# Garden GREETINGS

**Official Publication of the Garden Club of Ohio**

**Fall 2025**

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Official Publication of the Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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## Deadlines

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All material must be submitted to the Editor by copy deadline. Late copy cannot be considered for pending issue. The Editor reserves the right to edit any article due to space constraints, for duplication, clarity and accuracy.


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Front Cover -- Northview Buckeye Garden Club Plant America Grant

Back Cover-- Heritage Herb Society, Canton Garden Center. From GCO FacebookPage

## 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 Virginia Schmidt at: vnschmidt00@gmail.com


## Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've known for some time that my president's theme would be something like "Plant a Future." It was inspired by speakers at the district meetings and holiday shows I attended from 2021 to 2025 as First and Second Vice President of the Garden Club of Ohio. Sometimes they moved me almost to tears.

Some spoke of moving beyond global-warming doomsday scrolling through the internet. Their great concern remained, but they spoke about what they're doing to try to protect and encourage life that may need to move to higher elevations or north (in this hemisphere) to survive.

They spoke of carbon sequestration. They spoke about migration patterns. About birds, pollinators, insects, native plants and trees. Preservation. Conservation. Lake Erie health. Watershed runoff. Feeding people healthy food. Waterfront renewal projects. Reclamation. Planting trees here that are native to warmer zones so that they may survive and provide food to life migrating north.

As I ran my "Plant a Future" idea past people, some noted that it would be hard to judge which projects would be most worthy because we can't really know what will happen. That's true. We can't predict the future, but we can plant for it. We can do what we can as individuals, as clubs, as districts, as a state and with others.

I'm asking you to plant for future life: How will a plant feed butterflies, birdsand more. How will the water source you preserve or develop support ephemerals, insects, fish, wildlife or people? Who will care for what you plant in 50 years? 100? Or more?

Who are you partnering with? A park service? A nature preserve? A scouting group? 4-H? A civic organization? Another garden club? Are people drawn to you and your club because you're doing something significant? Interesting? Have you tapped skills your mother or father may have taught you like preserving food, building a cold cellar? Or ice fishing? Or designing with flowers?Have you thought about sponsoring a school? Or maybe just one unit of a school? For example, an environmental school unit on air or water? Or a landscape design or gardening school? Think about your own garden and you in it. You do what you can. You do what you can keep up.


continued.....

## President's Message, continued

Maybe you keep your ties with the past gardeners in your space — the peonies, roses, hydrangeas, asparagus, iris, lilacs and trees. Maybe you keep the garden rooms inspired by great gardens of the past. Maybe you add some native trees or shrubs.

I hope your Ohio garden grew this summer as well as ours did in Lancaster. Lots of rain and hot days led to robust plant growth. It's the first time my husband and I ever successfully harvested eggplant. We bought three plants. We planted them fairly low in two large containers. The sides supported their growth and heavy fruit. We're planting for our future in our 1/3-acre yard. We decided this year that the garden our backs demand is one with raised beds and lots of tall planters.

In the soil, we've planted redbud and other native trees and shrubs (some received from the state convention in Cleveland in 2024). They mix with our nonnatives. We've planted two trees from warmer climate zones that were recommended at Dawes Arboretum plant sales. We also planted just because we love something.

We planted swamp milkweed in a tall planter. Monarch butterflies somehow found it. I now have a bridge of planters connected to it so the caterpillars have a way to wander for a place to cocoon.

I'm doing battle with mint. The thug is beloved by pollinators, but not by me. I now understand why smart gardeners contain its roots.

What are your garden success stories this year? What are your "lessons learned?" If you write them down and send them to me via email or on paper, I'll try to create a way for us to teach each other.

***Debra Turner***



# GCO 2025 Mildred Heter Buckingham Award

## Betty Cookendorfer, GCO Awards Committee

The Mildred Heter Buckingham Award was first given in 1952 in memory of Mrs. Buckingham who served as First Vice-President of Garden Club of Ohio (GCO). Each year at the Annual Convention, the GCO Board of Directors honors a member to receive this award who has provided outstanding service to GCO.

Our 2025 honoree is Kathy Wagner, President of GCO for the term 2023-2025. Kathy was born in Massillon, Ohio and graduated from Central Catholic High School, furthering her education by attending McKinley Business College.

She has consistently served GCO as a Board Member on a number of committees prior to her six-year term as Second-Vice President, First Vice-President and President. She is a member of Rolling Hills Garden Club.

Kathy has been a champion of GCO's Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers Program sponsored by National Garden Clubs. These programs are close to her heart as it is a way to recognize the service and sacrifices made by our veterans and their families.

Kathy and her husband, Don Wagner, celebrated their 57th Anniversary in August this year! Because of Don's military and Civil Service with the Departments of the Air Force and Defense, they moved frequently over the years. They made homes in Wilmington, OH; Warren, OH; Kokomo, IN; Sault Sainte Marie, MI; Myrtle Beach, SC; Okinawa, Japan and Dayton, OH.

Kathy and Don are the proud parents of a son, Kevin, and his wife, Karen, and a daughter, Chrisi and her husband, Jeff, who have a son and daughter. Kathy and Don have four great-grandchildren. Since their extended family is in Ft. Wayne and the general Dayton, Ohio area, Kathy and Don are making their retirement home in Dayton, Ohio. Holidays and family gatherings are a fun time for the entire family!

