OHIO'S BACKYARD

The 79th Annual Convention of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
July 13 – 15, 2009

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the 79th annual OAGC convention. Region 3 invites everyone to the award winning Holiday Inn in Fairborn, (near Dayton) for a fun-filled and educationally-loaded three days, Monday - Wednesday, July 13 - 15, 2009.

The event starts off with a bang when OAGC’s floral arrangers and horticultural gurus compete in the Convention’s Artistic and Horticulture Flower Shows. (Entries accepted 9 am to 1 pm.) Everyone is encouraged to review the Horticulture Show schedule and rules in the last issue of The Garden Path. The Artistic Show schedule and rules can be found in this issue, page 4.

Monday afternoon will see something familiar with a new name: Convention College! Starting at 1 pm, several exciting courses are scheduled. Programs include: Plants Behaving Badly by Chris McCullough, member of the Ohio Invasive Plant Society; Native Trees and Shrubs by Brian Jorg, Horticulture Manager of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden; and Daylilies, Back to the Future by Master Certified Nursery Technician and funny woman Barb Kedler from Knollwood Garden Center.

Additionally, there will be a Hypertufa Workshop at 2 pm. This Make-it-Take-it Workshop will include a demonstration of how to mix and make your own light-weight concrete-like planters. Participants will receive pre-made hypertufa pots and plant them on site. Class size is limited and the fee is $20. (Sign up on the convention registration form found on page 19.)

After the banquet meal Monday evening we will recognize our past presidents, judges and life members. Awards will be presented. We are extremely delighted to present the very talented arranger Mickie Marquis for her program The Earth is Our Garden. Mickie is a Master Gardener in Warren County, a member of Lebanon Council of Garden Clubs and is the second Vice President of the Garden Clubs of Ohio.

Tuesday morning we’ll travel by charter bus for a private, behind-the-scenes tour of Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark led by its horticulturist, Mr. Chris Jensen. Located beside the scenic Stillwater River, the 90-acre park is a unique horticultural landmark within Dayton’s city limits. OAGC members and our guests will tour Wegerzyn’s lovely formal gardens, which reflect Federal, English and Victorian era styles. We will experience the state-of-the-art Children’s Discovery Garden, which opened in 2006 to regional and national acclaim. Other attractions include the Sunken Garden, Swamp Forest Boardwalk, Woodland Trail and the newly implemented composting facility. Sign up early to insure your seat on the bus!

Following the luncheon, we will hear reports and present awards. Perhaps you were unaware that OAGC has our own version of funny woman Erma Bombeck in our midst. For our afternoon program, our second Vice President Mary Lee Minor will entertain us with If This is Paradise, Why Am I Wearing Kneepads? The good, bad and the ugly will be revealed in floral designs as she mixes comedic anecdotes about critters, creatures and family while designing!

Tuesday evening’s banquet will include awards and the wonderful program Backyards and Beyond: Native Plants, Think Globally, Plant Locally by Jim McCormac.

(Continued on page 9)
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WHERE DO I SEND IT?

All donations to OAGC are now placed in the 501(c)3 Foundation. Send to Foundation Treasurer, Jean Walton, address on page 3. Make checks payable to OAGC Foundation Inc.

Send all address changes, missed Garden Path issues, Plant Promotions, and In Memoriam, Via the Grapevine & Stepping Stone items to State Publicity Chair, Margie Graft.
Dear Friends,

I've recently become aware of several new words. The first: localvore. Have you heard of it? It is a term given to someone who shops and buys their food from local sources. Now I'm not a full-fledged localvore but do make a personal effort to support locally grown and produced food and even local (versus national-based) businesses and services. I love the freshness of locally grown foods and the personal interest that local/Ohio businesses take with their customers. Think this is a new trend? Think again! The front page of the January 1931 issue of *The Garden Path* was speaking on this very theme: shopping in Ohio first.

OAGC is fortunate to again work with Bluestone Perennials located in Madison, Ohio for our annual fundraising sale. Bluestone offers an amazing selection of Ohio-grown perennials, bulbs and shrubs. Each order placed using the special discount code (s9oage234) through May 1 will receive a 10% discount AND OAGC will earn 10% as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to support an Ohio company and OAGC at the same time. Check them out at www.bluestoneperennials.com or call 1-800-852-5243 to request a catalog.

Another word is: staycation, a play on the word vacation while staying near home. The Ohio State Park Resort Weekday Workforce appreciation program is yet another way to President Vicki Ferguson keep it local. Now through April 30, you can book a staycation at one of seven Ohio State Park Resorts at a very discounted rate Sundays through Thursdays. I can personally vouch for Mohican State Park Resort, Salt Fork State Park Resort and Hueston Woods State Park Resort - they are fabulous! Just use the code (Weekday) when making your reservation at 1-800-282-7275 and get ready for your relaxing Ohio staycation.

One last word to share: precycle. Precycling is a way to reduce waste by prethinking your purchases. By making a more discriminating decision when shopping you can reduce the amount you recycle. How? Take reusable fabric tote bags to the grocery. Buy fewer disposable items. Use cloth napkins instead of paper ones. And of course, reduce and reuse as much as you can!

I hope you will make plans to join your friends at the many exciting OAGC events that are planned for this year. Please be looking for more information on Nature Study Camp (Friendly Hills Camp), Gardeners' Day Out (to Cranberry Bog), Convention (Holiday Inn Fairborn/Dayton), Exhibitors' & Judges' Schools and our great fall trip to tour the sights of Pennsylvania. We have so much in store for 2009 and you won't want to miss any of it! I hope I'll see you down the Garden Path!

Perennially Yours,

Vicki Ferguson
President
The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs Inc.
2009 CONVENTION FLOWER SHOW
ARTISTIC SCHEDULE

"BACKYARD PARADISE"

ADULT ARTISTIC DESIGNS

1. **Beautiful Goldfinch** –
   a. a miniature design not to exceed 5" in any one direction
   b. a small design more than 5" but less than 12" in any one direction
   (Staged in white niches; miniature niche 6"x6"x6," small niche 13"x13"x13")

2. **Meditation Garden** – a design in the Oriental manner; 40" tall and 30" wide Shoji screen background provided

3. **Through the Garden Gate** – a transparency design

4. **Welcome to My Paradise** – a traditional design

5. **Dining on the Dec** – exhibition table picture, Type I; 45" high, 30" wide and 28" deep background, 6" drop on cloth

6. **Along the Garden Path** – using weathered wood

7. **Backyard Addition** – a design using gourds

8. **Birds in Flight** – framed spatial design, designer to provide own frame

9. **Sitting Around the Fire Pit** – designer’s choice

10. **High in My Tree House** – floor design, staged on a 36" round black base against a dark background

JUNIOR ARTISTIC DESIGNS

11. **Busy as a Bee** – miniature design – no more than 5" in any one direction, staged on a pedestal
   a. Ages 6-11
   b. Ages 12-18

12. **A Garden is for All** – 16"x20" collage to be staged on easels provided by the committee
   a. Ages 6-11
   b. Ages 12-18

Convent 2009 Flower Show Artistic Rules and Regulations

1. Artistic classes are open to members of OAGC who are registered for the convention.
2. Each adult and junior class is limited to four entries.
3. The person registering for a class must fulfill the commitment or find a substitute before notifying the flower show chair of the change.
4. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
5. Exhibits are to be placed between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, July 13, 2009 in the ballroom at the Holiday Inn Fairborn.
6. Entry tags and 3x5 cards will be furnished so that plant materials can be listed and placed with the entry.
7. Each design must include plant material, either fresh or dried. No artificial plant materials are allowed. No artificially colored or treated fresh plant materials should be used.
8. Dried and preserved plant material may be of a natural color or painted, even treated. Plant materials which are on the conservation list, may not be used unless they are grown by the exhibitor. This fact must be stated on a card which should accompany the design.
9. Accessories and/or bases, which enhance the design may be used but are not required.
10. Neither the flower show committee nor OAGC can assume responsibility for loss or damage to containers, accessories, or other components of the design. Mark all paraphernalia with exhibitor’s name and address.
11. White colored backgrounds furnished by the committee. Classes 3 through 9 will have a space which is 45" high, 30" wide and 28" deep. Exhibitors may enhance the background as they choose. (Do not pin, staple, paste or damage the existing background.)
12. Accredited judges of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc., will judge the show according to the standard system. The decision of these judges will be final.
13. No one except authorized personnel will be permitted on the flower show floor during judging.
14. Ribbon awards of a first, second, third, and honorable mention may be given in all classes. More than one honorable mention may be given to worthy entries in the junior classes. Rosette awards will be given for the adult "Best of Show", adult "Judges’ Award of Distinction", and to junior "Best of Show."
15. Reservations must be made no later than June 23, 2009. Classes will be filled in the order in which the reservations are received. Adult and Junior artistic classes must be pre-registered by contacting Show Chair Marilyn Fies, 128 Irongate Dr., Union, OH, 45322, 937-836-8955 or email Sue Witwer, CWITWER3@woh.rr.com. Please put "OAGC Designs" in subject line of the email.

