

Blades & Blooms

Master Gardeners of Clark County
PO Box 158, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0158

<http://osu.edu/topics/horticulture/blades-blooms-newsletters>.

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Volume 21 Number 9 Sept, 14



Mark Your Calendar!

September

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Labor Day office closed |
| 2 | 10 am-noon Staff Office Conference |
| 3 | 9 am-noon Garden Clean up
1 pm Landscape Architect |
| 4 | 10 am Gateway Learning Garden
Committee |
| 6 | 8:30 am-12:30 pm Farmer's Market booth |
| 8 | 10 am-noon Early Ohio Settlers Garden Mtg |
| 10 | 6:00-6:30 pm Social
6:30 pm General Meeting |
| 12 | 9 am-noon Utzinger Garden Preparation |
| 15 | 9 am-noon Utzinger Garden Set up |
| 16 | Farm Science Review |
| 17 | Farm Science Review |
| 18 | Farm Science Review |
| 19 | 9 am-noon Utzinger Garden Tear Down |
| 20 | Blades & Bloom articles due
10 am-7 pm Wool Gathering |
| 21 | 10 am-5 pm Wool Gathering |
| 23 | 9 am-11 am Fair Entrance Bed Clean up |



art from bestclipartblog.com

Presidents Message:

Old MacDonald had a farm... Now we just have to wonder if he had a Farm Science Review? But we can probably guess that it wasn't anything like the 52nd one that will happen the week of September 15th at the Molly Caren site. If you have not had the opportunity to see the Utzinger Gardens and to admire the work of Phil Young, Bill Queen and all of the great volunteers who have worked all summer on this magnificent garden now is the time to go and enjoy it. Phil will have more to say about this project in the B & B and also at the General Meeting on Wednesday September 10th.

September also is the month for the Wool Gathering at Young's Jersey Dairy beginning September 19th.

Summer projects will soon be memories and we will be dreaming of summer tomatoes of 2015. Let's hope they are better than 2014's. Fall clean ups in our own gardens will start. I hope you will take some time to walk through those gardens and share some of those great memories most of us made there, and great friends we were able to make as well.

September is time for the Altrusa "Literacy Sting." If you would like to be a 'speller' please let us know. If not a "speller" plan to attend and help the MGVs again win the "Spirit" award. We do know how to make some noise!

Now would also be a great time to remember to enter your hours onto the VMS system (do as I ask, not as I do) and avoid the mad rush at the end of the year. There are still excellent opportunities to volunteer and to complete continuing education hours. Besides the great ones that Carolyn and Jo let us know about, there is also the State Conference as well as opportunities at surrounding nurseries: Meadowview, Knollwood, and Siebenthaler's. Check out their web sites for programs, sites, and dates!

Thanks for all you do to make the MGV program in Clark County great and here is hoping that you have had 'fun doing it!'

Becky Menozzi, President

Pam's Posies

Thanks to all of you who attended the meetings for the Landscape Architect on August 26 and I apologize for the miscommunication in regards to the second landscape architect presentation. The second LA was unable to make it on Aug. 26 so we have rearranged the schedule somewhat. Here is the updated schedule:

September 3, 9:00 a.m. - Gateway Garden Clean-up.

September 3, 1:00 p.m. - CYP Studio landscape architect presentation.

September 4, 10:00 a.m. - Gateway Learning Garden Committee meet to discuss selection of LA firm to do the design for Snyder Park.

Again, I am sorry for the confusion and I appreciate all who came back at 1:00 for the meeting. The discussion was good.

Following both presentations and discussion and recommendation by the GLG committee, the Board of Trustees will be meeting before the general meeting to determine which Landscape Architect to hire for the project. Our most pressing issue in getting our LA picked out is to determine as soon as possible (if possible) where the Victory Garden, turf research plots and field trials will be in the future design. Our hope is to get these beds prepared this fall - again, if at all possible!

Once we hire a LA to create the design, we will begin our meetings with the GLG committee. We will try to establish regular meeting dates so that you are aware in advance of the meetings and can commit to attending all of them (or almost all of them). My goal is to have a completed landscape design by early January and then begin fundraising for the project.