The 2025 Buckingham Award was awarded to a well-deserving Garden Club of Ohio member.

**Congratulations to Kathy Wagner!**

# National Garden Clubs, Inc. 2025 Award Winners

## Barbara Schuh, GCO NGC/CAR Awards Chair

Congratulations to the garden clubs and individuals whose exceptional work merited being submitted to National Garden Clubs for additional awards. These awards are very prestigious and are in competition with clubs/individuals in all 50 states. The winners are the crème de le crème!

Following are the award winners from Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

- Permanent Community Improvements Overall 1st place
  Perennial Gardeners of Chesterland (certificate + check)
- Native Plants and Wildflowers Venue Overall 1st Place
  Town and Country Gardeners of Alliance (certificate + check)
- Website -Professionally Designed Certificate of Commendation
  Emerald Necklace GC
- Winifred Fink Scholarship Award to Abigail Koman

### Flower Show Achievement Awards:

- Chippewa Garden Club: "Glimmer and Shimmer"
- Ohio Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges: "Exploring the North Coast"

### Youth Awards:

**Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl poster contest 3rd place first grade**
Lowen J. sponsored by Independence GC

**Recycled Sculpture Contest HM**
Victoria AuW. sponsored by Gates Mills Garden Club

**High School Essay Contest (see Page 20 for more details!)**
2nd Place 9th Grade– Roman T. sponsored by Gates Mills GC
"Stop! Enough with the Junk!"
1st Place 10th Grade – Taylor R. sponsored by Twinsburg GC
"Is Recycling Plastics the Answer to our Disposal Problem?"
3rd Place 11th Grade – Aiden D. sponsored by Twinsburg GC
"The Necessary Process for a Safer Earth"
2nd Place 12th Grade – Madi H. sponsored by Twinsburg GC
"The Complex Issue of Plastic Disposal"

**Youth Poetry Contest**
1st Place 6th grade – Hisham S. sponsored by Highland Heights GC
1st Place 10th Grade - Alex M. sponsored by Cleveland Flower Arrangers Guild
HM 4th Grade – Ramon A. Highland Heights GC/HM 9th Grade – Roman T. Gates Mills GC
HM 7th Grade – Peyton G. Highland Heights GC/3rd place 12th grade – Geneva T. Gates Mills GC



# 2025 Holiday Programs

## Anette Montgomery

### 2nd Vice President

### North Holiday Program: November 5, 2025
### Woodside Event Center

Glendalee Burns will be the speaker for the Holiday North Show on Wednesday, November 5 at the Woodside Event Center in Broadview Heights. In Glendalee's program, titled "Whimsical Wreaths", she will show us how you can make lovely seasonal wreaths using the materials growing in your own backyard! Glendalee is a member of the Avon-on-the-Lake and Herb Guild Garden Clubs as well as a 40-year member of The Herb Society of America. Contact Gwenn Zoeller for program details.

### South Holiday Program: November 6, 2025
### The Country Club at Muirfield Village

The morning presenter, Genevieve Reiner, will discuss "The Benefits of Biophilia: The Science Behind Why We Love Plants." Biophilia is the idea that humans are intrinsically connected to nature -- that we are happiest and healthiest when our environments have a strong connection to the natural world. As modern living has pulled us away from a close connection to nature, we see signs that this separation is harming us: depression, anxiety, stress and other physical ailments plague our modern life. By reconnecting with nature, we can lower those negative health trends and make ourselves healthier, happier and more at peace. The second portion of the presentation will discuss best practices for caring for houseplants, including watering and lighting, repotting, pruning and fertilizing.

In the afternoon, designers Cleo Lehman and Pat Rupiper will present "You Too Can Make Stress Free Holiday Decor". Cleo and Pat will prepare unique designs in front of the audience with florals and repurposed everyday items and/or prior holiday decorations that can be found around our homes. Creative expression through floral design and recycling has been a passion for them. They are excited to share this passion by presenting designs that highlight the holiday season.

The Country Club is located at 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin OH 43017. Phone: 614-764-1714. Contact Pat Rupiper for program details.

# GCO Scholarship Winners for 2025-2026

## Margaret Duff
## Scholarship Chair

This year a total of $75,000 was awarded to ten outstanding students! They are all very grateful for GCO's investment in their educations.

Many thanks to the GCO clubs and their members for their very generous contributions.

**ERIN M. ANGLE ($10,000**) Erin has completed her junior year at Unity Environmental College in Maine where she is majoring in Wildlife Conservation. Her goal is to become a wildlife biologist/environmental consultant. This is the second GCO scholarship awarded to Erin.

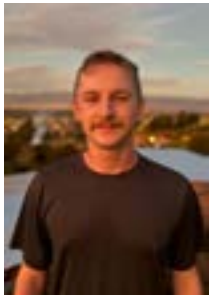
**KAELA BARTLEY ($8,000)** Kaela will be a senior at the University of Toledo where she is majoring in Environmental Studies. Her career goal is to interact directly with community groups to build sustainable solutions (e.g., creating community gardens and urban green areas).

