ott** presents, *"Weeds: The Wicked, Wild, and Wonderful."* Explore the fascinating world of weeds: those persistent plants we hate and some we can't help but admire and perhaps even live without. Leave with practical tips to transform your battle with weeds into a deeper appreciation for their place in nature and your garden. This will be our last speaker of the season as we head into the holiday season.



Horticulture Corner

Garden Beauties with a Warning: When Abundance Becomes a Challenge

by Jennifer Goldstein

As gardeners, we delight in discovering plants that bring beauty, whimsy, and productivity to our landscapes. Yet sometimes, the very plants we fall in love with become the ones that test our patience. Two such plants in my garden have earned a place in my heart—and a word of caution for fellow gardeners: **Kiss-Me-Over-the-Garden-Gate** and **Sunchokes**, also known as "Jerusalem artichokes." Both are generous growers, both offer unique garden interest, and both have reproduced so enthusiastically in my garden that I have plenty to share. However, before accepting either as a gift, gardeners should understand their growth habits and consider where—and whether—they belong in the landscape.





Kiss-Me-Over-the-Garden-Gate (*Persicaria orientalis*): Few annuals capture old-fashioned garden charm quite like Kiss-Me-Over-the-Garden-Gate. Its tall stems carry graceful, rosy-pink flower clusters that dangle like delicate tassels, adding movement and a touch of whimsy to the summer garden. It is a wonderful choice for cutting gardens, where its long stems and distinctive blooms bring height and texture to fresh arrangements. As autumn approaches, the flowers can also be incorporated into dried arrangements, extending their usefulness beyond the growing season. **The caution? This annual is an enthusiastic self-seeder**. Once established, it may drop enough seed to produce a generous crop of seedlings the following year. Fortunately, unwanted seedlings are generally easy to remove when young. Deadheading before seeds mature can help limit its spread, while allowing a few seed heads to ripen ensures flowers for next season.



Sunchokes (*Helianthus tuberosus*): Sunchokes offer a different kind of garden abundance. These North American native perennials can grow impressively tall, producing cheerful, sunflower-like yellow blooms in late summer and fall. Beneath the soil, their edible tubers are the real prize, traditionally harvested for their nutty flavor. Their enthusiasm, however, comes from underground rhizomes and tubers. Even small pieces left in the soil can regenerate, making unwanted plants difficult to eliminate. Sunchokes can spread beyond their intended boundaries and compete with neighboring plants. To keep them manageable, plant them in a designated area, consider using a sturdy root barrier or contained bed, and harvest tubers thoroughly. Avoid placing them where their height will shade smaller plants or where their spread will be difficult to control.



Both plants remind us that successful gardening requires more than choosing beautiful flowers. It also means understanding a plant's growth habits and matching those habits to our landscapes.

I happily share both plants—with a friendly warning attached: Garden generosity is wonderful, but a little research before planting can prevent a whole lot of digging later!



Sincerest apologies to **Pat Dodge** who appeared in last month's *Herb Study Group* photo but was misidentified as **Lisa Derderian**! Also to **Suzanne Smith** whose photo for her birthday on 10/20 should have looked like this: →







*[Excerpt from Tim Harrison, Nathaniel Walton and Deborah McCullough, MSU, submitted by **Nancy Zambardi**]*

Spotted lanternfly (SLF) (Lycorma delicatula), native to eastern Asia, is an invasive insect that has become established in several states in the eastern United States. Unfortunately, SLF is now established in Michigan. A small population of SLF was first detected in 2022 in Pontiac. This infestation was probably started by SLF eggs on nursery stock shipped to Michigan from the east coast. In 2024, SLF was detected in areas of Monroe and Wayne counties, at least partly reflecting the high-density infestations in Toledo, Ohio. Although adult SLF have wings and can fly, they are also good hitchhikers and can be carried on vehicles and outdoor items. Recent detections in several areas of northern Ohio, along with northern Indiana and Illinois, suggest that SLF is likely to arrive in other Michigan locations soon. If you believe you have encountered one or more SLF, (1) take a picture, (2) note the address, location or GPS coordinates and (3) if possible, capture one or a few SLF in a jar or a plastic bag with a zip closure. Photos and specimens allow scientists and agency personnel to positively identify SLF and track new infestations. Suspect SLF can be reported to the Midwest Invasive Species Network at *https://www.misin.msu.edu/* or the Michigan Department of Agriculture at *https://www.Michigan.gov/SpottedLanternfly*.

Sunshine/Rain *with Pat Dodge*



Hat's off to member **Bill Waggoner**! Despite still working full time, he managed to complete all his classes and receive his Master Gardener Certification. So, congratulations to Bill and all our current and former Master Gardeners: Kay Betke, Karol Carter, Onita Fitz, Bev Hydo, Judy Popyk, Jeanne Bolcer, Linda Chambers, Jackie Wilson, Judy Francis, Cynthia Idyle, Margy Truza, Sally Bolle, Jacquelyn Cutright, Dave Becker, Jennifer Goldstein and Marcia Mayer; with their commitment to environmental stewardship. **Why not make your annual volunteer hours and continuing education a group event?** *(Below is Pat's Mum Garden-editor)*



Herb Study *with Kay Betke*



On Wednesday, October 21st, TGC members joined some of the 'herbies' on a glorious Fall day visiting Seven Ponds Nature Preserve in Lapeer County. The Seven Ponds is on our annual donation list and they specialize in non-invasive native plants. Some of our donations went to planting trees and placing guards around existing trees to keep the deer away. Our guide, a fascinating young woman, led us on a tour traveling paths and onto the boardwalk over some wetlands *(where the photo at right was taken)*. There is an herb garden, a stunning maple forest and a prairie filled with native plants. If you are interested in bird watching, the prairie has an elevated structure to view the activity across the landscape. We lunched at the historic and beautiful *White Horse Inn* immediately afterwards. A rewarding day!







