Garden Art and More...

OAGC 86th Convention - June 6-8, 2016

Be sure to mark your calendars for the 2016 Convention at Deer Creek State Park Lodge and Conference Center. The slate of speakers has been announced. Rob and Jan Young, 2014 OAGC Gardeners of the Year, will be the keynote speakers on Monday night with ‘Garden Art and More.’ The Young’s ‘Secret Garden’ located near Findlay, is a 28-year labor of love filled with perennials, annuals, vegetables, fruit and art.

This small enclosed garden is a ‘hands-on’ garden as they prefer doing their own planning and planting. Rob and Jan wanted the feel of a Mediterranean/European garden with a variety of statues, water features and art. They started with a small space and one tree and today it is a wonderland of ‘found art’ and flowers. They will inspire you to add some artistic features to your garden.

Tuesday night’s speaker is our current Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School Chair, Naomi Ormes. She was raised one of 14 children and learned early how to make-do and recycle. She is a wonderful designer, a Master Design Judge and former Design Study Chair. Naomi has won many awards for her designs and will share how to create a show-stopper creative design with contrived containers using reused, re-purposed and recycled items.

Be prepared to be ‘Tickled by Feathers’ by our Wednesday luncheon speakers Marian and Steve Moeckel. They will fascinate and entertain with fun facts about birds. The Moeckels have been learning about and observing birds most of their lives.

As science teachers, they led many groups in bird-watching. Marian started the Troy High School Ornithological Society and Steve leads the Brukner Nature Center Bird Club. He also serves as a naturalist at Brukner and also ODNR. They both have a fine sense of humor and will share the funny secrets of birds.
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WHERE TO SEND IT: Membership changes (including changes of address for The Garden Path delivery and sign up for ePath electronic notice) 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:

Dear “Eager for Spring” People,

Cold! Cold! Cold! Is this a time to talk about gardening?

Yes! When the leaves are off the trees and shrubs, you can assess them and note what needs to be pruned, reshaped, replaced or removed. This is a good time to plan a new walkway or driveway and even on the mild days, you can start working on it. Keep sticks picked up and keep debris off the lawn.

No weeding, no watering, but yes, some garden work can be done. You should already have some amaryllis in bloom along with some paper whites. Plus now is the time to read all the seed catalogs or go online and read about all the new offerings.

I encourage you to attend the convention this year. For those in the southern part of the state, our convention at Deer Creek State Park Lodge will be closer than last year at Lake Erie. Get some friends, save up your money and plan to come. Start looking for recycled BLING for the Officers’ Reception on Tuesday evening. Jewelry or beaded purses or whatever sounds intriguing. Regions 6 and 14 are hinting about a recycled style show. It sounds like fun. And start looking for a little 50 cent trinket that was a bargain at a resale shop and would be just right for a fairy garden; bring it and we'll use them in a special way.

If you have not attended a Nature Study Retreat yet, make this the year to join the group. It is to be held at Camp Oty’Okwa, May 22-27. I went for the first time last year and had a great time and was the one to discover the mother turtle laying her eggs on the night hike. What an experience!

Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School is also held at Deer Creek State Park. My first experience with OAGC was E and J School and I loved it and came back until I finished the classes and became a judge. I had to find an OAGC club to join to be eligible, so I joined the Judges Guild of 6, 7, 14 and then after I retired from teaching, I started the first OAGC club in my county, the Dirty Bloomers.

Thanks to our travel-loving members, we have filled two buses for the Philadelphia Flower Show, March 11-13. It will be fun, especially those girls staying four to a room, that is like a slumber party.

If you are asked to take a special part in OAGC, say yes. It will be a great experience and you will meet new people. Plan to enter a flower show for the first time. If you are a seasoned flower show person, expand your horizons and enter a difficult design. Read all about it, check the website for pictures and study your OAGC Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Handbook.

When planting your flower garden, try something new. Did you know you can root lots of spring annuals for yourself? Buy that lovely petunia early and increase your plants with a little propagation skill.

Still loving plants, especially succulents, and still crowing about OAGC.

See you, Peggy Case, OAGC President

OAGC shares holiday spirit

Geri Rea, 1st Vice President

My husband Bill and I toured the Hueston Woods State Park Lodge a few years ago while camping. I took pictures then and the lodge décor was very ‘blah.’ When we arrived mid-November to help Regions 3 and 4 decorate the lodge for the holidays, the decorations were much improved. I believe the lodge staff feels that after seeing the Christmas decorations OAGC put together, it was necessary to keep up the effect.

We previously visited Shawnee State Park and Deer Creek State Park to see those holiday decorations on previous holiday outings, but actually working on the project was quite an experience! Everyone helps so very much doing more than necessary at times. It all comes together beautifully.

All the clubs in Region 10 helped decorate Shawnee State Park this year. They have been providing the woman-power for 24 years. Travel there to take a look and then swing by Deer Creek State Park where clubs from Region 9 and Region 16 team up together to put up some 14 trees and other decorations as well. Check the OAGC Facebook page for photos.

