

GARDEN CLUB OF DEARBORN ◀ FOUNDED 1915 ▶ April 2023
A Member of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



GARDEN

CLUB

Newsletter

For more information: www.gardenclubdearborn.org / newsletter editor: sdkammer@aol.com

April showers bring May flowers. After two storms and up and down temperatures, it's time for March to go out like a lamb.

Our next general meeting will be **Tuesday, April 11 at 6:00 pm** at First Presbyterian Church. Please note the change in day and time. It was decided some time ago to vary our times in an effort to accommodate those members who work during the day. Our speaker will be Lara Edwards of the Friends of the Rouge. FOTR is one of the organizations our Club helps support.

Our March meeting was attended by 17 members and 3 guests. Several people showed off St. Patrick's Day items – lots of green! Linda Johnson and others once again brightened tables and the podium for the holiday. Two new members were recently inducted – Marlene Bankwitz in February and Nanette Fisher at the March meeting. We welcome them as valued members of our Club.

Our speakers were new member Marlene Bankwitz and Denise Rose whose program was "Gardens of the World". Marlene and her husband, Keith, travel extensively and photograph stunning gardens around the globe. Marlene says she knows nothing about gardening. She just likes to take pictures of pretty flowers. Denise is a Master Gardener who has taken several garden tours of England. A Ford retiree, she now volunteers at the Henry Ford Estate gardens and the Oudolf Gardens on Belle Isle.

Marlene showed pictures of several gardens in exotic locations – the National Archeological Museum in Athens, Greece displays 6,000 indigenous plants; gardens in Dubai include thousands of plants maintained by gray water; the Incan terraces were designed to grow food. Many terraces are still being farmed. Shang-Hi, China has a wall a mile long planted with lotuses.



Denise Rose & Marlene Bankwitz

Denise talked about her photos of English gardens. Among others, she's visited Haddon Hall gardens which has been in the same family for 800 years. A long time to battle weeds! Her photos of the Royal Horticultural Society Great Spring Flower Show were beautiful. The show is held for five days in May on the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea in London. The show has been held since 1912 and is attended by members of the British Royal Family. Denise told us it takes three weeks to set the show up and five days to tear it down.



The March meeting was concluded with a performance by a very special guest. Mariah Berryman, daughter of our member Christine Berryman, holds a Master's of Fine Arts degree and is currently working on her Master's of Music degree at Ohio University. She is a soprano who recently played Beth in "Little Women", among other roles on stage. She was home to participate in St. Patrick's Day activities in Corktown and to cantor masses at two different churches. Without accompaniment or a microphone she sang "Nature, Gentlest Mother" and "Dear March, Come In!" from 12 Poems by Emily Dickinson, arranged by Aaron Copeland. It was a privilege to hear her perform.

Our Club's activities and community involvement have once again earned the designation of "Diamond Club of Distinction" from Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. We can be very proud of this achievement. Please consider joining in one or more of our study groups or other efforts to promote the Garden Club of Dearborn.

The PEG study group met at the potting shed at the Ford Estate on Saturday, February 25, to start planning the upcoming planting season. They will meet again in April to finalize plans. In the meantime, it was decided to meet at the gardens on Monday and Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 to do weeding and cleanup. Please join the group if you can. Get outside, meet other members, be amazed what a little effort can do!

The District 1 Spring Conference will be held Thursday, May 18 from 10:00 to 1:00 at the Southfield Public Library. Southfield Parks and Garden Club is hosting. Tickets are \$25 and include lunch. Following the meeting are optional tours of the Mary Thompson Farm and Emmanuel Community Farm. Registration forms and instructions have been emailed to members by Carol Chrzastek.

April Birthdays: Marlene Bankwitz & Pat Knoop



Gardens of the World

- M. Bankwitz & D. Rose -



Ta Prohm Temple, Cambodia



Hatfield House, Hatfield



Haddon Hall, Derbyshire



Penshurst Place, Kent



Vatican Garden, Vatican City



Miracle Garden, Dubai,

March Meeting Memories

Marietta Lynch & Marlene Bankwitz



Marietta Lynch & Nanette Fisher



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- Soprano -
Mariah Berryman

