

Garden Clippings

Newsletter

Volume 31, Issue 1

JULY & AUGUST '24

MARSHALL AREA
GARDEN CLUB, INC.



MARSHALL
AREA

Garden Club

Tues., Wed. – July 9, 10

GARDEN PREVIEWS

Please remember to attend the garden preview where you'll be working.

Fri. pm July 12, Sat. am

GARDEN TOUR SNACKS

Drop off your snacks (in bags or pre-packaged) for the garden tour refreshment table at the Holcomb's house - 406 High St.

Friday: 6pm – 9pm

Saturday: 7am – 9am

Sat. & Sun. July 13-14

GARDEN TOUR

Mark your shift time in your calendar. Don't forget!



READY FOR GARDEN TOUR?

- **Garden Previews: Know your garden preview time.** You should have received a postcard with both your garden preview and shift times as well as an e-mail with schedules and instructions. The garden preview is when the garden owner can answer questions and identify unique plants and features that may get a lot of questions. Please attend if you can and please only attend the garden preview where you are working.
- **Shift Times: Know your shift time.** Please put your garden/shift time in your calendar so you don't forget. Your complimentary ticket to the tour, for working a tour shift, will be in the garden's ticket box or you can get it at your garden preview.
- **Refreshments: Please help with baked goods/snacks.** Drop off your cookies/snacks Fri 6pm-9pm or Sat 7am-9am to Robin and Mike Holcomb at 406 High Street. Cookies/snacks should be individually bagged or prepackaged and nothing that will melt, like chocolate. Having some gluten free options was also very much appreciated last year. Avoid nuts due to possible allergies.
- **Tickets: (Adult, Kids and Online)** Tour tickets on the day of the tour are \$15-adults, kids 12 and under are free and get a treasure map. Only cash or check payment on the day of the tour. Online tickets should be picked up at the Ticket Booth. If someone shows you an online voucher at the garden, give them a ticket, record their name and let the Ticket Booth know they've received their ticket. Instructions will also be in the ticket box at each garden.
- **Ticket Booth: (Location Change)** Remember that the ticket booth is now across the fountain circle in front of the Town Hall/Welcome Center. Only cash or check payment that weekend.



Tues. July 16 at 6pm

CLUB PICNIC

Wilder Creek Conservation Club
19833 D Drive South
Marshall

Bring a salad, bread or dessert to share.

Fri. Aug 9 Time still TBD

FAIR DISPLAY SET-UP

Bring your containers, window boxes and "Old Fashion Fun" items to Floral Hall to set-up the club's display

Sat. Aug 10

FAIR ENTRY DAY

Bring your fair entries to Floral Hall. Check the fair schedule for submission times for each dept. Floriculture is 9am-5:30pm in the north wing.

Remember, all entries need a green entry tag attached.

Sun. - Sat. Aug 11-17

FAIR WEEK

175th Calhoun County Fair



Merry Go-Round at the Calhoun County Fair, Marshall, Mich.

Enjoy the fair!

Sun. Aug 18 9am- Noon

FAIR ENTRY PICK-UP

FAIR DISPLAY TAKE-DOWN

Stop by Floral Hall and pick-up your entries and display items.

9am - Noon

DON'T FORGET THE CLUB PICNIC!

Tuesday, July 16 at 6pm



We will be meeting for our club picnic at Wilder Creek Conservation Club under their big outdoor pavilion on Tues., 7/16 at 6pm.

Meat, cold drinks, and table service will be provided.

**Please bring a salad, bread or dessert to share on the buffet.
Hope to see you there!**

**Wilder Creek Conservation Club
19833 D Drive South
Marshall, MI**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



It has been a pleasure to be involved in the leadership of MAGCI because it is made up of so many outstanding people. We are a club worth joining! If you agree with this statement, let's keep in mind that the Garden Tour is a wonderful time to gain new members. Let our Garden Tour guests know that our club is friendly and welcoming. Our best advertisement is our

volunteering to work Garden Tour, and we volunteer because of our belief in fundraising to pay for the many worthwhile projects the club is involved in.

I will be carrying membership applications with me as I work the tour. I will explain to potential members that being in the club is a great way to know people in the community, ask other gardeners about gardening, and is way that an individual can help beautify our community through joint effort.

I believe that gardeners are good at growing plants and interpersonal relationships; over the years, we have sowed the seeds of friendship and reaped wonderful memories through our shared love of gardening. Let's grow our club by showing to others our fondness for our club and each other. Garden Tour weekend is an opportunity for us to share who we are with others; let's encourage our local guests to join MAGCI.

Best wishes for a great summer.

Mike

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please update your directory



We had a new member join last month. Please welcome Jen Rice when you see her at the next meeting.