My trip to China was fantastic. It was an incredible learning experience and opportunity. I had a chance to teach a class of graduate students and professor's about container and rooftop gardening in the US. They really don't have containers in many places in the city (just plain no room!) and they don't have rooftop gardens. Their cities are so full of people that green space is extremely

important. Their view of urban agriculture is to have more of an agri-tourism site established outside of the city so that people in the city can get away from it on the weekend and experience agriculture in the country. I hope to be able to give a presentation at a general meeting in the future on this trip. It's also great to be in the US. Traveling to another country only emphasizes how lucky we are to have so much freedom. I thank those who fight for it daily.

Pam

Pamela J. Bennett
State Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator
Extension Educator, Horticulture
Ohio State University Extension

Jo's Notes:

GREAT NEWS!!

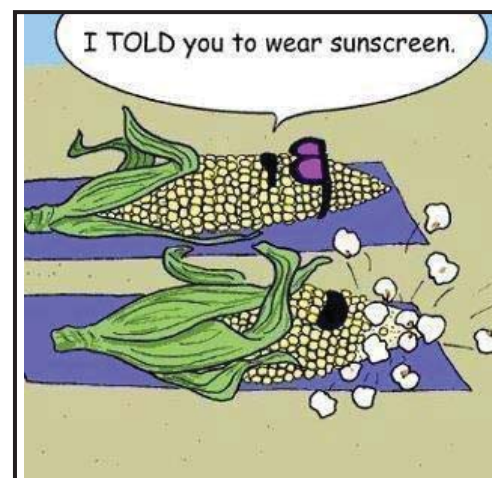
Every certified Master Gardener Volunteer has a new official name tag in their personal file folder in the 2 drawer cabinet located in Kathy McConkey/HelpLine office.

These name tags have the new OSU branding on it. Please start wearing this one instead of your old one.

Please pick up as soon as possible.

Thoughts and Prayers

John Massie broke both bones in his right leg below his knee and 3 bones in his left foot the week of Aug 4th. He will have a cast on for 12 weeks. His address is 6440 Conway Drive, Enon, OH 45323.



art from commonsenseevaluation.com

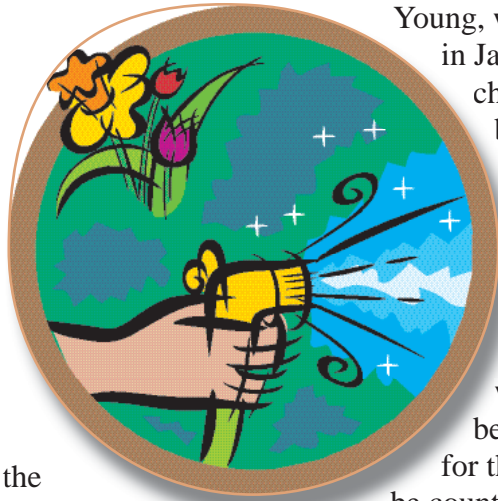
Carolyn's Corner

Farm Science Review

Volunteers; your tickets and parking passes will be available for pick up at the September General Meeting on the 10th or any time after that at the office. Also in your envelope will be a card with your work assignment, date and area of garden assigned. Please try to car pool as the lots fill up quickly. Be prepared for all kinds of weather: rain gear, sun hats, and comfortable shoes. When you arrive on your assigned days, check in with Susie Anderson for directions. Wear your purple t-shirts, if you have them, and new name tags. Thanks for volunteering for this. You will enjoy the event. You might also want to take in programs in the Gazebo for CE credits.

Field Trials

Well the plants are beginning to head into fall: flopping, decrease bloom, and loss of vigor. I still think they will last until the end of September. So Adopt A Bed volunteers keep up the good work, you have done a really good job this season. Thanks to the crew who cleaned all the pots and trays, we will be ready to go in February when we open the greenhouse. It is just transporting it all back down to the greenhouse that will be a chore. All in all it has been a good year. Thanks to all who volunteered in some way on this project.



VMS Tip

If any of you want to see what the Chicago Tour group did, check out the Photo Albums on the VMS. Click on Photo Albums under General Information, and then Double click on MGV Chicago Trip and the first picture will open up, then scroll down to see all pictures in the album.