If you want a get-away, the parks often offer workers discounted rooms and 1-2 meals. Contact the appropriate Regional Director closest to you to offer your help. By the way, OAGC also provides the labor to take down the decorations and get them back into storage in January. The parks really appreciate OAGC!!
2016 OAGC Convention Flower Show, June 6-8, 2016
Horticulture Rules and Schedule

1. Entries will be accepted from 9 am to 1 pm, Monday, June 6. 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 the variety name written on the entry tag, will be eligible for an award.
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, eliminated, 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 in Roses, Section 1; best cut flower exhibit, Sections 2 and 3; best cultivar exhibit, Section 4; best cultivar entry, Sections 5 and 6; best horticulture entry Section 7; Green Thumb award for horticulture excellence in a cut flower exhibit, best entry Sections 1, 2, and 3; Outdoors Growers Award for cultural perfection, best entry, Sections 4, 5, and 6; Container Growers Award for cultural perfection, best entry Section 7; Best of Show, Mary Alice Earhart Memorial Award, best overall horticulture exhibit in show; 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 Rosette, second place
13. Junior Awards will be: Awards of Merit, best cut annual, biennial or perennial flower exhibit in Section 10; best hosta entry in Section 11, Best of Show will be awarded for best overall junior 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. Named hostas will be classed using the American Hosta Society (AHS) Show Classification List. If a hosta specimen is an unnamed or unregistered variety as recognized by AHS, it will be placed in Class 26 for adults and 52 for Juniors. The list will be available at convention in the show preparation room and can be found at: http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Judging.html. All leaves entered should be representative of the plant as a whole and should be taken from plants approaching maturity.
15. Convention horticulture exhibit entry tags will be available at the entry table. Small entry tags should be used for the miniature rose exhibits. Prior to convention, 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
1. Hybrid Tea, one bloom, any color, named, disbudded, with foliage attached
2. Hybrid Tea, full blown, any color, any variety, named, one bloom, disbudded, with foliage attached
3. Floribunda or Polyantha, any variety, named, one spray, not disbudded, with foliage attached
4. Grandiflora, any variety, named, one spray or one disbudded bloom, with foliage attached
5. Shrub, any variety, named, one spray, not disbudded, with foliage attached
6. Miniature, named, any variety, any color, one bloom, disbudded, with foliage attached
7. Miniature, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded, with foliage attached
8. Any new variety rose for 2016

Section 2 - Annuals
9. Fresh cut everlasting, named, one bloom, one spray or one spike, any variety, foliage attached
10. Any round form, named, one bloom, disbudded, foliage attached
11. Any spike form, named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached
12. Any spray form, named, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
13. Any new variety for 2016

Section 3 - Biennials or Perennials
14. Single Peony, named, any variety, disbudded with foliage attached
15. Double Peony, named, any variety, disbudded with foliage attached
16. Iris, named, any variety, keeping foliage attached when available
17. Any round form perennial or biennial, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached
18. Any spray form perennial or biennial, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached
19. Any spike form perennial or biennial, named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached
20. Any flower grown from a bulb, corn, tuber or rhizome not listed elsewhere in the schedule

Section 4 – Hostas
22. Miniature, registered size = length x width equals less than 6”
23. Small, registered size = length x width equals 6”, but less than 30”
24. Medium, registered size = length x width equals 30”, but less than 64”
25. Large, registered size = length x width equals 64”, but less than 120”
26. Giant, registered size = length x width equals 120” or greater
27. Unnamed and/or unregistered hosta

Section 5 - Herbs - Named, any variety, one stem
28. Fresh cut perennial herb
29. Fresh cut annual herb

Section 6 – Shrubs, named, any variety, one stem, not to exceed 24” in length
30. Blooming or berried

Section 7 - Container Grown Plants, Pot not to exceed 12” inside diameter (no hanging baskets) and must sit flat on the table. One variety plant per pot (may be multiple stemmed)
31. Flowering plant, named, any variety
32. Foliage plant, named, any variety
33. Cactus, named, any variety
34. Succulent, named, any variety
  a. Hardy succulent
  b. Tender succulent
Nature Study Retreat – Paradise in the Hills of Ohio....

The 2016 OAGC Nature Study Retreat will be held May 22-27 at Camp Oty’Okwa, a 700-acre gem in the Hocking Hills area that is owned, preserved and operated by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio. Visit their website http://www.campotyokwalodging.com/index.html to see all they have to offer. This setting is an ideal area for nature study. There are so many parks and nature preserves within a short distance, including Wahkeena and the Hocking Hills area, each abounding with unusual terrain and beautiful nature trails.

Sharon Treaster, a former retreat director and OSU Emeritus Staff and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, is arranging many interesting nature study venues and speakers to enhance our week.

Coultrap Lodge will provide a relaxing atmosphere for us and includes a great room with a stone fireplace, comfortable seating area and kitchen facilities. The great room opens onto a deck, which overlooks the woodlands. A front porch runs the full length of the lodge. All areas make it an ideal location for birding. Paul Knoop, a renowned naturalist and birder has agreed to conduct our bird studies each day.

The provided meals are healthy and nutritious and served 3 times a day in their modern dining room. No one goes hungry! Regular activities include a plant auction where you can bid on plants that attendees bring to auction each year. Some rare and unusual plants always show up at our retreat so you won't want to miss this event.

Often we enjoy a picnic lunch away from camp at one of the nearby preserves. We also have evening programs and usually an optional nature related craft.

If you have never attended an OAGC Nature Study Retreat you should come and experience the camaraderie of this group. It is without equal in our organization. For the small fee of $245 you will enjoy a week with lodging, food and programs, not to mention the field trips to nature preserves in the area. Where else can you get so much for so little?

The OAGC Foundation offers a Junior “Camper-ship” allowing a first time junior to receive half off the registration fee. If you know of a junior, who will be accompanied by an adult, be sure to have them submit a letter explaining why they would like to attend. Send the letter to the retreat coordinator, Jan Harmon. Information is included in the application form on page 14. This is an ideal opportunity for home schooled students. Be watching the spring issue of The Garden Path for more information. Don’t be shut out. Get your reservation in as soon as possible to take advantage of the early registration discount.

