

bcsem

December, 2016

NEXT  
QUARTERLY MEETING

DECEMBER 8  
HUNTINGTON  
WOODS LIBRARY

CALENDAR

NOV. 17 BOARD MEETING  
AT THE HOME OF JERRY & BETTY  
STONE

DEC. 8  
QUARTERLY MEETING IN  
HUNTINGTON WOODS WITH  
OAK PARK, CO-HOST

MARCH, 2017  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
TBA HOST CITY NEEDED

JUNE, 2017  
QUARTERLY MEETING IN  
GROSSE ILE

SEPT, 2017  
QUARTERLY MEETING AT  
DETROIT GARDEN CENTER

DECEMBER, 2017  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
TBA HOST CITY NEEDED

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# Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan

Area 1 of Keep Michigan Beautiful, Inc.

December, 2016

## President's Message *Pat Deck*

This year is passing quickly; I have had the privilege of working with Ferndale, Auburn Hills and Brownstown Township as we have planned great BCSEM Quarterly meetings. Our most recent visit in Brownstown Township was informative, enjoyable and encouraging. Those three words were the goal expressed by Denise Sheldon in their program and represent the goal of each BCSEM meeting. Paul Rodman helped us explore gardening myths and Dr. John Hartig told us about the unique mission of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge as it brings conservation to the city. We celebrated the presentation of the ISA awards as we recognized Susan Keehn, Barbara Greenberg, Richard Smith and Sherly Gorbe for the work they have done in their communities. On December 8 we will be welcomed by Huntington Woods and Oak Park. They have planned a great meeting at

the Huntington Woods Library and will explore the impact of landscaping and lawn care on water quality. Be prepared to share your successes and failures from 2016 with the BCSEM family. Thank you to the City of Farmington Hills who traditionally invites the BCSEM President to attend their Beautification Awards Ceremony in October. It was a wonderful event with a great speaker and the projects awarded were very inspiring. Mother Nature seems to know when to keep us busy in the garden and when to give us a rest. We are at that time of year when growth has stopped, when there is a period of dormancy and when it is time to put away the gardening gloves and tools. Fortunately the dormancy happens before Christmas so we have extra energy to take care of all of our holiday obligations. Even though the growing season has stopped,

you can satisfy your love of the garden by bringing the outdoors inside, enjoying fresh flowers and greens, decorating a live Christmas tree, tending to indoor plants and giving gardening themed gifts. I would like to recommend a lovely book to consider giving to anyone who loves the garden. It is *Through the Gardener's Year* by a Michigan author, Mary A. Agria. This book contains 52 of her best gardening columns from the Petoskey News-Review 2007-2014. It is priced at a modest \$10. Mary is also a bestselling novelist who has written a 'LIFE IN THE GARDEN SERIES' which is laced with gardening tips, wit and wisdom about a group of community gardeners who beautify their rural community in Northern Michigan. She is known as the 'spiritual gardener' because she touches on lessons from both the soil and the soul. The following is (con't. pg. 2)

## Host Cities still needed for March and December, 2017

**Who will host our March and our December meetings?** March and December may sound a long time from now but not if you have a quarterly newsletter to put out! At press time, the editor was unable to announce the date and location for our March and December quarterly meetings. We are anxious to be in your community.



*Travel Award, June Meeting  
Helen Bai & Lois Adams*

### Host Our Meetings

You'll get happy greetings hosting our meetings. What are you waiting for? Welcome us through your city's door! If to this task you can commit BCSEM will love you for it!



June Meeting:  
Steven Nikkila, speaker



June Meeting:  
Tented outdoor dining



Bob Kittle & Elizabeth  
Brennan Auburn Hills

*“Fall in the garden is my favorite time of the year.”*



## 2017 Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors *Nominations Committee*

### Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors for 2017

- President:** John Darin
- Imm. Past President:** A. Pat Deck
- 1st. Vice President:** Betty Stone
- 2nd. Vice President:** open
- Recording/Corresponding Secretary:** Flo Jagielski
- Treasurer/Membership/Historian:** Dorothy Wood
- Directors of 2017/2018:**
  - 1. Lois Adams
  - 2. James Keehn

#### Directors for 2016/2017\*:

- 1. Henrietta Baczewski
- 2. Jerald Stone

\*no vote required.  
Term expires Dec., 2017.

