



The Garden Path

Official Publication of
The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
October-November-December 2015 Vol. LXXXVII No. 1

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Coming Events

October 10 and/or 17, 2015
OAGC Foundation Fall Foliage
Walk Fund Raiser

October 15, 2015
Deadline for submissions to the
Jan-Feb-Mar issue of
The Garden Path

November 1, 2015
Registration deadline for Philly trip

December 15, 2015
Deadline for OAGC Contests

January 15, 2016
Deadline for submissions to the
Apr-May-Jun issue of
The Garden Path.

March 11-13, 2016
Bus trip to the Philly Flower Show

April 4-6, 2016
Spring State Board Meeting, Deer
Creek State Park Lodge,
Mt. Sterling, OH

April 15, 2016
Deadline for submissions to the Jul-
Aug-Sep issue of *The Garden Path*

May 22-27, 2016
Nature Study Retreat, Camp
Oty'Okwa in the Hocking Hills area

June 6-8, 2016
OAGC Convention,
Deer Creek State Park Lodge,
Mt. Sterling, OH

June 20-21, 2016
Exhibitors' and Judges' School #5,
Deer Creek State Park Lodge,
Mt. Sterling, OH

Root Camp: Basic Training for Gardeners

The OAGC Strategic Implementation team has taken another forward-looking step, one that goes beyond creating a new mission statement or vision statement or even developing a new logo and bookmarks, which were shared at annual OAGC Convention in June 2015.

In order to move out into the world, beyond ourselves, our team has initiated partnerships with businesses and garden centers.

The first round of Root Camps will take place around the state this fall. Some programs with these partnerships may have already taken place. Topics being presented to the public include topics such as: tree pests, extending summer planters' beauty, bees, yard lighting and worm composting. At each of these sessions, information on The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs will be displayed.

We hope that positive partnerships will take root all over the state. Our members have stepped up to make the mission statement come to life. We want 'to promote innovation and excellence in horticulture and floral arts through programs that foster creativity and personal growth.'

Plans are already underway for a spring round of Root Camps.



2014-2016 OAGC State Officers

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OAGC Foundation Officers and Appointments

Board Chair	Marlene Purdy	5229 Arborfield Ct.	Ft. Wayne, IN 46835-4636	260-492-2653	mpurdy@oagc.org
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Secretary	Vicki Ferguson	2853 Circlewood Ln.	Dayton, OH 45458-9440	937-885-6163	vferguson@oagc.org

WHERE TO SEND IT: Membership changes (including changes of address for *The Garden Path* delivery and sign up for ePath electronic notice) and dues: Membership Chair; Donations to the OAGC Foundation: OAGC Foundation Treasurer; submissions for *In Memoriam*, *Via the Grapevine* and *Stepping Stones*: *The Garden Path* editor.

A note from our president:

Dear Weed-Pulling Friends,



Fall! There has been an explosion of color: dahlias, late perennials, glowing leaves on shrubs and trees. Now is the time to consider what you could add to your landscape for fall color. And now is the time some nurseries have sales - a good time to plant, with cool nights and fall rain.

Exhibitors' and Judges' School (E and J) is always a wonderful time and this past one was great. Plan on attending every E and J School, and better yet, become a judge.

Gardeners' Day Out was a great event; thanks to Second Vice-President Suzy Parker and her helpers. Most of us could not see it all in one trip and plan to go back.

Be thinking about joining the bus trip going to the Philadelphia flower show, March 11-13, 2016. The registration deadline is November 1, 2015. Details are on page 1 of the July-August-September issue of *The Garden Path* and can be found in this issue also.

Get a group of friends together and take pledges for a fall foliage walk, either October 10 or 17, to support the OAGC Foundation's Nature and Conservation Fund.

Plan on attending your regional meeting; all are listed on page 16 of this issue. Every region plans a great meeting with speakers, designs, vendors, good food and lots of garden-loving friends. If you see an interesting program on the schedule of a neighboring region's meeting - by all means - check it out. Just contact the appropriate regional director for registration details.

Convention plans are underway, with contracts and planning. Convention 2016 will be at Deer Creek State Park Lodge, June 6-8. The theme is "Garden Art and More.....;" more includes some sit-down gardening (fairy gardens, dish gardens, topiaries,

Bonsai,) recycling, garden art, landscaping, pruning, contrived containers, bargain hunting and propagating new plants.

Jan Harmon is a computer genius and many years back, she brought us into a new era with an OAGC website. With the new mobile computers and other technology, we were ready for some different approaches to our website and with Jan's good wishes, we are embarking on building a new website which includes all the bells and whistles needed. Thanks, Jan, for a step into the future when we needed it.

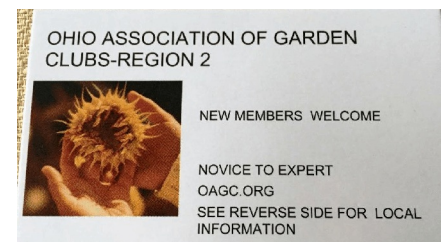
Our Strategic Planning Committee has been busy under Mary Lee Minor's guidance, striking out to partner with other like-minded groups, attempting to reach more of the gardening public. Read Minor's article on the front page for more information. There is a whole other gardening world outside of Garden Clubs to tap into, new directions to go and new projects to try. You and your garden club should try something new. How about volunteering with kids to help our older generation with lawn care? How about starting a farmers' market? How about working to clean up an eyesore? You can think of many more ideas for your area.

Still crowing for OAGC, and still loving gardening, Peggy Case, OAGC President

Here's a good idea

Region 2 created business cards for their members to use in spreading the word about OAGC.

Business cards can be printed up very inexpensively these days. Check your local print shop or visit www.vistaprint.com for ideas and prices. Another option for printing just a few is to use Avery (or similar) business card stock perforated sheets right from your own printer. Be sure to include contact information on the back side. The idea is to have them available to hand out to anyone you meet who might be interested in gardening. It's a great idea! Thanks, Region 2!



