

# GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS)  
**SPRING NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2018**



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## CALENDAR OF CHAPTER MEETINGS \*\*meeting details below\*\*

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You can always check our website for information: <http://glcnargs.com/>

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### **\*\*SATURDAY, March 31: Spring Meeting, Conifer Extravaganza!**

**MEETING:** 11:00 AM – ca. 3:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium  
– see the map below right  
**PROGRAMS:** Robert Fincham  
11:00 AM – Dwarf Conifers Suitable for Small Gardens  
**Catered Lunch:** 12:30 PM (please let Jacques know your food preference – see next page)  
1:30 PM – Colorful Conifers

Robert Fincham was a founding member and first President of the American Conifer Society, and a well-known author, nurseryman, speaker, and introducer of dwarf conifers. Popular illustrated books he has written on conifers include *Small Conifers for Small Gardens*, and *Special Conifers For Special Gardens* (3 volumes). For many years he was the owner of Coenosium Gardens, a specialty conifer nursery. See <http://coenosium.com/> for more information

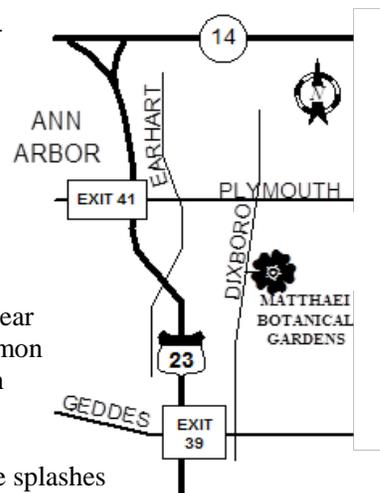
Robert will be presenting two programs:

**11:00 AM Dwarf Conifers Suitable for Small Gardens**

Some conifers are among the hardiest plants, and many are evergreen, offering year round color and texture. Though many are big trees, dwarf sports are not uncommon and selecting and propagating these allows a huge diversity to be utilized in even in small gardens

**1:30 PM Colorful Conifers**

Among the mutations to which conifers are prone are color mutation that provide splashes of color even in winter months. Find out what ones are best for our gardens



### **\*\*SATURDAY, MAY 5: Spring Meeting, Plant Sale & Garden Tours**

**MEETING:** 11:00 AM – ca. 3:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Pat Byler's (2202 Forest Park) & Michael & Libby Greanya's, (2204 Vandemere), Jackson – see map insert  
11:00 – ca. 1:00 tour the gardens  
**BAG LUNCH:** While touring the gardens  
**PLANT SALE:** 1:30 PM – See the Plant Sale insert for details

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### **Mark Your Calendars:**

**NARGS ANNUAL MEETING 2018: "Where Alpines Meet the Sea" St. John's, Newfoundland July 6-8, 2018. This ought to be a great meeting!**

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**President's Notes  
Jacques Thompson**

March certainly came in like a lion with the winter storm that blew thru last Thursday dumping anywhere from 5" to 8" of heavy, wet snow across our region. Hopefully all of you escaped that event without losing power to your homes or serious damage to your gardens. With any luck the old weather proverb will hold true, and March will exit like a Lamb and bring us pleasant conditions for our upcoming meeting on March 31st.

As we will be treated to two presentations from our speaker, we will be providing a Catered Lunch brought to us from the kitchen of the Palm Palace a local and popular eatery to Ann Arbor specializing in Mediterranean cuisine of high acclaim.

As this will be a catered lunch I need everyone to register with me so that there will enough food for everyone. There has been quite a variety of flavorful dishes selected for your enjoyment, however there will be three different pita's offered chicken, lamb, or a vegetarian so I will need to know which one you would like as a part of your lunch.

**So Please get back to (contact information below) me by Monday March 26th to let me know if you are planning to attend and your pita preference as well.**

**Email – Jacques Thompson: c/o Andrea at: [urdathom@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:urdathom@aaps.k12.mi.us)  
or phone: 734.434.7654**

I look forward to seeing you all in hopefully more Lamb-like weather

**Volunteer to be our new Treasurer**

I've been the treasurer for a number of years now – but poor health is conspiring to make it hard for me to continue. If you like handling money, here is your chance to join the world of finance, though on a small scale. The duties really revolve around regularly attending meetings, carting along a small box of money and records,

collecting payments, and making deposits to our bank account.

Along with this, there is keeping up the membership list on a spreadsheet and the name tags of current members. It's really quite basic – no MBA or prior experience needed!

On the job training will always be at hand!

Susan Reznicek

**January 20, 2018 Winter Potluck Minutes  
GLC NARGS  
Libby Greanya**

The business meeting was called to order by President Jacques Thompson at 1:20 PM after a wonderful potluck lunch for 34 members. He explained the Great Lakes Chapter to the visitors. Dues are \$10 per year. The group is still looking for a treasurer and also a president. Libby Greanya will continue on as Recording Secretary and Dr. Tony Reznicek does everything else!

