



May 2023

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

## President's Message

Some of you may be getting phone calls asking you to serve on the nominating committee or serve as an officer. Filling 5 officer position along with 3 director positions, will not be an easy task. Eight people will need to step forward and take a leadership position.

The nominating committee will need to take into account we are in a difficult situation when 70% of our club members are here for 3 to 4 months out of the year. Officers will need to be faithful to attend all board meetings and all club meetings via zoom. The reason I say this is because I am finding we lack consistency when our officers are not involved the entire year.

We cannot sustain all this club handles with 30% of the members doing it all. I will keep stating the facts that change has to happen now; we are at that critical tipping point. Keeping our heads in the Round Lake sands isn't an option anymore.

It's like the story of the front-line people wondering why the general in the helicopter keeps sounding the alarm. Well, the general has a wider view of the layout of the land, where the front liners cannot see what's over the hill. I'm the general in this story! The alarm is ringing.

*Dorothy*



## May Membership Meeting

**Join us on Tuesday, May 9, 1:00 p.m. at the Charlevoix Train Depot, 305 Chicago Avenue (Depot Beach)**

**Our speaker will be** Lindsay Bona Eggeman from CAKE CISMA. The cooperative invasive species management area serving Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, and Emmet counties was established in 2015 as a joint effort between local conservation districts and various non-profits. Their mission is to protect the natural resources, economy, and human health of Northern Lower Michigan through collaborative outreach and management of invasive species.

# Welcome New Member Shannon Kelly

**At our April Meeting** we welcomed Shannon and her companion dog Stanley to the Club. She discovered the Charlevoix Area Garden Club while working remotely from the Charlevoix Public Library for her job at a dental office.

Shannon grew up in the Detroit suburb of Huntington Woods, and is a graduate of Michigan State University.

She has always enjoyed gardening and is happy to become an official member of our club!



## Conservation: No Mow May

Submitted by Carrie Minch

**You may have heard of No Mow May** as a way to welcome wildlife and pollinators to your yard this spring, but this is not such a good solution if the lawn has only one flowering species or consists of non-native grasses that limit the needed habitat benefits.

Keep in mind, a lawn should be an area rug (not wall to wall carpeting) to benefit our Northern Michigan wildlife. Spacious lawns use too much water – an important consideration as our summers become drier. Instead of turf grass, wild ginger can be planted as a low-growing ground cover.

If you are concerned about neighborhood acceptance, offer



some teaching moments and add some human touches to your yard – such as birdbaths, benches, and lawn ornaments. Explanatory signage like “Pollinator Habitat” can help spark conversations with your neighbors.

Small spaces also work for rewilding. Containers of milkweed, native asters, or Joe Pye weed do well. You can also adorn your window boxes with native plants or plant flowering natives around your mailbox. No matter the size, you can make your yard a wildlife stopover or a “summer home” for pollinators!

For more about No Mow May: <https://beecityusa.org/no-mow-may-low-mow-spring-faqs/>

## Trillium Are Under Threat

**Most people are familiar with the larger white-flowering trillium** (*Trillium grandiflorum*) which is common in our woods, but there are actually eight different species of trillium thought to occur naturally in our state. Four are rare and are assigned “Threatened” or “Endangered” protected status in Michigan.

The biggest concerns for the sustenance of trillium populations are animal grazing (deer), urban development, and competition from invasive plants.

Read more about Trillium on our Blog:

<https://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org/post/trillium-are-threatened-with-extinction>



## Soil Testing

**MSU Extension has launched a new soil testing program** for Michigan residents. Soil test mailers are available for home gardeners from the MSU Bookstore: <https://shop.msu.edu/collections/garden-lawn/products/bulletin-e3154> or at the MSU Extension office in Charlevoix County (319B N. Lake Street, Boyne City) for a cost of \$26.

The mailer includes instructions on how to collect a soil sample, a simple form to fill out identifying what you plan to grow, a bag for the soil sample, and a postage-paid envelope. You will receive a report with easy-to-interpret instructions for adding recommended fertilizers or other amendments.

For more information go to the MSU Extension website:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/soil-testing-returns-through-msu-extension>



## Announcements and Opportunities

**The Charlevoix Circle of Arts is exhibiting the work of Craig Mitchell Smith April 21 to May 20.** The opening reception is Friday April 28th from 5 to 7pm. Martha Rohr encourages all members to see this exhibit. Craig will be moving this artwork to his garden for our 2023 Garden Walk.

