

Garden CLIPPINGS

March 2019

Avon-on-the Lake Garden Club

Plant America...Grow Our Future

1930-2018

2018-2019 OFFICERS

Avon-on-the Lake Garden Club

President	Jennifer Fenderbosch
Vice President	Sally Klepper
Treasurer	Jane Kozey
Rec. Secy	Susan Donovan
Cor. Secy	Georganne Wolnowski

Appointed Officers

Advisor	Beth Murphy
Auditor	Pat Kilbane
Holden Forests & Gardens	Marianne Stern
Historian	Nadge Herceg
GCO & NGC	Jennie Jones
Parliamentarian	Lois Davis
Membership	Kathryn Eyring
Publicity	Janet Coffey/Elaine George
Ways & Means	Anita Webb/Judy Kaminsky

Appointed Temporary Officers

Community Council	Jennifer Fenderbosch
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Standing Committee Chairpersons

Awards	Mary Pajak
Benevolence	Georganne Wolnowski
Garden Walks/Adventures	Judy Kaminsky/Elaine George
Horticulture	Anne Lyon
Hostess	Donna Shiley/Barb Fazekas
Inspirational Messenger	Ana Guggenbiller
Mentor	Kathryn Eyring
Newsletter	Nadge Herceg
Telephone Board	Pat Kilbane
Telephone Calling List	Jennifer Fenderbosch
Garden Therapy	Bonnie Armstrong
Website	Sue Jagoda

Civic Interest Gardens

Gazebo	Audrey Roberts/Georganne Wolnowski
Herb Garden	Colleen Wilber
Wildflower	Anita Webb/Beth Murphy
Library Butterfly	Lillian McPherson/Bev Stives
Fence Garden	Jane Kozey/ Diana Wyrock
Beach Park Point	Barbara Nahm/Marianne Stern
Walker Rd. Butterfly	Sally Klepper
Old Firehouse	Jennifer Fenderbosch

Plant America...Grow Our Future

President's Message

Jennifer Fenderbosch

Spring is near! Wednesday, March 20th at 5:59pm is the Equinox when spring will be ushered in. The forecast is for many days in the 50's which brings about flowering snowdrops, crocuses and some early daffodils. The increased sunlight triggers birds to sing. This year will mark one of the largest super moons observed since 1981.

Before you start planting seeds and plants in the soil, obtain a soil test so you can properly prepare your beds and lawn for the growing season. It is all about the soil. Did you know that blooming crocuses are your cue to directly plant seeds for carrots, beets, kale, chard, early potatoes, spinach, radishes and parsnips? Weather and soil permitting, prepare the soil with plant starts of cabbage, broccoli, garlic, shallots, leeks, onions, cauliflower, and brussel sprouts. Consider planting native Purple Cress [Cardamine douglasii](#), Spring Beauty [Claytonia virginica](#), Hisbid Buttercup ([Ranunculus hispidus](#), Trout Lily [Erythronium americanum](#), Blood Root([Sanguinaria canadensis](#), Sharp Toothed Hipatica ([Hepatica acutiloba](#), Skunk Cabbage [Symplocarpus foetidus](#), Rue Anemone [Thalictrum thalictroides](#)), and Common Blue Violet [Viola papilionacea](#). Their beauty will reward you every March for many years to come.

Native bees will thank you, too! With an increase in native bees, there will be an increase in yield in the vegetables and flowering shrubs and trees. When planting a garden create rows that run north to south to take full advantage of sunlight. Spring is also a time for new beginnings much like our Garden Club. We are evaluating proposed changes to the By-Laws to better serve the members and our community in the future. There are many volunteer tasks to be performed in the community. Contact me to let me know where you want to assist to bloom where you are planted.

Plant America... Grow Our Future!

Classroom and self-study courses for members and non-members

Jennifer Fenderbosch

<http://gardenclub.org/schools/>

The National Garden Clubs is a not-for-profit educational organization with its headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, United States. As part of its mission, NGC offers educational opportunities for members and non-members. ALGC Member and National Judge, Jo'C Walker, is actively teaching a Flower Design course to members the Tuesday prior to the ALGC's monthly Wednesday meeting to help prepare members for the Flower Show June 2020.

