



# Charlevoix Gardener

Beyond Our Gardens - Friends, Fellowship and Flowers

A Publication of the Charlevoix Area Garden Club,  
Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.  
& National Garden Clubs, Inc.



[www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org](http://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org)

Editor: Jennifer Nash

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## March Program BOYNE RIVER BANK



Our speaker Nancy Cunningham of Boyne City (right) took us down the path of all the work put into this restoration project along the Boyne City Park. Great care was taken with the plant material to ensure proper benefit to the site. Check it out this Spring!

Our hostesses served punch and Luck of the Irish Dessert - perfect for the Irish in all of us! The recipe is on page 4.



Diane McMahon introduced our two new CAGC members. Read about both of them on page two!

Diane with Ellen Kendall



## FLOWER SCHEDULE IS READY!

Lots of hard work has been going on since January to prepare the Flower Show Schedule. It is now ready and available as of the April Meeting. This is the bible of the show and if you are entering, be sure to get a copy. All the design categories, rules and information are in the Schedule. The horticulture entries' list can be used to guide your spring planting so you will have a wonderful specimen to enter. Contact Joan Nowak, Rhea Dow or Marge McGoff to pick up a copy.

Many thanks to those who worked so diligently on the Schedule. I didn't know what a detailed and important job this is. Joan Nowak spearheaded the whole thing with Rhea Dow and Marge McGoff providing ideas, guidance and proofing. Nancy Cleland worked hard on fine tuning the Horticulture Division and Kathleen Schmidtke, the Design Division. Ruth Augustine developed the Special Exhibits Division. And finally, thank you to Patti Aikin who is our cover designer, master computer guru and publisher. Lots of work went into producing this masterpiece so do study it, decide which categories to enter and let the producers know what a fine job they did.

Flower Show Committee Chairs -- Please note: A meeting is scheduled at the Community Reformed Church on Friday, April 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

*Submitted by Audrey Etienne, General Chairman*



## MEET OUR NEW MEMBER



**Ellen Kendall** and her family have been vacationing in the Charlevoix area since the 1960s. She and husband David lived in SE Michigan for 40 years where they raised their son and

daughter who now live in Grand Rapids and Chicago. They made Charlevoix their permanent home in May 2009. Ellen spent 25 years in the financial services industry. She retired in 2006 which enabled her to spend more time with her first love, the piano. Ellen is a member of the Windover Piano Duo and has played programs at many venues in the Midwest as well as at the 2008 International Congress of Women in Music in Beijing, China. She also accompanies a choir in Birmingham and sings with the Little Traverse Choral Society and the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra Choir. Ellen enjoys gardening, but is an amateur. She has success with hostas, tuberous begonias, and herbs. Her other interests include cooking, knitting, traveling, and playing with her granddaughter. Ellen's contact information is on page 4.

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBER



In 1977 **Carole Vial** bought a lot on Lake Michigan on Nine Mile Point Drive in Michigan Shores. In 1980 she built her house thinking she'd settle here full time. That did not happen however. She

waited until 1997 when she retired from a career in nursing. Carole was called to nursing by her friends when they told her about a vacancy at the school, which she took. Carole went from a Diploma Nurse to a Nurse Practitioner with a Masters in Psychiatric Nursing - a career which served her well. Carole ended her career teaching at Henry Ford Community College. Carole has two children, a son and a daughter, and five grandchildren. Her daughter lives in Germany about an hour north of Frankfurt with her German-born husband and three children. Her son lives in Royal Oak. Carole has tried marriage twice and decided to settle down with Mac Duff, her eight year old Westie. She has volunteered during the past 12 years primarily at the Community Free Clinic and the Woman's Resource Center. She currently is helping with a fundraiser for the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra. Carole has always liked gardening, having done it all her life. She enjoys how beautiful CAGC has made Charlevoix and thought it was time for her to actively help.

