



**Troy Garden Club Branch**  
**Woman's National Farm & Garden Association**  
**3753 John R, Troy, Michigan 48083**  
**Second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon**  
**March 2021**



## **President's Message**

Linda Forrester

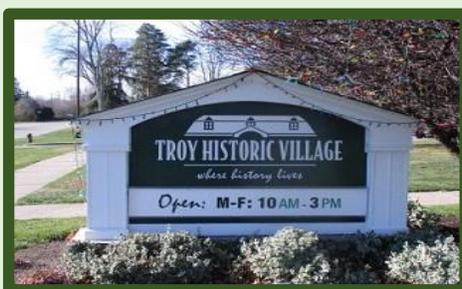
“For each petal on the shamrock this brings a wish your way,  
good health, good luck and happiness for today and every day”

Irish proverb

We are moving into March, but there is no green in sight! February blanketed our gardens in snow and gave us some bitter cold. I'm always wondering what plants will make it through the winter and what condition my garden will be in come spring. Listening to George every February, with his enthusiasm and beautiful photos of his new offerings, makes the idea of losing a few plants not so bad, knowing there are new varieties to replace them. Our February general meeting had 28 members plus 12 guests, thanks to Mary Schwark's 25@\$25 idea. If you haven't used ZOOM yet, I'd encourage you to try it. It's a great way to stay connected with the club and hear our speakers. Our next presenter, Dr. Fay Hansen from Oakland University's Student Organic Farm, promises to be an interesting one!



**Troy Garden Club - founded in 1971**  
**Website: [www.TroyGardenClubMI.com](http://www.TroyGardenClubMI.com)**  
**Mailing address: 2844 Livernois #833, Troy, MI 48099-0833**



## Troy Historic Village Gardens

Karol Carter and Ann Britton

“It is the first mild day of March:  
Each minute sweeter than before...” William Wordsworth

As we revel in the knowledge that spring is on its way, we hope you are getting ready to be outside and enjoy the small wonders of the plant world as green begins to pop up through the damp, cold, dark earth. Each spring seems like a miracle.

Gardening at the Troy Historic Village will begin on the first Wednesday of April which this year is April 7 at 9:30, weather permitting. Please plan on joining us this year to garden. It is a wonderful way to renew friendships and make new friends in a COVID safe way. The garden chairs cannot do all the work alone so please lend a gardening hand.

All the gardens have a chair. They are Linda Forrester, Jayne Smith, Cynthia Idyle, Judi Milidrag, Elaine McLeod, Pat Dodge, Marilyn Frey, Karol Carter, Judy Francis, Kay Betke, Debbie Hancock, Kathleen Mardyla, Onita Fitz, Carole Cotter-Bodner, Mary Schwark, JoAnn Preston and Ann Britton. Thank You for volunteering for this role.

### 25 @ \$25 Mary Schwark

On January 27, the TGC's board of directors approved the rollout of a new program 25@25. The January ZOOM presentation was very successful, and it seemed appropriate to open future ZOOM meetings to guests, especially because George Papadelis was scheduled to be our February speaker! Invitations were sent to many past TGC guests and other friends of the garden club. For a one-time 2021 donation of \$25 per guest - up to a maximum of 25 annual guests - each donor by February 10 became eligible to attend seven monthly ZOOM presentations from February through May and from September through November. It was further stipulated that if any of the presentations resumed as in-person events, the **25 @ \$25** participants could attend in person at no additional fee.

Fast forward to February 10 and George's **What's New for 2021** presentation. Twelve guests had donated \$25 each in advance for a total of \$300.00. Prior to upcoming 2021 speaker presentations, whether by ZOOM or in person, donor participants will be invited to register individually for each one at no extra fee. In addition to the current 12 paid guests, we will continue to invite others to donate and participate. Upon receiving donations from a total of 25 guests, we will suspend further requests for ZOOM meeting donors in 2021.

If you know a garden-lover with basic ZOOM skills who would like to be a 25@25 participant, please let me know as soon as possible, and I will email them a personal invitation.

## What's New in Flower Land?

Jayne Smith

George Papadelis, from Telly's Greenhouse, once again brought his infectious energy and vast knowledge to our February meeting. We felt a promise of spring and welcomed new and exciting plants for our visual pleasure. It's always fun to see what's new in the plant world and how to use them in our own gardens.

Here are a few that were noteworthy from our group:

Alstromeria Inca Ice - Overwinters in our regular Michigan weather, Bandit Series.

Dahlia Happy Days - Fuchsia Halo, dark beautiful foliage makes bright flowers pop.  
Fuchsia colored blooms with a creamy yellow-orange center.

Impatiens Sunpatiens Compact Series - works well in full sun or shade.

Petunia Itsy Magenta - Best performing petunia in trial gardens last summer.  
Produces profusion of small flowers on cascading plant.

Brunerra Alexandria - Brilliant mirror-silver leaves. Likes moist shady areas.

Phlox Woodlander - Hardy purple, shade tolerant, blooms in spring.

Spigelia Ragin Cajun - More profuse flowering – Full sun or shade.



It was great to see what's new, the riot of colors and learning about their place in the garden. Just knowing that soon we'll be able to get outside, get our hands dirty and nourish our gardening soul.

A special thank you to TGC member, Karol Carter for notifying us of the passing of Nora Tebben, a beloved member of the WNF&GA. Nora was a diminutive giant to many of us, and if you didn't know her personally, it is likely that you knew her, or about her, through the annual *Mrs. Tebben's Tea*, which was sponsored by the Lapeer Wildflowers Branch. Please see the article and picture of Nora, in the upcoming spring 2021 issue of Farm and Garden Magazine, page five. Nora leaves a wonderful legacy of being well respected and admired by so many, and she will be missed.

