



THE GARDEN PATH

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OAGC Website: www.oagc.org

2009 ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS

This year four new garden plants have been selected as the All-America Selections for 2009: three vegetables and one flower. These plants are chosen for their superior performance in test gardens all over the country. As you begin to plan your garden, consider trying these new varieties. You should find them in the seed catalogs as well as in your local garden centers in the spring.



‘GRETEL’ eggplant, the earliest white eggplant, can be harvested in 55 days depending on the growing conditions. The glossy white mini-fruit is sweet and produced in clusters. The fruit has a tender skin which remains that way beyond maturity size of 3 to 4 inches. ‘Gretel’ plants are relatively small and can be grown in containers. It is recommended that a rather large container, about sixteen inches deep, be used.

‘HONEY BEAR’ Acorn Squash was bred to be baked and served in the half shell. This compact plant, has a high yield and a tolerance to powdery mildew. ‘Honey Bear’ has a sweet squash flavor when baked and each dark green acorn squash weighs about a pound. The plant produces 3 to 5 fruit per bush and continues to bear fruit throughout the growing season. From sowing seed in the garden until harvest takes about 100 days.



Melon ‘LAMBKIN’ - The most important trait of this melon is the flavor which is the reason AAS says you need to take time to grow ‘Lambkin’ in your garden this summer. The oval shape fruit weighs between 2 to 4 pounds with a thin rind and a sweet, aromatic, white, juicy flesh. This gourmet type melon matures in 65 to 75 days, much earlier than other melons of this type. Because of the early harvest, the vigorous vines can produce more melons. The melon skin is yellow with green mottling and is classified as a *Piel de Sapo melon a. k. a. Christmas melon*. ‘Lambkin’ can be stored longer (in a cool place like a refrigerator) than other melons.

(Source: National Gardening Bureau)



Viola ‘RAIN BLUE AND PURPLE’ - The one and a half inch blooms change color from purple and white to purple and blue as the plant matures. The plants are both cold and heat tolerant resulting in flowers throughout the season. The plants spread 10 to 14 inches in the garden or container. Their trailing habit is perfect for hanging baskets or patio urns.



Photos courtesy of All-America Selections®

DATES TO REMEMBER

OAGC Spring Board Meeting March 29 – April 1, 2009
Nature Study Camp June 7 – 12, 2009
Gardeners’ Day Out June 16 & 17, 2009
Exhibitors’ & Judges’ School #5 June 22 & 23, 2009
OAGC Convention July 13 - 15, 2009
OAGC Pennsylvania Trip September 3 - 9, 2009
Exhibitors’ & Judges’ School #6 September 21 & 22, 2009

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All donations to OAGC are now placed in the 501(c)3 Foundation. Send to Foundation Treasurer, Jean Walton, address on page 3. Make checks payable to OAGC Foundation Inc. Send all address changes, missed Garden Path concerns and membership dues (\$5/club members, \$10/members-at-large) to State Membership Chair, Donna Foss. Send OAGC Sales orders to Assistant Secretary, Stephanie Patrick. Send In Memoriam, Via the Grapevine & Stepping Stone items to State Publicity Chair, Margie Graft.

The President's Message



Dear Friends,

I don't know about you but I really appreciate the gardening break that winter gives me. It is like a timeout, a time for reflection. 2008 was filled with change and uncertainty and I'm sure that 2009 will be the same.

The following appeared in the January 1939 issue of *The Garden Path*: "Progress: Our Aim": P-reservation of natural beauty in Ohio; R-estoration of historical gardens; O-rganization of garden clubs in every town; G-reater growth of gardens to beautify our state; R-estriction of unsightly bill boards; E-ncouragement of highway beautification; S-ervice to all our member clubs; S-timulation of gardening interest.

Seventy years ago our predecessors were aware and prepared for change and progress. Change and progress are here for today's OAGC as well. We need to keep current with the times: from the *Handbook for Garden Clubs* revision; to the Exhibitors' & Judges' School revisions; to the EIN and 990 requirements; even the change in the mailing of *The Garden Path*.

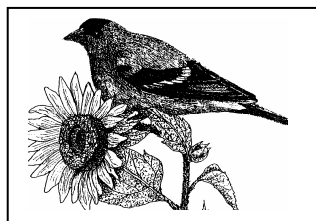
Yet I have found that gardening itself really hasn't changed that much at all. You plant a seed, nurture it and it produces (pests and diseases notwithstanding) even though sometimes this process takes time to harvest your reward.

We have the best gardening tool there is: OAGC. OAGC is the fertile ground that has the ability of growing and cultivating people interested in horticulture and floral arts. Last fall, I was floored when a contestant on the TV game show *Millionaire* was kicked off because she failed in two attempts to answer a gardening question. She couldn't identify the vegetable that was a perennial - even after the word perennial was explained. (In case you wonder what the answer was, it was asparagus.) My own husband still is confused as to why annuals don't come up and bloom annually. Oh my, we've got a lot of work ahead of us to educate our communities and sometimes even our spouses!

Let's get out there and plant the seeds of the future. Make every meeting you have an Open Meeting and invite others to attend and join. Get the word out in your community about what the The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. has to offer at your meetings, shows, workshops and tours. Let us take the step to help educate and grow more interest in the world of horticulture. There is a Chinese proverb that says the best time to plant a tree is 25 years ago; the next best time to plant a tree is now. The time to start planting for OAGC is now.

Perennially Yours,

Vicki Ferguson
President
The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs Inc.



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2009 OAGC Convention Flower Show, July 13 – 15, 2009

HORTICULTURE DIVISION

RULES:

1. Entries will be accepted from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday, July 13, 2009.
2. Exhibitor **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. Some styrofoam will be available for use as wedging for heavy cultivars.
5. Only correctly named horticulture exhibits, with the variety name written on the entry tag, will be eligible for an award.
6. Junior entry tags must be completely filled out by junior exhibitor before entering the show. Age must be clearly stated at top of entry tag.
7. An exhibitor may make as many entries as desired in any class, providing each is a different named variety.
8. 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.
9. Classes may be withdrawn, combined, divided or sub-divided, if the number of entries warrant.
10. Horticulture classes will be judged according to The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. 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.
11. Adult Awards will be:
 - Award of Merit**
Best entry in roses, Section 1.
Best cut flower exhibit, Sections 2 & 3.
Best cultivar exhibit, Section 4.
Best cultivar exhibit, Section 5.
Best horticulture entry, Sections 6 & 7.
Best cultivar exhibit, Sections 8 & 9.
Best cultivar exhibit, Section 10.
Best horticulture entry, Section 11.
 - Green Thumb Award** for horticulture excellence in a cut flower exhibit, best entry, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10.
 - Outdoor Growers Award** for cultural perfection - best entry, Section 6, 7, 8, 9, 11.
 - Container Growers Award** for cultural perfection - best entry, Section 12.
 - Collector's Showcase Award** for best collection in Section 13.
 - 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 Rosette** - second place sweepstakes.
12. Junior Awards will be:
 - Award of Merit** - best cut annual, biennial or perennial flower exhibit in each age group in classes 75 - 81.
 - Best container garden** in each age group, class 82.
 - Best hosta** in each age group, class 83.
 - Best entry in grasses** in each age group, classes 84 - 86.
 - Junior Best of Show** - best overall junior horticulture exhibit in each age group, all junior classes.
 - Junior 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.
 13. 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 Charlene Thornhill, 427 Southbrooke Drive, Greenville OH 45331-1155, 937-548-3417, or email cthornhill@oagc.org

ADULT DIVISION**Section 1 - Roses**

1. Hybrid Tea, named, any variety, 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 year 2009
2. Hybrid Tea, full blown rose, any color, any variety, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
3. Floribunda or Polyantha Rose, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.
4. Grandiflora Rose, named, any variety, naturally grown, with foliage attached.
5. Shrub Rose, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.
6. Miniature Rose, named, any variety, 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. Mauve, mauve blend
 - g. Any other color not listed above
 - h. Any new variety for 2009
7. Miniature Rose, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.

Section 2 - Annuals

8. Marigold, large flowered, any variety, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
9. Marigold, small flowered, named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded, with foliage attached.
10. Zinnia, large flowered, any large dahlia or cactus type (4" or over), named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
11. Zinnia, medium flowered, (3" up to 4"), named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
12. Zinnia, small flowered, (up to 3"), named, three blooms of same variety and color, disbudded with foliage attached.
13. Coleus, named, any variety, one stem.
14. Fresh cut everlasting, named, one bloom, one spray or one spike, any variety, foliage attached.
15. Any other round form annual (not listed above), named, one bloom, disbudded, foliage attached.
16. Any spike form annual (not listed above), named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached.
17. Any spray form annual (not listed above), named, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.

Section 3 - Biennials or Perennials

18. Rudbeckia, named, three blooms of same variety, disbudded with foliage attached.
19. Shasta Daisy, named, three blooms of same variety, disbudded with foliage attached.
20. Echinacea, named, any variety, one bloom, disbudded, with foliage attached.
21. Yarrow, named, any variety, one stem, not disbudded with foliage attached.
22. Any round form perennial or biennial, (not listed above), named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
23. Any spray form perennial or biennial, (not listed above), named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached.
24. Any spike form perennial or biennial, (not listed above), named, any variety, one spike, foliage attached.
25. Any other flower grown from a bulb, corm, or tuber not listed elsewhere in the schedule.

