



Blades and Blooms

Master Gardeners of Clark County
 PO Box 158, Springfield, OH 45501-0158

Volume 18 Number 08 August 11

Mark Your Calendar !

August

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Helpline 9-12 |
| 3 | 9 a.m. Jubilee Garden Clean up |
| 4 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 5 | 3:30 pm Herb Com
5:30 pm GG Jubilee Set up
6:30 pm Pot Luck |
| 6 | 8:30-1:30 pm Gateway Garden Jubilee (Volunteers 7:30-Done) |
| 8 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 10 | 6:30 pm Exec Board |
| 11 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 12 | 9-11 am Tree Survey
9-11 am Fair Flower Show
Wrap up |
| 15 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 18 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 20 | B&B Deadline |
| 22 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 23 | 1-3 GG Jubilee Wrap up |
| 25 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 29 | 9-12 Helpline |
| 31 | 9 am Utzinger Clean up |

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.

President's Message:

The dog days of summer are upon us! I am currently writing this newsletter because our power is out due to a storm and I cannot finish up my fair entry tonight.



Have you ever seen so much wildlife as this year? Raccoons are a real problem for me and my driveway garden. I think the raccoons think I have planted it for them and not that plants are in a holding pattern for an event or until I get time to plant them. They have been really destructive and even resorted to pulling plants up out of my garden. My planters look like I took a rototiller to them. If anyone has had good luck with keeping them away, I would appreciate any tips.

We started the tree survey in Springfield. It has been interesting so far to see what trees are planted and the reaction to our being on the streets doing the measuring. We should never miss the opportunity to educate fellow residents about our activities, who we are, and how we can be reached for further information. It is a real opportunity to spread the word for Master Gardeners.

We have a few busy months ahead of us. Hope to see all of you at the potluck picnic Friday night following set up for the Garden Jubilee. Bring your smiling faces to the Garden Jubilee and remember to ask how they heard about our Garden Jubilee. Listen closely to see what they like or would like to see in the garden. Remind them that they too can become a Master Gardener!

See you at the Jubilee.

Ruth Ann

Pam's Posies

The gardens are incredible and if you don't get out here and take a look, you are going to be missing out! I am so proud of what you have accomplished this year and you should really be pleased as well.



Now comes the hard part - getting the word out and letting people know about this garden. We are doing a better job of this with the help of the rack cards and the brochures. I am really pushing to get our name out there for tours and visitors to come see the gardens. Let me know if you have any thoughts or ideas on how we can get more people to the garden.

One thing is for sure - when people visit the garden they are always amazed that we have this incredible resource. Comments are always positive!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the America in Bloom and Springfield in Full Bloom effort. The tour went well and the judges were impressed. The best part for me was hosting the Thursday night reception. There were several people here who hadn't seen the gardens and they were also very impressed! We will find out in October how we fared.

Have a great summer and keep picking your vegetables!

Pam

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

TREE SURVEY

The monumental task of surveying 20% of the urban trees in the city of Springfield has begun, thanks to a great group of volunteers. At this time, the teams are going out on their own and surveying their assigned streets. If you were not able to make the first meeting to get started and still want to help, please attend the session on August 12 from 9-11 a.m. at the office. I will make sure everyone is paired up (or you can go solo if you want) and get you started on a block of trees. If you didn't attend the first training last year, and still want to participate, don't

worry! We can get you up to speed pretty quickly! Attend the August 12 meeting. If you attended the event last year and received the Scott Zanon tree book and will no longer be working on the tree survey, please return your book so someone else can use it.

We have already learned quite a bit just from going out 1 time! We already know that there is a great lack in diversity of street trees in Springfield. We are also learning some of the streets that we never knew existed! Come and join the fun and you will learn a lot about trees and about the city!

Pam Bennett

Jo's Notes

Thoughts and Prayers

Janet Heater's mother is very ill. Her address is 5116 Willowdale Road, Springfield 45502.

Fred Rufener's mother has been ill. His address is 7018 Southern Vista Drive, Enon 45323.

Dianne Kane has broken her ankle. Her address is 1707 St. Paris Road, Springfield 45504.

Denny Dalton had his right knee replacement July 25. His address is 1034 Acorn Drive, South Charleston 45368.

Ed Jenkins, health issues. His address is 2030 Memorial Drive, Springfield 45505.

Jim Hamilton, health issues. His address is 4348 West Enon Drive, Enon 5323

Hope you get a chuckle out of this!

This about says it all.....



