

Garden CLIPPINGS

June 2022

Avon-on-the Lake Garden Club

Plant America...share our vision

1930-2022

2021-2022 OFFICERS Avon-on-the Lake Garden Club

President	Elaine George
Vice President	Sue Newcomb
Treasurer	Jane Kozey
Rec. Secy	Anne Lyon
Cor. Secy	Georganne Wolnowski

Appointed Officers

Advisor	Jennifer Fenderbosch
Auditor	Barb Nahm
Holden Forests & Gardens	Marianne Stern
Historian	Nadge Herceg
GCO & NGC	Karen Huddle
Parliamentarian	Diane Deasy
Membership	Jennie Jones
Publicity	Monica Kimmell
Ways & Means	Anita Webb

Appointed Temporary Officers

Community Council	Jennifer Fenderbosch
-------------------	----------------------

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Awards	Pam Hoffmann
Benevolence	Georganne Wolnowski
Horticulture	Anne Lyon
Hostess	Colleen Wilber/Char Pulit
Inspirational Messenger	
Newsletter	Nadge Herceg
Telephone Board	
Telephone Calling List	Elaine George
Garden Therapy	Bonnie Armstrong
Website	Sue Jagoda

Civic Interest Gardens

Gazebo	Pam Hoffman/Georganne Wolnowski
Herb Garden	Coleen Wilbur
Wildflower	Anita Webb/Jennie Jones
Library Butterfly	Lillian McPherson/Bev Stives
Fence Garden	Jane Kozey/ Diana Wyrock
Beach Park Point	Barbara Nahm/Marianne Stern
Walker Rd. Butterfly	Marianne Stern/Bev Stives
Old Firehouse/OZONE	Jennifer Fenderbosch

Plant America...share our vision

President's Message

Elaine George

Happy New Fiscal Year Everyone! We are coming off an incredibly busy and successful year and I think we need a well-deserved break! Let's enjoy each other's company while we work in the gardens and just hang out together enjoying the joys of summer.

I want to share a couple new ideas that I have for our club that will begin immediately. The first is a project I am calling "**Garden Helpers**". Ever since I joined the club, I thought it would be really nice if there was a system in place where a member could ask for advice or guidance concerning her own garden and the club would provide that service. We are doing this for outside groups – which is great – but why not for our own members? No one will be digging garden beds for anyone. This just involves offering advice. Sometimes that's all you need to get started or if you're stuck on what to do next!

I have four ladies who have volunteered to be helpers but I know we could use more. Let me know if you are interested. There is a lot of talent out there and after all, we're all about sharing, right?

My next project I'm calling "**Bags for Beds**" (thank you Anne Lyon!). There is a church in LaGrange that collects used grocery store plastic bags and knits, crochets or weaves them together to make sleeping mats for the homeless. I think this would be a perfect way to answer GCO's call to come up with an idea to reduce the amount of plastic in our landfills and at the same time be part of an effort to give aid and much needed comfort to those who need it most! Here's the plan – bring as many bags as you can every month to our board and general meetings. I will make the trip to LaGrange and deliver them to the church ladies. Who knows, I might even learn to knit plastic bags! I'm not doing so well with yarn!

Have a wonderful summer. See you in September.

Childhood Gardening Memories

Members

Anne Lyon (Haiku)

Childish Memory
Geraniums Everywhere
Smells of Marigolds

Anita Webb

As a child I helped take care of an acre garden and we canned 3 to 400 quarts of vegetables. I also did all the mowing since the men worked in the field.

Jane Kozey

I remember the house I grew up in had a great front porch that had a trellis on one side that had the most beautiful climbing roses on it. You remember the kind, the ones that smelled like roses should. They were red and I would sit on the porch swing and inhale that wonderful smell that surrounded me.

Marsha Soroka

Unfortunately, I was not exposed to gardening as a child. As a result, I tried hard to expose my children and am now trying to expose my grandchildren to gardening.

Barb Nahm

I never garden in my youth, but watched my dad grow tomatoes, and loved my grandmother's perennial garden and my grandfather's grape vineyard.

Bev Stives

My dad had a beautiful rose garden and he showed me how to start a new plant from a clipping. Now I have a beautiful rose garden.

Lillian McPherson

As a toddler, I was given carrot thinnings, to rinse under an outdoor tap and nibble. As a child, grooming the moss beds among tree roots to be tiny lawns; (fairy gardens, though I didn't call them that). Larkspurs and cornflowers were the first flowers I loved enough to learn their names.

