Coming Events

January 15, 2014
Deadline for submissions to the Apr-May-Jun issue of The Garden Path

March 17-19, 2014
State Board Meeting
Mohican State Park Lodge, Perrysville, OH

April 15, 2014
Deadline for submissions to the Jul-Aug-Sep issue of The Garden Path

May 19-20, 2014
Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School #1, Deer Creek State Park, Mt. Sterling, OH

May 31, 2014
Hike for Health, Black Swamp Bird Observatory

June 1-6, 2014
Nature Study Retreat, Camp Butler, Peninsula, OH

June 11-20, 2014
OAGC Trip to the World Flower Show in Dublin, Ireland

July 15, 2014
Deadline for submissions to the Oct-Nov-Dec issue of The Garden Path

August 18-20, 2014
Annual Convention,
Mohican State Park Lodge

September 15-16, 2014
Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School

2014 All-America Selections

Sunflower ‘Suntastic’ F1
Bean ‘Mascotte’
Petunia ‘African Sunset’ F1
Tomato ‘Chef’s Choice Orange’ F1
Tomato ‘Fantastico’ F1
Pumpkin ‘Cinderella’s Carriage’ F1
Cucumber ‘Pick a Bushel’ F1
Gaura ‘Sparkle White’
Pepper ‘Mama Mia Giallo’ F1

All-America Selections (AAS) judges have finished a rigorous year of trialing and recently announced the newest AAS Winners. All winners were trialed next to similar varieties currently on the market. The AAS Judges do a side-by-side analysis of growth habit, disease resistance and more to determine if these entries were truly better than those already available to home gardeners. Only those flower entries with superior garden performance or the vegetables with superior taste and garden performance are given the AAS stamp of approval.

All-America Selections® was founded in 1932 and continues as the oldest independent testing organization in North America.

Read more about the traits of these exciting new introductions at the All-America Selection website, www.all-americaselections.org.
2012-2014 OAGC State Officers

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Treasurer  Sharon Ware  4252 Waterfront Ct.  Fairfield, OH 45014-3584 513-829-6566 ware@oagc.org
Secretary  Vicki Ferguson  2853 Circlewood Ln.  Dayton, OH 45458-9440 937-885-6163 vferguson@oagc.org

WHERE TO SEND IT: Membership changes and dues: Membership Chair; Donations to the OAGC Foundation: OAGC Foundation Treasurer; submissions for In Memoriam, Via the Grapevine and Stepping Stones: The Garden Path editor.
A note from our president:

Happy new ‘Blue’ year. 2014 was initiated with a host of positive events. Regions closed last year with many special moments filled with ideas that go beyond regular programs. There were gals with denim purses, a member filled her green and white OAGC anniversary mug with the morning coffee, and one region even used its silent auction profits to fatten the Mohican raffle. A region reported that it actually pays for one person to attend Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School. In region 4, we sang together songs that celebrate our human bond with Mother Earth. Region 5 took time to share the ambition of a club’s charter member, a 99-year old. There were junior bird houses and floral designs at several regionals. The response to the trip to Ireland was extremely positive.

Now is the time to dig deep. Do not hibernate. Do not let up. There is potential for new clubs to form; these people await your energy. An invitation to hike with Nature Study Retreators is before you as a learning adventure. One such hike added a new treasure for me last year. It was a violet, a yellow one, called Halberd-leaved violet with a slightly serrated, oblong leaf.

Plan to attend a spring regional meeting and offer help. Take a simple project to a group which may be cut off from nature and call it therapy for yourself. Look over the convention flower show’s horticulture schedule and grow plants to exhibit at convention. Perhaps this is a year when you might attend some or all of our summer celebration as we plan to “Gather the Treasures of the 12 Moons.” Fortify your life and learning with ‘knowing, growing, showing and sharing.” Remaining passionately blue, for you,

Mary Lee Minor, OAGC president

Membership Goal

2013-2014

OAGC continues to grow as clubs add new members. The presidential goal this program year is to register 24 new garden clubs - an attainable goal with the help of each region. To have a new garden club emerge from a region would take each member listening to contacts in everyday life.

Take action. Suggest a meeting place, a date and time. Even if only three people come to share into discussion, be sure to show up and exhibit spirit. The energy in creating a club can be shared with the junior gardeners, too. Be an OAGC ambassador. Launch a new club and receive a box of goodies from the president wrapped up in a big, blue bow.

When we achieve the goal, those who have helped will be honored at the 2014 Convention.

Searching for Victor H. Ries Boxwoods

The OAGC Executive Board is looking for members who years ago purchased boxwood shrub starts that were cuttings from an original plant of Victor H. Ries, our founder.

As the search started, it was discovered that some members have moved the boxwood to a new site, while others have moved and left it behind.

If you are uncertain about your boxwood, it is suggested that you take a cutting and bring it to the 2014 convention. You may send it with your name attached. We hope to ascertain whether it is really a Ries boxwood, then create starts for the 2015 convention, when OAGC will celebrate its 85th anniversary.

Members of the Findlay Garden Club of Reg. 2 made their annual trip in late July to view Wanda Smith’s Night Blooming Cereus. Neighbors, relatives and garden club members (some in pajamas and coats!) enjoyed the blooms and heady fragrance of a record seventeen blooms. According to legend, each bloom resembles a cradle, star and the twelve apostles.
2014 Nature Study Retreat

Geri and Bill Rea, Program Coordinators

This year’s Nature Study Retreat will be held June 1-6, 2014 at Camp Butler (800 W. Streetsboro Rd, Peninsula, OH 44264.) Camp Butler is a Boy Scout camp nestled in the beautiful Cuyahoga Valley National Park. This location gives us a unique opportunity to explore and enjoy our nation’s newest national park.