Section 4 - Hemerocallis (Daylily)

26. Miniature (flowers not to exceed 3" in diameter), named, any variety, one scape
27. White, near white, cream solid, cream blend, green solid, green blend, named, any variety, one scape
28. Yellow solid or yellow blend, named, any variety, one scape
29. Orange solid or orange blend, named, any variety, one scape
30. Pink solid or pink blend, named, any variety, one scape
31. Lavender solid or lavender blend, named, any variety, one scape
32. Red solid or red blend, named, any variety, one scape

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 4)

Hemerocallis (Daylily) continued:

- 33. Purple or purple blend, named, any variety, one scape
- 34. Bi-color, named, any variety, one scape.
- 35. Double, named, any variety, one scape.
- 36. Spider, named, any variety, one scape.
- 37. Unusual Form, named, any variety, one scape.

Section 5 – Lilies

- 38. Asiatic Hybrid, named, any variety, one stem with foliage attached.
- 39. Oriental Hybrid, named, any variety, one stem with foliage attached.
- 40. Orienpet, named, any variety, one stem with foliage attached.
- 41. Species, named, any variety, one stem with foliage attached.

Section 6 – Hosta – mature exhibits only

Small: under 3" at widest width

Medium: 3" to 5" at widest width

Large: over 5" at widest width

- 42. One leaf, green (all shades), named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 43. One leaf, blue (all shades), named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 44. One leaf, yellow, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 45. One leaf, white margin, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 46. One leaf, yellow margin, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 47. One leaf, green to blue margin, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 48. One leaf, streaked or mottled, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large
- 49. One leaf, other, named:
 - a. Small, b. Medium, c. Large

Section 7 - Caladiums

- 50. Named, any color, one stem, large variety, two stems small variety (same color).

Section 8 - Ornamental Grasses

No exhibit over 36" tall, foliage only or grasses with inflorescence (plumes, flower heads).

- 51. Small grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container. (Carex, Helictotrichon, Imperata, etc.)
- 52. Medium grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container. (Chasmanthium, Elymus, Panicum, etc.)
- 53. Large grasses, named, one stem in one container. (Arundo, Erianthus, Miscanthus, Ornamental Corn, etc.)

Section 9 - Shrubs

No exhibit to exceed 24" in length.

- 54. Blooming, one stem, named, any variety.
- 55. Hydrangea, blooming, one stem, named, any variety.
- 56. Berried, one stem, named, any variety.

Section 10 - Gladiolus

- 57. 100-200 size (miniature or small), named, one spike, disbudded, any variety.
- 58. White, (00-01) green, (02-09), yellow, (10-19), 300, 400, 500 size (medium, large, giant), named, one spike, disbudded, any variety.
- 59. Orange (20-29), Salmon (30-39), 300, 400, 500 size, (medium, large, giant), named, one spike, disbudded, any variety.
- 60. Pink (40-49), red (50-59), rose (60-69), 300, 400, 500 size, (medium, large, giant), named, one spike, disbudded, any variety.
- 61. Lavender (70-79), Violet (80-89), Tan, Smokies, Brown, (90-99), 300, 400, 500

size (medium, large, giant), named, one spike, disbudded, any variety.

Section 11 - Herbs and Vegetables

- 62. Fresh cut perennial herb, named, any variety, one stem.
- 63. Fresh cut annual herb, named, any variety, one stem.
- 64. Any rooted vegetable, named, three vegetables of the same variety. (Example: Beets, Carrots, Onion, Potatoes, etc.)
- 65. Any vine vegetable, named, three vegetables of the same variety. (Example: Squash, Cucumbers, etc.)
- 66. Any bush vegetable, named, three vegetables of the same variety. (Example: Beans, Peas, Peppers, Tomatoes, Corn, etc.)

Section 12 - Container Grown Plants

Pot not to exceed 12" in diameter and must set flat on the table. One plant per pot (may be multiple stemmed).

- 67. Flowering plant, named, any variety.
- 68. Foliage plant, named, any variety.
- 69. Cactus, named, any variety.
- 70. Succulent, named, any variety.
- 71. Container Garden, three or more different varieties of plants per pot, named (container may be up to 12").

Section 13 – Collections

(Entries in Section 13 must be pre-registered with the horticulture chair by July 1. Each class has a limit of 4 entries.)

- 72. A collection of Hosta leaves named with a minimum of 5 varieties, each in a separate container. (4 entries)
- 73. A collection of cut coleus named with a minimum of 5 varieties, each in a separate container. (4 entries)
- 74. A collection of cut perennials, named, with a minimum of 5 varieties, each in a separate container. (4 entries).

Section 14 - Educational Horticultural Exhibits

One per Region, space approximately 36" wide x 30" deep. **Exhibitor to furnish own background, table and covering.** Exhibits will be critiqued and comments written for each regional exhibit.

Junior Division

Juniors are divided into age groups. Group A: 6 - 12 years. Group B: 13-19 years.

Section 15 - Juniors

- 75. Zinnia, large flowered, named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached.
- 76. Zinnia, Pompons, named, two blooms of same variety and color, disbudded with foliage attached.
- 77. Coleus, named, naturally grown, one stem.
- 78. Any other Round Form Annual, Biennial or Perennial (not listed above), named, one bloom, disbudded with foliage attached. (Example: Aster, Shasta Daisy, Gloriosa Daisy, etc.)
- 79. Any other Spike Form Annual, Biennial, Perennial (not listed above), named, one spike, foliage attached. (Example: Salvia, Larkspur, Delphinium, Hollyhock, Bells of Ireland, Liatrus, Gladiolus, Snapdragon, etc.)
- 80. Any other Spray Form Annual, Biennial, Perennial (not listed above), named, any variety, one spray, not disbudded with foliage attached. (Example: Lily, Hemerocallis (Daylily), Phlox, Petunias, Lisianthus, Statice, etc.)

- 81. Any new 2009 variety.
- 82. Container Garden, two or more different varieties of plants per pot, named, (container may be up to 12")

Section 16- Juniors – Hosta,

- 83. Hosta, named, one leaf, any color. Mature exhibits only, a. Miniature b. Small c. Medium d. Large e. Giant

Section 17- Juniors - Grasses

No exhibit over 36" tall, foliage only or grasses with inflorescence (plumes, flower heads).

- 84. Small Grasses, named, three stems of same variety in one container. (Carex, Helictotrichon, Imperata, etc.)
- 85. Medium Grasses, named, three stems of same variety in 1 container. (Chasmanthium, Elymus, Panicum, etc.)
- 86. Large Grasses, named, one stem, any variety. (Arundo, Erianthus, Miscanthus, Ornamental Corn, etc.)



Breaking News!

The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. has yet another fantastic member benefit to announce. Now through April 2009, the Ohio State Park Resorts & Conference Centers are offering OAGC members, a special member appreciation rate, for staying Sundays through Thursdays at select state park lodges.

Lodge room rates are: \$79/room for: Maumee Bay, Punderson Manor, Shawnee, Mohican, Hueston Woods and Salt Fork Resorts with \$69/room for Burr Oak Resort. These rooms are based on single/double occupancy, standard rooms only and some blackout dates may apply, based on availability.

For reservations, call 800-At-A-Park (282-7275) and be sure to use the Promo Code: **Weekday.**

Evaluate last year's garden and decide what changes need to be made. Draw your garden plans on paper and make a plant wish list.

FILING THE E-POSTCARD

Sharon Ware, First Vice President

Now that your club has obtained their EIN (Employer Identification Number) the next step is to file the 990-N or e-postcard, as it is known. Beginning January, 2008, ALL small organizations are required to electronically file Form 990-N for tax years ending on or after December 31, 2007. The new electronic filing requirement applies to organizations with gross receipts under \$25,000.00. The e-postcard is due annually by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. For OAGC clubs that use the same fiscal year (October 1st to September 30th) the filing date would be February 15, 2009.

The name e-postcard is derived from the fact that this form is completed with a computer and internet (e for electronic) and the amount of information needed could fit on a postcard. This filing should be done by your club President or Treasurer, or someone designated who has a computer and internet capabilities. Basic information needed to file the 990-N include: the EIN, tax year, legal name and address of the club, any other names the club may use, name and address of the principal officer, and confirmation that the annual gross receipts are under \$25,000.00.

To complete the form, go to the irs.gov website (www.irs.gov) and click on "e-file" located on left side of page. Next, click on public charities and non-profits. Scroll down to the section in blue and underlined that states "New Electronic Filing Requirements for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations – Annual Electronic Notice – e-postcard." Click anywhere on the underlined words. The next page has a large rectangle in the center that says How to File and in that paragraph are the words 'click here' (here is underlined). Click on the underlined word. The next page will give you the option to leave the IRS website.

