



Chippewa Garden Club Newsletter

Glimmer and Shimmer

Celebrating Our 75th Year



Member of Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.,
Central Atlantic Region of State Garden
Clubs and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

November/December 2024



President's Message

Every season brings its own beauty. As a child I enjoyed the crisp air and the color of fall without any thought of the science behind the scenes. The autumnal changes intrigue me more now as an adult as I have learned about the Earth's axial tilt during the equinox.

On September 22nd at 8:44 A.M. the fall equinox and the first day of fall arrived in the Northern Hemisphere. During the equinox the sun crosses the Earth's celestial equator and begins its gradual tilt toward the 23.5 degrees that brings on winter. As the sunlight diminishes and photosynthesis reduces, leaves change colors, our summer plant friends go dormant and many birds and butterflies follow the sun south. But Mother Nature remains active. Asters, pumpkins and chrysanthemums give us new color. Over-wintering insects and birds are busy seeking protective habitats and food. Horticulturists are encouraging gardeners to create brush and leaf piles and to leave perennials uncut. Longer grass heights make shelter for insects as well. One of my favorite midwinter pastimes is watching small chickadees bounce on spent black-eyed Susans to reap the left-behind seeds. So very cute!

Throughout history from ancient cultures to 2024, humans have celebrated the fall equinox and have tracked the earth's journey around the sun. Examples are Stonehenge in England and Chichen Itza in Mexico. Watching for the Harvest Moon and the Hunter's Moon during a brisk evening walk is enough celebration for me.

Wishing you all a happy fall,
Lynne

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Dates To Remember

November

Friday, November 8—Garden Club of Ohio Holiday Luncheon, Program and Shopping at Woodside Event Center, 5025 East Mill Road, Broadview Hts.

Tuesday, November 12—Chippewa Garden Club Holiday Design Program at the Brecksville Community Center, 1 Community Drive in Brecksville. Members are to take an item to raffle and goodies for the refreshment table before 6:00 p.m. when the doors open.



CHIPPEWA GARDEN CLUB, INC.
Annual Holiday Program

*Glimmer
and Shimmer
for the holidays*

Presented by
Matthew Caleb Moore
owner of
Leaf Homes and Blooms

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
Brecksville Community Center
One Community Drive
Brecksville, OH 44141
Doors Open 6:00 pm
Program starts at 6:30 pm
Ticket Price \$10.00
call 440 668-6128
Holiday Raffle and Refreshments
www.chippewagardenclub.com

Tuesday, November 19—Budget Meeting at our Broadview Hts. Clubroom at 6:00 p.m. Standing committee and project chairs need to identify their financial needs for the 2025 year. Board Meeting to follow.

December

Thursday, December 5—Annual Meeting and Anniversary Celebration at 6:00 p.m. at Creekside Restaurant in Brecksville.

Friday, December 6—Senior Enrichment Though Nature program : Celebrate and Decorate with Fragrant Botanicals.

No Board meeting in December.



Chippewa Garden club members met on Monday, September 9th at Michael Angelo's Winery to celebrate our 2024 Flower Show. It was a beautiful sunny day at the winery that we all enjoyed as we shared food and conversations.

Photo and text by Debbie Schuckert

Squire Rich Herb Garden

Chippewa Garden Club participated in the Brecksville Historical Association's Apple Butter Festival held at the Squire Rich Museum on October 13, 2024.

The many visitors who toured the Herb Garden were interested in learning about the various herbs and plants and were encouraged to take home clippings. The children enjoyed choosing pumpkins to take home to decorate.

A highlight for several of our previous visitors was to look for our resident critter, yet to be determined. Bunny? Mole? Mouse? It was an enjoyable event.

Ramute Mills



Photos by Ramute Mills

Dahlia Care

On September 24th, Brent Giere, co-owner of Maple Crest Farm in Brecksville and April Acuna presented a program on how to grow, care for and overwinter dahlia tubers to grow again the next season.