Pam Hoffmann

Every Memorial Day our church paid tribute to veterans by walking to the cemetery to put flowers and flags on their graves. We kids had the task of going around to all the gardening members to collect flowers to make bouquets. Grandma always had peonies, Iris, and spirea and ferns for the backing.

I was 5 years old and I still remember the 2-mile walks to the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Schenley Park, in Pittsburgh. It was my first introduction to the formal gardens. Mother, my sister and I would walk through Carnegie Mellon campus and always stop at Sarah's Pond to watch the gold fish. Mother said it was Sarah Scaife's pond, whoever that was. I remember it surrounded by lots of statuary. Then on we would go to the greenhouse. I don't remember every being tired. Thinking back, I should have been tired. The Easter Flower Show was the best with so many different blossoms and fragrances. And so many rooms to go through, some hot, some very hot, some humid, I loved the tunneled path to the fish aquarium in the orchid room. Yes, I truly have to say, my love for gardening has stemmed from my mother's love of gardening and our special walks to the magnificent glass house.

Jennifer Fenderbosch

Mother grew climbing red roses on the wire fence that separated our property from my uncle's pasture where his dairy cows grazed. Every summer it was a battle to keep the cows from eating the roses off the fence. My job was to shoo the cows away from the fence to save Mother's roses.

We mixed Ovaltine in our milk to make chocolate milk.

We picked strawberries to blend in heavy cream to make strawberry ice cream.

For my 4th birthday, I wanted rose milk and picked the roses and tossed them to the cows to make rose milk.

I was sent to pick elderberries instead of keeping guard over the roses. Mother knew I was safe because you don't eat elderberries before they are mixed with sugar for pie

Nadge Herceg

The Cleveland Public Schools offered flower and vegetable kits each summer. Our gardens flourished and a teacher would visit once during the summer and give our garden a grade. "A" Zinnias and Nasturtiums were our favorite annuals.



Susan Prihoda

Several weeks ago, after much deliberation, a pair of robins decided that raising their young in a corner of my haystack planter, hanging from my second-floor balcony, would be a wonderful idea. I, on the other hand, had some mixed emotions. I thought watching baby birds being raised would be great fun. Right? Like, who wouldn't? But, I worried that the second floor was too high for fledglings to safely make their descent to the ground below when it came time for them to leave their nest. I also realized that in order to not disturb or frighten the birds, my balcony would be off limits to me to tend to my plants, including the planter where the nest would soon be built. After researching, I learned the entire process could take a little over a month. I decided I could be patient for that amount of time to stay off the balcony, and I was honored that my balcony had been chosen by the robins as a safe place to raise their family. It took a little over a week for the nest to be built, and I have to say, it was a magnificent piece of architecture (I went out and took a peek when mother robin wasn't looking).



After about another week she laid three beautiful deep-blue tiny eggs in the tiny nest. Next came the incubation period during which time she would leave the nest for short intervals to eat and drink, while her partner guarded the eggs. This process went on for a little over a week. At last, when the babies hatched, they were as small as half the size of my little finger, all pink with the tiniest bit of fluff. But not for long! As baby birds do, they grew and grew. I was amazed at the number of trips their hard working and devoted parents made to gather worms to feed those little guys. And, boy, were they hungry!!!! They grew so fast, it was unbelievable! Soon, they were almost as large as their parents and were outgrowing their nest. By now I knew it wouldn't be long before they would

fledge. Baby robins fledge about 13 days from the day they are hatched and these three little guys did just that, right on schedule, according to my calculations. They started flexing their wings and hopping out of the nest to move around in the planter. Then the first baby took the plunge. Shortly after he landed on the ground, he took his first flight into the branches of a nearby pine tree, where he remained for several hours while his father continued gathering worms to feed him. In the meantime, the other two birds had also left the nest. All three little robins had no trouble leaving their second-floor balcony home and safely made their way to the ground below. I was very relieved to know that all went well for all three birds. After a few days of caring for the fledglings, the mother left the rest of this work to the father so that she could build another nest where she would again lay eggs, and start the process all over again. Robins are very intelligent, hardworking birds and they are extremely good parents.

