



Blades and Blooms

Master Gardeners of Clark County

Volume 18 Number 06 June 11

Mark Your Calendar !

July

4	Office Closed Independence Day
6	9-12 Garden Cleanup
7	9-12 Helpline AIB Judges at GLG
8	9 am Fair Flower Show Mtg.
9-12	Ohio Florist Assoc., Columbus
11	9-12 Helpline
13	9 am Fair Entrance clean up 6 pm Social 6:30 pm General Mtg
14	9-12 Helpline 8-2 Tree Survey
15	10 am 4-H Flower Bed Judging
18	9-12 Helpline
19	1-3 GG Jubilee Committee 7 pm Garden Walk
20	9 am Utzinger Clean up 1-3 pm Finance Dine to Donate @ Applebees B&B Deadline
21	9-12 Helpline 8:30 am Fair Flower Show prep 7 pm Garden Walk
22-29	FAIR Flower Show Entries Check in
23	Clark County Fair Flower Show judging
25	9-12 Helpline
28	9-12 Helpline
30	8:30-11 Flower Show clean up

President's Message:

Can you believe it is Fair time already? I hope everyone has made their entries, June 30th is the deadline. The fair entrance really looks great this year! Thanks to Susie and company, they made it look very attractive. The office has fair yard signs you can put in your yard next to the Garden Jubilee yard signs. That will really attract attention!



I hope everyone can come to our Garden Jubilee potluck this year as we will be making a presentation to the Secret Arboretum to help with their tornado damages they suffered last year. We are lining up VIP's from OSU to attend the presentation and potluck. You are such a great group, I want them to meet all of you, and I am sure they will enjoy meeting all of you! And, if you haven't had the opportunity to go up to Secret in Wooster, maybe we can set up a day trip.

Have you seen our new brick paths? Wow! Have you seen our new arbor and the new plantings? Wow! Wow! Thanks to Ron, Phil, Shonil, and Becky for all of their hard work and to everyone else who helped. The new mailbox display in the front of the old children's garden has made that area look sooo much better! Carolyn and Dea you have such great ideas! Things are taking shape!

The October International Master Gardener Conference, to be held this year in West Virginia, has extended their early registration deadline to July 9. We are forming car pools, if anyone is interested in going. It should be a beautiful time of year to see the fall colors.

Looking over our calendar, it looks pretty full and I am sure everyone will have lots of opportunities to complete all of their hours, if not give me a call, I will share some projects.

See you in the garden.
Ruth Ann Rahim

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time." Abraham Lincoln

Pam's Posies



By now we are all in the thick of weeding our gardens, right? At least I am. I have never had such a frustrating season as this when it comes to weeds. I am taking off the last week in June simply to work in the garden and hopefully catch up with the weeds. I am also going to mulch my perennial bed that I have been neglecting because I have been trying to keep up with weeds in the garden. It never ends but I love every minute of it and wouldn't change a thing.

I also truly appreciate having the ability to work with such incredible volunteers. This group of dedicated MGVs always rises to the occasion to help out when needed. I can't stress the importance of keeping the gardens looking good throughout the season. Gone are the days when we could get by with a once-a-month clean up event. We have an incredible resource for the community and I am working really hard to make sure that the money we spent on marketing was well worth it. Jo and I are now working with the Tourism Coalition for Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau to get our rack cards distributed and get our information in the right hands! After all, we have more than 800 live plants for people to enjoy!

Last year in this edition of the Blades and Blooms, I mentioned that I was going to continue for 1 more year as President of the Friends of the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden. It was a surprise to a lot of people, me included! I am nearing the end of my term and very glad that I spent the last 4 years in this position. I have grown, learned a lot, and had my eyes opened to a lot of political goings on! It has been worth the time and effort in this respect.

Now, however, it's time for me to move on and before you hear it in the community or it's announced in the paper, I want to let you know that I am co-chairing the

Levy for the Parks Committee. The Clark County Parks District and the National Trails and Recreation District are joining efforts on this levy aimed to raise money for the green spaces in Clark County - and only the green spaces, no recreation areas. I hope to seek your assistance as an organization to be one of the organizations to endorse this levy. Endorsements from groups like ours will be very important. In addition, I am hoping that I might convince a few of you to help with the levy. I have never been a part of any levy or political campaign and have a lot to learn!

Enjoy summer! It's my favorite time of the year and the hotter the better! I LOVE SUMMER!