The IRS has contracted with an outside source to actually handle these returns electronically for them and you must leave the site in order to do the filing. This is a secured site. After clicking on the "leave the IRS site", you will be instructed to obtain a login number and a password. Your login number is the same as your EIN, so in the two boxes you will type your EIN. The first 2 numbers go in the first box, and then the remainder numbers in the second box. If you receive an error message, that your number is not recognized even though you have typed it correctly, you will need to call the number that appears for customer assistance. This is a toll-free number. At this point you need to stop the process of filing the e-postcard and call the number. Otherwise, you will continue to answer the questions asked and once clicking the "submit" button, your Form 990-N has been filed and you are done until next year.

If you received the error message, what this means is that your club now needs to be recognized that it is a tax-exempt club. To do this the operator will direct you to someone who can take your vital information over the phone and process this part of the filings. You only need to verbally state that you do have working articles or by-laws, the year you began, the name and address of President, and that you are applying under the IRS code 501(c) 7 – Social and Recreation Clubs.

The operator will then file this information and your club will be notified in approximately 8 weeks. You cannot file the e-postcard until the notification.

If you do not file your e-postcard on time, the IRS will send you a reminder notice but you will not be assessed a penalty. However, if you fail to file for three consecutive years you will automatically lose your tax-exempt status. If you have any additional questions or problems, please contact me either via email or telephone (listed on page 2 of Garden Path).

NATURE STUDY CAMP 2008

William Coho

This past June, nineteen campers enjoyed exploring nature at several different locations. Camp was held at Otyokwah Camp and Retreat Center, Butler. Speakers included Naturalist Olivia Fitzsimmons who showed "Photographs from Nature" and led the early morning bird walks; Don and Diana Plant presented a slide show "Bluebirds vs House Sparrows and Starlings" and a program on "Bats – A Better Understanding"; Barb Natterer on "Spiders"; Diana Kelly "Backyard Conservation"; and Cheryl Harner presented "Landscaping with Native Plants to Attract Birds."

Places the campers visited included Ohio Bird Sanctuary, Gorman Nature Center, Warren Rupp Observatory, Malabar Farm State Park, and Mohican State Park.

Nature Study Camp 2009 will be held June 7-12, 2009 at the Friendly Hills Grange Camp in Zanesville, Ohio. Zanesville is 56 miles directly east of Columbus. The Friendly Hills Camp has a RV Campground available for those who wish to bring their own camping equipment. Because Nature Study Camp is scheduled one week later, schools should be out for the summer and Junior Campers will be able to attend. Nature Study Camp is planning to have a full-time naturalist for the entire week to help the Campers understand the wonders of nature. NSC 2009 will have speakers, tours, hikes, and we will be exploring a part of Ohio that we have not visited for many years. Potential activities for the campers are the Dillon State Park and the Wilds.

Why not join us this coming June and observe first-hand the wonders of Nature? Registration form is on page 8. First time Junior campers are eligible to apply for a partial payment campership. Send a letter to NSC president, Jan Harmon, telling why you would like to come to Nature Study Camp, address on page 8.

* * * * *

Prune your trees while they are still dormant. Cut back water sprouts, as well as dead or crossing branches. Wait to prune spring flowering trees until right after they bloom.

BOOK-WORM

Nancy Denlinger

There is a new book on the OAGC sales table, every gardener should include in his/her library! It will brighten those drab, dark days of winter and have you running for plant catalogs to start your shopping. What book is it? ***Absolutely Beautiful Containers: The ABCs of Creative Container Gardens*** written by Sue Amatangelo.

This fantastic book not only sets up "Recipes for Gardening" but includes "Plan-O-Grams." Are you intrigued by these new terms? You'll be amazed at how the book jogs your memory and helps you absorb knowledge. "Plan-o-grams" show the installer where and how the display should be set up as well as all the components that are needed - all on paper. Sue thinks of this as her recipe for gardening, just as a cook uses her recipes.

You will explore all the aspects of container gardening: containers, soil, colors, plants, lighting, watering and fertilizing needs, insects and diseases. Each display will include the plants used, the degree of difficulty, kind of container, lighting requirements, comments about each, and tips for substitutions, if desired. There are 200 PAGES of PICTURES of beautiful container gardens! I challenge you to read through this book (or just look at the pictures) and find yourself desiring not just your copy but one for every gardener on your shopping list!

GARDENERS' DAY OUT 2009!

Jean Walton, Gardeners' Day Out Chair

Mark your calendars now for Gardeners' Day Out, Wednesday, June 17, 2009, with activities on Tuesday evening, June 16.

The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs has been granted a special Ohio Division of Natural Resources permit to tour Cranberry Bog at Buckeye Lake on Wednesday, June 17th. The boat tour to the bog and tour of the Buckeye Lake History Museum will be followed by lunch at Dawes Arboretum.

Normally, the only chance to tour this one-of-a-kind bog is to put your name in a limited state-wide lottery with the ODNR. The ODNR tour is the third Saturday of June which is prime time for viewing native orchids, sundews and pitcher plants ... our tour is the Wednesday before the ODNR lottery tour.

The program for the evening before will be at the historic 1812 Buxton Inn in Granville. The Buxton Inn also operates as a Bed & Breakfast with 25 sleeping rooms some of which are reported to be haunted by friendly ghosts.

Other area sites of interest include: The Hopewell/Adena Indian sites at the Great Circle Earthworks at Moundbuilders' State Park and Flint Ridge State Park; the International Heisey Glass Museum and the Works Science & Technology Museum; and several greenhouses and nurseries including Baker's Acres. Region 8 and Licking County will be your hosts.

Watch for full details and the registration form in the spring issue of *The Garden Path*.

Change = Progress

Change impacts Exhibitors' & Judges' Schools

The Executive Board of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc., with the recommendations by the Exhibitors' and Judges' Committee, recently adopted several new policies affecting Judge Emeritus and Student Judges. These changes took effect October 1, 2008.

For Judge Emeriti: **A Judge Emeritus shall not judge any flower shows, regardless of whether the shows are entered for state competition or not.** The exception is any Judge Emeritus presently under contract for judging a show at the time the change took effect. **A Judge Emeritus may re-instate their active status by adhering to the same requirements as current active judges.** They are to attend three schools or six days, one day being at School #5 or School #6, in the three year cycle. No additional testing will be required.

The reasoning behind these changes was the feeling by the Board and Committee that in order to be an effective OAGC Judge, a judge needs to be current regarding changes to horticulture and artistic designs that are taught at OAGC Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools.

For Student Judges: **Student Judges are allowed a make-up test** for any failed subject. This test will be approved and administered by the E & J Chair. A student will not have to wait 3 years to retake a test. The Plant ID make-up test will be from a PowerPoint presentation. Also, **a prospective Student Judge application now requires a total of 10 ribbons; 5 won in Horticulture and 5 won in artistic.** (Previously had to be all blue ribbons.)

Additionally, the **Plant ID class will be reduced to 30 specimens and tested on 20. Plant ID scoring will be an equal value** of 2 points each placed on botanical and common name and a value of one half point each name on spelling for a total of 5 possible points per specimen.

Any questions or concerns can be addressed to Sharon Ware, Chair of the Exhibitors' and Judges' Committee or Jo Ann Graham, Exhibitors' and Judges' Schools Chair. Addresses are on page 2.

STEPPING STONES

Region 4

Four Seasons GC celebrated its 40th anniversary on October 14, with a program titled "This Is Our Life" which included the history and early days of the club.

Milford GC celebrated 80 years on July 12, 2008. The club honored the occasion with a donation to Promont, the local home of the Historical Society and former home of Governor Pattison.

Region 14

Valley City Garden Club, celebrated the club's 70th anniversary on November 6 at the Copper Top Restaurant in Valley City. The club was affiliated with The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs on Nov. 30, 1938.

IN MEMORIAM

Compiled by Margie Graft, Publicity Chair

Region 3 **Joan Phillips**, March 2008, Wildflower GC

Region 4 **Dora Jackson**, May 3, 2008, Felicity GC

Edna Mae Pierce, June 2008, Felicity GC

Region 5 **Doris B. Maddux**, 97, February 25, 2008, Founder of Starlight GC

Region 8 **Anne K. Utts**, 83, September 7, 2008, Newark GC

HEUCHERA

Charlene Thornhill
Horticulture Chair

One of the showiest perennials on the market right now is the heucheras, coral bells. Coral bells begin blooming in early June and don't stop until the end of August. It is suggested to dead-head your perennials to prolong the bloom season.

Heucheras will grow in any well-drained alkaline soil. Even though they tolerate a couple hours of shade, best results are achieved when grown in full sun. These great plants look good with artemisia, ornamental grasses or low ground covers like lamium, or lysimachia.

Bluestone Perennials has teamed up with OAGC to provide our members the opportunity to purchase these quality plants. Check out the Bluestone website at www.bluestoneperennials.com where you can buy perennials for a price which will allow you to plant them as they should be planted – in groups and masses!

Raspberry Ice and Dale's Strain are two varieties in their large selection of heucheras.

HEUCHERA RASPBERRY ICE - Coral Bells - Medium 24" in bloom - Plant 24" apart. Zone 4-10. Its showy pink and dark pink two-toned flowers over striking foliage of raspberry and frosty silver are best in partial shade but will tolerate dry shade. Very long blooming, vigorous and large flowered, these varieties make excellent border plants with their nearly evergreen foliage in neat clumps. Bright flowers are held aloft on airy stems in May through July and can be used in a shady courtyard pot or as a ground cover under deciduous trees. Avoid dry soil with full sun. It is a good cut flower, and a good evergreen groundcover.

