



2011 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER
HOLIDAY EDITION

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 6

A 2010 Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. *Club of Distinction*

Gaylord, Michigan 49735

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *The Three Sisters Way of Planting from the Park Seed Company*
- *Why does the Woodland Native American Art look like our Swiss Alpine motif?*
- *Members' "Good Ideas"*
- *Make your reservation for a special Gingerbread Christmas*
- *Best wishes to the new 2012 Board and a Happy New Year!*



Honoring Mother Earth



Good soil and steady rains made the land between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron an ideal place to grow crops according to the book *Indians of the Great Lakes* by John Mitchell and Tom Woodruff. The first Indians were nomadic, but over three thousand years ago, Great Lakes natives began to grow crops

rather than depend on wild food sources alone. Their campsites included small gardens of beans, sunflowers, and squash. Skilled Indian farmers experimented with plants and were the first to grow corn and potatoes, and harvest wild rice. In time, corn became the most important food crop for the Indians. Farming freed the

the Indians from a life of constant travel. They became less dependent on the cycle of the seasons and could settle in one area without fear of starvation. After they learned to grow their own food, the number of people living in the Great Lakes region grew steadily.

Cont. p.2, "Native American Gardeners"

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National Garden Clubs, Inc. Collect

From "A Collection of Inspirations and Installations" - Adopted September, 1946

TO THE GLORY OF GOD.... and in grateful appreciation of His manifold expressions of beauty, we, the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., proudly acknowledge our horticultural stewardship and humbly seek, by faithful service and undeviating purpose, to be worthy of our ancestor conservationists, who preserved for posterity the myriad bounties of nature, and to emulate those horticulturists who, through experiment and continued endeavor, increase and developed them.

Let us ever be mindful of our heritage, considering it a sacred duty to protect and conserve the natural resources so generously entrusted to each of us for the infinitesimal span of a lifetime. Let us remember that the vision of beauty, the urge to create it, and its ultimate appreciation lie deep in the heart of everyone. Let us learn, O God, that only through increased knowledge and patient perseverance comes eventual success.

In our design for daily living and in our constant association with others, let us reflect the order, harmony and loveliness of our gardens. Let us rejoice in the faithful recurrence of the seasons, knowing that each brings its own abundant and diversified glory. So, may we draw courage and inspiration, realizing that we all in our individual spheres according to our given capacities, may make lasting contributions to the goal of horticultural achievement, now and forever, down through the ages.

Written by Helen Hussy Champlin, Former National Garden Clubs, Inc. Chaplain

Native Americans - Gardeners

The Three Sisters

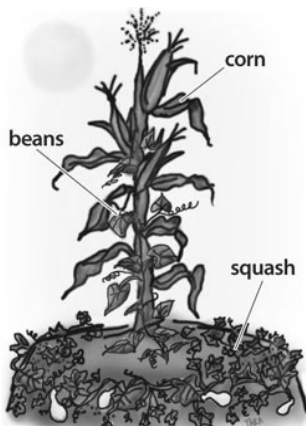
The Original Companion Planting

*Direct Sow Corn, Beans and Squash
to Boost Yields Naturally*

From the Park Seed Company
www.parkseed.com

The ancient Native American technique of growing Corn, Beans, and Squash together in an arrangement called **the Three Sisters** is the ultimate in companion planting and helps increase harvest, naturally!

Corn, acts as a support for climbing bean vines, the **beans fix nitrogen** in the soil for the high feeding requirements of corn and squash, and the **squash provides mulch and root protection** for the corn and beans. After cooperating beautifully in the garden, *corn and beans form a complete protein* when eaten together.

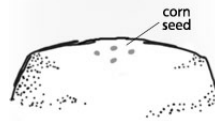


Direct-Sow, Easy-to-Grow:
The Ancient **Three Sisters** Method

The **Three Sisters** are easy to direct sow in the garden and are a great project for children, teaching them about the beauty of natural harmony while providing a fast-growing reward for their efforts.

Make the best possible use of your garden space this next growing season by following the easy steps listed below, fertilize and plant other companions like herbs to assist with pest control.

In May or June when soil has warmed: Shape a flat-topped circular mound of soil about a foot high and 2 feet across at the top, sloping outward toward the base. **Plant a circle of Corn seeds on top**, about 5 or 6, and water them in well, tamping down your soil mound firmly, so it doesn't wash away in the first rain. Space the mounds 3 or 4 feet apart in the garden.

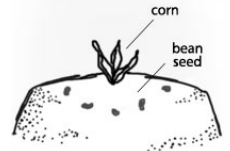


Since all the corn grows on sturdy dependable stalks, the variety you chose depends on the flavor, disease resistance, and holding ability you want.

