

# THE GREEN SCENE

Newsletter of the  
MIDLAND COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION



**Next meeting:** Tuesday, August 8, 2006, 6:00 PM.

A current fad in garden design is the "water feature." This was very apparent on the Reece Endeavor Garden Walk here in Midland. Some are elaborate waterfalls descending into a lower level pond, while others are simple arrangements that provide the visual appeal of water, and even more importantly, the sound of it. Even if you're not considering adding this to your garden, as a master gardener you should have some answers when others ask you about it.

So join us for a visit to Aquatic Gardens in Zilwaukee on Tuesday, August 8th. We will meet at the County Building at 6 and carpool over, arriving around 6:30.

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are all having a great summer!

The Progressive Garden Walk/Dinner went very well - I think everyone had a real good and relaxing time. The gardens were all different and very interesting. Thanks to all who came and to the garden owners that shared their yard. We already have one garden volunteered for next year - WOW!

The summer has been very different - I hope everyone made it through the last big storm with no or very little damage.

My garden is so full with beautiful plants, I hope you are all having the same luck in your gardens - hope to see you at the next outing.

**Sue Wilber, President**

The Board will meet Aug. 1 at the County building at 6:30pm.

**Midland County Master Gardener Association, Executive Committee:**

Sue Wilber, President, 832-2792, e-mail: [cswilber@yahoo.com](mailto:cswilber@yahoo.com)

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**UPCOMING EVENT****Midland County Fair**

Don't miss the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Midland County Fair at the Midland Fairgrounds, August 13-19, 2006.

Horticulture and Floriculture exhibits will feature local entries and judging: vegetables, fruits, annuals, perennials, lilies, dahlias, and tuberous-rooted begonias, roses, gladiolus, dried and ornamental, house plants, patio plants, flower arrangements, group arrangements.

In addition there will be 4-H youth exhibits for vegetable and herb growing, plant science, fruits and nuts, agronomy and floriculture and arrangements.

Again this year, there will be a picture board of winners of the 4-H garden contest, sponsored by 4-H and judged by Master Gardeners. Mary Johnson, Tam Premo, Larry Tibbits, and Connie Kreuger are working with Gina Pederson to complete the judging of 30 gardens for beginners (5-8), juniors (9-12) and seniors (13-19).

Gina Pederson

**Wonderful Roses This Year at the Bradley Home**

This has been a great year for roses. If you don't grow them yourself you could see them all over town. It was probably a combination of mild winter, enough rainfall and very few of the pests and diseases that plague roses. The roses at the Bradley Home have had a terrific year, too. If you are not familiar with The Heritage Rose Garden at the Bradley Home it is still possible to catch the tail end of the initial flowering. The roses are all "old fashioned" varieties which might have been grown by our grandmothers. The garden consists of two large beds and some smaller beds extending across the front of the Carriage House, which houses some of the museum exhibits and is used for meetings and is rented out for parties. The wrought iron fences and arbors were made by a group of local iron workers who meet at the Carriage House.

The garden was designed and maintained for several years by Nancy Lindley, a Midland County Master Gardener. It was a labor of love for her. She and her husband would come to the garden almost every evening after work to maintain it. Her love for roses became a career and Nancy is now the owner of Great Lakes Roses in Bellville, MI. After Nancy moved away, the roses were maintained by a group of devoted Rose Wranglers, led by Pam Bresler, who also moved away after several years. Pam was a member of the American Rose Society and was active in a local Rose Society.

While the expertise and commitment of Nancy and Pam are missed, several Master Gardeners have been working to keep up the garden. This year we met initially in May to clean up the beds, weed and prune dead canes and tie up the climbers. We found a large patch of thistles trying to take over the beds as well as the usual dead canes and some unruly plants. It's always a problem trying to decide if it's best to cut out branches that have a mind of their own or wait until the roses bloom so that the show is better. We left some and cut some out, promising to do some major pruning once the initial bloom was finished.

This pruning was partially completed at our last meeting on July 1. We will continue to meet every two weeks thru August and again once in the fall to do a clean-up and put the roses to bed for the winter. Join us if you're interested in learning more.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Johnson & Gina Pederson

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

We have a short newsletter this month. We will be looking forward to hearing from all you in the next few months.

Project leaders are invited to report on activities, members and trainees are invited to write articles about gardens, at home and abroad, books, magazines, problems solved, hints and tips to share.  
**Britt**

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The deadline for articles for the next newsletter is August 21, 2006.

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