Garden GREETINGS

Official Publication of the Garden Club of Ohio

CELEBRATING A GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMORIAL

Fall 2022

Garden GREETINGS

Official Publication of the Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
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On the front cover: Dedication of a Gold Star Family Memorial, Fowler Township. Photo by Joann Predina.

On back cover: A Botanical Arts sample exhibit from the June OJC Symposium. Photo by Debra Turner.

Deadlines

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Are You Moving? Has Your Address Changed?

Prompt notification of any change of address will ensure your receipt of *Garden Greetings*. Undeliverable copies will not be returned by the USPS. Please help us serve you better by keeping your address up to date. Send both old and new address to GCO Executive Secretary Marilee Zarbock at: mmz722@roadrunner.com.

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT MARLENE HATTON

"Time for a Cool Change – Reducing Plastic Waste"

Dear Friends,

Wasn't it a glorious Spring and Summer? Mother Nature gave us beautiful flowering trees, shrubs and bulbs and boy did we need it!

If you missed the Annual Convention, you missed a real treat. Did you win any awards? Be sure to apply for one or more for this year. Next April you can "Catch the Wave" in Perrysburg. Mansfield and Toledo Districts have a good time planned for us and maybe you'll take home an armful of awards (and cash) too.

I continue to be impressed with the efforts being made to reduce plastic waste. Bottle caps are being collected all over the state and given to the clubs that are having them recycled into benches for public areas. Pictured her are just a few from just the southern districts.

YOU GO GIRLS!

Our schools are each running this year…full details are on the website (gardenclubofohio.org).

This Fall we will be seeking nominations for positions on the Board of Directors. Please let your District Director know if you or someone you know is interested in a position on the Board. I'd ask you to be generous with your time and talents and, if asked, accept a position. Kathy Wagner has wonderful plans for the next two years…don't miss out – be a part of it. You won't be sorry you did.

For now, enjoy your garden, try some new recipes, sit and read a book, take in a flower show and "Play Outdoors."

Marlene

THE 2021 BUCKINGHAM AWARD

BARBARA SCHUH

The Mildred Heter Buckingham Award "for outstanding service by an individual to the Garden Club of Ohio, Inc." was first given in 1952 in memory of Mrs. Buckingham, a GCO 1st Vice President from the Akron District. The award is given annually and the recipient is elected by a secret ballot of the GCO Board of Directors. The 2022 recipient is Barbara Schuh and the following is from the award ceremony conducted during the April GCO Convention.

"Our 2022 Buckingham Award recipient is someone who has shown consistent leadership qualities over many years. She has always been ready and willing to take on roles requiring a great deal of creativity, organizational skill, and dedication to the principles of GCO. Some of our recipient's areas of GCO leadership have included: current and past Flower Show Awards' Chair (for many consecutive years); 2022 GCO Chair of the 54th Judges' Council Symposium; Past Ohio Judges' Council President (2019-2020), Past Cleveland District Co-Director (2019-2020); and two-time GCO Convention Flower Show Chair.

Our recipient is a sought-after flower show judge. She is always available to any club putting on a flower show to answer questions and to guide. Our recipient has been selected as the featured designer at spring, fall and holiday GCO District Meetings, sometimes in conjunction with Cleveland Flower Arrangers or with another designer. She was the solo featured designer at the Central Atlantic Region of Flower Shows at the Annual Conference a few years ago.

Our recipient has been an active member of the Gates Mills Garden Club since 1999. She has chaired many Standard Flower Shows and one Petite Design Specialty Flower Show. Many state and national awards were given to the Gates Mills Garden Club for these Flower Shows.

Our recipient started a Senior Outreach Committee in 2017 and she has worked multiple times with club members to create small floral designs for Meals on Wheels' trays.

Last Christmas, her committee worked with the Geauga Senior Center to give over 100 stockings, stuffed with cleaning and personal items, to people who could not easily leave their homes.

She created educational brochures and award-winning educational cards for youth events and she wrote informational brochures for new garden club members. For many years, she spear-headed completing and submitting GCO and NGC Awards briefs. Our recipient has always been a positive participant in other committees and events, and she serves on the Board of the Gates Mills Garden Club.

Our recipient is an extremely talented and innovative floral designer. She has won countless ribbons, especially in the "creative" venue. She has had many photos of floral designs selected for publication in the NGC's Vision of Beauty calendar. In fact, she won the calendar's 'Flower Arranger of the Year' award in both 2013 and 2017. She is a member of the Women's Guild of the Cleveland Museum of Art and, on a quarterly basis, she creates floral designs that are placed at the main visitors' entrance.

Our recipient worked as a computer programmer at General Electric where she met her husband, Gerry. After her tenure at G.E., she was an independent food stylist working with organizations such as McDonald's and local high-end restaurants.

Her other areas of interest include: volunteering at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, walking outside, traveling, gourmet cooking, and spending much time with friends and family. "

Margaret Duff

Congratulations Barbara Schuh!