2016 Convention Lodging Information

A block of rooms has been reserved for Ohio Association of Garden Clubs at Deer Creek Lodge and Conference Center. Call 800-282-7275 and ask for the OAGC block of rooms. Total cost for rooms are: single or double occupancy, $110.72/night; triple occupancy, $124.31/night; and quad occupancy, $137.90/night. Call now and also inform the staff of any food needs or special ambulatory needs.
Department News

Design Study Department
Sharon Ware, Chair

Thank you to all who entered the Faye Collins Designer of the Year contest. Winners will be announced at the 2016 OAGC Convention in June.

Have you ever painted your dried plant materials only to have the paint fleck off or peel away? Maybe you aren’t using the proper spray paint. Design Master brand paint is formulated to be used on plant materials - fresh or dried. It may cost a little more, but the end results are worth it. I have found several colors that are outstanding. For a natural green, I use ‘basil’ and the metallic colors — rose gold, brilliant silver and brilliant gold — are good for dried foliages and pine cones. The cherry wood stain paint is great on dried bamboo and driftwood. Check out the products online at the Design Master website: www.dmcolor.com. Michaels craft stores and JOANN fabric/craft stores also carry the Design Master brand and regularly offer 40%-50% off coupons. Your local florist wholesaler also may carry the product line.

Turning trash into treasures can be a fun winter project. In the design shown, I used my pop can container/design for my grandson’s high school graduation centerpiece. The school colors were red and white. I crushed some empty aluminum cans and left a few as is. I painted them a glossy red. It did take a couple coats to cover all the labeling.

I had an old 12” x 12” parquet flooring piece (which I painted black) and this as the base and stacked and hot glued the cans together in an odd configuration. Next came the floral arrangement. After spray painting dried curly willow white, I place them at random in the various can openings. My grandson did not want any flowers so I used fresh aspidistra foliages, some were twisted and curled, to add a whimsical effect. The cans are a water source when using fresh flowers. I hope my trash to treasure will inspire you to create something and enter the convention artistic flower show.

Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School Department
Naomi Ormes, Chair

Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School #5 will be held June 20-21, 2016. We will continue our study of the Creative Designs, as well as Plant Identification. There will be a session on growing, showing, and judging Hemerocallis, Lilies and other summer bulbs, Hostas, caladiums and elephant ears, Begonias and Geraniums and Hanging Baskets including ferns and ivy. There will be a panel session to discuss judging problems.

Louise Bennett will teach the evening Oriental Design Study session. Attendees are encouraged to bring properly labeled cultivars staged in appropriate sized clear containers to be used in the plant horticulture sessions. Additional information will be in the next issue of The Garden Path.

Please remember that all judges are required to attend one day of either School #5 or School #6 to retain accreditation. Save the date for School #6, September 12-13, for another chance to learn more about Creative Designs R-Z, Mums, Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs, Educational Exhibits, Terrariums, Dish Gardens and Fairy Gardens, Orchids and Bromeliads and Plant Identification.

Currently, there are 6 student judges and 5 of the 6 students are nearly finished. New judges are necessary to replace the judges who retire due to age, physical disabilities, moving out of town, etc. If you are an active member of a club in The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, have entered in at least 3 flower shows judged by an OAGC Accredited Judge, and earned at least five (5) ribbons in horticulture and five (5) ribbons in artistic, and served on at least two different OAGC show committees, you qualify to submit an application to become a student. If interested, please contact normes@oagc.org for the application form.

Plan now to attend the upcoming schools. The registration form can be found on page 15. Reserve an overnight room directly with Deer Creek State Park Lodge (800-282-7275) by May 20 to guarantee the $79/night rate.

Flower Shows Department
Jan Seabold, Chair

Educational Exhibits are an important tool to include in a flower show. A good exhibit not only educates but actively teaches the public. It tells a story and stimulates a desire for goods or services and gives information and teaches facts. It creates a feeling of good will and confidence in the goods, services or information, because of knowledge learned about them. It attracts by color, light, form, motion, humor and handouts. Be concise and creative. Use backgrounds. Adhere to the principles of design. Remember you are creating a designed display. An educational exhibit teaches and instructs. Have fun.
**Horticulture Department**  
*Jane Adkins, Chair*

Be sure to read the horticulture schedule for the convention flower show. There are some excellent new classes that showcase one of our president’s special interests for this year “Sit-down Gardening.” Section 7, Class 35 will have containers of bonsai, topiary, dish gardens and the very popular fairy gardens. Due to space limitations at the lodge, container grown exhibits must be in containers with no more than a 12” interior diameter. We look forward to seeing some spectacular entries!

Don’t forget that this is the perfect time of year to bundle up and go out to do some pruning of your dormant bushes and small trees. Without their leaves you will be able to see exactly what needs to be shaped up or removed. When spring comes, that’s one chore already done. We encourage OAGC members to support our friends at Bluestone Perennials and Brent and Becky’s Bulbs. Each company gives back a portion of sales to OAGC. See the boxes below.

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**BLUESTONE PERENNIALS**

www.bluestoneperennials.com  
Use the code: S6oagc415  
and save 10%!  
Code deadline: April 1, 2016  

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**Bloomin’ Bucks**  
with Brent and Becky’s Bulbs

Support OAGC when you shop on-line for your bulb needs at Brent and Becky’s Bulbs. Go to

www.bloomingbucks.com

Select ‘Ohio Association of Garden Clubs’ from the pull-down menu. A portion of each non-sale dollar you spend will be given to OAGC.

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**Junior Gardeners Department**  
*Deborah Graham, Chair*

The OAGC 2016 Spring Regional Junior Gardener Contest will be “Terra Cotta Flower Pot Wind Chimes.” Start with 3 different sized terra cotta flower pots that have a drainage hole in the bottom. Suggested sizes might be the largest 3½” tall, then one 2½” tall, and then the smallest 1½” tall.