HEUCHERA AMERICAN DALE'S STRAIN - Alum root - Medium 24" - Plant 16" apart. The marbled foliage holds its exceptional silver-blue marbling well from full sun to deep shade. Flowers are pale white, but it's the marbled foliage that makes this a choice plant. Dale's Strain is vigorous and large flowered; these varieties make excellent border plants with their nearly evergreen foliage in neat clumps. Bright flowers are held aloft on airy stems in May through July. Avoid dry soil with full sun.

Both varieties are good cut flowers, evergreen and good groundcovers. Plan to purchase a few heucheras in the spring for your garden.

Going, Going.....Gone?

Roxanne Malone, Plant Promotion Chair

Have you noticed the steady decline of our beloved maple trees in the last few years? If not, you are not alone since this process of dying is a slow, lingering and virtually unnoticed decline in our tree lines by many "regular folks." Not the loss of our maples by girdled roots, road salt run-off and nutritional elements, this is about the fungus *Verticillium* wilt that begins by showing a sparse dying branch or two and progresses into a full blown assault on one of our favorite shade trees!

Although not all maple varieties are dying at the same rate, this fungus leaves no victims behind preferring the Norway maple variety but the beloved sugar maple is high on the list. I am concerned about the direct effect on the Vermont sugar maple market for maple syrup!

Once the disease has established itself, it will be difficult to control unless you are the proud owner of a chain saw! You may selectively remove the affected limbs as the process begins but currently there aren't any fungicides on the market to prevent this destructive soil-borne fungus. These selectively pruned limbs should be burned to kill the fungi.

Prevention is the best cure and begins with the proper mechanics of watering, feeding, pruning and repair of injuries while performing regular maintenance on our lawns and trees. If your landscape can survive without this tree the best cure is to remove and destroy it by burning immediately upon proper identification of the *Verticillium* wilt. Providing proper care, a tree is less likely to become diseased and infected and should thrive for many, many years!

We lost the American chestnut, the ash is on the decline, the maples are infected. So, which tree is going to be the next victim? You better run out and hug your tree! Think what the earth would be like without our trees.

**NATURE STUDY CAMP
REGISTRATION FORM**

June 7 – 12, 2009
FRIENDLY HILLS GRANGE CAMP
5880 Friendly Hills Rd
Zanesville, OH 43701

Name _____ Region _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Full Time Rate:
Adults (18 and over) \$190 full time camper
Junior (17 and under) \$175 full time camper
Part Time Rate:
Adult - \$40 per day/night (includes 1 night, 3 meals) x _____ days \$ _____
Junior - \$35 per day/night (includes 1 night, 3 meals) x _____ days \$ _____

(Must fill in for juniors). All juniors must be accompanied by an adult
Name of accompanying adult: _____

Relationship to junior: _____

How many days? _____

Arrival date/time _____ Departure date/time _____

A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is required to hold your registration and can be sent in between January 1 and April 15.
Registration from January 1 - May 11, 2009. **(Balance should arrive on or before May 11) MUST BE PREREGISTERED/PRE-PAID** to participate in camp functions.

Make checks payable to: Marie Marquart, OAGC NSC Registrar
Mail check and registration forms to:

Marie Marquart, OAGC NSC Registrar
19391 Co. Rd. 12
Bluffton, OH 45817
Phone: (419) 326-5212

A Nature Study Camp Emergency Medical Authorization Form must accompany registration form for all junior campers.

Note: For first time campers, a partial payment Junior Campership is available to children through the age of 17. If interested, send a letter to the camp president indicating why you would like to come to Nature Study Camp.

NSC President Jan Harmon
405 Craggy Creek Dr.
Chippewa Lake OH 44215
330-769-2210
jharmon@oagc.org

2009 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST "ZOOM IN, ZOOM OUT"

Adult Classes and Junior Classes

1. DECIDUOUS TREES, Zoom In – flower, fruit or leaf
2. DECIDUOUS TREES, Zoom Out – entire tree
3. EVERGREEN TREES, Zoom In – flower, fruit/cone or needles/branch
4. EVERGREEN TREES, Zoom Out – entire tree
5. DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, Zoom In – flower, fruit or leaf
6. DECIDUOUS SHRUBS, Zoom Out – entire shrub
7. EVERGREEN SHRUBS, Zoom In – flower, fruit or needles/branch
8. EVERGREEN SHRUBS, Zoom Out – entire shrub
9. ZOOM IN, ZOOM OUT ... **Black and White Photo – All above categories**

RULES & GUIDELINES:

1. This issue of the rules supersedes all other issues of the rules, as approved by the OAGC Executive Board.
2. The contest is limited to photographs taken by members of OAGC.
3. **An entry having won an award in prior OAGC photography contests is not eligible.**
4. All winning photos become the property of OAGC and will not be returned. Non-winners can be picked up at convention or from your Regional Director.
5. Photographs are limited to 5 entries per class.
6. **All contest entries are limited to those taken in the past two calendar years preceding the beginning of the contest year - meaning no photograph taken before the year 2007 is eligible.**
7. A photograph may be entered in only one class.
8. Each photo must be marked with the contest class number, variety name (if appropriate), and the name, address, region and garden club of the photographer. **Do not write on the back of the photo.** It is best if you use a return address label with your garden club information added or attach a post-it.
9. All photos are to be 4" x 6".
10. No frames or mats may be used. This includes white margins.
11. Judging will be done by a competent, experienced photographer, not the Media Chairman.
12. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and HM in each class and overall.
13. Awards may be omitted in any class at the discretion of the judge.
14. **Scorecard: Photography 50%
Composition, Design and Interpretation 50%**
15. Entrants of 20 photos will receive a certificate for a free slide/video/DVD rental.
16. Entries should be well packed (cardboard helps prevent bends) and marked PHOTOS – DO NOT BEND.
17. **ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 15, 2009 AND sent to: SUSY SPENCE, 125 E. SHARON RD., CINCINNATI OH 45246.**

Questions? Contact the Media Chairman Susy Spence, 513-772-2936 or sspence@oagc.org.

State Junior Convention Contests – 2009

#1 - Botanical Plates

Do you like to pick flowers, foliage, or leaves and then press them? Just think of all the things you can get from your own yard! Preserve these pretty things and see them each time you eat lunch or dinner. Create a botanical plate that can also be functional (your plate has to be hand washed). An inexpensive wooden easel needs to accompany each plate. Make certain this easel will hold the plate as the plate will be staged upright.

Class A – 1 Ages 6 – 11

Class A – 2 Ages 12 – 18

***Note: Instructions below

#2 - Backyard Feeder

Feed the birds their favorite food, such as sunflower seeds, nyger seed, cracked corn, etc., from something you have already used. We need to take care of our environment by recycling as much as possible. Using a milk jug (1/2 gal or gal), 2 liter soda bottle, coffee creamer container, or anything recyclable, create a bird feeder that can be hung in your backyard. Be sure to include a perch for the birds to feed from and a hanger to show your feeder could be hung. Decorating of the container is left to the discretion of the exhibitor. The bird feeder needs to set flat and should show functionality. **Do Not include bird feed.**

Class B – 1 Ages 6 – 11

Class B – 2 Ages 12 – 18

Note: all entries will be received from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Entries received after 12:00 pm will be for display only. Judging will start promptly at 1:00 pm.

BOTANICAL PLATES

STEP 1: MATERIALS:

A smooth glass plate, white glue, pressed flowers (yellow and purple pansies work best), dried herbs (if you want to add more texture), water, paint brushes, craft sponge brushes, clear acrylic coating, acrylic gold paint (optional), rice paper or tissue paper.

STEP 2: USING THE GLUE WASH

Create a glue wash by mixing 3 parts glue to 1 part water. Using a sponge brush, coat only the BACK of the glass plate with the glue wash. Just cover the surface; you don't need a thick coat.

STEP 3: ADDING FLOWERS

Place the flowers face down onto the back of the plate so you can view them from the front when you turn the plate over. If you wish, add some herbs as well for texture. Be careful when handling the flowers – they will be paper-thin and many break easily!

STEP 4: SEALING THE FLOWERS

Gently brush the glue wash over the flowers. This will seal them to the plate.

STEP 5: ADDING THE RICE/TISSUE PAPER

Rice paper can be found in craft stores. Cut a piece to fit and place it over the back of the plate. Be careful! Once the rice paper touches the glue, it is tough to remove so make sure you have it where you want it before placing it in the glue. Finally, add another coat of glue wash to secure the design to the glass. Brush any excess rice paper onto the back of the plate. Let it dry for two days.

STEP 6: ADDING TRIM (optional)

If you want to add some pizzazz to your plate, trim it with gold acrylic paint. Paint around the rim on the back of the plate over the hardened paper to create a gold trim. Don't paint on the front!

STEP 7: ADDING THE ACRYLIC COATING

The final step is to spray on the clear acrylic coating which should be done outside or in a well-ventilated area. Add about 10 coats to the bottom of the plate to get a thick level of protection.