**JULIA ANN HARMON ($8,000)** Julia will be a senior at Ohio University's Honors' Tutorial College and her major is Environmental Studies, with minors in Appalachian Studies and Business Administration. Her career goal is to be an environmental educator with focus on climate change, sustainability and plant biology. This is her second GCO scholarship.

**LEAH C. KLOBOVES ($5,000)** Leah has completed her first year in graduate school at the Ohio State University where she is majoring in Forest Science with a minor in Wildfire Studies. She plans to enroll in a Ph.D. program in California upon earning her Master's degree.

**ABIGAIL KOMAN ($5,000)** Abby is a graduate student at Kent State University where she is majoring in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology. Her career goal is to work at a botanical garden where she could conduct research on native plant and pollinator conservation and invasive plant management. Abby also received a scholarship from the National Garden Clubs, Inc.





**TYLER GARRET KUNZ ($10,000)** Tyler just completed his sophomore year at Waynesburg University where he is majoring in Biology and Environmental Science. He aspires to work as a wildlife biologist at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

**GRACE MELLOTT ($10,000)** Grace will be a senior at The Ohio State University where she is majoring in Agribusiness and Applied Economics. She has a passion for supporting rural communities and agriculture. This is the second GCO Scholarship awarded to Grace.

**SOPHIA MIGNERY ($8,000)** Sophia finished her senior year at Wilmington College with a major in Agriculture. Her career aspiration is the cultivation of cut flowers, with growing and marketing the sale of edible flowers. This is her third GCO scholarship.

**KATE PILCHER ($5,000)** Kate is a graduate student at the Ohio State University where she is studying to be a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Her career goal is to become a wildlife veterinarian, concentrating her efforts on protection of endangered species so that she might make a difference in mitigating the biodiversity crisis. She is passionate about addressing issues to protect our planet.

**CADANCE RICHARD ($6,000)** Cadance has completed her sophomore year at the University of Rio Grande in Rio Grande, Ohio where she is majoring in Parks and Museum Education. She has a special interest in native plants and she wants to become a park naturalist. This is Cadance's second GCO scholarship.

# GCO Board Reports

## GCO Scholarship Fund Donations

### Cornelia Wagener,
### Scholarship Contributions

The *Garden Greetings* report for the GCO Scholarship Fund is as follows. It is a pleasure to serve, thank you. Please send all contributions to me (checks made out to Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.). My contact information is: Cornelia Wagener, 10356 Ramm Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571, and my email address is cewagener55@gmail.com. My phone number is 419-297-5179 if you have any questions.

From July 1, 2025, until July 31, 2025, there have been two clubs who have contributed to the Annual Appeal Scholarship Fund for a total of $100.00. Along with the Memorials and Honoraria of $25.00 we had a grand total of $125.00. Thank you to all who have donated, we appreciate your support.

Last year's year–to-date report (from 07/01/24 through 6/30/2025) included 30 clubs for $6,203.81 donated from the six Districts, as reported in previous *Garden Greetings* issues. There were 17 Memorial contributions of $3,199.85 and two Honorarium contributions of $150.00 for a total $3,349.85. The grand total for the fiscal year was $9,553.66. Congratulations to all Districts, Clubs and Members for your generous contributions.

Your contributions continue to be welcomed and much appreciated. Always remember we are a .....

**TEAM --Together Everyone Achieves More**

| **GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** | **MEMORIAL DONATIONS:** | **HONORARIA:** |
|---|---|---|
| **Canton District** | | |
| Alliance** | *Jean Brown* | ___ |
| | Madison | |
| **Cincinnati District** | | |
| **Western Hills**** | | |

$25-49*
$50-99 **
$100-149 ***
$150-249 ****
$250-500*****
$1000******
$1000 +*******

## Parliamentarian
### Janette Ciarniello

# More About Motions!!

## The Continuing Series on Parliamentary Procedures...

We have discussed how to make a motion as well as how to amend one. However as the saying goes there is always more to the story and that is the same with motions. Please!! Don't go running for the aspirin or Tylenol bottle just yet.

In the world of motions there is an order of precedence. To begin with, there are PRIMARY MOTIONS and SECONDARY MOTIONs and each have their own subsets. All motions go through the same process that we've previously discussed.

PRIMARY MOTIONS have only one class known as MAIN MOTIONS, consisting of two parts. Part (a) is the ORIGINAL MAIN MOTION. This introduces a subject or topic for discussion. Part (b) is an INCIDENTAL MAIN MOTION that relates to the pending motion as to procedure or involvement. An incidental main motion goes through all the steps as any other motion and must be voted upon before the original main motion.

Next are SECONDARY MOTIONS. When a SECONDARY MOTION is made and deemed in order, it must be dealt with before disposing of the main motion. There are three classes of SECONDARY MOTIONS:

1. SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS
2. PRIVILEGED MOTIONS
3. INCIDENTAL MOTIONS

Subsidiary motions offer ways to dispose of a pending motion at your meetings. The issue could be of a procedural nature or some form of urgency. Subsidiary motions are listed in order of rank, lowest to highest. They are:

1. POSTPONE INDEFINITELY
2. AMEND
3. COMMIT OR REFER TO COMMITTEE
4. POSTPONE TO A CERTAIN TIME
5. LIMIT OR EXTEND LIMITS OF DEBATE
6. PREVIOUS QUESTION
7. LAY ON THE TABLE

We'll take a deeper dive into these types of subsidiary motions (and more!) in the next issue of *Garden Greetings*. Get ready to use them in your garden club meetings.

