

## Ann Arbor Garden Club

May 2010 Newsletter

From Nancy Hart, AAGC President:

While some of what impacts our lives comes from hard work, there is, I believe, an element of luck that is often by our side. We haven't done a thing to deserve this spring-of-a-lifetime, but it's ours now. No snow since March, or was it February? Every spring bulb and shrub has had blooms that seem to last forever and my crabapple tree looked like it belonged in some bridal photo shoot. The night breezes carrying the lilacs to our dreams are absolutely breathtaking; or breath giving more accurately. I wish you the time and good fortune to pause and just enjoy this. Nancy

Things are looking up for the club. A number of the newer members continue to bring great energy and ideas for moving us into the next phase of our long, eighty year history. I received an email from Melanie Caughey, our recording secretary, suggesting that we put our brochures out at the Matthaei plant sale this weekend. Duh! Well, Susan Beecher got the permission for us and they'll be there. New people bring new ideas and new skills to keep us vibrant. As I was thinking about this, I realized that we may need a new category for a committee called something like electronic publicity. AnnArbor.com has offered us an opportunity to have a listing on their site, and the next generation of members will probably be contacting us on something like Face book. Are you that person who can develop a face book page for us?

At the District IIA meeting I learned about Wordpress.com where we can have a blog that functions like a web site. It's possible to have a separate password protected site for just members where our contact information can be listed just for each other.

Don't even think about missing the annual American Lotus tour on July 31st organized by the Lotus Garden Club of Monroe. Contact them at to register for the tour. (We'll have the contact info at our June meeting.)

**Electronic news** in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our state organization, Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. has gone to an electronic format. You can keep up with the state activities either by going directly to their web site: [Michigangardenclubs.org](http://Michigangardenclubs.org), or by using the link from our site: [annarborgardenclub.org](http://annarborgardenclub.org).

**Programs for 2010**

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** – 6:00pm Annual Dinner at Sharon Terry's: a potluck of small plates and desserts. Please bring either an appetizer or a dessert and let Sharon know about your plans for attendance and for food so she can coordinate the evening. We'll have iced tea and a white Sangria available, so bring anything else you might like. As always, partners (or a gardening friend) are welcome even if they aren't club members. (*N.B.*, the date was mistakenly given as June 6<sup>th</sup> in the October newsletter.

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**District IIA Spring Meeting: Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> in Hillsdale, MI.** Boy, did the discussion ever get lively! Marie Smith and Margaret Jahnke (our District IIA president) have been part of a successful movement to get the state finances in better shape and there will be no dues increase on the state level. I'm attaching Margaret's summary of the meeting to this newsletter.

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**Board meeting:** Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at Marie Smith's: come join us at 5:30pm for dinner. Marie sent these directions:

Our home is 7 miles west of Saline, pass thru the little community of Bridgewater and turn right on the dirt road, Schellenberger Rd. This dirt road is on a curve, a horse farm is on the west side of the dirt road and vacant 10 acres is on the east side of the dirt road. Our driveway is the 4th driveway on the left side, east side. The house is gray and sets back from the road, there are fenced pastures with the driveway between the two pastures. Across the road from us is a large cement block barn and several pasture, another horse farm. Any questions just call me. 734-223-0596 and I look forward to seeing you all so we can finish a rather productive discussion from the last meeting.

### ***WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!***

For 2010-'11 we need someone to chair the following committees: Garden Tours, Ways and Means, Workshops and Hospitality. We'll make the Hospitality role simpler by having paper products, tea, sugar and cream left at Matthaei. The chair now just needs to look after getting any snacks brought in. After next year we'll need at least a new president and a new person to chair Publicity. The offices are for two years.