- Buy quality tubers from a reputable dealer or a local farm.
- Dahlias require at least 8 hours of sun, preferably in a raised bed. Too much moisture can cause tubers to rot.
- For tall varieties, dig a hole and stake each tuber at planting time.
- Plant tubers 6 inches deep in friable soil. If you have clay soil, add compost or peat moss.
- Cover dahlias overnight if there is a frost warning.
- Do not overwater before the tubers start to grow. After they begin to grow, dahlias need lots of water and regular fertilization.
- Water 2 to 3 times a week depending on rainfall. Keep the garden site well drained.
- Topping off dahlia when they are about 1:1/2 feet tall produces more flowers. Check the references below to see how to do this.
- Deadhead the spent flowers.
- Dig up tubers after the first killing frost, shake the soil off, let them dry and store them.
- Go to Dahlia University for information on harvesting and storing your tubers and for other topics.

References

- <https://www.dahlia.org/growing/dahlia-university>
- <https://www.dahlia.com/help-center/how-to-grow-dahlias/>

A hand-out titled Dahlia 101 & General care provided this information and more.

Pat Gabriel

Why Should I Go to a GCO District Meeting?

Earlier this year, in this newsletter, I attempted to convince our garden club members to attend the Garden Club of Ohio (GCO) annual convention here in Cleveland. Maybe it worked....we did have a record turnout and several of you mentioned to me how interesting and informative the event was.

Now it has occurred to me that maybe some of you who have never come to a GCO District Meeting, might want to try testing the GCO meeting waters on a smaller scale. The GCO Cleveland District hosts three district meetings each year: one in spring, one in fall and a Holiday Show in November.

Why should you think about attending? For the same reasons I mentioned in my previous article.

- Fellowship and networking with like-minded gardeners, floral designers, etc.
- Playing garden club detective: what other clubs are doing, and are they more (or less) successful than we are at getting members or doing projects.
- Learning something you didn't know before. Most district meetings have two presentations. There's a horticultural presentation in the morning and a design program after lunch. The holiday programs generally stick to holiday decorating.

Here's an example of what you missed at the Fall Cleveland District Meeting:

Before lunch, Renee Boronka, the Director of Conservation Education & Outreach at the Western Reserve Land Conservancy entertained and tempted us with about a dozen of the areas the conservancy has projects for the conservation or restoration of ecological resources. Some areas are rural, some are urban, some are former farmland. Many have hiking trails for us to use when we visit. There's even a 1,000-acre preserve (Ashcroft Woods on the Grand River) that comes complete with (endangered) rattlesnakes!. She even showed us the Garden of 11 Angels, right in the Hough Community Greenspace, built to commemorate the lives of the Sowell victims. You can check out the impressive list of the Conservancy's accomplishments at:

<https://wrlandconservancy.org/>

After lunch and a brief meeting, the Cleveland Flower Arranger's Guild presented a study in color, using the Mary O'Neill book, *Hailstones and Halibut Bones*, as their floral design inspiration. Two of our Chippewa members, Aggie Goss and Margaret DeWolf, participated. Each design was accompanied by the reading of the poem for the appropriate color.

As soon as you get your 2025 calendar, why not pencil in May 8, 2025, the scheduled date for the next District Meeting? Or, why not enter May 8, 2025, into your electronic calendar right now?

Jo Ann Bartsch



Aggie Goss

What is Black?



Margaret DeWolf

What is Yellow?

Senior Enrichment Through Nature Fall Season Programs

At summer's end and at the beginning of fall, a lot of gardeners focus on the preparation for winter. Yard cleanup and care of tender plants takes over gardening chores. This fall during the Senior Enrichment Through Nature program series, the participating senior citizens of Broadview Heights were given ideas by Chippewa Garden Club volunteers on how to make functional use of harvested flowers by making potpourri and by using colorful fall leaves to grace a wreath.

The basics on how to dry flowers were reviewed, and the seniors were then shown how to add essential oils for scent and how to add Orris root preservative to create a potpourri mixture. After curing the potpourri, the participants learned how to make organza sachet packets for the potpourri. The end product was perfect for adding beautiful aromas into a room or a drawer, something done regularly by gardeners since the 12th century.