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*CLARIFICATION*

2009 Photography Contest
"ZOOM IN, ZOOM OUT"

Color Entries…Classes 1 through 8
Black & White entries…Class 9
(Class 9 can be any of the images from classes 1-8, but in B/W)
Questions? Media Chair, Susy Spence, sspence@oagc.org or 513-772-2936
Cranberry Bog is a unique one-of-a-kind place in the world. Its original size was 50 acres, but erosion, time, weather and the wake created by high-speed watercraft has diminished it to its current 12 acres. At some future point, like a Will-o’-the-wisp, it will be gone forever.

The area was once part of a large marshy swamp. In 1830 it was decided to turn the swamp into a reservoir feeder lake for the Ohio & Erie Canal. It was too shallow to provide the water needed for canal barge traffic during the dry season.

When the area was impounded and flooded the sphagnum moss mat marsh of the north shore section of swamp expanded and rose to the surface creating a floating sphagnum moss island surrounded by water. The bog is habitat for many native North American orchids and carnivorous plants, many of which are at peak bloom in mid-June.

Without a special permit, the only other way to tour is to place your name in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources’ (ODNR) Annual June Cranberry Bog Tour Lottery. The lottery is limited to one Saturday in June, and a total of 400 lottery winners. The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. has been granted an ODNR one-day permit for our members and guests for a private tour on Wednesday, June 17th, just before the lottery tour. There is a boardwalk path on the bog and one section of it was made possible by a donation from OAGC Nature Study Camp.

Included in the tour is a round trip boat ride and tour of Cranberry Bog Island, and a tour of the Buckeye Lake History Museum. A boxed lunch will be served at the Dawes Arboretum Nature Center at 1:00 p.m. Dawes Arboretum has a wonderful selection of rare trees, several tree collections, a Japanese Garden, various other garden rooms, miles of walking and driving trails, water features, a bonsai collection and a well-stocked gift shop. The arboretum covers approximately 1800 acres. Cost for the day is $35.

Rose pagonia orchid

Gardeners' Day Out Mini Schedule:
THE DAY OF JUNE 17: Cost for the day is $35.
9:00 am: Meet at the parking lot of the North Shore Boat Ramp in Buckeye Lake for registration. The boat ramp is just off St. Rt. 79 S. in Buckeye Lake. Make a left turn at the end of the divided section of highway. Signs will be posted. You will receive a packet at registration. We will separate into groups for the tour with some touring the museum and a group of 50 at a time touring the island. The tour boat accommodates 50 passengers. At the end of each tour to Cranberry Bog the rotation will switch. The Buckeye Lake History Museum is at 4729 Walnut Road, Buckeye Lake.
1:00 p.m.: Lunch at Dawes Arboretum at 7770 Jacksontown Rd. S. E., Ste. Rt. 13 S., Newark, leaving time to tour the arboretum or see other local sites of interest such as the native American mounds at Newark Earthworks. Dawes is a 4.5 miles self-drive … maps will be provided.

THE EVENING OF JUNE 16:
The 1812 Buxton Inn, 313 E. Broadway, Granville. Cost for the evening is $13.
7:00 pm: Meet for dessert and beverages and an evening of entertainment and fun at the Historic 1812 Buxton Inn in Granville. This will give those who have arrived early time to visit some of the area shops, maybe tour the classic 1842 Greek revival - Robbins-Hunter Museum, or drive beyond Alexandria to Baker’s Acres Nursery on Castle Road. Licking County has many garden centers, shops, plus Hopewell/Adena Indian mounds, many museums including the National Heisey Museum (the third week of June is the annual Heisey collectors’ exhibit, convention and sale at the Newark-OSU campus.) The evening speaker will be Mitch Lynd from Lynd’s Fruit Farm with a humorous and delightful program about the history of apples. Note: If you plan to lodge at the Buxton Inn let their event coordinators (Anita Hayes or Dottie Knight) know you are with The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. The Buxton Inn is not only a restaurant but also a Bed & Breakfast.
GDO Registration form is on page 19.
There are many reasons to avoid the Ohio State Fair. It is so hot in late July, early August. There are crowds and dust. There is congestion on the inside thoroughfares, both vehicular and human, plus, quite a walk from the parking lot.

There are a few reasons to visit. The merchants bring newly marketed products. The horse showmanship classes in the arena are inspiring. The evening grandstand shows appeal to many people. Have you ever looked at decorated cakes, or doll houses in the arts and crafts area? The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has an ever-widening show of the natural world including animals, an aviary, a portion of a prairie, even a kayaking pool. Sometimes Clydesdale horses precede the All-Ohio State Fair Band in a daily parade through the grounds.

We should not overlook the Agriculture, Floriculture, and Horticulture Building. There are bins of vegetables, a scarecrow contest, miniature gardens, planters of dimension, fresh cut horticulture, and potted plants. The Rose Society and the Gladiolus Society each have their own separate shows on weekends during the fair.

There are the three flower designing shows which are still supported by members of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. The show schedules are written in the winter supervised by Jim Chakeres and a committee. Each show is judged by OAGC accredited judges.

You may wonder how having three fresh design shows is accomplished. You will register ahead of the Ohio State Fair dates, by going on line at www.ohiostatefair.com. Here, you can find the theme and show titles, dates, and all the rules your heart can handle. The shows have eight classes each. You will see the premiums which are paid to you in each placement. You may opt to come one day. You are not obligated to enter all 8 classes.

Let me tell you some secrets. Most designers load their cars and vans with many buckets of fresh materials, along with containers, set ups, and a basket full of necessities - wire, Cling (the wonderful sticky stuff) aqua picks, sticks, needlepoints, oasis and a towel for leaking situations. A few have sketches on cards, while others carry the ideas in their heads. What you forget some one will loan to you, even flowers!

Some pack a lunch, while others work right up until the judge arrives between 1 and 1:15 pm. You get free encouragement. You get inspiration and excitement. You may experience fear. In the end there is a dramatic, expressive show. We are all "fair"ly proud.

On two of the days, there is a special competition as the eighth entry. Extemporaneous designing may sound really frightening. It is that way the first time. Each designer is given the same flowers, the same container and the same amount of time – one half hour. There is generally a gallery of admirers (or hecklers) who add to the drama. The arrangements are then judged and displayed.

Another option is to supply a design for the niches which are not judged and shown in alcoves. The public can see our ability to execute design categories. You could drive to the fair and make one design for that portion of the show; you are compensated.

Talk to one of last summer's designers: Jane Adkins, Nancy Annis, Dottie Bates, Vicki Ferguson, Stephanie Gerken, Mary Lee Minor, Babs Sabick, Barb Sheets, Sharon Ware, and Juanita Wilkins. Each one of them would encourage you to support the 2009 Ohio State Fair.

In 2008 Dottie Bates displayed the outstanding floral niche, while Mary Lee Minor received the most points over the three shows for the master floral designer award for 2008.

A best of show plaque went to Dottie Bates. Jane Adkins had the best hosta and the best foliage entry. Stephanie Gerken had the best cut flower, while Pat Kocozcka had the best potted plant.

As spring arrives, consult the website for the theme and titles. Carry a card around and make notes. In June, pay your fees and secure entry tags --- make a commitment to come to Columbus. Bring lots of water to drink and your own special gifts for the arrangement classes.

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PHOTOGRAPHING MOTHER NATURE'S BEST SIDE
Susy Spence, Media Chair

Our 2009 Photo Contest is titled "Zoom In, Zoom Out!" suggesting close up shots (featuring part of specimen) and distant shots (featuring an entire image). You will exercise different skills in creating these entries. Take many photos and pick the best ones to submit as your entries.

When you use your camera to take photos that aren’t candid, put some thought into the process. Practice makes perfect…. or at least really good! If you don’t have a photography background, then just think of the picture that you are taking just as you plan a floral design or your garden design.

Good design is good design, no matter what form it takes. Consider the balance, contrast, proportion and scale. Just as important are space, texture and color. Place your subject in the frame of your camera just as you would your floral design within the confines of the allotted background in a flower show.

Have fun using your camera to record the beauty in the garden. Take time when selecting your best entries. Take into consideration clarity of detail, trueness of color and composition.

Remember to label your entries properly. Contest rules are in the winter issue of The Garden Path and at www.oagc.org.

Mother Nature is dynamic on her own but taking pictures of her best side is our mission with the contest. Have fun. If you have questions, contact Susy Spence, State Media Chair, at ssponce@oagc.org or 513-772-2936.

Have trouble planting seeds evenly? Run a strip of toilet paper down the furrow and sow the seeds on top of the paper. Now you can see where each seed is and can adjust as needed.
NATURE'S BEST BACKYARDS
Charlene Thornhill, Horticulture Chair

Flocks of goldfinches are a delight to watch in any backyard. Three species of goldfinches make their home in the United States. The American Goldfinch, the brightest of the three, inhabits most parts of the states, generally moving to the northern states during the mating season and to the southern states during the colder winter months.

