Q: What's small, red and whispers?

A: A hoarse radish

Q: Why do gardeners plant bulbs?

A: So the worms can see where they're going. (source)

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Licking County Master Gardener Newsletter

Volume XI, Issue 5 September - October 2021

The Pollinator Garden at The Dawes Arboretum A Ten-Year Collaboration

Lydia McCue

Since 2011, a group of Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers has worked with the staff of The Dawes Arboretum to research, create and tend the MGV award-winning Pollinator Garden. This year-round attraction located adjacent to the Visitor Center is dedicated to habitat for birds, bees, butterflies, and a host of other pollinators. The dream and brainchild of LCMGV Kathy Stout, this garden provides a captivating destination for visitors to The Dawes Arboretum while serving as a basis for educating home gardeners on the reasons and methods for creating beautiful, pollinator-sustaining gardens.

The concept for the garden was carefully thought out during a year of research and planning by the LCMGV Pollinator Garden team and articulated as shown below:

Vision: As an integral part of The Dawes Arboretum land conservation efforts, a vibrant and unique ecosystem will share the story of a diverse array of pollinators and their habitat needs.

Mission: To raise awareness of and encourage exploration of an ecosystem comprised of native plants and trees that supports the life cycles of pollinators in a garden space that provides beauty, joy, inspiration, and respite.

Purpose: To serve as a model pollinator garden where visitors have opportunities to observe pollinators at work, learn about native plants and sustainable gardening practices, and enjoy the beauty of nature. *(continued on page 9)*

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Coordinator's Report

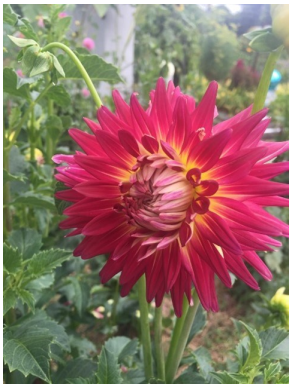
Lori Swihart

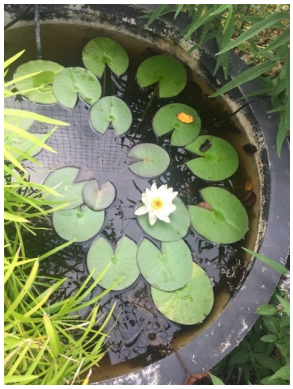
"So many are working in the garden to polish the gem it really is."

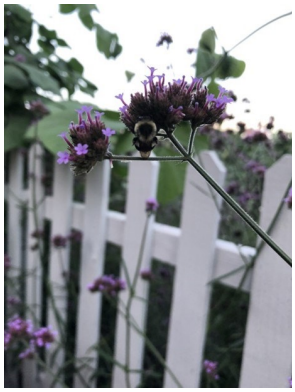
2021. A year of many changes. One of those changes is the location of our booth at the Hartford Fair.

We were offered free space by the fair board in the new location for the Arts and Crafts Building, at the former Boy's Dorm. It was a challenge for Sheila Geiling and me to fit all we typically offer into a tighter spot, but we managed. The 1400+ contacts we made were down slightly, but I am still impressed considering the continuing presence of Covid and "can they find our new digs?" We focused on the nighttime pollinators for the kids and also the healthy benefits of gardening. To all the members that were able to work the booth, I wish to extend a big THANK YOU. And another HUGE THANK YOU to Carol Remley for taking on the task of staffing the booth. You were absolutely amazing.

The activity in the Learning Gardens with volunteers has been a wonderful sight. So many are working in the garden to polish the gem it really is. We have had several Lawn Chair Learning programs, and first Thursday Mornings in the Garden programs. I wish to thank all that have given the most precious gift of their time to make it a truly stunning garden. Here are a few pictures that I have taken over the summer.







As we begin to look forward to the next planting/planning season, please consider taking on a plot. We have some available for anyone of you that want to try a research plot or share your garden style or passion.

We remember our friend and member, Maribeth Stover, who recently passed in August. Maribeth and I worked together years (and years) ago at Wilson's Garden Center. She was always so much fun and vibrant. A real champion for the pollinators. Rest in peace, sweet lady.