About two weeks later: When your corn reaches about 5 or 6 inches high, plant **Bean** seeds (6 to 8 of them) around the edges of the flat top or about halfway

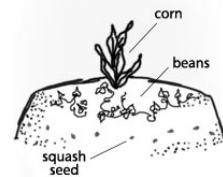
down the sloping sides of the circular mound. Push the seeds down deep into the soil and, if you're planting on the slope, make sure the soil is nice and firm. Add a bit of liquid fertilizer at planting time to help the Beans fix nitrogen.

To get your Beans to climb up the cornstalks, chose Pole rather than Bush bean varieties.



Plant Squash

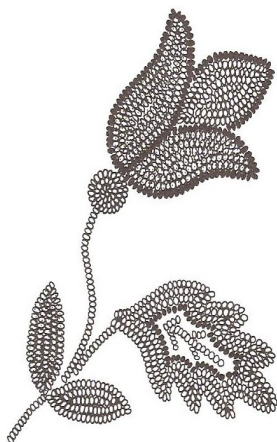
seeds around the base of the mound, on flat ground. You can make them radiate around the mound, or just go in the direction you have available space. Six to eight seeds in a ring around the base of the mound is usually plenty.



When everything begins growing.....

Thin the plantings to 2 or 3 cornstalks, each with no more than 2 Bean plants winding around it. The squash will vine with the number of plants depending on how much room is needed in your garden for growing and walking.

Why does Native American Art look like our Alpine Swiss Motif?



The Otsego County Library has many books on Native Americans. In *North American Indian Designs for Artists and Craftspeople* by Eva Wilson, it is documented "from the seventeenth century onwards, Indian Art was greatly influenced by the European objects which reached the Great Lakes through trade. Particularly important were the new materials introduced by the Europeans such as cloth, beads, ribbons and silver brooches. The Indians also became exposed to European folk art with the arrival of settlers. The Indian women showed great artistic skill and imagination as well as business acumen in using these materials.

Before the Europeans, beads were made from shell. The introduction of glass beads made a very great impact on Indian decorative art, gradually replacing all other techniques, especially where cloth fabrics replaced skins. Many of the patterns in quill work were translated into bead work.

Fine embroidery in European styles were taught in convents and missions with moosehair used instead of the silks and other yarns. Like quills, moosehair was dyed with vegetable or commercial dyes."

Christmas Luncheon

It's a Gingerbread Christmas!

Sugar and Spice and all things nice!

The 2011 theme, a Gingerbread Christmas will be filled by Cynthia Hilling, Chair with 'sugar and spice' at the Michaywe Inn the Woods, Wednesday, December 14th at 11:30 a.m. Committee Members are Nancy Valuet, Nancy Pike, Kathleen Bargert, Lois Kalis, Peggy Stafford, Marge Williamson and Pam Karbowski. The specially prepared Luncheon by Chef Kaye, with the menu at the right, will be \$18.00. Please make checks to "Edelweiss Garden Club, Inc." and mail by December 7th to:

Cynthia Hilling, Treasurer
250 Arrowhead Trail
Gaylord, Michigan 49735-9013

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON MENU

Prepared by Chef John Kaye

SALAD

Fresh micro greens with ripe tomato,
Marinated artichoke hearts,
Red cabbage and
Warm cornbreaded goat cheese,
Zesty herb vinaigrette.

ENTRÉE

Chicken Forest Mushroom Grilled
Chicken Breast with Italian Risotto
Creamy mushroom sauce,
Portabella fries and pea pods
With herbed tomatoes.

DESSERT



Ginger bread with Ginger bread Martini-
Rich Vanilla Cream, caramel drizzle and
whipped cream.

*Tis the Season
for Sharing*

*Please bring a non-perishable food item for our
local Food Pantry and join with the other
Michigan Garden Clubs across the state this
Fall and Holiday season to feed the hungry.*



with a Candlelight Installation of New Officers

Thank You for your Service

President - Marilyn McIntosh

(4 years)

2nd Vice President - Roseann Kijawa

(4 years)

Treasurer - Cynthia Hilling

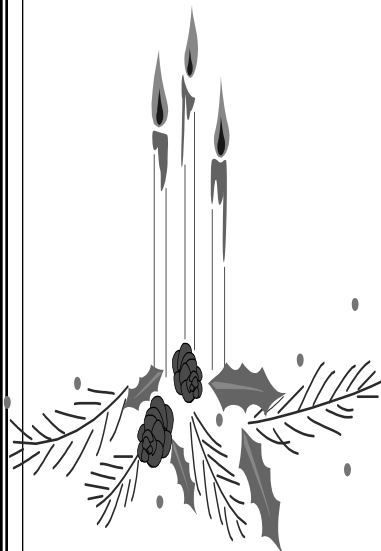
(6 years)

Corresponding Secretary - Rosy Moran

(3 years)

Director - Ruth Doss

(3 years)



*The 2011 Board
pledges their total support
to the incoming 2012*

Board

Members.