The Lesser Goldfinch and the Lawrence's Goldfinch tend to inhabit the southwestern parts of the United States.

Goldfinches feed primarily on weed seeds and sometimes insects when they are available. Goldfinches love weedy fields, orchards, open woodlands, thickets and roadides, especially if they contain patches of thistle and sunflowers.

Goldfinches are sociable and will visit backyard feeders in hungry flocks of 30 or more.

Thistle or nyjer seeds are the preferred food of goldfinches. Specially designed feeders are available for thistle or finch feeders.

Store your thistle seed in a cool area or refrigerator to preserve it. Hang your thistle feeder at least 15 feet from other feeders and water sources. Hang it 4-5 feet in the air in a brushy area, if possible.

Goldfinches also enjoy black oil sunflower seed especially when they have a black oil sunflower feeder available to provide lots of perching space.

Goldfinches nest later in the season than most species. The females line their nests with the down of thistle. They tend to build their nest and mate from June through August. Their late mating season is due to the food sources they prefer to give their young. This is the time of year that weed seeds and thistle begin to ripen. You will usually see more activity at your thistle feeders during the late summer as they busy themselves. A source of water is important, as goldfinches love to bathe. Offer water in a birdbath with a dripper or mister.

Good garden food plants that attract goldfinches are thistle, dandelions, sunflowers, coreopsis, cosmos, black-eyed susan, serviceberry, birch, sweet gum, mulberry, hemlock, zinnias, elm and alder.

ADENA MANSION and GARDENS
HEIRLOOM PLANT SALE

To kick off the 2009 Year in the Gardens of Adena programming, the Ohio Historical Society will have its annual Heirloom Plant Sale on April 25 – May 3. The sale is open Wednesday through Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday, noon – 5 pm and closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. The sale is free and if you wish to tour the mansion and the rest of the site, it is only $8/adult and $4/children, 6-12 years old.

Hearts of Compassion, Mortgage Lifter, Arkansas Traveler and Mule Team are not everyday plant names, but these are just four of a large variety of heirloom tomatoes that will be available for sale this year. Along with the tomatoes, unique heirloom flowers and herbs also will be for sale. Some of the flowers’ names might spark memories from your childhood. Do you remember names like Job’s Tears, Rose Campion and Love Lies Bleeding? New this year, the sale will feature four varieties of heirloom roses for sale. There will be limited quantities of the roses. These are just a few of the plants that will bring back those memories and visions of past gardens.

Adena will feature garden events throughout 2009: including a Mad Hatter's Tea Party fund-raising event in June to support the site’s gardens, A Taste of Ohio’s Heritage - an heirloom tomato and Ohio-made food tasting event in August and a hands-on heirloom garden symposium in September. There will be another heirloom plant sale in Columbus at the Ohio Historical Center in May, date to be announced. More information about all of the events can be found on www.ohiohistory.com/calendar.

Adena Mansion and Gardens is located at the north edge of Chillicothe in Ross County. Directions are located at www.ohiohistory.org/places/adena. For more information call the site at 740-772-1500 ext 101 or 800-319-7248, ext 101.

2009 OAGC GARDEN ROOM RAFFLE

Don't miss out on your chance to win the 2009 OAGC Garden Room Raffle. One lucky person will own the whole kit-and-caboodle (check out the Oct-Nov-Dec issue of The Garden Path for a complete description) when theirs is the winning ticket drawn the last day of convention. Tickets were mailed out to each garden club and are being sold at all OAGC events. Additional tickets may be purchased from Raffle Chair Mary Lee Minor, second vice president (address on page 2). Maybe you are wondering how you will get the Garden Room home when you win? Not to worry. The ensemble will be delivered personally by President Vicki Ferguson!
NATURE STUDY CAMP
June 7-12, 2009
Jan Harmon, Camp Coordinator

The Friendly Hills Grange Camp, near Zanesville, located on the Muskingum River, offers a unique setting for this year's Nature Study Camp. The camp is large and can accommodate more campers than our usual number. If you have never attended Nature Study Camp, why not plan to come this year. I challenge you to find any activity where for $190 adult or $175 for juniors you get lodging, 3 meals a day and over four full days of programming and entertainment.

A campground on the premises is also available, at no extra charge, should you like to bring your own camping equipment. I do need to know several weeks in advance should you plan to do this so I can make your reservations as the campground is open to the public.

We will have a full-time naturalist, as well as two staff members at the camp who are former park naturalists and familiar with the camp and surrounding area. This will make for lots of interesting programs and walks through the encompassing trail systems. Nearby Dillion and Blue Rock State Park, Black Hand Gorge and the Ellis Locks, also offer exciting venues. Zanesville is a very historic city with many museums and side trips for your consideration.

One of our annual events is our super-duper plant auction. Each camper brings plants from their gardens, or other garden related items, which are auctioned in a robust fashion with enthusiastic gardeners vying for the rare and unusual offerings. Proceeds help to defray camp expenses.

In addition to daily bird walks, are field trips where you will learn to identify native plant species. Our programs will include speakers on many subjects, including an edible and medicinal plant program by one of our naturalists.

A day trip to "The Wilds" is one of our planned activities. The Wilds (http://www.thewilds.org) is one of the largest and most innovative wildlife conservation centers in the world. As I write this many other programs are still in the planning stages. Be apprised that there is something for everyone, regardless of any physical limitations.

Please be sure to send your reservation to our Camp Registrar, using the registration form in the winter issue of The Garden Path or from www.oagc.org before May 11th.

All important information can be found on the Nature Study Web Page, http://www.oagc.org/naturestudy.htm. After registering you will receive a letter with detailed instructions on what to bring with a final activity schedule and directions to the camp.

You are promised a very full week, good food, fellowship, unique learning opportunities and fun, fun, fun.
CALENDULA - A SPECIAL HERB
Jo Ann Graham, Exhibitors' and Judges' Chair

The calendula is primarily designated as a medicinal plant with a few limited uses as a culinary plant. Many gardeners think of it as a decorative garden plant!

The Calendula officinalis is native to south central Europe and North Africa. It is sometimes referred to as "pot marigold" because its leaves were once cooked as a vegetable and it resembles a marigold. It is not a marigold.

Depending on the variety, the plants grow about two to three feet high with slender slightly aromatic and sticky leaves. The flowers are single, double, or semi-double with one bloom to a stem. There are some single petal varieties with a raised or crested center. The size of the flowers ranges from two to four inches across.

Colors can be cream, yellow, orange, or apricot. "Touch of Red" has reddish overtones to the back of each petal. Some flowers have a distinctive small dark eye or center. "Pink Surprise" has flowers with a pinkish tinge on the edges and some are actually pink with touches of gold.

The plants are generally started from seed directly sown in the garden. Many times they can be found in packs at the greenhouse to transplant in the garden. Calendulas tolerate poor soil but need good drainage. They like to be watered regularly but not standing in wet soil. They are usually grown in full sun. They do attract a little black bug that sticks to the leaves. Sevin easily discourages this pest. Slugs are also said to like calendulas.

Calendulas are annual plants but will reseed in the garden providing an abundance of little plants the next year. It is always a surprise to see what color they might be as hybrids do not always come back the same the next year.

The golden petals were used traditionally to flavor and color broths, butter and cheese. The calendula today is used in vegetable dishes, salads, custards and puddings, herb butters, baked goods, and in soups. A website that gives several recipes for using calendulas is www.herbcompanion.com.

According to research, calendulas have been used for hundreds of years medicinally as a cure for chronic headaches, ulcers, jaundice, ailments of the heart and for breaking a fever. Externally calendula salves, gels and creams have been used as a cure for boils, burns, insect stings, skin irritations, swelling, cuts and bruises. They are also used in hair rinses, creams, and soaps and as a natural dye.

Calendula blooms dry nicely keeping their color and can be added to herb and flower arrangements for a spot of color.

In addition to having many uses, calendulas are great for a splash of color in the garden, in flower arrangements, and to attract butterflies.

OAGC Convention (continued from page 1)

Jim is an avian educational specialist with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and the president of the Ohio Ornithological Society. He is the author of Birds of Ohio (2004) and Wild Ohio – The Best of Our Natural Heritage (2009.)

Our business session Wednesday will include reports and awards: Regional contests; Flower Show contests; Program and Therapy contests and Publicity contest. Following the luncheon, the afternoon speaker is the very enthusiastic organic gardener Marvin Duren with his program Get Down and Dirty: Improve Your Soil, Improve Your Health. Marvin’s Organic Gardens, located south of Lebanon, is the tri-state’s ONLY USDA Certified Organic nursery and garden center. As Marvin is known to say: "Go organic. It’s only natural!"

Before the close of our annual meeting we’ll install the 2009-2011 Regional Directors and draw the lucky name of the person who will win the "Garden Room" Raffle.

As you can see OAGC’s annual convention offers three great days that you won’t want to miss! Early convention registrants will receive a special gift so don’t wait!
EXHIBITORS' AND JUDGES' SCHOOL
Jo Ann Graham, Exhibitors' and Judges' Chair

It does not seem possible that this summer we will finish the last two schools in this series of Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools. School #5 will be June 22 - 23, 2009 and School #6, September 21 - 22, 2009. Both will be held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North Hotel.