The Garden Path - The Quarterly Publication of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 (5229 Arborfield Ct., Ft. Wayne IN 46835-4636)
 Vol. LXXXVII No. 1
 Subscriptions for affiliated club members: \$7/year
 Members-at-Large: \$10/year

Beautification Contest Winners presented awards



The winner of the 2014 Beautification Contest, Temporary/Seasonal Project is the Nature Lovers Garden Club of Fredericktown, Ohio in Region 7. They were recognized at the OAGC Convention in June. Their seventeen page project book documented four gardens at the Fredericktown Library planted with annuals many of which reseed, such as zinnias, Sweet William and daisies, which could be considered perennials and also daylilies.

The application was submitted early, the judging was done on time and received a perfect score. The project notebook included a cover page, table of content, project introduction, design drawings/plan, design layout and photographs (of club members preparing the beds, club members during planting time, photos of the early season beds, of club members doing seasonal maintenance and of the mature beds with the club members present as well as a section with newspaper publicity and judging day photos.) The last section of the notebook included invoices for annual flats.

Most, or all, of the club members seem to have been involved in the project during some process. Photographs show many of the club members at work in some phase of the project. The library gardens are prepared, planted and maintained during the growing season taking the beds from planting to a beautiful, lush mature beauty.

There are many clubs participating in beautification projects around the state. Why not take the time to enter the OAGC Beautification Contest? Winning projects are presented with a monetary award at convention.

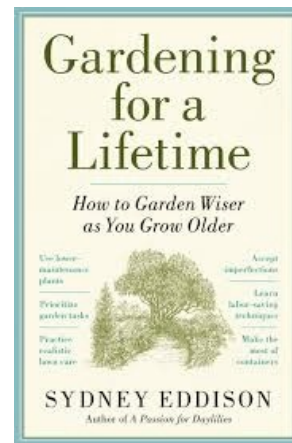
Gardening for a Lifetime: How to Garden Wiser as You Grow Older

Book review by Diane Daniels

This delightful yet practical book by Sydney Eddison offers many ideas and solutions for the gardener who wants to simplify, organize and scale back on daunting

chores in the garden. As a well-respected gardener, writer and lecturer, Eddison uses her wisdom and experience to convey issues and solutions that the reader can use to garden wisely. She helps the reader manage changes that take place in both the garden and gardener and conveys how to get the most enjoyment out of the garden as we age or need to handle time constraints.

Chapters cover such topics as accepting imperfection, substituting shrubs for perennials, learning to make lists and keeping new gardens small and simple. The book is interspersed with black and white drawings and lists of gleanings from the author's years of experience. ISBN-13: 978-1604692662.



OAGC State Awards Given at Convention

Citation Award

Jim Chakeres

Daisy Sticksel Conservation Award

Louise Bennett

Faye Collins Designer of the Year Award

Carol Gorby

Gladys Thomas Judge of the Year Award

Marilou Rupert

OAGC Gardener of the Year Award

Sharon Gothard

Service Award

Mary Lee Minor

Ohio History Connection - OAGC Update

by Marian Moeckel



David Dyer and Eric Cashion, Curators of Natural History at the Ohio History Connection, weeding in the bird viewing area in May 2015.

The Ohio History Connection (OHC) bird viewing area received a facelift this spring. Marian Moeckel, former OAGC Nature and Conservation chair, and husband Steve Moeckel representing OAGC joined OHC Natural History Curators David Dyer and Erin Cashion and spent a beautiful May day weeding and planting in the bird viewing area at the museum. The bird viewing area already had many lovely wildflowers and trees. What it needed was some TLC including: weeding, removing overgrown plants, trimming and the addition of some new native plants. The small pond was refreshed, cleaned and made more inviting for feathered visitors. The OHC provided the plants and the committee of four volunteers provided the muscle to get them planted. Many bushels of weeds and overgrown plants were removed during the day.

By July, the areas that were cleared of weeds had filled in with native plants such as purple coneflowers and bee balm. The OAGC and OHC partnership to refresh the garden area benefitted both human and feathered museum visitors. The butterflies and bees also appeared to benefit from the native plants that bloomed throughout the summer.

The Ohio History Connection is a great place to visit year-round. Go tour the fabulous museum and the Ohio Village to enjoy the many exhibits that range from history to archeology to baseball to medicine. And be sure to spend a few peaceful moments enjoying to the beautiful bird viewing area where you will find seating and a large picture window. Check the website (<http://www.ohiohistory.org>) for events and hours. The Ohio History Connection has a great gift shop and wonderful collection of books for sale. Ohio History Connection, 1800 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211. Phone: 800-686-6124.



Redbud added this spring and thriving this summer.



The March 11-13, 2016, Philadelphia Flower Show Trip is filling up, but there is still time to register as the deadline is November 1, 2015. Full details can be found on page 1 of the Jul-Aug-Sep issue of *The Garden Path*.

The trip leaves from Cambridge, Ohio on Friday, stopping to eat on your own, en route, and then arrives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania for a smorgasbord supper and some shopping. Lodging both nights will be at the Hotel Lancaster and includes continental breakfast.

The group will leave Saturday at 8 am for the flower show and after a day of enjoying the many displays, return to Hotel Lancaster and an evening meal at an Amish restaurant with some quick shopping. Early the next morning after breakfast, it is time to head back home for Cambridge, Ohio.

For the registration form, fees and addresses, consult the *The Garden Path* or visit www.oagc.org and click *Garden Path* for all the details for prices, insurance, times and addresses. For other questions call 419-929-6117.

Department News

Design Study Department

Sharon Ware, Chair

As fall approaches it is time to think about the Faye Collins Designer of the Year Award. The deadline for entering is December 15, and entries should be sent to me. Find my contact information on page 2.

The scoresheet can be found on page 57 of *The OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs*, revised 2010 edition. If you do not have the book, you can download the form from the OAGC website (www.oagc.org). Any other entry form is outdated and should not be used.