Committees appointments (i.e. web site, historian, newsletter, ISA, Parliamentarian, and others as deemed necessary) are made by the President as stated in Article X Section 2 of the By-laws.

### President’s Message (con’t. from pg. 1)

an excerpt from the column, **Autumn Joy**, first published in October 2013. I hope you will enjoy it. "Do not go gentle into that good night," the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas said. He could have been writing about the garden's final flowering.

Fall in the garden is my favorite time of year. The shadows seem longer, the light more intense. The pastels of spring and the wild palette of summer give way to solemn tones. Goldenrod spreads molten light over the meadows. Field asters stand watch in purple liver. A silver-tinged sea of grasses stirs in the rising wind...Perhaps more

than any other perennial, Autumn Joy Sedum has proven true to its name. The vibrant rusty red flower-heads glow brightly long after those more finicky mums of mine have called it a day. And even then, the garden is rewarded with a kind of second flowering. Sedum's dried, chestnut-hued seed heads stand sentinel along even as the first frost tinges the grass and the first dusting of snow begins to fall.

Soon enough, only bare limbs and dry stubble remain. The growing season is over. The wrack of the garden is complete. Laying it to rest becomes a solemn business. Fall's calen-

dar is unforgiving. Avoidance and delay putting the garden to bed only leads to freezing hands and struggles with rock-hard ground...

I can't linger long. The first hard frost waits for no one. I lay down fresh mulch to secure the future for the more vulnerable of the perennials. For good measure, with bulb planter in hand, I dig in a half-bushed of bulbs, an investment of hope in the spring to come.

There are life lessons in such transitions. One growing season is ending. Another has begun.

Wishing you love, peace, and joy in the garden.

### Post Holiday Amaryllis

Once the blooms have finished, cut and remove all but 2 inches of the flower stalks, keeping the leaves intact. Water sparingly until the leaves dry up. Discontinue watering and move the pot to a cool spot — 40

degrees is ideal. In May remove the dried leaves and move the plant to its original warm (60-75 degrees) bright, indirect light spot. Resume normal watering (moist but not soggy). Fertilize with bone



Cut and remove all but 2 inches of the flower stalk meal or fish emulsion, follow the manufacture’s directions.

## Huntington Woods *Claire Galed*

The City of Huntington Woods, affectionately named the "City of Homes," has 6,400 residents and 2,417 homes along its tree-lined streets. Its residents and neighbors enjoy walking, biking and jogging through the quiet neighborhoods. Though small, Huntington Woods is host to many clubs and organization which help give our community its unique quality. No doubt, not many cities our size can boast, among other things, two

garden clubs, one of which, Seed & Sod has a children's group, the Seedlings; three baby sitting co-ops; a philanthropic Men's Club and a Study Club of women which helped start our Huntington Woods Library in the 1950s and is still active today.

And while you are in the Library, for the BCSEM Winter Quarterly, be sure to look at the two stained glass windows on the north and south ends of



the building as well as the textured glass art above the entranceway. In addition, on your way into or leaving town, drive down LaSalle Blvd by the LaSalle Boulevard fountain which, although turned off for the winter, is the original fountain, recently restored, which stood in the same location in the 1920s.

In addition, Huntington Woods

has an active Adopt-a-Garden program and our County Downs Garden Club was one of the first groups to adopt a garden at the Detroit Zoo, which mostly lies within our borders, and County Downs still maintains the gardens near the Rackham fountain.

***"We are pleased to share our special community with you and hope you join us and the City of Oak Park for the 2016 Winter Quarterly, December 8th. meeting. And do come back."***

*Claire Galed*



The City of Oak Park is a viable, vibrant and attractive city that values its community, culture and commerce. Oak Park boasts a solid foundation of affordable housing, safe and secure neighborhoods, recreational amenities, progressive educational systems, and a central location. We are family-centered, culturally diverse, and business-minded.