Designs are from Barb's Flower Arranger of the Year Awards, Vision of Beauty.

2013: The Blue Plate Special Exhibition Table (Left)
2017: Art Deco Retro (Above)

FOWLER TOWNSHIP GOLD STAR DEDICATION

Joann Predina,
Cleveland Co-District Director

On July 3rd, 2022, the Cleveland District of the Garden Club of Ohio (GCO) sponsored and dedicated a Gold Star Families Memorial Marker with Fowler Township on the Fowler Green in Trumbull County. They have lost eighteen community members killed in action (KIA) since the War of 1812. The most recent loss was Army Sargent Robert Carr in Iraq in 2007. Rob's mother Cathy spearheaded this Gold Star program, and his sister read the names of the eighteen KIA.

This small farming community has no local GCO club. Members of the Aquilegia Garden Club and Four Seasons Garden Club were in attendance for support. Aquilegia donated a beautiful permanent wooden wreath and home-made maple bakeries. After the ceremony Aquilegia also donated a fitted white cover for the memorial marker to the Cleveland District that can be used before unveiling for future installations.

About 70 people were in attendance. Cleveland Co-District, Director Joann Predina and GCO President Marlene Hatton, were speakers. The Patriot Guard Riders stood guard and presented Gold Star father, Jeff Carr, plaques in memory of his son. Also in attendance were many family and community members, several Gold and Blue Star families, Fowler Township Trustees, Fowler Township and Warren Police Departments, Trumbull County sheriffs and the Ohio Highway Patrol.

President Marlene Hatton spoke to the history of the Gold Star Family memorial marker program as a tribute to families whose loved ones paid the ultimate sacrifice defending the United States. The code for Gold Star families is honor, hope and healing. There are 3,200 memorial markers across the nation; the Fowler Township marker is the 82nd one in Ohio.

In her remarks Cathy Carr declared that the families know first hand about the ultimate sacrifices of the brave men and women serving our nation. "We can speak of the devastation it has on the families. It says it takes a village to raise a child. We know it takes a community to bury one."

THE 2022 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

by Debra Turner

Sylvia Meiring from our Toledo District will be the Holiday Shows designer in November, 2022.

She plans a show titled "Up-Purposed Holidays." The show honors Garden Club of Ohio's President Marleen Hatton's theme of "Time for A Cool Change," which encourages us to avoid plastics and to reuse and recycle whenever possible.

Sylvia says she'll design with "things you couldn't bear to throw away" from holidays and winters past. Ice skates may be used. Look for glass blocks and lots of lights. You can expect to see nuts, tree cones and birch branches. Sylvia says she may create a kissing ball.

Sylvia fell in love with flowers early in her life: first when her mother painted a mural of tulips on Sylvia's bedroom wall, then when she played in her grandfather's greenhouses. That grandfather was a small commercial grower who often sold at farmer's markets, Sylvia says. She worked during high school in greenhouses, studied art and received a degree in Landscape and Turf from Owen's Community College. She is a Master Gardener.

Around 2009, Sylvia joined the River Road Garden Club. It has earned GCO's Garden Club of the Year award for the last two years. Sylvia is now an Accredited Flower Show Judge and has been the Flower Show Chairman at the Toledo Botanical Gardens for the last three shows. She often writes flower show schedules.

She's passing on her love of flowers, partly through her work with Toledo's Junior Garden Club. This year, three of her grandchildren are likely to be in the Junior Club. Her grandson, Ozzie, started showing designs at the age of 5!

The South Holiday Show will be held November 9 and the North Holiday Show will be held November 10, 2022. Mark your calendar NOW!!

The 54th Ohio Judges Council Symposium

Margaret Dewolf, Design

The 54th Ohio Judges Council Symposium was held June 14-15, 2022, in Independence, Ohio. The instructor was Lynn Fronk who covered quite a list of topics. Here's a summary of two of her design types and information on one of the hortiultural topics, *Rosa.*

Parallel Design

Parallel designs consist of three or more groupings of plant material and optional components with a strong parallel placement, in a single container and/or base. Multiple containers or bases can be used if combined to appear as one unit. Parallel directions can be vertical, horizontal or diagonal within the allotted space. The overall effect must appear parallel. Groupings need not be equidistant from each other, and a connective/s may be used at the base of the design.

Here is Lynn's parallel design. Her plant material was *Liatris spicata* 'Prairie Feathers'.

Spatial Thrust Design

A spatial thrust design is a creative design consisting of two parallel placements of similar components. The emphasis is on the two thrusting lines and the space between them. Plant material and/or other optional components may be added to only the outer edges of the thrusting lines. The thrust may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal. If the emergene of the thrusting lines occurs on different planes, vacant space is not required until both lines appear on the same plane.

Here are several of Lynn's spatial thrust designs. Her plant material included: *Rosa* (pink), *Anthurium* (red), *Aspidistra elatior* leaves, *Equisetum aravense* (horsetail reed), and river cane (bamboo).