If you are interested in other locally taught courses, please notify Jennifer Fenderbosch. If enough people are interested in one of the following classes, we will have them available:

- Flower Show Schools
- Basic Horticulture
- Flower Design Study Units
- Environmental Studies
- Gardening Study
- Landscape Design

Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club Members design, plant, and maintain all the Public Gardens in Avon Lake. We are looking for volunteers for two of the gardens:

Wildflower Garden at Miller Road Park
Old Firehouse Outdoor Classroom
Pollinator Garden

If you have signed up for another garden, please stay with your garden so they have enough volunteers to complete the tasks.

Happy Gardening!

Bravo Marianne Stern!

It is a great honor that our own member, Marianne Stern, is one of 16 people chosen to be on the Cleveland Botanical Garden's Affiliate Council

Gale's Garden Center Events 2019

2437 Center Ridge Rd.

Westlake, OH 44145

440-871-0808

Donzell-gales.com

Doreen French

March 2 "Terrariums and Miniature Gardens"

From behind the glass to the fairy garden, Gale's Westlake's Carol Bohr will show you how.

March 9 "Orchid Care"

Alan Lund from the Westshore Orchid Society will take some of the fear of owning these exotic, potted, flowering plants.

March 16 "Succulent Care and Uses"

Sean Diamond, member Midwest Cactus and Succulent Society, will show you what to do and how to care for these popular plants.

March 23 "Herb Gardening"

Join Becky McKinley, owner of Beck's Greenhouses, in figuring out which herb best fits your needs.

March 30 "Lawn Care"

Join Gale's Westlake's own Chris Duperow as he discusses the importance of the multi-step lawn program. Let us help you create a beautiful lawn.

April 6 "Pollinator Gardening"

What is it that you can do to attract pollinators? You will be surprised and amazed at what you can do. Gale's Westlake's own Emily Cummings will assist you in making a garden's a pollinator's buffet.

April 13 "Attracting Hummingbirds"

Gale's Westlake's own Chris Duperow will give the advice on how to attract these glorious, exotic birds and to make your yard a frequent stop for them.

READ All About It

Avon Lake Public Library *Nadje Herceg*

"Gardening with BIOCHAR" by Jeff Cox
Super charge you soil with bioactivated charcoal to grow healthier plants, create nutrient rich soil and increase your harvest.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Jennifer Fenderbosch

Be a volunteer to help Ohio's Department of Natural Resources to identify Rare and Endangered Plants. The status for Rare and Endangered Plants is updated every two years. In addition to botanists, the State relies heavily on volunteers to track the status of rare plant populations.

If you enjoy hiking, bookmark this website on your phone to report a sighting of one of these plants using the Rare Plant Survey form that can be found at <http://naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov/rareplants>



Bumble Bee Watch

Dec-Jan 2019 Mary Jane's Farm *Nadje Herceg*

Bumble Bee Watch (BumbleBeeWatch.org) is a collaborative effort to track and conserve North America's bumble bees. Create an account on the site. Grab your camera and when you spot a bumble bee, snap a clear shot. Submit your photo via the website's "Record a Sighting" form.

The data from this project will be used to gather baseline data about the distribution and abundance of North America's bumble bees. What a fun way to contribute to the cause.

Bee-Saving Paper

Dec-Jan 2019 Mary Jane's Farm *Nadje Herceg*

"Bee Saving Paper contains a unique form of energy rich glucose that is appetizing for bees but does not make the paper sticky, "explain the clever creators at BeeSavingPaper.com. This is thanks to a special kind of sugar, which can be dissolved into water from a food known as "fondant for bees," which is often used by beekeepers during the winter. Just 0.5kg of this paste is enough to feed several thousand bees.

In addition, the paper is covered with non-toxic, water based UV paint with a full pattern of red circles visible only to bees. These ultraviolet patterns often outline "landing zones" for bees, pointing them towards the parts of plants that contain nectar and pollen.