Good Things

by Members

Apricot-Sage Cookies

Submitted from Carol Breed

Better Homes and Gardens www.bhg.com

Ingredients

1-3/4 cups all purpose flour
 1/3 cup sugar
 1/4 cup yellow cornmeal
 1/2 cup butter
 2 tbsp. snipped fresh sage or 2 tsp dried
 3 Tbsp. milk
 Apricot spreadable fruit

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In a bowl stir together flour, sugar and corn-

meal. Using pastry blender, cut in butter until mixture resembles fine crumbs. Stir in sage. Add milk. Stir with fork to combine, form into ball. Knead until smooth, divide in half.

2. On lightly floured surface, roll half the dough to 1/4 inch thickness. Using a 2-inch round cookie cutter, cut out dough.

3. Place cutouts 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake about 10 minutes or until edges are firm and bottoms are very

lightly browned. Transfer cookies to rack, cool.

4. Spread the bottoms of half the cookies with spreadable fruit. Top with remaining cookies.

5. To store: Place in layers separated by waxed paper in an airtight container. Store at room temperature up to three days. or freeze unfilled cookies up to three months. Thaw cookies; fill with spreadable fruit.



Geocache

by Sally Kokke-Hall

Treasure Hunting the Modern Way

Where is **GCX8DK** in Gaylord? Sally Kokke Hall knows! There are Geocaches hidden in the Gaylord area she writes, including one in the Public Gardens off of Livingston Boulevard called (Stop and Smell the Roses). More than 200 Visitors have logged their visit to that cache since 2007 and uploaded 35 photos. In addition to the coordinates,

she includes the description that is posted with this site:

This is a

beautiful public garden where staff in nearby offices come to relax and refresh on break or at lunch. Stroll through the different types of gardens and enjoy the sights, sounds and scents! Park near the entrance. Be careful not to disturb any plantings. Please stay on the pathways even if you have to go a little out of your way. You may have to avoid sprinklers so step lively. We would love to see photos of what is in bloom on your visit. Since this a nature area, the cache contains items pertaining to flowers, birds, butterflies and gardening. Trade items of similar nature are preferred. The cache is an average size camo-painted container containing flower seeds, cards, other garden items and a special first finder's gift.

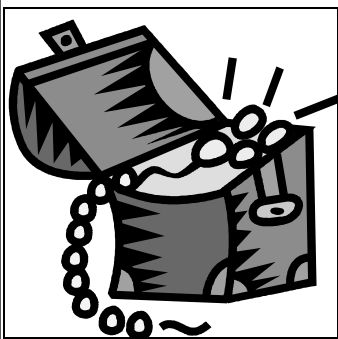
To learn more, about this real-world treasure hunting game, the official site is www.geocaching.com. Players try to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, using GPS-enabled devices and then share their experiences online (note: the hidden container may contain objects to be traded or just a place to sign a name of some are too small and request the finder to send a picture or weather conditions or other in-

formation to the website.) This is a global sport in over 100 countries all over the world and seven continents including Antarctica. There are 5 million geocaches world wide. And, like any sport there is "terminology" to the game. You might be a **Muggle** - A non-geocacher or be **mug-gled** if caught by a non-geocacher while retrieving or replacing a cache --a **smiley**? A cache find...refers the smiley -face icon attached to "Found It" logs on some listing sites. Sally invites us to geocache our Edelweiss Gardens. We can watch for pictures and postings online from visitors.



International
Geocaching
Logo

TFTC - Thanks for the The Cache
TFTH - Thanks for the Hunt, Hide or Hike
Geoswag - The items that can be found in some larger caches
PAF - Phone a Friend!



Growing Ideas

by Diane Sheldon

Warming up Your Soil (Next Spring of Course)

To get a better start on your veggies and flowers ---- warm up your garden

1. You will need an empty pop bottle, prefer large, but can use a small one. If the bottom isn't black, paint the bottom of the bottle black up to the pop label.
2. Fill the empty big plastic pop bottle with water, screw the cap on tight.
3. Dig a hole in your garden. Use more than one for bigger gardens (big bottles work the best).
4. Put the bottle TOP DOWN into hole.
5. Bury and leave about 1 or 2 inches of black bottom showing above ground.