School #5 will feature Creative Designs by Myrna Cordray, Lilies by Juanita Wilkins, Hemerocallis by Debbie and Duane Hurlbert, Plant ID by Charlene Margetiak, Hostas by Duane and Debbie Hurlbert, Geraniums and Begonias by Anita Roller, Small Gardens in Flower Shows by Babs Sabick, Bonsai by Dan Binder and a panel discussing Judging Problems.

Schools are a great place to purchase containers, plants, note cards, treasured wood, dried plant material, books, and many design and horticulture materials from the many vendors.

It is important to meet registration deadlines!
Your registration must be postmarked before May 31, 2009 or a late fee will be applied. There are no refunds for registration after May 31, 2009. A registration form can be found on page 18.

Also remember the Crowne Plaza Hotel Columbus North will charge regular room rate, not the OAGC rate of $89.00, for School #5 if you make reservations after May 31, 2009. The phone number for the hotel is on the registration form.

I hope to see many exhibitors and judges at School #5! This is a great school to learn the new creative artistic designs and the latest in horticulture trends!

OAGC FOUNDATION DONATIONS
Thank you for your continued support of these active OAGC Foundation projects. Donations are to be sent to the OAGC Foundation Treasurer Jean Walton, address on page 3. Your donations may be combined on ONE check payable to: OAGC FOUNDATION, INC., for all the listed funds: OAGC Foundation General Fund; OAGC Foundation Scholarship; Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors; Wahkeena Funds, and Public Conservation & Beautification Fund. The OAGC Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 charity. Your donation is fully IRS tax deductible. * Please enclose a note with the check stating how you wish the monies distributed, and how much is for each designated fund. You will receive acknowledgement of your donation, and if yours is a memorial donation, please provide the name and contact information for the next of kin (if known) so we may send them an acknowledgment of your gift.

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E-POSTCARD FRUSTRATIONS
Sharon Ware, First Vice President

Many of you have experienced difficulties in filing the e-postcard. I wish I had an easy answer for you, but I don't. The first issue is the EIN number. If your club had an old one from years ago, the IRS might not recognize it and you will need to apply for a new one. Details can be found on page 7 of the fall issue of The Garden Path and are also available on the OAGC website at www.oagc.org.

The second challenge is getting the IRS to recognize your club as tax exempt. That requires a phone call and I have learned from others that different operators answering the phone give you differing opinions on what to do. Directions for this may be found on page 6 (last three paragraphs) in the winter issue of The Garden Path.

You do have to be persistent and sometimes hang up and try again with another operator. OAGC is NOT set up as a parent organization and therefore we do NOT file forms on your behalf. Contrary to what some of the operators who may answer your call may say, you are an independent club setting up your own tax exemption. Just be sure to tell them your club grosses under the $25,000.00 per year and that you are requesting status as a 501(c)7 social club.

The IRS will not notify you in any way of your tax exempt status. Rather, they expect you to wait approximately 8 weeks and file the e-postcard at that time. So make a note of the date you get a "cooperative" operator and try to file the e-postcard 8 weeks later. When all goes well, the actual filing only takes 2-3 minutes and in years to come you won't experience this problem again. Filing past the deadline will not result in penalties, so please file the e-postcard even past the deadline. Informational handouts will be available at regional meetings and convention summarizing the complete procedure. Please feel free to contact me with any problems or concerns (listed page 2).
BLUESTONE PERENNIAL REMINDER!

In January, everyone received a letter on the fundraising sale from Bluestone Perennials noting the promo code that gives everyone a 10% discount. This great sale also earns OAGC 10% of the sales! Everyone who ordered from Bluestone Perennials last year should have received the 2009 catalog. If you would like to participate in this great fundraising opportunity, call Bluestone Perennials (800-852-5243) or email them (www.bluestoneperennials.com) and request a catalog. Please use the promo code (s9oagc234) when placing your order. The promo offer ends May 1, 2009.

BRANCHING OUT

Kathy Martino, Nature and Beautification Chair

I think I shall never see anything as lovely as a tree. Trees can add elegant stature, unique character and beautiful blooms to your landscape and have the potential to be the most valuable resource in your yard for attracting birds and butterflies. Trees offer multi-purpose appeal as cover from the elements and offer places for birds and butterflies to perch, rest and produce offspring. Edibles such as fruit, seeds, nuts, nectar, pollen, insects or sap are provided by trees.

Do your trees attract birds and butterflies, you like? Take note of your trees. Do they vary in height, bloom season and vegetation? A good rule of thumb for an average-sized yard is one or two large trees, at least one grouping of smaller trees and shrubs and one clump of conifers for winter shelter.

Not all trees flower or produce food at the same time of the year. The more types of trees and shrubs in your yard, the more enticing is your yard. Keep the banquets coming by offering both evergreen and deciduous trees with overlapping blooming and fruiting cycles.

In spring, dogwood offers insects and buds for birds to eat. Serviceberries provide June fruit, while hollies and hawthorns bear fruit in fall that persists into winter. Birds like finches, nuthatches and juncos favor seeds. Seed producing trees include redbuds and maples, along with the seed-filled cones of spruce, fir, pine and hemlock.

Plant a tree this spring in memory of a loved one, birth of a grandchild or in celebration of an anniversary. Watch those memories grow through the years and enjoy the habitat you bring to your yard.

ARBOR DAY APRIL 24, 2009

Why Plant Trees?

Trees help clean the air. They help clean our rivers and streams as well as conserve energy in the summer and they save you money in the winter. Trees make your home and your neighborhood beautiful and bring songbirds close by.

VIA THE GRAPEVINE

Compiled by Margie Graft, Publicity Chair

REGION 1: Delta Community GC meets April 2 for program on "Rain Barrels" by Herb Myers. Design of month is a Spiral Design by Erica Rees. May 9th day trip is to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont. Members and guests will tour the Spiegel Grove Estate and Gardens. On June 4, Sue Hamlet, Master Gardener will talk about the Master Gardener program and create a Tubular Design. Club members will have a plant auction. Contact Mabel Hudson at 419-822-4101 or mchudson@windstream.net.

REGION 2: Happy Hours GC, April 2nd guest night at the Sprinkbrook Clubhouse, the program will be Garden Games. May 7th, mini talk "Herb – Mint," presented by Shelly Klink will be followed by a tour of three members’ gardens. May 15th and 16th the club will hold its plant sale at 10:00. June 4th, meeting at the Faurot Park Clubhouse, the mini talk will be "Herb – Rosemary" presented by Alice Winter and Leare Wheeler will present "Making and Sampling Butters and Oils." June 25th is a trip to the Botanical Gardens in Ft. Wayne, IN. Contact Alice Winter, sabrinam_45801@yahoo.com

REGION 3: College Hill GC, on April 2, the club will go to Knollwood Garden Center in Beavercreek. Babs Sabick will talk on annuals, perennials, new plants and organic fertilizers. Maureen Aukerman will speak on "Container Gardening" for the May 7th meeting. The annual plant sale is in May. Contact Mary Sucher at (937) 836-7227 in the evenings or Lynne Hamilton at (937)274-6675.

New Neighbors GC - The April road trip will be to Mary's Plant Farm in Hamilton. The club will be selling Posy Power as a fundraiser. On April 24, the club will tour the Cincinnati Flower Show and visit Marie Ault's Garden to see the bluebells. In May, the club will go to Beyond the Greenhouse where Chris Carpenter will help plant a mixed container. June will be the annual salad luncheon and plant exchange. Contact Denise Stout at (937)307-3961.

Our Homes GC, April 14th meeting at Bruknor Nature Center with Deb Neff speaking on "Medicinal Herbs and Benefits." The April outings include the Cincinnati Flower Show, Aullwood Garden Walk and Hydro Growers. On May 12th the club meets at Wegerzyn Garden Center featuring Betty Hovell's program "Green Secrets Your Garden Never Knew." May outings will be Wegerzyn's MayFair plant sale, Ohio Agricultural and Developmental Center and the Cleveland Botanical Gardens Show. The June 9th meeting at Carriage Hill Farms, Ruck Musselman will give the program on "Organic Vegetable Gardening." June outings will be tours of the Gardens of Troy and the Smith Gardens in Oakwood. Contact Maureen Aukerman at (937) 836-6393.

Saville Hilltoppers GC, will host Josh Logan from Metroparks at the April meeting speaking about "Wildflowers." On May 16th, the club's plant sale is at the home of Carol Evers, 839 Silverleaf Drive, Riverside. In June, Chris Jensen will give a guided tour of Wegerzyn Gardens Metropark. Contact Joanne Wible at (937) 254-5908.

Region 3 Flower Show: The Garden Club Federation of Dayton and Vicinity will have a spring flower show at Wegerzyn Garden Center, Dayton, on Saturday, April 18, entitled "Awakenings." There is no pre-registration for this flower show which is open to the public for viewing on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, April 18 and 19. Federation members and residents of Montgomery County may enter the flower show. Contact John Adams at (937) 275-4438 for information.