Debbie Schuckert, Horticulture

Here are the highlights of Lynn's presentation on *Rosa*. Rose is a member of the Rosaceae family and there are 35 categories. This flower has a wide range of size, color, shape and bloom. Old Garden Roses are roses existing prior to 1867 and known for their fragrance. They bloom one time in a year. Some other categories are: Alba, Centifolia, Damask, Noisette and Portland.

Modern roses are the most common type of rose. Examples include Micro-Minis, miniature, Mini-flora, Floribunda, Grandiflora, Hybrid Teas, Climbers and shrubs.

Exhibiting Roses

Roses can be grouped by variety, growth habit, color and size. If by color list as red and red blends, pink and pink blends, etc. Roses can be exhibited as cut flowering, container grown, collections/displays and in a combination planter.

Conditioning Your Roses

When conditioning your roses, the best time to cut any horticulture is early in the morning or late afternoon. Cut the stem as long as possible and place in warm water. Cut stem again under water and place rose in fresh water. If bloom is already opening put it in cold water to delay further opening. You can also place in refrigerator wrapping the bloom in a plastic bag. Foliage: there should be a minimum of two sets of five leaflets that are well placed and spaced. Leaves frame the bloom.

Judging Your Roses at a Flower Show- 100 points

Conformance/Plant Identification (10 Points). Schedule requirement for plant type and how it is exhibited. Full binomial name listed

Peak of Perfection (75 points total)

Form (20 points) overall shape of specimen including bloom, petals and stem

Color (20 points) visual perception of hues, shades, tints. Color should be crisp & clean, stems green

Maturity/size (20 points) is indicated by full, lush flower head fully opened/size of entire spray or individual florets.

Condition/Blemishes (15 points): Physical appearance of specimen when judged (looks hydrated, turgid, clean, no visible damage)

Grooming (10 points) (exhibitor's actions for improvement of specimen). Outside petals can be removed if damaged and leaves are not allowed beneath water line. Prickles should be left on.

Staging (5 points) Rose should be placed in a clear/transparent container and in proportion to the specimen. Rose should be centered and well posed and wedged if allowed in schedule.

Vocabulary tips: Stems are referred to as cane(s); thorns on a rose are called prickles.

Warmest gratitutude sent to Lynn for sharing her expertise during this Symposium. Thank you for her creativity, support and friendship to all through the years!

GCO BOARD REPORTS

GCO Scholarship Fund Donations

Shirley Basista, Scholarship Contributions

The GCO Scholarship Fund is still open for business, but the number of clubs participating is dwindling! The last three months have seen the smallest number of clubs participating.
The total amount contributed was $495.00 for the General Fund, Memorials and Honoraria.

Your contributions are always welcome and appreciated. Just remember we are a **TEAM --Together Everyone Achieves More**

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

Canton District

Herb Society at the Hoover Historical Center****

St. Michael Garden Club**

$25-49*
$50-99 **
$100-149 ***
$150-249 ****
$250-500*****

MEMORIAL DONATIONS:

Nancy Hearn
Madison Garden Club

Cheryl Barich
Lyndhurst Garden Club

Nila Rintatalo
Madison Garden Club

Gary Smith
Aggie Goss
Barbara Okleson
Shirley Basista

Chuck Kiehl
Ridgewood Garden Club

Joy Myers
Aggie Goss
Barbara Okleson
Shirley Basista

Virginia Sherman
Lake Shore Garden Club
Marilee Zarbock

Charles Tice
Lake Shore Garden Club
Marilee Zarbock

Gloria Mraz
Ridgewood Garden Club

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PERMANENT FUND FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Jane Bodner, Life Membership

Welcome to our newest life members:

River Road Garden Club:
Marjorie Fisher
Carolyn Naples Gintert

The Town and Country Gardeners of Alliance
Judy Michaud
Eloise Bradford

Remember that membership fees and donations go into the Permanent Fund for Scholarships. The principal is never touched, only the interest is used for scholarships. Please consider honoring a fellow club member through the Life Membership Scholarship Program. You can recognize an individual for service to your club, make a memorial donation, or as an individual become a life member. As the fund grows, so does the amount of the scholarship. It is truly the gift that keeps on giving.

2022-2023 GCO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Aggie Goss, Scholarships Chairman

Each year, Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. awards several thousand dollars in scholarships to college students, who are studying in the fields of horticulture or environmental studies. Students must be Ohio residents, but may attend college outside of the state. They must have a GPA of 3.25 or higher and must be majoring in one of the following fields of study:

Agronomy
Agriculture Education
Floriculture
Horticulture
Landscape Design
Botany, Biology
Forestry
Wildlife Science
Plant Pathology/Science
City Planning (Rural or Urban)
Habitat or Forest Ecology
Environmental Concerns
Environmental Conservation (including engineering)
Land Management

Last year, GCO awarded $50,000 in scholarships to five outstanding students. Three of the recipients were friends or family of GCO members. If you know a friend or family member who might qualify, please encourage them to check the GCO website (www.gardenclubofohio.org) or the National Garden Club website (www.gardenclub.org) for all the forms and information.

