



# Master Gardener Musings

Vol. 2 No. 5 May 2002

## Calling all Master Gardeners!

On Monday, June 24 all Master Gardener alumni are invited to attend a new event. A Master Gardener Reunion Picnic will be held at the Cascades Picnic Pavilion near the lagoon at 6:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Jack Wikle from Tecumseh, who specializes in the art of bonsai. Beverages will be provided and guests are asked to bring a passing dish. Watch your mail for an invitation!

## *A letter:*

*Dear Nancy and the Master Gardeners,*

*Thank you so much for the great Arbor Day tree planting at Dahlem. Your guidance and help to the center are appreciated. My family enjoyed your tour, talk and planting help. We will show our visitors the new trees!*

*How lucky we are to have you and your group for advice and planting help. The center is active again – thanks to you folks. It will be beautiful when you are done.*

*The Friends group will help all that we can. Have a great spring.*

*Thanks again...*

*Kathy Clark  
Friends of Dahlem*

## Trillium Rescue Update

The Concord area was besieged with Master Gardeners recently in pursuit of trillium in need of rescue. We were given permission to enter property that is slated to be sold and developed to harvest the endangered plants. Many were then planted at the Dahlem Center in hopes that they will go forth and multiply, and they seem to be thriving. More will be dug at a later date. If you have a place that could sustain trillium, call Denise Haschke.

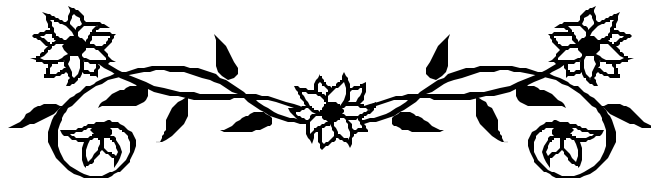
## Spring Plant Sale

The Spring Plant Sale is quickly approaching. May 18 will be here before we know it, so this is a good time to start dividing and potting up your extra plants. The plant sale is set to be from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Plant drop off times are as follows:

- Thursday, May 16 – 6 until 7 p.m.
- Friday, May 17 – 3 until 7 p.m.
- Saturday May 18 – 8 until 9 a.m.

If it is not possible for you to bring your plants during those times, give Nancy Ewing a call at 782-8886 to make other arrangements. Please remember to label your plants.

We are sharing the profits of this sale with the Friends of Dahlem, so let's make this a profitable event by donating all that you can!



## Work-bee Dates at-a-glance

Dahlem Center: Monday, May 6 at 9:00 a.m.- Bed preparation and clean up

Dahlem Center: Saturday, May 18 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.- Plant Sale and Walkway Planting

Family Services: Monday, May 20 at 9:00 a.m.

Dahlem Center: Wednesday, May 22 at 6:00 - Planting of the annuals

All Master Gardeners are welcome at any of the work-bees. If you know someone who is not an association member, but working on his or her volunteer hours, bring them along. And please bring your own tools. For more information call any association officer.

### Minutes from Master Gardener Meeting, April 16, 2002

6:00 p.m. – Met at the Hobbit Place, Spring Arbor Rd., Jackson. Denise Haschke lead us on a tour of the greenhouses and then allowed us shopping time with a 10% discount for any purchase.

7:00 p.m. – Traveled to Denise' home for a tour of her garden, which was wonderful! The daffodils and other spring bloomers were beautiful, and the lemonade and cookies were a nice touch. Thank you Denise, we appreciate your hospitality and garden.

8:00 p.m. – Business meeting – call to order \_ Nancy Ewing

- Trillium Rescue first date set for April 21 at 2:00 p.m. Meet at Haschke home
- April 20 – airport clean up 9 a.m. – Dahlem Adopt-a-Tree program 9 a.m.
- April 29 – Dahlem Center work-bee at 5 p.m.
- May 4 – Aware Shelter work-bee at 9 a.m.
- May 5 – Dahlem Center work-bee at 9 a.m.
- May 18 – Spring Plant Sale at Dahlem Center from 9 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
- June 24 – Master Gardener Reunion Picnic at the Cascades Pavilion at 6 p.m.
- Motion made by Nancy Ewing to donate \$50.00 of proceeds from the plant sale, if proceeds exceed \$200.00, to purchase a tree for the Family Services and Children's Aid project. Motion seconded by Merrie Patch and approved by all attending.
- Waterloo Farm Museum project still in need of volunteers. Judi and Herb Smith will lead the project. Waterloo is an all-volunteer run facility and needs help.
- Ralph has asked us to adopt a mission statement. Susan Wilkinson and Merrie Patch will put one together for approval.
- May 21 meeting will include a tour of project sights from last year and on going. We will meet at the airport at 7 p.m. and will carpool from there.
- Suggestions made for potential projects: a Master Gardener booth at the fair; meet the MG in a public location such as the park; there were no volunteers to undertake these projects