### "REFLECTIONS ... Tom Bailey"

Excerpts from Little Traverse Conservancy Newsletter  
The topic of the article was land conservation, specifically preservation and change. We selected several segments contained in the article that are of particular interest:

- The imperative for humanity is to refrain from so dominating the earth's various processes that we interfere with the growth of that all-important and precious family tree of life.
- One of the Little Traverse Conservancy's founding members, Dave Irish, has said on a number of occasions that "our mission is not to save the world; it's to save our little corner of it."
- If we do our best, community by community and systems by system, to take care of our earth and that family tree of life, the cumulative effects will be positive. Following on Mother Nature's model, everything ties in together and it all adds up.

Checkout their website - [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

Submitted by Carrier Minch, Conservation Committee



### CHECK THIS OUT!

I checked out the little book Radical Prunings from the library earlier this year. It is hysterical, but also has some helpful gardening tips from Mertensia Corydalis' columns. I thought perhaps it might be fun to include a little snippet from time to time in the newsletter. The topics are arranged by months. Here is an excerpt about slugs in hostas that appeared in the June section: ..."set out saucers of beer among the hosta plants. Not your craft-brewed porters and ales, but cheap, mass-produced canned beer. The slugs, a belly-scratching lot, will be distracted on their way to work by your tavern on the green. In the morning: stiff as boards. Dump the lot on your compost heap and start over again. This method will amuse any children (who are natural-born sadists, by the way) you might have and can be turned into an instructive example of the consequences of immoderate consumption of alcohol." Check this one at the Charlevoix Library!

Submitted by Joyce Herbert

## PERE CHARLEVOIX GARDEN



The project to begin the Pere Charlevoix Garden started in 1975 as a mini park on a high bluff overlooking the Pine River Channel and Lake Michigan. The park itself was not completed until July 1977.

The history of the boulders and the site research revealed Indians living here in the Middle Woodland times. The park was undertaken to honor Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix (1682-1761), a Jesuit priest who passed these shores in 1721. The two boulders are classified as glacial erratics that probably originated from the Canadian Shield areas of Northern Michigan and Canada.

In the spring of 1976, two benches were placed in the park and in the summer of the same year the smaller boulder had been given and placed by the Medusa Cement Company of Charlevoix. It was October before the larger boulder was given by Charlevoix County. In November of the same year two flowering crab trees were dedicated as Liberty Trees.

The Park is located on West Dixon and has provided many residents and tourists the opportunity to sit on the benches and enjoy the plantings and the northern Michigan sunsets. Kirsten Berwick, Barbie Claggett, Rhea Dow, Shari Haynes, and Carolyn Navarre maintain the Garden.



*Submitted by Shari Haynes*

## YOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Youth Education Committee helps the youth of our community learn about plants, gardens, ecology and conservation. Our main project involves coordinating two poster contests in Charlevoix's elementary and middle schools. The themes for the first contest are *Smokey Bear*, "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" and *Woodsy Owl*, "Lend a Hand Care for the Land". These themes are created at the national level through the National Garden Club and the United States Forest Service. The second poster contest is sponsored locally through our club and is a garden-related poster.

In the fall, art teachers are contacted and a teaching schedule is arranged. Committee members, working in pairs, present the poster contest to each art class in pre-kindergarten through sixth grade using member-created lesson plans and teaching aids. We like to emphasize conservation, ecology and the use of plants native to the Charlevoix area. Approximately eight weeks later, committee members judge the posters and determine first, second and third place and honorable mention awards for each grade level. Grand Prize winners are determined for each contest. The first place winners for the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl contest are then sent to the Michigan Garden Clubs Inc. for judging.



Winners are honored at a Spring Recognition Tea where family members are also invited. Posters are mounted and displayed on the walls and cookies and punch, made by committee members, are served. All first, second, third place and honorable mention winners in each contest are individually recognized by the Charlevoix Area Garden Club, presented with a certificate and, this year, will receive a bag-potted White Flowering Dogwood (complete with planting instructions). First Place students in each category are presented with framed certificates stating the merit of their award.