<https://www.charlevoixcircle.org/exhibits-2023>

**Let's Bloom:** The Quality Thyme Garden Club of Kalkaska is hosting the Michigan Garden Club District 5 Spring Leadership Meeting on May 23. A buffet lunch will be provided, and the cost to attend is \$35. Send your check to Carolyn Navarre.

**The Charlevoix Public Library** is hosting their first ever seed exchange on Thursday, May 25 from 4-6 pm. in our Community Room A. The event is free and open to the general public.

**Looking for Native Plants?** Mark your calendars. The Otsego Conservation District will have a native plant sale at their greenhouse in Gaylord on June 3, and the Northern Michigan Master Gardeners will hold their plant sale at the Emmett County Fairgrounds on June 17.



*Garden of Glass*  
the art of Craig Mitchell Smith

# Spring Gardening Event

**Saturday, May 27, 2023**

8:30 until noon

Ferry Beach Pavilion

## We will be selling:

- Bulbs for spring planting – Canna, Dahlia, and Gladiolus
- A great selection of Geraniums for your planters and window boxes.
- Various garden plants – including Bleeding Heart and Hosta
- Our select garden gloves and hand tools



**We are looking for volunteers** to help with set-up on Friday, May 26 – as well as Club members who can work during the event selling plants and bulbs. We will be staffing an “Ask a Gardener” table and will need club members who can answer the public’s gardening questions.

This will be a great way to connect with the Charlevoix Community and a less labor-intensive fundraiser than our previous spring plant sales. **Please contact Mary Schwaderer [maryschwaderer@gmail.com](mailto:maryschwaderer@gmail.com) or Laura White [lewwhite1383@gmail.com](mailto:lewwhite1383@gmail.com) to volunteer.**

# Garden Walk 2023

**Wednesday, July 12, 2023**

10:00 am until 4:00 pm

The Garden Walk Committee has been busy! All printed materials should be available for distribution at our May CAGC meeting, and we hope to have tickets available at that time for all members.

Put July 6th on your calendar for preview day. We will need to car pool to the gardens because parking is limited.

Since the CAGC June meeting is a field trip to Pine Hill Nursery, our May meeting will be a critical time for members to sign up for various volunteer duties.

If you will not be attending the May Garden Club meeting and wish to sign up to volunteer for the Garden Walk, or if have any questions, please contact one of our co-chairs:

Sue Wilson [skswmd@yahoo.com](mailto:skswmd@yahoo.com)

Judy Flanagan [jflan106@yahoo.com](mailto:jflan106@yahoo.com)

Martha Rohr [martharohr75@gmail.com](mailto:martharohr75@gmail.com)





## Michigan Garden Club News

**Michigan Garden Clubs Annual Meeting:** June 6 and 7, Grand Rapids. For more information and online registration go to: [www.migardenclubs.org](http://www.migardenclubs.org)

**Michigan Garden Clubs Member Meetings** – join the Zoom meetings <https://zoom.us/join> with Meeting ID 912 729 4983 and code *mgcmeets*

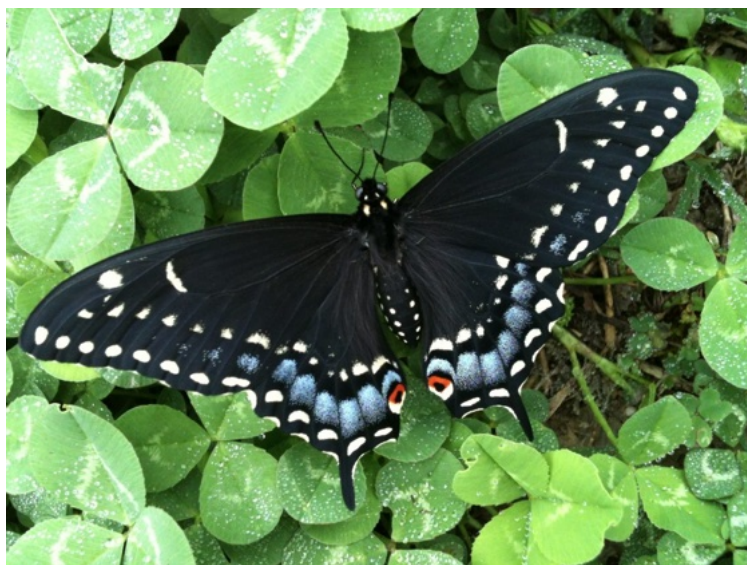
**Friday, May 5, 10:00 am.** Topic: Growing Roses, Presenter: Pam Bouma