Respectfully submitted by Master Gardener Association Secretary Susan Gruel

### From the President

*I recently went to Smoky Mountain National Park in Gatlinburg, Tennessee for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage and I can't sing the praises of the area enough. We had wonderful weather, wonderful company (there were eight of us all together including fellow MG Janet Snyder), and wonderful sights. You expect beautiful scenery, but the wildflowers were especially captivating and plentiful. I have been to the area before, but was able to add to my wildflower 'have seen' list the pink lady slipper, Vasey's trillium, dutchman's pipe and the very rare painted trillium. (I will save the story that goes along with the painted trillium until perhaps when I share my slides with you.) When you add that list to the fringed phacelia, spring beauties, yellow lady slippers, showy orchis, yellow trillium and all of the others, the area is a photographers' dream come true! I highly recommend the Pilgrimage to anyone who appreciates the wonder of wildflowers.*

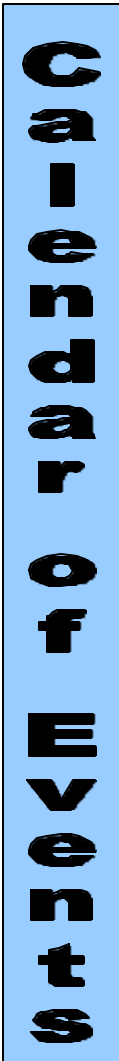
*In addition to wildflower hunting we also attended hiking lectures on Wildflower Propagation and Medicinal Plants. What a fabulous way to be introduced to information. Meandering along mountain trails with a teacher surrounded by the subject matter! It is obvious that the teachers enjoy it also because they return year after year with new lessons to share.*

*I returned to Jackson refreshed and renewed, ready to face spring and all of the work that comes along with it. We had applied a fresh coat of white stain to our 260 feet of picket fence (whew!) before I left for Tennessee, so I am now able to concentrate on the plants. And I am happily looking at many plants ready to divide for the plant sale. Why I often will buy three of the same plant when I know I will could buy one and soon have more than enough, with some patience, is a quandary! Instant gratification is the only excuse I can muster.*

*I am also excited about the projects on our to do list, and am anxious to see them completed. A few of us worked at the Dahlem Center recently (although of the 16 who signed up to work at Dahlem, only 6 have been able to help so far) and it is amazing how quickly the appearance improves when the weeding and dead-heading is completed. We have started planting perennials and will be finishing most of the planting the day of the plant sale, May 18. That doesn't mean that we don't need more help. There are still the annuals to be planted and the summer-long maintenance, so I will be in touch with everyone on the list.*

*We also had a work-bee at the Aware Shelter on Saturday May 4 and three of us did the spring clean-up. We were able to get the area weeded and the beds edged. It was much improved, and the staff at the shelter is grateful for the help. They would like more work done, but without more helpers I can't make the commitment. If anyone can help, please call me.*

*A small group of us will be at the Family Services Project on May 20. If enough helpers show up, we could finish this in one day. If not, it will take a few of us several days. Please check your schedules. We need help from all of you to fulfill the purpose of the association.*



- May 5, Work Bee at the Extension Office 1:00p.m.
- May 5-6, Meijer Gardens Plant Sale  
Grand Rapids, MI
- May 5, *How to Plant Roses* at Great Lakes Roses, 1p.m.  
49875 Willow Rd., Belleville, MI Free
- May 6, Dahlem work-bee 9:00 a.m.
- May 12, *Succeed With Climbing Roses* at Great Lakes  
1p.m., 49875 Willow Rd., Belleville, MI Free
- May 18, Friends of Dahlem and Master Gardener Plant Sale  
Dahlem Center, 9:00 to 1:00
- May 18, Sidewalk planting at the Dahlem Center to begin  
Contact Nancy Ewing at 782-8886 for details
- May 19, Cooley Gardens Plant Sale  
Downtown Lansing, MI
- May 20, Work-bee at Family Services at 9:00 a.m.
- May 21, Master Gardener Meeting- Jill Wilkins Garden  
3601 Vrooman Road, Jackson, MI
- May 22, 6:00 p.m. Planting annuals at Dahlem Center
- June 1, MSU Horticultural Garden Plant Sale
- June 9, Clark Lake Garden Club Garden Tour  
Call Janet Snyder at 529-9396
- June 10, (Monday)- Jackson Master Gardener Meeting  
7:00 p.m.-Schmid Nursery
- June 13 (Thursday) Virginia Beauchamp's Garden  
7:00 p.m. at 2188 Olds Rd., Leslie
- June 17-19, Master Gardener Summer Conference  
Kellogg Center, MSU Campus
- June 24, Master Gardener Reunion Picnic (potluck)  
6:00p.m. at the Cascades Pavilion, beverages provided  
Speaker - Jack Wikle on Bonsai Gardening
- July 16, Master Gardener Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Shirley Dowding's Garden
- Aug. 2, Children's Garden Day, 9a.m. to 2p.m. at  
Leila Arboretum, Battle Creek \$3.00 per child
- Aug. 15, Grand opening Miss Iva Doty Native Flower  
Garden , leila Arboretum, Battle Creek

## Projects:

**Family Services and Children's Aid** at 330 W. Michigan Ave has asked us to help them with a small garden area at their entrance. We will need volunteers for both the installation of the flowerbed and for the maintenance. Call Susan Gruel at 782-9055. Work will begin in May.