With acrylic paint, paint the flower pots. Using a different bright color on each pot with the rims a coordinating color is a good choice. When the painted flower pots are dry it is time to decorate your pots. You could paint ladybugs, butterflies, birds, flowers, or even polka dots on the pots. Polka dots are an easy choice for young children. Apply the polka dots to the pots with Q-tips that are dipped in the bright colored paint. However the junior gardeners chooses to decorate the flower pots are up to them.

Once the paint has dried, you may want to spray a coat of clear acrylic UV protectant on the flower pots to help preserve the paint.

After everything has dried it is time to assemble your wind chime. Using jute string start by making a large loop at the top end of the jute string. This loop will be for hanging the wind chime. Next add a few colored beads followed with knots above and below them to hold them in place. (Your beads could also be painted ahead of time to coordinate with the pots.) Now string your flower pots on the jute with big knots above and below the pot holding your pots in place starting with the largest pot down to the smallest. When spacing your pots make sure that they overlap a little. This helps the pots to serve as ringers themselves. After the last pot is strung, another bead or two can be added at the very end of the jute for the bottom ringer. Baby spoons and keys also work well for the bottom ringer. Now your terra cotta wind chime is completed. Along with the wind chime, the junior gardener should have a 3”x5” card with his name, age, club, region on it.

This contest is for all ages but regions should have a 6-11 year old division and a 12-18 year old division. Regional Junior Gardener Contest entries should be judged at the regional levels and then displayed at the regionals. Prizes and ribbons for the contest winners should be decided upon by each region. The first, second and third place winners from each age group of each region may also display their terra cotta flower pot wind chimes at the OAGC 2016 Convention. It may be hard to get the regional contest winner’s projects to convention so pictures of the winning projects may be brought along with their information to convention for display.

Junior gardeners will enjoy making the terra cotta wind chimes for their gardens. Encourage your junior gardener to participate in the OAGC 2016 Spring Regional Junior Gardener Contest.
**Membership Department**

*Kim Long, Chair*

Membership...what does it mean? It means you and me! All of us interact daily with family, friends, neighbors and co-workers who don’t belong to our clubs. Are you missing the opportunity to seize the day? Are you forgetting to crow about your garden club? Be enthusiastic! An invite to a club meeting is a good start or you can even invite them to something with a higher visibility and interaction. One example is your regional meeting. Great speakers and demonstrations are perfect ways to draw newcomers into our ranks. How about inviting your best friend to come to convention or to Nature Study Retreat? Remember, OAGC events are open to the general public and not just to our membership.

Since garden club is you, remember as a member your attendance at club meetings is essential to your club’s existence. It reflects your club image and strength. You are the reason successful club projects are being made. You are the reason that your featured speaker gives his time and effort. We all have something to contribute to our clubs through our mutual interests and talents. OAGC garden clubs is you! Finally, if members of your club have missed two meetings in a row, be courteous and give them a phone call. Life is busy but let them know that you care about them. Tell them they are missed and that they are an asset to your club. We all know that friendships do form within clubs and within the OAGC Membership. Remember we all have something to crow about...and it is OAGC!

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**Nature and Beautification Department**

*Mary Martin, Chair*

Our honeybees have become scarce due to colony collapse. Until we understand what caused this problem and a solution is found to return the honeybee population to health we need more pollinators for our gardens and landscapes.

In the meantime we have a hero bee - one that is a native North American bee and is passive (does not sting unless provoked.) The Mason bee is a very good pollinator, becomes active early in the spring and is anxious to help.

You may have seen the Mason bees and didn’t even realize they were bees. They may have a metallic blue tint, two sets of wings and look a bit like a fly. They are small - less than one-half of an inch. There are over 100 species of Mason bees in North America. Their color may vary but they are dutiful pollinators.

The Mason bees are not colony builders as the honey bees are. They do not rely on building around a queen and do not require a hive, however they do look for homes. They live in holes in masonry, holes in wood, tubes created by plant stems or maybe in a home you provided for them.

Attracting the Mason bees and inviting them to build a home in your landscape or near your garden will benefit both the bees and definitely your plants.

Searching online one will find several methods for building a home for Mason bees. Place the habitat in a sunny location, facing south, south-east and about 5-7 feet off the ground. Though Mason bees look for holes in these locations, they do like their home to stay dry so an overhang might be a good location. You may be able to use a nail or screw to attach the habitat to a building or wall or may be able to hang your habitat from a bush or tree limb in a sunny spot.

You can make a home for Mason bees from a tin can, a plastic container, block of wood or even a small birdhouse. You may be able to find everything you need in your home and yard. Or, you may choose to purchase the items you want to use to create your Mason bee home.

The Mason bee house may be made from a purchased birdhouse. The front is removed and the interior of the house is filled with pieces of bamboo cut to fit. Make this house strong and waterproof by using a waterproof glue or silicone caulk to seal the seams. You may want to use nails also. You may paint the exterior: be creative.

Another Mason bee house may be made from bamboo cut to fit the inside of a tin can. The pieces only need to be tightly and securely placed in the can. This can house needs to be protected and placed under an overhang or roof to keep it dry.

Another kind of Mason bee house could be made by drilling holes in a block of wood. Frame it with two sides and add a roof. No matter what house you make it would be a great way to protect Mason bees, offer them a home in your landscape, increase pollination for your garden plants and other plants too.

While you are at it, make more than one. Make some for neighbors. Try each design. Be sure to get the houses made and placed in your yard in early spring as most of their work is done by late April. Be a Mason bee advocate! These little bees are hard workers.

**Mason Bee resources:**

Via the Grapevine

(Please send all submissions directly to the editor of The Garden Path)

Region 1

Fostoria GC: Feb. 10, “Gardens of France” by Janet Cole; Mar. 9, “Nine Months of Blossoms.” Find us on Facebook at Fostoria Garden Club LTD. Contact Ellen Stoudinger at fostoriagardenclub@gmail.com.