Carolyn's Corner

Recipe for Peach Sangria

1 can of frozen lemonade, thawed

2/3 cup of sugar

5-6 large peaches, sliced

2 ½ cups of green grapes

2 cups of peach flavored juice (nectar)

2 cups of peach and white grape juice

1 liter of sprite

Mix and stir until sugar dissolves. Refrigerate at least 4 hours. Serve over ice

AIB

Thanks to all of you for helping make the judges visit to the gardens an enjoyable experience. After all of your hard work the gardens looked great. The flower arrangements looked lovely and were a great compliment to the tables. Thanks to you for donating the flowers and sharing your creativity.

A big thank you and hug to you all.

Farm Science Review

Looking for volunteers to staff the gardens on Tuesday, September 20; Wednesday, September 21; Thursday, September 22. You would have to be in the garden and answer questions for visitors. You can do a morning or afternoon time slot. Call Cindy Schneider if interested, she will be doing the schedule. Don't wait until the last minute as we open it up to all other counties the beginning of August and they will be calling.

Tickets and parking passes will be provided.

Need Chairs for the following Committees in year 2012

Fair Flower Show

Supervise the show at fairgrounds, get judge, solicit donations of plant material for raffle, get material ready for Fair Book.

Herb Committee

Plan and run committee meetings, write article for newsletter (optional), buy plants for gardens.

Field Trials

Chair operates greenhouse, must be available from January through May.

Schedules workers and supervises them as this is research and everything must be done correctly.

Seeds new varieties, pots up plugs as they come in.

Water daily.

Keeps a close eye on the health of plants.

If you think you would be interested in any of these positions, contact Carolyn Allen or Cindy Schneider. Many of you have great leadership abilities so I hope you give some thought to stepping up to the plate.

Congratulations

The Master Gardeners received many ribbons at the County Fair.

Ron Kurth got Best of Show for his zucchini bread. Congratulations to all.

Below is Charles Morris's lily.



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINAL CALL FOR GATEWAY GARDEN JUBILEE

Cleanup for The Gateway Garden Jubilee will be on **Wednesday, August 3 from 9 – 12** in preparation for the event on **Saturday, August 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Gateway Gardens**. Children's activities are included as well. A brief orientation will begin at 7:30 a.m. Saturday. Please wear your blue Garden Jubilee shirts from last year.

If you have not signed up to work (and would like to) either the early (7:30 to 11:00 a.m.) or late shift (11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) – or both shifts, please contact either Lois O'Keefe at 322-6261 or Janet Heater @ 964-5074 for an assignment.

Set up is at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, August 5. Please park at F.H. Bonn Co. (on pavement only) as vendors will be setting up @ OSU Extension lot. **DO NOT PARK AT OSU EXTENSION**. Please stay for a **potluck dinner to follow at 6:30 p.m.** All Master Gardeners – and families - are invited to attend this fun event. **Bring a dish to share and your own chairs** both Friday and Saturday. **A-H bring appetizers or salad; I-P Main course and R-Z deserts**. If you are bringing something that needs refrigeration, please provide your own cooler & ice.

A special presentation will be made to guests from Secret Arboretum in the large conference room following dinner.

Also bring baked goods for the herb committee bake sale on Friday night. Please list ingredients.

Please bring cut flowers to Fran Davidson (cutting garden) on Saturday morning.

Please **park on the pavement only** on Saturday either at Teikuro next door (few spots) or across the street at Kone Crane. Vendors are asked to park at Kone Crane also. Handicapped/stroller parking will be in front and to the right at the OSU Extension building.

Lois and Janet will carry cell phones with them on Saturday should you need relief or have a problem/emergency. The Red Cross will be on site for first aide. Lois's cell is 937-344-6261 and Janet's is 937-925-1178.

If anyone has a canopy that we can use for the event, please bring with you on Friday night. We may need a couple more. We would encourage you to lock your purse in your car while working.

Wrap-up meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 23 at Lois O'Keefe's, 3392 Rockview Drive, Springfield. She will be serving a light lunch.

If you have any questions, please call either Lois @ 322-6261 or Janet @ 964-5074. Let's have another great event! And watch out for the geocatchers!

Janet Heater and Lois O'Keefe

HERB COMMITTEE JUBILEE BAKE SALE

Please bring your donations for the bake sale to Garden Jubilee set up at 5:30 PM on August 5. We need to know what ingredients you used in your baking, so please include a list. We have biodegradable products to package them (remember Garden Jubilee is a zero waste event).

If you are making muffins or cupcakes, we have pan liners for you to use. Please call Peggie (399-1799) if you need some.

Thanks in advance for your help with this fundraising project!

