

THE HUDSON GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Volume 20

Issue 1

January 2014



President's Message

With the beginning of the New Year we also have a new board serving the Hudson Garden Club. Please let me say "thank you" to all our outgoing and incoming board members. Your time and efforts in continuing the work of the HGC are greatly appreciated. Our monthly meetings with interesting and informative speakers, field trips to unique "gardening minded" locations, the beloved annual Home & Garden Tour and the community programs that touch almost every corner of Hudson are in safe hands as we kick off 2014.

I was lucky enough to learn about and attend a few Hudson Garden Club events before I even moved to town nine years ago and am proud to be a part of this group that has helped beautify our community, has instilled a love of gardening and supported so many important local projects through our grants program. There are many different ways to get involved with the HGC and I encourage anyone with a desire to go ahead and "get their hands dirty." There is a place for everyone.

I am looking forward to the New Year and to getting to know more of the members of this great group. Hope to see you at our January meeting!

Bronwyn Pierson

Suet Recipes for the Birds

No-Melt Peanut Butter Suet

- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 2 cups quick cook oats
- 2 cups corn meal
- 1 cup lard (do not substitute vegetable shortening)
- 1 cup white flour
- 1/3 cup sugar



Melt the lard and peanut butter and stir them together. Stir in the remaining ingredients. Pour the mixture into freezer containers or brownie pan, about 1 1/2 inches thick. When cool, cut into squares, wrap in wax paper or plastic and store in the freezer.

Woodpecker Stick Recipe

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup lard — any animal fat will do
- 1 cup flour
- 3 cups corn meal
- Seeds—optional

Mix well. Form into a log.

HO HO HO Where Can These Christmas Decorations Go?



"What can I do with all these Christmas decorations I don't use?" We hear ourselves say this as we look at the boxes of unused holiday trimmings that we have loved through the years but just don't bring out anymore.

We've come up with an answer to your dilemma that will make these items "new" for someone else. The Gift Shop at the June 2014 Home & Garden Tour is a perfect place to market these gently-used treasures. All donations should be intact and boxed to display them for easy sale.

Remember the Hudson Garden Club as you put your Christmas away for the season. Check through the trimmings you didn't use this year and know you will probably never use again. Set them aside and store them until we get back to you with a collection site.

Thank you for taking the time to help with this new idea for the Gift Shop. We can all benefit.

Grants Awarded to Nine Worthy Projects With Proceeds from the Annual Home & Garden Tour

In December 2013 the Hudson Garden Club awarded \$10,483 in grants to nine projects that further the mission of the Club which is dedicated to spreading the love of gardening, the beautification of public property and the support of education in horticulture and related fields. Since 2000 through 2013 the Club has awarded \$112,035 in grants through its Grants Committee process which is separate from and in addition to the monies distributed each year for city trees, parks and scholarships.

The following programs or projects were awarded grants as recommended by its Grants Committee and affirmed by the Hudson Garden Club Board:

East Woods School to inspire in students a love of growing and seeing herbs and vegetables that become tasty and healthy foods.

Traffic Island at East Terex and Barlow Roads to help keep Hudson beautiful in the designated area.

Hudson Montessori School (Middle School) as part of an ongoing program to support the student activities as Garden Managers in planting seed, testing soil quality and upkeep of gardens. Composting from the kitchen and garden waste is returned to the raised beds. Student responsibility for daily collection of kitchen waste for composting.

Trapp Family Farm to eliminate the need for off-the-farm fertilizers for 2014 using cover crops within our crop rotation. We also hope to build the organic matter level in a one-acre site for a future fruit orchard. We will document the cover crops growth and effect on the soil with a series of photographs, measurements and more.

Destination Hudson (A fund of Hudson Community Foundation) to keep the flowers that enhance downtown Hudson to be a beautiful streetscape for at least six months during the summer of 2014.

Cleveland Metroparks to revitalize the outdoor, interpretive plant collection to ensure that the outdoor enhances the major indoor improvements made to the Rocky River Nature Center.

Cleveland Botanical Garden to ensure that children from low-income schools have equitable access to learning experiences, the Garden will subsidize busing costs for qualifying districts.

Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park to provide financial support to children from lower-income families so they can participate in CVECC programs. Participating schools identify those students who qualify for Federal assistance.

East Woods School to create a space that will serve as a setting for regular classroom activities, as well as providing an area where students can observe seasonal changes, planting and caring for plants, trees and bushes.

Winter Pruning Tips from the Cleveland Botanical Garden's Grounds Manager, Mark Hoover



"You can enhance the backbone of your garden with some basic winter pruning. Dormant deciduous trees and shrubs allow you to see the whole branch structure and aesthetically choose what you want to prune out. In any garden or backyard, pruning goes a long way in maximizing the life and beauty of a particular plant. Many people shy away from pruning for fear that they are going to harm the plant. We recommend that beginners start small.

A few pointers:

1. Start by cutting out the dead and diseased wood only. This will help reduce entry points for pests and disease problems.
2. Prune out any crossing branches. Branches that have the opportunity to rub against each other cause stress and also create entry points for pests and diseases.
3. As a rule of thumb, prune away no more than 1/3 of the plant at a time.
4. Always prune back to a branch, stem or node to allow the plant to heal properly.
5. In the winter, only prune trees and shrubs that bloom in the late summer and early fall. Pruning spring flowering plants in the winter will reduce the amount of flowers you have next year."