Saville Hilltoppers GC: Feb. 2, “Freeze Dry Flowers” by Angie Poland; Mar. 1, terrarium workshop at Knollwood Garden Center in Beavercreek. Contact Margaret Sanderson at 937-475-6001.

Region 2


Roots and Shoots GC: Feb. 9, “Wildlife of Auglaize County” by Wildlife Officer Mark Schemmel; Mar. 8, “Invasive Plants of Ohio” by Phil Valentine; Apr. 17, trip to Cincinnati Flower Show. Contact Sue Evans and/or Doris Hibner at 917-885-6173.

Region 3


Here and There GC: Jan. 5, “Amazing Life of Bees” by Fran and Tom Davidson; Feb. 2, “Xeric Landscaping.” Contact Babs Sabick at 937-429-0987 or bsabick@oagc.org.


Morning Glory GC: Jan. 18, Make, Bake and Buy annual fundraiser; Feb. 15, Antique Show and Tell; Mar. 21, tour Stockslager’s Garden Center in New Lebanon. Contact Jayne Strain at 937-698-4033.


Region 4


Fleurs Gato GC: Feb. 9, “How to Cut and Preserve Fresh Flowers and Branches” by Judy Bozman; Mar. 8, Design Study Workshop: one design featuring red and another a Satelitic design, led by Sue Chanay. Contact Barbara South at 937-593-5897.

Fleurs Amo GC: Jan. 18, gardening video; Feb. 15, making a garden craft at Butler Rural Electric; Mar. 21, making a rain barrel at The OSU Extension Office. Contact Midge King at 513-738-3353 or oldmidge@zoomtown.com.

Four Seasons GC: Apr. 12, Spring Luncheon and Fundraiser, “Times of Our Lives – In Flowers” a design program by Mindy Francis Staton of Two Little Buds Floral Shoppe, event held at the Fairfield Community Arts Center in Fairfield. $20/pp. May 14, annual plant sale at Village Green Amphitheater in Fairfield. Contact Mary Gamstetter at 513-892-6806 or gams@isoc.net. Apr. 13-17, Cincinnati Flower Show, “An International Adventure,” sponsored by the Cincinnati Horticultural Society. www.cincinnatihorticulturalsociety.com.

Region 5


Blooming Betsy’s GC: Jan. 14, members make garden photo note cards; Feb. 11, “Make a Terrarium” by Babs Sabick; Mar. 10, “Native Bees.” Contact Anita Brown at garrybrown3@aol.com or 937-339-0926.

Region 6


Whispering Meadows GC: Jan. 14, discuss club history and browse the archives; Feb. 11, pictorial tour of Becky Lauer’s garden; Mar. 10, making Cancer Caps and Pretty Pockets. Contact Donna Foss at 419-334-8452.

Region 7

Apple Valley GC: Jan. 20, “Forcing Bulbs” by Sue Devendorf; Mar. 16, “Creating Vases and Floral Containers Using Shape-crete” by Robin Rapp. Contact Sue Devendorf at avgardenclub1@gmail.com.

Harlem Township GC: Jan. 19, “Becoming a Van Gogh - Sketching Your Favorite Flowers” by artist Heather Fredo; Feb. 16, “But it is Freezing Outside - Winter Planting Perennials” by members Barb Robison, Jan Kleinline and Sherri Raab; Mar. 19, “A Snip Here and There” by Joe Russell of Russel Tree Experts. Contact Toni Link at tonilink@embarqmail.com.

Town and Country GC: Mar. 4, “Sustainability” by Howard Sacks, Professor of Sociology at Kenyon College. Contact Mona Nacey at mnacey@earthlink.com.

 Region 8


 Region 9


 Region 10
 Minford GC: Jan. 14, “Fragrant Climbers” by Rebecca Dodson; Feb. 11, “Background Ideas Used With Flower Designs in Flower Shows” by Irmalee Gampp; Mar. 10, “Caring for Echeveria Succulents” by Maxine Munn. Contact Irmalee Gampp at igampp@outlook.com.

 Slocum GC: Jan. 4, take down decorations at Shawnee State Park Lodge; Feb. 11, annual cookie and candy exchange, “A Vicarious Tour of Pierre DuPont’s Longwood Gardens,” “Japanese Designs” by Anna Cardenas and “Making Contrived Flowers” with Beverly Norman; Mar. 25, work on landscaping ideas with regional officers at Ross County’s Southern Ohio Home and Garden Show. Garden therapy sessions at Adult Daily Living, Best Care, in Wheelersburg, Jan. 19, Feb. 16 and March 15. Contact Diane Reese at 740-259-4432 or dianereese3@yahoo.com.

 Region 11
 Evelyn Hollon, 8/1/2015, Wildwood Garden Club member for over 60 years

 Region 12
 Flushing GC: Mar. 21, book review of “The Private Life of Tasha Tudor.” Contact Barbara Cencula at barbarajcencula@frontier.com.

 Mt. Pleasant GC: Feb. 1, garden video by Pauline Irvine; Mar. 7, “Soil Testing” by Beverly Riddle. Contact Ruth Lewis at wrplewis@comcast.net.


 Region 14 Valley City GC: Jan. 21, “Pollinator Gardens and Starting Seeds for Plants in the Pollinator Garden” by Cheryl Henslee and Bev Jones, Medina County OSU Master Gardeners; Feb. 18, “Succulents” by Boyert’s Greenhouse and Farm; Mar. 17, “Flower Box and Container Gardening” by Boyert’s Greenhouse and Farm. Contact Marie Stritzel at 440-748-2267.