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kathleen Martin



|      |               |
|------|---------------|
| 3/5  | Judi Milidrag |
| 3/12 | Karol Carter  |
| 3/15 | Carol Packla  |
| 3/22 | Marcia Mayer  |
| 3/29 | Lenore Treba  |
| 3/12 | Terry Pearch  |

### Thank You

The Troy Garden Club was the recipient of \$395.00 in honor of Lillian Foxa by her family and friends.

And a special thank you to Lenore Treba! She made daily trips to the Troy Post Office to pick up guest donations while Treasurer Jeanne Bolcer was recovering at home.



## Sunshine & Rainy Days

Fr: Cerol Battiste-Alleyne



Hello & Greetings from the Sunshine and Rainy Days Department--- Happy Ides of March!

Upon doing a little research I found that (Ides of March) was not such a happy time. This 74th day on the Roman calendar (corresponding to March 15th, 44 B.C) Julius Caesar was assassinated and was a turning point in the Roman history. As it was experienced, it was indeed a turning point then as it is for us today. March is often viewed as a turning point in our winter season, when things begin to take on a SPRING-like feel. We have had a very strange winter with its frigid temperature and snow storms. Now, we're eagerly awaiting its end and the time when we can once again be outside to enjoy the breaths of fresh, spring air.

Many of our Garden Club Family are happy to know we are getting closer and closer to meeting again in person, especially as we will have received or be receiving our Covid vaccination... Good luck to everyone on that note!

Well, my fellow Gardeners, a little Sunshine was sent along to Pat Dunning in the way of a sympathy card expressing our love & condolence to her on the passing of her Mother. In addition, a sympathy card was sent to Pat Hauer on the passing of her husband, Dale, And a quick phone call was made to Mary Jo to check on her welfare and to let her know we were thinking of her. It was good hearing that she was well and getting around at home.

Be Blessed Everyone as we look forward to the month of April.



## Updates

Linda Forrester

Dear Troy Garden Club Members:

As some of you know, Pat Hauer's husband Dale was ill with COVID and in a Florida hospital. Unfortunately, Dale passed Sunday, February 21. He had somewhat recovered from COVID but had complications due to underlying issues. Pat and her daughter were able to be with him. There are no memorial arrangements at this time, but donations can be made in Dale's name to the Friends of the Troy Public Library. Pat would like to get back to Michigan as soon as possible. If you are sending a card, please send it to her home address in Michigan. Keep Pat and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

## Garden Walk Update

Bev Hydo



I remain optimistic that we will have a garden walk this year. COVID virus numbers are down and vaccination rates are up as I write this column. Our contact in the City of Troy, Cindy Stewart, is very encouraging with City plans already in place to have the Farmer's Market and other outdoor City of Troy projects like concerts in the park this summer. Contacts have been made to our ticket vendors, Auburn Oaks, Uncle Luke's and Telly's. They are glad that we are back and they are looking forward to selling our tickets.

Key chairmen, including home head hostesses and our member ticket sale coordinators are in place. Additionally, letters have been sent to all homeowners keeping them informed.

I do not think we will be meeting in person at Big Beaver United Methodist Church before the garden walk. This makes communication with all of you challenging. We have a sign-up sheet for member assignments for gardens and plant sale started last March. We will use that as a baseline. Sometime mid to late March, we will send a copy to everyone for review and continued sign ups. It's been a year, you probably don't even remember if you signed up at all! Mary Schwark will direct our efforts at the appropriate time.

We are also considering an outdoor meeting at Raintree Park (right next to the Methodist Church) in June. The pavilion is covered. Parking and restroom facilities are close. It will give our home head hostesses a chance to meet with their helpers in small groups. Also an opportunity for you to pick up your own ticket. Activities that we typically do at the June meeting.

Our committee will continue to meet monthly right before the Board meeting. All are welcome to attend.



## Anniversary Gardens - Help Wanted!

Mary Schwark

We will soon call upon TGC members to fill in the blanks.

Blanks? What blanks?

As always, the club will count on you, its members, to be garden hosts and hostesses, plant sellers and to take on all of the other garden walk day responsibilities that result in each year's success. This year's walk should be especially fun with a name that's tied to the celebration of the club's founding in 1971 and its 50-year anniversary in September.

Watch for an email within the next few weeks asking you to fill in a blank with YOUR name. Some members who signed up for last year's walk will be asked to verify their previous assignments or to request new ones.

## A tip from the arborist

Pat Dodge

Have you seen these hanging in your trees? If so, remove them before the spring! This is a bagworm cocoon full of hundreds of eggs. If they hatch, they can defoliate the tree, and nearby trees, and can cause significant damage. They prefer evergreens, but will attack almost any tree. Be on the lookout!



## Calendar

Judi Milidrag

- Mar 10 12:00 Noon - General Meeting via Zoom 'Learn to Grow ~ Grow to Learn' with speaker Dr. Fay Hansen from Oakland University, featuring "Student Organic Farm"
- Mar 14 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 17 Happy St, Patrick's day
- Mar 20 First Day of spring
- Mar 24 Deadline for April newsletter to Pat Dodge: [panndodge@aol.com](mailto:panndodge@aol.com)
- Mar 24 11:00 AM - Troy Garden Walk Meeting via Zoom  
12:30 PM - Board Meeting via Zoom