2014 Ohio Master Gardener Conference

The State MG Conference will take place in Delaware, Ohio on October 17th and 18th. Registration is still open until October 1. Google 2014 Ohio Master Gardener State Conference and you can find the web site for the program and

registration form. Meet fellow Master Gardener volunteers and attend some great programs for educational credits. State Awards will be presented on Friday evening at the banquet. It is interesting to see the projects that other counties are involved in, pick up some ideas. Cost is \$180 for banquet, Friday tour, and Saturday's classes. Having the conference in Delaware makes it an easy drive, if you do not want to stay overnight. Get a couple of friends and make your plans.

Straw Vote

Enclosed in the September B&B is a straw vote. This is used for each volunteer to nominate someone for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The current President-Elect, Phil Young, will assume the office of President in January. After you have made your choices, return the form to the office or bring to the September meeting. The nominating committee will tabulate the straw votes and contact the volunteers who were nominated to see if they are willing to run. The top 2 names for each position will be placed on the ballot. The ballots will be on the VMS, and some will be available at the November meeting for those who need one. The ballots will be counted and the new officers announced at the November meeting. They will be installed at the January General Meeting. Nominate your choices (it is sort of like your civic duty.)

To find the form on the VMS, go to Newsletters and Documents. Under documents the straw vote will be listed. Double click on it, then click open, and print off.

Fall Harvest Days at George Rogers Clark Park

Saturday, October 4 from 10 am-4 pm, we will set up a tent and staff the booth for this event. I will need 3 volunteers for the morning shift (9:30- 1 pm) and 3 volunteers for the afternoon shift (1-4 pm). I will put together all the materials for the booth. Contact Carolyn if you would be interested in doing this for volunteers hours.

Committee Reports:

PERENNIAL COMMITTEE

Perennial Committee met at Kathy McConkey's on Monday, July 28 to sort out our dreams and desires for the perennial beds at the new Snyder Park site. Many great ideas were exchanged. To summarize, the Committee would like to participate in landscaping around the Pro Shop using home landscape design and utilizing newer cultivars. All-season interest and easier maintenance would also be key. We would also be excited to have a display garden and/or collections garden in the future. In addition, a desire for more art throughout the gardens was expressed.

We talked about what plants to transplant from GLG and what to let go. This of course continues to be in the discussion stage until a design is presented and the logistics are figured out. We all liked the idea of a sale for the sake of fund raising and as a practical solution for the transition of the gardens.

Don't forget that we could be hosting a tour from China at GLG (refer to Pam's article) So let's keep up the weeding, pruning and deadheading. And I can't believe I'm saying this, but please pray for rain!!!

Dot Burkholder and Kathy McConkey

EARLY OHIO SETTLER GARDEN

It does not seem possible that we are coming to the end of another growing season in our gardens. We have had some very faithful workers this summer with help from Nancy Best, Kathy Eckell, Peggie Elsnau, Cindy Gootee, Gloria Sparks, Betty Grimes, Joyce Studebaker, and Mary Ellen Martin. I thank you all. We did not get our spinach from the 1600's though we tried three times. The big surprise after our very cold winter was our globe cardoon survived and bloomed. Now, it is time to make our big decisions concerning the moving of our gardens and plants and trees to our new garden in Snyder Park. There will be a meeting on Monday, September 8th from 10-12 in the small conference room at OSU Extension office. I hope to see all the committee members that day.

Thanks.
Jean Rickards

HELPLINE

It has been a great season for Helpline. Ed and I thank you all for volunteering your time and your hard work. As you know, we will not have MG volunteers for September. Kathy, Ed and I will cover the few calls that we may have during the month.

Remember: Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Ed Wichael and Rick McKinstry

HELP NEEDED AGAIN!!!!!!

We have again been asked to make 70 flower arrangements for the Vice President's Luncheon at Farm Science Review. So, we need flower donations from your gardens, people to cut flowers and people to arrange flowers. On Sunday, Sept 14th at 3:00 we will start cutting flowers at Gateway Gardens. Please bring scissors and any containers to keep the flowers in. The more hands make light work. Please bring your flowers donations to the Gateway barn by 9 AM Monday, Sept 15th.