(Continued on page 12)
Darke County Fair Flower Shows, "Explore the USA", Greenville, August 22 and August 26. Contact Kim Cromwell, 937-547-0899, kcromwell@oagc.org.

Montgomery County Fair Flower Shows, September 2 and 5, 2009. Contact Patty Loxley, flower show chair, at 937-836-7026.

REGION 4: The Floras Amo GC in April will tour the Adopt A Plant Nursery with owner Beth Harness presenting the program. A $5.00 fee entitles one plant. In May we travel to one of our members’ gardens, Brenda Erb will be our presenter and hostess. June features a trip to Garden of Roses Park in Columbus. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 10:30 am. Every one is welcome. Contact Midge at 513-738-3353 or Andrea at 513-867-1497.

REGION 5: Goshen GC, April 16th is work day at the Mechanicsburg Library gardens; May 21st, a tour of Urbana members’ gardens; June 18th, tour of Mechanicsburg members’ gardens. Contact Lori Love, 937-834-2840.

Four Seasons GC, May 11th Plant swap; June 8th road trip to Piatt Castle in Logan County; July 13th tour of Mechanicsburg members’ gardens. Contact Sherrie Logsdon, 937-747-2602.

Maple Acres GC, May 6th tour of Prairie gardens; June 3rd tour of Darby Headwaters Nature Preserve; July 1st program on making suet bird feeders and dish gardens. Contact Amanda Goodwin, 937-666-2305.

Valley GC, April 14th Spring Flower Show; May 16th plant sale; June 9th trip to McCarty Gardens. Contact Phoebe Myers, 937-663-0143.

The Fleurette GC, April 14th program "All American Selections for 2008-2009" by Sue Chanay. May 2nd the club will visit Amhurst Greenhouse in Alger; May 12th features a plant auction and guest night. May 30th, the club will visit Scheiderer Greenhouse in Marysville. June 9th program will be "Beardless Iris" by Judy Nolan. June 28th will be the Design Workshop with Sue Chanay. Contact Frank Bozman@aol.com.


Whispering Meadows GC, April 9th program will be "Tropical Plants;" May 14th, Trip to Crosby Gardens in Toledo; June 11th program will be "Roses." Contact Helen Duquette 491-334-6990.

Attica GC, April 7th program will be "How To Enter the Fair;" May 5th program will be "Top Ten New Plants for the Year;" June 2nd, "Air Layering;" June 20th is the Garden Club Contest with the community. Contact Robin Rae robinwechter@yahoo.com.

We’d Wacker GC, April 16th program is "Going Batty"; May 21st, the Spring Plant Sale; June 18th program will be "Ohio Flowers." Contact Robin Wurzer 419-547-0602.

Catawba Island GC, April 28th, Trip to Mortensen’s Greenhouse; May 16th, the annual plant and bake sale with planter clean up, John Braun Park; June 23rd, Trip to Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield. Contact Diana Martin 419-797-2312.

REGION 7: Earth, Wind and Flowers GC, April 6th program is "Seasonal Intruders" (invasive plants and pests). In May Mary Lee Minor presents a summary of Farms and Foods of Ohio by Marilou K. Suszko. The club’s perennial plant sale at the Crawford County Fairgrounds is from 9 till 12 on May 16. In June, June Gebhardt presents "Seasonal Flower Preparation." "A Trek Through the Universe" is the theme for the 2009 Crawford County Fair flower shows on July 18 and July 22. Garden club members’ designs are featured the first day while the second show is open to the public. Both shows include horticulture classes open to everyone. Contact Mary Lee Minor, 419-562-6377, mliminor@oagc.org.

REGION 8: Green Valley GC, April 13th, Flower Show Design workshop, Emmanuel Lutheran Church; May 11th, Spring Plant Sale, Heidi Reichardt’s home; June 8th, Roscoe Garden Tour – William Freund Home. Contact Marge Erman 740-622-0422.

Grow and Show GC, May 16th, Garden Fair, City Park; May 27th, plant exchange including information exchange at Kat Bennett’s home; June 24th, Progressive Garden Tour with stops at three members gardens for tour and refreshments. Contact Pam Tate, pamelamad@hotline.com.

Town and Country GC, April 9th, "Protecting Our National Resources" presented by Teresa Bradford of Soil and Water Conservation; May 14th, Surprise Club Caravan, bring money and something to line your trunk, meet at Roscoe parking lot; June 11th, trip to Schnormeyer Gardens in Mount Vernon. Contact boydnest@localnet.com.

The Newark GC April 17 meeting is a tour of Dawes Arboretum, 7770 Jackstown Rd., Newark. A program on "Phenology" will be presented by Mike Ecker, Director of Horticulture; May 9, is Plant and Bake sale at 1411 Sherwood Downs Rd. W., Newark; June 12, is the President’s Rose Tea honoring new members, First United Methodist Church, 88 North Fifth Street, Newark. The program will be the 80th Anniversary Celebration and the Licking County Players will present a suitcase skit. Contact Carol Svatora 740-366-3060.

Roseville GC, April 19th with hostess Mary Alice Syphers for a program "When to Plant Daylilies." May 14th program will be "Shade Garden Plants." June 11th, members will hold a plant exchange and will go back in time to make "Hollyhock Dolls," Contact Karen Lambert 740-697-0044.

Rosewood GC, April 28th program will be "Raised Beds" presented by Jane Ann Perry; May 16th Spring Tour TBA; May 26th program will be "Wild Flowers" by Kathy Sidwell; June 23rd, Bonnie Catlett with present a program on " Succulents." Contact Gloria Stubs 740-454-7521.

REGION 9: Pickerington GC April 15 program is "Spring Entryways - Crafting a Wreath, Swag or Arrangement for Your Front Door." "Anna's Acres" will be the topic of the Wednesday, May 20th meeting. The June 17th meeting will feature "Edible Landscape - A Luncheon of Edibles from the Herb, Vegetable and Flower Gardens." Meetings held at 1:00 pm at the Pickerington Public Library, unless otherwise noted. Guests are always welcome for more information and reservations for all meetings, please call Libby Stearn in 614-837-4455 or Barbara Kochick in 614-837-3951.

REGION 12: Four Seasons GC members meet, April 22nd, 7 pm, program "Plants for Hanging Baskets" by Sharon Gump. May 28th, 7 pm members meet for program "Floral Design" by Geri Page and plant exchange including planting instructions. Members will tour Red Hill Gardens and Cottages by Clara Raber June 24th, 6:30 pm. More information call 740-968-4650.

Flush GC, April 20, Open Meeting program is "Butterflies by Heather" by Heather Tokas. Donna Turley will design the exhibit arrangement "Butterflies in Flight." May 18 program and exhibit will be "Moss Pot" by Martha Debold. June 15 program and exhibit will be "Fairy Gardens" by Mary Betts and the three minute flower of the month will be "Lilacs" by Debra Collins. Contact Barb Cencula bjoyce@eohio.net (Continued on page 13)
VIA THE GRAPEVINE  (Continued from page 12)

River's Edge GC April meeting will participate in a Wildflower Hike at Jefferson State Park led by Jane Brower, a wildflower naturalist. In May the club will be landscaping a beautification spot on the Ohio River, Newburg Landing. The June meeting is devoted to sharing ideas for "Staying Green." Contact Mary Bilchak, 740-537-4233.

Mt. Pleasant GC April 6th meeting, Glenda Dulkoski will give the five minute report on "American Lady Bugs." The club will mulch at the museum and have an Arbor Day youth project. On May 4, Donna Rosenthal will present "Lasagna Gardening." Carolyn Call will give the five minute report on "Slugs." The June 1st meeting will feature "Wet and Wild at the Butler's" – pond gardening by Wayne and Annette Butler. Marilyn Klee will give the five minute report on "Aphids." The project will be the maintenance of flowers at the historical buildings. Contact Ruth Lewis, wrplewis@comcast.net.

Woodland GC meetings includes April 2, Open Meeting; May 7, Donna Turley will give a program on "Getting Ready for the Fair." Contact Sue Guskea guskea@comcast.net 740-632-3322 cell and 740-264-0129 home.

REGION 14: Briarwood Beach GC Guest night on April 20 will have a "Spring Plant Auction." On May 18 "Container Gardening" and a tour of Pettit's Garden Center, Strongsville will be the program. The June 15th program will feature a "Talk on Wild Flowers" and a picnic at Hubbard Valley Park. Contact Grace Romis, dmrgger@aol.com.

Creston GC April 28 guest night features Patti Boyert, Boyert's Greenhouse as the speaker. The May 26th meeting features "Container Gardening" by Sue Fleming. Sandy Brandenburg will present the program on "Water Gardening" on June 30. Contact Karen Fleming, ventoff2@aol.com.

Orrville House and Garden GC on May 28 will tour Holden Arboretum. The June 25th program will include a program at "Quail Hollow & Herb Gardens." Contact Elaine Stoltzfus, ken-elaine@flyinghigher.net.