Consider this SOLAR POWER!!!!

The sun will heat the black part of the bottle, which in turn will heat the water in the bottle, that will heat the dirt and help your plants to grow in warm soil giving you a head start.

Grow Romaine Lettuce using the Root End

After using purchased Romaine Lettuce in your salad, pot the root end in potting soil and grow additional salad greens right on your deck. Take a slice of about 2 inches from the very end and plant about 1 inch into the soil; water. Water almost everyday until it "takes." The Romaine grows much faster, but red and green leaf lettuce can be started the same way. FREE LETTUCE!



Seasonal Home Decorating in a Jar

with Terri Cwik and Janet Woityra

Make a beautiful jar for your home from the abundance Mother Nature has to offer from northern Michigan woodlands, fields and your own backyard.

This fall, Terri Cwik and Janet Woityra collected acorns, small and medium sized pine cones, pine boughs, and colorful leaves to create decorative jars to celebrate the season and get a good hike outside as well.

They recommend jars of all sizes, including clear glass stylized vases or

cylinders from Home Goods or Hobby Lobby work well. For the recycler, use mason jars and/or large gallon jars repurposing them as seasons change.

Both Terri and Janet agreed this would be a fun project to do together with friends or Club Members. Each person could find outdoor items, then they could be combined in a workshop setting.

This idea can extend throughout the year beyond autumn. Jars can be filled with other natural items, says Janet such as stones, shells, and dried herbs, etc. Moving into the Christmas season, candies, pine

cones, greens, colorful glass ornaments, holly, fruit, holiday lights, candy canes, or anything else you have on hand are just some "good things" to add warmth to our snowy winter season.



HONORING MOTHER EARTH

2012 STATE CONVENTION - JUNE 4TH AND 5TH

OUR NORTHERN MICHIGAN NATIVE AMERICAN PAST WILL BE FEATURED AS DISTRICT V HOSTS THE 2012 STATE CONVENTION AT THE GRAND TRAVERSE RESORT IN ACME. ALL 26 CLUBS ARE CONTRIBUTING IN MANY WAYS ON COMMITTEES SIMILAR TO PUTTING ON A SPRING OR FALL DISTRICT V MEETING. EDELWEISS GARDEN CLUB IS PARTNERED WITH CADILLAC AND STEPPING STONES GARDEN CLUBS TO WORK ON SETTING UP THE HOSTESSES UTILIZING ALL DISTRICT V MEMBERS ATTENDING. IN ADDITION, JUNIPER GARDEN CLUB IS COLLECTING A SILENT AUCTION GIFT BASKET FROM EACH CLUB BASED ON THEIR LOCALE. THE FLOWER SHOW, "WALKING IN A GOOD WAY" IS A GREAT INTRODUCTION TO ART AND CREATIVITY MOVING INTO UTILIZING WHAT WE ACTUALLY GROW IN OUR GARDENS. ENTRANTS ALSO STUDY HORTICULTURE TO GET THE BEST RESULTS FOR FLOWER SHOW JUDGING.

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF VENDORS : **FIBER ARTIST ANN LOVELESS, PETOSKEY STONE JEWELRY THOMAS THOMPSON, BLUEBERRY WREATHS JANET POST, REDESIGNED CLOTHING MARCIA CHAMBERLAIN, POTTERY COLLEEN TUCKER, GLASS & STEEL GARDEN ART, JEWELRY, NOTECARDS DON RAU, ASSORTED GARDEN TOOLS CHARLEVOIX GARDEN CLUB & LIGHT OF DAY TEAS ANGELA MACKE** PENDING: TOWER GARDENS, FABRIC BASKET AND TOTES, CARVER/ARTIST, TILE ARTIST, POLYMER CLAY ART, INDOOR MOSAICS, OUTDOOR MOSAICS, METAL SIGNS AND GARDEN ART, GLASS FLOWERS, SOAP, COOKIE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS AND FELT FLOWERS.



MAIN SPEAKERS - DEREK WOODRUFF OF THE FLORAL UNDERGROUND OF TRAVERSE CITY IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE FLORAL DESIGNERS IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN. AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 28, HE HAS HIS OWN BUSINESS, SOON TO OPEN ANOTHER: "THE GREEN ROOM" AND CREATES DRAMATIC RUNWAY FLORAL SHOWS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. **TOM FORD (BIRDS UNLIMITED)**, WALKS THE WALK EVERYDAY AT THE BUSINESS KNOWING JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING



WHEN IT COMES TO BUTTERFLIES AND BIRDS AND **BRIAN ZIMMERMAN (FOUR SEASONS NURSERY)** HAS BEEN A FORERUNNER IN USING NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPING AND ENVIRONMENT. HE SWEARS HE WOULD LOVE TO TEACH ABOUT THE 10 MOST COMMON BAD MISTAKES HE SEES IN YARD LANDSCAPE DESIGN. AND, WE KNOW **BRAD MORGAN'S** PROVEN DAIRY DOO ACCLAIM FROM OUR OWN RESULTS IN EDELWEISS GARDENS EXCLUSIVELY THIS YEAR.

