

THE HUDSON GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Volume 21

Issue 7

July/August 2015

The President's Message

Gratitude. If I have to sum up our 2015 Home & Garden Tour in one word...my choice is gratitude.

Gratitude for the club members that put so much time over the past year into planning and orchestrating all the different aspects that make up our Tour. Gratitude for the dozens and dozens of volunteers who smiled, directed, explained, arranged, schlepped and just got the job done. Gratitude to Mother Nature for allowing us great weather (until the last hour). Gratitude for the home owners who opened their homes and gardens for us all to enjoy. Gratitude from the attendees that thanked the Garden Club numerous times for continuing the tradition of the Tour, and for putting together such a great collection of homes and gardens.

Gratitude that the money raised will go out into the community and do great things.

Cheers to a wonderful 2015 Tour and our summer of gratitude,

Bronwyn



GARDEN GATHERING 2015

Lois James, Tour Chair

Imagine a stone patio with benches built in around the edges that fills up most of the backyard. Then picture a huge tent made specifically to fit this patio, with fans in each corner to keep you cool. Then add gorgeous pots and container gardens to complement the woodland background. This was the setting for the 3rd Annual Garden Gathering, hosted by Paula & Hewitt Shaw.

Guests were greeted with a blueberry margarita (the signature drink of the evening) and enjoyed a variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres, a lettuce wrap station and almond petit fours for dessert. Paula chaired the event assisted by Karen Kelly. Barb Earnhardt did the flowers for the tables. Several of the home and garden owners who attended remarked how much they enjoyed meeting each other and being together for the culmination celebration of everyone's hard work! (The tent actually came to the rescue when a short rain shower tried to dampen the fun). A terrific venue, great food and an enjoyable time was had by all — now that's an event worth repeating. Please consider joining the fun next year as we already have two offers of homes that will never be on the Tour but the owners are willing to host the 4th Annual Garden Gathering.

NEW GARDEN COMING TO AKRON

Barb Earnhardt

AKRON....Construction of the Akron Art Museum's **Bud and Susie Rogers Garden** is getting under way this month on a one-acre area adjacent to the museum, 1 S. High Street, creating a new civic commons in the heart of Downtown Akron. The art museum will manage the space, but the garden will be open to the public and available to visitors for a range of creative activities. The garden incorporates a series of green spaces that will link South High Street to South Broadway Street. It will be located on space currently used for a member parking lot as well as additional property that backs up to South Broadway. Public access will be provided by a tree-lined direct pathway connecting the streets on the garden's southern edge.

City of Akron officials have also been supportive of the project. Thanks to the city, the museum will be able to offer free parking in the South High Street parking deck to members.

Museum officials said the park area will be available for limited programming and usage beginning in late fall and winter. A grand opening of the garden is planned for next spring.

HGC SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

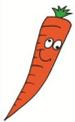
Thursday, September 17, 2015

Any suggestions for monthly meeting programming would be appreciated. Send suggestions to Bronwyn Pierson at bronwyn6870@aol.com.

Our September speaker will be Nathan Edge, Garden Manager of Hattie's Gardens...a Hattie Larlham sustainable agricultural program for adults with developmental disabilities. This fabulous program is in our own backyard, and Edge will speak to the club about their garden philosophy, the challenges of growing organically and the benefits for the community.

Harvest Fair

Friday, September 11 at McDowell Elementary



Mark September 11 down on your calendars for the always fun Harvest Fair at McDowell Elementary. I will need several volunteers for an hour in the morning to help check in entries. Please email Bronwyn Pierson at bronwyn6870@aol.com.

HERB GROUP FEATURES "LOVAGE"

Sherry Beam, Herb Chair

Lovage is definitely queen of the herb garden. The handsome herb is more than just another "pretty face" in your garden because every part of this plant is edible. It is one of those herbs that many have never heard about, or experienced, but one that has been around for centuries. We are looking forward to showcasing this special herb, and why we feel everyone should be growing it.

Personally, the first time I heard of it was back in April 2003 when we brought in Jo Ann Gardner for a presentation. At that time she had authored several herb books and by the time she left, many of us were on the search for lovage plants (we found them at Quailcrest Herb Farm). Using her books and articles for references, we have developed many ways to use all parts of this special giant of the garden. Lovage (*Levisticum officinale*) is making a comeback. This hardy perennial member of the parsley family was grown in ancient monastery gardens. In the Middle Ages, the emperor Charlemagne so esteemed lovage that he decreed that it be grown in all his gardens.