You may now go get the aspirin or Tylenol for relief.....save some for reading more in the next issue!

# Ohio Land Trust

## Dotty Haney
## Ohio Land Trust Chairman

**T**he campaign of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, for donations to The Nature Conservancy of Ohio from clubs and individuals totaled **$1,100. 00**.

I appreciate your generosity and thank you for your donations. We hope that Garden Club of Ohio members continue to support the mission and goals of The Nature Conservancy of Ohio. For more than 60 years, people like you have helped The Nature Conservancy protect nearly 65,000 acres in Ohio, from our lakes and rivers to our wetlands and forests. Ohio's lands and water support a rich history of culture, recreation and biodiversity.

## CLUB DONATIONS:

Canton District
Hartville Garden Club *
Carrollton Garden Club
North Canton Garden Club *

Cincinnati District
Western Hills Garden Club *
Greenview Garden Club ***
Centerville Garden Club **

Cleveland District
Beach Cliff Garden Club **
West Shore Arrangers *
Bay Village Garden Club **

Columbus District
Pickaway County Garden Club **

Mansfield District
Town & Country Garden Club *

Toledo District
River Road Garden Club **
Anthony Wayne Garden Club *

* $50.00 - $99.00
** $100.00 -$149.00
*** $150.00- $199.00

## IN-HONOR DONATIONS:

Shirley Karras **
Cornelia Wagener

The Nature Conservancy®

# Seeds of Friendship
# News from Jeff Ramsey

## Karen Hovey

The following is a note sent to me by Jeff Ramsey on the highlights of his trip to Rwanda last May:

"The ever-popular seeds were a hit once again! Everyone quietly waits until our meeting is over for me to open my bag and distribute seeds…. and to see the smiles.

At one ladies' co-op, when we were talking about the seeds, in perfect English, one lady added "and they have the best germination". I was not expecting to hear that word, but they were all in agreement that our seeds have a much better germination rate than any seeds that they can purchase themselves.

When visiting another co-op, in the Eastern part of Rwanda, discussing the seeds, I learned that there was a distinct difference between the production of the pole green beans and the bush green beans. Apparently, the pole green beans have a higher production than the bush variety. I had never heard that before.

The "Aprohade" photo (right) was taken when we were in Kigali. There is a green space/garden outside of the building where they work. The ladies have planted zinnia and cosmos seeds there so they can all enjoy the flowers. The zinnias only last for one season, but the cosmos keeps reseeding itself. (Note that some of the plants are over 6 feet tall!) Some of the ladies have actually dug up plants to take home and have also given plants to friends. But as you can see from the photo, remaining cosmos have grown to fill in the empty space. I was told that flowers with a "smaller bloom" are not readily available in Rwanda and are highly sought after. Note: I think as compared to sunflowers, which are grown as a seed crop in the East.

The "Gatagara" photo (left) was taken at the pottery co-op in the South of the country. When they had to replace the old fence with a new brick one, they wanted to make it look better. So now cosmos plants are decorating the fence line."

Note: I sent a reply to Jeff regarding the bean comment above. We are going to ask for pole green beans in 2026. He'll be doing some research on other flowers, but for now we'll ask for zinnias and cosmos.

# Horticulture Book Review

## Helen A. Vladic, Chairman

**"What is My Plant Telling Me?" by Emily L. Hay Hinsdale**
**Illustrated by Loni Harris**

This is an illustrated guide from African violets to the ZZ Plant. There are about 50 of some of the most common houseplants. As stated in the book: water, light, soil. The book indicates how much light, water, and type of soil is needed for each plant listed, and when to fertilize and pot or repot. It also explains how to identify distress signals.

**"Edible House Plants" by Laurelynn G. Martin and Byron E. Martin.**
**Grow your own Citrus, Coffee, Vanilla, and 43 Other Tasty Tropical Plants**

This book has easy to follow instructions on how to grow, harvest and care for tropical fruit plants in small pots. Along with the basics of growing conditions, care and potential problems, there are some helpful tips and recipes.

**"The Winter Garden" Celebrating the Forgotten Season**
**by Naomi Slade**

This book has beautiful photographs, if for nothing else check it out for that. There are ideas on how to work with what you have, containers, kitchen gardens, bulbs and much more.

**"Pretty Maids" by Mari Griffith with a forward by Alan Titchmarsh**
**Thirty remarkable women and the flowers named after them.**

Each story is illustrated with photographs and paintings. Also, each one has a photo of the flower that is named for her and notes on how to grow it. You may know of: Marie Curie, Shirley Temple, Grace Kelly and Emily Bronte. Look for this book to see which flower was named for them and the rest of the 30 women.



