



# The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

April 2021

Visit us on the web at [www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org](http://www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org).

Vol.89 No. 4

## President's Letter

Dear Members,

*Happy Spring!*

It's wonderful to see our landscape green-up. Shrubs and trees, and spring bulbs are coming out, and because of the warm March weather this year, they seemed to be a little earlier!

We are in the process of a different type of plant sale. Members can purchase bedding plants grown by the Greenhouse Management & Production students at Ohio State ATI in Wooster. You should all have received information from Dave Dawson including an order form. If you have ANY questions, please contact Dave Dawson or Bob McMahon.

Just a reminder about dues. Our membership dues this year only are \$10.00, so if you haven't sent it in your renewal check, please do so as soon as possible. Our Treasurer sent out notices via email and regular mail early this year.

I was able to visit CBG's Orchids Forever displays last Saturday. Such gorgeous flowers that take many forms. I posted many photos on the Club's [Facebook page](#).

We are looking for Board members and officers to fill important positions. If you would like to participate and have more of a voice in the Club, please contact me or Dave Dawson.

*Gonny Prell*





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## May 12th Speaker and Program (Virtual Program at 7:30PM)

Our May speaker is Dr. Uttara Samarakoon. She is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator for Greenhouse and Nursery Management Program, at Ohio State University Agriculture Technical Institute (ATI).

Dr. Samarakoon provides leadership as the Coordinator of the Associate of Applied Science Degree in the Greenhouse and Nursery Management program that includes Greenhouse Management, and Greenhouse Engineering Technology specializations. Dr. Samarakoon teaches greenhouse production courses of annuals and vegetables, plant propagation, and greenhouse environment control.

Dr. Samarakoon's research program focuses on developing sustainable crop production technology for ornamental and hydroponic vegetable crops in controlled environment agriculture.

Dr. Samarakoon received her Ph.D. degree in Plant Science from the Institute of Agriculture and Environment from the Massey University in New Zealand and her Master's degree in Crop Science from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

For her presentation, Dr. Samarakoon will define hydroponics, where and how hydroponic crops are produced, and if you have hydroponic produce as part of your diet. She will summarize the contributions and opportunities of hydroponic food crop production in the U.S. Also, hydroponic food production systems at Ohio State ATI will be discussed regarding teaching and research. More photos on Page 3.





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## A Pollinator Garden Opportunity

The Orange Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library has a pollinator garden installed by volunteers in 2018. The garden is about 1800 sq. ft. and holds at least 25 native plant species. Among others you can find ironweed, cone flowers and bee balm (Monarda). Unfortunately, you can also find weeds.

So, here is an opportunity for members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland - Help out with some gardening basics like weeding and the volunteers will pass their pollinator gardening knowledge on to you. This is an ideal opportunity for master gardeners to earn community service credit.

Two members of the GOGC who are already involved are Julie Shaw and Tom Davis. They will be working in the garden regularly on Monday mornings from 9 – 10 AM (weather permitting). There will be other crews there on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Please contact the Pollinator Garden signup at [orgfriends@gmail.com](mailto:orgfriends@gmail.com) They will send you information on when crews will be in the garden. Once you're signed up, you can bring your favorite weeding tool, a kneeler and a basket and join one of the teams in the garden in back of the building. You are welcome to visit the garden anytime to see the plantings and the pollinators that frequent them.

The Orange Branch Library

31975 Chagrin Boulevard

Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124

(this is across from Orange High School)

Phone 216.831.4282

*Speaking of Tom Davis, he sent in a recent photo of the blooms on his Japanese hybrid witch hazel.*





