



# The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

April 2023

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

Vol. 91 No.4

**Monday, April 10th Menu:**  
*Caribbean chicken quarters, yellow rice with black beans, and plantains. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served in the Penthouse after dinner.*

## What's inside:

- **March Program Summary, by Carol Poh**
- **April Program:**
  1. **Possible gardens for the Club to Adopt, Eddie Lagucki, Lantern Court**
  2. **Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens, Amy Roskilly, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District**
- **Member Reminders**
- **Updated Team Captains List**

*If you would like to share a favorite recipe with the members, please do so!*

*Also any gardening tip would be great.*

Send to Jonny Prell.



**April!** The saying goes “April showers bring May flowers”, right? We shall see! We had March weather in January and January weather in March so far this year and a warm February! As you all well know, April can be very cruel, with 80’s one week followed by snowstorms the next week. Provided that April will be somewhat normal, late daffodil cultivars will come into flower (I saw early dwarf daffodils in flower in February!) along with hyacinths and even some early tulip cultivars in late April, weather permitting. Star magnolias flower in April as will early lilac cultivars and bridal wreath spirea, to name some early-flowering woody species. Lawns will require mowing again (although I saw lawns being mowed last month) and be sure to finish up pruning woody species before active growth resumes. This is the month to plant onion sets and other cold season crops like lettuce and radishes once you’ve prepared your garden beds. Perennials can be planted this month along with woody species. I will be resuming part-time work at the Lakewood Garden Center, another sure sign of Spring!

I enjoyed giving my House Plant Power Point presentations to the Akron club in January and to the Youngstown’s Winter Seminar last month. I received a lot of excellent questions and it was fun to interact with the club members.

The Central Great Lakes Gardeners’ regional meeting will be Saturday, April 22nd, starting at noon at Kingwood Center in Mansfield. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting where the future of the regional club will be discussed along with a joint event to be held in 2024 with the Cleveland, Akron and Youngstown clubs. Lunch will be provided and a speaker will follow the meeting.

Please remember to contact your Team Captain by Thursday evening, April 6th, to RSVP for our meeting on April 10th. Team captains, please remember to call in your RSVPs to Hiedi Winston by Friday morning.

Thank you and enjoy the advance of Spring and the start of the gardening season!

*Bob McMahon*



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## Building Biodiversity with Native Plants By Carol Poh

On a snowy late-winter night, Dave Tomaszefski presented an illustrated talk titled “A Time for Bumble Bees: Native Plants in the Garden and a Pollinator’s Life Cycle.” The March 13 program was a welcome reminder that, yes, spring would soon be here. A Lakewood native and avid gardener, Tomaszefski was a longtime research associate in the Soil, Water, and Environmental Lab at the Ohio State University. He recently joined up with a new venture, Meadow City Native Plants Nursery, which will open this spring in the Waterloo Arts District in Cleveland’s North Collinwood neighborhood.

Tomaszefski began his talk by defining native plants as those having “longstanding ties to the land” in which we garden. He showed a glacial map of Ohio, pairing it with another depicting the original vegetation of Ohio. “Plant communities,” he noted, “colonized Ohio based on soil properties (pH, moisture retention) resulting from glacial history.” The interdependent relationship between native plants and native pollinators provided the basis of his advocacy for native plants.

Native pollinators (bees, butterflies, and moths, for example) cannot use the pollen of exotic—i.e., non-native—plants. Tomaszefski singled out bumble bees as “perfect pollinators”; with their long tongues, they are able to obtain pollen from any floral structure. But, he said, they cannot use the pollen of non-native plants. The solution: to build biodiversity into the garden with native plants. He recommended some of his favorites:

Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) – Its blue-green foliage turns crimson in fall, providing nesting material for native bees. Its seeds are prized by the White-throated Sparrow.

Blue False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*) – 3’-5’ high, with clusters of deep blue flowers. Deep-rooted and long-lived, it forms a bush that adds nitrogen to the soil.

Smooth Penstemon (*Penstemon digitalis*) – Thrives in clay, and its pure white flowers look great with the blue flowers of Spiderwort. 2’-3’ high.

Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) – Tomaszefski described Bergamot as “a fun, charismatic plant” whose lavender flowers have a tubular structure favored by long-tongued pollinators, including hummingbirds, bees, and other pollinators in search of nectar.

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) – 3’-5’ high, a host plant for Monarch caterpillars. Its red flowers attract long- and short-tongued pollinators, including sweat bees. It serves as a host plant for caterpillars of Monarch butterflies.



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## Building Biodiversity with Native Plants (Continued)

By Carol Poh

Tall Ironweed (*Veronica gigantean*) – Growing up to 7' high, its magenta flowers are irresistible to bees and butterflies, including the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.

New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) – 2'- 4' high, this autumn bloomer supports 33 species of pollinator-specialist bees. A critical fall nectar source for Monarchs before they begin their long migration to Mexico.

Following his presentation, Tomashefski fielded diverse questions from the audience and received warm applause for a stimulating and informative presentation.