On the 15th at 12:30 we plan to start making the arrangements in the large tent (Vice President's Tent) located at the corner of Beef Street and Land Avenue. When you enter the main gate off of Rt. 38, turn right onto Beef Street. The Vice President's Tent is just down a block on the left. If you don't find the tent, go back to the main street (Friday Avenue) and drive to Utzinger Garden and ask a Master Gardener for help.

Again, please bring your own scissors. Even if you have never made a floral arrangement before, come and help- you will learn something and have fun at the same time. This also counts on your hours plus MGV receives a donation to the program. All the floral arrangements are always so beautiful when we are finished. Please let Natheta Mercer know if you can help 937-325-5202 or e-mail emnm1960@twc.com.

Also car pool if you can as parking is tight and the streets are crowded. Thank you & I hope you will help.

Natheta Mercer



UTZINGER MEMORIAL GARDEN

As the B&B goes to press, we are 2 weeks away from the 2014 Farm Science Review, Sept. 16, 17 & 18. We have 1 more scheduled work day on Thurs., Sept. 11, 9 to noon, though I'm sure committee members will be out at Utzinger additionally putting the finishing touches on their gardens. We will be at Utzinger on Friday the 12th for fine tuning as needed. In the past the grounds have been open on the Sat. & Sun. preceding the FSR to accommodate vendors & exhibitors' setup needs. I will check to make sure that is the plan again this year and I will email the MGVs when I know for sure in case anyone needs to take advantage of this time. Final setup of tents and tables will be Mon. the 15th. I will email later about the exact time frame when closer to the day for the weather forecast. An email will be sent out when the gate & parking passes are available for pickup by MGVs scheduled to work this year. The garden is really coming around nicely & the new fence looks great. Hope to see you all there.

Phil Young, Chair

CALLING TREE ID HELPERS

Here's your chance to put your tree ID knowledge to use. I have taken a leadership training course through the Boy Scout Council called Wood Badge. One of the 5 projects I signed up for, is to help the local scout camp, Camp Birch in Yellow Springs, figure out the percentage of ash trees in their wooded areas by surveying 3 separate acres (over 3 separate visits) in September and October. The project will be more fun and go more smoothly, if I could get 1-3 helpers on those days (to be set on an availability basis). Email me jeb3@att.net or call if you might be interested 390-3185.

Bonnie Martens

WOOL GATHERING

The Wool Gathering is September 20 and 21, 2014. The hours on Saturday are 10 am to 7 pm and on Sunday 10 am to 5 pm. Admission is free. No Pets. Location: Young's Jersey Dairy.

Ruth Ann Rahim

RAIN GARDEN COMMITTEE

Being written and sent from Anchorage, Alaska. We are in an area with internet connection so thought I would share some of the things we have seen.

This is the edge of a Walmart Parking Lot in Fairbanks, AK. Notice there is no curb and the rain water runs off the parking lot through a gravel area into a bio swale. There had been a lot of rain and we had an opportunity to see this work effectively to keep some storm water from going into the sewer system.



This is a green roof on a building at Bell II Lodge on the Cassier Highway in British Columbia, Canada.



I have taken lots of mushroom pictures to add to my collection.

Can never have too many pictures of mushrooms.

Hope all is going well for the Clark County MGV. We plan to be back home the end of September or the beginning of October 2014. Looking forward to resuming involvement in projects upon our return.

Lola Walston,
Rain Garden Committee Chairperson



“Gardens are not made by singing ‘Oh, how beautiful!’ and sitting in the shade.”

excerpt from *The Glory of the Garden* by Rudyard Kipling,



CHICAGO GARDEN TOUR

Terry and I would like to thank all of you who came along with us.

We had never planned a bus tour before and, although it was a lot of work, it was well worth it.

52 people joined us on the bus tour and we toured 4 large and impressive gardens.

One had been a private home, another a business that grows plants for seed and we plant their seeds. The next was an absolutely beautiful botanical garden and, last but not least, an arboretum that seemed to go on forever.

The weather was really perfect and the flowers were at their peak. Hopefully, those of you who came along have a lot of fresh ideas for our new gardens in Snyder Park!

I hope that many of you, whether you came to Chicago with us or not, will join us at our next field trip meeting. We would love to hear your ideas about other exciting gardens that you have always wanted to visit, either near or far.