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS - YOU ARE INVITED TO ABC'S GOOD MORNING AMERICA'S #1 CHOICE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SPOT IN THE USA WITH PRESENTATION FROM THE **SLEEPING BEAR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE** RANGER'S STAFF ON NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC SHIRLEY NICOLAI'S GOAL OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS. LEARN TO GROW SHI-TAKE MUSHROOMS IN YOUR OWN HOME WITH **THE STEPHENS**. WATCH THE COOKING DEMONSTRATION WITH HERBS FROM THE **NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE'S CULINARY INSTITUTE**. **JIM WALKER** FROM THE RECENT LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL WILL SHOW POWER POINT PHOTOS OF HIS BELLAIRE BED AND BREAKFAST WHERE HE CONDUCTS SEMINARS ON LOW MAINTENANCE LANDSCAPING. BRINGING HEALTH THROUGH BEING A CERTIFIED BIODYNAMIC GARDENER, **ANGELA MACKE, RN** WILL TEACH ON THE BENEFITS OF TEAS AND THAT GARDENING STYLE. GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF NATIVE AMERICANS WILL SEND PAT PUTNEY AND HER BROTHER, JACK SWANSON TO TEACH US ABOUT NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE AND HISTORY OF THE LAND.





**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011
EDELWEISS DATES TO REMEMBER**

NOVEMBER - GREENS SALE CONTINUES, YEAR-END REPORTS DUE FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NOVEMBER 9 - Final Day for Greens Orders

NOVEMBER 9 - Meeting: Greens Workshop and (9:30 A.M.)
Waters RV - I-75 Exit 270 (Bring a chair and 75 cones)

NOVEMBER 19 - Greens Sale Pick Up Day
(All Members Participate)

NOVEMBER 19 - "Deck the Halls" of Gaylord Area Council for the Arts

DECEMBER 7 - Last Day to Sign-up for Christmas Luncheon

DECEMBER 14 - Christmas Luncheon, Michaywe Inn the Woods (11:30 A.M.)

MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS, INC. DATES

NOVEMBER 9 & 10 - State Finance/Board 2011 Winter Meeting - Lansing

STUDY SCHOOLS

APRIL 19-20, 2012 - Landscape Design School, Course II (Ludington)

APRIL 24,25,26, 2012 - Flower Show School, Course II, Okemos, Michigan

MEETINGS

MAY 9, 2012 - PRESIDENTS' MEETING AND STATE CONVENTION PLANNING MEETING - Grand Traverse Resort, Acme Hosted by Sweetwater Evening and Quality Thyme Garden Clubs

MAY 18-19, 2012 - National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention - Buffalo, New York

JUNE 4-5, 2012 - Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. 81st State Convention - Grand Traverse Resort, Acme

To be announced in 2012: Leadership Training, Environmental School - Course I, District I; Garden Study School - Course I, District III, Niles.

**FOR MORE DETAILS: www.MichiganGardenClubs.org
www.gardenclub.org**



MEMBER OF MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS, INC., CENTRAL REGION AND NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

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Nancy Valuet, Director/Website Coordinator

www.edelweissgardenclub.com



Weather Forecast

from

The Old Farmer's 2012 Almanac

Upper Midwest Region

Summary: Winter will be colder than normal, especially in February. Other cold periods will occur in mid- to late December, and mid- to late January. Precipitation and snowfall will be below normal. The snowiest periods will be in early and mid-December, early to mid- February and mid-March.

Best Wishes to the New Board

And a Happy New Year!

SIOUX BENEDICTION

May the stillness of the evening grass fill you with peace;
May the old stones of the earth give you wisdom;
May the early blossoms of springtime teach you humility;
May the dry fields of summer help you to remember kindness;
May the tree that stands alone show you courage;
May the ant that crawls on the ground teach you limitation;
May the leaves that die in the fall teach you resignation.
And may *Mother Earth* who secures the young, teach you caring.
And may *Father Sky*, who covers all living things,
teach you spiritually.

Written by Christina Laurie
Submitted by Nancy Donaldson

National Garden Clubs, Inc. Vice Protocol

From "A Collection of Inspirations and Installations"



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