Montville GC will meet April 16 for a program on "New Roses for 2009." The club's May 13 meeting will be to attend the Spring Region 14 Meeting and Flower Show at Marshallville. On June 18, the club will take a field trip to Cuyahoga County. Contact Grace Romis, dmrgger@aol.com.

Moreland GC meets April 14 for a program "What's New in '09. Robert Kastner will present "Garden and Soil Conservation" at the May 12 meeting. The June 9 meeting will feature a "Living Wreath workshop." Contact Neva Rutt, nrutt922@embarqmail.com.

Tuslaw GC meets April 16 with Fred Hanacek presenting "Seeds, Veggies and Bugs" and a book review "Crazy Gardening" by Donna Huddleston. On May 21 is the club flower show "Signs of Spring." June 18th is a tour of Jan Becker's Cottage Garden Herb Farm and a program "Chickens, Bees, Blueberries & Herbs," by Jan Becker. Contact Helen Horst, hmhr14@aol.com.

Montville GC meets April 16 with Fred Hanacek presenting "Seeds, Veggies and Bugs" and a book review "Crazy Gardening" by Donna Huddleston. On May 21 is the club flower show "Signs of Spring." June 18th is a tour of Jan Becker's Cottage Garden Herb Farm and a program "Chickens, Bees, Blueberries & Herbs," by Jan Becker. Contact Helen Horst, hmhr14@aol.com.

Weed-A-Way GC on April 13 Rose Brittain presents "All About Our Club Flower, the Daylily." May 11th, will be a plant exchange and "Making Pansy Pots" by Diane Parker. A tour to Stan Hywet Hall will be the highlight of the June 13 meeting. Contact Margaret Benchoff, mabenchoff@embarqmail.com.

Wide View GC meets April 15 for a program on "Container Gardens" by Lois Murphy. On May 20 the club will tour Kingwood Gardens. On June 17 the club will tour Secrest Arboretum and Quailcrest Farm. Contact Anna Mae Shoemaker, shoemkr@wifi7.com.

REGION 16:

Wilmington GC - Phil Swindler of Swindler & Sons, presents "Spring Flowers," on April 13. May 11, Master Gardener Faye Mahaffey will present "Redesigning the Garden's of Ohio's Governor's Mansion." May 13 will be the annual fundraiser - card party and geranium sale. On June 8, Suzanne Kenney will demonstrate how to prepare for horticultural judging. Summer will begin with a walking tour at Darlene Hall's "Woodland Settings" in Clarksville on June 22. Contact Ronda Smith 937-218-6443 RSmith@hrblock.com

PROGRAM AND THERAPY

Martha Singleman, Chair

Now is the time to start thinking about your 2009-2010 club program book. If you submitted your program book this year for the 2007-2008 contest, you will be receiving your scorecard sheet soon. Take time to look over your scorecard over to see areas where you might do better. Take that into consideration when plans are made for the new club year program book.

Add something different, a few surprises and/or changes. Add program topics that your club has never had before. Outside speakers are a nice addition but when club members present the program topics, they are the ones who have learned the most to share that information. You might consider a garden related "show and tell" as part of a club meeting. Be creative!

Think of clever titles for programs, roll calls, etc. Be sure you look at the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs to include all the necessary information. Above all, start planning the club programs early. Club members eagerly await the October meeting to see what has been planned for the new club year. Don't disappoint them by being late with the program books.

There were only two garden therapy books entered this year. Start planning now to enter your club's therapy project in the next contest. Garden therapy is very rewarding – not only to the participants but to the garden club members who help each time.

Congratulations to those clubs which entered the 2007-2008 contest. Let's hope that more clubs will enter the 2008-2009 contest. The contest deadline is December 15, 2009.

A swing or bench and pots of shade-loving flowers will add color to a dark area of your yard.

Snack for rose bushes: feed rose bushes by placing banana peels in the soil around the plants. Start freezing the peels now for later use.
OAGC Grand Tour of Pennsylvania
September 3-9, 2009

Highlights include:
Seven Springs Mountain Resort
Frank Lloyd Wright homes:
Fallingwater and Duncan House
Hershey Gardens and Butterfly House
Winterthur Home and Gardens
Longwood Gardens and Fireworks/Fountain Show
Hiawatha Riverboat Cruise
Rowley and Hurdic House Mansions
PA Grand Canyon Wagon Ride
National Aviary
Phipps Conservatory and Gardens and much more!

Please see the Jan-Feb-Mar issue of The Garden Path for more details and the registration form.
Don't miss out on this great trip!

Hotel Booking 101

For those who may not be aware of what event planners go through, here are some facts: the cost for meeting space at a hotel/banquet facility for events such as convention is often dependent on the number of guest rooms and meals contracted. If we do not meet minimums on the number of rooms booked or meals reserved, we can incur additional penalties and fees. This is the nature of the hospitality industry. The leaders of OAGC work very hard to bring its membership quality events offering the best educational value. We appreciate your support by lodging at our host hotels.

The 2009 Convention will be held at the award-winning Holiday Inn Fairborn near Dayton OH. The hotel has been completely renovated since our 2007 convention and the sleeping rooms have only gone up $2/night. Price for a room (double/triple/quad occupancy) is $94. Call the hotel directly at 937-426-7800 to make your reservation by June 20 and ask for the group rate for The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs. Room reservations made after this date will be based on availability.

Holiday Inn Fairborn
2800 Presidential Dr.
Fairborn OH 45324
937-426-7800

Make hotel reservations prior to June 20.

CONVENTION MINI SCHEDULE
Monday, July 13, 2009 (Note: schedule subject to changes)
9:00 am – 5:00 pm: Registration
9:00 am – 1:00 pm: Artistic/Horticulture Flower Show entries; Junior Contest entries & Regional Exhibits Set-up
1:00 – 5:00 pm: Convention College
1:00 pm Course: Plants Behaving Badly, Chris McCullough
2:00 pm Workshop: Hypertufa 101 (reservations required)
2:30 pm Course: Native Trees and Shrubs, Brian Jorg
3:45 pm Course: Daylilies, Back to the Future, Barb Kedler
6:00 pm: Banquet
7:00 pm (approx): Recognize: Past Presidents; Life Members; Recognize Judges; Master Design Judges; Awards (Gladys Thomas Judge of the Year; Victor H. Ries Outstanding Garden Club; Service; Citation; Convention Flower Show including Mary Alice Earhart Memorial Award; Junior Convention contests)
8:30 pm: The Earth is Our Garden design program by Mickie Marquis
10:00 – 11:00 pm: Flower Show areas open, Sales areas open

Tuesday, July 14, 2009
8:00 am – 12:00 pm: Registration, Sales areas open
8:30 - 11:30 am: Bus tour to Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (reservations required)
12:00 pm: Luncheon
1:00 pm (approx): Reports (Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors; Regional Beautification drawing); Awards: (Beautification; Shedenhelm; Reed; Jr. Master Gardener; Junior Beautification contest; Typical Junior Gardener; Outstanding Junior Garden Club; Junior Convention contests)
2:30 pm (approx): If This is Paradise, Why Am I Wearing Kneepads? design program by Mary Lee Minor
3:30 – 5:00 pm: Contest Books on display
5:30 pm: Officer’s Reception
6:00 pm: Banquet
7:00 pm (approx): Awards (Photography contest; Convention Sweepstakes; Faye Collins Designer of the Year contest; Master Gardener; Membership Incentive)
8:15 pm: Backyards and Beyond: Native Plants, Think Globally, Plant Locally by Jim McCormac
9:30 – 11:00 pm: Flower Show areas open, Sales areas open

Wednesday, July 15, 2009
7:00 am: Board Breakfast
8:00 – 11:30 am: Registration, Flower Show areas open, Sales areas open
9:00 am: Business meeting; Reports (Secretary, Treasurer, President); Awards (Regional contests; Flower Show contests; Program & Therapy contests; Publicity contests)
12:00 pm: Luncheon
1:00 pm (approx): Reports (Wahkeena Nature Preserve; OAGC Foundation; recognize Life Patrons), Present OAGC Foundation Scholarships; Daisy Sticksel Conservation Award
2:00 pm: Get Down & Dirty: Improve Your Soil, Improve your Health by Marvin Duren
3:00 pm: Installation of 2009 - 2011 Regional Directors; Bylaws vote results; Garden Room Raffle drawing; Invitation to 2010 Convention

Determinate vs. indeterminate tomatoes: determinate tomatoes usually have compact plants and bear fruits at about the same time. Indeterminate tomatoes continue to grow and set fruits until frost. Staking is a must.
OAGC BYLAWS REVISION

(NOTE: The following bylaws revision is presented by the Handbook Revision Committee. As required by the current OAGC bylaws, they are being published in The Garden Path complete with deletions (strikeout text) and insertions (bolded text). They will be voted upon at the next annual meeting; that being the 2009 convention in July.)

