



# Digging It!



All the Dirt from the Allen County Master Gardeners

NOVEMBER 2022

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## *Notes from Joanne*

~ Allen County Master Gardener Volunteers ~

November, already?! As we come to the end of our Children's Garden season, I just want to make sure to thank everyone for all that you have contributed to keeping the garden looking beautiful this year. Without your help, we would not be able to continue. Thank You!

I hope to see everyone at our end of the year banquet on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Be sure to RSVP to Sandy Kennedy at 419-733-6334. She would like a head count before the banquet.

We are going to start preparing for the Christmas Tree Festival. You will soon see an email to sign up for volunteer work times on December 2, 3, and 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have a supply drop off day on Monday afternoon, November 28<sup>th</sup> to take in all your donations. Crafting days will be November 29, 30, and December 1<sup>st</sup>. More details with times will come in the email. Remember some of the things we would like as donations are fresh cut trimmed greens, pinecones, Christmas picks, decorations that can be used in arrangements, ribbon, Christmas mugs, baskets, Oasis (the wet Styrofoam), small potted house plants, and any other items that can be sold. This will be one of our major fundraisers this year and we appreciate anything you can donate. If you cannot drop off your items on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, please drop them off in the shed anytime before the 28<sup>th</sup> and we will bring them over to the museum.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and I hope to see everyone soon.

Thank you! **Joanne Rex**



## *Tidbits from Teresa*

Mum is the word for November. Chrysanthemums are members of the daisy clan with over 200 species. One member is the source of the insecticide pyrethrum, another is eaten in the Orient in salads. The genus is Greek for "golden flower." Mums like a good well drained soil and full sun. Most have shallow roots, (so they need even moisture) are late-blooming, short day plants with the flowers being initiated by shorter day lengths. They benefit from pinching which promotes bushy growth and more flowers. Pinch back in May, June and

July to accomplish this. Mums should be spaced 1-2 feet apart, like frequent watering and fertilization and winter mulch. Divide garden mums and Shasta daisies every 2 years. Feverfew and oxeye self sow.

Garden mums (*Chrysanthemum x morifolium*) can be in many forms: pompom, spider, football, cushion, daisy, spoon and many various varieties of these forms. Blue is the only color not available. You can sow their seeds in early spring and expect flowers by October. Rooted cuttings set out in spring will allow them time to get established. These plants are successful in becoming long lasting perennials. It's hard to find these plants in the spring as growers concentrate in selling fall potted mums. (Now you need to buy more every fall!). Fall potted specimens are iffy on surviving the winter unless they are very well protected.

Another chrysanthemum is the painted daisy. They must be cut back to the ground after blooming for a second crop of flowers. The Shasta daisy, *C. superbum*, (I love the name!) blooms from summer into fall. Feverfew, *C. parthenium*, is an old medicinal herb supposed to reduce fever and cure headaches. Costmary, *C. balsamita* is considered an herb with a mint scent when fresh and the smell of balsam when the leaves are dried. Dusty miller, a term applied to several different plants, *C. cinerariaefolium* is also a mum. Don't know if the dusty miller in the Childrens Garden is the "mum dusty miller" but it does come back like a perennial if it is somewhat protected.

Occasionally chrysanthemums have issues: Fungi: wilt, powdery mildew, leaf spot Bacteria: blight Virus: mosaic Insects: leaf beetles, leafhopper, lace bug, mites & nematodes. Generally they do well once they are established in a suitable spot.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the fall banquet, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Come and enjoy the fellowship of your fellow Master Gardener Volunteers, and the food is delicious too!

Teresa Diehl

**Teresa Diehl**

**November 2022**



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## **November Notes from Sandy B -**

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Another outdoor gardening season has (mostly) come to an end. Time to reflect on this years' accomplishments at our annual banquet:

Saturday, November 12th at 6:30. Bath Township House, 2880 Ada Road. Bring a covered dish or salad. Guests are welcome. RSVP to Sandy Kennedy by Nov. 5th (419) 733-6334.

Hope to see everyone there!

I just wanted to make a brief note about our October meeting: The weather was about the worst we've had since April! Amanda Wischmeyer did a FANTASTIC job of keeping 16 hearty souls warm with shelter, heat, warm cider and kettle corn! Then she proceeded to educate us about garlic of all types and how to plant and harvest it. She couldn't have been more gracious! In addition, she sent us home with a garlic bulb for us to plant or use. She has invited us to come back next season to see her farm, complete with goats, chickens, and several equines.

I am so grateful to the hosts of our meetings this year! Incidentally, the meeting at Kaufman lettuce farm was about the HOTTEST day of the year!