Applications must be sent to me by **February 1, 2023.**

Aggie Goss, GCO Scholarships Chairman
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The Nature Conservancy

Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy of Ohio
Kathy Wagner, Chairman
Campaign 2022-2023

Our new campaign began July 1, 2022, and ends June 30, 2023. Please make sure your checks are payable to Garden Club of Ohio. Through your generous contributions you have helped the many conservation challenges in our state. Thank you for your continued support to The Nature Conservancy in Ohio.

Campaign 2021-2022, Fourth Quarter Donations

Lake Shore Garden Club
St. Michael's Garden Club
Herb Society at the Hoover Historical Center
Western Hills Garden Club
Town & Country Garden Club-Norwalk.

CAR- SGC Conference 2022

November 2-3, 2022
Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Somerset County, PA
Join us in the beautiful Laurel Highlands in Autumn!

Theme: 7 Super Blooms That Changed Our World

Optional Tours: Fallingwater - Frank Lloyd Wright Home
National Park Service Memorial to Flight 93

Dinner Speaker:"Roses and Tulips and Sunflowers--
Oh My!?!", GCFP NGC Judge and
Floral Designer, Tom Huston

Workshops on Succulent Wreaths, Butterflies,
Williamsburg Holiday Decorating Table Designs and more!

Hosted by the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania
Register at: https://www.car-sgc.org/conference
Registration Deadline is September 30, 2022!!

GCO BOARD REPORTS

Suggested Garden Reading

Helen Vladic, Horticulture Book Reviews

SEPTEMBER 6th is "National Read A Book Day"!

"Each time you open a book and read it, a tree smiles knowing there's life after death."
Author Unknown

Help get children interested in becoming future "GARDEN CLUB" members. Take them to the library and check out some of these books:

"Have You Ever Seen A Flower" by Shawn Harris
"Plants Feed Me" by Lizzy Rockwell
"Anywhere Farm" by Phyllis Root -
Illustrated by G. Brian Karas

This is just a start, there are many more. Remember, No App Can Replace Your Lap. Read to a child.

Now for **your** reading pleasure:

Gayla Trail's "Easy Growing: Organic Herbs and Edible Flowers from Small Spaces". Gayla is also the creator of the website yougrowgirl.com.

This is a book of organic herbs and edible flowers that can be grown small spaces. Herbs can be grown in the ground or in containers. It is a "how-to" on choosing, growing, and winterizing them. There are plenty of recipes for cooking and preserving, illustrated with lots of colored photos. Check out all of Gayla's books on her website!

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. Mission Statement

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. supports endeavors in every aspect of gardening through educational programs, horticulture and floriculture. We will show by means of example a responsible stewardship of our land.

GCO BOARD REPORTS

Seeds of Friendship
Karen Hovey, Chairperson

Another year of the Covid pandemic and we're doing okay. Meetings are back on schedule and many clubs remembered the Seeds of Friendship Project for the people of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Your support of this state-wide project to save the African mountain gorillas by helping the people living there is very impressive.

Garden Clubs donated 1,476 packages of seed plus $254.06 , which was used to buy more seeds and cover expenses. This year I had to buy more rubber bands, which are used to band the sets of eight seed packets together for transport. The balance of $232.65 was used to buy additional seeds.

Local merchants were very supportive this year. Home Depot on Polaris donated $665.79 worth of seeds. Home Depot on Cleveland Ave. donated $92.96 worth, Meijer on Polaris $95.76 and Lowe's on Polaris $263.56. The additional cash and donations of seeds totaled $1,350.72 or about 777 more seeds for a total of 2253 pkgs. of seeds. We were able to package and send sets of eight kinds of seeds to 281 families. Also, 150 pairs of garden gloves were also donated by garden clubs.

Checks sent in from clubs totaled $2,227.93 plus Garden Club of Ohio's budgeted amount of $500.00, for a total of $2,727.93. The money raised last year was used to start an Avocado Tree Project, which continues this year. Benefits of the Avocado Tree Project include:

- Replace the natural resources that villages and surrounding areas take from within the Nyungwe National Park, such as edible fruits,
- Fight against malnutrition for the children of community villages by adding avocados to meals consumed every day,
- Increase household income through the sale of avocados to others,
- Provide an additional source of pollen for bees to create honey,
- Improve well-being and climate through storing and sequestering carbon by the trees.

Many thanks to the 46 garden clubs that donated seeds, garden gloves and/or money this year.

The full list of all 46 GCO Club donors can be found on the GCO Website.

Celebrating Garden Week....in 2023

Aireen Vicars, National Garden Week Chair

Celebrate the 2023 Garden Week June 4-10...Start Planning NOW!

A bit of history to begin: National Garden Week (NGW) originally was on the third week of April coinciding with Arbor Day. The first National Garden Week was April 15-22, 1945. In 1990, National Garden Clubs Inc. designated the first full week of June as National Garden Week. In 2023 the dates will be June 4-10.