Until then, enjoy the rest of the summer,
Terry Reid and Sally Day



HISTORY CORNER

A recent trip to Chicago allowed our Master Gardeners to explore a beautiful Japanese garden divided between three islands surrounded by water. Japanese history/legend says that the turtle is an important animal. So, one island is shaped like a turtle's shell high in the middle sloping on all sides. The island has no flowers only trees, shrubs and grasses that project different shades of green like emeralds. No one is allowed on the turtle island but the maintenance workers that manicure every inch of it. This is the island of the gods. Even the rock formations are strategically placed to conform with tradition. At the water's edge you can see the reflection of the trees and rocks; it is a calming feeling to gaze across the water at this beautiful scene.

The next island rises out of the water with more greenery sculpted to take on the look of a Japanese garden for the purpose of meditation. An open shelter/ pavilion rests on the top of the hill and in this place is a pond of sand and pebbles that awaits your rake while you meditate on life's complexities. The Japanese rake the sand and the effect creates swirls similar to ripples in a pond. Let's move on to the next island and cross over the



water by walking on a crooked bridge. The small structure is zig zagged and one should be sure of foot so as not to fall into the water. Why is it designed this way? According to legend, spirits move in a straight line so if you follow a crooked path they can't follow you. What an interesting legend based on Japanese mythology. This island has a Samurai House on it that was built in Japan, shipped to the USA and reassembled on a small knoll on this third island. The guide said, you may visit two islands but, you can't walk on the turtle island. Did you know most Asian Cultures believe uneven numbers are lucky. Not even numbers-note that there were three islands.

Betty J. Grimes

PLANT OF THE MONTH:

VINCA (VING-kuh)

Periwinkle, *vinca minor*

Perennial periwinkle makes a great groundcover around woodland paths and stepping stones. They can withstand some foot traffic without any damage. The shiny, dark green, evergreen leaves are spaced evenly along long, creeping or arching stems that will root wherever they touch the ground. Periwinkles produce elegant, funnel-shaped flowers in colors of blue, purple, or white, with five petals arrayed in a pinwheel pattern. The flowers bloom heavily in spring, but will also bloom in summer and fall, especially when cooler weather returns.

Periwinkle will reach a height of 3 to 6 inches with a spread of about 6 to 18 inches. The plants are very adaptable. The plants are easy to grow and will tolerate a wide range of soils as long as the soil has some organic matter. They grow in full sun to part shade and do almost as well in deep shade, however, they won't bloom as well in deep shade. Periwinkle prefers regular water but doesn't require it. The plants can take heat, drought, rain, and even infertile soil with ease. The plants do not like a dry, sunny spot. This tough groundcover isn't prone to pests or diseases.

The deer resistant, extensive, quick-growing root system prevents soil erosion while its thick mat of evergreen leaves keeps weeds down. Make sure its



Image from Wikipedia.org

glossy green foliage stays dense and lush by cutting it back once a year, in early spring. Don't worry about going over the short stems with a pair of hedge shears, as there is an easier way. Set your mower at 3 to 4 inches high and mow over the plants.

Planted together beneath a deciduous tree, periwinkle and daffodils make a great spring combination of blue and yellow flowers. Periwinkle will bloom and spread happily in the dappled shade, thus helping to hide the fading foliage of the daffodils.

NOTE: Periwinkles can be very invasive and get out of hand quickly. Root barriers are of no use because the plants spread aboveground, not underneath. You may want to plant where there is a natural, paved barrier.

You can multiply periwinkles by dividing the numerous offsets any time the ground isn't frozen.

The plants also root readily

from stem cuttings taken from nonblooming stems.

Dot Burkholder

Correction to Greenhouse report from August.

Instead of 1800 holding trays, 180 watering trays and covers we had:

Pots - 1800

Holding trays – 180

Watering trays and covers – 7 soaking trays and 25 clear covers

Sorry for the confusion
Editor



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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



**GARDEN CLEAN UP
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
9 AM - NOON**

The Master Gardener “Blades & Blooms” is a publication of the Clark County Extension, 3130 East Main Street, Springfield, Ohio 45505, 937-521-3860. The Master Gardener Advisor is Pam Bennett.

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