I enjoyed this entire experience and consider it to be a treasured gift from Mother Nature. Three little robins hatching right before my very eyes was joyful and wondrous. It definitely warmed my heart. You may not have had the joy of watching baby robins hatch this spring, but there are many gifts and little miracles to enjoy each day from Mother Nature. Just look around and you will be sure to find something wonderful that you may not have noticed before. The awe and wonder that lies right within your own backyard, all around you, or perhaps on your second-floor balcony, is something to behold. It can be something as simple as taking a moment on a lovely sunny day to look up and watch the tops of the trees gracefully swaying and dancing in the breeze against an azure sky. An experience so simple, calming and beautiful! Thank you, Mother Nature, for that, and for all of your many other little miracles.

Gazebo Garden Miller Road Park

Pam Hoffmann

Glory in the beauty of our Mountain Laurel which bloomed this spring for the first time.



Rust Belt

Susan Prehoda

Rust Belt Riders has a drop off bin at the Avon Lake Service Department on Rt. 83 for any and all kitchen scraps including bones, meat, noodles, coffee grounds, tea bags, bread, any leftovers that the kids don't eat, and more. Keeping scraps out of the landfills really, really, really helps our environment by reducing methane gas. Food scraps are one of the biggest problems in the landfills. It really helps our environment if people save scraps. You can freeze them until you're ready to go drop them off. It's so easy. It's \$10 a month, but if you offer to take other people's scraps to the drop off, say a relative, friend or neighbor, maybe you can split the cost. You can take as many scraps as you want.

I figure if I'm going to donate money to the environment once a year, maybe \$500 or so, I might as well just do the \$10 a month instead, because I know this system works. The food scraps are turned into compost, which is then turned into soil and sold in bags for people to buy. Plus, if you're a Rust Belt Rider member I think you get \$5 off a bag, so good for garden members. You can check their website for more information and the exact amount of the discount. They also have a pickup service that's \$30 a month. I feel the \$10 a month is a better deal. It's not that difficult to drive over to the drop off bin when you're already out doing other errands. This is an opportunity for each

4

of us to do our part to help with the environment and to heal our planet, our home.

Also, for those of you who really care about the

Riders

environment, check out Little Sparks Refill Shop in Rocky River. They collect items that are not normally taken by recycling centers, such as, bread tags that provide funds to purchase wheelchairs; washed mascara wands that are used to clean birds rescued from oil spills; cut open and washed toothpaste tubes; contact lens blister packs; contact lens solution bottles; all brands of blades, razors, and plastic razor packaging; dried out ink pens; glass jars with lids washed with labels and glue removed; plastic pill bottles with lids washed and labels and glue removed, just to name a few. Go to their website for a complete list. Some of these items are so easy to collect and you will be keeping them out of the landfills.

Pots, Pots, Pots

Anne Lyon

Please save your plastic pots (less than a gallon) for an upcoming craft project next year. If you prefer for me to store, just drop off at my home.

Take a Guess

Jennifer Fenderbosch

1. Are Pineapples a type of apple, berry, or fruit?
2. What two vegetables are actually flowers?
3. Name which 2 are vegetables: Watermelon, Tomato, Rhubarb
4. Which fruit's flowers are carnivorous?
5. Why is Thistle Scotland's national flower?
6. What fruit did Roman Emperor Tiberius want to eat every day so he ordered that the first greenhouse be built?

Answers:

1. Pineapples are actually berries and the only edible part of any bromeliad plant.
2. Broccoli and Cauliflower are actually flowers.
3. Watermelon and Rhubarb are vegetables while Tomato is a fruit.
4. Fig flowers absorb the wasp that pollinates them.
5. The Vikings had a hard time getting through the vast patches of thistle when they invaded Scotland hundreds of years ago, so the Scots were able to escape.
6. Cucumbers

5

MAGICAL MINIATURE FLOWER SHOW!

Judy Morley

It finally happened and it was worth the wait! On Wednesday June 8 and Thursday June 9, Lake House and Folger House in Veterans Park were open to the public to celebrate our very beautiful and successful Petite Standard Flower Show. Between 150 and 200 people came through one or both houses to see the magic we put together. Most were from the Avon Lake area or family of club members, but we were surprised at the numbers who came to the show because of the Fox8 New Day Cleveland interview on television Thursday morning. This was our time to welcome the community, show off our horticulture, designs, botanical arts, crafts, and photography, and serve delicious cookies.