Patrons and Life Members of The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs

Compiled by Jean Walton, OAGC Foundation Treasurer

Patron of OAGC: A Patron of OAGC is an individual OAGC member who contributes \$50 or more a year (tax deductible), all of which goes into the OAGC Foundation.

Supporting Patron: This classification is for non-members of OAGC, or for other organizations and businesses that wish to be supportive and contribute \$50 or more a year (tax deductible), all of which goes into the OAGC Foundation.

Life Patron: A Life Patron is a member who contributes a one-time \$500 (or more) 501 (c) 3 tax deductible amount, all of which goes into the OAGC Foundation. Should any Life Patron wish they may designate the activity to which they would like to give support and stipulate their contribution be applied in the amounts they wish to each active fund which currently are: OAGC General Fund; OAGC Scholarship Fund; Mohican School In the Out-of Doors Fund; Wahkeena Nature Preserve Fund; and the Beautification and Conservation Fund.

Life Member: A Life Member is any person who contributes \$100 or more. Life Patrons and state presidents (upon completion of their term) will receive an Honorary Life Member card. This money is put into the general fund under membership. Life Members pay no additional state dues, but must pay their individual club, regional and county dues.

Life Membership dues purchases are paid to state treasurer Sue Hamlet. Technically they are a purchase or a pre-payment of dues, not a donation or contribution. Monies that go to the general fund 501 (c) 4 are not IRS tax deductible under federal law.

OAGC Life Patron List for 2008 - 2009

1979	Mrs. Alice Dallas	Region 14
1980	Mrs. Susie Pool	Region 11
	Mrs. Carol Didrick	Region 14
	Mrs. Gladys Thomas	Region 7
	Mrs. Kate Pond	Region 14
1981	Mrs. Louise Mente Bennett	Region 3
1983	Mrs. Nadine Elder	Region 8
	Mrs. Lucille Reed	Region 8
1984	Mrs. Doris Schuster	Region 3
1987	Mrs. Emma Krinke	Region 12
	Mrs. Katherine Krinke	Region 12
	Mrs. Bea Bumgarner	Region 9
1988	Mrs. Ruth Dungan	Region 5
	Mrs. Frances Ohrman	Region 3
1989	Charles & Mary Alice Earhart	Region 8
	Dr. Clara Mae Frederick	Region 5
1990	Mrs. Janice Hartman	Region 16
	Mrs. Jan Harmon	Region 14
	Mrs. Ruth Waller	Region 9
1991	Mrs. Grace Ray Moon	Region 9
	Mrs. Jane Shedenhelm	Region 6
1993	Mrs. Louise Sheffer	Region 3
1996	Mrs. Patricia Wilson	Region 9
	Mrs. Anita Roller	Region 14
1997	Mrs. Jo Hune	Region 11
1998	Mrs. Faye Collins	Region 10
	Mrs. Aury Holt	Region 16
	Mrs. Mary Ellen Birch	Region 6
	Mrs. Hazel Engeman	Region 6
1999	Mrs. Marjorie Aldridge	Region 3
2000	Mrs. Lucy V. Fogg	Region 16
	Mrs. Maxine Munn	Region 10
2001	Mrs. Patricia Drummond	Region 9
2003	Mrs. Janet Bolin	Region 11
2004	Mrs. Pauline Graham	Region 7
	Mrs. Pat Tavenner	Region 2
2005	Mrs. Tiyuk Huston	Region 16
	Mrs. Sharon Ware	Region 4
2006	Mrs. Brenda Covert	Region 11
	Mrs. Doris Hager	Region 5
	Mrs. Jean Walton	Region 8
2007	Mrs. Dorothy Sayre	Region 16
	Miss Jo Ann Graham	Region 7
	Mrs. Barbara Treaster	Region 6
2008	Mrs. Joyce Fuerst	Region 2
	Carl & Sarah Budnick	Region 9
	Mrs. Jane Klein	Region 16
	Mrs. Paula Mowery	Region 9
	Mrs. Sonia Wolfe	Region 9
	(2000/2001 Supporting Patron): Garden Club Federations of Dayton & Vicinity given in honor of Charlene Thornhill	Region 3

ABSTRACT DESIGN

Juanita Wilkins, Design Study Chair

Creative Abstract designs are the use of the design elements, according to the design principles, reduced to their simplest form and do emphasize space, movement and creativity. Abstract design is a break from naturalism. It is the result of the artist's expression in which plant material and other components are used **SOLELY AS LINE, COLOR, FORM, TEXTURE** and do incorporate space to create new images. The designer uses the elements in a new manner, unnatural, unrealistic to communicate with the viewer.

A design is or is not abstract. It should be clearly identifiable as abstract. If a container is used, it should be a non-traditional container. There is never a focal point and there is little or no radial placement. There must be a dominance of abstract characteristics. **IMPORTANT:** An Abstract design is not a traditional design with some abstracted material or a flower placed upside down. The characteristics of abstract **MUST** be predominating.

NOT ALL COMPONENTS NEED TO BE ABSTRACTED, but the design itself must be an **ABSTRACT CONCEPT**. The dominant quality in a floral design determines classification as to its type.

Space, depth and areas of tension are emphasized. Interest must be equated throughout the design. Exaggerated proportions are a "hallmark" of abstract design. No transition of size or color should be found. **SPACE** must be a major element of the design. Abstract design absorbs space as it contributes to it. Forms of space can be the most dominant feature in an abstract design. These shapes of space are no longer empty voids but are forms charged with interest and direction. **SPACE** can be utilized by enclosing it, absorbing it into the outline of the design, or having some part of the design penetrate space. **SPACE** receives its color from the background.

In writing schedules it is preferable to state "a design in an abstract manner" rather than to call for an "abstract design."

The following designs from our handbook are always abstract: Assemblage, Collage, Construction, and Vibratile, plus the 5 Kinetic Designs which are Motorized, Op Art, Mobile, Stabile, and Sta-mobile. Details of these designs can be found in the *OAGC Exhibitors' and Judges' Handbook*.

Insert a rusty nail into the soil around African violets. The blossoms will be larger, more profuse and brighter in color.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

Margie Graft
State Publicity Chair

Publicity is an important aspect of any company and organization. Whether we publicize our activities by word of mouth or as printed material, it is important to let people know what OAGC does at the local level.

How can individual clubs best publicize OAGC and their own clubs? A brochure can reach the most people with the least effort. Once the brochure has been written and printed, it can be distributed to libraries, flower shops, nurseries, schools, senior centers and the local YMCA.

What information should a brochure contain? Most people who pick up brochures want to know what the organization does. A paragraph or two describing general activities and beautification projects would be most important. The brochure should also contain general information about the membership describing their interests and backgrounds.

The history of the club also makes a brochure more interesting. The minutes of past meetings, scrapbooks and publicity books will have information about the founders of the club. These sources may also reveal the sites of trees, gardens and beautification projects which have been planted and maintained by the members.

Brochures do not have to be elaborate. They can be single or tri-fold printed on an eye catching color of paper. Clip art pictures can be inserted for more interest or to fill a void. It is also important to include a contact person with an email address or phone number. Try not to include information which will quickly be out of date such as the current year or a one-time project of the club. Be sure to have several members proof read the draft before making copies.

Just imagine the number of people who would learn more about OAGC if every club distributed brochures. It would be great way of promoting "**Knowing, Growing, Showing and Sharing**"!

PERENNIAL SALE

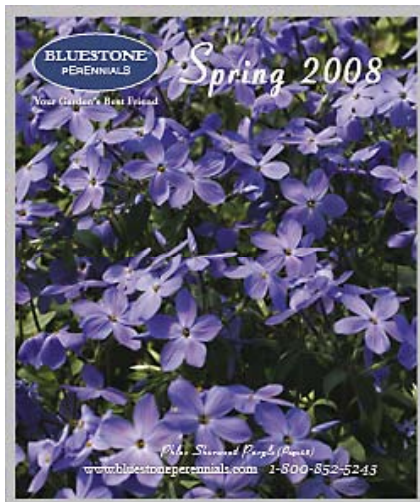
Here is another PERK for members of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs! We're again teaming up with Bluestone Perennials for a great chance to improve your green thumb.

Bluestone Perennials, located in Madison, OH, is home to over 1200 varieties of plants with over 5 acres of greenhouses. They ship over 2 million plants each spring with over 150 new choices for 2009 alone.

Everyone should watch for the special Bluestone mailing in January with the OAGC promo code (s9oagc234). Using this code when you place your order will ensure that you will receive 10% off your order and OAGC will earn 10% as well. It is a WIN-WIN for everyone!

You may shop the entire catalog online (or by phone) at www.bluestoneperennials.com or 1-800-852-5243. Use the Promo

Code: s9oagc234 which ends May 1. Every order will be shipped directly to you at the proper time for planting – or sent to you at your choice of date. Keep in mind, we only earn profits on orders using this promo code number. Spread the word – anyone, anywhere may order from the sale.



North, South, East, West: Pennsylvania's Best!

The 2009 Grand Tour of Pennsylvania bus trip will venture to some amazing sights around the Keystone State, September 3-9, 2009. The tour includes 6 nights' accommodations, 16 meals, motorcoach transportation, baggage handling, taxes and gratuities.