**Friday, May 19, 10:00 am,** “Made in the Shade – My Experience with Shade Plants”, Presenter: Lynn O’Shaughnessy

### Black Swallowtail Butterfly Initiative:

Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., supports HB 4159 which was introduced by Rep. Julie Brixie and will have a hearing in the House Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee on Thursday, May 4. This bill will designate the Black Swallowtail as the official State of Michigan butterfly. Such a designation would promote the importance of pollinators which are crucial to Michigan crops. Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc., is working with the Michigan legislature and other organizations to support this bill. The Black Swallowtail is an appropriate ambassador for Michigan pollinators for the following reasons:

- It spends its entire life cycle in Michigan, overwintering as a pupa.
- Its habitat covers the entire state.
- It is not only non-threatening but also beautiful.
- It is easily spotted and identified as it lives close to the ground in our gardens and fields.



*Please email or call Rep Laurie Pohutsky, the Chair of the House Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Committee encouraging her to move for a committee vote in support of House Bill 4159.*

Her phone number is: 517-373-1530 email: is [lauriepohutsky@house.mi.gov](mailto:lauriepohutsky@house.mi.gov)



## National Garden Club News

**NGC Environmental School, Course 2**, Manistee, MI, May 19-20. This is the second in a series of four courses. The focus of this course is Land and Related Issues. Garden club members can attend this course even if they weren't able to attend Course 1. This series of courses is being co-hosted by Portage Lake Garden Club and Spirit of the Woods Garden Club from District 5. Registration online at [www.migardenclubs.org](http://www.migardenclubs.org) The registration deadline is May 5.

**To View the Spring 2023 Issue of the National Gardener** use the following link: <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/tng-spring-2023.pdf>



## CAGC Civic Garden Work Schedule

**Depot Heritage Garden** Chairs: Ruth Augustine, Rhea Dow, Joan Nowak  
Weekly – Wednesday mornings for garden maintenance

**Harsha House Garden** Chair: Mary Lynn Heid  
Weekly – Tuesday mornings for garden maintenance

**Library Garden** Chair: Joanne Hawkins  
Maintenance schedule varies

**Meditation Garden at Charlevoix Hospital** Chair: Janet Gilbert  
Weekly – Wednesday mornings for garden maintenance  
*Need help for spring cleanup and planting – dates TBD*

**Memorial Garden** Chairs: Sue Thurow and Diane McMahon  
Weekly - Wednesday mornings for garden maintenance  
May 24 - Memorial Garden spring clean-up, 9:30 a.m.  
May 31 - Memorial Garden spring planting, 9:30 a.m.

**Pere Charlevoix Garden** Chair: Kris Jones  
Maintenance schedule varies  
*Need help to maintain the garden throughout the season (see below)*

**Post Office Garden** Chair: Cindy Vermeesch  
Weekly – Monday mornings for garden maintenance

**Triangle Garden** Chair: Cathy Paklaian  
Weekly – Thursday mornings for garden maintenance

### \*HELP WANTED:

We need new people to work in the **Pere Charlevoix Garden** throughout the season. This small beautiful garden is located at the end of West Dixon overlooking Lake Michigan. Contact Martha to help at [martharohr75@gmail.com](mailto:martharohr75@gmail.com)

## Nominations for Life Members Now Being Accepted

CAGC recognizes members for exceptional contributions to the club and the community by honoring them with Life Membership in MGC. Please consider nominating a member for this honor. Nominations from previous years do not carry over, so even if someone has been nominated in the past, don't hesitate to nominate him/her again.

When writing you nomination, please consider and include as much of the following information as you can:

- When did the member join the club?
- Has the member held any club offices? Local, State, etc. If you know when, that would be appreciated.
- On what committees and/or gardens has the member served?
- Does the member have any special areas of expertise?
- Community Service?
- What do you believe the members greatest contributions to the club have been?
- Specific examples or anecdotes are extremely helpful

Email your letter of nomination to Susan Thurow at [skthurow9098@gmail.com](mailto:skthurow9098@gmail.com) by June 15, 2023.