The spring plant sale will be Saturday May 5, 2018 at Pat Byler's house in Jackson Michigan. Her next-door neighbors, Libby and Michael Greanya, will assist.

The fall plant sale will be at the home of Eric and Julia Hofley in Bloomfield Hills. Your secretary is looking forward to this – Julia specializes in chrysanthemums which should be in glorious bloom! Date to be announced.

Bob Fincham will give two talks about conifers flanking a catered lunch for the membership. There is no charge for this event. The date is March 31, at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

The auction consisted of the new Peony book, written by David C. Michener, Associate Curator at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens, which by the way is getting rave reviews. The auction book was won by Shirley Dieterle.

A reminder that stipends from the Great Lakes Chapter of NARGS are available for the national meeting (AGM) in Newfoundland which will be held July 6 through the 8th, 2018. Each stipend is for \$350. Whales might be seen

on this trip – many rock garden plants as well. Please contact Jacques Thompson (see above).

Susan Haddock announced that the American Primrose Society has Eastern and Western chapters. She proposes a Midwest chapter and if others are interested, please contact her at: [shaddock@comcast.net](mailto:shaddock@comcast.net)

On April 3, 2018, 7 pm, the Salem Garden Club of South Lyon will be hosting Julia Hofley as a speaker at the Hamburg Township Library. All are invited.

As the business meeting was winding down, people started pouring in for Janet Macunovich's lecture and the group swelled to 66 people. Fortunately, our intrepid speaker, Janet, took the lead in bringing out and arranging chairs for the newcomers. What a woman! The business meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

Janet then gave a rousing lecture on "Planting Well, Even When the Roots Aren't Right." She inspired us to go home and examine around the roots of trees to see if they had been planted properly. Keep your eyes open for tree flare/tree health/what you can see of root structure-not just at your home but around your community. Like Janet, do not fear to use a shovel for more information.

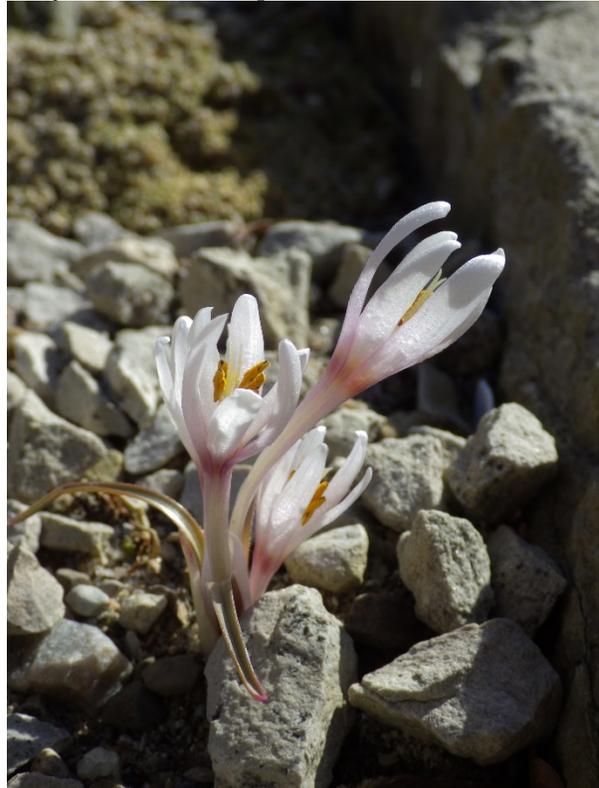
**Some signs of spring already – blooms in the garden on Feb. 27 in Ann Arbor!**

–Tony Reznicek

*Galanthus elwesii* var. *monostichus*



Tiny *Colchicum serpentinum* in a crevice



Only to have hopes dashed...



**Please send address changes to our Treasurer,  
and please include your up-to-date email address.  
Thank You.**

Susan Reznicek  
890 Wickfield Court  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105-1227  
(734) 996-0692

[reznicek@umich.edu](mailto:reznicek@umich.edu)

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:**

**Great Lakes Chapter:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**email/FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$10.00 per year (check payable to Chapter) to:  
**Susan Reznicek**  
Treasurer, Great Lakes Chapter, NARGS  
890 Wickfield Court  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105-1227

OR pay in person at the next GLC meeting

We strongly encourage people to join both the Great Lakes Chapter, and the National Organization.

**National Organization:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**email/FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$40.00 dues (check payable to NARGS) to:  
**Bobby Ward**  
Executive Secretary  
North American Rock Garden Society  
P.O. Box 18604, Raleigh, NC 27619

OR pay through the NARGS website:  
<https://www.nargs.org/join>

**GREAT LAKES CHAPTER FIRST CLASS**  
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