When I joined ALGC in 2019, the planning was already well under way for our next flower show, a Petite Flower Show. The groundwork for our successful show was being planned and planted by the Flower Show's capable and thorough Chairman, Jo'C Walker. The first big decision was that our Flower Show would be a Petite Show, which requires that all the designs must be petite designs AND that all horticulture must be dwarf, miniature, or naturally small specimens. Unless the club members are already known to be growing such horticulture, a lead time of a minimum of at least six months is needed for members to acquire and establish in their gardens arboreal and woody shrubs to enter in the Petite Show.

Another early set of decisions is where to hold the Flower Show and when. Those decisions will influence the layout of the Show and what horticulture should be included in the schedule. Our location in Veterans Park along Lake Erie was beautiful, and the timing turned out well, as the emergence of mayflies, an annoying sign of a healthy lake, started in earnest about a week after our Petite Show. Our Petite Show had several dates set. Our original dates were June 18 and 19, 2020, but we had to postpone our Petite Show because of Covid. We very seriously considered the same time period in 2021, but we reluctantly decided that we couldn't be sure that the pandemic would enough under control for us to reschedule. When we turned our attention to June 2022, we tried to keep our original time, but ended up with June 7 for set up, and June 8 and 9 for the Show because the Ohio Judges Council was holding a symposium for judges on June 14 and 15. This would make it nearly impossible for us to find judges willing to judge our Show, so we went earlier.

National Garden Club's *Handbook for Flower Shows* explains how to put on a Flower Show, listing the usual Committees needed and what are the responsibilities of each Committee. From that Jo'C developed excellent job descriptions for each Chairman, which were explained to club members as they volunteered or were recruited for each position. Jo'C invited club members to participate in developing the schedule, but undertook the real heavy lifting of schedule writing herself. She prepared the General Rules, the Horticulture Rules, the Design Rules, the Education Rules, all the Botanical Arts Rules, a thorough explanation of the Awards which can be awarded to exhibits in all divisions, and the points of scale to be used in the judging of exhibits. Attention to detail in these areas is what makes or breaks a Flower Show. All the information in these categories is clearly stated and beautifully laid out. The next step in the process is to decide what types of horticulture should be included, with consideration of the gardens and houseplants our members grow as well as what can be expected to be in bloom or maturity at the time of the Flower Show. Another consideration is whether the Flower Show should be Small (a minimum of twelve to a maximum of nineteen designs or Standard (twenty or more designs). We staged a Standard Show with two sections of design, including a section of three miniature table designs, an ambitious undertaking for a garden club Flower Show. The culmination of the planning of the schedule was a very fun meeting where all the division, section, and design class titles were brainstormed. The commitments made that day to enter the table classes were kept.

This is often the way a Flower Show works. But our General Chairman, Jo'C, did so much more for the Club. There are quite a few new members since ALGC's last Flower Show in 2016, with no Flower Show experience. In response, Jo'C taught classes in basic design, not once twice. The first set of classes were held early in 2020, before we had to postpone our Show when Covid 19 took over Ohio. Because

of the two-year delay, Jo'C held another series of classes at the beginning of this year. She used excellent handouts, told members what they needed to bring, and even purchased flowers in bulk. The experience of handling flowers and working on the designs gave the class participants confidence to sign up to make designs for our Flower Show. It was inspiring to see the designs the participants produced each week during the classes. It's common for a club which will be holding a Flower Show to have a program or two on design, or even hold a workshop or two to practice designs scheduled for the Show. But I've never encountered a series of design lessons being offered to club members to help them prepare for a Flower Show. We are so lucky that Jo'C was so generous with her time and talents.

In 2020 our Petite Flower Show preparations were well underway before we had to postpone. We had made our trip out to Mulberry Creek Herb Farm to purchase miniature plants for the Show, more than 90 days in advance. We had planned how to lay out the Folger House to accommodate the Design, Education, and Botanical Arts Divisions. We decided on the colors we would use. We were starting to accumulate the very small clear bottles needed for horticulture. We were also facing the challenge of how we should raise the regular table heights higher so that our small exhibits would be closer to eye level. And then we put our plans on hold.

When we decided that we would be able to have our Petite Flower Show this June, a decision affirmed at our March meeting, it was time for our staging committees to come up with the details to make our Flower Show work. We had been able to purchase small pedestals used at Ohio Garden Clubs July 2021 Flower Show, which gave us a good start. The challenge of the Folger House was that we had many different locations with a variety of heights that we needed to visually unify. In Lake House, our set up challenge was having our risers strong enough to hold container grown plants and flexible enough to adjust sections and classes so that the tables looked neither crowded nor sparse. Probably due to a cool May and an early June date, our rose entries were fewer than we would have liked, but we certainly had an abundance of cut perennials.