National Garden Week is an opportunity to join clubs across the country to promote the NGC objectives of gardening-related activities in the community through education, beautification, and to work with other groups and organizations, encourage pride, show community awareness and interest new members as well. It's also a time to just celebrate the joy of gardening!

Now is the time to plan your 2023 Garden Week activities!

Advertise:
Download the 2023 NGC National Garden Week Poster and Proclamation and use them to publicize your NGW projects. Visit gardenclub.org/national–garden week. Print your club's name on the fillable PDF file poster. Here's what the 2022 Poster looked like.....

Share it on social media, publish it in your local newspaper. Display the beautiful poster at the local greenhouses, public buildings like the post office, health center or at the library. Place a beautiful flower arrangement or a new variety of a small potted plant (with both the common and botanical name) along with the NGW poster. If creating a table display, be sure to add your club's awards.

Play Outdoors:
Tour a garden, park, nature center or an arboretum where plants, shrubs and trees are exhibited for scientific and educational purposes.

Plant a tree, shrubs or flowers or herbs, enhance or beautify a garden. Work with local nurseries or garden centers to sponsor a workshop, activity, or program perhaps on how to select plants, what to plant where, or about container gardening , combination planting, rock painting, pollinators and bugs, etc.

Recycle, reuse, repurpose. Nice plastic bottles can be used as a planter, bird feeder or made into a flower ornament; a fun project for the youth.

Give out seed packets, especially for pollinator friendly plants. Make flower arrangements and distribute them to nursing homes.

Take photos of all your activities and save all the publicity you generate. You'll need it for submitting your NGW project for a GCO Award. Educate, inspire and motivate. Share your knowledge on different gardening topics. Involve the youth and school children. Be creative. You'll make a world of difference in the community!

EUPHORBIA -- A Succulent With Many Forms and Appearances

by Nancy Heber, Horticulture Chairman, Container and Indoor Gardening

Euphorbia is a genus with nearly 2,000 species. It is diverse in form, size and appearance, but most have in common a sticky, milky sap, irritating to skin and toxic to eyes. Use rubber gloves when coming in contact with the sap. (Use rubbing alcohol to remove from skin.)

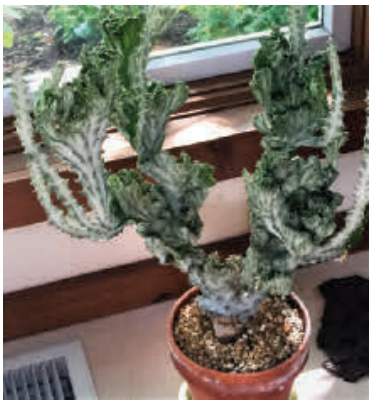
Because *Euphorbia* are so diverse, there are no generalized rules for growing conditions, but when growing indoors, an appropriate rule of thumb of should be to provide morning sun or filtered sunlight and allow the soil to completely dry out to avoid rot. For a specific species, researching growing requirements should provide needed information.

Some *Euphorbia* have spines and resemble cacti, but the difference is they do not have areoles from which flowers or stems grow.

Some common *Euphorbia* often seen at nursery stores or flower shows include:

Euphorbia milia (or *splendens*)- Crown of thorn
Euphorbia obesa - Living baseball or basketball
Euphorbia lactea variegata cristata (Crested *Euphorbia* -- can be variegated and crested)
Euphorbia grandicornis -Cow's horn

The *Euphorbia lactea variegata cristata* pictured below has been in my possession for 35+ years. It is a slow grower, however, I have shown restraint in watering to avoid rot. It has been rarely fertilized to control size, yet it measures nearly 14" tall and has developed dense branching and crests over the years. Its width at its widest point is 18". Notice the crests and the variegation in the close-up photo of the same plant (right).



A Note from Nancy:

I have been Horticulture Chairman for GCO continuously since 1992 -- 30 years!

This is my last article for *Garden Greetings* -- my "swan song." It is my hope that previous articles have provided information helpful to all growers. I estimate that I've written about 50 articles for *Garden Greetings*. I remember when everything in *Garden Greetings* was black and white and articles and photos had to be snail-mailed to the editor!

My other contribution to Garden Club of Ohio is *Hortulana*; a reference book of classification, nomenclature and growing requirements for all types of plants from annuals and perennials to shrubs and trees, plus foliage and flowering houseplants, succulents, as well. All proceeds from the sale of *Hortulana* throughout Ohio and the entire country have been donated to Garden Club of Ohio. It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve GCO in this way.

GCO CLUB NEWS

Brecksville Garden Clubs Complete a "Lids to Benches" Project

Donna Hessel and Noreen Butano
Emerald Necklace and Chippewa Garden Clubs

Chippewa Garden Club and Emerald Necklace Garden Club, both based in Brecksville, sponsored a project to collect plastic lids and caps from all types of containers that were ultimately recycled into benches for the new Brecksville-Broadview Heights Elementary School.