We'll begin the trip with tours at Sand Hill Berry Farm and the Winery at Greendance and spend the night at the wonderful Seven Springs Mountain Resort. The next day we will tour (and have lunch at) the National Historic Landmark, Fallingwater, a home built over a waterfall designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The day also includes Polymath Park Resort and three other homes Mr. Wright designed. We overnight at the famous Hotel Hershey.

While in Hershey, we'll visit Chocolate World, Founders Hall, have High Tea at the Hotel Hershey and visit the Hershey Gardens and Butterfly House. The next morning we'll visit Winterthur, an American country estate, former home of Henry Francis du Pont then spend the rest of the day at Longwood Gardens! As if a visit to Longwood isn't enough, you'll be treated to a barbeque dinner and watch as the fabulous famous Longwood Fountains light up the night with a huge fireworks display and music!

The next day we'll head for the center of the state and enjoy a cruise aboard the Hiawatha Riverboat, tour Millionaires Row in Williamsport visiting the Worley House Mansion and dine in the evening at the Peter Hurdic Mansion.

Heading north we'll board a horse-drawn wagon and ride into the base of the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon! After viewing the canyon from the rim we'll head toward State College and dine at the Garden Restaurant at Penn State University. As we head back to Ohio, we'll visit the National Aviary, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh. Plan NOW to join your OAGC friends on this fantastic trip over Labor Day.

The seven day tour costs are: \$1399/double; \$1299/triple; \$1259/quad; and \$1899/single occupancy. A \$100 deposit should accompany your reservation and be sent to Trip Coordinator, Babs Sabick, 1128 Darlington Dr., Beavercreek OH, 45434, (937-429-0987) or email: bsabick@oagc.org. Balance will be due July 15.

As always, the timeliness of your full payment will dictate your bus seat location. Trip Insurance (\$80) is available and must be paid for when trip deposit is made.

Reservation form is on page 15.

VIA THE GRAPEVINE

Compiled by Margie Graft, Publicity Chair

REGION 3

College Hill GC, January 8, meeting begins at 7:00 pm at Rose Leonard's Clubhouse. Club members will make bird wreaths for a local nursing home as a community project. On February 5, 7 pm at the home of Ruth Hypes, Charlie Cressell will speak on "Tips for Organic Gardening and Old-Fashioned Remedies." Marian Moekel will discuss the "Disappearance of Birds/Local Birds" at the March 5th meeting at Lynne Hamilton's home at 7:00 pm. Please contact club president, Mary Sucher, evenings at 937-836-7227 or Lynne Hamilton, vice-president, at 937-274-6675 for more information. New members are welcome.

New Neighbors GC, while we always welcome guests, January is guest month when each member is encouraged to bring a guest. The program is: "All About Hydrangeas." Roll call is to name your favorite flowering shrub. This is also the kick off for the annual Posy Power Compost sale. Call Jan Vomacka at 937-885-0636 to order. February program is: "A Year of Color Using Bulbs" by Babs Sabick of Knollwood Garden Center. Roll call is: Name and describe a favorite bulb. March marks the 60th anniversary of our garden club which was founded in March 1949. A special celebration will be held. Please contact Denise Stout at 937-307-3961 or Jan Vomacka at 937- 885-0636 for more details. Donna Walls, of Mother Earth Sundries, will present "Green Cleaning" for the March program.

Our Homes GC meets at the home of Carole Cobb in January. Judy Wagner will present a recycle project for the club. The outing for the month will be Morning Discovery Walk at Aullwood. The February meeting is at the home of Maureen Aukerman with a program entitled: "A Hosta Fever" presented by Gene and Glenda Wogoman. The outing for the month will be a winter hike at Brukner Nature Center. In March, the club meets at the home of Laura Deffet. Mary Desch, Vicki Loll, and Stella Williams will present a program on "Propagating Plants." The outings for the month will be a full moon walk at Aullwood and the Philadelphia Flower Show. For further information, contact Maureen Aukerman at 937-836-6393.

REGION 4

Monroe GC program on February 17 is "A Time to Garden and A Master Gardener's Garden." On March 17, Dick Lawton of Beem's Landscaping will present "Landscape and Water Features."

Meetings are at 7 pm at Monroe City Building.

Mt. Carmel GC February 20 meeting, features Blanche Tallant, on "Drying and Pressing Flowers for Arrangements." Shana Wilson of the Flower Bed in Amelia presents "New Gardening Products," on March 20. Contact Barb McAninch, 513-831-4408.

REGION 5

Rainbow Gardeners GC meetings: January 13, "Rain Chain and Water Gardens (how to conserve and collect water)," by Peg Sparks. January 20, Garden Therapy at Pavilion Nursing Home. February 10, "Invasive Plants in Ohio," Melissa Moser, Department of Natural Resources. March 10, "Shrubs for the Landscape and Gardens," Deb Eadmeyer. March 17, Garden Therapy at Fair Haven Nursing Home.

REGION 6

Attica Community GC meets February 3rd, 7:30 pm. Program is "Care of Violets." The March 3rd meeting at 7:30 pm features "Florigraph" - a road trip to Richard's Greenhouse to make hypertufa planters.

Catawba Island GC, January 27th 12 noon, luncheon at Mon Ami. "This 'N That," all share favorite garden tips. March 24th, 1:00 pm, "It's Just That Easy Being Green."

Weed Wacker GC, February 19th 7:00 pm, "Herbs in a Bottle." March 19, 7:00 pm, "Making a Bird Feeder."

Whispering Meadow GC February 12th, 1:00 pm, "Meet the Succulent Family."

REGION 8

Grow and Show GC meetings: January 28, 6:00 pm, "Butterflies and Hummingbirds;" February 25, 6:30 pm "Worm Casting Compost;" March 25, 6:30 pm, "Herbarium at Muskingum College."

Green Valley GC meetings: February 9, "Making a Gardener's Journal," Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7 pm; March 9, "Herbs & Potpourri," Garden Patch speaker, Tom Vbeloski 7pm.

Granville GC, at the College Town House, Granville, January 15, 1 pm, "Native American Gardens and the Children's Garden project at Circle Mound Park." Jim Kingery, Ohio Historical Society, 1 pm, February 19, Business meeting/brunch, "Book Byte," Suzy Murr, 9:30 am. March 19, 1 pm, "Daffodil Show 101," Joyce Morris (preparing for the Daffodil Show).

Town and County GC, January - Gardening Video; February - "Know

Your Backyard Birds," Speaker Steve Miller of National Audubon Society; March - "Growing & Marketing Pumpkins," speaker George Darr of Darr Farms.

Newark GC meets February 13, 12:00 noon, "Roses and Rose Care," Betty Fargerstrom, Buckeye District Consulting Rosarian. On March 13, 12:00 Noon, "Growing Healthy Plants That Produce Great Vegetables," by Paula McDonald, LCMGV.

Roseville GC, February 12th meeting, 1:00 pm, "Ground Cover - Care of Pachysandra." March 12 meeting, 1:00 pm, "Herbs for Containers."

REGION 9

The **Pickerington GC** will meet Wednesday, February 18, program entitled "Lens and Leaves - Photographing Your Garden" will be presented. "The Art of Pruning" will be the topic of the Wednesday, March 18th meeting. Meetings are held at 1:00 pm at the Pickerington Public Library, 201 Opportunity Way. Guests are always welcomed. For more information and reservations call Libby Stearns at 614-837-4455 or Barbara Kochick at 614-837-3951.

Darby Valley GC, Harrisburg United Methodist Church, January 22, "Pruning Trees and Shrubs," Brandon Barch, owner of Heartwood Nursery. February 26, "Learning to Create Miniature and Small Designs," Ginny Everett. March 26, "Shrubs in the Landscape," Barb Bennett.

REGION 12

Flushing GC will tour Belmont County Museum in January with date and time TBA. In February they will go to the Cleveland Home and Garden Show with date and time TBA. March 16, at home of Martha Groves with Mary Betts as co-hostess, Gina Marinucci will present a book review. Roll call is to name a favorite gardening book and Joyce Butts will exhibit a mass arrangement "Burst of Spring."

REGION 14

Moreland GC, January 13th, Church of the Saviour, "Pressed Flower Cards," a workshop led by Diana Leigh and Rella King. February 10th at Jeanne Durkalski's home, speaker is Laura Deeter, "Residential Landscaping Ideas & Tips." March 10th, at Church of the Saviour, "Mosaic Pots" workshop led by Melody Kirby and Michelle Smith. Contact Neva Rutt, nrutt@oagc.org for information.

2009 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

2008 has been a time when Americans have seen a strain on everything we once considered infallible. The answer to most problems and the one thing that we can still depend on... is EDUCATION. Investments into education are always a safety net, and the spring board to new opportunities. Even in these trying times, the OAGC Foundation is willing to sponsor students for further studies in horticulture, conservation, nature and beautification, landscape design or contracting, commercial florist or the floral arts which are not just "nice", but vital to our country's development. Innovation and education is still the way of the future.

The OAGC Foundation offers three annual scholarships to students who are considering an accredited college or technical school for study in these fields:

Scholarship I: Applications from college freshman only;

Scholarship II: Applications from college students beyond the freshman year;

Scholarship III: Applications from any student attending Ohio State University/Agricultural Technical Institute, Wooster, Ohio.