There are few food items that lovage doesn't go into in my kitchen and when I make a batch of the lovage and herb seasoning, everyone wants some to try! Dorothy Malpass and Daniela Baloi and I will team up to share our experiences with lovage; growing it from seed, tips on planting, growing and harvesting this delicious herb...and trying out some of our favorite recipes.

We will meet **Thursday, August 20 at 11am, location to be announced. There will be a small fee. Reservations are required and must be made by August 14.** Those attending will be notified of final details. RSVP to sherrybeam@hotmail.com or (330) 573-6353 (cell).

A THANK YOU FROM THE TOUR FLOWER ARRANGERS

Barb Earnhardt, Tour Flower Coordinator

One of the fine traditions of our Home & Garden Tour are the flower arrangements that are created to enhance the homeowner's efforts to present their homes in the best light to our visitors. This labor of love involves a lot of preparation: assigning the arrangers to a team, the team meeting with the homeowners to determine rooms and specific placement of designs, choosing containers, thinking about flowers, picking flowers, arranging flowers, delivering flowers, freshening flowers. Each team counts on the use of peonies and can pick them early, refrigerating them for weeks in advance of the Tour. But then the thoughts turn to questions. What will we find in the gardens? Will there be Astilbe? Baptisia? Clematis? Delphiniums...? Experience helps answer these questions...sometimes. Each year the weather is different and affects bloom times, so we can count on very little. For example, Feverfew is a filler flower we like to use — and we expect it to be ready as in past years — but this year it peaked *after* the Tour. These little difficulties are really challenges and opportunities for creativity.

But none of this would be possible without our members who offer us their gardens for picking!

If we could, we'd give one of The Hub's "Floral Salutes" to each of you who allow us to come visit and pick in your gardens for the flower arrangements. We simply could not do our job and keep the tradition of designs from local fresh garden flowers and foliage without your generosity!!! The variety we find in your gardens delights us. Bright red service berries — coral Peonies — yarrow — greens of every shade, including variegations, Delphiniums, *Campanula glomerata*, Clematis...the full spectrum of the rainbow (ROYGBIV), bright and pastel, every shape and size was represented. You may not hear the excited conversation over a discovery of a special something growing in your garden. Or over the happy idea that comes from finding a surprising bloom in your garden. You may never know if we found The Perfect Focal Flower, filler flowers, greens, branches, buds, vines, seedpods, berries in your garden or in another. But we do and we THANK YOU SO MUCH!

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Treasurer's Report

Account Balances as of June 30, 2015

PNC Savings	\$ 61,871.53
Scholarship Fund (Restricted)	\$ 18,778.54
Unrestricted Cash/Checking	\$ 46,540.71

Total Bank Accounts **\$ 127,190.78**

Daniela Baloi, Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS



Deborah Foise
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Hudson, OH 44236
(234) 380-1707
dtfoise@aol.com

Ginny Kelleher
1868 Nantucket Lane
Stow, OH 44224
(330) 592-6614
ginnyk04@gmail.com



We've Come A Long Way!

Lois James, Tour Chair

The past: In 1947 (the first year a fee was charged to visit 11 Hudson Gardens) 40 tickets were sold at 50 cents per ticket. This, plus a few donations, yielded a profit of \$24.50.

The present: In 2015 about 1,350 tickets were sold. This, plus the ads in our Program (up 18% from last year), the Garden Shop profit (up 20% from last year), and the Garden Gathering, yielded a profit of \$39,500 to give back to the community! This is our highest profit since 2005 — even up 6% from 2010 (the last three-day Tour). So, thank you to all the members of the HGC who helped to make the 2015 Tour such a successful event! Everyone who chaired a committee, worked on one, or volunteered to help in any way deserves a well-earned pat on the back.

In addition, we need to thank the hundreds of non-members without whose help we would simply not have been able to operate. If you know one of these volunteers, please make sure to express our gratitude the next time you see them. It is sometimes not easy to find people to donate their time and we are extremely grateful to those who do. So, THANK YOU again to EVERY ONE of you who had a part in this year's Tour!