# WE CANNOT DO EVERYTHING; WE CAN DO SOMETHING!

## Joyce Roth
## Recycling and Litter Chairman

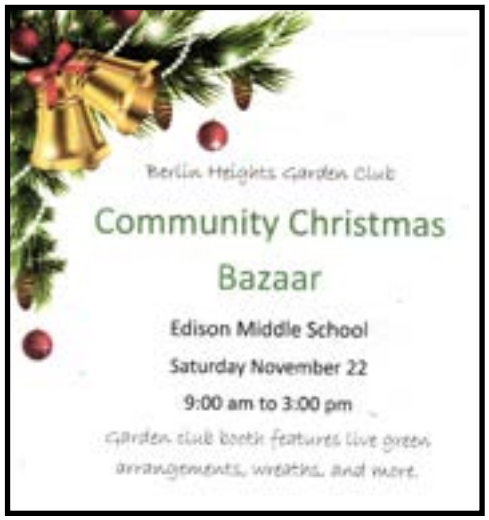
Low impact living focuses on minimizing our environmental footprint through conscious choices in daily life.

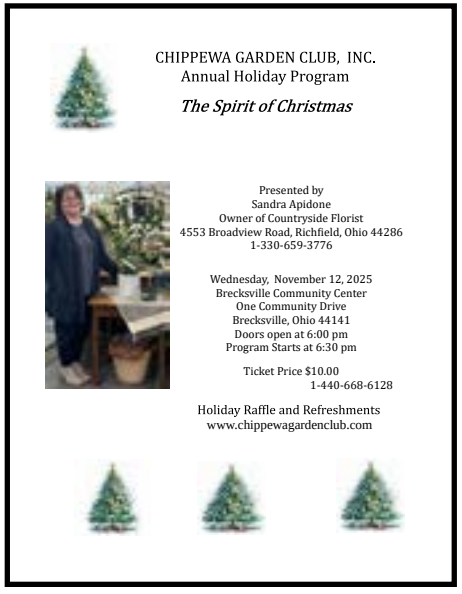
--Which of these suggestions are you doing now?

--Which are possibly doable in your future?

- Buy used or second hand. Give pre-owned items a new life and reduce demand for new products.
- Avoid single-use items. Replace disposable products like plastic bags, water bottles and cutlery with reusable alternatives.
- Reduce packaging. Buy in bulk, choose products with minimal packaging and support local farmers' markets for fresh produce.
- Minimize purchases. Prioritize needs over wants and avoid impulse buys.
- Choose sustainable products. Opt for items made from recycled or renewable materials, with minimal packaging, and from ethical brands.
- Borrow, rent or share. Consider borrowing or renting items you seldom use instead of buying them.

# COMING SOON... GCO CLUB HOLIDAY PROGRAMS








# GCO CLUB NEWS

## Mystery Arrangement Activity

### Judy Kordos
### Aquilegia Garden Club

Aquilegia Garden Club of Geauga County piloted a “Mystery Arrangement” activity at their June meeting. The premise for the flower arrangement activity was the TV show "Chopped"—although no one got chopped! Three of the Club’s tenured flower arrangers—Pat, Anita and Ginny along with novice arranger Dee—were presented with a mystery bag of five different flowers from two of our members—Jeannie & Judy’s—gardens.

They were required to use at least three of these flowers in their arrangement. There was a table of supporting filler foliage and flowers that they all shared.

Club members cheered them on and offered input/opinions for their final designs. The designs were similar but unique, and four club members were randomly selected to take an arrangement home. Great job ladies!

# Northview Buckeye Garden Club Receives National Plant America Grant to Improve Tree Canopy

Thanks to a $1,800 Plant America grant and community and city partnerships, the Northview Buckeye Garden Club (NBGC) will plant 12 northern red oak trees in Maloney Park, located in Columbus' Linden neighborhood.

Plant America grants are awarded annually by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) to member clubs for landscaping, environmental projects or community education.

Maloney Park was selected as the project site because of its lack of tree canopy. The park is located in the South Linden neighborhood, which in 1934 was redlined, a discriminatory practice in which color-coded government maps identified areas that were deemed to be risky investments, typically neighborhoods with Black residents.

Redlining affects a community's tree canopy, according to "Impacts of 1930s Redlining Practices on Urban Tree Cover Persist," published in "Rooted in Research," a U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service journal. A redlining designation curtails investment in a neighborhood's tree cover. When compared to other neighborhoods, formerly redlined areas have higher summer temperatures, greater energy use in buildings, higher rates of air pollution, more water runoff and less carbon storage, as noted in the article.

*"We know how important trees are to quality of life. An increased tree canopy can improve our sense of well-being and our physical environment. Trees can decrease air pollution, intercept stormwater and reduce the heat island effect," said NBGC's Helen Anne Sweeney, who is leading the project. "We're grateful to NGC and our city and community partners for joining us in this project."*

**Continuing a community partnership:** In 2023, NBGC connected with the city's Recreation and Parks department and Green Columbus, a nonprofit focused on sustainability, to plant northern red oak trees in South Linden's Maloney Park. One tree was planted that year, and two more in 2024. The trees were planted along the park's multi-use path, which is adjacent to a playground, basketball courts and picnic tables. A fundraising campaign by NBGC and a Garden Club of Ohio Presidential Award provided funds for the initial project. This October, a Plant America grant will fund the planting of a dozen more trees along the multi-use path.