Bylaws of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Revised & Adopted August, 1963

Article I, Name
This organization shall be known as The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc., hereinafter referred to as The Association.

Article II, Object
The purposes of The Association shall be:
To bring into a relation of mutual helpfulness the garden clubs of Ohio.
To promote the interest and increase the knowledge of the members in horticulture, gardening and garden therapy.
To encourage home, community and state beautification.
To assist, when requested, the State and National Parks Services.
To promote the appreciation and conservation of wildflowers, wildlife, forests, wilderness areas and other natural resources and to cooperate with other agencies promoting these interests.
To make combined action of members possible for the accomplishment of the above objectives.
To acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise, real property, necessary and convenient; constructing, improving, maintaining buildings thereon, receiving, holding, investing and disbursing gifts, bequests and other funds and to do such other things as may be appropriate to the accomplishment of the foregoing purposes in doing any and all things necessary or incident to any thereof.

Article III, Membership

Section 1: Any organization such as a garden or nature club, a landscape, horticultural or nursery group, men’s garden club and any civic organization interested in the purposes of The Association and willing to take part in its projects, abide by these bylaws and pay the dues is eligible to membership.

Section 2: Each new club or group shall be encouraged to have an active membership of not less than ten (10) members.

Section 3: Any adult club desiring to join The Association shall submit an application (available from the OAGC state secretary, president, vice presidents or regional directors) to the regional director state secretary. Upon approval of the application by the regional director and the executive committee, the club shall be admitted to membership.

Section 4: Life membership may be conferred upon a person by action of the board of directors:

a. Life members are entitled to all privileges and advantages of regular members, but they pay no annual dues to the state organization. (Local club, county and regional dues may still apply, if applicable), to them.

b. All past state presidents and all persons becoming life patrons (by those making a one-time contributions of $500 or more to The Association of Garden Clubs OAGC Foundation, Inc.), automatically become life members.

c. Life memberships may be conferred by the board of directors upon other persons recommended by the executive committee as worthy of such honor.

d. Other individuals who are entitled to be members of The Association may become life members by payment of a special fee.

Section 5: A person may hold membership as a member-at-large. Anyone may become a member-at-large by sending name, address and required annual dues (see Article IX Section 3) to The Association’s membership chair.

The member-at-large will receive The Association’s official publication and may participate in state and regional meetings and activities, but is not entitled to vote at annual meetings nor be eligible for election to state or regional offices, nor to become an accredited judge.

Article IV, Officers and Duties

Section 1: The elected officers of The Association shall be a president, first, second and third vice presidents, a secretary, assistant sales secretary and a treasurer.

Section 2: The president shall organize and preside at all meetings of the membership, the state board the policy and planning group and the executive committee, and is an ex-officio member of all state committees. The president shall attend at least one regional meeting in each region during the term of office. The dates of these meetings shall be planned well in advance by the regional directors in consultation with the state secretary.

b. The president-elect shall appoint the chairmen of state committees departments, counselors, liaisons and committees with approval of the executive committee.

Section 3: 

a. The first vice president shall assume the duties of the president during an absence or disability, until such time as the president resumes the duties or is replaced by the executive committee because of permanent disability, or resignation. or end of the term of office.

b. The first, second and third vice presidents shall be responsible for promoting The Association’s activities in all regions of the state. The vice presidents will serve as advisors to regions and state chairs, assigned by the president. They will attend at least one regional meeting of their per year in each assigned regions. In the absence or disability of any vice president, the other vice presidents shall share the duties until such time as the vice president resumes the duties or is replaced by the executive committee because of permanent disability, or resignation. or end of the term of office.

(Continued on page 16)
Section 4: The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings; shall be guardian of all papers pertaining to the office; shall maintain a correct list of all officers, counselors, regional directors and state chairmen; shall have charge of the general correspondence of The Association, sending copies of all letters promptly to the president; shall maintain a master calendar of all state meetings, activities and all regional meetings to prevent conflicts. In the absence or disability of the secretary, the sales secretary shall take on the duty until such time as the secretary resumes the duty or is replaced by the executive committee.

Section 5: The assistant sales secretary shall assume the duties of the vice presidents, secretary or treasurer in the event of absence or disability; shall assist as called upon; will maintain a stock of OAGC The Association’s printed materials and supplies, handling distribution thereof; keep accurate records and inventory of same, recording all transactions and submitting receipts there from to the treasurer. In the absence or disability of the sales secretary, the secretary shall take on the duty until such time as the sales secretary resumes the duty or is replaced by the executive committee.

Section 6: The treasurer shall receive and hold all money belonging to The Association, shall maintain an orderly set of books and records, shall disburse funds according to the direction of the executive committee. The Association shall secure and pay for a surety bond for all officers and chairs who handle monies on behalf of The Association and Foundation. The treasurer shall give a surety bond to be paid for by The Association and. The treasurer’s accounts shall be audited bi-annually (at the conclusion of the president’s term) and reported presented in full at the winter executive committee annual meeting. In the absence or disability of the treasurer, the president shall take on the duty until such time as the treasurer resumes the duty or is replaced by the executive committee.

Section 7: If any elected officer resigns, moves, is incapacitated due to health or does not perform his/her duties as outlined in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs, the executive committee will appoint a replacement until such time as a regular election is held and a new officer elected.

It furthermore shall be understood that the decision to replace an elected officer due to ill health and/or poor performance of his/her office is the sole responsibility of the executive committee. This decision is to be determined by a majority vote of the officers currently serving at the time. The officer, upon being notified by the president as being replaced, will immediately forward all monies and properties in his/her possession belonging to The Association to the president.

Section 7: The elected officers shall comprise the executive committee. This committee shall be authorized to transact the business of The Association between meetings of the board of directors and all actions shall be reported to the board at its next regular meeting and approval thereof requested. The executive committee’s approval must be obtained for newly appointed counselors, state chairmen and membership applications from clubs. The executive committee shall set the date and plan the program for the annual meeting; shall meet no less than four times a year at times and places determined by the president; shall fill all vacancies among officers, state chairmen and regional directors for unexpired terms. Four members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 8: The executive committee shall prepare an annual budget for The Association to be submitted to the board of directors for approval.

Section 9: If any elected officer resigns, moves, is incapacitated due to health or does not perform his/her duties as outlined in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs, the executive committee will appoint a replacement until such time as a regular election is held and a new officer elected.

Section 10: The executive committee shall serve as the trustees of the OAGC Foundation, Inc.

Article V, Board of Directors and Duties

Section 1: The board of directors shall consist of the elected officers and, regional directors, counselors, regional directors, and the chairmen of state committees. This board shall have general direction of The Association and shall be empowered to transact the business of The Association. Two thirds of the board of directors’ members Eighteen members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2: If an officer of any board member shall become vacant be declared vacant and, a replacement will be appointed by the executive committee if a member is absent from two consecutive board meetings. Section 3: The regional directors shall promote and coordinate the activities of The Association in their respective regions. It shall see that county contact chairmen are elected by the presidents of clubs of their respective counties and their terms of office shall be limited to two years concurrent with that of the regional director (not to exceed two—2 year terms); shall see that regional chairmen corresponding to the state chairmen are appointed in even years for terms of two years (not to exceed two—2 year terms). Regional directors They shall faithfully administer the work in their areas according to suggestions presented in the OAGC Handbook For Garden Clubs. Their term in office is two years and they are elected in odd years.

Section 4: The board of directors shall meet at least twice a year at the call of the president. A 30 day notice of such meetings shall be given in writing.

Section 5: No member of the board of directors may hold more than one office at a time unless temporarily filling in a vacancy.

Article VI, State Chairs, Counselors, Liaisons and Duties

Section 4: The state chairs men for each department shall be appointed by the president-elect, with the approval of the executive committee, to serve two year terms concurrent with the president. Each chairman shall work with the counterpart regional counterpart chairman to develop the projects assigned to the department, in accordance with suggestions in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs. Their term in office is limited to four years. The state chairs will meet with and report to the board of directors at the board meeting. (Continued on page 17)
Section 5: Counselors shall number at least three, and not more than six, one of whom shall be the retiring president. They do not necessarily have to be members of The Association. They shall be selected by the president-elect, with approval of the executive committee, for a two-year term concurrent with that of the president. With the president, first vice president, and secretary, the counselors compose the policy and planning committee, whose responsibilities are outlined in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs. The counselors will meet with and advise the executive committee as requested.

Section 3: Liaisons will serve as the communication link between The Association and the various entities that they represent. The liaisons will meet with and report to the board of directors at the board meetings.

Section 6: The board of directors shall meet at least twice a year at the call of the president. A 30-day notice of such meetings shall be given in writing.