Though a short distance from the urban areas of Cleveland and Akron, Cuyahoga Valley National Park seems worlds away. The park is a refuge for native plants and wildlife, and provides routes of discovery for visitors. The winding Cuyahoga River gives way to deep forests, rolling hills and open farmlands. Walk or ride the Towpath Trail to follow the historic route of the Ohio and Erie Canal.

Planned activities include, morning bird walks, exploring the trails that abound in the area, visits to historical sites in and near the park and biking or hiking trails in the extensive scout camp or park sites. If you bring a bike the Tow Path Trail is fantastic with level terrain of hard packed limestone making it easy to follow. One of the highlights is the fantastic plant sale where everyone brings plants to bid on. Last year there were 11 first-time campers who enjoyed the week. Will you be a first-timer this year?

We'll plan a visit to Hale Farm and Village and learn of Jonathan Hale’s move to this area from Connecticut. We will also tour a working farm where they are using old time farming methods and a nearby garden center, Suncrest Gardens.

Consider bringing along a grandchild or other youngster. They will thoroughly enjoy the experience. We have “camperships” available to first time juniors. Half the Junior fee will be awarded to a qualified child. To apply, the junior should write a letter telling why they would like to attend. Send the letter to Jan Harmon (405 Craggy Creek Dr., Chippewa Lake, 44215) or email jharmon@oagc.org. We would like to award the funds that have been allocated for this purpose.

I ask you: where can you go for 5 days of pure joy, special programs, learning and exploring nature with a certified naturalist, visiting historical sites, enjoying fellowship, 3 meals a day and lodging for less then $200 a week? There is no better deal. A registration form can be found on page 15. Watch the Nature Study web page at http://www.oagc.org/naturestudy.htm for the most current information, event schedule and registration form. To learn about the camp (including directions) go to: http://www.gtcbsa.org/manatoc/directions.html and click on Camp Butler. To learn more about the Cuyahoga Valley National Park: http://www.nps.gov/cuva/historyculture/places.htm

OAGC and the Ohio Historical Society Collaborate

The Ohio Historical Society has asked OAGC to help upgrade/renovate their bird sanctuary garden. Mary Lee Minor, OAGC president; David Dyer, Curator of Natural History at OHS and Marian Moeckel, OAGC Nature and Conservation Chair, met at the Ohio Historical Society’s Museum in Columbus. After a garden tour and some discussion, it was decided OAGC would help revamp this bird viewing area with native plants.

As gardeners we know that sharing our plants is second nature. The fall landscape was noted and photographed and a list of the plants and a layout drawing of the area was supplied by Mr. Dyer. As we analyze the area and the plants that are there, we will make recommendations for planting in the spring and summer. It is important to provide food and cover year round for their local wildlife. In the spring we will send out a request for divisions of your native plants to include at this site, which includes trees, shrubs and a water feature with running water, bird feeders and an open area.

If you have not been to the Ohio Historical Museum recently (1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211), it is worth a visit. There are always new displays along with the wonderful permanent exhibits. The gift shop is great and parking is easy. The bird sanctuary provides a nice live active spot as you tour the museum. Stay tuned.
2014 OAGC Convention Flower Show, August 18-20, 2014
Horticulture Rules and Schedule

1. Entries will be accepted from 9 am to 1 pm, Monday, August 18, 2014. Judging begins at 1:30 pm.
2. Adult exhibitors MUST BE REGISTERED for convention in order to be eligible to enter.
3. Horticulture entries must be grown by the exhibitor. Container grown plants should have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least three months.
4. Exhibitor MUST furnish own clear glass containers, size suitable for the exhibit. Water picks will be furnished for miniature roses. Packaging peanuts will be available for use as wedging for heavy cultivars.
5. Each horticulture entry tag should have the exhibitor number provided by the horticulture chair.
6. Only correctly named horticulture exhibits, with variety name written on the entry tag, will be eligible for awards.
7. Junior entry tags must be completely filled out by junior exhibitor before entering the show.
8. An exhibitor may make as many entries as desired in any class, providing each is a different named variety.
9. An exhibitor may not enter a cultivar in an 'any other' class if there is another class for it or they have already entered that cultivar in a previous class.
10. Classes may be withdrawn, combined, divided or sub-divided, if the number of entries warrant.
11. Horticulture classes will be judged according to the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs Inc. rules by the standard system of judging - one first, one second, one third. More than one honorable mention may be given for worthy entries. Judges' decisions are final.
12. Adult Awards will be: Awards of Merit: best entry, Section 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10; Container Growers Award for cultural perfection, best entry, Section 11; Best of Show, Mary Alice Earhart Memorial Award, best overall horticulture exhibit in show; Executive Trophy (Sweepstakes), exhibitor totaling most points. Points totaled are: 1st: 5; 2nd: 3; 3rd: 2. In case of a tie, Honorable Mentions will be counted as 1 each; Runner-up Sweepstakes Rosette.
13. Junior Awards will be: Awards of Merit, best cut annual, biennial or perennial flower exhibit in Section 14; best caladium in Section 15; best entry of grasses in Section 16. Junior Best of Show will be awarded for best overall junior horticulture exhibit in all junior classes; Junior Sweepstakes will be awarded to the junior exhibitor totaling most points. Points totaled are: 1st: 5; 2nd: 3; 3rd: 2. In case of a tie, Honorable Mentions will be counted as 1 each.
14. Convention horticulture exhibit entry tags will be available at the entry table. The small entry tags should be used for the miniature rose exhibits. Entry tags are available from the State Horticulture Chair, Jane Adkins, 4426 Clark Place, Grove City, OH 43123-3538. Phone 614-875-5059, or email jadkins@oagc.org

