



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

Editor: Jennifer Nash

January 2012

## OUR NEW PRESIDENT, PEGGY BRENNAN:

### *IT'S A NEW YEAR - NEW AGENDA*



Along with a new year, 2012 ushers in a new slate of officers, a new direction, and a new membership meeting agenda. The theme for this year is "It's A Garden Party". It is built around the premise of encouraging as much focus on fun and friendship as we have on cultivating our knowledge and love of gardening.

In addition to continuing our knowledge through informative topics at our membership meetings, learning together as we care for our civic gardens, and working in teams for our fundraisers, we will foster fun and friendship with several additional activities. These include a 'Friends & Flowers Stroll', monthly workshops and field trips, and 'A Garden Party'. The workshops and field trips will be announced each month with signups at each meeting. Details of the 'Friends & Flowers Stroll' will be announced as we draw closer to spring as well as plans for 'A Garden Party' in July.

Membership meetings will begin **PROMPTLY** at the top of the appointed hour. Please arrive prior so that you are signed in and seated before the meeting is called to order. The guest speaker will be introduced immediately after the welcome and pledge. The business meeting will

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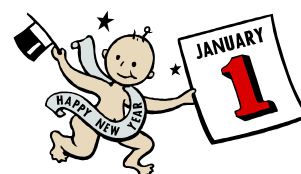
follow the speaker/program. Refreshments will be at the conclusion to allow more time for social interaction.

We will attempt to keep the business meeting brief while still keeping you informed. As we have numerous standing committees and many are not active every month, I will ask you to report **ONLY** if you have requested to be put on the agenda. You may do this by calling me or emailing me by noon of the day before our meeting. Brief announcements may be made near the end of the meeting. A new category on the agenda will be Q & A, Comments. In addition to giving you time to speak during the meeting, I will set aside time for you to ask questions or make comments on any topic you like during this period even if it has been covered before. Not only do I welcome your comments, I encourage them! Copies of the agenda will be available on each table.

We, as a board, are here to guide, make recommendations, and see to the orderly operation of the club. We can only do so properly if we have your input. The duty of the At-Large Members is to represent you and voice the effects of our decisions on you. So please tell us how you feel about our club and all that we do.

We work hard and this year we'll play hard, so get ready to have fun because..... "IT'S A GARDEN PARTY!"

*Respectfully,  
Peggy Brennan*



## MGC LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO CAROLYN NAVARRE



Carolyn Navarre (left) with Jim Lendahl, Pres. Marge McGoff, District V Director Marilyn McIntosh, and Carrie Minch. Jim and Carrie were last year's awardees.

Carolyn has a long connection to the Charlevoix community—her home was her family retreat since 1978. It became Carolyn's permanent home in 2004. The following year she joined the Charlevoix Area Garden Club.

Carolyn was a "committee woman" from the first day as a member of Youth Education, Spring plant and Fall bulb sales, garden maintenance at the Hospital Meditation Garden and the Pere Charlevoix Garden, and she served as meeting hostess and/or co-hostess each year.

Carolyn served on the Executive Board as Treasurer in 2010 and 2011 and continues in that role in 2012. As Treasurer, she chaired the Financial Oversight committee for the Garden Walks and for other fund raisers. She kept accurate records for the Club's income, expense and investments and reported the financial status at each membership meeting.

Carolyn also shared her time and expertise with at least two other Charlevoix organizations—the Clipperview Community Association and the Kiwanis Club. Her leadership has been apparent in both groups—she served as president for each and on many fundraiser committees and service projects for Kiwanis.

In recognition of Carolyn's participation and contributions of time and talents, the Charlevoix Area Garden Club is pleased to present Carolyn with a Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. State Life Membership.

*Congratulations, From your friends at CAGC.*

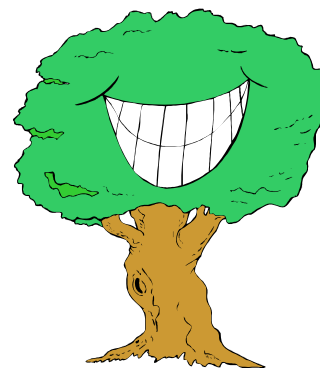
## UPDATE ON SOUTH ENTRANCE PROJECT

Ken Polakowski has been very active since speaking with the CAGC last August on the project of improving the entrance to Charlevoix on the south side. Ken has made presentations to the Charlevoix Township Board, the Lions Club and St. Mary's Cement Company among others. He is seeking the Township's approval on taking the lead on the project as it will be in their area. The goal is for Charlevoix Township to contribute funds, act as the projects financial managers and commit to maintenance of the plantings after the completion of the project and help with securing the approval of property owners adjacent to the highway right-of-way along the route. Presently, the Township is considering all of the above.