*Submitted by Ruth Augustine on behalf of Sue Thurow and Ingrid Nedwick*

# CAGC Events and Community Calendar

## May

- 4 **CAGC Board Meeting**, Zoom ONLY this month
- 5 **Michigan Garden Clubs Member Meeting**, 10:00 am, Zoom <https://zoom.us/join> with Meeting ID 912 729 4983 and code *mgcmeets* Topic: Growing Roses, Presenter: Pam Bouma
- 9 **CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 p.m., Charlevoix Train Depot, Lindsay Bona Eggeman from CAKE CISMA (The cooperative invasive species management area serving Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, and Emmet counties).
- 16 **CAGC Floral Design Study Group**, 1:00 p.m., Charlevoix Public Library Community Room B – Design Theme: “Interpretive design using art”, Abstract. Contact Marge McGoff or Martha Rohr for more information.
- 18 **Charlevoix Farmers Market** opens for the season Thursdays 9 am – 1 pm, Charlevoix East Park
- 19 **Michigan Garden Clubs Member Meeting**, 10:00 am, Zoom <https://zoom.us/join> with Meeting ID 912 729 4983 and code *mgcmeets* Topic: “Made in the Shade – My Experience with Shade Plants”, Presenter: Lynn O’Shaughnessy
- 19 **Registration Deadline** for 2023 Michigan Garden Clubs’ Annual Conference [www.migardenclubs.org](http://www.migardenclubs.org)
- 19 - 20 **NGC Environmental School, Course 2**, Manistee, MI. This is the second in a series of four courses. The focus of this course is Land and Related Issues. Garden club members can attend this course even if they weren't able to attend Course 1. This series of courses is being co-hosted by Portage Lake Garden Club and Spirit of the Woods Garden Club from District 5. Registration will be done online at [www.migardenclubs.org](http://www.migardenclubs.org) beginning in April, 2023.
- 23 **Michigan Garden Clubs District 5 Spring Leadership Conference**, Kalkaska
- 25 **Charlevoix Public Library Seed Exchange**, 4:00 -6:00 p.m. Community Room A.
- 27 **CAGC Spring Gardening Event**, Ferry Beach Park 8:30 am - Noon

## June

- 3 **Otsego Conservation District Greenhouse Open House and Native Plant Sale**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. 459 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, MI – Over 50 species of native plants will be on sale and knowledgeable growers will be on hand to help suggest native plants for your site.
- 4 - 10 **National Garden Week**  
<https://gardenclub.org/national-garden-week?fbclid=IwAR2g9OJpgFhnMfUrvJwqE7FD24J3GMcrGqMfCPd8ebQ9D28GaX-u7S4vUjY>
- 6 **CAGC Civic Garden Open House** – Celebrating National Garden Week, 9:30 am – 11:30 am
- 6-7 **Michigan Garden Clubs Annual Conference**, Grand Rapids, MI
- 13 **CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 p.m., Field Trip to Pine Hill Nursery.
- 14 **Women’s Resource Center “Women Can/Women Do”** Event at Castle Farms, 11:00 a.m. – CAGC will be designing a table for the event. <https://secure.ggiv.com/for/wrconm/event/wcwcharlevoix/>
- 17 **Northern Michigan Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale**, Emmet County Fairgrounds
- 19 - 25 **National Pollinator Week**
- 20 **CAGC Floral Design Group**, 1:00 p.m., Charlevoix Public Library Community Room B
- 21 **First Day of Summer**
- 24 **Gruler Gardens Native Plant Sale**, Petoskey, MI <https://www.grulergardens.com/nativeplants>

## July

- 6 **CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 p.m., Charlevoix Public Library – Garden Walk Preview to follow a brief business meeting
- 12 **CAGC Garden Walk**, Charlevoix, MI 10 am – 4 pm.
- 18 **Elk Rapids Garden Walk**, 10 am – 5 pm, Elk Rapids [www.elkrapidsgardenclub.com](http://www.elkrapidsgardenclub.com)
- 20 **Friendly Garden Club Garden Walk**, 10 am – 5 pm. Traverse City, [www.mynorthtickets.com](http://www.mynorthtickets.com)



## CAGC Newsletter, Website, and Social Media

**Submission deadline** for the June CAGC newsletter is May 25. Email your photos, information, and articles to Beth Cowie at [bethcowie@mac.com](mailto:bethcowie@mac.com). You can also send information and photos for our website and social media.



**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/CharlevoixAreaGardenClub/>  
**Instagram** [@charlevoixareagardenclub](https://www.instagram.com/charlevoixareagardenclub)



**Go to our website** [www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org](http://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org) Scroll to the bottom of the main page for our latest blog posts.