Photographs submitted must be 4"x6" with or without a white border. The judges commented that the white border was not a problem and if it helps to center the design to the 4"x6" size, then it was acceptable.

The background for your design is important and is the deciding feature for winning photos. A neutral or black background is best. When taking photos at fairs, it is good to bring a separate background to use for photographing.

Design Study workshop sessions at Exhibitors' and Judges' School are focusing on Oriental designs. I would like the regions to have Oriental workshops as well. At the 2016 Convention, even numbered regions will be providing Oriental designs for exhibit. Ikebana Chapters can provide instructors for your workshop. OAGC has many judges that lead workshops as well.

Exhibitors' and Judges' School Department

Naomi Ormes, Chair

Exhibitors' and Judges' School is for everyone. There is something for you, whether you are a seasoned judge or a student judge who is required to attend to be an accredited judge, or an exhibitor of artistic designs or horticulture exhibits. Each school has at least one artistic design session and several horticulture topics taught by experienced gardeners. There are lessons to be learned each time the school convenes. Join us as we look forward to the topics for School #5, which will be held June 20-21, 2016.

School #4 covered the Abstract, Kinetic and Creative Mass styles of creative floral design and School #5 will continue with the study of the creative designs A-P. There will be a plant identification session, a session on growing, showing and judging Hemerocallis, Lilies and other Summer Bulbs; Hosta, Caladiums and Elephant ears; Begonias and Geraniums; and Hanging Baskets Including Ferns and Ivy. There will be a panel session to discuss judging problems. Sharon Ware will continue studies of the Oriental Schools. Watch for more information in the Jan-Feb-Mar issue of *The Garden Path*.

All accredited judges are required to attend one day of either School #5 or School #6. There was some discussion that that requirement would be eliminated when the *OAGC Exhibitors' and Judges' Handbook* was revised, but the committee has decided that the requirements to retain accreditation will remain as is.

Save the date for School #6, September 12-13, 2016, for another chance to enjoy the topics scheduled, which will include Creative Designs R-Z; Mums; Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs; Educational Exhibits; Terrariums, Dish Gardens and Fairy Gardens; Orchids and Bromeliads; and Plant Identification. If you are into fun, we have you covered. Come and join us!

Flower Shows Department

Jan Seabold, Chair

It is time to relax from our busy summer and plan for next year's flower shows. How many clubs today have flower shows as part of the year's activities?



Remember when our clubs first started? Remember how excited we were to enter our flowers? I know I was. How can we get that excitement back? Schedule a flower show just with your members and urge each

member to bring a specimen flower. Talk about how to groom the flower before the show, talk about how to harden off the entry and then have a member play judge and point out the merits of each flower members brought.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Clubs now are busy planning outings instead of arranging flowers. Let's change that.

Our OAGC web site has lots of information on floral designs. To get started, make it simple. Print off some great designs from the OAGC website or OAGC Pinterest boards, bring flowers and try to copy them. Do this for a meeting and find out it is a lot of fun. Next, plan to have a real flower show and invite the other clubs in your area.

And after that...come to the Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools. These are great learning tools. Ask any OAGC judge or floral arranger. That's what we do: Knowing, Growing, Showing and Sharing together.

Horticulture Department

Jane Adkins, Chair

Autumn means many things – falling leaves, changing weather, football games, but to gardeners in Ohio it can mean our time of rest is approaching. The focus can change from outside to the inside (that's been neglected since spring). Once the fall cleanup chores are completed gardeners can sit back and reflect on the joys of the growing season and imagine what next year will bring.

The cleanup is important, especially getting rid of those perennial weeds. Remember not to compost any diseased or mildewed debris – our home composting just doesn't get hot enough to kill the pathogens. While you're cleaning up the flower

beds, don't forget to look for a praying mantis egg case. You can tuck the twig it is on into a bush near where you would like them to go to work next spring.



Praying Mantis Egg Case

Junior Gardeners Department

Deborah Graham, Chair

The OAGC 2015 Fall Regional Junior Gardener Contest will be called "Nature Loom Weaving." This activity will involve the junior gardener in making a loom and then weaving items found in nature into the loom which results in a finished display of their nature findings.



Start out by collecting four sticks about 1/4" - 3/4" in diameter to make the loom. The sticks should be no longer than 18" each. Lash the four sticks together to form a square loom with jute or yarn. Tie a piece of jute or yarn at one corner of your loom. Begin wrapping the jute or yarn around the horizontal stick, wrapping it twice then pulling it down vertically to the bottom horizontal stick then wrapping it twice there and so on till a loom is formed across your stick square. Wrapping the jute or yarn twice around the stick will keep the jute or yarn taut and prevent it from sliding on the horizontal sticks. Tie the jute or yarn off when you reach the other side of the loom. Be creative in the colors of jute and yarn used. It makes for a colorful display.

Now that your loom is finished go on a nature walk in your backyard, neighborhood or park. Collect grasses, herbs, flowers, seedpods, leaves or pieces of bark from trees that you find on the ground. Autumn leaves make wonderful additions to your loom weavings. Next weave your nature treasures horizontally through the strings of your loom. Your nature loom is now finished.

Along with the finished nature loom, the junior gardener should have a 3"x5" card with their name, age, club, region and the names of their nature findings on the card. Nature loom weavings placed in a window or hung on a wall make unique displays.

This contest is for all ages but regions should have a 6-11 year old division and a 12-18 year old division. Regional Junior Gardener Contest entries should be judged at the regional levels and then displayed at the regionals. Prizes and ribbons for the contest winners should be decided upon by each region. The first, second, and third place winners from each age group of each region may also display their nature looms at the OAGC 2016 Convention.

It may be hard to get the regional contest winners' projects to convention especially from the fall contest so pictures of the winning projects may be brought along with their information to convention for display. Junior gardeners will enjoy nature loom weaving and displaying their nature treasures. Encourage your junior gardener to participate in the OAGC 2015 Fall Regional Junior Gardener Contest.