 Region 16
 Clearcreek Gardeners GC: Jan. 19, Terrarium workshop; Feb. 16, Gardener’s Social; Mar. 15, tour Freeze Frame, a company that freeze-dries flowers. Contact Pat Stidham at 937-885-5155 or pstidham2@woh.rr.com.


 In Memoriam
 Region 1
 Marlene Guzman, 8/31/2015, Fostoria Garden Club

 Region 4
 Anne Niemeyer, 86, 7/16/2015, Milford Garden Club past president

 Region 10
 Leona Gabriel, 84, 11/18/2015, Hillsboro Garden Club

 Region 11
 Evelyn Hollon, 8/1/2015, Wildwood Garden Club member for over 60 years
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 bonnieej@gmail.com
Bonnie Eddy 225 Orchard Ln. Napoleon, OH 43545 419-599-5795 jbenap225@embarqmail.com
Sue Hamlet 6915 County Rd. 3 Swanton, OH 43558 419-350-2107 susanhamlet677@yahoo.com
Marlene Purdy 5229 Arborfield Ct. Ft. Wayne, IN 46835 419-262-3637 maplap63@comcast.net

Region 2: Van Wert, Putnam, Allen, Hancock, Mercer, Auglaize, Hardin Counties

Michele Bishop 13606 County Road 25A Wapakoneta, OH 45895 419-738-7237 michelebishopmichele@hotmail.com
Paula Stemen 9834 Van Wert-Willshire Rd. Van Wert, OH 45891 419-238-6316 pstem70@yahoo.com
Juanita Wilkins* 13664 Kohler Rd. Wapakoneta OH 45895 567-356-9721 jmw421@woh.rr.com

Region 3: Darke, Preble, Montgomery Counties

Marilyn Fies 128 Irongate Dr. Union, OH 45322

Region 4: Butler, Hamilton, Clermont, Brown Counties

Naomi Ormes* 5064 Princeton Rd. Liberty Twp., OH 45011 513-863-4620 bloomcity@aol.com
Susy Spence 125 E. Sharon Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45246

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

Region 6: Ottawa, Sandusky, Erie, Seneca, Huron, Lorain Counties

Peggy Case* 400 US 250 South New London, OH 44851 419-929-6117 peggy.case@frontier.com
Charlene Margetiak 4891 Tumney Tr. Norwalk, OH 44857 419-706-7573 plant_consultant@yahoo.com

Region 7: Wyandot, Sandusky, Erie, Seneca, Huron, Lorain Counties

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Michael Hoepf 4233 State Route #19 Bucyrus, OH 44820 419-562-3704 dhmhc@hotmail.com
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Jan Seabold 3369 TR 629 Loudonville, OH 44842 419-685-4056 seaboldjdje@gmail.com
Joy Strine-Sprang 16272 St. Rt. 3 Loudonville, OH 44842 419-994-3523 740-399-4955 (c) sprangjoy@gmail.com
Pat Wells 2185 Woodville Rd. Mansfield, OH 44903 419-756-6863 wellie@embarqmail.com

Region 8: Franklin, Pickaway, Fairfield, Ross, Jackson Counties

Jane Adkins 4426 Clark Pl. Grove City, OH 43123 614-875-5059 jane.adkins@hotmail.com
Nancy Annis 7741 Rodebaugh Rd. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 614-866-5856 ncannis@hotmail.com
Myrna Cordray* 11560 Thrailkill Rd. Orient, OH 43146 614-877-4984
Jan Stein 1983 Haverton Dr. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 614-864-5109 jks2667@aol.com

Region 9: 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 740-259-4432 akrdaylily@embarqmail.com
Diane Reese P.O. Box 52 McDermott, OH 45652 740-259-4432 dianereese3@yahoo.com

Region 10: Pike, Adams, Scioto, Lawrence Counties

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Barbara J. Myers 188 East First St. London, OH 43140 614-570-2776 barbara2302@att.net
Judy Stopkotte 6059 Lundy Whitacre Rd. Morrow, OH 45152 513-899-4685 judystopkotte@embarqmail.com

Region 11: Hocking, Athens, Vinton, Meigs, Jackson, Gallia, Washington Counties

Shelia Curtis 63357 SR 124 Bottom, OH 45743 740-378-6551 juniper5743@yahoo.com

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

Marilou Rupert* 78375 Rose Rd. Freedom, OH 43973 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 Pt. Myers, FL 33917 330-304-6937 (c)
Vicky Puster 2398 County Rd. #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 15: Madison, Fayette, Greene, Cuyahoga, Summit Counties

Chieko Arikawa* 73 Flax Dr. London, OH 43140 740-852-1257 cuarikawa@gmail.com
Joy Culler P.O. Box 613 London, OH 43140 740-852-1257 jkculler@hotmail.com
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Judy Stopkotte 6059 Lundy Whitacre Rd. Morrow, OH 45152 513-899-4685 judystopkotte@embarqmail.com
Strategic Planning update

Mary Lee Minor

The Strategic Implementation Team (SIT) continues to work on OAGC growth and outreach. Last fall’s ‘Root Camps’ were the first attempt to partner with garden centers, arboretums and nurseries. Partnering entities in this inaugural endeavor were Delhi Flower and Garden Center (Cincinnati), Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark (Dayton), Dawes Arboretum (Newark) and North Branch Nursery (Pemberville).

There were mixed results attracting the public and the initial insight is that publicity needs to be broadened and released early. As with local club meeting, regional meetings, Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Schools and the state convention, publicity should encourage the attendance of non-OAGC members and then making sure to welcome them during the meeting.