Happy Thanksgiving --

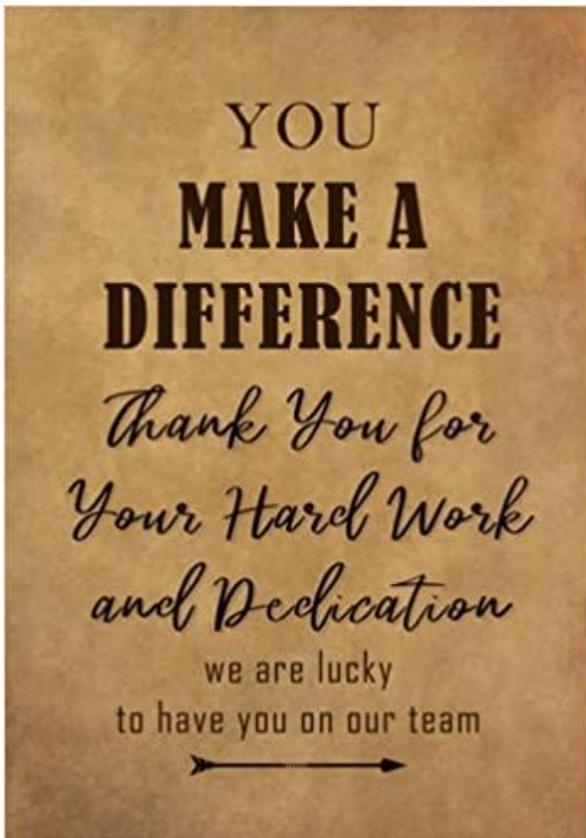
*Sandy Bindel*



### *Greetings from Gretchen*

#### **THANKFUL FOR YOU**

Thank you for your continued energy, time and talents! I hope that you found joy and satisfaction in your volunteering. I hope that you learned some new things, met some new people and found pride in your contributions to our organization and our community! We are so grateful for each of you and the unique and special gifts you bring to our team and are truly blessed to have you! May your Thanksgiving be filled with happiness!



#### **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

We are excited to be partners in the Christmas Tree Festival this year! This is a new and different way for us to fund raise for our programs and to support the community. Win/Win!

As you are preparing for the holiday, please go through your own stash of items and tour your garden (and your friend's gardens, etc.) for suitable items to use to create our "Gifts". Here are some items that are needed:

Small to medium baskets, Christmas tins, coffee mugs suitable for holiday vases, pine cones of all sizes (freeze in baggies or heat in a low oven to kill off bugs), ++++++mixed evergreen clippings (trimmed into medium size pieces so that we can minimize the mess of dead branches and needles), any items you use in your own home for fresh arrangements, rose hips, ivy, ribbon, etc. We had good success with small pots of succulents and small houseplants in pots.

As members of the Festival Committee, we will also profit from the sales in other areas of the festival. The Little Children's Shoppe is an area where small children can do their own "Christmas shopping" for their parents and loved ones. The group that runs that booth relies heavily on donations of "new or gently used" gift items similar to what you would approve of your child or grandchild picking up at a garage sale or flea market for a dollar. They are always looking for small gifts (small enough to fit in a lunch sack) and particularly look for items for dads and grandpas such as sports logoed items, small hand tools, fishing lures, like new wallets, money clips, gloves, etc. Please no ties, books or CD's. If you'd like to cull through some of the small unused items from your home that fit the bill, those would be welcomed.

#### **VOLUNTEER BANQUET**

Please RSVP this week for the Volunteer Banquet! Sandy Kennedy has been working hard to provide another lovely evening for us to socialize and enjoy!

*Gretchen Staley, President*



## *Happenings from Kay*

### **CLAUDE MONET'S GARDEN AT GIVERNY**

Above is the answer to last month's quiz. If you have an interest in art and gardens, you would have known the "green bridge" hint. I was fortunate to be able to visit Giverny and see this beautiful garden and learn more about Claude Monet, the world's most famous impressionist painter.

Monet started the garden in 1883 and lived there until his death in 1926. After his death the house and grounds were neglected and received heavy damage from the bombings in WW2. In the late 1960's his son made "Art Academy in Charge" and the full restoration started, mostly funded by donations from the USA. Almost ten years were necessary to restore the garden and the house to their former magnificence. Not much was left. The greenhouse panes and windows in the house were reduced to shards after the bombings. The pond had to be dug again, soil was removed to find the original ground level. Then the same flower species as those discovered by Monet in his time were planted. The garden opened to the public in September of 1980.

*Claude Monet did not like organized nor constrained gardens. He married flowers according to their colors and left them grow rather freely.*

To learn more, there are numerous sites on the web and YouTube videos of the garden, just google Claude Monet's garden.

Below is a photo of the famous water lilies and the green bridge in the background.



**You are Invited!**

**Allen County Master Gardener  
Volunteer Recognition Banquet**

**Saturday, November 12th at 6:30 p.m.**

Bath Township House, 2880 Ada Rd., Lima, OH

Please bring a covered dish, salad or dessert to share.



Main course, beverage and table service will be provided.

**Guests welcome!**

Please RSVP by November 5 to:

Sandy Kennedy 419-733-6334

or by emailing : [tkennedy@watchtv.net](mailto:tkennedy@watchtv.net)

If you'd like to volunteer to help set up the event, please contact Sandy at the contact information above.