Pam

Pamela J. Bennett
State Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator
Extension Educator, Horticulture
Ohio State University Extension



STREET TREE SURVEY

The June survey was canceled but we are still on for the July 14th survey. We will meet either at the OSU Extension office or possibly somewhere in town. As I write this article, I am waiting on the randomization of the streets for the survey. Once I get this, I'll know more about how we are going to attack this beast. How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. This is truly an elephant! I'll send out an email as to where we will meet for the July 14th survey.

Reminder: All fees for recertification, programs, events, etc. that are sponsored by the Master Gardeners of Clark County need to be payable to Master Gardeners of Clark County and mailed to Master Gardeners of Clark County, PO Box 158, Springfield, OH 45501-0158. OSU Extension cannot accept any checks for the Master Gardeners. Thank you.

Carolyn's Corner



Garden Walks

June Garden Walk went very well with 14 attendees brave enough to come after the quick summer storm. The storm knocked out the electric at the office and did not come back on until sometime later in the evening. It was a little challenging for anyone needing to use the bathrooms and for Carlene Grassle to prepare the refreshments, but all went well and everyone enjoyed the evening.

The next Garden Walk will be the 21st of July. Anyone wanting to attend, meet on the patio at 7:00 p.m. The walks consist of pointing out some insect damage and some disease problems along with maintenance issues. Of course there is always time for questions. Come and join us and earn some Advanced Training hours.

Garden Clean-ups

Remember the first Wednesday of the month is clean-up day. July's clean up is July 6. We really need to get general garden clean up finished. We still have mulch to spread and weeds to pull. All able volunteers need to report for duty. When we have a full crew of workers the job becomes a lot smaller and easier. Hope to see you all soon. Garden chairs if you need assistance with a task, let me know and I will place you on the priorities list for clean up day.

Summer Intern

Our summer intern, Tracee Roof had to resign to join her husband in Massachusetts, where he had accepted a position. We started calling others who had shown an interest in the position and were able to hire a new intern. Marcus Clinger is our new intern and will be starting work as soon as Ohio State University Extension approves the hiring. We are hoping this will be soon. We surely need him. So I hope you will all get a chance to make him welcome soon.

He is a graduate of Wittenberg University with a major in religion. I expect he will be an asset to our organization.

AIB (America In Bloom)

The **Judges are Coming** and they will be in the Gateway Learning Gardens on Thursday, July 7 about 5:00 p.m. It is crucial that we have our gardens looking there best. We will show them around the Gardens and point out highlights and our strong features. When this is finished the AIB committee will be entertaining the judges and other dignitaries along with city government officials at a garden reception.

Evidence of Master Gardeners' community involvement will be a reoccurring component as we show the judges around Springfield. The tour will showcase Heritage Preservation, Community Involvement, Floral Displays, Turf Grass, Urban Forestry, Landscaped Areas, and Tidiness, and Environmental Effort.

One of the benefits of participating in this contest is that many community organizations come to together for the betterment of Springfield. It is for this reason that I like to participate.

Last year the Master Gardeners were awarded a Judges' special recognition and it was very gratifying to have someone else recognize your efforts. I hope we can earn this honor for our efforts this year.

If any of you would like to sponsor a Judges are Coming sign, the cost is \$10 and all we ask is that you display it in a prominent place in Springfield, a business or church, or any organization to which you are a member. Come out and lend your support.

Jo's Notes

Congratulations

Jim Hamilton is a grandparent. Mara Layne Hamilton was born on May 19, 2011. Her weight 7lb. and 2oz., height 20 and 3/4". Mark and Julie Hamilton of Enon, are her parents.

Thoughts and Prayers

Debbie Dean, step-mother passed away last month. Her address is: 2711 North Urbana Lisbon Road, South Vienna, OH 45369.

Sally Barber is having a knee replacement in early July. Her address is: 1806 Audubon Park Drive, Springfield, OH 45504.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GATEWAY GARDEN JUBILEE

Final planning meeting for the **2011 Gateway Garden Jubilee** will be held on **Tuesday, July 19 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** at the OSU Extension Office - large conference room. The Garden Jubilee will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. for the general public with two shifts of workers for either 7:30 – 11:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. We will be wearing our blue shirts that we wore last year for the event. Friday night set-up will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck to follow at 6:30 p.m.

Please pick up bookmarks and yard signs in the office to advertise to your friends, neighbors & businesses. Committee chairs are to have names of workers to Janet Heater or Lois O'Keefe by July 6.

