



The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

June 2023

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

Vol. 91 No. 6

Monday, June 12th Menu:

Country Fried Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Buttered peas & Onions. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served in the Penthouse after dinner.

What's inside:

- **May Program Summary, by Carol Poh**
- **June Scholarship Winners**
- **Member Spotlight: Dave Tomashefski, Julie Shaw**
- **Club Reminders & Updates**
- **Updated Team Captains List (Rev 5-23)**
- **August Horticulture Show, Tom Davis**

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](mailto:Jonny.Prell).

GARDENING is in full swing now that it is June! Even though May featured a frost on the 18th, the weather mostly was good for getting our gardens planted and on their way to add beauty and delicious produce for the gardening season. I have enjoyed being back at the Lakewood Garden Center, and Mother's Day weekend was extremely busy and I think that was the case for most area garden centers. The azaleas, redbuds and dogwoods were lovely last month and now we are enjoying colorful rhododendrons along with flowering annuals and perennials.

Our scholarship night will be this month on June 12 where we will award three \$2,000 scholarships to graduating high school students who will be pursuing college degrees in horticulture or horticulture-related fields. Please plan to attend this special evening to congratulate the scholarship winners. Thank you, Ed and the Scholarship Committee for all the work you did to make this possible.

On May 22, Larry and I planted the VA Hospital Spinal Cord Unit gardens with the assistance of VA Hospital staff member, Tom (Staff) and Todd, a veteran patient who enthusiastically helped us last year. The veterans supplied us with a list of vegetables, flowers and herbs for this year's gardens, which we again purchased from Lakewood Garden Center, owned by one of our club members, Paul Bilyk, who again gave the club a substantial discount. Thank you, Paul! As we left, Todd was watering the plants, and looking forward to caring for the gardens. Larry and I will make periodic visits to see how the gardens are faring and touch base with the staff and veterans.

Our annual Horticulture Show will be held on Monday, August 14th, so please put that on your calendars and plan to participate. Tom Davis will be giving a Zoom session in early August to educate members on how to enter your species, etc.

Happy Gardening!

Bob McMahon





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The Willott Iris Garden: A Call for Help

By Carol Poh

The club's May 8 meeting featured a presentation by longtime members Bob Pindell with assistance from Ron Hartmiller. The two, together with Bob's wife Sandra, have for many years performed yeomen's work maintaining the Willott Iris Garden at the City of Cleveland's Rockefeller Greenhouse. The lovely garden may be one of Cleveland's best-kept secrets.

Located on the Greenhouse premises at 750 East 88th Street (just off MLK Drive south of I-90), the garden features irises of every variety. It was begun in 2008 by members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland, the North East Iris Society, and Friends of Greenhouse in recognition of Tony and Dorothy Willott's long service as Greenhouse volunteers and their notable accomplishments as hybridizers of irises. The garden includes many of the nearly 400 bearded-iris cultivars bred by the Willotts, together with those of other hybridizers and various species irises.

From the beginning, Bob Pindell was tapped to serve as garden "curator" owing to his knowledge as an avid gardener of irises. In his presentation to the club, Bob discussed the horticultural classification of Eupogon (bearded) Irises, provided handouts on the culture of bearded and beardless irises authored by the Willotts themselves, and offered general remarks on growing irises. In separate remarks, Ron Hartmiller said that he had come to appreciate irises for their delicacy as well as their toughness.

But beauty, as we know, does not come without effort! Iris beds must be kept scrupulously clean, and iris clumps must be thinned or divided periodically—generally every two to five years—lest they become too crowded, causing bloom to suffer. The Willott Iris Garden requires ongoing maintenance at the hands of dedicated volunteers, and its three stalwart caretakers—Bob and Sandra Pindell and Ron Hartmiller—can no longer carry on the work without help.

You can reach out to them directly through the GOGC Membership Directory on our website. Maintenance of the garden is also supported through the sale of potted irises (harvested from the garden) and inscribed bricks (which form the garden path), as well as donations from individuals and organizations. Finally, you can support upkeep of the garden by joining or making donations (earmarked for the garden) to Friends of Greenhouse, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Visit rockefellerparkgreenhouse.org for more information.





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2023 Scholarship Winners

Seth Hemmi

Willoughby South High School and Gates Mills Environmental Education Center
Kym Judson; Teacher/FFA Advisor

Seth studied Floral and Greenhouse Management for two years at Gates Mills Environmental Center with his teacher Kym Judson. He will be pursuing a degree in Greenhouse and Nursery Management in College at the OSU ATI campus.

In his senior year, his weighted GPA is 3.26. Seth's academic class load included a number of Honors and AP class work. Seth earned 3 college credits during his high school work. Seth was involved with his FFA chapter for two years with being elected the club's treasurer.

Seth was involved in numerous volunteer activities to round out his experience. Some of them were working to clean up a local beach and taking environmental quality observations, working with elementary students in which he introduced them to various floral and greenhouse operations, and working in the school's vegetable and flower garden during the summer to make sure that is in top shape for the following year for the new incoming students.

Seth showed his leadership skills by helping to recruit new students for the program and taking them under his wing to help them transition the demanding work of a tech program.