ADULT DIVISION
Section 1 - Roses, Named, any variety
1. Hybrid Tea, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached
   a. White or near white
   b. Yellow, yellow blend
   c. Pink, pink blend
   d. Red, red blend
   e. Orange, orange blend, orange-red, orange-pink
   f. Any other color not listed above
   g. Any new variety for 2014
2. Hybrid Tea, full blown, any color, any variety, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached
3. Floribunda or Polyantha, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
4. Grandiflora, named, any variety, one spray or one disbudded bloom, with foliage attached
5. Shrub, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
6. Miniature, named, any variety, one spray, disbudded with foliage attached
   a. White or near white
   b. Yellow, yellow blend
   c. Pink, pink blend
   d. Red, red blend
   e. Orange, orange blend, orange-red, orange-pink
   f. Mauve, mauve blend
   g. Any other color not listed above
   h. Any new variety for 2014
7. Miniature, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached

Section 2 - Annuals
8. Coleus, named, any variety, one stem
9. Fresh cut everlasting, named, one bloom, one spray or one spike, any variety, foliage attached
10. Any round form annual, named, one bloom, disbudded, foliage attached
11. Any spike form annual, named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached
12. Any spray form annual, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
13. Any new variety for 2014

Section 3 - Biennials or Perennials
14. Rudbeckia, named, any variety, disbudded with foliage attached
15. Echinacea, named, any variety, disbudded, keeping foliage attached when available
16. Any round form perennial or biennial, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached
17. Any spray form perennial or biennial, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
18. Any spike form perennial or biennial, named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached
19. Any flower grown from a bulb, corn, tuber, or rhizome not listed elsewhere in the schedule
20. Any new variety for 2014
The Garden Path
Winter (Jan-Feb-Mar) 2014

Section 4 - Dahlias
23. Dahlia, one bloom under 4”, disbudded, foliage attached
24. Dahlia, one bloom 4 - 6”, disbudded, foliage attached
25. Dahlia, one bloom 6” and over, disbudded, foliage attached

Sections 5 - Gladiolus - Named, one spike, any variety or color
26. Any size - state size

Section 6 - Caladiums
27. One leaf, named, any variety

Section 7 - Colocasia/Alocasia (Elephant Ears)
28. One leaf, named, any variety

Section 8 - Ornamental Grasses
No exhibit over 36” tall, foliage only or grasses with inflorescence (plumes, flower heads).
29. Small grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container (Carex, Helictotrichon, Imperata, etc.)
30. Medium grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container (Chasmanthium, Elymus, Panicum, etc.)
31. Large grasses, named, one stem in one container (Arundo, Erianthus, Miscanthus, Ornamental Corn, etc.)
32. Non-traditional grass, named, one stem in one container (Papyrus, etc.)

Section 9 - Shrubs
Named, any variety, one stem, no exhibit to exceed 24” in length
33. Blooming/Berried

Section 10 - Herbs - Named any variety, one stem
34. Fresh cut perennial herb
35. Fresh cut annual herb

Section 11 - Container Grown Plants
Pot not to exceed 12” in diameter and must sit flat on the table. One plant per pot (may be multiple stemmed)
36. Flowering plant, named, any variety
37. Foliage plant, named, any variety
38. Cactus, named, any variety
39. Succulent, named, any variety

JUNIOR DIVISION
Section 14 - Juniors - Annuals, Biennials, Perennials
42. Coleus, named, one stem
43. Any round form annual, biennial or perennial, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
(Examples: Zinnia, Marigold, Aster, Shasta Daisy, Gloriosa Daisy, etc.)
44. Any spike form annual, biennial, perennial, named, one spike, foliage attached.
(Examples: Salvia, Larkspur, Delphinium, Hollyhock, Bells of Ireland, Liatrus, Gladiolus, Snapdragon, etc.)
45. Any spray form annual, biennial, perennial, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.
(Examples: Chrysanthemums, Phlox, Petunias, Lisianthus, Statice, Yarrow etc.)
46. Any new variety for 2014

Section 15 - Juniors - Caladiums
47. One leaf, named, any variety

Section 16 - Juniors - Grasses
No exhibit over 36” tall, foliage only or grasses with inflorescence (plumes, flower heads)
48. Small grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container. (Carex, Helictotrichon, Imperata, etc.)
49. Medium grasses, named, three stems of same variety in 1 container.
(Chasmanthium, Elymus, Panicum, etc.)
50. Large grasses, named, one stem, any variety. (Arundo, Erianthus, Miscanthus, Ornamental Corn, etc.)
51. Non-traditional grass, named, one stem, any variety (Papyrus, etc.)

Do you have the luck o’ the Irish?

The response to the June 2014 trip to Ireland and the World Association of Flower Arrangers International Flower Show was huge. In fact, the trip is sold out. The two departures will come together on the east coast for a departure to Shannon, Ireland where the trip begins.

One special seat on the trip is marked as “TBA” for a winner whose name will be drawn on April 30, 2014 from all raffle tickets sold. The winner must provide a passport number when notified. The recipient will receive the double occupancy rate covering the flight, hotels and meals on the trip.

If you plan on entering the raffle, be sure to get your passport now. Forms can be processed at the local post office or county clerk of courts office for a fee of $25 and require a birth certificate, driver’s license and a prepared passport photo. The cost of the application, new or renewal, is $110.

Raffle chair Barbara Sheets is sending out small number of raffle tickets to all clubs. Without pressure, the raffle hopes for your support. Checks, sold and unsold tickets must be returned BEFORE April 30. If the raffle winner is already a traveler on the trip, their payment will be refunded.

Wine, Wit and Wisdom bus tour participants shopping at Bluestone Perennials
Belated Congratulations to both the Four Seasons Garden Club of Champaign County (Reg. 5) and the Four Seasons Garden Club of Miami County (Reg. 5) for their superior program books.

What makes the “perfect” program book? Many will say that a score of 100 and a superior award is the answer. However, there are several factors that go into creating the perfect book.