Children's activities committee is in need of a small pup tent that they can paint. If anyone has one they could donate, please contact Deb Dean at 605-7402 or Cheryl Walsh @ 308-1187.

If you have any questions, please call either Lois O'Keefe @ 322-6261 or Janet Heater @ 964-5074.

Thank you,
Lois O'Keefe & Janet Heater, Co-Chairs

2011 Gateway Garden Jubilee will be a Zero Waste Event

The 2011 Jubilee will be a **Zero-Waste Event** again this year. Just like last year, we will reduce trash by trying to produce only compostable and recyclable wastes. If it works out as planned, we will sort the wastes into three categories with the help of Cub Scout volunteers:

RECYCLED - plastic bottles, glass bottles, aluminum cans and foil, cardboard, & office paper

COMPOSTED - food, compostable dishes, napkins, coffee grounds, utensils, and paper towels

LANDFILL TRASH – items like Styrofoam cups, non-recyclable plastic, and disposable diapers

In 2009, we diverted 91.5% of our trash! In 2010, we diverted 91.2% of our trash! The trash from the 2010 event fit into one (count it – one!) trash bag!

We've asked for another mini-grant from the Solid Waste Management District and, as soon as we get the go-ahead, compostable items will be purchased - dinner & dessert plates, small bowls, muffin cups, 2 ounce portion cups, wax paper baggies, sheets of compostable wax paper, hot & cold beverage cups, utensils, wooden coffee stirrers, unbleached napkins, unbleached paper towels, and other items.

If your committee needs some of these items, call Anne (390-5600 ext 245 or 845-0836) and let her know approximately how many you need. If you need something that isn't on the list, call Anne.

As your committee plans for the potluck and the Garden Jubilee:

· **Avoid** bringing items to the event that are not compostable or recyclable unless you intend to take them back home with you.

- **Avoid** producing wastes that you know will be thrown away. For example:

- o If you need toothpicks, choose plain wooden ones – they are *compostable*.
- o If you need to cover food, use aluminum foil, compostable wax paper, or paper bags instead of Ziplocs or plastic wrap – aluminum foil is *recyclable* and the wax paper and paper bags are *compostable*.
- o If you need signs for your booth, laminate them for *re-use* next year OR don't laminate them at all - un laminated signs can be *recycled*.
- o Don't give away throw-away items like balloons – they have to be *trashed*.

ALSO, if anyone is willing to volunteer an hour of your time on the day of the event to help monitor the trash stations, it would be – as Tony the Tiger says – GRRREAT! Give Anne a call if you can give some time to this project.

Anne Kaup-Fett
390-5600 ext 245 or 845-0836.



CUTTING GARDEN

The Cutting Garden will probably not provide enough cut flowers for the Grden Jubilee so please look at your yards and see if you have some flowers to donate. If you bring them Fri. evening I will have buckets of water to store them until morning. If you bring them on the day of the Garden Jubilee, that will be terrific too.

We can always use a few more vases if you have any sitting around.

We also need a few more volunteers to help arrange the bouquets. If you'd like to help let me know.

Fran Davidson 937-609-0956 or email steady72@aol.com.

EARLY OHIO SETTLER'S GARDEN

The settlers were finally able to get their crop planted but have some concerns for the carrots and beets. Our gardens were cleaned and planted on May 31st and the Colonel is back in place protecting our plants from the beast above and on the ground. Right now we are keeping the weeds at bay and hoping for the best. We have planted many new varieties of vegetables and even pocket melons. Pocket melons were used in the Victorian times by the women for their fragrance. They were placed in the pockets of their dresses so they would smell sweet. We also planted Stowell's Evergreen corn which can be pulled up when completely ripe and hung upside-down in a cool pantry and the ears would last well into winter. These are just two of the new plants that you will find in our gardens so come and check us out. Our apple trees are leafed and looking good. Jean Rickards

UTZINGER GARDENS

First day of summer, where was our Spring? The beds at Utzinger are beginning to take new shapes. Phil Young was busy this past month, planting blackberries and building a support system for them. Judy Wessel is trialing new gourds from Indiana. Deb Dean has her hummingbird garden underway. I am still trying to convince the anemones to leave the garden for good. We have new additions, several varieties of sedum, 'Incrediball' 'Hydrangea, Echinacea 'Marmalade,' just to name a few. What is old is that there is a slight glitch in the irrigation, so for now, I am handwatering. Hopefully by this month's cleanup, we will be operating on schedule.