Jen Rice

269-290-8204

jen.rice.marshall@gmail.com

Contact Info Updates:

Andy Okoniewski

AndrewOkie1981@gmail.com

Pat Karr

269-579-0900

207 Eastman Ct 49068-3102

New Special Projects Approved at June Meeting

- **Ketchum Park**
\$700 native plant seedlings
- **Tree Initiative**
\$500 – new activity
- **Youth Activities at the library**
\$500 for youth activities supporting the 2025 flower show
- **Quilt Garden**
\$225
- **December Workshop**
\$200 for Holiday Arrangements for Assisted Living Facilities
- **Fair Flower Boxes**
\$200
- **Home Tour Flowers**
\$80 Home Tour Flowers (additional to the \$100 already budgeted)

MARSHALL COMMUNITY GARDEN



Lynn: The Community Garden at Marshall United Methodist Church (MUMC) is open to the public, and they would love to have you involved! It is located just beyond the main parking lot at MUMC.

A fantastic group of church and community members have been working on this new project. The raised beds were built by Boy Scouts in Troop 373 and are now in place. Weed barrier was installed, cardboard and mulch have been laid down. The beds are loaded up with all the base compost layers. Seedlings grown by our own FFA high school students have been planted. An irrigation trench has been excavated, making it easier to water the plants. A garden shed was built by Boy Scouts in Troop 373 and the space for the shed has been prepped. Soon a deer fence will be installed around the garden.



Generosity, hospitality, and teamwork in this Community Garden is expanding the church's food insecurity initiatives and will be feeding our neighbors fresh produce. Contact MUMC at 269-781-5107 to learn more. Check it out!

THANK YOU TO SPONSORS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Oaklawn Hospital
- MUMC Men's Breakfast
- Southwest Michigan Community Food Bank
- MSU Extension
- Pheasant Forever
- Marshall Garden Club
- Sturgis Bank and Trust
- Marshall Community Foundation, Youth Advisory Council
- Marshall FFA
- Boy Scout Troop 373



FREE COMMUNITY PLANT GIVE-AWAY IN JUNE



The rain held off for the club's Free Community Plant Exchange on June 1st at the Marshall Area Farmer's Market. Thank you to Natalie Rector, Lucy Robinson, Karen Deppe, Andrew Okoniewski, Melanie Sheperd, Bruce Gillespie, Laurel Piotrowski, and Joanne Lindquist for manning the booth and thank you to all who provided the seeds, herbs and perennials to share with the public. We received donations of \$102.50 and sold 14 garden tour tickets

Thank you to Mike and Karla Love, Alice Schneider, and Tom Kendall for volunteering at the Farmers Market entrances covering shifts from 7:45 am to 1 pm by counting the number of adults who entered the market, which was 780. There were also lots of children, plenty of dogs, and two kittens.

DOWNTOWN URNS AND FOUNTAIN CIRCLE BEDS



(Left to right: Mike and Melanie Sheperd, Natalie Rector, Randy Boemer, Bruce and Linda Gillespie and Alice Schneider)
Not shown: Doug Crane, Judy Cieslak, Deb Glen.

A big **THANK YOU** to Natalie Rector and Doug Crane, who selected the plants and got everything organized for planting the fountain circle beds and the downtown planters. And another big **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped plant all the beds and planters back in May. They all look great.

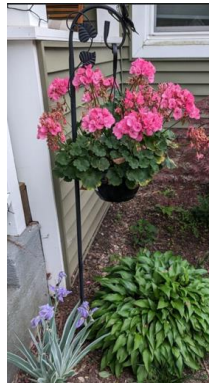
MEET A MEMBER

Michael and Melanie Sheperd



I'd like to introduce Michael and Melanie Sheperd, two new members that joined the club in 2023. They've helped out at multiple club activities since they've joined, including the downtown flower bed planting, the holiday potluck flower arranging, the farmer's market plant give-away, the upcoming Floral Hall fair display, and they've recently volunteered to help with the new special project tree initiative that was approved at the last meeting. Thank you for all of your help making our club's activities a success!

***Melanie:** Both of us appreciate the mission of Marshall Area Garden club to beautify our city. We have enjoyed learning about the many interesting gardening topics, improving our gardening skills, and getting to know everyone at Garden Club. We are new to gardening but are eager to learn. Michael's favorite garden club event is planting flowers at the circle and planters downtown. I enjoy meeting new people and enjoyed participating in the floral arranging activities last year. Most of our yard is in shade and only a small portion receives sunlight. Our beds are primarily made up of hostas and irises.*



We have an indoor aloe plant that is several years old. Our greatest joy in gardening is watching the plants grow and change (and not die). We are joined in our garden by our dog, Pippin, who loves rearranging the sticks in the yard and protecting the flower beds and trees from the constantly invading squirrels.



FLORAL HALL HEROES

Keeping the beds looking good for the 175th Fair



(Left to right: Lynn Sleight, Nancy Isham, Laurel Piotrowski, Mike Love, Joanne Lindquist, Mike and Robin Holcomb (and their two granddaughters), and brand new member Nancy Reinke. Not shown: Alice Schneider - taking the picture)