With assistance from Green Columbus, NBGC selected native red oaks for their spread, rapid growth rate, wildlife benefits, pollution resistance and beauty. The trees should provide needed shade to the path within five years, and at maturity, should have a height of 60 to 70 feet and a spread of 45 feet.

The tree-planting project also supports the city's efforts to improve its tree canopy and increase the number of native trees in city parks.

Other community support for the tree-planting project is coming from Oakland Nursery, which is providing a discount on the trees and tree guards, and Kurtz Brothers, which is donating mulch. The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department is providing materials and will help with the planting. Green Columbus will also help plant the trees.

The Plant America grant is also providing funding for a presentation about Columbus's tree canopy and the need to plant more native trees. NBGC, in conjunction with the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, will host an Oct. 8 presentation on the city's tree canopy by Rosalie Hendon, the first female City of Columbus forester, at the Park of Roses shelter house. Hendon will discuss how residents and community groups can contribute to an improved tree canopy. To register for this free public event, visit this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northview-buckeye-garden-club-tree-canopy-presentation-tickets-1340100088439?aff=oddtdtcreator

NBGC, a member of the Garden Club of Ohio, was founded 1978. Its members maintain the perennial and native plant beds at the Columbus Park of Roses. For more information, contact Helen Anne Sweeney of NBGC at: hasweeney@twc.com.

# Greenview Garden Club

## Kathy Dickinson, President

Members of the Greenview Garden Club were invited to attend the dedication of Marie Aull's Garden, which surrounds her life-size bronze sculpture, at the Carillon Historical Park in Dayton on June 19, 2025. Mrs. Aull's legacy as a "Conservationist - Educator - Philanthropist (and) Founder of Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm" was celebrated with a champagne toast led by Brady Kress, Dayton History President and CEO.

Greenview Garden Club played a part in one of Mrs. Aull's many accomplishments. In 1965, Mrs. Aull envisioned an herb garden to be added to the Aullwood teaching farm she founded. Greenview Garden Club created her herb garden and maintains it to this day.

# Twinsburg Garden Club Celebrates GCO & NGC Essay Winners

## Virginia Schmidt

The Twinsburg Garden Club (TGC) sponsored four Twinsburg High School students in the 2024 Garden Club of Ohio High School Essay category. We are thrilled to learn that three of the students were winners in the National Garden Clubs (NGC) contest as well.

In addition to their GCO awards, Madison H. was the 12th grade NGC second place winner, Aiden D. was 11th grade third place NGC winner and Taylor R. was 10th grade first place NGC winner. Kelsy D. was an essay winner at the GCO level.

All four students attended our July garden club meeting, along with their families and teacher Cynthia Kurt. Each student spoke briefly about the essay topic, "Is Recycling the Answer to the Plastics Disposal Problem?"

TGC is proud of all our student essay winners, and we are encouraged by their passion for environmental issues.



# Gates Mills Garden Club Sponsors Youth Events for Various Ages

## Margaret Duff

The Gates Mills Garden Club (GMGC) had three separate youth events in 2025. Each one was targeted towards a specific age group.

The first event was the **"Can You See Me? Camouflage & Mimicry in Nature**" presentation in early April 2025 by Judy Semroc, naturalist and founder of Nature Spark Ohio. Judy gave a fascinating power point presentation to nine children ages 8 to 13 years. She gave the children opportunities to find birds and small mammals and reptiles in photos where nature as a background was featured – trees, bark, rocks, grasses, etc. The children were rapt participators, and they were fascinated by the information that Judy shared. The children crafted luminaries featuring dried plant material and images of bugs, bees and/or butterflies. These crafts were entered in the Youth Division of the "Sunday in the Park" flower show.

The second event, **"All About Owls"** in early May 2025 was prepared for children ages 2 ½ years to 7 years. Jeff Riebe, naturalist from the North Chagrin Nature Center of Cleveland Metroparks gave an in-person talk about owls and he brought two live specimens with him. The children had the opportunity to learn about these very special birds, and they asked many pertinent questions. The children painted small owl containers in which they planted succulents. These crafts were also entered in the GMGC Flower Show.

The third event was geared towards teens and was held as part of National Garden Week in early June in cooperation with the Gates Mills Public Library. One of the horticulture specialists from GMGC taught the children **how to prepare and plant terrariums** (a variety of house plants were used). Recycled plastic water jugs housed the terrariums. Seven teens participated and they were thrilled to take home their beautiful projects.

# Chippewa Garden Club Celebrates National Garden Week, 2025

## Noreen Butano, Publicity Chair

Our Mission Statement:
"To cultivate beauty through gardening, to study the fine art of flower design, to aid in the protection of native plants and wildlife, to encourage civic beautification and to provide educational opportunities."

Chippewa Garden Club celebrated the 2025 National Garden Week of June 1-7 by displaying the NGC's colorful poster, CGC's membership flyers and a beautiful foliage plant donated by Petitti Garden Center, at the following locations: Brecksville Library, Jennings Independent Living, the Oaks, The Avenue Rehab, Danbury Senior Living , The Heights, Brecksville Senior Center, Broadview Hts. Rec Center. The NGC's posters were put on numerous restaurants and grocery store's bulletin boards throughout Brecksville and Broadview Heights.