The project was launched in February with the support of Joelle Magyar, Superintendent, the principals of the three existing elementary schools and the overall principal of the new school, Colleen Toth. Ms. Toth, at the beginning of the project said "The Brecksville-Broadview Heights Elementary Schools are excited to partner with the Chippewa and Emerald Necklace Garden Clubs to bring this project into our schools. This meaningful experience will continue to help educate our students to care for our planet and to increase their awareness of the many benefits recycling and reusing have on our environment."

Children in all the classes at the three elementary schools (Chippewa, Highland and Hilton) were encouraged to save lids their families collected and bring them to their school. Each week, representatives from each of the garden clubs met selected children in the front hall of each school to receive the collected lids. The students then weighed the lids and recorded weight on a thermometer mounted on the wall that showed the project's progress. The project continued through the month of May.

The goal of the project was to collect enough lids to be recycled into at least one bench. The total weight of lids collected was 1,800 lbs--enough for three benches for the entrance to the new school!! There is an additional cost for manufacturing the benches and engraving. That cost was offset by donations from Chippewa Garden Club and other donors including: a pre-school mothers group, a City Pool Group, Lubrizol, and other individual donors.

A fourth bench will be added in 2023 when Chippewa's Recess Gardening Program begins at the newly constructed school. That bench will memorialize Central School, an elementary school closed in 2019, which was the initial location of the Recess Gardening program.

The incentive for the garden clubs to launch this project came from our GCO President, Marlene Hatton. Her mission during her two-year presidency is to reduce the amount of plastic discarded annually in the U.S. In introducing her mission, Marlene said, "It is an enormous task. Plastic creeps into our lives in so many ways. It takes over 200 years to degrade. It starts by breaking up into microparticles that are ingested by fish and wildlife. It is carried by the wind and has been found in our soil and in our food." Marlene challenged members of our affiliated garden clubs to use an insulated cup or bottle instead of a water bottle, to say "NO" to a plastic straw, to replace plastic cups and plates with paper or tableware, to use rags instead of paper towels, to use reusable shopping bags or paper bags and to recycle bags and bottles into useful items.

While the schools' and garden clubs' lid collection and recycling efforts are a mere drop in the bucket as far as reducing overall U.S. plastic discards, these projects can result in a positive outcome in the form of recycled benches for the new school and hopefully an increased awareness among all the children and adults, who participated in the project, of the plastic waste situation and its environmental impact.

Plastics R Unique, Inc., in Wadsworth, OH was selected to manufacture the benches because their "Cap Program" is focused on school children learning more about recycling, caring for the earth and green living. The company provided guidelines for working with the schools and children to accomplish their goals.

Almost any lid or cap was acceptable from drink bottle caps to mayonnaise jar lids to yogurt lids to spray paint caps, to shampoo/conditioner caps, etc. Plastic lids and caps that have a recycle number of 2, 4, or 5 are collectable. All lids and caps donated must be clean and dry and contain no metal parts.

The collected lids were transported to the Plastics R Unique, Inc. facility at the end of each collection month. The benches for the school were manufactured over the summer and were installed several weeks before the school was opened. Planning for a dedication ceremony is in the works!

GCO CLUB NEWS

Ridgewood Garden Club of Parma

Barb Okleson

Little did the Members who organized the Ridgewood Garden Club (RGC) in 1951 realize that we would be celebrating our 71st anniversary in 2022. We missed our 70th because of COVID 19 restrictions. At our 2022 anniversary luncheon, the theme was " A Garden Party ". We were pleased to have The Honorable Timothy J. DeGeeter, Mayor of the City of Parma, celebrate with us. RGC members wore hats and the comment from Mayor DeGeeter was he didn't know he was attending such a festive lunch! He thanked the club for all the support given to Parma during the years.

The club began as a social club, but discovered that the direction of the club should be toward community projects. We held plant sales and craft sales from the beginning to help build up our treasury. Garden club members divided their perennials and shared them in our sales.

The public gardens in Parma were very important to us from the onset of our club. In recent years we planted over 3000 daffodils around the City of Parma. A Blue & Gold Star Dedication was held in 2019. Flower Shows were held in the past and we look forward to having one in 2023.

During the years our membership has changed. We began with 10 members and grew to more than 50. Throughout the years it dropped as low as 12 members, but today we are pleased to have 51 members.

Gates Mills Garden Club's "Spring" Youth Outreach Events

Margaret Duff

Fifteen children, ages 3 – 14 years, participated in the "Buzz About Bees" youth event sponsored by the Gates Mills Garden Club (GMGC) on June 18, 2022. Gene McCune of the McCune Family Apiaries gave a power point presentation on "What's Happening to the Bees?" Both honeybees and native bees were highlighted during this event. The children learned the importance of bees as pollinators. They also learned reasons why the bee population across the world is endangered and steps that they can do to help bees thrive. Mr. McCune answered many questions posed by his young, inquisitive audience.