Start with the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs program book scorecard. If every item on the score card is followed exactly, then a score of 100 would be awarded. This may or may not mean the book is as well done as another program book. Under the General Make-Up section after durability and neatness is creativity. This would include the over-all appearance of the book. One book may have a plain purple cover with all of the information in black print. Another book may have a picture of an Eastern Bluebird or a beautiful floral painting and still include all of the needed information. First impressions do count so make an effort to show some creativity when designing the book.

The next two sections of the scorecard concern the quality of the meetings each club has during the year. Following a theme throughout the year is often the easiest. The program, the roll call, the therapy project could all follow the same theme such as highlighting a bird, a tree or a native plant each month. It is not necessary to have professors or other “experts” to provide these programs. Given enough time, club members can research and present programs.

When writing up the events for each month, clarity is absolutely necessary. Just writing that the program will be “plant sale” may be understood by club members but not by someone scoring the book. Programs become more garden related by including a brief note that the plants are grown by members and that each plant will be identified with botanical name (when possible) and growing instructions. The annual Christmas Party could be more garden-related if a program was given about a holiday greenery or flower. Having a non-club member proof-read the book for clarity often helps.

Almost all clubs make an effort to be special. The extra things that members are involved in are important. Supporting OAGC projects, helping with local gardens, having a garden therapy group, or running a local “outstanding garden” contest are all easy and special efforts. These need to be listed near the front of the program book not on a separate sheet of paper.

Remember that special efforts do count. From the cover design to the step by step following all of the sections of the score sheet to the extra illustrations, it takes all of this to create the perfect program book.

A new design style I’ve discovered is “armature.” It is not even noted in the current OAGC Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Handbook, however it will be included in the new handbook that is currently under construction.

An Armature design is a three-dimensional creative design, featuring a skeleton network of horizontal and/or vertical parallel lines, bars, etc, to form a grid. So, the armature is the grid on which your design is created. The grid may be composed of one type of man-made or plant material, e.g. bamboo canes, chicken wire, framework of flower stems, twigs, etc. The skeleton framework (armature) is used as a foundation and must remain dominant after other components are added. The armature can be self-supporting or put into a container.

The Armature design will be studied at the next Design Study Session at the May 19, 2014 Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School #1 held at Deer Creek State Park Lodge in Mt. Sterling. Watch for the registration form in the next issue of The Garden Path.

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I have searched the internet and found pictures to demonstrate the Armature Design. Please contact me at normes@oagc.org if you plan on registering for the class and I will e-mail pictures to you.

If you would like to learn more about Creative Designs, be sure to attend your regional Design Study workshops and the Design Study workshop held on Monday nights at the Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Schools. If you desire help setting up design workshops in your area, please contact me (address on page 2.)
Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School Department

Jan Stein, Chair

We would like to recognize both Barbara Lennen and Sharon Ware who have turned judge emeritus this year. A big thank you to Sharon and Barbara for their many years as judges and service to OAGC.

Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School will return to the six-school format in 2014. School #1 will be held May 19-20. School #2 will be held September 15-16. (The September dates are a correction from what was printed in the previous issue of The Garden Path. The schools will be held at Deer Creek State Park. Full details are still being worked on, but Period Designs and Oriental Designs will be included in the schools this year. Plant Identification will continue and we will be able to have more specific horticulture classes.

Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a judge. We are always on the lookout for new student judges.

Flower Shows Department

Beverly Norman, Chair

Winter is a good time to practice on designs and getting ready for the year’s flower shows. I have already received seven flower show contest books. I look forward to receiving contest books from fall regional flower shows and especially Christmas shows.

I encourage you to set up a workshop and do a design each month. After a design is made, be sure to take photos and submit them to the state Design Study department chair for the Faye Collins Designer of the Year Award. There is much to be learned when a judge is asked to come and critique the designs. That is how you learn and it is fun. Consider including the Armature design in the artistic schedule.

The OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs has all the information you need about entering the flower show contest including the application and scorecards. They can also be found on the OAGC website: www.oagc.org.

Horticulture Department

Jane Adkins, Chair

While your garden is enjoying its winter nap, isn’t it great to relax and not feel guilty about neglected tasks? Here are a couple to hints that may make your work easier in the spring. First, start saving used dryer softener sheets – they make great pot liners.

Next, think about those extra tomato cages sitting in the garage. Use the two largest rings (be sure to leave on legs to poke in the ground) of a four ring tomato cage to hold up your peonies. Place them over the peonies as they start to emerge and there’ll be no more flowers on the ground after a storm.

The smaller rings make great supports for smaller plants. You can either place them over the plant or cut the ring and put it around the plant. Try using the two largest rings of a three-ring cage, large ring down, in a flower bed that needs some extra color. The round hanging basket size pots will fit into the ring about a foot off the ground and give a color lift exactly where you want it. The wires just disappear into the existing foliage. Tomato cages are made of sturdy wire, so try to have (or borrow) a bolt cutter to do the job.

Despite the cold today, we know spring is on its way. So, please remember to help raise monies for OAGC. When ordering from Bluestone Perennials at www.bluestoneperennials.com use the code F3OAGC324 up until March 24. When ordering from Brent and Becky’s Bulbs at www.bloomingbucks.com, select ‘Ohio Association of Garden Clubs’ from the pull-down tab. Brent and Becky’s Bulbs donates 25% of all non-sale purchases through this fundraising portal! And it works year round!

Support OAGC when you shop on-line for your bulb needs at Brent and Becky’s Bulbs’ special fundraising portal:

www.bloomingbucks.com

Select ‘Ohio Association of Garden Clubs’ from the pull-down menu. That is it. There is no special code to remember - no coupon to submit. A portion of each non-sale dollar you spend will be given to OAGC. Thanks for your support.
**Junior Gardeners Department**  
*Deborah Graham, Chair*

“The Life of a Butterfly” is the name of the 2014 Spring Regional OAGC Junior Gardener Contest. This contest is for all age groups, but regions should have a 6-11 year old class and a 12-18 year old class for this contest. The Spring Regional Junior Contest entries should be taken to the spring regional meetings to be judged and displayed.

