

OPEN GATE GARDEN CLUB OF MICHIGAN

January 2026 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2026

LOCATION: Father Harvey Activity Center

Program: Bees and Beekeeping

Speaker: David Rex of Bee Rex Apiary

Time: 615 PM



Winter Photo taken by Hugh Harroun ♡

Hospitality List

1/21/2026	2/18/2026	3/18/2026	4/15/2026	5/20/2026	6/17/2026
Nicolette Ellinghausen*	Dan Czmer	Karen Hall*	Pat Manion*	Lisa Rolls Nicolette Ellinghausen	Julie Buttigieg Dave Buttigieg Patti O'Keefe
Karen Poloski	Norm Kilgour	Linda Van Camp Debbie Tegard- Harroun	MK Schmelzer	Patti O'Keefe * Greta Gatzko	Jeanne Martin
Cara Wahl	Nancy Kilgour	Nicolette Ellinghausen	Pat Laycock	Evo Betty Sheehy	Betty Sheehy Janice Cooley
Skip Walsh Amy Doyle	Ann Barth* Carmi Murray Deanna McCrate	Karen Poloski Judy Lytle	Kay Baxter Judy Lytle	Joan Runyan Betty Sheehy	Deb Scribner Jeanne Martin Nati Horton Lisa Rolls
Melody Miller Julie Buttigieg Dave Buttigieg Jim Fornash	Becky Eberhard Deb Scribner Patti O'Keefe	Kim Church	Amy Doyle Melody Miller		

HOSPITALITY: Note where your name is on this list and put it in your calendar. If you do not see your name on one of these lists, please choose a month or two to contribute a dish to pass.

A note from the Treasurer: Will anyone who has not paid their IOU from the Silent Auction please complete the transaction with Leslie.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the holiday gathering such a great event again this year! We had a very nice turnout with wonderful food, entertainment, camaraderie and dancing! Thank you so much for the positive comments that you shared with us both on the night of the event and in the following days. It is truly wonderful to feel appreciated with your warm comments! This event is successful because so many people helped to fill the needs!

Starting with setup crew.... Wow! Nancy Kilgore compiled a great list to keep track of all the wonderful people who took part in party set up. So many hands! Many thanks to Lynn Behr, Sheryl Carroll, Janice Cooley,

Nicolette Ellinghausen, Kim Fischer, Skip Getz, Kathy Girgen, Deb Henyon, Tina Imeson, Nancy Kilgour, Norm Kilgour, Karen Poloski, Martha Romanowski, and Betty Sheehy.

Thanks to Skip Getz, Karen Hall, Kim Church and Judy Lytle for organizing the dancing and dancers! Practices were organized and hats provided to enhance this "show". Thanks to those who also joined in the dancing. Entertainment set up by Tina is always great!

Thank you to Norm and Nancy Kilgore for doing such a great job setting up and hosting the beverage table with new member Sheryl Carroll.

Additionally, each year Tina reviews the night and makes notes of what went well and what we could do differently. We are always thankful to get input from our members and always looking for ways to improve. If you have suggestions, please reach out to Lynn Behr or Tina Imeson.

Karen Poloski and her crew did a super job with stage set up. Names are detailed in the master list. This provides such a wonderful and festive ambiance.

Kim Fischer and Tina Imeson did a great job with theme and decor. Both have a passion for this portion of the event. So clever! Thank you to Karen Hall, Lynn Behr, Kathy Girgen and Tina Imeson for the centerpiece design and construction.

I hope I have covered everyone!

Thank you to Ray and Ann Barth for all the extras they do to support this night!

Phenomenal food! We must compile recipes! Anyone able to manage collection and way to share? There are cakes, side dishes, salads and desserts I would love a recipe for!

Ps. If you missed the craft and you would like to head up that project, we can always use an idea and a project leader.

A note from Deb Scribner: I was visiting a friend at Story Point assisted living in Fenton when I ran into Jerry Loviska and Sandy Shumaker. Sandy is a resident there and Jerry was visiting her. Sandy said she has received many Christmas cards for which she is so thankful. She said because her hands are too shaky, she is no longer able to write too much. She asked if something could go into the newsletter and/or an announcement made at the meeting about how grateful she is to have received so many cards and her apologies for not reciprocating. Jerry asked for him as well.

You can always access our web site for old minutes and meeting information. The bylaws can be found at <https://opengategardenclub.com/garden-club-documents> and check out our Facebook Open Gate Garden Club group.



BEAUTY IS THERAPY

2026 ANNUALS EVENT

-  Wednesday, January 28th
-  06:00 PM - 08:00 PM
-  State Theatre
913 Washington Avenue
Bay City, MI 48708

Join us for an inspiring evening with **Matthew Ross**, Executive Director of The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, as he shares how **thoughtful garden design brings healing**—inspired by 19th-century psychiatrist Dr. James Decker Munson's philosophy that "Beauty is Therapy."

Learn: How to **create restorative gardens at home**

Bonus: Kick off our Annuals Preorder Program with **must-have plants** for 2026!

Questions?
Contact Hannah:
989-893-0000
hannahs@baylandscaping.net

The event is free!
Register at our website
to reserve your seat:

