



The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

June 2024

Visit us on the web at www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org.

Vol. 93 No. 6



Monday, June 10th, Dinner Menu:

Dinner served buffet style includes: Country fried chicken, mac & cheese, buttered peas & onions. Coffee and cookies will be served in the Penthouse afterwards.

What's inside:

- May Program Summary, by Carol Poh
- New Member Profile, Susan Post
- Photos from 2023 National Convention
- VA May Planting Summary
- 2024 May Plant Sale
- Club Convention News, Updates & Reminders
- Updated Team Captains List (Rev 05/01/2024)



The official date for the start of summer is just around the corner! I would imagine most of us have begun steadily tending to our gardens by this point. I hope the weeds haven't been too bad and that your plants are producing the fruits or flowers you waited all winter to see.

One of the most important things we do as a club is provide scholarships to area students interested in a variety of fields including horticulture and environmental science. I encourage all of you to attend June's meeting as we will be awarding this year's recipients and wishing them well on their future endeavors. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Ed Tuhela, Deb Kramarz, and everyone else who helped out with the scholarships this year.

I would also like to give a very special thank you to Debbie Daniels, Bob McMahan, and everyone else that helped out with this year's plant sale. We nearly sold out of plants and had a very enjoyable time doing it. Friends of Rockefeller Greenhouse are always fantastic hosts and we can't wait to be back next year. If you weren't able to help out with the plant sale this year, hopefully you can make it happen in 2025.

Now that gardening season is in full effect, please remember we have a variety of volunteer opportunities for members including the Willott Iris Garden, The V.A. Hospital Garden, Lantern Court, and Trinity Cathedral Urban Garden. I hope all members who are able can donate a bit of their time this summer. Have a great June, everyone!

Best Regards,

Steve McIntosh



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Landscaping with Woody Plants

by Carol Poh

“Landscaping with Woody Plants” was the subject of a talk by Tom Davis at the May 13 meeting of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland. Tom, who joined the club in 2004, has served as its director and president, and is currently serving as its national TGOA director.

Trees form what Tom called the “backbone” of his two-acre property in Moreland Hills, where he has resided for twenty years, and represent a lifelong interest. Tom earned a Forestry merit badge as a Boy Scout and has been a gardener “for as long as I can remember.” In lieu of a lawn, 44 species of trees create an inviting habitat for wildlife including, he noted, the Eastern newt. (Ever taller fences have helped to preclude browsing deer.)

Tom recommended several essential resources for home gardeners, beginning with the United States Department of Agriculture’s plant database and range maps. For those with an interest in trees, he recommends David Allen Sibley’s *The Sibley Guide to Trees*. And he generously encouraged fellow members to reach out to him directly at tsdavis62@gmail.com with any questions.

Noting that there are many more species of trees in North America than in Europe, Tom cautioned against “volcano mulching”—the all-too-common practice, even among landscape professionals, of piling mulch against the trunks of trees. Strive, instead, for a “donut” by confining mulch to a ring away from base of the tree.

Some of Tom’s favorite small trees, ranging from a mature height of 15 to 30 feet, include:

- Bottlebrush Buckeye, the smallest native Buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*)
- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Yellow Bird Magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*)
- Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*)

He also singled out several woody plants for commendation:

- Oak Leaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*), he said, attracts pollinators. St. John’s Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) is “beloved by bees.” And Trumpet Creeper Vine (*Campsis radicans*) is a favorite of hummingbirds, but it is aggressive and must be controlled by hard pruning in late fall.



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New Member Profile - Susan Post by Julie Shaw

Please welcome our intrepid new member, Susan Post, who met Ron Hartmiller at the Willott Iris Garden, one garden on her list of 11, provided by her gardening daughter. With Ron's invitation to join our club, she also left with fourteen irises in tow. Susan now has her own corner iris garden at her home in Shaker Heights.

Just days after our May meeting, Susan navigated her way (with some scenic mis-turns) to Meadow City Nursery in Collinwood, meeting another fellow club member, Dave Tomashefsky. Susan left with a much lighter wallet, but with 3 special plants (among others), which she could not find elsewhere.

Susan moved to our area this past October from Sarasota FL, where she and her husband owned a yarn and craft shop for 14 years. Originally from Youngstown, Susan has family nearby in Shaker and Hudson. She is busy with family, volunteer work at "[Cleveland Sews](#)", and gardening. And, exploring. She still has her list of gardens in the area to discover . . .

Susan is most appreciative of Ron's introduction, the many club members she has already met, and the presentation at the May meeting at which she felt extremely welcome.

Thanks for the memories... 2023 National Convention, Dayton





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VA Garden May Planting Summary

On Tuesday, May 14, the courtyard gardens were planted at the Cleveland VA Hospital Spinal Cord Unit gardens. GoGC members Tom Davis, Dave Dawson, Tim Homan, Larry Kell and Bob McMahon were present, along with VA Hospital employees Alexandria and Willy. Bob, Desiree, Don, and Rapheal were the veterans who also helped with the planting of the vegetable and herb plants and colorful flowers.

Bob and Larry purchased the plants from the Lakewood Garden Center on May 13, using a list of plants provided by the veterans. The vegetables and herbs are used by the kitchen to prepare meals for the veterans, and the flowers add color and beauty to the courtyard. Lakewood Garden Center owner and GoGC member, Paul Bilyk, gave a substantial discount on the purchase in support of this noteworthy project and the club thanks him for his generosity! The Club also thanks the Euclid Veterans for their generous financial support of this annual project.

Tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and bush bean seeds were planted in the four large raised beds. Regarding the containers in the courtyard, an assortment of herbs, onions and leeks were planted along with an assortment of flowers that included geraniums, dianthus, cosmos, zinnias, sunpatiens, snapdragons and salvia.

Approximately every three weeks through the growing season, Bob and Larry will be visiting the courtyard gardens to meet with staff and veterans to answer questions and see how the gardens are progressing. If any club members want to join us on these visits, please let Bob or Larry know. The veterans will tend the gardens by watering, deadheading spent flowers and harvested vegetables and herbs. During the planting on May 14, the veterans expressed their deep gratitude to the club and how much they enjoy the produce and flowers.





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May Plant Sale Photos



GoGC Club News, Updates and Reminders

- **June 10th Meeting is our Scholarship Awards. Scholarship winners were announced in *The Spade* for May.**
- ***Details about our National convention held in Wooster, Ohio on September 12th, 13th and 14th will be included in The May-June edition of The Gazette.***
- **Volunteers are needed regularly at the Willott Iris Garden, Lantern Court, VA Spinal Chord Unit raised garden beds and Trinity Cathedral Urban Garden.**



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MEETING INFORMATION:

- WHEN:** 2nd Monday of each month, September through June
- WHERE:** 1 Bratenahl Place
Bratenahl, Ohio
- SCHEDULE:** 5:30 PM - Social
6:15 PM - Dinner
7:15 PM - General Meeting
7:30 PM - Program



OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT:** STEVE MCINTOSH
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** DEBBIE DANIELS
- SECRETARY:** MELISSA SUPLER
- TREASURER:** HIEDI WINSTON
- ASST TREASURER:** LARRY KELL
- PAST PRESIDENT:** ROBERT MCMAHON

Current DIRECTORS:

- ROBERT MCMAHON
ED TUHELA
FRED ROBINSON
GARRET ORMISTON
LARRY KELL
JONNY PRELL

CURRENT STANDING COMMITTEES

- *Awards:* Jonny Prell, Larry Kell, Tom Segelin
- *Communication:* Jonny Prell, Chair; Steve McIntosh (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media);
- *Finance:* Larry Kell Chair; Hiedi Winston
- *Income Projects:* Debbie Daniels, Chair; Bob McMahon, Melissa Supler
- *Membership:* Jonny Prell, Larry Kell, Co-Chairs; Julie Shaw
- *Programs:* Robert McMahon, Chair
- *Scholarship:* Ed Tuhela, Chair; Fred Robinson, Deb Kramarz,
- *Service Projects:* Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

CURRENT SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National Organization: Larry Kell, President; Tom Davis, National Director;
- Youth Gardening: Steve McIntosh, Chair; Larry Kell
- 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: Open
- Nominating: Bob McMahon, Chair; Debbie Daniels, Melissa Supler
- Wellness/Memorials: Debbie Daniels
- Archive Committee: Steve McIntosh



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Team 1

Team Captain: Harold Davis, Jr. ,
216-283-7111 (NO EMAIL)

- Dave & Virginia Dawson (216.374.8916 Cell)
- Joyce Nesbit (216.469.4892 Cell)
- Carol Poh (216.804.7656)
- MaryAnn Thesing (440.667.7764)
- Rachel Laughlin (407-808-2248)
- John Barber (216.233.2271)

Team 2

Team Captain: Ron Hartmiller,
r_hartmiller@yahoo.com / 216.671.1408

- Garrett Ormiston
- Hank Doll
- Lou Drasler
- Herb Klein
- Bob Rensel
- Eddie Lagucki
- Deborah Dockery

Team 3

Team Captain: Andy Kosiorek,
kosiorek@cox.net / 216.226.4503

- Kathy Kosiorek
- Jodith Janes
- Larry Kell
- Hiedi Winston
- Bob McMahon & George Roscoe
- Paul Bilyk
- Darren Palmer

Team 4

Team Captain: Deb Kramarz,
deborahkramarz@aol.com / 216.731.6324

- Fred Robinson
- Steve McIntosh
- Bob & Sandra Pindell
- Tom Segelin & Julie Giroux
- Kathy Talty
- Sharon Yarnell
- Susan Post

Team 5

Team Captain: Cathy Ross,
estrogen05@yahoo.com / 216.970.2854

- Patrick Boggins
- Jonny Prell
- Kelley Adkins
- Debbie Daniels
- Melissa Supler
- Ed Tuhela
- Lisa Skufca

Team 6

Team Captain: Keith Biehl, 440-237-5824 (NO EMAIL)

- Davd & Diane Circle (440.628.8063 Home)
- Paula & Ron Koenig (440.212.5700)
- Deva Simon (440.915.0161)
- Scott Blanchard (330.322.8111)
- Timothy Homan (216.2190.0746)
- John Tilsky (440.256.1414)

Team 7

Team Captain: Julie Shaw,
julieoshaw@gmail.com / 914.525.3834

- Fred Burkhalter
- Tom Davis
- John Schinker
- Deah Stark
- Dave Tomashefski
- Susan Brownstein
- Cyndi Konopka

**Team Captains, please call in your
RSVP number directly to Hiedi Winston.
(440.752.2617 or email at hwinston@naipvc.com) by Thursday evening.**