This year's recognition tea will be held on May 17 at 2:15 p.m. in the Charlevoix Elementary gym. Please consider joining us for this fun event. Watch for the winners, along with photos, in a future newsletter.

*Submitted by: Ruth Augustine*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### CAGC NEXT MEETING

**MAY 11, 2010**

1:00 p.m. - Library

## EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT A STANDARDS FLOWER SHOW, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

Flower Show Judge Judy Hahn of Elk Rapids has been invited to do some demonstrations and explain the various design classes for the Flower Show in July. Rhea Dow will also share the secrets of success for a fun and exciting Flower Show and talk about how each of us can participate. Hostesses: Joyce Reznick, Greta Gappy, Peggy Johnson, Diane McMahon, and Nomis Moi.

### Luck of the Irish Dessert Squares

*Here's our March meeting treat recipe!*

#### Chocolate crumb crust\*

1 (3oz) pkg. cream cheese, softened

½ c. sugar and ½ c. cocoa

¼ c. milk

5 c. frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed (about 12 oz), divided

¼ - ½ t. mint extract and green food coloring

Prepare crumb crust. In small mixer bowl beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually add sugar, beating until well blended. Add cocoa alternately with milk, beating until smooth. Gradually fold in 3 cups whipped topping; spoon mixture over crumb crust. In small bowl stir remaining 2 cups whipped topping, mint extract and food color; spread over chocolate layer. Cover; chill about 6 hours or until set. Cut into squares. Garnish with mint leaves or shamrocks.

#### \*Chocolate Crumb Crust

1 c. graham cracker crumbs

¼ c. cocoa and ¼ c. sugar

5 T. butter, melted

In small bowl stir all ingredients until well blended. Press crumb mixture onto bottom of 9" square pan. Double for a 9x13" pan.

*Submitted by Amy Lalewicz (from Cooks.com)*



### MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

*Submission deadline for the May issue is April 27. Send your information and articles to:*

[jennifer-nash@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifer-nash@hotmail.com)

## A GREAT HOUSEHOLD IDEA

Keep your freezer full. Use bags of ice to fill the voids, and your freezer won't have to use as much energy to stay cold. "Martha Stewart"

*Submitted by Mary Vetting, Conservation Committee*



### SPRING CLEANING

It's spring cleaning time for our roadsides too! Our first Adopt-A-Highway pickup will be Monday, April 26. Meet at the Congregational Church (corner Park & State) for our required safety video at 9:00am (rain date - Friday, April 30). Be sure to have footwear for wet roadsides and gloves. Other dates - Friday, July 9 (16 rain date), and Monday September 27 (October 1 rain date). Please let Carolyn Klender know at 348-1994 or Carrie Minch at 547-1464.

*Submitted by Carrie Minch, Adopt-A-Highway Committee*

### YEARBOOK UPDATES

*Keep your Yearbook accurate throughout the year!*

#### ADD OUR NEW MEMBER INFORMATION (space on Page 61)

Carole Vial  
06537 Nine Mile Point Dr.  
Charlevoix  
[carolevial@charter.net](mailto:carolevial@charter.net)  
231-347-1829

Ellen K. Kendall  
09320 Las Olas Dr.  
Charlevoix  
[ellenkendall@charter.net](mailto:ellenkendall@charter.net)  
231 547-4956  
cell:248 321-5120

#### ALSO

Nancy Kline has a new email address (page 51)  
[Kline.nancy@ymail.com](mailto:Kline.nancy@ymail.com)

### DONATIONS RECEIVED

In memory of Helen Campbell, from Peggy Johnson (Hospital Meditation Garden)

In memory of Quinton A. Walker III from Constance Dexter (Memorial Garden)

In memory of Marie Slone, from J. Derith Lane (Memorial Garden)