Seth found his passion in helping to design and build the new aquaponics feature in the school. Seth helped to get the system up and running and it will now be used to teach future students about this crucial growing system.

We applaud the accomplishments of Seth Hemmi, and we are confident his career goals will be met.

Hannah's extracurricular list of activities is impressive. She was involved in numerous sports activities including volleyball, track and field, swim team, cross country and wrestling. Her interests also include the study of music in which she was involved with marching and concert band. To round out her activities, Hannah was involved with Key Club and Decore Martial Arts.

Hannah's main interest is being out in the natural environment. She takes numerous walks in the Cleveland Metroparks. She was involved in working in the Cleveland Metroparks watershed program. Some of her work here included planting trees, removing invasive plant species, cleaning up local beaches and rehabilitating land.

Hannah's career goals are to work in air or water quality management with the Environmental Protection Agency or work with companies such as the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer district. We wish Hannah success with her all-important career goals.

Patrick Robison

Saint Ignatius High School
Rory Fitzpatrick ; Teacher/Landscape Club Advisor

Patrick has a weighted GPA of 4.12 while taking a number of honors courses. He exceeded the school science requirement by taking a dual enrollment Environment Science class. He is earning college credits while taking these classes. Patrick plans to attend Purdue University and work toward a major in Turfgrass Management and Science.

Patrick mostly likes being outside in nature. All of his sporting activities involve the outdoors.

One of Patrick's passions is rowing on his school's rowing team. Being outside on the water led Patrick to want to get involved with Turf Science. This career goal will open up opportunities while still connecting him to his outdoor sports activities.

Patrick was involved with several activities including being a member of his school's Landscape Club. This showed him many areas of the landscape industry. He was also involved with the Pallbearers Ministry and Labre Ministry for the Homeless. Awards that he earned include National Latin Exam Medalist, National Greek Exam Medalist and Gold Medal-Midwest Scholastic Rowing Association.

Hannah Akel

Fairview High School

Hannah did not have the opportunity to attend a tech school, but she attended several Environmental Science courses. Hannah earned an impressive weighted GPA of 4.29 and had a class rank of 14 out of 118 while taking a number of AP and advanced courses. She is a member of the National Honor Society. Hannah will be attending The Ohio State University – Columbus in the fall. She will pursue a degree in Environmental Science.



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New Member Profile, by Julie K. Shaw

Dave Tomashefski

Dave, a Lakewood, OH, native, graduated from John Carroll University with a BA in English and psychology. His early passion for nature, and birding experiences with his father, led him to pursue further studies related to his interest in wetlands restoration. Down a circuitous path with some fortuitous opportunities and excellent guidance from a Tri-C professor, Dave graduated in 2016 from OSU with his MS. He has been a research associate at OSU with the Soil, Water, and Environmental Lab. Dave's many interests in ecological restoration, native plants, and the Society for Ecological Restoration, brought him into contact with two people with whom he is now

working. They will open Meadow City Native Plants Nursery in North Collinwood in June. Dave's role will include developing informational and tutorial (how-to) educational programs, for presentations to local environmental groups, among others.

Welcome to the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland, Dave!



Club Reminders & Updates

- Tom Davis & Julie Shaw hosted a "Native Plant Dig" at their home on May 22nd along with four members. Eddie Lagucki and Garrett Ormiston collected specimens of native plants for transplanting to Lantern Court (Eddite) and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Perkins Wildlife Center and Woods Garden (Garrett). Bob McMahon and Dave Tomashefski were there to help dig and load the collected Plants.

In all 16 species were dug, potted and loaded: Aralia spinosa, Beech fern, Bottlebrush Buckeye, Cimicifuga brunette (bugbane), Crested Lady Fern, Cut-leaf Toothwort, Golden Alexander, Golden Star, Iris cristata, Joe Pye Weed, Leucothoe, Rough-leafed dogwood, two species of sedges including Broad-leaf Sedge, Wild ginger, Wood Poppy.

- [Meadow City Native Plants Nursery](#) is having their Grand Opening on Sunday, June 11th, from 2PM to 6PM. Meadow City (15006 Westropp Ave.) is located in Collinwood's Waterloo Arts District. Arrive before 4PM for food from our neighbor, Raddell's Sausage. They will be hosting garden designers, local environmental organizations and a kids' craft table.
- The Gardeners of America's 2023 convention is being held in Dayton, OH on July 26th thru July 18th at the Marriot Springhill Suites. Registration packets have been sent out. Let's make a good showing for our club! Members click [here](#) for more information.
- Annual Horticulture Show will be held on Monday, August 14th. Tom Davis will be giving a Zoom session in early August to educate members on how to enter your species. Rules and Regs are included in this issue.
- Bob & Sandra Pindell and Ron Hartmiller are asking for volunteers at the Willott Iris Garden. Hours are 10AM to 2PM, Tuesday - Saturday.
- Team Captains, please call in your RSVPs by Thursday, June 8th to Hiedi Winston.