For this contest the junior gardener should pick a specific butterfly. An educational exhibit about the butterfly should be done on a 36”H x 48”W - 3 section folding display board. A good educational exhibit should be easy to read, informative and colorful with pictures and drawings.

Some interesting facts the junior gardener could include on their exhibit are where the butterfly lives, its life cycle, its migration patterns, the types of plants that a butterfly needs to survive and pictures or drawings of the chosen butterfly.

Please be sure to have the junior gardeners put their name, age, club and region on the back of the educational exhibit. After judging, a nice tent card with their name, age, club and region may also be placed in front of the junior gardener’s educational exhibit for public recognition.

Remember that your first, second and third place winners of each age group from each region of both the 2013 Fall Regional OAGC Junior Gardener Contest and the 2014 Spring Regional OAGC Junior Gardener Contest may be brought to the 2014 OAGC Convention at Mohican State Park on August 18-20, 2014 for display.

Encourage your junior gardeners to participate and have fun learning about “The Life of a Butterfly.”

**Membership Department**  
*Kim Cromwell, Chair*

Thanks for getting your club dues in so promptly after the late mailings went out. Clubs have been receptive to the fact that our organization’s expenses have increased over the years which led to the $2/club member dues increase. Unfortunately, we lost a few clubs this year so we need to work on Mary Lee’s goal of obtaining new clubs. Remember to send any club membership changes (new members, address changes, etc.) to me, address on page 2. This will help keep the database current and limit the mailing errors at the post office. Stay warm and enjoy the winter…spring will be right around the corner before you know it!

**Nature and Conservation Department**  
*Marian Moeckel, Chair*

What is a Beautification Project? There seems to be some confusion out there. OAGC Beautification Projects involve the planting and landscaping in and around your community. It can be a one-time affair for a certain event or area. It could also be a project that is ongoing for many years.

It is not too soon to be planning your club’s next year’s Beautification Project. You could start a Permanent, 2-year project, this year, for submission in 2015. Or, if you want to do a Seasonal/Temporary Project for next summer to submit in 2014, the time is of the essence. Start scouting your community, asking questions, form a committee and get started. A community project also allows everyone to bring their talents and creativity to the group and ultimately to the community.

If an outdoor planting project is not an option this year think of another way to work together within your club. Whenever our garden club does an activity all-together, we have fun and are very productive, whether it is a therapy activity for a senior center, making holiday designs or painting flower pots. Our collective energies seem to compound and ends with uplifted spirits and really great products - floral designs, seasonal gifts, or hypertufas or leaf bowls for the garden.

In new clubs or clubs with new members, it is a great way to get to know each other in a relaxed informal activity.

So, step up, suggest a project and help your club blossom and be creative. Details for the projects and the deadlines for submission are on pages 77-80 in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs and online under contest forms at the OAGC website, www.oagc.org. If you have questions please contact Marian Moeckel at mmoeckel@oagc.org before you even start.
Via the Grapevine
(Please send all submissions directly to the editor of The Garden Path)

Region 2


Region 3
Here and There GC: Jan. 7, “Zentangle Project” by Deb Chase, Zentangle workshop to make either garden art or note card; Feb. 4, “Amazing Hummingbirds” DVD; Mar. 4, Tokadama (Japanese String Garden) workshop. Contact Joyce Thomas at wwt222@cinci.rr.com.

New Neighbors GC: Jan. 21, “Cooking With Herbs” by Candace Rinke; Feb. 18, “String Gardening” by Babz Sabick; Mar. 16, “High Performance, Low Maintenance Annuals” by Pam Bennett. Contact Donita Owen at owendonii@gmail.com.

Our Homes GC: Jan. 14, “What’s New for 2014” by Maureen Aukerman; Feb. 11, tour of the Dayton Art Institute; Mar. 11, “Companion Planting.” Plant exchanges are held at each meeting.

Region 4
Walden Ponds GC: Mar. 3, “Spring Wildflowers” by Chris McCullough, Butler County State Extension Office. Contact: Donna Hughes at jhughes4@fuse.net.

Region 5

Blooming Betys GC: Jan. 9, craft day; Feb. 13, Valentine Project; Mar. 13, Garden Friends. Contact Anita Brown at 937-339-0926 or garrybrown3@aol.com.

Region 6

Region 7


Region 8
Grow and Show GC: Jan. 22, “Tool Time” with Schroeder Dodd; Feb 26, “Making Glass Garden Ornaments” instructional night with Paula Shockley (workshop will be Apr. 23); Mar. 26, “Grow and Show Herb Tasting” at Mr. Lees, light dinner featuring popular herbs. Contact Joan Picklesimer at 740-432-5764.

Newark GC: Feb. 14, “How to Kill a Tree” by Schroeder Dodds; Mar. 14, “Try a Tabletop Water Feature Workshop. For information contact Jean Jankowski at 740-587-4116 or jankowski@alink.com.


Town and Country GC: Jan. 8, gardening movie with snacks; Feb. 13, “From Garden to Table” by Dr. Chad Guest; Mar. 13, “Propagating Tender Plants” by Steve Troendly. Contact Judy Boyd at 740-826-0013.

Region 9

The Garden Path


**Region 10**

**Green Triangle GC:** Jan. 6, remove decorations at Shawnee State Park Lodge; Feb. 6, “Valentine’s Underwater” by Sherrill Day; Mar. 6, “Creative Mass” by Beverly Norman. Contact Karen Sue Evans 740-858-5315.