Further qualifications are: Application must be accompanied by proof of acceptance or enrollment to an Ohio college, a transcript of grades and a letter of recommendation (from someone other than family). Applicant is required to write a two-page letter regarding his/her ambition in the eligible field. Student does not have to be a resident of Ohio, and scholarship will not exceed \$1,000.00, but OAGC requires proof of expenditures toward tuition, fees, books, and/or related materials. Deadline for submitting an application is March 15. No application postmarked after the deadline will be considered. Further information, copies of this article and applications forms may be obtained from: www.oagc.org. / or Janet Evans, 2804 Sherman RD., Portsmouth, OH, 45662 or jevans@oagc.org.

OAGC members, please share this article with anyone who could use a scholarship in horticulture related studies.

Via the Grapevine (continued from Page 12)

Tuslaw GC, January 15th meeting, Lawrence Township Hall, 7:30 pm, "Tea Party and Lecture on Herbs to Grow for Tea and Cooking." February 19th meeting, 7:30 pm, "Flower Arranging –Your Tool Kit and Basic Design" by Helen Horst and Peggy Thorpe. The March 19th meeting features "Wings Over the Meadow," presented by Marvin Smith of Stark Wilderness Center, Botanizers' Club. Contact Helen Horst, hhorst@oagc.org.

Montville GC will have a Valentine luncheon February 19 at Miss Molly's Medina Tea Room. On March 19, they will meet at Joan Bekina's home, 1 pm, for a DVD on "Care of House Plants." Contact Joan Bekina, 330-225-4160.

Briarwood Beach GC meets January 19, 7 pm, Chippewa Lake Methodist Church, "Flowers of the Bible," by Sherri Herbers. The February 16th program will feature "The Making of Candles" with Brian Hewit, 7 pm. On March 16, 7 pm, Roberta Humbel will present "Making Spring Corsages." Contact Sherri Herbers, 330-769-5410.

An increase of birds around your place means fewer insects, fewer weed seeds and more beauty.

* * * * *

When you clean up sunflower hulls from under feeders, add them to your compost pile.

* * * * *

If you had a live Christmas tree, cut the branches off and use the boughs as mulch over young iris or daylilies.

2009 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Jo Ann Graham

The Perennial Plant Association has chosen Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola', golden Japanese forest grass, as the 2009 Perennial Plant of the Year. The grass produces three-eighths inch wide, arching green and yellow striped leaves in a mounding clump. It reaches twelve to eighteen inches in height and makes an eighteen inch wide mound.

'Aureola' is variegated but nearly all yellow with narrow green stripes near the leaf margins. In full sun, the foliage may bleach to a parchment yellow. When grown in partial shade, the yellow tones in the leaves will be most pronounced. In deep shade, the variegation will be lime green.

In autumn the golden foliage becomes infused with shades of pink and red. In mild climates a buff color remains all winter. In Ohio the grass will die back to the ground. It is grown primarily for its beautiful foliage but produces seed heads. Tiny, inconspicuous flower spikes appear in airy clusters from late summer to mid autumn.

Its most fascinating attribute is the cascading growth habit in which most of the leaves arch in the same direction, appearing much like a golden waterfall. This makes the grass perfect for cascading down slopes or walls, draping over rocks, at the front of a shade garden, or even for containers. It is often used in Japanese gardens because it has the appearance of a small bamboo-like plant.

Another favorable characteristic is that although the grass spreads by stolens, it is a slow grower and will not rapidly overtake a garden. It is not necessary to divide the grass for many years.

Hakonechloa is most at home in a shaded woodland environment. It loves rich loamy soil and will not grow in poorly drained soil, heavy clay, or very dry soils. Part to full shade is best as full sun tends to scorch the leaves. In Ohio, mulch with fall leaves to a depth of about two feet and cover the pile with branches to keep the mulch in place. In early spring, remove the leaves and cut back last year's growth to allow room for the new foliage.

This grass has been hard to find, but now that it is Perennial of the Year, it should appear easily on the market.

BIRD TREATS

Winter provides us with opportunities to feed the birds in our backyards now that natural foods are harder to come by. Try making your own bird treats to attract the birds.

Bird Balls

3 1/2 cups oatmeal, 1 quart water, 1 pound lard or suet, 1- 12oz. jar peanut butter, 3 1/2 cups cornmeal, 3 1/2 cups cream of wheat.

Cook oatmeal in water for 2 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in lard or suet and peanut butter until melted. Add cornmeal and cream of wheat. Cool and then shape into balls. Hang the balls in mesh bags, such as an onion bag.

Bird Muffins

1 cup cornmeal, 1 cup flour, 1 cup grated bread crumbs, 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda, 3/4 cup currants or raisins, 1/2 cup bacon drippings, 1/4 teaspoon sand, 1 cup water.

Combine cornmeal, flour, bread crumbs and baking soda in a medium bowl. Add currants or raisins, bacon drippings, sand and water, mix well and spoon into muffin cups. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Serve on a feeder tray or attach to tree branches.

Did you know that birds rely on each other because they find food by sight rather than by smell? The more eyes, the more food found and the safer they are from predators.

THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. ACCREDITED JUDGES**Region 1: Williams, Fulton, Lucas, Defiance, Henry, Wood, Paulding Counties**

Bonnie Eddy	225 Orchard Lane	Napoleon OH	43545-2316	419-599-5795	beddy@oagc.org
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
Pat Tyson	8882 Portage View Rd.	Wayne OH	43466-9718	419-288-2271	grammytys@aol.com

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

Eleanor Long	3644 County Rd #15	Ada OH	4581 0	419-634-1260	elong@oagc.org
Paula Stemen	9834 VanWert-Willshire Rd.	Van Wert OH	45891	419-238-6316	pstemen70@yahoo.com
Brenda Trimboli	P.O. Box 762	Kalida OH	45835	419-532-2767	cakediva@bright.net
Rosa Wollenhaupt	2800 Dutch Hollow Rd.	Elida OH	45807	419-339-2130	rwollenhaupt@oagc.org
Ann Whithaus	1932 Greendale Ave.	Findlay OH	45840	419-423-7875	
Juanita Wilkins (Master Judge)	13664 Kohler Rd.	Wapakoneta OH	45895	419-738-3345	jwilkins@oagc.org

Region 3: Darke, Preble, Montgomery Counties

Louise Bennett	521 Lewisham Ave.	Kettering OH	45429-5942	937-439-9123	lbennett1@fuse.net
Nancy Denlinger	4823 Glenmina Dr.	Kettering OH	45440-2001	937-434-5805	Jmding@aol.com
Marilyn Fies	128 Irongate Dr.	Union OH	45322	937-836-8955	
Barbara Lennen	747 Gardenwood Dr.	Greenville OH	45331	937-548-4483	barbbugone@yahoo.com
Martha Singleman	1393 Highland Dr.	Greenville OH	45331-2726	937-547-0376	msingleman@oagc.org

Region 4: Butler, Hamilton, Clermont, Brown Counties

Nancy Karlen	3050 Clover Rd.	Bethel OH	45106	513-734-7676	nkarlen@roadrunner.com
Edna Neal (summer)	300 Curry Ridge Rd.	Georgetown OH	45121	937-378-6631	reneal2@verizon.net
Naomi Ormes (Master Judge)	5064 Princeton Rd.	Hamilton OH	45011	513-863-4620	bloomcity@aol.com
Susy Spence	125 E. Sharon Rd.	Cincinnati OH	45246-4526	513-772-2936	sspence@oagc.org
Sharon Ware	4252 Waterfront Ct.	Fairfield OH	45014	513-829-6566	ssware@oagc.org
Kathleen L. Zien	PO Box 161	Oxford OH	45046	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	ginbower@yahoo.com
Doris Hager (Master Judge)	3213 Rd. 201	Bellefontaine OH	43311	937-593-0413	mlfarms@embarqmail.com
Marian Moeckel	7725 Walnut Grove Road	Troy OH	45373	937-335-6653	mamoeckel@woh.rr.com
Miriam Shafer	501 Gunntown Rd. Lot 86	Bellefontaine OH	43311	937-593-3111	mirisha@embarqmail.com

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

Peggy Case (Master Judge)	400 US 250 South	New London OH	44851	419-929-6117	pcase@oagc.org
Charlene Margetiak	4891 Tumney Trail	Norwalk OH	44857	419-706-7573	plant_consultant@yahoo.com

Region 7: Wvandt, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Marion, Morrow, Knox, Delaware Counties

Jo Ann Graham	12515 Pleasant Valley Rd.	Mt. Vernon OH	43050-9145	740-397-5156	jgraham@oagc.org
Debbie Hurlbert	35 Crestwood Ct.	Howard OH	43028-9693	740-393-3817	hurlbert7@embarqmail.com
Duane Hurlbert	35 Crestwood Ct.	Howard OH	43028-9693	740-393-3817	hurlbert7@embarqmail.com
Mary Lee Minor	833 Arrowhead Dr.	Bucyrus OH	44820-2502	419-562-6377	mminor@oagc.org
Virginia Sharp	1590 South Main	Mansfield OH	44907	419-756-5172	vsharp@oagc.org
Joy Strine-Sprang	16272 St. Rt. 3	Loudonville OH	44842	419-994-3523	
Pat Wells	2185 Woodville Rd.	Mansfield OH	44903	419-756-6863	wellsie@embarqmail.com