On the critter front, we have been lucky to have the Utzinger fox family join our committee. Oops, watch for scat when working in your beds, but know that fewer critters are eating your plants. Deb and I both got to see one of them on the McCormick deck last Wednesday.

Next cleanup date is Wednesday, July 20 9:00 to noon. See you in the garden!
Cindy Schneider

FAIR FLOWER SHOW

We had a Fair Flower Show meeting June 10, 2011 at Polly's home. We are getting things in good order for the Fair. We would like to have an OHIO STATE giveaway, therefore we are asking for OHIO STATE items. Should you have any items you would like to donate, please call Polly (390-2292) or Madge (324-3083). The next meeting will be July 8, 2011, 9 am at Polly Coopers home 1763 Stratford Place. We are reminding everyone this will be the last year Polly and I will be chairing the Fair Flower Show. We will look forward to helping whomever the new Chairperson may be.

Thank You
Madge Morris & Polly Cooper

PERENNIAL PLANT

We're catching up! The Perennial Beds are finally looking like great display gardens! The new arbor looks great thanks to the Arbor Guys, Ron Kurth, Phil Young, Ed Jenkins & Shonil Datta. What a great job! Becky Miller gets the credit for the design of the arbor area plantings. She (and a few good men and women) mixed and matched, color echoed and color contrasted, dug, planted and transplanted and watered, watered, watered!

A couple MGV's have volunteered to make labels...we have a lot of new plants. Our part time Summer Intern, Krista Worley, joined us after her graduation from OSU (yay Krista!!!) and immediately came down with strep throat. So after that bumpy start, she has faithfully been pruning, edging, and mulching. As I am writing this article, pushing the June 20 deadline, we still have a way to go to get to what I like to call the "primping stage" of maintenance, which is deadheading, weed and pest scouting and edge maintenance.

Kathy McConkey and Dot Burkholder

HELPLINE – Rick McKinstry 324.5344

The Helpline has been a little more active this month (June) than last month. Still most questions are pretty much basic, when, where, and how. A few more questions on pests and control. These types of questions are what makes Helpline interesting. We have filled up all of July's volunteer times for Helpline. Thank you. There are still a few slots open for August.

You know you are a Master Gardener when soil test results actually mean something.

Monday

July 7 Bonnie Martens
July 14 Shonil Datta
July 21 Janet Hannel
July 28 Shonil Datta

Thursday

July 11 Lola Walston
July 18 Bonnie Martens
July 25 Lola Walston

Herb of the Month:

Salvia elegans

Common Names: pineapple sage, pineapple scented sage

Family: Lamiaceae/Labiatae (mint Family)



This month's featured herb is *Salvia elegans* known as pineapple sage.

Description: Like salvia the flowers of pineapple sage are tubular with two lips. The plant grows from 3 to 5 feet high and spreads from 2 to 3 feet wide. Soft, fuzzy leaves that are 2 to 4 inches long sport showy ruby red flowers one to two inches long. Blooming mostly in late fall, they attract hummingbirds. The taste of the plant is more like pineapple than sage.

Planting/Growing: *Salvia elegans* is an herbaceous perennial but many growers put it in containers so they can keep it in warmer for colder times of the year. It is quite attractive in the center of beds and as borders. *Salvia elegans* is one of more than 700 species of salvia, also called sages. "Scarlet pineapple" is a commonly available *salvia elegans* and there is also a "Frieda Dixon" cultivar with pink flowers. The plants need full sun.

Cutting and serving: The pineapple flavor of the plant makes the flowers appealing as an edible garnish. The leaves mince nicely for use in salads, cream cheese, or cold drinks.