After the presentation, the children made native bee houses/hotels to take home and put in their yards. The children will be watching for evidence that some native bees and/or beneficial insects have taken residence in each one!

The children left the event with a "take-home" bag including a "Buzz About Bees" information card (created by a GMGC member), a small "bear" container of honey, a pollinator kit, bee stickers, and a treat made from honey!

Another event sponsored by GMGC was a 'Garden Stake Painting' Event on April 23, 2022, prior to Mother's Day. The children painted pictures of vegetables, flowers, bees, etc. on large wooden spoons that would be inserted in the soil to identify plants in their home gardens. One of the GMGC members who is a professional artist instructed and guided the children throughout this event. Eight children participated and they were very proud of the special gifts that they created for a Mother's Day surprise!!

Carrollton Garden Club Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Darlene Smith

Eighty years ago, in 1942, under the supervision of Mrs. Roger Brown, organizing chairman of Ohio's Garden Clubs, the Carrollton Garden Club was founded at a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Richard Findlay, originator of the newly founded organization.

Members of the Carrollton Garden Club gathered at the McCook House Museum June 6, 2022, for a Celebration Tea. Seated on the back porch of the Museum a few drops of rain threatened -- then disappeared. Having the celebration at the Museum was appropriate as the club has a long history with the Museum. The club's 70th anniversary luncheon was also held there in 2012.

Kathy Horn, a new club member and curator of the Museum, displayed a collection of garden club scrapbooks containing photographs, newspaper articles and club booklets for each year.

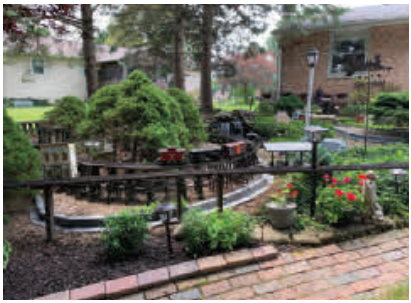
The Carrollton Garden Club continues to be active in beautifying the community. They plant and maintain flowers at the McCook House entrance, the downtown square, the post office, and the senior center. The Blue Star Marker is a shared project with the Suburban Garden Club.

Drone photos of the members at the tea are shown in front of the McCook House and at the tea on the back porch. These photos were taken by Issac Brumm, a third generation member.

TOWN GARDEN CLUB of the CANTON WOMAN'S CLUB

Carolyn Jacob, Publicity

The Town Garden Club of the Canton Woman's Club recently visited the gardens of Carolyn and Jim Jacob in Massillon, Ohio to view a very unique garden railroad. The railroad, built to a G scale model train format, featured a waterfall, a saw mill, a tunnel, and various town and country vignettes complete with mooing cows and honky tonk music! The garden railroad demonstrated how hybrid plants, designed to be "miniature" or "dwarf" as compared to original species, can be incorporated for landscaping and special effects in this application, as well as fairy gardens.



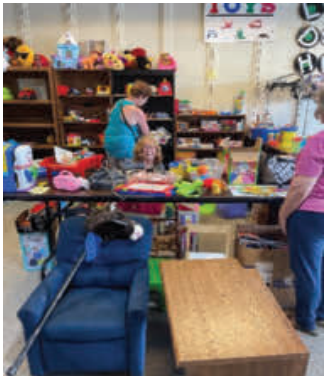
Town Garden Club is one of the original founding garden clubs of the Canton Garden Center and is one of just three groups that remain in operation. Town Garden Club is based in the Canton Woman's Club, which was formed in 1920 as a clubhouse for women, and is housed in a beautiful Victorian era home, Canton Woman's Club continues as a membership club and is also open to the general public for special events.

VOLUNTEER DAYS AT ROLL IT FORWARD STORE

Berlin Heights Garden Club

Ingrid Moore

The Berlin Heights Garden Club seized the opportunity to host the Roll It Forward Store at the Lake Erie Outlet Center in Avery, OH on June 24th and 25th.



This is our second year to take advantage of this fund-raising opportunity. The store is filled with donations and the merchandise moves quickly from the donation tables to the customers. The merchandise is sold through donations only and all proceeds go to the hosting organization. It was all-hands-on-deck since this project was not in our schedule. It brought out all members and we had a lot of fun together.

We are working on the next event -- a Gold Star Memorial Dedication at Riverside Cemetery, Berlin Heights, OH on September 11. This will be a collaboration between the American Legion and the Garden Club.

Lake Shore Garden Club Embraces Environmental and Local Civic Concerns

Ellen Howard

The City of Euclid honored Lake Shore Garden Club's (LSCG's) 90th anniversary with a proclamation presented to President Cheryl Brickman at a June City Council meeting. Many contributions to the community over the years were acknowledged. Conscious of its rich history, the club recently adopted a new logo, which incorporates a symbol used decades ago.

Looking forward, the club has embraced environmental and educational concerns, including collecting plastic caps and lids for an elementary school that now boasts a new bench and students eager to acquire more caps and lids for a picnic bench.