**Region 11**


**Region 12**

**Flushing GC:** Mar. 7, “Conditioning Flowers” by Donna Hirauk. Contact Barb Cencula at barbarajcencula@frontier.com.

**Four Seasons GC:** Feb. 26, “Beneficial Plants for Organic Gardening” by Darlene Horstman; Mar. 26, “It’s a Tropical Paradise - All About Orchids” by Elaine Wukelic. Contact Sharon Gump at sharongump@yahoo.com.

**Woodland GC:** Feb. 6, “Flower Stationary” by Carole Patton; Mar. 6, “Ireland Flowers” by Verna Smolinsky. Contact Susan Tatar at 740-282-7117.

**Region 14**


**Region 16**

**Clearcreek Gardeners GC:** Jan. 21, salad luncheon; Feb. 18, “Tea and Tea Presentation” by Lois Phillips; Mar. 18, luncheon and history of club by members. Contact Pat Stidham at 937-885-5155.


**Wilmington GC:** Jan. 13, “Pruning Your Shrubbery” by Sherry Kile of Kile Landscape; Feb. 10, “Organic Gardening” by Robert Henson of Henson Family Farm; Mar. 10, “Identifying Weeds” by Tom Stillwell, Associate Professor of Agriculture Wilmington College. Hold the date: May 8, Wilmington GC hosts Region 16’s spring meeting. Contact Pat Gilbert at arvense@juno.com or 937-383-2322.

**OAGC Archives Update**

Janet Evans, Archives Liaison

“Archive” is a word that means, “respect for history.” In 2010, the OAGC executive board moved to preserve the OAGC documents of yesteryear. Guidelines for archiving OAGC materials can be found in the OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs.

Several years ago, I completed the editing and sorting of the OAGC papers for the period 1931 to 1999, and with Board approval, committed all the material to the Ohio Historical Society (OHS).

The Ohio Historical Society has received, checked and accepted our OAGC material for permanent storage. This means that our leather-bound minute books for the last 73 years will be safely stored and available for anyone wishing to refer to them in the future. So, understand that a lot of you have your names and titles mentioned in the material, available to your grandchildren. Also stored at OHS are all the issues of The Garden Path and the OAGC Foundation minutes.

If you wish access to the OAGC Archives, you must first contact OHS (614-297-2510) for an appointment and request Collection # MSS 1512 (Minute books) or Collection #635.905 G 168 (The Garden Paths.)
OAGC Accredited Flower Show Judges – * Denotes Master Judges

Region 1: Williams, Fulton, Lucas, Defiance, Henry, Wood, Paulding Counties
Bonnie Allan* 1103 Arrowhead Tr. Wauseon, OH 43567 419-330-4079 4bonniej@gmail.com
Bonnie Eddy 225 Orchard Lane Napoleon, OH 43545-2316 419-599-5795 jbenap225@embarqmail.com
Sue Hamlet 6915 County Rd. 3 Swanton, OH 43558 419-350-2107 shamlet@oagc.org
Marlene Purdy 5229 Arborfield Ct. Ft. Wayne, IN 46835 260-492-2653 mpurdy@oagc.org

Region 2: Van Wert, Putnam, Allen, Hancock, Mercer, Auglaize, Hardin Counties
Michele Bishop 13606 County Road 25A Wapakoneta, OH 45895 419-738-7237 mbishop@woh.rr.com
Eleanor Long 3644 County Road #15 Ada, OH 45810 419-634-1260 jelongfarm@embarqmail.com
Paula Stemen 9834 Van Wert-Willshire Rd. Van Wert, OH 45891 419-238-6316 pstemenn70@yahoo.com
Juanita Wilkins* 13664 Kohler Rd. Wapakoneta, OH 45895 567-356-7921 jmw421@woh.rr.com

Region 3: Darke, Preble, Montgomery Counties
Marilyn Fies 128 Irongate Dr. Union, OH 45322 937-836-8955

Region 4: Butler, Hamilton, Clermont, Brown Counties
Naomi Ormes* 5064 Princeton Rd. Liberty Township, OH 45011 513-863-4620 bloomcity@aol.com
Susy Spence 125 E. Sharon Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45246-4526 513-772-2936 susysbkt@cinci.rr.com
Kathleen L. Zien PO Box 161 Oxford, OH 45056 513-523-1496 zienkl@hotmail.com

Region 5: Shelby, Logan, Union, Miami, Champaign, Clark Counties
Virginia Bowers 242 Miller Dr. Urbana, OH 43078 937-652-1254 vbowers27@gmail.com
Doris Hager* 3213 Rd. 201 Bellefontaine, OH 43311 937-593-0413 mlfarms@embarqmail.com
Marian Moeckel 7725 Walnut Grove Rd. Troy, OH 45373 937-335-6653 mamoeckel@woh.rr.com

Region 6: Ottawa, Sandusky, Erie, Seneca, Huron, Lorain Counties
Peggy Case* 400 US 250 South New London, OH 44851 419-929-6117 pcase@oagc.org
Charlene Margetiak 4891 Tunney Tr. Norwalk, OH 44857 419-706-7573 plant_consultant@yahoo.com

Region 7: Wyandot, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Delaware Counties
June Gebhardt 2435 Mt. Zion Rd. Bucyrus, OH 44820 419-569-7177 junesg62757@yahoo.com
Jo Ann Graham 12515 Pleasant Valley Rd. Mt. Vernon, OH 43050-9145 740-397-5156 j.graham@embarqmail.com
Michael Hoepf 4233 St. Rt. 19 Bucyrus, OH 44820 419-562-3704 dhmhmch@hotmail.com
Debbie Hurlbert 35 Crestwood Ct. Howard, OH 43087-9693 419-393-3817 hurlbert7@embarqmail.com
Mary Lee Minor 833 Arrowhead Dr. Bucyrus, OH 44820 419-562-6377 mminor@oagc.org
Jan Seabold 3369 TR 629 Loudonville, OH 44424 419-685-4056 seaboldtjsea@gmail.com
Virginia Sharp 147 W. Raleigh Ave. Mansfield, OH 44907 419-756-5172 vsharped64@gmail.com
Joy Strine-Sprang 16272 St. Rt. 3 Loudonville OH 44842 419-994-3523 sprangjoy@gmail.com
Pat Wells 2185 Woodville Rd. Mansfield, OH 44903 419-756-6850 wellse@embarqmail.com