3

This pretty paper contains seeds from the nectar rich plant Lacy Phacelia, which is a favorite among honeybees. Users of Bee Saving Paper products are encouraged to leave scraps in places where moisture will activate the tasty bee attractant as well as seed germination. It might just save a traveling bee's life!

Cook's Column

Oriental Tossed Salad

Jane Kozey



1 can water chestnuts (sliced)
Bean sprouts
1 head lettuce (chopped)
10 pieces bacon (fried and crumbled)
10 oz. fresh spinach
2 hardboiled eggs
Dressing: ½ cup salad oil
1/3 cup sugar
2 T. vinegar
½ t. salt
1 t. Worcestershire

Baked Spaghetti

Bev Stives

1 48 oz. jar spaghetti sauce
1 can drained mushrooms
2 lbs. ground beef
Brown ground beef in sauce and mushrooms
1 8 oz. package spaghetti noodles
½ cup milk
2 eggs
6oz. shredded Mozzarella Cheese
Pepperoni

Cook spaghetti and drain. Mix milk and eggs together and stir into spaghetti noodles. In 9x13 pan combine noodle, egg, milk mix. Cover with meat/mushroom sauce. Bake at 350 for 40 minutes. After 35 minutes baking time, top with mozzarella cheese and pepperoni. Bake until cheese melts.

What is Composting?

Jennifer Fenderbosch

<https://lorain.osu.edu/compost>

Composting is the natural decomposition of organic materials such as leaves, straw, and food scraps. Materials are typically heaped on a pile, which allows microorganisms to break them down over time.

Once a location has been selected, it's time to begin building the compost pile. To begin, layer several inches of twigs and other chopped brush on top of the soil surface. The compost pile will be built on top of this base, which allows air circulation around the heap.

As the rest of the pile is built, using ingredients listed below, alternating layers of green and brown materials should be formed. A small layer of soil should also be added to the compost pile periodically to help inoculate the heap with useful microorganisms.

Compost Recipe

A wide variety of materials can be composted. Materials are classified as either high nitrogen (green) or high carbon (brown) materials. It is suggested that about 75% (by volume) of the materials added to a compost pile are brown, and 25% are green. If large pieces of material are to be added to the compost pile, chopping them into smaller pieces can aid in the breakdown of these materials.

High Nitrogen (Green)	High Carbon (Brown)
green leaves and grass	paper products
vegetable and fruit scraps	wood chips
livestock manure (poultry, rabbit, hog, cattle)	dry leaves and straw
egg shells	dryer lint
coffee grounds	sawdust
DO NOT ADD (these attract animals and insects, generate odors, and contaminate the pile)	
manure from household pets (dogs, cats)	
meat, fish, or dairy products	
cooking oils or fats	
plywood or treated lumber	
plastics, Styrofoam, or synthetic fibers	

Compost also requires water and oxygen. While some materials, such as food scraps and fresh grass clippings, contain water, additional water is sometimes needed during hot summer months. The ideal moisture content of a compost pile should be similar to a wrung-out sponge. Oxygen is provided to a compost pile by "turning," or aerating, the pile. This should be done at least once a month to ensure proper functioning of the pile. The larger the compost pile, the hotter it will get, which will produce compost in a shorter amount of time.

Problem Solving

Symptom	Problem	Solution
The compost has a rotten odor	-too much moisture	-cover the pile to protect from rain or snow
	-overly-compacted	-turn the pile to aerate
The compost has an ammonia odor	-too many green materials (too much nitrogen)	-add more brown materials (high carbon)
There are lots of pests and flies around the pile	-attracted by meat and fatty foods	-don't add meats and fats to the pile
	-overabundance of fly larvae in pile	-turn the pile frequently to raise the temperature
Animals are making a mess out of the pile	-attracted by meats and fatty foods	-don't add meats and fats to the pile
The center of the pile is dry	-not enough water	-slowly add water and turn the pile
The compost is damp and warm only in the middle	-too small	-add more materials and mix into the pile
	-not enough green material (nitrogen)	-add more green materials, or add nitrogen fertilizer
	-composting is completed	-all done! use some of your new compost around the yard