The Garden Club's commitment of up to \$10,000 toward a challenge grant for the funding of plantings awaits the next stage in the approval process. Such a major undertaking involves many groups, many approval processes, and decisions on the administration of the funds. The project is alive and well and awaiting answers from the Charlevoix Township Board and Planning Commission.

The Garden Club's leadership of endorsing the project and committing of funds is a wonderful model for other groups and organizations to believe in the project and help it achieve fruition.

*Submitted by Audrey Etienne*



## WORKSHOPS & FIELD TRIPS



We have some wonderful activities planned for this year. In addition to the informative and entertaining programs at our membership meetings, workshops and/or field trips are planned for almost every month.

Field trips include: A snowshoeing excursion, The Jordan Valley Glass Blowing Factory, Kilwin's Chocolate Factory, The Recycling Center, Circle H Herb Farm, The Iris Farm, The Dahlia Farm, A Vineyard & Wine Tasting and more.

Workshops include: flower pins, terrariums, hat decorating, succulents, hupertufa containers, leaf casting, scrapbooking, pumpkin decorating and more.

As you can see some are gardening related and others are not. All are meant to be fun and foster friendship.

Workshops and field trips will be announced each month in the newsletter with signup available at our membership meetings and by email. In regard to field trips we will also ask for those willing to drive so as to carpool as much as possible. If there is a charge, you will be notified at the time of sign up.

**The first workshop will be held on Thursday, January 19 at 1pm in the Armstrong Room at the Library.** We will make fabric flower pins (see picture in the next column). Colors will vary by the color of fabric you choose. All materials will be provided. Cost is \$4.00. Sample will be available at our January meeting. Class takes about 1 hour. Sign up at the January meeting or email [teryypeggy@charter.net](mailto:teryypeggy@charter.net).

The first field trip will be a hike/snowshoeing/ski excursion at a Little Traverse Conservancy Preserve the week of January 23-27 at 1pm. 60 to 90 minutes in length. Details of day and place will be forthcoming. Sign up at January meeting or email [suekenmacgregor@yahoo.com](mailto:suekenmacgregor@yahoo.com).

The February field trip will be to Kilwin's Chocolate Factory in Petoskey on the 23 at 1 pm. This will be a behind-the-scenes tour of the kitchens, candy and ice cream making operation and the best part.....samples. Sign up at the January meeting or by email [suekenmacgregor@yahoo.com](mailto:suekenmacgregor@yahoo.com). Deadline for sign up is February 8 (2 week advance notice).

We hope you will join us!

Submitted by Nancy Cleland & Peggy Brennan, co-chairs

## FLOWER PIN - CAGC JANUARY 19 WORKSHOP

(see article, previous column)



### A HOLLY THAT DROPS ITS LEAVES AND HOLDS ITS BERRIES ALL WINTER

When most people think of holly, the image conjured up is one of bright red berries, glossy evergreen foliage and Christmas decorations. So when you talk to the average homeowner about deciduous holly (*Ilex verticillata*) they look at you as if you were a moron. That's because many people consider deciduous holly an oxymoron.

A holly has glossy evergreen leaves, right! No, not always. *Ilex verticillata*, Winterberry Holly, or Winterberry is our native, wetland holly that loses its leaves each autumn. This beautiful shrub is all the more showy because its lack of winter leaves makes its berry display all the more showy. After the leaves have turned yellow and have fallen off, you are left with a breathtaking view of thousands of brightly colored berries clinging to every stem. What a joy to have such color in the middle of winter.

Season of Interest

At blooming time this plant has little to attract attention. It has very small, inconspicuous white flowers, with male flowers and female flowers found in different individual plants. It is autumn, however, when this plant comes into its own, when its slender branches are draped with small but numerous berries right to the branch tip. The berries remain on the plant until midwinter adding color to the landscape when it is most needed. To facilitate a good berry set it is advisable to purchase at least one male for every three to five female plants and to plant the male in close proximity.

*Excerpts taken from an article written by Tim Wood, Resident Horticulturalist and Plantsman for Spring Meadows Nursery, submitted by Rhea Dow*

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### MEMBERSHIP BOOK UPDATE

Keep your 2012 Membership Book accurate all year!