Region 8: Licking, Coshocton, Muskingum, Perry, Morgan, Tuscarawas, Guernsey Counties
Jean Walton* 53 Northpointe Lane Newark, OH 43055-3279 740-344-7424 j.walton53@windstream.net

Region 9: Franklin, Pickaway, Fairfield, Ross, Jackson Counties
Jane Adkins 4426 Clark Place Grove City, OH 43123 614-875-5059 jane.adkins@hotmail.com
Nancy Ansis 7741 Rodebaugh Rd. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-9728 614-866-5856 neaniss@hotmail.com
Dottie Bates* PO Box 451 Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0451 614-866-5010 batesjim57@sbcglobal.net
Myrna Cordray* 11560 Thrailkill Rd. Orient, OH 43146 614-877-4984
Jan Stein 1983 Haverton Drive Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 614-864-5109 jstein@oagc.org

Region 10: Pike, Adams, Scioto, Lawrence Counties
Faye Collins McGinnis* 18 Greenbriar Rd. Lucasville, OH 45648 740-456-8200 collins@columbus.rr.com
Jean Moore 45 Dwight St. Minford, OH 45653 740-820-3615 njmoore@falcon1.net
Beverly Norman 2010 Henley-Deemer Rd. McDermott, OH 45652 740-464-3453 bnorman@oagc.org
Diane Reese PO Box 52 McDermott, OH 45652 740-259-4432
Region 11: Hocking, Athens, Vinton, Meigs, Jackson, Gallia, Washington Counties

Janet Bolin PO Box 36  Rutland, OH 45775  740-742-2095  jbolin2095@suddenlink.net
Shelia Curtis  63357 SR 124  Long Bottom, OH 45743  740-378-6551  juniper45743@yahoo.com

Region 12: Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, Belmont, Noble, Monroe Counties

Marilou Rupert*  78375 Bose Rd.  Freeport, OH 43973-9316  740-658-3918  cmrup@frontier.com

Region 14: Medina, Stark, Wayne, Holmes, Cuyahoga, Summit Counties

Jan Harmon  405 Craggy Creek Dr.  Chippewa Lake, OH 44215  330-769-2210  jharmon@oagc.org
Winter Address  626 Forest Palm Ct.  North Ft. Myers, FL 33917  330-304-6937 (cell)
Vicky Puster  2398 County Road 37  Lakeville, OH 44638  419-827-2039  vivapuster@gmail.com
Anita Roller  2130 Millersburg Rd.  Wooster, OH 44691  330-264-6617  akrdaylily@embarqmail.com

Region 16: Madison, Fayette, Greene, Warren, Clinton, Highland Counties

Chieko Arikawa*  73 Flax Dr.  London, OH 43140-1065  740-852-1257  cuarikawa@gmail.com
Joy Culler  PO Box 613  London, OH 43140-0613  740-815-7149  jkculler@hotmail.com
Joni Duncan  2935 McKay Rd.  Beavercreek, OH 45432  937-427-8974  duncanjoni@yahoo.com
Barbara Myers  188 East First Street  London, OH 43140  614-570-2776  bjmyers2302@att.net
Judy Stopkotte  6059 Lundy Whitacre Rd.  Morrow, OH 45152  513-899-4685  jstopkotte@hotmail.com

OAGC SALES LIST - Winter 2014

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Do not send money until shipping cost is tabulated.
OAGC Foundation Notes

Wahkeena Nature Preserve update

Wahkeena’s Nature Center is going “green” with the upcoming installation of a new geothermal heating and cooling system. The new system will replace the Nature Center’s aged and cantankerous fuel oil furnace with an environmentally friendly, geothermal approach which uses existing natural conditions to provide consistent temperature and humidity. This will greatly benefit the collections housed in the Nature Center. Garden clubs wanting to visit Wahkeena should call Tom Shisler or Robyn Wright-Straus at 800-297-1883.

Life Patrons

A Life Patron is one who makes a one-time donation of $500.00 or more to the OAGC Foundation. The donor may direct the donation to any of the five funds established: General Fund, Scholarship Fund, Mohican Outdoor School Fund, Wahkeena Nature Preserve Fund or the Nature and Conservation Fund.

A few regions have honored their outgoing Regional Director with a Life Patron donation. Life Patrons automatically become Life Members of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. and are recognized at the annual convention. Alice Dallas was the first Life Patron and to date there have been 59 persons who have become Life Patrons. Contact Foundation treasurer Sharon Ware (address on page 2) for more information on supporting the OAGC Foundation through a Life Patron donation.