Membership Department

Kim Long, Chair

Fall is in the air and along with fall comes the OAGC new membership year which runs October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Your club renewal forms have been sent out to the club treasurers and I am in the process of updating and processing them. Thank you for your prompt replies.

As we begin a new year of OAGC membership, don't forget to "CROW ABOUT OAGC." The new year can bring new members into our ranks as we continue to grow and crow! Tell your friends about the exciting speaker you have coming to your club or that special project your club is working on! This year could be the one where you invite men to come and join your meetings!

Our club recently had a call from a gentleman whose grandchild received a tree from our Earth Day given out to second graders at the local schools. That one little seedling sparked an interest in gardening and in our club! So, let's give them something to crow about: our outstanding organization that thrives to keep the interest in this great green earth and the impact it leaves on our lives!

Nature and Beautification Department

Mary Martin, Chair

Has your club entered the OAGC 2015 Beautification Contest? If so, that means that the application has been completed and sent to the regional Nature and Conservation chair, your project has been judged and the scorecard as well as the completed project book has been submitted to the state Nature and Conservation chair. Now it is time to wait for the announcement of the OAGC 2015 State Beautification Contest results. The winner(s) will be announced at the OAGC 2016 Convention.

The process for entering the Beautification contest is the same for both the Permanent or Temporary Planting projects. If you were not sure of the process, be sure to read pages 77-80 of the *OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs* and get organized for entering the contest this coming year!

Once ready, complete the Application and Scorecard Form and send or deliver it to the regional Nature and Conservation chair. The chair will then check to make sure it is complete, contact the

judging committee and arrange a date and time for the project to be judged. The bottom part of the Application and Scorecard will be completed by the judging committee and submitted to the state Nature and Conservation chair.

The entire Beautification Project should be documented in the project book. It is important to show how the project was chosen by the club, how the design and planting guide was developed, how many club members were involved in the project and what part they filled. Photographs, and or drawings, help show the development of the project. Any additional materials such as newspaper articles or other interesting items are great to include too. It all counts in the total score of the project.

Please consider entering the Beautification Contest. Your club will benefit as much as your community. It is very rewarding to work together on such a beneficial project. The feeling of accomplishment can be shared among members. The project may draw as much attention during the beginning, planting and growing of the project as it will when the project is finished. Of course the admiration of the finished project is welcome too! Please contact me (contact information on page 2) with any questions.

2015 Convention Stats

Hosting Regions: 1 and 2
 Total Registered 230 Regions Represented: 14
 Past Presidents: 11 Executive Officers: 7
 Counselors: 2 State Chairs: 8
 Regional Directors (current and elect): 22
 Juniors: 1
 Scholarship Recipients: 3

Bloomin' Bucks
 with Brent and Becky's Bulbs

Support OAGC when you shop on-line for your bulb needs at Brent and Becky's Bulbs. Go to

www.bloomingbucks.com

Select 'Ohio Association of Garden Clubs' from the pull-down menu. A portion of each non-sale dollar you spend will be given to OAGC.

Via the Grapevine

(Please send all submissions directly to the editor of *The Garden Path*)

Region 1

Fostoria GC: Oct. 14, "Making Homemade Soaps and Lotions"; Nov. 11, "Caring for Bees"; Dec. 2, trip to Bostdorff Greenhouse in Bowling Green; Dec. 9, luncheon and community Christmas project. Contact Ellen Stoudinger at fostoriagardenclub@gmail.com.

Region 2

Green Thumb GC: Oct. 19, "Construction of a Fairy Garden"; Nov. 16, preparation of the Christmas tree for the Delphos Museum's Christmas Tree Festival; Dec. 7, Christmas party. Contact Laura Roach at DROACH001@woh.rr.com.

Happy Hours GC: Oct. 1, "Birds" by Diane Dodds Knipp of the Audubon Society; Nov. 5, Christmas Tree Festival prep, members share how to make ornaments; Dec. 3, Christmas party, "Christmas Trees" by club members. Contact Alice Winter at sabrinam_45801@yahoo.com.

Region 3

Here and There GC: Oct. 6, 80th Anniversary Celebration. Contact Babs Sabick at bsabick@oagc.org.

Leaf and Blossom GC: Oct. 5, Make, Bake and Buy evening; Nov. 2, "Making Herbal Vinegar and Oils" by Betty Brazier and Joyce Frazier. Contact Joyce Frazier at 937-231-0656.

New Neighbors GC: Oct. 20, "All About Hellebores" by Michael Lakoff; Nov. 17, Holiday Wreath workshop by Kadie Crawford at Siebenthaler's Garden Center in Centerville; Dec. 8, Christmas luncheon. Contact Jeannine Phlipot at jephlipot@yahoo.com.

Region 4

Flores Amos GC: Oct. 19, tour of Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve with a naturalist; Nov. 16, making wreaths from natural materials at Nieman Nursery; Dec. 14, Christmas luncheon at Golden Lamb in Lebanon. Contact Midge King at 513-738-3353 or oldmidge@zoomtown.com.

OAGC Clubs from Regions 3 and 4 will be decorating Hueston Woods State Park Lodge for the holidays on Nov. 17 and 18. The Winter Wonderland display will be removed Jan. 7 and 8. Additional clubs who would like to participate in this community beautification project should contact their respective Regional Director (info page 2.)

Region 5

Alpha GC: Oct. 13, "All About Apples", Nov. 10, Wreath workshop; Dec. 8, Holiday dinner. Contact Ruth Bowell at rbowell@twc.com.

Blooming Betsys GC: Oct. 8, tour at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark in Dayton; Nov. 12, "Gourds from the Vine" DVD garden tour with the Indiana Gourd Society; Dec. 17, Holiday tour of Hayner Cultural Center in Troy. Contact Anita Brown at garrybrown3@aol.com or 937-339-0926.