Author's note: Meadow City Native Plants Nursery already has an online presence at [meadowcitynursery.com](http://meadowcitynursery.com) that is well worth checking out. Another excellent resource for information on native plants is the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center ([wildflower.org/plants](http://wildflower.org/plants)).



The speaker's title slide shows Blue False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*) at left, New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) at right. Jonny Prell photos.



Tomashefski began his talk with a definition of native plants as those having "longstanding ties to the land."



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## April Program

Eddie Lagucki will be giving a brief description of possible gardens for the club to “adopt” at the Lantern Court Estate before Amy’s presentation.

Amy Roskilly, is the Conservation Education & Communications Manager with the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District. She will be giving a presentation on Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens.



## Member Reminders

- Central Great Lakes Gardeners’ regional meeting is April 22nd at Kingwood Center in Mansfield.
- May Plant Sale at the Rockefeller Greenhouse. Contact Debbie Daniels to volunteer. Please be thinking of items to donate for the raffle including baskets to be used.
- The Gardeners of America’s national convention dates have been finalized - July 26 - 28. Details will be forthcoming.
- Bob & Sandra Pindell and Ron Hartmiller are asking for volunteers at the Willott Iris Garden. Hours are 10AM to 2PM.
- Team Captains, please call in your RSVPs by Thursday, April 6th to Hiedi Winston.

## Dale Jones Hungarian Goulash

### INGREDIENTS:

- ~2 pounds beef chuck/rump roast, cut into ‘1’ pieces
- 1 medium/large sliced onion
- 2 large cloves of garlic, minced
- ¾ cup ketchup
- 3/8 cup Worcestershire sauce (1/4 cup + 2 TBSP)
- 1 tsp vinegar
- 1 TBSP brown sugar
- 1 TBSP paprika
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp dry mustard
- 1 tsp red pepper flakes
- 1 small package of frozen peas (optional)
- Cooked pasta, rice, spaetzle, or starch of your choice



### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Brown the beef in hot oil and then add the onions and garlic and cook until the onion is soft. Then add the rest of the ingredients except the peas and starch, along with 2 cups of water. Cover and simmer on low heat for 2 hours.
- Then prepare a mixture of ¼ cup water and 2 TBSP of flour and stir into the goulash to thicken it. Once thickened, add the frozen peas and simmer about 10 minutes longer to cook the peas.

Serve over the starch of your choice, garnish with parsley if desired, and ENJOY!



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## **Annual Plant Sale**

**Rockefeller City Greenhouse**

**\*\* 750 E. 88th St. Cleveland Ohio\*\***

**May 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
10AM TO 4PM**

**Rain or shine**

**Featuring**

**Native plants**

**Annuals**

**Perennials**

**Vegetables**

**Herbs**

**Houseplants**

**Hanging Baskets**

**Upcycled arts**

**[www.rockefellerparkgreenhouse.org](http://www.rockefellerparkgreenhouse.org)**



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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:** ROBERT MCMAHON
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** STEVE MCINTOSH
- SECRETARY:** JONNY PRELL
- TREASURER:** HIEDI WINSTON
- ASST TREASURER:** LARRY KELL
- PAST PRESIDENT:** JONNY PRELL

## Current DIRECTORS:

- DEBORAH KRAMARZ / 2021-2024
- ROBERT MCMAHON
- DEBBIE DANIELS
- ED TUHELA
- FRED ROBINSON
- GARRET ORMISTON
- LARRY KELL
- TOM DAVIS

## CURRENT STANDING COMMITTEES

- *Awards:* Tom Davis, Chair
- *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, Fred Robinson, Co-chairs; 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: Tom Davis, Chair
- Nominating: Deb Kramarz, Chair
- Wellness/Memorials: Team Captains
- Archive Committee: Steve McIntosh, Chair



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## Team 1

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

- Dave & Virginia Dawson (216.751.2739 Home/216.374.8916 Cell)
- Joyce Nesbit (216.469.4892 Cell)
- Carol Poh (216.692.0747 Home)
- MaryAnn Thesing (440.667.7764)
- Susan Brownstein (310.709.9060)
- Geoffrey Kibler (502.715.3510))

## Team 2

Head Team Captain: Ron Hartmiller,  
r\_hartmiller@yahoo.com / 216.671.1408

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

## 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
- Al Hopf

## Team 4

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

- Fred Robinson
- Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold
- Steve McIntosh
- Bob & Sandra Pindell
- Tom Segelin & Julie Giroux
- Kevin Borowiak
- Kathy Talty

## Team 5

Cathy Ross: estrogen05@yahoo.com  
216.970.2854

- Patrick Boggins
- Jonny Prell
- Kelly Adkins
- Debbie Daniels
- Melissa Supler
- Ed Tuhela

## Team 6

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)
- Ed Nangle (614.208.2298)
- Mark Yoders (330.264.4944)
- Chancy Jackson (216.322.8343)

## Team 7

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

- Fred Burkhalter
- Tom Davis
- Emily Dennis
- John Schinker
- Deah Stark
- John Tilisky
- Dave Tomashefski

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