

OPEN GATE GARDEN CLUB OF MICHIGAN

April 2025 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING: April 16, 2025

LOCATION: Father Harvey Activity Center

TOPIC: Mulch, Topsoil and Fertilizer

Speaker: Dawn Green

HOSPITALITY: Linda VanCamp is the leader. Volunteers include Deb Scribner, Julie Buttigieg, Dave Buttigieg, Clare Mayes, Kim Alexander, Karen Poloski, Holly Nachtingal. Linda will need several more volunteers. Please call her at 810.629.1086 if you can help

Spring scene photo by Kay Baxter



MEMBERSHIP: We will be collecting dues at the April meeting. Membership New/Renewal Forms will be available. Or you can download a membership form from the web site before the meeting. <https://opengategardenclub.com/membership>

ELECTION: Officer candidates for the 2025/2026 club year will be announced

ST JOHN GARDENS: Annuals will be planted on May 10th from 9 until noon. Please mark your calendars. This is a fun experience with the instant gratification of adding beauty to the flower beds at St. John. Meet Karen Poloski in the parking lot. Bring your favorite planting tools.

GARDEN TOUR: MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SIGN IN! Sign in sheets for the various committees that together make our annual event a success will be on the tables near the door. Note the committee chairs on the top of each form. These garden club members have volunteered for many years on the tour and need your help making this year's tour as successful as previous tours have been.

MINI TOURS: Would you like to show off your garden to other club members? Do you think you need feedback on a particular spot in your garden? A Mini Garden tour site is right up your alley! Open to club members only this opportunity lets you be on a garden tour that is special in its own right. Sign up to host a mini garden tour today! One home garden tour each month this summer! Questions, please see Kim Alexander.

JUNE MEETING: Reminder that our June meeting will be held at the Maryville Retreat Center at 18307 Taylor Lake Road, Holly, Michigan 48442. The center will be providing a meal for us. <https://maryvilleretreatcenter.org/>

SAVE THE DATE: The Blue Water Conservancy will have their annual native plant sale at Neiman's Market

BLUE HERON HEADWATERS PRESENTS ~
NATIVE ROOTS
Plant Sale & Community Market

Celebrate nature and community—shop native, shop local!



Neiman's Family Market
Saturday, May 31
10am - 3pm

The native plant sale you love—now bigger and better!
Save the date! More details coming soon!



Open Gate Garden Club Member Meeting
March 19, 2025

6:18 p.m. St John Activity Center

- Ann Barth pointed out that some of the perennials that were planted last year are already starting to show themselves around the grounds of St John church.
- Welcome to visitor, Carol Jankowski. Carol was a member years ago; hope she'll join us again.
- Welcome to new member, Jim Fornash. Jim signed up at the Fenton Expo; hope he'll be with us for many years to come.

- Thanks to hospitality group for potluck contributions: Jim Douglas, Nicolette Ellinghausen, Hugh Harroun, Gary Horton, Nati Horton, Judy Lytle, Patti O'Keefe, Lisa Rolls, Debbie Tegard-Harroun, and Pam Trevethan. ALSO, correction to last month's list: *Ann and Ray Barth also contributed.*

6:23 p.m. dinner

6:54 p.m. Business Meeting

1. Linda VanCamp requested additional volunteers for April's hospitality.
2. Karen Poloski announced that Spring Clean Up around the grounds would be Saturday, ~~March 29th from 10 a.m. to noon.~~ NOTE: Revised date will be **April 12th, 9-noon.** Bring your tools to clean up, rake, cut back ornamental grasses, weed wack, etc.
3. The Fenton Art Council has invited OGGC to have a table at the Farmers' Market on May 22 (5-8 p.m.). A sign-up sheet will be available at our April meeting.
4. Norm Kilgour asked for volunteers for club officer positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer). Anyone interested should contact Norm, Nancy Kilgour, or Joan Runyon. Officer candidates will be announced at the April 16th meeting. Also, dues for next year will be accepted beginning at the April meeting.
5. Kim Alexander asked that all donation requests be submitted to her no later than March 26th, for discussion at a 5 p.m. meeting prior to next month's member meeting. Donation form and details are available on the Open Gate Garden Club website (Documents), or by contacting Kim directly.
6. Deb Tegard-Harroun thanked everyone who submitted and/or voted on photos for this year's contest (see last month's meeting summary for details). There was also a lively discussion about the "Grosse Pointe Garden Society" murder mystery show on Peacock, NBC, etc.
7. Kim Alexander is looking for volunteers for mini-tours May through Sept. These are smaller versions of the July Home/Garden Tour; only open to members and much more informal.

7:10 p.m. Break

7:30 p.m. Speaker Presentation – George Papadelis, Telly's Greenhouse, Troy and Shelby Township

- See website for location, hours, and workshop details: <https://www.tellys.com/>
- George handed out an extensive list of New Annuals and Perennials for 2025
- Of particular note was the Firefly Petunia; a bioluminescent plant that is worth checking out

Door Prizes:

- Book – Ray Barth
- Solar Garden Ornament – Mark Trevethan

Meeting adjourned at **8:40 p.m.**