Another bold move for the SIT group was to draft a proposal for Ohio’s OSU Extension Master Gardener program. The proposal pointed out strengths of both organizations and suggested ideas to partner as a way of increasing interest in both groups. Sharing knowledge may also be an asset in our partnering with Master Gardeners. The committee wants to discover further alliances. To do this, we need to reach out to a variety of gardening interest sites with plans already in place. We can then propose topics to enrich the events with OAGC resource people.

This spring there will be forms at regionals in an effort to discover who might be willing to become part of the Root Camps and provide basic training for gardeners. To promote innovation and excellence in horticulture and floral arts, we seek ways to use the creativity present in our own membership. In this way, personal growth can be assured. Be watching for spring Root Camp announcements and take help publicize the events in your community.

Recognizing that OAGC (and nearly every other service club around) has an aging membership now is the time to take a look at ourselves and visualize what an OAGC of the future can be.

Tech Time

The birth of the internet has really broadened the way people communicate. Sending emails, posting updates, texting and video chatting have revolutionized and allowed for many different ways to connect.

Instead of getting dressed and driving to your local library to do research, you can surf the web in your jammies any time of the day or night. If you still want a hard copy book, buy it with only a thumb print on your smartphone or download a digital copy right to your tablet or smartphone.

Shopping? Piece of cake! Place your order on line and a little brown box will show up days later on your doorstep.

There are many gardening apps available for smartphones and tablets. A search in the app store might find one that fits your interest. One that looks interesting is “LikeThatGarden.” It is a Flower Identification app. Using your device’s camera, you can snap a picture to learn more about what is in front of you.

There are many other gardening apps and resources out there. Get ready and start surfing!”

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com  “Ohio Association of Garden Clubs”  Be in the know!

Follow us on Pinterest: www.pinterest.com  “Ohio Association of Garden Clubs”

Over 80 boards of floral designs and gardening information
OAGC Foundation Notes

The OAGC Foundation Trustees wish to express their sincere gratitude to the Central Ohio Chrysanthemum Society for their substantial donation to the Scholarship Fund in honor and memory of Dottie Bates. A scholarship applicant will be awarded the newly named Dottie Bates Memorial Scholarship in March.

The OAGC Foundation annually awards scholarships of an amount not less than $1000. The recipient must choose an accredited Ohio college or technical school beyond the high school level which offers courses leading to a career in the fields of horticulture, conservation, nature and beautification, landscape design, landscape contracting, commercial florist or floral arts. The applicant does not need to be a resident of Ohio.

Reminder: scholarship applications are due to Development Director Babs Sabick no later than March 15. The cover letter and scholarship application form can be found at the OAGC website: www.OAGC.org. Click on the OAGC Foundation tab.

A great big thanks to those who supported the Fall Foliage Walk. Funds realized will benefit the Foundation’s Nature and Conservation Fund. For those interested in funding for a beautification project, the OAGC Foundation Grant Application is available on the OAGC website. Please remember the OAGC Foundation as an opportunity to honor a club member or officer. As always, your support is appreciated.

The OAGC Foundation is grateful for the following donations
(August 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015):

Nature and Conservation Fund
Louise Bennett (Fall Foliage Walk in honor of Vicki Ferguson and Babs Sabick), Four Seasons GC in Reg. 4 (in honor of Vicki Ferguson), GE Foundation, Harlem Twp. GC, Vanlue GC, Waynesville GC

Wahkeena Nature Preserve
Basil GC (Sarah’s Fund), Joy Culler (Bird Seed Fund in memory of Dottie Bates), Darby Valley GC (Sarah’s Fund), Des Fleurs GC, Faithful GC, Maineville GC (in honor of Waynesville GC 80th Anniversary), OAGC, Inc. (Sarah’s Fund), Our Homes GC (Sarah’s Fund), OAGC Region 3 (Sarah’s Fund), OAGC Region 7, Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County, Vanlue GC, Wildwood GC (in memory of Evelyn Holton)

Mohican School in the Out of Doors Fund
Darby Valley GC, Marshallville GC (in honor of Dolores Galehouse), OAGC Region 7, Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County, Vanlue GC, Whispering Meadows GC

Dottie Bates Scholarship Fund
Louise Bennett, Central Ohio Chrysanthemum Society, Patricia Drummond, Marilyn Fies, Carol Lawless, Barb Sheets

Scholarship Fund
Darby Valley GC, Des Fleurs GC, OAGC Region 10 (Life Patron membership in honor of Irmalee Gampp), Rainbow Gardeners of Shelby County, Vanlue GC, Whispering Meadows GC

General Fund
Earth, Wind and Flowers GC, OAGC Region 5

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 and 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 the State Membership Chair, KLong@oagc.org.
Nature Study Retreat Registration Form  
May 22-27, 2016  
Camp Oty’Okwa in Hocking Hills  
http://www.campotyokwalodging.com

Name: _________________________ Region: _________
Address: _______________________________________
City: ____________________________ Zip: __________
Phone: (        ) ___________________________________
Email: _________________________________________

Full-time rates: ($5 discount if paid in full before May 1)
Adult (18 or older): _______________ $245 full-time  
(After May 1 - $250)
Junior (17 or under): _______________ $225 full-time  
(After May 1 - $230)

Part-time rates:
Adult: $65 per day/night (includes 1 night, 3 meals)  
x ______ days = _____________
Junior: $55 per day/night (includes 1 night, 3 meals)  
x ______ days = _____________

Daily rate:
$ 40 (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 it online at: www.oagc.org.  
NOTE: For first-time retreaters, a partial payment Junior  
Scholarship is available to children through age 17. Call Jan  
Harmon, NSR Coordinator at 330-769-2210 or  
jharmon@oagc.org 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  
must be received by April 1, 2016. (Balance must be  
received by May 1, 2016. Later registrations will not receive  
the discount of $5.) You must be PREREGISTERED/  
PREPAID to participate in retreat functions. Make checks  
payable to: OAGC and designated for “Nature Study  
Retreat.”