As often seems the case, we had some challenges on June 7, our set up day. All the tables and chairs which we borrowed from the City of Avon Lake had been delivered and placed on Monday June 6. The table linens, generously supplied by a club member, were not what had been ordered and were not in the condition we expected. We did have irons and ironing boards, and soon an ironing crew was busy in each location. It seemed a thankless, endless task but we were able to cover our tables as needed, if not as easily as we had planned. In Lake House we had wooden crates painted to match the tablecloths, which we used on the three tables in the middle of the room to hold the container gardens, and on the first two tables along the wall. The surfaces of the remaining four tables were raised with milk crates topped with flooring planks. Creative draping covered the milk crates and the planks were covered in doubled plastic tablecloths. The overall effect was a welcoming, peaceful, unified room. The set up in the Folger House was also very successful, although there was more variety in the staging adaptations used to raise the exhibits. Unity among the design classes was enhanced by the thin wooden staging panels and underlays provided by ALGC. The mint green of the walls in both houses was picked up in the mint green signage used in each section and class, and the class dividers were in a darker green.

Club members were able to submit their entries on Tuesday afternoon starting at 1pm, and we were ready. Most members knew which plants they were entering in the Flower Show, or had already

7

done their research before bringing in their exhibits. The crews in each house were able to bring their exhibits to the other house, and only a handful of entries had not been received by the end of Tuesday. Horticulture subdivisions were made.

Wednesday morning was busy. The remaining exhibits had to be placed. Horticulture spacing needed final adjustments, followed by straightening the exhibits and all the Section and Class signage.

Signage for the Class subdivisions was prepared. It was time to tidy everything before our judges arrived. Judges are expected to be encouraging, but their reaction to our show seemed to be a genuine appreciation of the beauty of our Petite Flower Show. The evaluating judges found our Flower Show worthy to apply for state awards. Several of the judges have commented very favorably on the quality and beauty of our Show and mentioned the opportunity to see Lake Erie up close. Now our Book of Evidence Chairman is gathering all the data to apply for awards.

A Flower Show is a project of the whole club. Funding is provided through the club budget. All members are expected to exhibit, whether in horticulture, design, or botanical arts, and are encouraged to participate in the responsibilities of at least one committee. And Avon-on-the Lake Garden Club members do take their responsibilities seriously. Most members entered at least one exhibit and helped in the work of at least one committee. It took the work of all of us to set up and execute our Petite Standard Flower Show. We should be proud of the effort we made to create this time of beauty which we shared with our community.

Avon-On-The-Lake Garden Club NGC Petite Standard Flower Show “A Magical Miniature Tour”

Jo’C Walker

Award Winner for the National Garden Club Top Exhibit Awards

AWARDS WINNERS FOR THE NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBSTOP EXHIBIT AWARDS

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE

Division I - Horticulture

Bobbi Rudge

Section Award – Award of Merit

Linda Borton

Barb Nahm

Jennifer Fenderbosch

Section Award – Grower’s Choice Award

Irene Shuster

Jo’C Walker

Bobbi Rudge

Section Award – Arboreal Award

Jennifer Fenderbosch

Club Award – Mrs. E. J. Weigel Founder Award

Bobbie Rudge

Club Award – Sweepstakes Winner

Bard Nahm

Club Award – Award of Appreciation

Commercial Exhibit, Mulberry Creek Herb Farm

DIVISION II – DESIGN

Division Award – Award of Design Excellence

Bobbi Rudge

Section Award – Designer’s Choice Award

Bobbie Rudge

Section Award – Table Artistry Award

Jennie Jones

Club Award – Novice Award

Karen Moran

Club Award – Sweepstakes Award

Bobbie Rudge

DIVISION III – EDUCATION

Division Award – Educational Top Exhibitor Award

Elsie Robinson

Special Award - People’s Choice, Pocket Garden Club Award

Monica Kimmell

Club Award – Award of Appreciation, Pocket Garden

Jane Kozey

Anne Lyon

Monica Kimmell

DIVISION IV – BOTANICAL ARTS

Section Award – Botanical Arts Design Award

Anne Lyon

Section Award - Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award

Section Award – Botanical Arts Horticulture Award

Karen Butch

Section Award – Botanical Arts Photography Award

Anne Lyon