Region 7

Town and Country GC: Oct. 2, "What's Eating My Tree?" by Chris Bowman; Nov. 5, "Winter and Wildlife" by Lori Totman; Dec. 4, Silent Auction benefitting the beautification of Knox Co. Contact Mona Nancy at mnancy@earthlink.com.

Region 8

Grow and Show GC: Oct. 28, Installation of Officers, presentation of "Garden Hose Rugs", plan for December flower show; Dec. 2, "Greens Workshop" with Sue Cowden, "Garden Hose Rug Workshop." Contact Jocelyne Davis at josd99@gmail.com.

Newark GC: Oct. 8, Installation of Officers by past president Carol Svatora, "Gardening for Pollinators" with Denise Ellsworth of OSU Dept. of Entomology; Nov. 13, "Phytomedicines and their Uses" with Brasseur's Botanicals; Dec. 11, "A Gardener's Christmas Reading." Contact Margie Graft at mgraft@roadrunner.com.

Town and Country GC: Oct. 15, wiener roast and Fun-Fun Auction, other clubs invited; Nov. 12, "Making Fall Arrangements" with Ed Kiefer; Dec. 10, annual Christmas party, toy drive. Contact Sandy McCullough at sandymullett@gmail.com.

Region 9

Basil GC: Oct. 19, Evergreen Centerpiece workshop; Nov. 16, Guest Night with "Holiday Designs" by Jeff Bazell of Flowers of the Good Earth; Dec. 14, Christmas dinner party at Cheers and Lakeside Chalet in Lancaster. Contact Trudy Keck at 740-862-8206.

Region 10

Minford, Slocum and Willow GC present a Christmas Flower Show, Dec. 3, Glendale Community Center in Clarktown. Open house is 1-3 pm. Contact Jean Moore at 740-820-3615.

Minford GC: Oct. 8, "Bumblebees and Pollinators" by Rebecca Dodson; Nov. 9-10, decorate Shawnee State Park Lodge; Nov. 12, "Small Designs - Designers' Choice" by Irmalee Gamp; Dec. 3, Christmas flower show; Dec. 6, Shawnee State Park Lodge Open House; Dec. 10, pot luck Christmas dinner with recipes. Contact Irmalee Gamp at igamp@outlook.com.

Slocum GC: Oct. 9, viewing and purchasing herbs at the Wheat Ridge Herb and Farm Festival, Adams Co.; Oct. 10, Adult Daily Living, Best Care, Wheelersburg's Annual Fall Festival fundraiser; Oct. 15, Co-hosting Region 10, OAGC fall regional meeting in Portsmouth; Nov. 9-10, holiday decorating of Shawnee State Park Lodge; Nov. 12, celebrate the club's 64th anniversary; Dec. 3, co-host with Willow and Minford Garden Clubs, Christmas Flower Show, Glendale Community Center, Clarktown; Dec. 6, Shawnee State Park Lodge's Christmas Open House; Dec. 10, annual Christmas party. Garden Therapy sessions at Adult Daily Living, Best Care, Wheelersburg on Oct. 13, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. Contact Teresa Book at 740-776-3267.

Region 12

Flushing GC: Oct. 19, "Science Behind the Changing Leaves" by Kathy Gibeaut; Nov.



Be sure to subscribe to the Wahkeena Nature Preserve's Blog page:
<http://wahkeena-preserve.blogspot.com>

16, movie on "Container Gardening" by Barb Cencula, cookie exchange; Nov. 30, Christmas swag workshop; club will decorate the Barnesville Museum for the holidays; Dec. 14, Christmas Party/cookie exchange/gift exchange. Contact Barb Cencula at barbarajcencula@frontier.com.

Mt. Pleasant GC: Oct. 5, "OAGC Rules and Regulations" by Ruth Lewis and installation of officers; Nov. 2, "Garlic" by Kathy Vaughn. Contact Ruth Lewis at wrplewis@comcast.net.

Region 16

Gardening 101 Juniors: Oct. 24, Gourd Painting. Contact Linda Morgan at lmorgan@oagc.org.

Wilmington GC: Oct. 12, "Secret Benefits of Living Plants"; Oct. 21, "Card Party and Game Night" money maker; Nov. 9, "Flowers in Every Room" speaker OAGC Judge and Past Pres. Mary Lee Minor; Dec. 9, tour of the Glendower Home in Lebanon; Dec. 14, Christmas luncheon and flower show with theme "The Twelve Days of Christmas" at the General Denver Hotel in Wilmington. Contact Beverly Sanders at 937-382-8188.

Ohio State Fair Flower Show highlights designers' talents

The 2015 Ohio State Fair (OSF) Flower Show Amateur Floral Arts competition is three separate shows held during the fair's July 29-August 9, 2015 run.

OAGC's Ohio State Fair liaison and OSF Ag/Hort Director Jim Chakeres is a huge support in the production of the show. Sporting his own green thumb, he exhibits in the horticulture classes and often wins big in the Backyard Best classes!

The following designers supported the 2015 show: Sandi Adams, Jane Adkins, Susan Clime, Vicki Ferguson, June Gebhardt, Stephanie Gerken, Mary Lee Minor, Marlene Purdy, Geri Rea, Abbie Riley, Christine Rinehart, Babs Sabick, Barb Sheets and Juanita Wilkins. In addition to supporting the design competition, OAGC designers also supply educational designs for the Niches.

Congratulations to Barb Sheets for compiling the most points and receiving the "Dottie Bates Ohio State Fair Master Floral Designer" Award.



1st Best of Show in 3rd Ohio State Fair Show. An Illuminary design by Juanita Wilkins

Growing African Violets That Win

by Pat Hancock, African Violet Judge and Hybridizer of the Buckeye series of African Violets

Growing an African Violet for show takes time. It begins eight to twelve months before the show date and requires grooming the plant at least once each month and repotting every three or four months. Leaves grow from the crown of the plant in sets of three. As the plant matures, each set of leaves becomes larger and larger. It is imperative that, as the leaves become larger, the smaller underlying leaves be removed. Do not wait until the month before the show to do this. Smaller leaves must be removed each month or at the most, every six weeks. All bloom stems, even the tiniest ones should be removed completely each time you groom the plant.