The OAGC Foundation is grateful for the following donations from August 1 to October 31:

Scholarship Fund
Des Fleurs GC; Katherine Feick; Jo Ann Graham (in memory of Helen Koontz); Marabar Heights GC; OAGC Region 11 (Region 11 Scholarship); Barb Sheets (in memory of Bill Jenne); Tan and Toil GC (in memory Helen Koontz); Waverly GC (Life Patron-Susan Thomas)

Mohican Outdoor School Fund
Briarwood Beach GC (in memory of Sherry Ostrowski); Earth Wind and Flowers GC; Gallipolis GC; GE Foundation (matching funds Jankowski); Marabar Heights GC; OAGC Region 4; R.F.D. GC (in memory of Bill Jenne); Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County

Wahkeena Nature Preserve Fund
Basil GC (Sarah’s Transportation Fund); Des Fleurs GC; Gallipolis GC (bird food); Marabar Heights GC; OAGC Region 12 (Sarah’s Transportation Fund); R.F.D. GC (in memory of Bill Jenne); Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County; Slocum GC; Jean Walton (Sarah’s Transportation Fund in memory of Kevin Harmon); Woodland GC (in memory of William Clark and Jack Nutter)

Nature and Conservation Fund
Marshallville GC (in memory of Grace Jackson); Jean Walton (junior camperships, in memory of Bill Jenne)

General Fund
Joni Duncan (in memory of Betty Weaver); Jill Michael; Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County; Babs Sabick (in memory of Betty Weaver)

Save a tree! Get The Garden Path electronically

Do you get multiple copies of The Garden Path? Would you prefer to get the latest issue electronically - where it is in color? To opt-out of the printed, snail-mailed version of The Garden Path, please email your request (include your garden club name and region) to: Vferguson@oagc.org.
Nature Study Retreat Registration Form  
June 1-6, 2014 
Cuyahoga Valley National Park - Camp Butler  
880 W. Streetsboro Rd., Peninsula, OH 44264

Name: __________________________ Region: ___________
Address: ______________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Zip: ______________
Phone: (            ) ________________________________________
Email: _________________________________________________

Full-Time Retreat Rates: (If paid in full before May 1)
Full-time Adult (18 or older): _______________ $195 (after May 1: $200)
Full-time Junior (17 or under): _______________ $180 (after May 1: $185)

Part-time Adult: $50 per day/night (inc. 1 night, 3 meals)
   x ______ days = ____________
Part-Time Junior: $45 per day/night (inc. 1 night, 3 meals)
   x ______ days = ____________

Daily Retreat Rate:
$ 27 (includes 1 full day, evening program, 2 meals)
   x ______ days = ____________

Junior Information:
Fill in the following for juniors. All juniors must be accompanied by an adult. Juniors must provide an NSR Emergency Medical Form. Find online at: www.oagc.org. NOTE: For first-time retreaters, a partial payment Junior Scholarship is available to children thru age 17. Call Jan Harmon, NSR Coordinator at 330-769-2210 for details.
   Name of accompanying adult: ___________________________
   Relationship to junior: _____________________________

Attendance Summary:
Attending how many days? __________
Arrival date/time: ________  Departure date/time: ________

To insure your place, a deposit of $25 is required and can be sent by April 15, 2014. (Balance should arrive on or before May 1, 2014. Later registrations are subject to a $5 late fee.) You must be PREREGISTERED/PREPAID to participate in retreat functions. First-time attendees to Nature Study Retreat 2014, who register by March 15, 2014 will be eligible for a drawing for a $100 reimbursement. For all first-time registrants who register by March 15, three names will be drawn to receive a $100 reimbursement, each. The drawing will be held during Nature Study Retreat 2014.

Make checks payable to: OAGC and designated for “Nature Study Retreat.” Mail check and all registration forms to:
   Marie Marquart, OAGC NSR Registrar
   19391 Co. Rd. 12
   Bluffton, OH 45817
   Phone: 419-326-5212

Ooops!

Our apologies to the Hillsboro Garden Club of Region 16. The name of the Victor H. Ries Outstanding Garden Club was missing from the last issue on convention coverage.

Hillsboro Garden Club, the 2012 Victor H. Ries Award winner honored at convention in 2013, is an outstanding club. Members take part in planning and entering the local fair, preparing instructional displays for public viewing, hosting trips to visit open gardens and sponsoring a float for the annual Holiday Parade.

This club also honors community gardens, both business landscaping and residential landscaping, with special meetings, news coverage and citations. By being an active club that involves the community, Hillsboro Garden Club keeps the public aware of Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Correction: The Regional Outstanding Garden Club of Region 14 should have been noted as Briarwood Beach Garden Club.

Check out The Garden Path online at www.oagc.org
The photos are in color!
Keeping you informed

The following is a summary of items the Board of Directors affirmed at the 2013 fall state board meeting. Of general interest to the membership:

- To accept the slate of Janet Evans, Naomi Ormes, Kathy Schmitt, Marlene Purdy and Margie Graft to serve as the nominating committee and Stephanie Patrick as alternate.
- To pay board expenses in the amount of $4710.23
- To increase the start-up money to the regions for convention to $1000
- To approve Nature Study Retreat at Camp Butler, June 1-6, 2014
- To donate $50 to the OAGC Foundation in memory of Past President Bill Jenne
- To accept Muchinnippi Gardeners into The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- To purchase two raffle tickets for the Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors fundraiser at $50 each (total of $100)
- To accept the 2013-2014 budget (of $73,965) as presented by treasurer Hamlet
- To pay mileage expenses of the four Ad Hoc committee members (Allan, Patrick, Thornhill and Wilkins) in the amount of $379.40

2013 Ohio State Fair summary

OAGC continues to be a supportive force in the artistic and horticulture divisions of the Ohio State Fair flower shows. Eleven of our members shared over three days of designing and the horticulture show.

Jim Chakeres, shows much support as an exhibitor in addition to coordinating the work. The list of designers included Jane Adkins, Dottie Bates, Michele Bishop, Vicki Ferguson, Karen Middleton, Mary Lee Minor, Abbie Riley, Babs Sabick, Barbara Sheets, Sharon Ware and Juanita Wilkins.

Designers also exhibited in the niche classes and Jane Adkins and Karen Middleton provided multiple horticulture entries. Mary Lee was the Master Designer for points earned over the three flower shows.

Jim asked for our help for his “Fair Within a Fair” as organizations came to host a table and share their work. OAGC had three members who stepped up and spent four hours handing out OAGC membership information and talking to people. We thank Jean Jankowski of Region 8, Malvin Long of Region 9 and Jan Seabold of Region 7, for their outreach efforts.