Article VII, Nominations

Section 1: State Officers: There shall be a nominating committee of at least five (5) members and one (1) alternate elected by the board of directors at the fall board meeting in odd-numbered years. This committee shall meet and choose its own chairman prior to selection of nominees. It shall present to the annual meeting a slate of candidates for the offices of president, first vice president, second vice president, third vice president, secretary, assistant sales secretary and treasurer, having previously ascertained that the candidates are fitted for office and are willing to serve if elected. The committee shall present one or more candidates for each office and it shall file the nominations in writing with the secretary at least ninety (90) three (3) months days before the annual meeting. Additional names of candidates who are fitted for office and willing to serve, if elected, shall be presented in writing to the chairman of the nominating committee by any club member, but must also be filed at least ninety (90) days before the annual meeting. Names of all nominees must be announced in The Association’s official publication prior to the annual meeting at which election is held.

Section 2: Regional Directors: The regional director of each region shall be nominated by a committee of at least three (3), selected by the club presidents in the region or their designated representatives, at the fall regional meeting in even-numbered years. Additional nominations may be made by clubs if the names are presented to the nominating committee at least thirty (30) days before the election.

Article VIII, Election

Section 1: Election of state officers shall be held at the annual meeting in even-numbered years. All terms of office shall be two years. A term for the president and vice presidents is limited to one 2-year term; secretary, assistant sales secretary and treasurer are limited to not more than three consecutive 2-year terms. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Section 2: Election of regional directors shall be held at spring regional meetings in odd-numbered years. The club presidents or their designated representatives shall elect the director in a closed session on the day of the regional meeting. Notices of this meeting shall be sent to the club presidents thirty (30) days in advance. Voting delegates or representatives of at least half of the clubs of the region must be present to elect a director. This meeting shall be called to order by the retiring director attending state representative. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

An elected officer of The Association, i.e. the president, or designated substitute vice president, treasurer, assistant secretary, or assistant sales secretary, will conduct the election and shall read the requirements of this section at the meeting. This officer shall immediately report the name, complete address, and phone number(s) and email of the newly elected regional director to the secretary of The Association. If any irregularity shall occur in the election of the regional director, any club member may appeal to the officers of The Association for a decision. Only those persons elected according to the procedure herein specified may hold office as regional director and sit as members of the Board of Directors of The Association.

In the event of no election due to lack of clubs represented or for any other reason, the office of regional director shall be filled by the state executive committee.

If the regional director resigns, moves, is incapacitated due to health reasons or does not perform his/her duties as outlined in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs Handbook of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, the regional secretary will automatically assume the responsibilities and becomes responsible for performing the duties of the regional director in addition to his/her own duties until a replacement is appointed or until a new regional director is elected. Since the regional director is elected every two years, it shall be the prerogative of the executive committee (president, first, second, third vice presidents, treasurer, secretary and assistant sales secretary) to name a replacement until such time as a regular election is held and a new regional director is elected.

It furthermore shall be understood that the decision to replace a regional director due to ill health and/or poor performance of his or her office is the sole responsibility of the executive committee. This decision is to be determined by a majority vote of the officers currently serving at the time. The regional director, upon being notified by the president as being replaced, will immediately forward all monies and properties in his/her possession belonging to the region and The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. to the regional secretary.

Section 3: All terms of office shall be two years. No elected officer may hold the same office for more than one term except the secretary, assistant secretary, and treasurer which are limited to no more than three terms. A regional director may be reelected for a second term. A person shall be eligible for reelection to any office formerly held after being out for one or more terms. Any person appointed to assume the duties of office in the event of a resignation may be elected to hold office for two consecutive any full terms at the next regular election.

Section 4: All elections shall be by ballot.

Article VIII IX, Representation

Section 1: There shall be one voting delegate to the annual meeting for each club of twenty (20) or less active members. (Continued on page 18)
Revised & Adopted August, 1963
The section listing Amendments that previously followed Article XI is to be deleted in its entirety.
79th OAGC Convention "Ohio's Backyard"
July 13-15, 2009
Holiday Inn Fairborn/Dayton, OH
2800 Presidential Dr.
Fairborn OH 45324
937-426-7800
Early Convention Deadline: June 26
Hotel Registration Deadline: June 20

Name________________________________________________
Address_______________________________________________
City_________________________________________Zip______
Phone_____________________Email______________________
Club_________________________________________________ 
Club Code Number_________  Region___________

Status (check where applicable) ___Executive Officer
___Counselor ___Judge ___State Chair ___Regional Director
___Past President ___Volunteer as Convention Hostess
___Club Delegate

Registration (check where applicable)
Full Convention with purchase of meals . . . . . . . . . .  $40.00 ___
Full Convention without purchase of meals . . . . . . .60.00 ___
Per Day with purchase of meals . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .20.00 ___
Per Day without purchase of meals . . . . . . . . . . . .25.00 ___
Late Registration postmarked after June 26, 2009 . . $15.00 ___
Juniors (18 and under—must register) . . . . . . . . . . . . FREE ___

Activities
Monday - Hypertufa 101 Workshop
(class size limited, register early) . . . . . . . . . . . . $20.00 ___
Tuesday - Wegerzyn Gardens Tour/Bus . . . . . . . . . . $  8.00 ___

Meals (check meals desired)
Banquet - Monday, July 13 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $34.00 ___
Luncheon - Tuesday, July 14 . . . . . . . . . . .20.00 ___
Banquet - Tuesday, July 14 . . . . . . . . . . . $34.00 ___
Luncheon – Wednesday, July 15 . . . . . . . . . .20.00 ___

To reserve special meals you must mark below
Your selection will apply to ALL meals.

Vegetarian _____  Diabetic _____  Other _______

TOTAL FOR REGISTRATION . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $ 
TOTAL FOR ACTIVITIES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $ 
TOTAL FOR MEALS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $ 
TOTAL ENCLOSED . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $ 

Registration must be postmarked by June 26 or a late fee of $15 applies. No refunds after June 26, 2009.
Make check payable to: The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.

MAIL TO: Amy Erisman, Registrar
1057 E. Fourth St.
Greenville OH 45331
937-547-6372
aerisman@oagc.org

GARDENERS’ DAY OUT
REGISTRATION
June 17, 2009

All persons are responsible for assuring their own reservation has been pre-paid.

Name________________________________________________
Address_______________________________________________
City_________________________________________State_____
Zip___________Region______County______________
Phone____________________Cell_________________
Email_________________________________________

___ Please find my check for $35.00, for registration of only Gardeners’ Day Out.

Box lunch sandwich choices (select one):
All-American Club _____  Italian Big Boy _____
Served with a homemade salad, chex mix, pickle, homemade brownie and beverage.

___ Please find my check for $48.00 for both GDO and the evening at the1812 Buxton Inn in Granville, on June 16th.

Evening dessert choices: (select one).
Daisy Hunter Walnut-Fudge Cake a la mode________
Fresh fruit pie of the day a la mode _________
With a choice of coffee or hot tea

• If you are traveling as a group, state how many are in your group? _______ number attending
List names below. This is so all persons who carpooled to GDO will be in the same section of the tour.
List___________________________________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________

*Although we are not responsible for making your lodging reservations … if you are lodging at the Buxton Inn please check here_____.

*Make checks payable to: The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Send to: Jean Walton, GDO Chair
53 Northpointe Lane
Newark, OH 43055-3279
740-344-7424
jwalton@oagc.org

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 5, 2009
2009 SPRING REGIONAL MEETINGS

Region 1  May 7  Delta OH  AM: African Violets, Larry Armstrong  PM: Artistic Design Demonstrations
Region 2  April 28  Bluffton OH  AM: Herbal Primer, Ann Boyd  PM: The Lavender Family Play
Region 3  April 27  Dayton OH  AM: American Gold Finch, Audubon Society  PM: Hidden in Plain View, Babs Sabick
Region 4  April 24  Cincinnati OH  AM: Showing Horticulture  PM: Care of Houseplants, Jeff Kepela
Donn and Charlene Thornhill
Region 5  April 23  Westville OH  AM: Growing Roses, Janice and Jim Clark  PM: Arranging with Roses, Gladys Johnson
Region 6  May 1  Fremont OH
Region 7  April 22  Howard OH  AM: Invasive Species of Ohio, Jennifer Windus  PM: Flower Bed Design, Charles Applegate
Region 8  May 20  Zanesville OH  AM: From Garden to Arrangement  PM: Special Exhibit – Ohio Watercolors
Susan Hoskinson
Region 9  May 6  Lancaster OH  AM: Rose Care and Pruning, David Akers  PM: Arranging with Roses, Gladys Johnson
Region 10  April 16  Portsmouth OH  AM: Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, Steve Boehm  PM: Hidden in Plain View, Babs Sabick
Region 11  April 25  The Plains OH  AM: Genetically Modified Foods and Seeds  PM: Minor Miniatures, Mary Lee Minor
Ronda Clark
Region 12  April 18  Hopedale OH  AM: Flower Shows Fast Start –mini sessions  PM: Hilda Wassaman Horticulture Day
on putting on flower shows  plant tips and plant exchange
Region 14  May 13  Marshallville OH  AM: Enjoying Herbs, Libby Smailes  PM: Martha Stewart Living Without Martha
Region 16  May 14  Hillsboro OH  AM: Invasive Plants, ODNR  PM: The Shape of Things,
Mary Lee Minor
Faye Collins McGinnis