Foliage should be kept as clean as possible and any water spots, soil, etc. should be cleaned off at once. Any suckers or side shoots should be removed as soon as they appear as they will distort the shape of the plant if allowed to remain even for a short period.



'Buckeye Love's Caress'
grown by Belinda Thibideaux

Wick watering is the most common method of watering plants grown for show. Do not wick with a cotton fiber yarn/string as it will deteriorate with age. With wick watering, plants are constantly fed and there is a lesser chance of getting a row of leaves that is out of

proportion to the rest of the leaves. Use a diluted even-number fertilizer (for example 20/20/20) during the growing period in the water reservoir.

Top watering is fine as long as a plant does not dry to the point where the foliage falls down around the pot. It is very hard to get foliage to lay flat after it has been allowed to droop.

African Violets should be shown as a single plant. This does not apply to trailing varieties and species plants that are to be grown as in the wild. Plants with a sucker (four leaves and no bud showing) should be eliminated from consideration in judging, so it is very important to remove suckers completely as soon as they are seen.

Monthly grooming is an absolute must if you want a perfect plant. Each month or so (depending on your temperature and fertilizer) you will need to remove the three outer leaves from the plant. They will be in a triangle and they will be the three that are lowest on the stem of the plant.

All blossoms should be removed (disbudded) so that the strength of the plant goes toward growing leaves. This continues until about two months before the flower show. Stop disbudding varieties with double blooms at about eight weeks prior, semi-double varieties at seven weeks and singles at six weeks.

Several days prior to the show give the foliage a good bath using warm water with a few drops of dish soap. Distilled water is best, but not necessary. Rinse well and let dry well before putting back under lights. If there are any spots on leaves that didn't come off with this, you may try the vinegar and water to see if they will come off. Always rinse well.

Check the plant very carefully to be sure there are no suckers, stubs from bloom stems or leaves, or any small leaves. If there are small leaves, check to see if removing them would leave a gap or space.

Boxes can help transporting plants to the flower show but be sure they are big enough that the plants do not touch the sides. Pack plants with something that will not shed on them. Crushed paper is NOT a good thing. I like to cushion the plants with store plastic bags rolled together in a ring for the plant to sit in and then fill in around the box with more plastic bags so the plant cannot move in transit. Some people cut a hole in a smaller box for the plant and then wedge that box into the larger box so that the plant can't move. After all of this, you should be entering a plant that you can be very proud of. Perhaps it will be a Best of Show winner!

Reprinted and condensed (with permission) from 'The Violet Connection', Vol. 59, issue 3, June 2011, Mel Grice, editor



'Lollipop Kid' grown by
Debbie McInnis

Presidential Preaching: Eating for Good Health

by OAGC President Peggy Case

Years ago, no one thought it made much difference to your health what you ate. A few people declared themselves to be vegans and were considered a little different. Well, today, all the talk is about eating your way to good health.

Most people know I am a stickler for eating more veggies and fruits. I was a farm wife with steaks and hamburger in the freezer from our own animals, but I was also a victim of an over-planting gardening father-in-law. He would plant long lines of green beans, cabbage, tomatoes, peas, squash and other garden goodies. He then expected me to can all that up or freeze it. I was expected to can 100 quarts of peaches, freeze seven or eight bushels of sweet corn cut off the cob and find freezer space for lots more, plus cherries, berries, plums and pears. Since we had an apple cooler on the farm, there was also a walk in freezer, so I NEVER ran out of freezer space. Today, I wonder if all those fresh veggies and fruits have helped me stay off medicine and remain pretty active.

I write a lot of articles for different papers, mostly along the garden line, but sometimes my articles feature ways to eat better and stay healthy. I will share some of my teaching with you: Eat more fruits and veggies. Drink more water. Eliminate empty calories: candy, baked goods from the store, sweet beverages and junk food.

Avoid fast foods. A person told me in an experiment with fast food, when stuff was left to sit for several days, it did not rot. Does that mean fast foods have so many preservatives in them that they do not decay? Eat whole grains, nuts, lean meat, fish (canned wild salmon is best) and poultry. Eat low-fat dairy products. Reduce portion sizes. Avoid eating second helpings.

Add to this, one more tip: Keep moving. Nothing on television is worth watching, at least for me. I like to be outside; I like to be playing in the garden; I like to be going places and seeing friends. I keep moving. Actually, I am trying to keep an apple orchard going with help from friends and I don't have time to watch TV or sit around, but I like it that way.

In Memoriam

Region 9

Hazel Forbis, 91,
5/17/2015, Groveport
Garden Club

Region 10

Ada Daniels, 5/22/2015,
Rock Hill Gardeners

Region 12

Shirley Steffl, 12/2014, Mt.
Pleasant Garden Club

Region 14

Anna Ross, 7/2015, Weed
A Way Garden Club

Region 16

Mary Morgan, 7/22/15,
Fayette Garden Club
Louise Sprinkle, 93,
6/21/2015, Hillsboro
Garden Club

Have you ever wondered just who makes up the OAGC Foundation Board of Trustees?

The current Trustees are listed below.

All Regional Directors are also voting members of the OAGC Foundation.