### Dahlem Center at 7117 S. Jackson Rd

- **Arboretum Project.** This is a continuous project that we will be working on over the summer. If you have not already joined us call Nancy Ewing at 782-8886 for details.
- **Walkway plantings.** This project that is funded by the Friends of the Dahlem will begin with some work-bees to clean up the areas to be planted. Monday, May 6 from 9:00 a.m. until noon, bring your own garden tools and a smile! We will also be doing some planting on Saturday May 18 to coincide with the plant sale. Annuals will go in at a later date. Those who have signed on to help this summer are:

Linda Alyea	Denise Haschke
Denise Cantu	Des Herbert
Kay Cook	Betsy Meyers
Jackie DeMay	Dolores Ray
Shirley Dowding	Rene Shepherd
Nancy Ewing	Judi Smith
Susan Goehring	Janet Snyder
Susan Gruel	Susan Wilkinson

If your name is not on this list and you would like to help, call Nancy Ewing at 782-8886 or come to one of the scheduled work bees.



### Web-Sites to Visit

- Brooklyn Botanical Gardens: [www.bbg.org/](http://www.bbg.org/)
- Chicago Botanical Gardens: [www.chicago-botanic.org/](http://www.chicago-botanic.org/)
- J.C. Raulston Arboretum: [www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/](http://www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/)
- Weather Channel Gardener: [www.pallensmith.com](http://www.pallensmith.com)
- "Rebecca's Garden": [www.rebeccasgarden.com](http://www.rebeccasgarden.com)
- Royal Horticultural Society of England: [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)
- The National Arboretum: [www.usna.usda.gov/](http://www.usna.usda.gov/)
- State of Michigan: [www.m.live/gardener](http://www.m.live/gardener)
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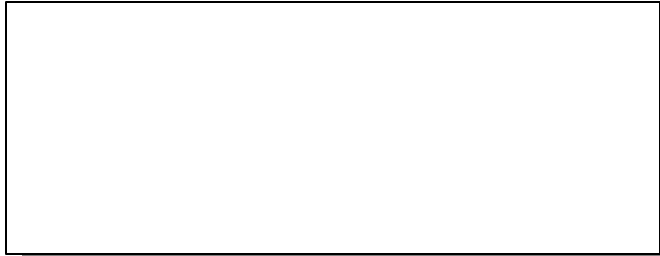
## MG Web-site

We now have our own web-site linked to the Extension Service web-site. Just go to:

<http://www.msue.msu.edu/mastergardener/jackson/association.htm>

We are also now sending newsletters via e-mail to anyone who wishes. Many signed up at the April meeting. It saves postage and paper. If you are interested call Nancy Ewing at 782-8886.

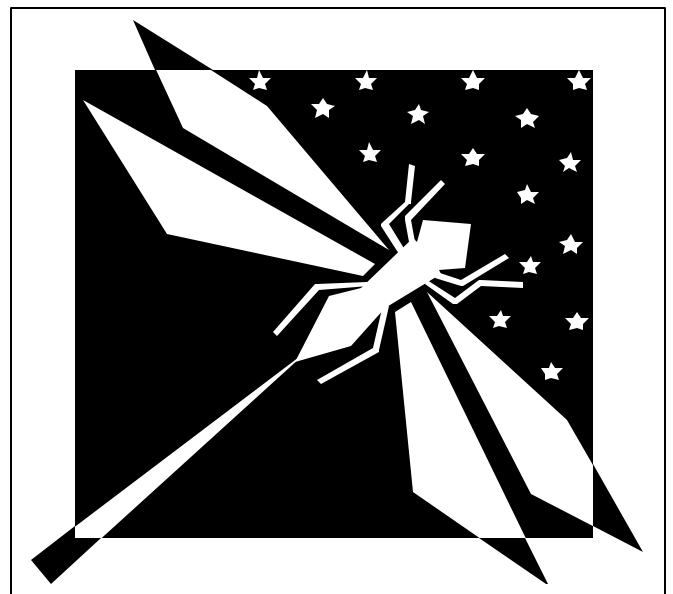
***Master Gardener Association  
109 Sagamore St., Jackson, MI  
49203***



The May Meeting

We will be meeting next on Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m. for a tour of Jill Wilkins garden at 3601 Vrooman Road, Jackson. Even though many of you have seen Jill's wonderful garden, you probably haven't see it in the spring when it is at its' peak. This is Jill's favorite time of year in her garden and we are thrilled that she is willing to share it with us.

To get to Jill's, go south on Horton Rd. to a right on Vrooman Rd. Jill lives on the left side of Vrooman. Park in the circle drive.



***The Jackson County Master Gardener Association***  
***Treasurer- Betsy Meyers- 750-2841***      ***Secretary- Susan Gruel-***  
***782-9055***  
***1<sup>st</sup> Vice President- Virginia Beauchamp- 589-9381/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Denise Haschke- 517-524-8300***