In another program the participants were shown how to craft rose-shaped flowers from colorful fall leaves. These *leaf roses* were added to a grapevine wreath form along with other fall-colored decorations to make an autumnal candle surround. Most of the participants planned to use the candle surround to grace their home during the Thanksgiving season.

Chippewa Garden Club members Bobbi Anderson, Noreen Butano, Lynne Evans, Judy LaBuda and Sandy Ladebue donated their time to guide the participants throughout the programs, to organize the supplies and to ensure a positive experience during the programs. Chippewa Garden Club members donated harvested and dried flowers.

The last Broadview Heights Senior Enrichment Through Nature program of 2024 is December 6th. The group will make dried orange and fragrant botanical holiday swags.

Lynne Evans, Chair, Senior Enrichment Through Nature



Candle surround



Potpourri sachet

2024 Houseplant of the Year

The philodendron was named 2024 houseplant of the year by 1-800-flowers. There are about 489 species native to the tropical Americas and the West Indies. Most are found in tropical forests where they grow in filtered sunlight as flowering epiphytic (plants that grow on other plants) vining plants. Heights range from one foot to 20 feet. Seeds sprout in trees, sending aerial roots down to the forest floor. Aerial roots allow the plant to attach to the tree and collect water and nutrients. Subterranean roots may also be present.

Leaves are usually large and lobed or cut deeply but can also be oval. Flowers are spathe flowers (similar to the peace lily). Sexual reproduction is by beetles (often specific to a particular philodendron). Beetles are attracted by pheromones (secreted chemicals) with the spathe flower providing a breeding area for the beetles.

As a houseplant, philodendrons need loose, well-drained soil. Temperature can vary, but they thrive in low light. Water when soil is dry and fertilize weakly weekly. Misting will provide humidity. These plants can be propagated by cuttings in soil or water. Pothos is often confused with the philodendron, both being vining tropical plants. However, pothos needs more light and warmer temperatures. Both philodendron and pothos are two of the top plants that clean indoor air as found in a study by NASA. Both can be toxic to humans and pets because they contain calcium oxalate.

Philodendron mayoi is rare with palm-like leaves and red veins on leaf underside. It is vining and can reach to over six feet tall. **Kathy Habib, Master Gardener, Emeritus**



Philodendron

Photo by Kathy Habib

Cleveland Botanical Garden

FROST

The theme for the 2024 Frost Show is *Frost: Fables & Tales of Frost Flora and Fauna*.

Chippewa Garden Club will decorate a 12' tree in the front entrance of the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Each tree is decorated for a children's book. The theme for our tree is *The Wind in the Willows* and will have dragonflies, mushrooms, boats, picture book ornaments, Mr. Toad Hall, cattails and ferns with glitter and dried hydrangeas.

Thank you to my committee Noreen Butano, Lynne Evans, Kathy Habib, Sandy Ladebue, Kelly Manocchio, Mary Lou Melena, Debbie Schuckert, Sandy Spann, and myself Kathy Ziemba, Chairperson.

Frost opens to the public at 10 a.m., Saturday, November 23, and runs through Sunday, January 5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The Botanical Garden will be open from noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays except for Dec. 22 & Dec. 29 when *Frost* will be open from noon – 9 p.m. The Botanical Garden will be closed on Mondays except for Dec. 23 & Dec 30 when *Frost* will be open from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Nonmember adult tickets are \$22 – \$26, nonmember child tickets are \$14 – \$16, member adult tickets are \$5 – \$14, and member child tickets are \$0 - \$8. Advance online ticket purchase is required. Prices vary by day of the week and entry time. Tickets [now](#) on sale at holdenfg.org. Or call 216/721/1600.

Kathy Ziemba



Thank you to all of the members who submitted articles, information and photos to our six 2024 Chippewa Garden Club Newsletter issues this year! YOU are what makes this newsletter so wonderful to read as well as an ongoing historical record of our Club.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy and safe New Year,

Pat Gabriel, Editor