Marlene Purdy, Chair of the Board	mpurdy@oagc.org	260-492-2653	Region 1
Babs Sabick, President/Development Director	bsabick@oagc.org	937-429-0987	Region 16
Vicki Ferguson, Secretary	vferguson@oagc.org	937-885-6163	Region 3
June Gebhardt, Treasurer	jgebhardt@oagc.org	419-569-7177	Region 7
Peggy Case	pcase@oagc.org	419-929-6117	Region 6
Judy Christman	jchristman@oagc.org	513-722-2844	Region 4
Diane Daniels	ddaniels@oagc.org	740-397-4505	Region 7
Suzy Parker	sparker@oagc.org	740-992-5555	Region 11
Geri Rea	grea@oagc.org	419-709-8184	Region 7
Susy Spence	sspence@oagc.org	513-772-2936	Region 4
Charlene Thornhill	cthornhill@oagc.org	937-548-3417	Region 3
Linda Young	lyoung@oagc.org	419-264-6406	Region 1



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Follow us on Pinterest: www.pinterest.com

“Ohio Association of Garden Clubs”

Over 80 boards of floral designs and gardening information

OAGC Foundation Notes

Donations are being accepted in the Scholarship Fund in memory of our past state president Dottie Bates. Currently, that fund balance is \$2146.57. The goal is to reach \$2500 so that a special scholarship can be named in her memory. As always, please direct all OAGC Foundation donations to the OAGC Foundation treasurer (contact details can be found on page 2.)



As the school year begins, this is a good time to promote the OAGC Foundation Scholarships. The Foundation annually grants at least four \$1000 scholarships: one for an incoming freshman, one for a student already enrolled in college, one for a student attending The Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute (named in honor of Dr. Gary Anderson), and one named in honor of OAGC past-president Doris Shuster. The last several years, due to donations and investment revenue, extra scholarships were awarded. The deadline for scholarship applications is March 15. The application cover letter and form are available from your Regional Director and may be found at www.oagc.org. Just click on the Foundation tab. Contributing to the OAGC Foundation is easy - a donation envelope is included in this issue. Donations \$25 or more are tax deductible.

Fall Foliage Walk

This year's OAGC Foundation fund raising activity will not be a Hike For Health but a Fall Foliage Walk. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources boasts an extensive system of nature preserves throughout the state. We are asking you to visit one in your region (visit www.ohiodnr.gov for a list of nature preserves) and enjoy the autumn leaves. The dates for this activity are either Saturdays October 10 or 17, giving you the flexibility to fit your schedule.

As in the past, we are asking you to solicit pledges from friends, family, garden club members or garden club. The proceeds will help to replenish the OAGC Foundation's Nature and Conservation Fund.

The OAGC Foundation is grateful for the following donations

(June 1, 2015 to July 31, 2015):

Wahkeena Nature Preserve

Waverly GC, Harlem Township GC (*in memory of Dottie Bates*), Region 16 (*Bird Seed Fund in memory of Louise Sprinkle*), Hillsboro GC (*Bird Seed Fund in memory of Dan Cowdrey*)

Mohican School in the Out of Doors

Region 14 (*in memory of Dottie Bates*), Waverly GC Basil GC (*Sarah's Fund*)

Scholarship Fund

Waverly GC

Nature and Conservation Fund

Region 16

General Fund

Four Seasons GC (*fall foliage walk*), Harlem Township GC (*in memory of Dottie Bates*)

Dottie Bates Scholarship Fund

Jo Ann Graham (*in memory of Dottie Bates*), Linda Johnson (*in memory of Dottie Bates*), Doris Hager (*in memory of Dottie Bates*)

Save a tree! Get *The Garden Path* electronically

Do you get multiple copies of *The Garden Path*? Would you prefer to get the latest issue electronically and in color? To opt-out of the printed, snail-mailed version of *The Garden Path*, please email your request (include your garden club name and region) to the State Membership Chair, KLong@oagc.org.

Monarch Butterflies: Jewels of the Sky

As with all butterflies, the Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) is one of North America's iconic insects. Sadly, Monarchs have declined alarmingly in recent years. The wintering population in Mexico was at its lowest recorded level in winter 2013-2014. Experts estimate that the eastern population of Monarchs has diminished by 90% over the past twenty years!

Butterflies go through a complete metamorphosis, that of starting as an egg, hatching out to a caterpillar (the larvae), morphing into a chrysalis (the pupae) and emerging as an adult. But did you know that the Monarch found in Ohio in September and October might be the most important link to the Monarch migration to the southern wintering grounds in Mexico?

A North American Monarch migration typically undergoes 4 generations so let's start at the beginning. In February and March, the final generation of hibernating monarch butterflies comes out of hibernation at the wintering grounds to find a mate. They then migrate north and east in order to find a place to lay their eggs. This starts stage one and generation one of the new year for the Monarch butterfly.

In March and April the eggs are laid on milkweed plants. They hatch into baby caterpillars, also called the larvae. It takes about four days for the eggs to hatch. After about two weeks, the caterpillar will be fully-grown and find a place to attach itself so that it can start the process of metamorphosis. It will attach itself to a stem or a leaf using silk and transform into a chrysalis. Although, from the outside, the 10 days of the chrysalis phase seems to be a time when nothing is happening, it is really a time of rapid change. The Monarch butterfly will emerge from the pupa and fly away, feeding on flowers and just enjoying the short life it has left, which is only about two to six weeks. This first generation monarch butterfly will then die after laying eggs for generation number two.

The second generation of Monarch butterflies is born in May and June, and then the third generation will be born in July and August. These Monarch



Monarch egg with newly hatched larvae



Monarch larvae



Larvae preparing to form chrysalis



Chrysalis



Adult Monarch Butterfly

butterflies will go through exactly the same four stage life cycle as the first generation did, dying two to six weeks after it becomes a beautiful Monarch butterfly.

The fourth generation of Monarch butterflies is a little bit different than the first three generations. The fourth generation is born in September and October and goes through exactly the same process as the first, second and third generations except for one part. The fourth generation of Monarch butterflies does not die after two to six weeks. Instead, this generation of Monarch butterflies migrates to warmer climates like Mexico and California and will live for six to eight months until it is time to start the whole process over again. Many of the Monarch butterflies you see right now in your yard are the ones who will be heading south for the winter.