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May Plant Sale - **SUCCESS!**

A **BIG** thank you goes to Debbie Daniels who is Chair of the Income Projects Committee and Melissa Supler who put in a lot of time planning for a very successful plant sale May 18-20 at the Rockefeller City Park Greenhouse! Another BIG thank you to all the members who volunteered their time to set up the sale, staff the sale, and to dismantle the sale, along with donating plants and garden items. An estimate on May 24th only, we netted approximately \$3000 after expenses.

Meadow City Native Plant Nursery and Donald A. Schuster Greenhouse were our two commercial vendors. Most of the 170 native/pollinator plants sold the first day, so definitely we will have more available for sale next year.

Debbie Daniels and Melissa Supler made beautiful raffle baskets that also contributed to this successful sale. The Income Projects Committee already has ideas for next May's plant sale!



Plant Sale Set-Up Crew





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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)
- 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
- Deborah Dockery (New Member)

Team 3

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

- Kathy Kosiorek
- Judith 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
- Lisa SKufca

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,
julieoshaw@gmail.com / 914.525.3834

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

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



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2023 Horticulture Show Announcement - August 14th

In 2012 we started having a small horticultural show for our September meeting. The first year we had only a few entries, but every year since then the show has grown in size and quality.

This year we hope that even more members and guests will enter plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables. We have moved the show from September to August to match the time of peak garden growth. We have added some sections to allow for a larger variety of entries. This early announcement is to let you start planning your entries.

- The Horticulture Show is an educational opportunity for our members. The national judging manual stresses that all club members are expected to enter the show if they are able.
- There will be a Zoom session in August to help you prepare for the show.
- You can make up to five (5) entries per person.
- Clerks will be present from 5:00 to 6:00 PM to receive entries and help you with the entry card and staging the entry. We have paper plates and other supplies.
- Bring two return address labels per entry. That will make filling out the entry cards much faster and easier.
- Entries like cut flowers should be in a clear glass container with no labels.
- Ribbons will be awarded. There will be "Best in Show" and "Peoples' Choice" (popular vote by all present) awards made again this year. Only members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be eligible for the two top awards.
- Prize winning or unusual entries will be discussed by the entrant and/or the judges to carry out the theme of Gardening Education.
- Certified judges will come from the Central Great Lakes Gardeners Region.
- The show committee reserves the right to modify this schedule at a later date.

Please read the information below! Every year someone is disappointed because they don't follow directions and don't win a ribbon.

2023 GOGC HORTICULTURE SHOW SCHEDULE

1. Cut Annual Flowers in a Container -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers OR one for larger blooms.
2. Cut Dahlia flowers in a container - Include 1 or 2 leaves on a shoot. Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers OR one of larger blooms.
3. Cut Perennial Flowers in a Container -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers or one of larger flowers.
4. Small Vegetables – Enter three specimens of smaller items (tomatoes, peppers, onions, and other smaller vegetables). All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch. Cherry tomatoes must be displayed by the cluster.
5. Larger Vegetables – Enter one specimen of larger vegetables such as eggplant. All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch.
6. Small potted plants (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type except succulents.
7. Small potted succulents - (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
8. Larger potted plants (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, two plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type except succulents.



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9. Larger potted succulents (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, several plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
10. A branch (12 to 30 inches in length) in a container. A) Foliage Only. B) Foliage and Flowers. C) Foliage and Fruit.
11. A single leaf (like a Hosta Leaf) in a container.
12. A Native Plant Specimen in any category.
13. Fruits - One specimen of larger fruits such as apples, peaches, etc.
14. Fruits - six specimens of smaller fruits such as berries.
15. Herbs - One stem of herbs such as rosemary, mint, borage, etc.
16. Potted herb plants (see 6 and 8 above).
17. Largest Hosta Leaf. It won't be judged on condition; it can be imperfect.

Judging Requirements: (Please read carefully!!)

1. The specimen must be properly identified with the plant name and the variety. Example: "hybrid tea rose, Peace." We will supply entry forms and help you fill them out. Bring two return address labels per entry to paste on the entry forms.
2. The specimen must be your property. You can submit a purchased plant if you have owned and taken care of it for at least two months. (Must be purchased before June 14, 2023.)
3. All submissions must be disease and insect free.
4. The specimen should be as perfect a sample as you can find. For example, a Hosta leaf should not be damaged and should be typical for the variety.
5. Individual leaves and stems should be supported so just the bottom of the leaf – or no leaf on a stemmed plant – is in the water. They should be upright. You can use plastic wrap or aluminum foil to support the leaf or stem in the container. Just wrap it around the stem at the bottle neck. Use a plain container like a pop or beer bottle without a label.
6. Fruits and vegetables should be on a plain, white paper plate.
7. Potted plants should be "groomed" with all dead leaves and spent flowers removed. The pot must be clean. Fancy pots don't win; good plants in clean pots do.
8. Orchid leaves are not judged, just the flower.

Bring your entries to the Penthouse of 1 Bratenahl Place between 5:00 and 6:00 PM on August 14. Any entry after 6:00 will be disqualified. Use the elevators at either end of the corridor on the ground floor. The Penthouse is on the top floor. Please contact Tom Davis at tsdavis62@gmail.com with any questions.

Good luck!

Tom Davis tsdavis62@gmail.com