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## STANDING COMMITTEES

- Awards: Hank Doll, Chair; Tom Davis
- Communication: Jonny Prell, Chair (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media); Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold, (Publicity)
- Finance: Chuck Palsa, Chair; Hiedi Winston, Andy Kosiorek
- Income Projects: Bob McMahon, Dave Dawson, Julie Henry (Plant Sale); Pat Boggins (Bulb Sale); Dave Dawson, Julie Henry (Auction / Raffle)
- Membership: Lou Pelton, Co-Chair; Dave Rittenhouse, Co-Chair; Larry Kell, Chuck Palsa,
- Programs: Robert McMahon, Chair; Kathy Kosirek, Cynthia Andersen, Scholarship: Hank Doll, Chair; Deb Kramarz, Dave Dawson
- Service Projects: Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National & Regional Organizations: Larry Kell, First Vice President; Tom Davis, National Director
- Central Great Lakes Gardeners: Larry Kell, President
- Willott Iris Garden: Sandra and Robert Pindell, Ron Hartmiller
- Friends of the Greenhouse: Joyce Nesbit
- 1 Bratenahl Place & Bratenahl Place Bistro: Tom Segelin
- Horticultural Show: Tom Davis, Julie Henry
- Nominating: Dave Dawson, Chair; Deb Kramarz
- Wellness/Memorials: Team Captains

## MEETING INFORMATION:

**WHEN:** 2nd Monday of each month,  
September through June  
*Suspended*

**WHERE:** 1 Bratenahl Place  
Bratenahl, Ohio

**SCHEDULE:** 6PM - Social  
6:40 - Dinner  
7:30 - General Meeting  
8 to 9PM - Program



## OFFICERS:

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	JONNY PRELL
<b>1ST VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	CHUCK PALSA
<b>2ND VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	ROBERT MCMAHON
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	JODITH JANES (TEMP)
<b>TREASURER:</b>	HIEDI WINSTON
<b>ASST TREASURER:</b>	ANDY KOSIOREK

## DIRECTORS:

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • JOYCE NESBIT 2021-2023            | • DAVE RITTENHOUSE 2020-2022 |
| • CYNTHIA ANDERSEN 2021-2023        | • JULIE HENRY 2019-2021      |
| • STEVE MCINTOSH 2021-2023          | • LAWRENCE KELL 2020- 2021   |
| • PHYLLIS DONNELLY-INGOLD 2020-2022 | • GARRETT ORMISTON 2019-2021 |
|                                     | • OPEN                       |



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**If you have questions or problems with your garden, plants in your garden and need advice, our Club has many members who have the background and knowledge to help you.**

- Keith Biehl: Gardener by profession
- Pat Boggins: Log planters, wooden bird feeders
- Diane Circle: Hostas
- Tom Davis: Native plants
- Hank Doll: Dahlia growing
- Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold: Orchids
- Lou Drasler: Cannas and environmental issues
- Ron Hartmiller: Weeds, grasses
- Herb Klein: Unusual plants and perennials
- Deb Kramarz: Master Rain Gardener
- Andy Kosiorek: Above-ground sprinkler systems
- Kathy Kosiorek: Veggies and container gardening
- Robert McMahon: Insectivorous plant culture and balcony/patio container gardening, and houseplant care.
- Garret Ormiston: Native plants, azaleas and roses
- Chuck Palsa: “knows a little about everything”
- Lou Pelton: Vines and clematis
- Bob Pindell: Iris propagation
- Sandra Pindell: Iris care
- Fred Robinson: Care and knowledge of trees
- Deva Simon: Perennials
- Deah Stark: Perennials
- Hiedi Winston: Vegetable gardening

The purpose of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland is to educate and provide members with information related to all types of gardening - whether their own personal gardens or community projects - through our monthly meetings, Club activities, or our newsletter *The Spade* and our website, [www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org](http://www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org).

We promote horticulture in our community by installing and caring for gardens at various community services facilities such as the VA Hospital, Joseph’s Home for Disadvantaged Men, and Malachi House among others.

We hold two sales per year at Rockefeller Greenhouse. In May, we have the plant sale. This is a major source of funds for our scholarship program. It is also a great time to meet gardeners, answer questions and recruit new members. In the fall, we also have a bulb sale.

Membership is open to residents of the Greater Cleveland Area including Lorain, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Mahoning counties.

To join, please contact **Dave Rittenhouse** our Membership Co-Chairman at [dwrittenhouse@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dwrittenhouse@sbcglobal.net).



*Malachi House Community Streetscape*