Scientists cite several causes for population decline: loss of habitat in their wintering grounds; increases in untimely weather conditions; and a precipitous decline in the larvae's plant source: milkweed. Monarch Watch estimates that 2.2 million acres of potential milkweed habitat is lost in the United States each year much of it due to the widespread use of herbicides.

What can you do? Plant milkweed!

There are at least five species that would be a great start for a Monarch caterpillar nursery: Butterfly-Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), Purple Milkweed (*Asclepias purpurascens*), Sullivant's Milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*) and Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*). All are fairly easy to grow and available in the native plant trade. Be sure to be watching next spring for milkweeds to plant in your garden and get your Monarch nursery growing!

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife has produced a fabulous publication "Milkweeds & Monarch" and it is available as a FREE download at [http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/portals/wildlife/pdfs/publications/id%20guides/Milkweed s&Monarchs.pdf](http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/portals/wildlife/pdfs/publications/id%20guides/Milkweed%20s&Monarchs.pdf).

Photo credit: All photos used with permission by Roger Garber.

Increase your club’s membership

The following is an idea for helping clubs increase membership. A pamphlet, flyer or newspaper submission could include any or all of the following information. Be sure to include a local contact.

The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs

Invites you to join a garden club!



Do you like Horticulture?

Houseplants ~ Landscape Design
Indoor Gardening ~ Organic Gardening

Are you Creative?

Floral Designs ~ Landscapes
Seasonal Displays ~ Garden Therapy

Are you interested in the Environment?

Energy Conservation ~ Recycling
Pollution & Litter Control ~ Habitat Protection

Do You Want to Share?

Gardening Tips ~ Leadership Skills
Knowledge with Youth ~ Public Beautification

All this and more, including fun and fellowship, are a part of what garden clubs are all about.

Find out more about
The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
at www.OAGC.org
Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Pinterest

Local Contact:

**OAGC President’s Bus Trip
Registration Form
2016 Philadelphia Flower Show
March 11-13, 2016**

Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia
Registration Deadline: November 1, 2015
Please complete a form for each person.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Garden Club: _____

Club Code: _____ Region: _____

Registration includes bus costs, driver costs, show tickets, two nights at Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 2 continental breakfasts, 2 dinners (Miller’s Smorgasbord and Plain and Fancy, plus all tips.

Circle one:

- Single Occupancy: \$449 per person
- Double Occupancy: \$329 per person
- Triple Occupancy: \$299 per person
- Quad Occupancy: \$279 per person

Roommate name/names: _____

Please list names of all sharing a room and send ALL registration forms and payments together.

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: OAGC

Mail registration and payment to:

Judy Christman, OAGC Treasurer
1963 Ethel Lynn Lane, Goshen, OH 45122-9207
Email: jchristman@oagc.org
Phone: 513-722-2844

**Bus pick-up 8:00 am, March 11, 2016,
in Cambridge, Ohio at the
Holiday Inn Express
2035 Southgate Parkway
Cambridge, OH 43725
Phone: 740-421-4988**

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2015 FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

Consider visiting a neighboring regional meeting. Just contact the appropriate Regional Director. Contact info on Page 2.

Reg. 1	Nov. 5	St. Mark's Luth. Church	Bowling Green	AM: "Planting for Wildlife" and "Squirrels" by Craig Spicer PM: Workshops: Hand Cleaner, Pine Cone and teasel decorations
Reg. 2	Oct. 27	Pandora Missionary Church	Pandora	AM: Business meeting and awards PM: "Preserving the Harvest" by Jenny Davis
Reg. 3	Oct. 26	Celebrations II Banq. Center	Dayton	AM: "Master Gardeners" by Suzanne Mills-Wasniak PM: Floral design program by Mary Lee Minor
Reg. 4	Oct. 23	Receptions	Loveland	AM: "Native Plants" by Linda Romaine, Naturalist at Harsha Lake PM: "Fall Florals" by Dale Kabbes of Dale's Designs and Florals
Reg. 5	Oct. 22	Rushsylvania Ch/Christ	Rushsylvania	AM: "Edibles for the Sustainable Landscape" by Sue Trusty PM: Regional Photo Contest Awards
Reg. 6	Nov. 7	Norwalk 1 st Presb. Church	Norwalk	AM: Flower Show/Business, "Designing with Succulents" by Mary Strayer PM: "Succulents" by Bruce Brethauer
Reg. 7	Oct. 28	Floral Center	Apple Valley	AM: "Creating Wreaths and Swags" by Possum Run Greenhouse PM: "Making Corn Husk Dolls" by Mary Lee Minor
Reg. 8	Oct. 21	Deerasic Park	Cambridge	AM: "If You Plant It, They Will Come: Butterfly Gardens" by Daniel Caron PM: Flower Show: "It's a Small, Small World"
Reg. 9	Nov. 4	Reynoldsburg UM Ch.	Reynoldsburg	AM: "The Moo Factor" by Dr. Dennis Schone, Chiropractor PM: "Designs to Color Your Frame of Mind" by Mary Lee Minor
Reg. 10	Oct. 15	Friend's Center	Portsmouth	AM: "Color in Horticulture" by George Essman PM: "Fall Into Color" design program by Myrna Cordray
Reg. 11	Oct. 24	University of Rio Grande	Rio Grande	AM: "Birds of Prey" by Nick Mills PM: Christmas/Holiday designs by Faye Collins-McGinnis
Reg. 12	Oct. 17	Hilltop Social Hall	Colerain	AM: "Daylilies - Care and Propagation" PM: "Floral Art with Recyclables" by Mary Lee Minor
Reg. 14	Nov. 11	Memories Conf. Ctr.	Wooster	AM: "Mysterious Monarchs" by Carrie Elvey PM: Floral Design Study with Mary Lee Minor
Reg. 16	Oct. 8	Fayette Co. Fairgrnd.	Washington C.H.	AM: "Growing Gourds, Pumpkins and Squash" by Mark Bentley PM: "Gourds" by Carrie Rodgers