To stay/become involved next year, please check the box on the membership renewal form that will come with the September newsletter. Our two new Co-Chairs, Camille Kuri and Dawn Maloney, along with their Logistics person, Katy Doran (who will be one of the Tour Co-Chairs for 2018 and 2019) will be happy to meet and work with you.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME WITH GARDEN SPACE

A friend has a large blue Baptisia that has overtaken her smallish garden space. She offers it to someone who will dig it out and take it home. Contact Barb Earnhardt for more information at (330) 653-3831 or barbearnhardt@yahoo.com.

FLOWER ARRANGING NEWS

Barb Earnhardt



Congratulations to the Twinsburg Garden Club on their recent "Garden Party" flower show. Some of our members visited the lovely show which featured many floral designs, floral crafts, horticulture specimens, and educational exhibits. There is always something to be learned from flower shows, including from the ribbons awarded, the judges comments and the creativity of the entries. The Design Division included a class with criteria for a miniature design not to exceed five inches in any dimension. These entries were shown in wooden boxes that framed them. The photo shown here is one of these delightful little designs.



**Cleveland Botanical
Garden/Holden Arboretum
Monthly Newsletter**

Our club is an affiliate club of Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum. Each affiliate club has one of their club members act as their representative to this group. Sue L'Hommedieu is retiring from this role and Janice Lindstrom has volunteered to be our new representative to this group. Thank you Jan!

To learn more about what the affiliated clubs do and ways to get involved as a club, go to: <http://www.cb garden.org/about/affiliated-garden-clubs.aspx> and read the latest issue of their monthly newsletter, **The Root**.

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

What's Coming Up

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Garden Forum of Greater Akron Bus Tour to Franklin Park Conservancy & Ohio Governor's Mansion & Heritage Garden

Info: Barb Earnhardt (330) 653-3831

Thursday, August 20—11:00am

Herb Group—Subject: Lovage

RSVP to Sherry Beam by August 15

See page 2 for details

Wednesday, August 26 — 9:30am

Field Trip to see Bloom! @ Stan Hywet

RSVP to Barb Earnhardt by August 22

See page 4 for details

INDOOR ANTIQUE SHOW **August 8 & 9, 2015**

Hudson High School PTO will again sponsor the annual Antiques Show of Hudson on Saturday, August 8 and Sunday, August 9 at Hudson High School. This exciting indoor show is a major fundraiser for the High School PTO with all ticket sale proceeds going to benefit the students of Hudson High School.

This year 50 quality antiques dealers from ten states will display a wide variety of antique furniture, collectibles, silver, glass and much more.

The show will be held at the High School in the commons and auxiliary gym with the single entrance being the canopy door at "Entrance E." Show hours are 9am to 5pm on Saturday, August 8 and 10am to 4pm on Sunday, August 9. Admission is \$10 with discount coupon ticket available from PTO members and from the PTO website (www.hudsonpto.org).

Newsletter Committee

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FIELD TRIP TO SEE "BLOOM!" AT STAN HYWET ***Wednesday, August 26, 2015***

Currently in place in the various gardens and on the grounds at Stan Hywet is a stunning display of 32 larger-than-life sculptures, created from kiln-formed glass by artist Craig Mitchell Smith. Many of the installations are inspired by Stan Hywet's architectural gems and estate treasures. "Tudor



Rose" is installed in the Breakfast Room Garden and "Butterflies" near the Butterfly Habitat, to mention 2 of the 32. This field trip will be a walking tour of the grounds of Stan Hywet and its gardens, including the Great Garden, the Rose Garden, the Japanese Garden, the English Garden, the Elliptical Garden and the Corbin Conservatory.

Craig Michael Smith is a painter, floral designer and set-designer "with a mindset rooted in nature — skills which have informed and enhanced his pieces." His techniques combine glass fusing, texturing, slumping and cold-working. HGTV inquired about his early experimental pieces and his work has been exhibited throughout the U.S. including Epcot Center at Disney World, Michigan State University and the Norfolk (Virginia) Botanical Gardens.

All sculptures are for sale. We can visit the Craig Mitchell Smith Gallery to see the artist's glass sculptures for inside the home and have lunch or refreshments at Molly's Café. The Gallery and Molly's are near Admissions in the Carriage House.

BLOOM! is included in a gardens and grounds admission of \$10 (\$1 off ticket price with AAA card) and is free for members. The display is presented by the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation. For more information and photos of the glass sculptures see stanhywet.org.

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 Saturday, August 22, 2015.**