Natheta Mercer and Peggie Elsnau

PERENNIAL COMMITTEE

Holy Moley it's hot!!! At least as of July 20. I just got back from a Florida vacation and it is truly hotter here! I came home to gardens out of control, but when I got to work I found a well-tended, though heat-stressed garden, thanks to those who came to weed and dead head and to Krista, our summer intern. Really, they look stunning!

The July 21 Garden Walk was well attended, considering a heat index of 111. 10 brave souls attended and they oohed and aaaahed at our gardens. Carlene Grassel did her "hostess with the mostest" magic. Someone told her they came for her desserts and I believe it!!!

Kathy

COMMITTEE REPORTS (cont.):

HELPLINE – Rick McKinstry

It has been an active week for the helpline, about 12 calls each day. There are only 2 openings for September helpline. So if you need easy hours in Air Conditioning call me. 324-5344.

Mosquito: the only insect that makes you like flies better.

Monday	Thursday
Aug 1 Cindy Gootie	Aug 4 Judy Frisby
Aug 8 Lola Walston	Aug 11 Bonnie Martens
Aug 15 Bonnie Martens	Aug 18 Cindy Gootie
Aug 22 Ed Wichael	Aug 25 Joan McLean
Aug 29 Ed Wichael	

UTZINGER GARDENS

I hope that everyone has been careful during this heat and that all of you are looking forward to Fall in the Utzinger Memorial Garden. I am happy to report that irrigation has been restored. It has been a blessing during this extended heat without rain! The garden is beginning to burst into color. For the first time, I am seeing the burning bush start to change. Hope that is not a sign that we may have snow by September! Deb and Ruth Ann both like to tell me horror stories of wearing down jackets during past reviews!

Thanks to those of you who braved the heat on July 20 for clean up. Deb Dean and Rosalind Mader purchased and delivered the glider for the hummingbird garden. Deb, Donna Loney and Rosalind have been busy this past month and their garden is full of color. Special thanks go to Phil Young who has been installing the arbor for the glider. Our guests will have an additional shaded seating area to relax and enjoy the garden.

We have two additional tours this summer. On August 3, Judy Wessel's garden club will be visiting at 9:00 AM. Then, on August 11 at 6:30 PM, we will host an evening tour for Madison County MGV's. Madison County MGV's maintain the garden at the Gwynne cabins. It should be a fun evening to share experiences. If anyone is interested in helping with those tours, please let me know.

The schedule for review will be circulating soon. Dates for this year are September 20, 21, and 22. Send me an email and sign up early. The schedule fills quickly once we invite MGV's statewide. We will be offering Katsura, and Dawn Redwood from Wooster and our locally grown Buckeye trees for sale this year.
Cindy

NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Royal Catchfly (*Silene regia*)

by Janet Hannel

Who is not delighted with the bright red five-petaled flowers of this native beauty! Just last week Jim McCormac posted wonderful photos taken at Bigelow Cemetery, west of Columbus. He calls it "a must have" for anyone remotely interested in hummingbirds and native plants.

If you touch the stem and calyx, you will understand immediately where it gets its name- very sticky. One theory is that by catching insects going up the stem, the plant is guaranteed pollination by hummingbirds. Another, according to McCormac, is that it is slowly evolving into a carnivorous plant!

This beautiful red native is listed as threatened by the Ohio Division of Natural Area and Preserves. The more planted in gardens, the better!

My attached photo was taken in the backyard and in shadier circumstances than might be recommended. But the three-year-old plants are four feet tall and loaded with flowers. They are supported, however, or they would be flopping over.

I will save my seeds- and share. One commentator said he just planted the seeds in March in pots, left them outside, and they sprouted. Is life really that simple??



Herb of the Month:

Monarda

*Speak not, whisper not
Here bloweth thyme and bergamot
Softly on thee every hour
Secret herbs their spices shower.*

Walter De La Mare,
The Sunken Garden

Monarda is a native American herb named after Spanish physician and botanist N. Monardez (1493-1588.)

“Bee balm,” that’s what I called it in my early gardening years before I got “learn-ed” at our OSU Extension. I was unaware of the other names by which this plant, of the mint family, is known. There are 12 species, most native to North America. Presented here are the best known:

Monarda didyma—Oswego tea, bee balm

Used in its native form by our indigenous people Early American settlers, particularly the Shakers in upstate New York, made tea from its leaves. It’s a hardy perennial, prefers part to full shade in a moist, well-drained soil rich in organic matter. A wildflower, it will invite hummingbirds and sphinx moths to your gardens.

Monarda fistulosa—wild bergamot, horsemint, and beebalm found in dry, open woodlands and wood margins

Monarda xmedia—hybrid beebalm It represents a large portion of the monardas available in garden centers. It is a hybrid complex of *M. clinododia*, *M. didyma*, and *M. fistulosa*.