Region 8: Licking, Coshocton, Muskingum, Perry, Morgan, Tuscarawas, Guernsey Counties

Jean Walton (Master Judge)	53 Northpointe Lane	Newark OH	43055-3279	740-344-7424	jwalton@oagc.org
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Region 9: Franklin, Pickaway, Fairfield, Ross, Jackson Counties

Nancy Annis (Master Judge)	7741 Rodebaugh Rd.	Reynoldsburg OH	43068-9728	614-866-5856	nanchuck2@copper.net
Dottie Bates (Master Judge)	PO Box 451	Reynoldsburg OH	43068-0451	614-866-5010	batesjim57@sbcglobal.net
Myrna Cordray (Master Judge)	11560 Thrailkill Rd.	Orient OH	43146	614-877-4984	
Jan Stein	1983 Haverton Dr.	Reynoldsburg OH	43068	614-864-5109	steinj7@nationwide.com

Region 10: Pike, Adams, Scioto, Lawrence Counties

Faye Collins McGinnis (Master Judge)	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	740-372-2039	

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 SR124	Long Bottom OH	45743	740-378-6551	juniper45753@yahoo.com
Suzy Parker-Hysell	PO Box 802	Syracuse OH	45779	740-992-5555	suzyarker@peoplepc.com

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

Marilou Rupert (Master Judge)	78375 Bose Rd	Freeport OH	43973-9316	740-658-3918	cmrup@tusco.net
Donna Turley	71939 St. Clairsville Street	St. Clairsville OH	43950-9680	740-968-3227	

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

Jan Harmon	405 Craggy Creek Dr.	Chippewa Lake OH	44215	330-769-2210	jharmon@oagc.org
Vicky Puster	2398 County Rd. 37	Lakeville OH	44638	330-496-3115	vpuster@cncmetalproducts.com
Anita Roller	2130 Millersburg Rd.	Wooster OH	44691-9460	330-264-6617	aroller@oagc.org

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

Chieko Arikawa (Master Judge)	73 Flax Dr.	London OH	43140-1065	740-852-1257	cuarikawa@gmail.com
Mary Jo Burns	7718 Horizon Hills Dr.	Springboro OH	45066	937-885-5341	
Sandra Erb	1176 Sheep Hill Rd.	New Holland PA	17557		
Mary Everling	2326 Sisken Avenue	Columbus OH	43228	614-486-6210	
Aury Holt	3773 Greenbriar Dr.	Fairborn OH	45324	937-767-1608	
Barbara Lininger	188 East First Street	London OH	43140	740-852-3755	
Betty Weaver	3859 Shagbark Lane	Beavercreek OH	45440	937-426-5378	Bbbweaver@aol.com

OAGC FOUNDATION DONATIONS

Thank you for your continued support of these active OAGC Foundation projects. Donations are to be sent to the OAGC Foundation Treasurer, Jean Walton, address on page 3. Your donations may be combined on ONE check payable to OAGC FOUNDATION, INC., for all the listed funds: OAGC Foundation General Fund; OAGC Foundation Scholarship; Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors; Wahkeena Funds and Beautification and Conservation Fund. * Please enclose a note with the check stating how you wish the monies distributed. If yours is a memorial gift, please provide the name of the next of kin (if known) so we may send them an acknowledgement of your gift.

GENERAL FUND

- Paula Mowery Sharon Ware
Harlem Twp. GC Lima GC
Jan Harmon ...in memory of Bob Fies
Jennifer Clark
Kathleen Cowgill...in memory of Ruth Waller
Nancy Denlinger...in memory of Bob Fies
Vicki Ferguson...in memory of Bob Fies
Marilyn Fies...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Jan Harmon...in memory of Gerald Case and Louise Sheffer
Linda Rehmert...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Bill & Walt Jenne...in memory of Louise Sheffer & Gerald Case
Jacquelyn Lawrence...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Lila Pinney...in memory of Louise Sheffer
The Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc

WAHKEENA – SARAH'S FUND

Jean Walton...in memory of Ann Utts

SCHOLARSHIP

- Oak Harbor Town & Country GC...in memory of Gerald Case
Virginia Sharp...in memory of Gerald Case
Jo Ann Graham...in memory of Gerald Case
Neva Rutt in memory of Gerald Case and Frank and Louise Sheffer
Des Fleurs GC
Robert & Rebecca Komminsk...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Jefferson Hills GC
Marianne Jones & Barbara Nigro...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Jo Ann Graham...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Rainbow Gardeners
R.F.D. Garden Club
Dale & Joan Sheffer...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Audrey Allread & Kendall Cromwell...in memory of Louise Sheffer
Karen Thornhill...in memory of Louise Sheffer

MOHICAN SCHOOL

- Lima GC
R.F.D. Garden Club
Earth, Wind and Flowers GC

PUBLIC BEAUTIFICATION & CONSERVATION

- Lima GC
Nancy Denlinger...in memory of Jim Denlinger

WAHKEENA NATURE PRESERVE

- Lima GC Earth, Wind and Flowers GC
Des Fleurs GC R.F.D. Garden Club
Rainbow Gardeners Four Seasons GC
Elida GC
Here & There GC

- Nancy Denlinger...in memory of Sarah Budnick
Maineville GC...in memory of Jackie Johnston
Jean Walton...in memory of Gerald Case, Opal Earhart, Louise Sheffer

Did you clean your tools last fall before you put them away? Clean and sharpen them now to be prepared for spring!

JUDGES EMERITI

OAGC honors judges who are currently accredited judges but can no longer maintain their status due to age, physical conditions, and/or residency.

When a judge requests recognition from the Board of Directors, through the Executive Committee, the designation of OAGC Judge Emeritus is given to each. With this title recognizing their years of service, judges are listed as OAGC Judge Emeriti and will not judge any flower shows. This is not an automatic process. It is granted only if a judge requests it. The request must be made while the certification is current.

Thank you, Judges Emeriti for your many years of service!

- Bonnie Allan Kate Pond
Marcia Barcroft Elinor Powell
Betty Dean Mary Schumacher
Jean Dickens Kathryn Schwake
Louise Floyd Brooks Sexton
Cristine Hanenkrat Ann Shaffer
Dorothy Howard Evon Souder
Jo Hune Peggy Thorpe
Vera Keeton Dorothy Westfall
Mary Ellen Miller Dorothy Wolfe
Grace Ray Moon

PENNSYLVANIA GRAND TOUR
September 3 – 9, 2009
RESERVATION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ ST _____ Zip _____
Region _____ Club _____
Phone _____
EMail _____
Rooming with _____

Send \$100.00 per person deposit with this form. Make check payable to: OAGC
Balance due: July 15, 2009

Mail reservation form and deposit to:

Babs Sabick
1128 Darlington Drive
Beavercreek OH 45434
Phone: 937-429-0987
Email: bsabick@oagc.org

Purchase of Cancellation Insurance is recommended. If you are interested in purchasing this "peace of mind." add \$80 to your tour price. NOTE: This amount must be included with your initial deposit. A detailed description of coverage will be mailed upon request.

**Ohio Association of Garden Clubs Inc.
5229 Arborfield Ct.
Fort Wayne IN 46835-4636**

Nature and Beautification Club Responsibility

Kathy Martino, Nature and Beautification Chairperson

Have you been appointed as your club Nature and Beautification chairperson? Every job has responsibilities; do you know what you should be doing for your club and community?

1. Promote Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors and Wahkeena Nature Preserve, OAGC state projects, by taking a field trip or having a speaker from these state projects.
2. Promote local projects in beautifying your community.
3. Encourage anti-liter campaigns by working with your schools and civic organizations. Remember, "Every Day is Earth Day," our state president's theme.
4. Plan a field trip to study soil and water conservation, wildflower preservation, bees, or wildlife.
5. Urge club members to study and practice conservation in the home garden by use of mulches, cover crops, erosion control, terracing, food and shelter for the birds, contour planting and careful use of herbicides and pesticides. Share a conservation tip at each meeting.
6. Encourage club membership to do beautification work within the community and enter the state contest. Applications for contest will be found on pages 86 – 92 in your *OAGC Handbook For Garden Clubs* or call your Regional or State Nature and Beautification contact with any questions.
7. Promote attendance to Nature Study Camp, held each June for adults and youth.

Plan a trip to Wahkeena, an American Indian word meaning "most beautiful." The beautiful 150 acre Wahkeena Nature Preserve, is located on the edge of Hocking Hills. A diversity of habitats including deciduous and evergreen forests, ponds and wetlands makes Wahkeena an excellent birding area. Did you know Wahkeena has twenty-six fern varieties and eight native orchids? OAGC members are always welcome any time.

Come visit and see your donations at work. Plan your meeting in the nature center, and Tom Shisler will be happy to give you a talk and nature tour free of charge to OAGC members. Tom has local school children field days during October, November, April and May on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mondays and Tuesdays are available these months or schedule a meeting any other month. You will find Wahkeena's contact information on page 3 of *The Garden Path*. Why not make a full day of nature and shopping in nearby Logan, Ohio?