**Page 18**

Add Carrie Minch as Chair for Conservation Committee

**Page 27**

**Remove:**

- May 10 - Dist. V Spring Mts.-Tustin
- May 27 - NGC Convention, Wash. D.C.
- June 9 - MGC Convention, Midland

**Add:**

- May 17 - NGC Convention, Buffalo, NY
- June 4 - MGC Convention, Traverse City
- October 2 - District V Fall Meeting, Thompsonville MI

**Change:**

October 13-15 Apple Fest to October 12-14

**Page 55**

Carolyn Navarre's email should be [navar@torchlake.com](mailto:navar@torchlake.com)

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### CALLING ALL CARTONS!

Carrie Minch reminds all members that residents of Emmet, Charlevoix, and Cheboygan counties are able to recycle coated paper cups and cartons, such as milk carton and juice boxes.

To raise awareness of carton recycling, Emmet County Recycling is issuing a challenge to their friends and neighbors: collect 10,000 pounds in 10 weeks.

"You can gift in two ways," states Carrie, "you can support the 10,000 pound challenge and provide jobs for Great Lakes Tissue, who uses the recycled cartons to make tissue products and napkins." GLT is located in Cheboygan and brought jobs back to the town.

*Submitted by Carrie Minch*

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### CAGC NEXT MEETING HEARTS AND ROSES TEA

Horticulture



February 14, 2012 1:00 p.m.  
CHARLEVOIX PUBLIC LIBRARY

Charles Martin of the Dow Gardens will join us to speak about the care and cultivation of the beautiful hydrangea and how we can use this wonderful plan to best effect in our gardens.

Hostesses: Patti Aikin, Cecilia Bustos, Mary Kengle, Kathleen Kolka, Lois Lewis, Patti McCreddie, Carole Vial



### DONATIONS RECEIVED

Thank You!

For the CAGC Endowment Account, a \$1,000 donation from an anonymous donor.

A donation in honor of Joan Nowak from Jonathan and Lynn Friendly.



### FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Submission deadline for the next issue is January 26. Send your information and articles to: [jennifer-nash@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifer-nash@hotmail.com).

## BEST WISHES TO THE NEW BOARD

At the December CAGC luncheon, District V Director, Marilyn McIntosh inducted our officers for 2012. They are:

Peggy Brennan	President	Carolyn Navarre	Treasurer
Nancy Cleland	First Vice President	Lyn Jenks	At-large Member
Diane McMahon	Recording Secretary	Ellen Kendall	At-large Member
Linda Weston	Corresponding Secretary	Carole Vial	At-large Member



Marge hands over the gavel to Peggy



All officers placed their lit candle into this beautiful wreath



District V Director Marilyn McIntosh inducts President Peggy with Marge, Mary, and Audrey (stand-in for Nancy) smiling (L).  
The Charlevoix Saxophone Quartet provided entertainment for the luncheon (R).



**KEEP READING. THE NEWSLETTER STILL HAS ONE MORE PAGE! READ ON ... OUR VERY OWN Miss Euphorbia Polychroma answers another CAGC member's gardening question. If you have a question you'd like Miss EP to answer, please send it to [jennifer-nash@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifer-nash@hotmail.com)!**

## *“To Prune or Not to Prune”?*

*(An anonymous member asks the question related to pruning hydrangeas. OK, if you want to remain anonymous, then here is my reply)*

**Dear Ms. Mouse,**

In order to advise you on pruning your hydrangeas we must first look at which type you have in your garden - the discussion below should suffice.

*H. arborescens* or “Annabelle” Hydrangeas



*Plants may be severely pruned in the fall or very early spring with little loss of flowers. In fact, an annual shearing to 15 cm can be beneficial. The only time they cannot be pruned is in the late spring or in the summer when they are preparing to bloom.*

*H. macrophylla*



If your hydrangea was pruned in early spring and then produced nothing but leaves in the summer, you may have a “**Nikko Blue**”. It is one of the oldest and most beautiful hydrangeas, but it does have its issues - *like NOT WANTING to be pruned!*



Some of the newer varieties of *macrophylla* such as “**Endless Summer**” (seen above) are much more forgiving they are in a special category called “ever-bloomers.” But for the vast majority of hydrangeas, pruning after July will likely result in fewer blooms the next summer.



As for “**Nikko Blue**” (the finicky one) if you are lucky enough to have it bloom every year, then you must have had a really deep snowfall, no late freezing temps (in April-June) and you left it alone without pruning last year. I personally know someone in Charlevoix who has had such good fortune, but she will tell you that it is nearly a miracle to have such good luck. She says to “stick with the newer varieties for carefree blooming and pruning!” And I would have to agree with her.

**Yours truly,**

**Miss Euphorbia Polychroma**