The Understory

6

Lillian Jordan McPherson

A brick path into the woods took me four years to build, in my desultory way, with a few bricks a day. Four years to build, and four years to bury — that's all it took, a shallow grave for this Troy. I'd scrape it clean with a hoe. A roundish stone had lain alongside it, set with garnets, like a ball of cookie dough. It is completely buried now. I am not sure where it burrowed in, but it's gone. The first ones to clear our land called it Troy. I wish they had kept Indian names, like "Quinnipiac", which later became the Colony of New Haven, Connecticut, after Haven, in England, so then this Western Reserve settlement could have been "New Quinnipiac". If Indians dug wells, then the old tumbled-in well in the woods further behind ours, may have been one of theirs. They left a number of arrow tips and half-made flints there. That strip of woods now belongs to the school called Troy, perhaps after Troy, New York, or that other Troy, in Ilium. The early French said that the Indian name for Lake Erie was "Lac du Chat". I assume they meant cougars, not bobcats. Sixty-five years ago, Roland and I bought a house on land that was a rectangle of two-thirds of an acre, next to a heronry, now gone. The herons left the next year, and good for them. The present generation calls that a "rookery". Would they call a heron a rook? Would they know a rook? We still have our oldest and nearest neighbors, raccoons who have always lived in a Den Tree right behind our garage. The tree was here first, so the raccoons stay, having a clause in their lease that allows them to topple flowerpots and uproot new plantings, just so they are gone by daylight.

In the beginning, people in our cul de sac burned leaves in the fall. It was an annual social occasion, where everyone raked them to the street, and waved and cheered each other on. A grey pall hung in the air. One man was a grandfather, who had set fire to the fallen leaves and the leaves in the woods many times, causing all of us mothers to form a raking brigade ahead of the spreading flames. Sometimes, it was twice in a week. I would put my babies down for naps, then go out and fight a fire. Ironically, (and this is true irony, I think), his son supervised the village water department, responsible to the land, the state (Ohio), and the lake (Erie). I ruined good clothes and shoes protecting my home, on the front lines, fighting an unpredictable and shifting enemy. (Not fire, but people. One was inescapable, because he was "grandfathered in.") The many fires may have started the decline and demise of the wildlings in the woods. Oh, do ye remember the Babes in the Wood? The Plants in the Wood? May apple. Spring beauty. Dogtooth Violet. Cat brier. Hawthorn. "Change and decay in all around I see." I think it was both an Oak-Hickory and a Beech-Maple second growth forest. At least, my Babes knew woods. I am grateful that they had it before its passing. All the rudiments, they learned without effort. Once, Edmund, of pre-school age, came to lead me to their hideout. He paused to look around, and I asked, "What is it, Baby?" He said, "I was looking for that bent-over tree." Not only did they develop mental maps, but Brice, as a child, mapped the woods, Donald, as a youth, made a woodcut that immortalized it, and Celeste doesn't seem to need maps to navigate her world. If you can't explore, but are driven places, you don't learn your terrain.

Past the woods, in the middle of a field that belonged to a beleaguered farmer, was an enormous, symmetrical oak tree, very old, that was alive past all expectations. It was hollow at the base, with a cavity that could hold three children, and it was charred inside from campfires. All children claimed it, though it was the farmer's, who was reputed to shoot rock salt pellets at trespassers. Some children ran rampant more than others. When new streets were made, and the woods were reduced to a stand of trees you could see through in winter, a family of six children had a contest to pull up the dogtooth violets which carpeted the ground. The winner picked over three hundred, second place picked over two hundred, and so on. It kept them out of mischief for one spring day. All is barren and brown, now. There is no understory left, because of an explosive growth of deer that have stripped the vegetation, but deer are only the latest insult. Let this narrative of neglect be another kind of understory, which is the backstory of the woods.