The TGC has had a "book" on the *Troy Public Library's* ***Endowment Fund Donor Wall*** since it's dedication in May of 2018. The Library wanted to acknowledge all we have done through our book funding and gardening. – *Karol Carter*

Judi Milidrag and Yolanda Tenorio-Thomas

WAYS AND MEANS FINAL BASKET SALE

Thanks to all club members for the generous donation of items, time and financial support for the final fundraising event of the year! It all turned out to be a huge success yet again at October's general meeting! Of course, the only way we can pull this off is due to the MANY items donated, the MANY tireless volunteers who showed up and organized, sold tickets and of course bought tickets hoping to score big—and what lovely, colorful event tables we were able to arrange with the donated goodies! A special thanks to **Onita and Jim** for the lovely hanging banner and to **Karol** for the donated *"Troy Garden Club"* license plate holders both of which became silent auction items. Combined total: $416 for the General Fund!

The combined **2027 Donations and Budget meetings** will be on **November 4th at Noon** in the church at THV. *Anyone who wants to suggest non-profit organizations for funding should attend*, and any requests for increases in current funding should be emailed to **Jeanne Bolcer** by **Sunday, November 1st**.

2026 Board of Directors/Committee Heads

President: Karol Carter
Vice President: Rebecca Jaye
Treasurer: Jeanne Bolcer
Recording Secretary: Darcel Connors
Corresponding Secretary: Judi Milidrag
Advisor: David Becker

Community Outreach: JoAnn Preston
Greeters: Nancy Wietchy
Hanging of the Greens: Kimberlee Urwiller/Lori Brubaker/Cyndi Yosin
Herb Study Group & Directory: Kay Betke/Kyla Remus
Horticulture: Jennifer Goldstein
Hospitality: Jackie Wilson
Membership: Beverly Hydo
Newsletter: Patrick Hardy
Sunshine & Rainy Days: Pat Dodge
THV Gardens: Karol Carter/Patrick Hardy

Troy Historic Village Gardens

It was a perfect gardening day on Wednesday, October 7th at the THV and 19 TGC Captains and volunteers (plus **Carla Vaughn**) did an admirable clean-up/spruce-up of the gardens. A BIG thanks to **Rebecca Jaye** who provided Blake's donuts and apple cider and **Jackie Wilson** who arrived with a massive box of glazed and chocolate covered donuts. We even shared with the Native American group giving seminars to the hordes of 5th graders who descended on the Village on this cool and sunny morning. **Last gardening day will be Wednesday, November 4th**. – *Patrick Hardy*

Troy Garden Club/Troy Historic Village

Halloween 2026

"Under the Sea"



Tina Battle, Mary Becker, Debe Hancock, Nancy Zambardi and Marianne Stout



Darcel Connors (and granddaughter), Debe and JoAnn Preston

The creative genius of **Debe Hancock** was on display again this Halloween at the Troy Historic Village where she single-handedly created an "*Under the Sea*" theme to distribute shells and treats to the youngsters on Saturday, October 24th. Kudos as well to all of our member volunteers!



Kyla Remus, Debe, Becky Crocker and the Mermaid!



TROY GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
("TGC")

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ BD (month/day): _____
(PRINT VERY CLEARLY)

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Are you a Master Gardener? _____ Date: _____ Advanced MG? ____ Date: _____

Your emergency contact information is for TGC officers only. It will not be published in the directory.

Emergency contact: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship: _____

MEMBERS CONSENT TO THE USE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION IN CLUB PUBLICATIONS

REQUIREMENTS OF ACTIVE MEMBERS

1. Participate in the annual garden walk. Participation includes garden docent, providing refreshments as needed, or working the plant sale or other garden walk activities for the club at Troy Historic Village ("THV"). A $20 non-participation fee will be assessed if you are unable to fulfill this requirement.

2. Participate in monthly meetings by providing finger foods/salads or desserts for at least two (2) meetings, plus December, per calendar year.

Make your $40.00 membership check payable to the "Troy Garden Club"
MAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
Troy Garden Club, 2844 Livernois, #833, Troy, MI 48099-0833

OR

TURN IN THIS COMPLETED FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT IN PERSON AT A TGC MEETING.
MEMBERS RENEWING AFTER THE DECEMBER MEETING, PLEASE ADD A $10.00 LATE FEE.
Memberships valid January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027

FOR TREASURER'S USE ONLY: DUES PAID $_____ DATE _____ CASH _____ OR CHECK# _____