

OPEN GATE GARDEN CLUB OF MICHIGAN

February 2024 Newsletter

MEETING: February 21, AT 6:15 PM

EVENT: Meeting and Presentation

LOCATION: Father Harvey Activity Center

“A garden is half-made when it is well planned. The best gardener is the one who does the most gardening by the winter fire.” — Liberty Hyde Bailey



January Speaker: Fenton Arts Council

Hospitality: Hospitality providers for February are Karen Hall, Michelle & John Kusnier, Pam Trevethan, Carmi Murray, Nancy & Norm Kilgour, Susan Bammert, and Deb Henyon . Will need at least 4 more people. Please text Lynne if you can provide a dish for hospitality next week. Thank you
Lynne 810-498-5577

Seed Exchange: Bring in any seeds not used last year to the meeting and place on the display table for any member to take. Any left-over seeds will be given to the Library.

Photo Contest: We are all taking pictures at the drop of a hat, so bring in shots for the rest of the club to enjoy. The more entries, the more fun!

Each member can submit up to 4 pictures (by season)

5"x7" maximum size

Write the subject on the back of the picture

No domesticated animals

Members do not have to be present

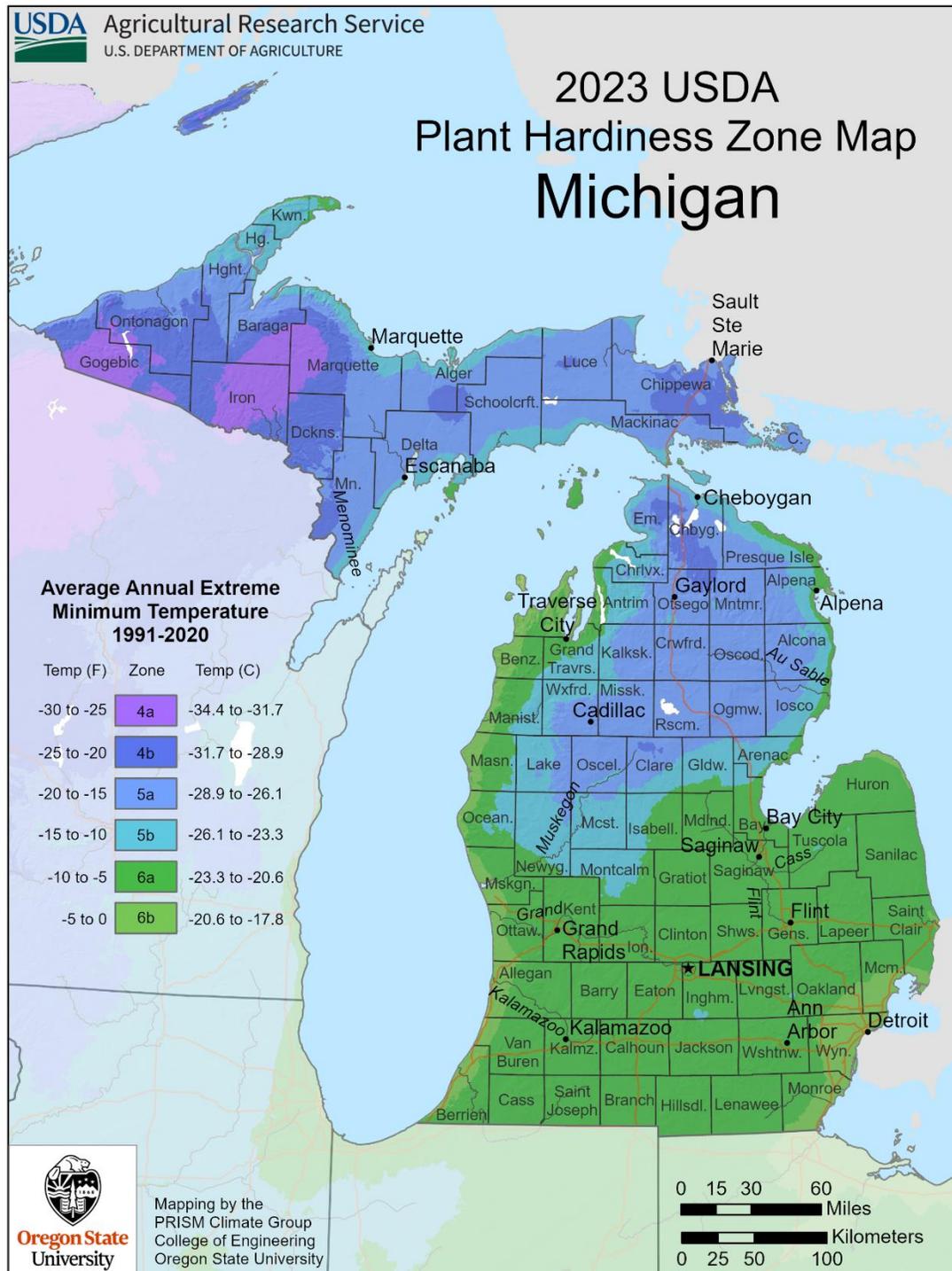
Top 2 photos will be featured on the front and back of the membership yearbook

