



Cultural cultivation: A rose garden (above) and sculpture by Birmingham artist Marshall Fredericks (right) are among the beautiful features gracing Meadow Brook during this week's garden show.



COVER STORY

DISCOVER GARDEN DELIGHTS AT MEADOW BROOK

BY MARTY FIGLEY
SPECIAL WRITER

The gardens are blooming in profuse color where you can "Discover the Pleasures of Gardening" at the fifth annual Outdoor Garden Show, sponsored by Meadow Brook Hall and the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association, at Oakland University's beautiful Meadow Brook Hall, Rochester.

This exciting event will take place 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 7-8, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, June 9. Admission is \$7 per person, \$3 for children 6-12, free for those under 6. There is ample free parking. Meadow Brook Hall is near I-75 and Exit 79 (University Drive), and its entrance is south of University Drive on Adams. For more information, call (810) 646-4992.

"Each year this show gets bigger and better as MDLA members strive to improve their gardens and create new ones," said Larry Wright, MDLA CEO/president. "Twenty-one expertly landscaped gardens surround Meadow Brook Hall and new ideas abound."

The mansion's front center court garden provides the perfect place to showcase a spectacular water display with flowers provided by the Metropolitan Detroit Flower Growers Association. Melodic music will fill the air as visitors stroll through this garden into other parts of the show.

The railroad garden, popular with children and adults, will be in the rock garden, constructed by Ray Wiegand's Nursery, Macomb, which features outstanding specimens of conifers and provides the perfect setting for this garden. Many "G" gauge model trains will travel on the tracks that wind in and out and up and down throughout the landscape. A European theme has been chosen by members of the Lakeshore Garden

Railway Club.

This year several new and innovative gardens will inspire visitors. Annuals and perennials, provided by Telly's Greenhouse, Troy, will fill a garden that incorporates a deck and a gazebo by Bidwell Construction, Shelby Township. Unusual and artistic handcrafted hardwood birdhouses will be featured in another garden, landscaped by Mark Baldwin and Associates of Plymouth. The birdhouses are designed by the Art Harrison Interior Design Studio of Birmingham. A series of these temporary gardens will illustrate new ideas for the home landscaper.

A stroll through the woodland garden will take visitors through an Oriental garden and a "Wildlife Walk." Knoll Cottage, the playhouse modeled after the mansion, will be the setting for face painting and garden crafts for the youngsters. New this year will be a miniature maze garden, and a small garden in the shape of a butterfly. Both of these new additions have been designed and constructed by Eaton Nursery Inc., West Bloomfield.



Making tracks: The popular railroad garden, with model trains, will be in the rock garden.

The large maze garden will again be in place and entice young and old alike to find their way through the paths. The Emerald Green Arboretum that comprise this garden will be available for purchase after the show at \$25 each.

The sculpture of Marshall Fredericks will grace the grounds as will garden art from Detroit's Powabic Pottery.

Plant societies will be placed throughout the show to answer questions and provide information about their groups and to offer garden-related items and plants for purchase. Master gardeners will be stationed in the gardens to provide information about the plants.

Dozens of exhibitors will be found in the Marketplace tent, where the latest in statuary, lighting, tools, furniture, planters, garden services, books and other products will satisfy the most discriminating buyer.

A series of speakers will present their programs during the show from a large deck situated on the grounds. They will speak at specific times so that attendees can schedule their visit to coincide with the ones they wish to hear.

Jim Wilson, prolific author, lecturer and host of PBS's "Victory Garden," will speak each day. He was elected to the Hall of Fame, the top honor of the Garden Writers Association of America, at its annual meeting last fall, and was recently given a life membership to the National Council of State Garden Clubs Inc.

Other experts will round out the program and offer a variety of topics about gardening. They are Margaret Thele, Sage Advice, Birmingham; Rick Lazzell, Lazzell's Horticultural Services, West Bloomfield; Janet Macunovich, Perennial Favorites, Waterford; Laurie Lee, Backyard Birds, Rochester; and yours truly, garden writer.

This is the program schedule for the fifth annual Meadow Brook Hall landscape and garden show co-sponsored by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers:

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

• **Landscaping With Container Plants**, Jim Wilson, 11

a.m. to noon — Join Wilson as he shows gardeners how to add impact to their landscapes through container plantings. Homeowner or apartment dweller, all will learn ways to incorporate and care for the plants they love to make perfect portable gardens.

• **A Plethora of Perennials**, Margaret Thele, 12:30-1:30 p.m. — How do you decide which perennials to grow? What plants will best enhance your landscape? Thele, a garden designer, will ponder these and other perplexing perennials synonims.

• **Establishing a Wildlife Habitat Garden**, Jim Wilson, 2-3 p.m. — Wilson will share his hands-on experiences about the subject, and share ideas and explain the steps necessary to create a creature-friendly garden.

• **Herb Gardening Through the Seasons**, Marty Figley, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — If you have wondered when and how to harvest the bounty of herbs from your garden, this talk will lead you in the right direction. Learn how to preserve and enjoy herbs all year long in culinary endeavors and crafts.

• **So, You Think You'd Like a Water Garden**, Rick Lazzell, 5-6 p.m. — Lazzell shares his expertise on all stages of the processes necessary to achieve your goal of a successful water feature in your garden. From the planning stage to installation to planting and finally pond management.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

• **Landscaping With Native Trees**, Jim Wilson, 11 a.m. to noon — Wilson expounds on a simple and common sense principle: Trees that have become successfully adapted to our region over thousands of years often make the best choices for the landscape. Learn about the benefits of a native landscape and how to fit these beautiful trees into your life.

• **A Plethora of Perennials**, Margaret Thele, noon to 1:30 p.m.

• **Landscaping With Container Plants**, Jim Wilson, 2-3 p.m.

• **Choosing and Placing Plants in the Landscape**, Janet Macunovich, 3:30-4:30 p.m. — A basic plan to get you off and running in spring: how to select plants that will meet your expectations, and ideas for placing them in the yard. Applies to all permanent plants — trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, perennials and annuals.

• **Speaking of Birds**, Laurie Lee, 5-6 p.m. — Behind gardening, bird watching is the second most practiced hobby. These winged wonders bring new dimensions of color, sound, movement and constant entertainment to the home landscape. Let Lee show you how to make your yard a bird-friendly place.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

• **Establishing a Wildlife Habitat Garden**, Jim Wilson, 11 a.m. to noon

• **A Plethora of Perennials**, Margaret Thele, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

• **Landscaping With Native Trees**, Jim Wilson, 2-3 p.m.

• **So, You Think You'd Like a Water Garden**, Rick Lazzell, 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Kristin Montour



On the cover: A "Wildlife Walk" will welcome visitors at the Meadow Brook garden show.