A thank you letter was given to each location saying: "Thank you for celebrating National Garden Week 2025 with Chippewa Garden Club. The plant left for you was donated by Petitti Garden Center ".

A daily post informing and educating the public of "why we garden " were posted on Facebook and also on several online social media websites.

Whether you are a novice to gardening, or an avid-experienced one, National Garden Week is a great time to get outdoors, dig in the dirt and see what delightful things will grow. Explore, learn and discover!

# Worthington Hills Garden Club

## Field Trips

## Brenda Fitch and Sheila Santiago

One of the most popular activities at our club is going on field trips. Some are local while others may take us an hour or two from home. We have had a wide variety of trips throughout the years - far too many to discuss! We believe the trips enlighten and enthuse us while also fostering friendships and camaraderie among the members. Car pooling and having lunch together builds a sense of community, which we value.

Some trips provide hands-on experiences such as making our own lavender body scrubs and small dried bouquets while visiting a lavender farm. Visiting a lovely garden with bountiful herbs allowed us to create little tins of seasoning salts to take home. We have also walked the abundant fields of fresh flowers at a flower farm and created our own beautiful bouquets to take home. Other times we enjoyed visiting historic homes and strolling through their splendid landscapes, and we imagined the possibility of replicating them in some small way.

Recently we walked through acres of gorgeous daylilies and picked out special ones to take home. We enjoyed our time at a nearby Junior Garden to see all of the children's hard work and creative garden art. We visited unique garden shops and nurseries as well in Waynesville, Ohio. We then enjoyed lunch at The Golden Lamb, a historic Ohio inn. Our most recent trip took us to Urbana to explore and learn about Ohio's first nature preserve, The Cedar Bog. Our next adventure will be traveling to Michigan to visit a botanical garden in Ann Arbor and the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids.
We invite all members to join us and suggest that your club consider field trips during your program planning.

## Partners in Conservation-

## Patty Lee

Our local garden club is a vibrant community dedicated to cultivating a love for gardening and environmental stewardship. Our commitment to conservancy is shown in our involvement with Partners in Conservation. The PIC program has been an integral part of helping wildlife and people in central Africa since its founding at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Powell Ohio in 1991.

As shown in the photo, the Worthington Hills Garden Club partners with our local Worthington Hills Market to raise funds aimed at supporting the PIC program. This program focuses on three key pillars: gorilla conservation and health; education and sustainable livelihoods; and habitat protection and conservation. This annual charity event not only helps fund PIC but also fosters community involvement and support along with raising awareness to a commitment towards preservation.

# Emerald Necklace Garden Club Celebrates National Garden Week

## Donna Hessel

Brecksville and neighboring community residents were invited to celebrate NGC-designated National Garden Week, June 1-7, with Emerald Necklace Garden Club (ENGC) members in several activities planned to commemorate the week.

On Thursday, June 5th, ENGC collaborated with the Brecksville library to offer a gardening presentation in the library's community room. Bryan Stowe, City of Brecksville Horticulturist, shared a power point presentation titled "Native Plants for Your Garden." The presentation described selected natives from ground covers through shrubs and trees. A display in the library featured ENGC activities, membership information and a very complimentary Proclamation issued by Brecksville Mayor Daryl Kingston.

An article in the Brecksville Bulletin featured the NGC poster. Publicity in other local media created additional awareness of National Garden Week, of the importance of gardening and of preserving gardening traditions while incorporating sustainable practices.

On June 6th, ENGC members helped first through third graders at South Suburban Montessori School plant a marigold in a paper cup to add to a home garden. The children listened very attentively to a story, "From Seed to Plant" by Gail Gibbons, played an "identify the seeds" game and took home their marigold plus a coloring page containing information about the benefits of marigolds. This hands-on activity was repeated at the ENGC's table at the St. Basil's family picnic on June 8.

We love National Garden Week! Why? Gardening provides a sense of belonging and encourages new gardeners to "dig in." Gardens beautify home landscapes with a mix of foliage and flowers and extend beyond individual homes to beautify the community for all residents. Planting a garden close to a house helps families consume more fresh produce, increasing healthy living. Veggies and flowers can intermingle in the same garden! Research has shown that gardening reduces stress and promotes longevity.



# Monfort Heights Garden Club

## Kathy Ross

**TREE DONATION**: The Monfort Heights Garden Club of Cincinnati, Ohio has been in existence for over 95 years, beautifying the community one plant/tree at a time. Last year the members decided to pass a "tree box" around during the meeting for members to throw their loose change or singles in for the purpose of planting a tree somewhere in the community in memory of all the members who have passed. This spring we had collected enough money (over $700) to start a committee to look into planting a tree. A search committee was formed to research trees, with an emphasis on Ohio native trees, as well as possible locations in parks or on walking paths. There was a lot of background work involved as to location, size, variety of tree, care etc. As most of our members are 60+ in age it was a given that we would not be able to buy a tree and plant it ourselves or even provide weekly care. It was decided to participate in the landscaping of the new Green Township Police Department. A 12-foot tulip poplar was planted in front of the new building and a commemorative plaque was placed next to the tree.