By: Jon Joyce

"That beautiful season the Summer!
Filled was the air with a dreamy and magical light;
and the landscape
Lay as if new created in all the freshness of childhood."
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Joe-Pye Weed

by Janet Hannel

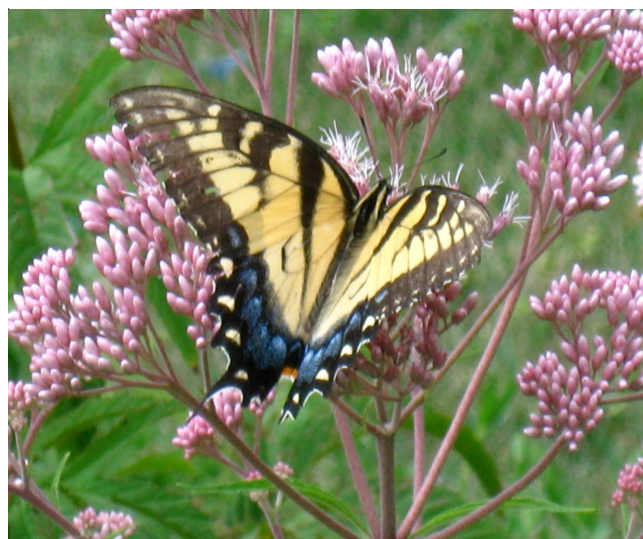
I just loved this photo of an Eastern tiger swallowtail on a Joe-Pye Weed. The photo says it all!

In my native plant garden I have three types of Joe-Pye Weed- spotted (*Eupatorium maculatum*), hollowstemmed

(*Eupatorium fistulosum*) and the common sweetscented (*Eupatorium purpureum*). All are assertive, beautiful and attractive to bees and butterflies! (And the spotted are the only ones I can identify immediately.)

These tall plants, whichever you choose to plant, belong in the back-of-the-border, where they will not need staking. Like most prairie plants, they are slow to emerge in the spring but grow quickly. My first Joe-Pye weeds were plants, not seeds, and they have spread easily- and sometimes too rapidly. I haven't had much success with scattering seeds in new locations.

As with most native prairie plants, patience is a virtue, well rewarded.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

SOLOMON'S SEAL

POLYGONATUM (poe-lig-oh-NAY-tum)

The blooms of Solomon's Seal are not their most striking feature. The tubular, creamy white flowers dangle under the stems and are easy to miss. The arching stems make this plant interesting.



The stems arch outward and slightly down at the tip, and the top half of each is clothed in smooth, medium green, broadly lance-shaped leaves alternating along the sides. In the fall, the entire plant turns yellow and the leaves fall off the stems after several killing frosts.

If you provide shade and relatively cool conditions, you can grow these perennials in just about any soil. They prefer moist, humus-rich soil but they will tolerate even dry, stony soil. Keep them watered well the first few years until they become established. Deadheading is not required as the old flowers simply drop off the plant. The foliage holds up well all season without any pruning.

The plants are slow growing and don't need to be divided. This means you will have to wait several years before the colonies are big enough to dig and divide for propagation. You can dig out offsets from around the edges of mature colonies. Divide the plants in the spring or fall.

Polygonatum odoratum 'Variegatum' is a delicately variegated cultivar and a good performer. The light green leaves are edged in cream and will help light up a dark, shady garden. It has a height of about 18 to 24 inches with a spread of about 1 to 2 feet. Try combining Solomon's Seal with brunnera, ferns, hellebores, hostas and bleeding hearts. Slugs can chew holes in the leaves but the damage usually is not serious. Solomon's Seal is a tough plant and has no particular problems other than a few slimy pests.

Dot Burkholder

Happy Birthday to:

Sydney Axtell	2nd
Ronald Kurth	4th
Nancy Hobbs	6th
Rita Dalton	7th
Billie Pfeifer	11th
Charles Morris	19th
William Edwards	29th
George Simon II	30th



"A something in a summer's Day
As slow her flambeaux burn away
Which solemnizes me.

A something in a summer's noon --
A depth -- an Azure -- a perfume --
Transcending ecstasy.

And still within a summer's night
A something so transporting bright
I clap my hands to see --

Then veil my too inspecting face
Lets such a subtle -- shimmering grace
Flutter too far for me --

The wizard fingers never rest --
The purple brook within the breast
Still chafes it narrow bed --

Still rears the East her amber Flag --
Guides still the sun along the Crag
His Caravan of Red --

So looking on -- the night -- the morn
Conclude the wonder gay --
And I meet, coming thro' the dews
Another summer's Day!"

- Emily Dickinson, A Something in a Summer's Day

Ohio State University Extension
Clark County
4400 Gateway Blvd., Suite 104
Springfield, OH 45502-6330



Garden Clean up!
July 6th
9 a.m. - Noon



The Master Gardener “Blades & Blooms” is a publication of the Clark County Extension Office, 4400 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 104, Springfield, Ohio, 45502, 937-521-3860. The Master Gardener Advisor is Pam Bennett.

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