Mail check and all registration forms to:
   Sharon Deno
9484 Hooper Rd., Athens, OH  45701
   Phone: 740-593-8780
   email: sharondeno@hotmail.com

OAGC SALES LIST - As of December 2015
LISTED PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
Gift Certificates now available!

BOOKS
Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Handbook  (available spring)
OAGC Handbook for Garden Clubs (2010) $8.00
American Rose Society 2016 Handbook $5.50
Visions of Beauty $6.50
Two-Year Planner $4.00

FLOWER SHOW SUPPLIES
Artistic Best of Show Rosette $7.50
Green Thumb Award for Hort. Excellence Rosette $5.00
Horticulture Best of Show Rosette $7.50
Indoor Growers Award, Container Grown $7.50
Judges Award of Distinction Rosette $6.50
Outdoor Growers Award for Cultural Perfection $6.00
Sweepstakes Rosette $8.50
1st Place Flower Show Ribbon (flat) $.45
2nd Place Flower Show Ribbon (flat) $.45
3rd Place Flower Show Ribbon (flat) $.45
4th Place Flower Show Ribbon (flat) $.45
Junior Sweepstakes $6.50
Flower Show Entry Tags (Pack of 250) $13.50
Miniature Flower Show Entry Tags (Pack of 50) $2.50

GARDEN ITEMS
Atlas Gloves (small, medium, large) $5.00
Tool Grip Gloves (small, medium, large) $5.00
Handy Tool $12.00
Plant Markers - Heavy Duty (bundle of 25) $15.00
Soil Knife $20.00
Soil Knife Sheath $9.00

Do not send money until shipping cost is tabulated.

ORDER TOTAL $______

POSTAGE & HANDLING** $______
(***dependant on weight of items shipped)

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE $______
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: OAGC

SEND ORDER TO:
State Sales Secretary, Babs Sabick
1128 Darlington Drive
Beavercreek, OH 45434-6304
bsabick@oagc.org
937-429-0987
### 86th OAGC Convention Registration Form
**June 6-8, 2016**
Deer Creek Lodge and Conference Center
22300 State Park Rd. #20, Mt. Sterling, OH 43143
(800) 282-7275 or (740) 869-2020

**Registration Deadline:** May 16, 2016

#### REGISTRATION INFORMATION:
Name: ___________________________
Address: _______________________________________
City/Zip: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________ Region: __________
Email: _____________________________

**STATUS:** (circle what applies)
- OAGC Past President Counselor
- OAGC Liaison
- OAGC Active Judge
- OAGC State Exec
- OAGC State Chair
- Regional Director

#### REGISTRATION OPTIONS:
- Junior, 18 and under are FREE but must register
- Adult, full convention $40 _______
- Junior, full convention FREE ______
- Adult, one day $25 per/day _______
- Junior, one day FREE ______

Circle the days you are attending: Mon Tues Wed

#### MEAL SELECTIONS:
(Do not walk-ins are not seated for meals)
- Monday, June 6, evening Banquet $29 ______
- Tuesday, June 7, noon Luncheon $18 ______
- Tuesday, June 7, evening Banquet $29 ______
- Wednesday, June 8, noon Luncheon $15 ______

Please include list of dietary needs and ambulatory concerns

Junior meals are $10 each
Circle meals needed for Juniors:
- Monday Banquet
- Tuesday Lunch
- Tuesday Banquet
- Wednesday Lunch
- Total meal cost for Junior ______ meals @$10 ______

Total enclosed for registration and meals: ______

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### Exhibitors’ and Judges’ School #5
**Registration Form**
**Monday and Tuesday, June 20-21, 2016**
Deer Creek State Park
22300 State Park Rd. 20, Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143
(740) 869-2020 - Exit 84 off I-71

**Registration Deadline:** May 20, 2016

I wish to register for two days @ $80 _______

I wish to register for one day @ $40 _______
- Mon. ______
- Tues. ______

Optional Evening Choices (no fee):
- Student Judge Session (required for students)
- Park Naturalist
- Design Study - Plant materials $15 ______
  (limited to first 20 registered)

Check One: Exhibitor Judge
- Student Taking Test Judge Emeritus

Make checks payable to OAGC. Do not send cash.
Mail by May 20, 2016.
$5.00 late fee if postmarked after May 20.
No refunds after May 20.

Mail to:
Naomi Ormes, E and J Chair
5064 Princeton Rd., Hamilton, OH 45011
Phone: 513-863-4620 Email: normes@oagc.org

Name: ___________________________
Address: _______________________________________
City:____________________________   Zip:__________
Club Code: ______________ Region: ________________
Phone: _________________________________________
Email: _________________________________________
Special Needs: ___________________________________

PLEASE make hotel reservations directly with Deer Creek State Park by calling 800-282-7275. Mention ‘The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs.’ The rate of $79/night (single or double occupancy) guaranteed until May 20.
Keeping you informed

The following is a snapshot of the items the Board of Directors affirmed at the 2015 fall state board meeting.

Of general interest to the membership

- to order color envelopes and letterhead from Murr Printing
- to pay the board expenses of $2,704.28 and mileage for the OAGC Exhibitors’ and Judges Handbook revision of $1,095.50
- to add a line items for Website Development to the 2016 budget in the amount of $1500
- to research the need and cost of purchasing a computer for use at Exhibitors’ and Judges’ Schools and convention
- to raise the OAGC state mileage reimbursement rate to $.40 per mile as of October 1, 2015
- to give $300 to the Harrisburg United Methodist Church for the use of their meeting space