**GREAT LAKES REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY TAILGATE 2025 PARTICIPATION:** This summer weather has been one for the record books with extreme heat and inches of rain all at one time. The Great Lakes Regional Hosta Society Tailgate 2025 decided to have Cincinnati as a host city for their garden tour Friday July 11 and Saturday July 12. Three members of the Monfort Heights Garden Club were chosen to participate in the tour: Peggy Lopez, Patti Moravec and Doris Niemeyer. These women worked for weeks to get their gardens ready for visitors. The weather was a sultry 95º with occasional downpours that only lasted a few minutes, causing steam to rise from the streets. This may have deterred many people from touring gardens spread out across the city, but these gardeners were a hardy bunch. They came a few at a time all day (dawn to dusk) and even a bus from Indianapolis showed up. All of the visitors were friendly and interested in the gardens and asked lots of questions. Patti was selling plants at her home and sold many of her "newbies" from her yard. It was fun to meet with gardeners from other parts of the Midwest and hope all who trekked out in the heat had a pleasurable experience visiting us in Cincinnati.

**Advisory Committee**
*Past GCO Presidents*

| | |
|---|---|
| 2023-2025 | Kathy Wagner |
| 2021-2023 | Marlene Hatton |
| 2019-2021 | Mary Lou Smith |
| 2017-2019 | Deanna Stearns |
| 2015-2017 | Lynn Fronk |
| 2013-2015 | Mickie Marquis |
| 2011-2013 | Aggie Goss |
| 2009-2011 | Betty Cookendorfer |
| 2007-2009 | Victoria Bergesen |
| 2005-2007 | Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich |
| 2003-2005 | Shirley Basista |
| 2001-2003 | Dot Blum |
| 1999-2001 | Carmie Devito |
| 1997-1999 | Linda Holzheimer |
| 1987-1989 | Joan Wikel |

## GOLDEN CIRCLE

***Thank you faithful board members!***
These members have served
20 or more years on the
GCO Board of Directors.
Shirley Basista
Dot Blum
Gail Chuck
Betty Cookendorfer
Mary Kay Covington
Carmie DeVito
Carolyn Doerflein
Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich
Lynn Fronk
Linda Holzheimer
Ruth Kinder
Cleo Lehman
Mickie Marquis
Patricia Rupiper
Deanna Stearns

### Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
### Mission Statement

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. promotes activities to connect people to the natural and man-made worlds by cultivating stewardship with education in horticulture, zoology, conservation, civic responsibility and environmental concerns. We inspire the public by example using gardening, photography, botanical arts and floral design and by cooperation with agencies intererested in our objectives.



# GARDEN CLUB OF OHIO CALENDAR

## Dates to Remember for 2025

October 15-16.....Ohio Tri-Refresher via Zoom (Registration deadline 10/8)
October 20-21.....CAR Convention, Cambridge, MD
October 23.....Fall District Meeting, Toledo District
November 5-6..... **Holiday Shows:**
North -- November 5.....Cleveland
South -- November 6.....Columbus
November 7.....OJC Fall Meeting

## Dates to Remember for 2026

January 21.....GCO Board Meeting
February 1.....Garden Greetings Deadline for Spring (April) issue
April 17..... OJC Meeting
April 21.....GCO Board Meeting(s), Worthington Hills Country Club
April 27-May 6.....**Spring District Meetings**

| | |
|---|---|
| April 27.....Toledo | May 4 ..... Columbus |
| April 28..... Mansfield | May 5..... Cincinnati |
| April 30..... Canton | May 6..... Cleveland |

May 1.....Garden Greetings Deadline for Summer (July) issue
May 4-6.....NGC Convention, St. Louis, MO
June 15-17.....GCO Convention, Cincinnati
August 1.....Garden Greetings Deadline for Fall (October) issue
September 17.....NGC Fall Board Meeting
September 22.....GCO Board Meeting(s), Worthington Hills Country Club
September 28 - October 7....**Fall District Meetings**

| | |
|---|---|
| September 28.....Toledo | October 5 .....Mansfield |
| September 29.....Cleveland | October 6.....Columbus |
| September 30.....Canton | October 7.....Cincinnati |

October 18-20.....CAR Convention, Holiday Inn South, Independence
November 4-5..... **Holiday Shows:**
November 4.....Columbus
November 5.....Cleveland

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

## SCAM ALERT!!!!!

Using the names of our members and leaders, a new scam is being attempted. The names of Kim O., Bert N., Debra T. , Anette M. and Cindy K. have been used. The most recent message asks the recipient to reply if she has time to talk. Then the imposter emails back a request for money to be sent electronically.

Check the email address. If you can't confirm it, don't reply! If it seems possible, originate a new email to an email address you know, and/or text or call.

I am discontinuing distributing the Ohio President's email address because some scammers I have seen are creating similar leadership-sounding names for their emails.

***Debra Turner***

**Posted on the GCO Facebook Page.**

Check us out! Find out about our Clubs' activities, plant sales, garden tours, horticulture tips, design ideas……

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