There are plenty of resources if you want to make an in-depth study of beebalm, but if you are in a hurry to get out into your garden to cut flowers before they fade, here are some quick facts:

Other names: bee balm, Oswego tea, bergamot, horsemint, Indian plume

Hardiness: Zones 3-8

Grow in sun, part sun, or shade

It likes moist rich soil but well drained...grows 2-4 ft.

To help prevent powdery mildew, thin stems in spring, plant in the sun

Some newer cultivars are mildew resistant

It flowers in early summer (mine about July 4th)

Fresh bergamot leaves and flowers can be minced and mixed with water for freezing into ice cubes

The leaves (fresh or dried) can be used to make a minty citrus-scented tea or add to your hot bath water...ahhhhh.

It’s a nectar source for butterflies and of course bees LOVE it.

It was named the Herb of the Year 1996 and you can see it in our own “Herb of the Year” Garden.

Submitted by:

Dea Rucker

References:

Herb Gardening for the Midwest Debra Knapke, Laura Peters

The Encyclopedia of Herbs, A Comprehensive Reference to Herbs of Flavor and Fragrance Arthur O. Tucker and Thomas DeBaggio

Herbs and Herb Lore of Colonial America Colonial Dames of America

The Herb Society of America Encyclopedia of Herbs and Their Uses Deni Bown



"August rushes by like desert rainfall,
A flood of frenzied upheaval,
Expected,
But still catching me unprepared.
Like a matchflame
Bursting on the scene,
Heat and haze of crimson sunsets.
Like a dream
Of moon and dark barely recalled,
A moment,
Shadows caught in a blink.
Like a quick kiss;
One wishes for more
But it suddenly turns to leave,
Dragging summer away."
- Elizabeth Maua Taylor

PLANT OF THE MONTH

SEDUM (SEE-dum)

Sedum, stonecrop

Tall ones, small ones, the genus Sedum contains hundreds of species including groundcovers to the tall upright plants. This month I'll focus on the taller varieties. These sedums bloom in late summer and fall. Some people call these sedums 'border stonecrops' to distinguish them from the dwarf species. These sedums share a number of traits including thick stems, fairly large leaves, and late season blooms.

The fall blooming sedums can tolerate rainy climates and partly shaded spots and they will thrive in well-drained soil and full sun. The taller ones tend to flop if they don't get

full sun and good drainage. If sun is lacking, some plants grow taller than they should which can result in weaker stems.



'Autumn Joy' is a well known variety of sedum. This variety has a chameleon-like ability to change flower color. The flowers first appear with a greenish-white color, then changes to pink, and as time goes by will change to burgundy and then to dark brown as the flowers dry and die. I like to cut back my plants in late June or July. This keeps the stems from getting too tall and flopping over. I have a rather large group of sedums in front of a lattice-type wall. Sometimes I'll cut back the ones in front and leave the ones in back alone. This gives a layered effect. In some areas I cut back really hard to help slow the bloom time. Some people pinch their plants instead of cutting back because they think the plants look too rough when cut back. You won't need to deadhead as the spent flowers look good coated with frost and snow. I'm wondering if these flowerheads could be spray painted for winter floral arrangements. Think I'll try this in December when I'm spray painting other natural dried plants.

There are other varieties of the taller sedums. In the perennial display beds, we have a variety called 'Neon'. Walking around in the perennial section you can easily pick out these plants. The color is a bright pink 'neon' color. You can also see 'Black Jack' sedum in the perennial section. You won't be running out to get this one; it looks like it has a disease. The leaves are rather ugly. To my knowledge, no one including Pam or anyone at O.S.U. has figured out what's wrong with this plant. It's used as a teaching tool. If you like purple sedums you might try 'Purple Emperor' or 'Matrona'. 'Autumn Fire' is a newer variety standing about 24 inches tall with pink to bronze flowers and is very similar to 'Autumn Joy'.

Sedums won't need to be divided for many years. Division is best done in the spring and you can also take stem cuttings in the summer. Sedums are generally free of insect and disease problems.

Dot Burkholder

Happy Birthday to:

Linda Asebrook	1st
Denny Dalton	1st
Cindy Catanzaro	3rd
Larry Pfeifer	9th
Daina Sirons	10th
John Massie, Jr.	11th
Jon Vanderglas	25th
Rita Young	26th
Susan Newell	29th
Donna Loney	30th



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Gateway Garden Jubilee!!! August 6, 2011



Garden Jubilee Set Up & Potluck

August 5, 2011
5:30 p.m. Set Up
6:30 p.m. Potluck



Jubilee Garden Clean up!

August 3, 2011
9am - 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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