The vision of the City is to lead the region as the most dynamic city in metropolitan Detroit, serving as a destination for vibrant, cutting-edge community life and entrepreneurial spirit. As such, our mission is to provide the highest quality of life for our residents in everything we do.

The City operates under the Council-Manager form of government and receives valuable input from 21 volunteer Boards and Commissions which help to advise City Council on the community's changing needs. These Boards and Commissions are comprised of citizens,

city administrators, City Council members and entrepreneurs from our business community. Oak Park is an appealing location due to its affordable homes, family-friendly parks, tight-knit neighborhoods, cultural diversity, neighborly business clusters, and convenient access to several area freeways for ease in commutes. Many of its residents have lived in the City for decades and are well-

***"We are family-centered, culturally diverse, and business-minded."*** *Judy Simmons*

established within the community. Residents are known to be active within the community, attend church, help with fundraising projects and participate in civic activities. The City is now seeing new businesses beginning to locate in Oak Park. Since 2012, the City acquired 34 new businesses and expects another surge within the next two years. In July of 2015, the City announced that FedEx® Corp. will initiate the development of a 304,000-square-foot facility on 54 acres of land vacated by the old Detroit Artillery Armory. When operational, FedEx® is expected to employ an 245 people at this location, but the number may grow to as high as 400 within the first five years in operation.

### **Not an Oscar but just as important to us! ISA RECEIPIENTS for 2016**

Susan Keehn, Harrison Twp., Individual Service Award winner. Distinguished Service winners are: Sheryl Gorbe, Center Line; Barbara Greenberg, Novi; and, Richard Smith, Brownstown Twp.



*Brownstown Meeting, Sept.*



*Sept.: Susan Keehn, ISA winner*



*Sheryl Gorbe, ISA's Distinguished Service winner*



*Sept.: Dr. John Hartig, speaker with ISA's Distinguished Service winner Richard Smith*



**Officers**

**President**

**A. Pat Deck**

**Immediate Past President**

**John Keehn**

**1st Vice President**

**John Darin**

**2nd Vice President**

**Betty Stone**

**Recording/Corr. Secretary**

**Flo Jagielski**

**Treasurer/Membership/**

**Historian**

**Dorothy Wood**

**Directors for 2015/2016**

1. Lois Adams

2. position open

**Directors for 2016/2017**

1. Henrietta Baczewski

2. Jerald Stone

**We're on the web**  
**www.bcsem.org**

**Committees:**

**ISA Award**

**John Darin**

**Travel Trophy**

**Lois Adams**

**Raffle**

**Henrietta Baczewski**

**Parliamentarian**

**Marion Schmidt**

**Newsletter editor:**

**Barbara Miller**

**Contact**

**Pat Deck, Pres.**

**lpdeck@sbcglobal.net**

**Editor Notes** *Barbara Miller*

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Newsletter editor. I wish to thank everyone who contributed photos and articles. Would you believe, I actually had more articles than I could use? And, since they were so good, I am happily passing them on to my successor, Tracy Lyons. I also wish to thank my good friend Pat Deck whose keen eye and proof reading skills proved invaluable. Lastly, I thank Susan Keehn the immediate past newsletter editor. She assured me this was an easy job and because she left the newsletter already formatted she was right! Mostly it is word processing: change a font, copy and paste. Therefore, I encourage our computer owning members to consider taking on this position when the call is made. In the meantime, I know I leave the Newsletter in very capable hands. Lastly, many thanks to Dorothy Wood for providing the photos throughout this edition.

**Photos from March, 2016 meeting in Ferndale at Blumz**



Top: March: Travel Award, Debra Galik with Lois Adams & Pat Deck; Robert Yelverton Ferndale; Brian Allman, Detroit Farm & Garden, Speaker with Robert Primeau, Ferndale Beaut. Comm..

Bottom: March: Inside Blumz; Rebecca Hammond, Polinator Gardens, Speaker; Welcome table at Blumz,

1096 Bedford  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230