Treasurer's Report

Account Balances as of November 30, 2013

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted Cash (Checking) | \$ 8,683.06 |
| Restricted (Scholarship Fund) | \$ 18,471.03 |
| PNC Savings Account | \$ 68,744.91 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$ 95,899.00 |

Nancy Agler, Treasurer

Hudson Garden Club member Barb Earnhardt created this all natural and period-appropriate wreath to adorn the door of Jagger House at Hale Farm Village. Barb formed the wreath from artemesia grown in Sherry Beam's garden and decorated it with holly leaves and berries from the garden of Joan Brandon. Collected osage orange fruit, staghorn sumac fruit and dried pomegranates complete the wreath.

Hale Farm Jagger House



January Field Trip "Waking the Garden in Spring" Seiberling Naturealm Visitors Center Wednesday, January 22, 2014



It may be winter, but our minds wander to thoughts of gardens, whether we might be called an "old pro" or novice gardener. So let's learn more about what to do once spring comes. We can do that at one program of the free educational series, *Meet Me in the Garden*, presented by the Master Gardeners serving Summit County.

On Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 7:00pm, "Waking the Garden in Spring," a month-by-month practical approach of garden tasks that need to be done from March through early June, will be presented by Christine Harris, Master Gardener, Cuyahoga County.

The *Meet Me in the Garden* series is presented at the F. A. Seiberling Naturealm Visitors Center, 1828 Smith Road, Akron, OH 44313. The program will be held inside.

We will meet in the Acme parking lot near the Otani Restaurant and leave from Hudson at 6:15pm. Drivers needed for carpools. **Please RSVP to Barb Earnhardt at barb.earnhardt@yahoo.com or (330) 653-3831 no later than Monday, January 20, 2014.**

Update from Scholarship Recipient Susan Washko

Susan writes that this fall semester she was named a Distinguished Alden Scholar which is Allegheny College's equivalent of the highest rung of the Dean's List. Her words...

This fall semester I lived in the Green Living house which is a campus-owned house themed for sustainability. I had to apply to live there and luckily got in. It has a greywater system, efficient appliances, we all eat local foods, we use all natural and homemade cleaning supplies, rain barrels and compost bins, etc. We're hoping to get another greywater system and a solar water heater. It's been really great and I can't wait to return there next semester.

I applied to go on an Experiential Learning trip (EL trip) to the Rocky Mountains this May and I was accepted. It's a four-credit class that is basically one huge field trip. I'll be studying conservation of the natural resources in the area as well as the ecology of the Rockies. It's going to be a great trip and next semester when I get ready to go I'll update you on the itinerary. I'm so excited!

February Field Trip Orchid Mania Cleveland Botanical Garden Thursday, February 6, 2014

Another breath of spring will be enjoyed at our annual visit to the Cleveland Botanical Garden to see **Orchid Mania**. We always enjoy the sights and smells of the glasshouse at this time of year. Come and see the large variety of colors, shapes, sizes and scents of orchid flowers—many more than are typically seen anywhere potted orchids are sold! Taking wonderful photos is easy because you can get so close to the flowers. **New this year**, the CBG has teamed up with nearly a dozen local interior designers to create "dazzling room designs made even more amazing with the careful placement of orchids, orchids and more orchids."



Afterwards, we'll walk over to the nearby Cleveland Art Museum to have lunch and a short time of exploration. The Cleveland Museum of Art's eight-year building project is finally completed and the new building is worth seeing.

This field trip is planned for **Thursday, February 6, 2014**. Admission to the CBG is \$12 (\$9.50 if our group is 15 or more people) and free for members. Admission to the Art Museum is free.

We will meet in the Acme parking lot near the Otani Restaurant and leave from Hudson at 9:30am. Drivers needed for carpools. **Please RSVP to Barb Earnhardt at barb.earnhardt@yahoo.com or (330) 653-3831 no later than Monday, February 3, 2014.**

**Hudson Garden Club
P.O. Box 651, Hudson, OH
44236**

What's Coming Up

Thursday, January 16, 2014

**HGC General Meeting
What's New for 2014?**

Social Time: 6:45pm

Program: 7:00pm

See this page for details

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

"Waking the Garden in Spring"

Seiberling Naturealm Visitors Center

RSVP by Monday, January 20, 2014

See page 3 for details

Thursday, February 6, 2014

Orchid Mania

Cleveland Botanical Garden

RSVS by Monday, February 3, 2014

See page 3 for details

Herb Group Please Note:

There will be no gathering of the Herb Group in the month of January, 2014. Look for Herb Group info in the February newsletter.



Newsletter Committee

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Hudson Garden Club January General Meeting

What's New for 2014?

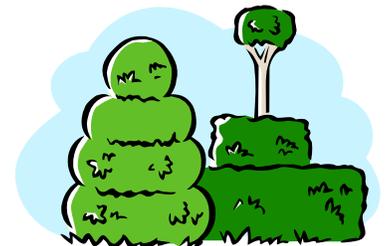
Presenter: Tom Dayton

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Social Time: 6:45pm

Program: 7:00pm

Laurel Lake Community Room



As you look out your window at the wind blowing the snow around you probably aren't thinking about spring. But it will come back and we want to help you make your garden plans for 2014.

We have invited Tom Dayton, owner of Dayton Nurseries, Inc., to present a sneak peak of the newest, most exciting introductions in trees, shrubs, evergreens, perennials, vines and annuals. His slide show will include pictures, plant information and care tips gathered from his knowledge and expertise.

Dayton Nurseries markets trees, shrubs, roses, perennials, greenhouse products and various hard goods through its garden center located in Norton, Ohio. The nursery is known for its two large blueberry patches located on the property.

Tom is also the host of Ready-Set-Grow aired every Saturday from 8am to 10am on 1590AM WAKR.