A prize will also be given to top 2 photos

Once the contest is finished and your submission is accepted, it is up to you to send a digital copy of your photo to Pat Manion and Betty Sheehy for publication in the yearbook, newsletter and web site.

If you are not able to attend the February meeting, you can give your hard copy photo to Debbie Tegard-Harroun prior to the meeting.

Community Expo: The club is sponsoring a booth at the Expo on March 2 and 3. Stop by the Expo to learn about many of our community resources. Let Patsy Essenmacher know if you want to help man the booth. Text to 810.347.2289.



The above map and notes below are taken from

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/warmer-temperatures-in-michigan-mean-perennial-plants-may-survive-winter-usda-map-shows/ar-AA1ksIRZ>

"If your area has moved up a half-zone, don't go out and pull up all of your stuff in your garden and buy new plants," he said.

"But you might say, 'Maybe I should look for those warmer areas in my garden — protected areas, or a nice, sunny, south-facing wall. Maybe I could try to grow a plant that's hardy to this new half-zone there and see how it goes.' "

Daly's other caution: The map tells you how cold it has been, not how cold it might be.

"All it takes is one cold snap to knock out your perennials that you paid a lot of money for," he said. "So you need to be aware and protect those plants if you think you've got a big cold wave coming."

Open Gate Garden Club Member Meeting January 17, 2024

6:20 p.m. St John Activity Center

Norm Kilgour substituted for President

6:54 p.m. Business Meeting

Norm announced 2024 Garden Tour co-chairs: Amy Doyle and Michelle Kusnier

Lynn Behr announced the proceeds from the Silent Auction: \$2,220. She will follow up with a report on which items are the best sellers. If anyone has any ideas to improve this event (when to hold it, what items to offer, etc.), please contact Lynn

Lynn Behr also announced that Kathy Girgen will take over as co-chair for the Christmas Party. Thanks to Tina Imerson as past co-chair.

A Nomination Chairperson is still required.

A vote was taken about a seed exchange. About 4 people voted yes.

Debbie Tegard-Harroun gave details regarding the photo contest.

- Each member can submit up to 4 pictures (by season)
- 5"x7" maximum size
- Write the subject on the back of the picture
- No domesticated animals
- Members do not have to be present

- Top 2 photos will be featured on the front and back of the membership book
- A prize will also be given to top 2 photos

Patsy Essenmacher announced details for the Fenton Expo, March 2 and 3. Sign-up sheets were available.

7:15 p.m. Break

7:25 p.m. – Presentation for Forgotten Harvest by Mary Moore-Butler (mmorebutler@forgottenharvest.org 248 268-7538)

1. The mission of Forgotten Harvest is to end hunger, rescue food (from groceries, restaurants, event venues, etc.), environmental and charity
2. Founded in 1990 by Nancy Fishman who had been in need herself at one time in her life and promised to give back as a result of that experience.
3. Food is considered fresh based on “Sell by” date, not “Expiration” date.
4. Food insecurity and anxiety (where is my food coming from) affects 4 out of 10 Michigan families.
5. Forgotten Harvest has grown to include over 50 trucks servicing Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties.
6. 800,000 pounds of fresh food is produced annually from the farm at 9153 Major Road in Tyrone Township.
7. The 95 acre farm includes a bee farm.
8. Volunteer opportunities at the farm are available from April through October.
9. Contact: ForgottenHarvest.com or Lori Setera (volunteer sign up) at lsetera@forgottenharvest.org
10. Volunteer activities include preparing soil, seedling, harvesting, weeding, Youth Programs (ages 10 and up), field trips.
11. Mary Moore-Butler said they would be open to having the farm on the Summer Garden Tour.

Door Prizes: Book (Edible Landscape) and Solar Lamp

Meeting adjourned at **7:48 p.m.**