In another effort, LSGC members gathered 1806 pounds of clothing and other soft goods for a SAVERS fundraiser and were rewarded with hundreds of dollars to fund future projects. An additional benefit was the inclusion of a large volume of sewing scraps from an industrial sewing training program. The shared goal of keeping materials out of landfills helped make the connection.

Speakers at monthly meetings and members who are active as volunteers in the community have sparked networking with community gardens and parks, native plant sales, the Henn Mansion, and local environmental groups, adding vitality to the Lake Shore Garden Club agenda.

Chippewa Garden Club
Presents

Our Annual Holiday Program

Greetings with Greens

Presented by
Sandy Apidone, owner of **Countryside Florists**
4553 Broadview Road, Richfield, Ohio 44286
330-659-3776

November 15, 2022
Brecksville Community Center
1 Community Drive, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

6:30 Doors open 7:00 Program Starts

Ticket price is $10.00 at the door
Holiday Raffle Bazaar and Refreshments

www.chippewagardenclub.com

THE MAYFIELD VILLAGE Garden Club

For information contact Karen Previte 440.442.7491
karenprevite@yahoo.com

SEVEN HILLS WINS AN AMES TOOL GRANT

Joann Predina

Seven Hills Garden Club won an Ames Grant for tools to use at the new Beverly Nature Preserve at North Park in Seven Hills. Sixty-one native plants (11 species) were planted by the city on 20 acres of newly acquired property, a former radio station tower. Approved by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, the 11 species of Ohio native trees included red bud, sweet gum, Ohio buckeye, burr oak, black walnut, chinkapin oak, tulip, hackberry, shingle oak, tupelo and Amelanchier. The garden club visited the Preserve on June 28th with children, grandchildren and nephews ready to use the new tools. Community members will use the tools to maintain the ADA accessible walking trail, trees and planned pollinator garden as the Preserve and Park is expanded.

FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS

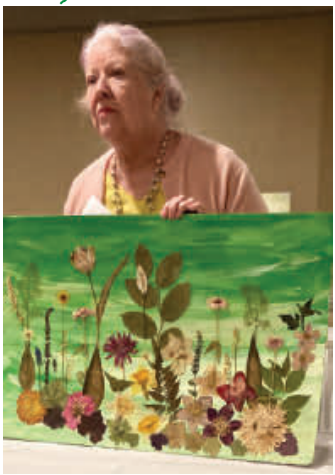
The Upcoming Fall Meetings

October signals both falling leaves and GCO Fall District Meetings! Here are some of the presentations planned.

- On **October 5**, at the **Columbus** District Meeting, the morning presenter will be Chieri Kubota speaking on hydroponic crop production. Hope Taft and Donna Timmons will speak later on the Ohio Heritage Garden.
- On **October 11**, at the **Akron** District Meeting, Marlene Bolea (GCO) will speak on birds and Clyde Clink (Bartlett Tree) will present a program on trees.
- On **October 13**, at the **Cleveland** District Meeting, the presentations will feature programs from Ohio Sea Grant and Nature Spark.
- On **October 12**, at the Canton District Meeting, the morning presentation will be from Jason Veil "Secrest Arboretum: A Century of Beauty and Utility". The afternoon presentation will be by Julie Edwards who will focus on a new, noteworthy, timely nature topic.

The programs offered at GCO District Meetings in the spring and fall are always both educational, informative and entertaining. Make your reservation now for one near you. Check the GCO website for details on location, time, and cost.

From the Spring District Meetings, Carol Johnson, Designer



GARDEN CLUB OF OHIO CALENDAR

Dates to Remember for 2022

September 19-22.....NGC Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
October 3-14 .....Fall District Meetings

Mansfield	October 3	Akron	October 11
Dayton	October 4	Canton	October 12
Columbus	October 5	Cleveland	October 13
Toledo	October 10	Cincinnati	October 14

October 26-27.....GCO Board Meeting
November 2-3..... CAR Conference
November 9-10..... GCO Holiday Shows: South, November 9/North, November 10
November 18..... Ohio Judges Council Meeting
December 1 .....*Garden Greetings* Deadline for Spring (February) Issue

Dates to Remember for 2023

January 12-13 **Gardening School Course 4, via Zoom (NOTE: NEW ADDITION)**
April 1 .....*Garden Greetings* Deadline for Summer (June) Issue
April 3-4.....GCO Board Meeting
April 18-20.....GCO 94th Annual Convention (Hosted by Toledo/Mansfield Dist.)
May 2-5 .....NGC Convention, Sulphur Springs, WV
May 26.....Ohio Judges Council Meeting
July 1.....*Garden Greetings* Deadline for Fall (September) Issue

All dates are subject to change.
Please consult the GCO Website for the latest updates.

President Marlene Hatton presents Mary Kay Covington the CAR Perennial Bloom Award at the Cleveland Spring District meeting.

Photo Credit: Debra Turner

Botanical Arts from the OJC Symposium
June, 2022

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
170 East 194th Street
Euclid OH 44119-1030

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