President's Column

Kathryn Bierley

"It's been a very successful summer—here's to a fantastic fall!"

It's finally fall!

It seemed the heat and humidity were never going to end, the weeds were never going to stop growing and the long days would continue forever. But in just a day or two, we have fully entered fall. Every extra minute is no longer spent in the garden, a long-sleeved shirt feels comfortable and it's dark outside by 8 pm. Definitely time to say farewell to summer and hello to autumn.

The pace of projects for Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers is slowing but there's still plenty to do. We need everyone possible to help with the learning garden clean up next month. Plans for next year's gardens and budgets are in process. We begin training for our new online volunteer system - Hands On Connect - at the end of the month. The next several membership meetings will focus on evaluating 2021 and planning for 2022 so be sure to attend. The change to evening meetings was well received so we will have meetings at 9:30 am in odd numbered months and at 6:30 pm in even numbered months. As COVID 19 seems to be sticking around, we will continue to change and adapt what we do in ways that will encourage maximum participation for the majority of people.

Thank you all for all you do to bring research-based gardening education to our friends and neighbors in Licking County. It's been a very successful summer - here's to a fantastic fall!

Water Hose Reminder

Just a note about the hoses at the water spigot areas:

It is important that when coiling up the hoses after watering, to be sure NOT to coil around the spigot post. This may lead to pulling the pipe and causing eventual leaking. Leaking means water loss AND unnecessary $$$$ spent. Yes, we pay for our water bill by working the Soil and Water Tree Sale but any overages of the average will come out of our funds, not to mention the repair time and supplies. Please coil the hose in the front of the spigot as shown in the picture below.

- In Memoriam -

Maribeth Stover

Maribeth J. Stover passed away on August 26, 2021 at her residence. She was born in Sewickley, PA on March 18, 1953 to Joseph and Frances (Begg) Kost.

Maribeth is survived by her husband of 46 years, Jack Stover, whom she married on December 27, 1974 in Aliquippa, PA; son Daniel (Emily) Stover of Newark; sisters-in-law, Sharon (Jim) Overmier, Donna (John) Rusinko; special cousin, Nancy (Jerry) Eckenrode; god-daughter, Charlene Horwatt (Dave Ammons). She was preceded in death by parents and her beloved Mosley.

Maribeth graduated with bachelor degrees from Edinboro University and Ohio University to return to teaching of art through her love of children. She had a career of over 20 years teaching at Newark Catholic, Licking County JVS and retiring from Tri Valley School District. Many years were spent in floral design at Roots and Shoots and retiring for the third time from Elder Beerman and Goumas Candyland.

Maribeth became a Master Gardener in 2016. She enjoyed helping at the Plant Sale, Open House, and conference, but her passion was the Pollinator Gardens at Dawes. There she made great impact and great friends. She was also especially proud of her Monarch Waystation and continuing the species.

Maribeth Stover was a very special part of the MGV Dawes Arboretum Team. We loved her for her gentle humor and kindness, and we depended on her for knowledge, expertise in plant selection and design, and her artistic talents. The photo to the left is from a sketch she made of the garden in the summer of 2019. We are thankful for the time we had with her in the Pollinator Garden.

Kathy Stout

Sharing the Joy of the Garden

Jo Walters takes a bouquet of flowers from the Learning Gardens to the Salvation Army cooks to brighten their day.

Exciting Extension News!

New Branding

Extension now has their own brand mark! The image, shown below, allows Extension to have more identity in our handouts. This is to be placed on any new handouts and presentations going forward. If you have any questions, contact Lori or Kelly at the office. We have been working on updating some of our materials here in the office. If you are working on a project, send it to Lori and she will add the new brand mark to the project.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

New Website Platform

Our new platform enables us to let our community members know who Extension is and what do we do! A collaboration with NBC4 WCMH-TV and CFAES will highlight Extension program areas by having a segment on Daytime Columbus every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings.

Here is a link to the particulars: https://extension.osu.edu/today

Raising Monarch Butterflies in 2021 Kaye Alban

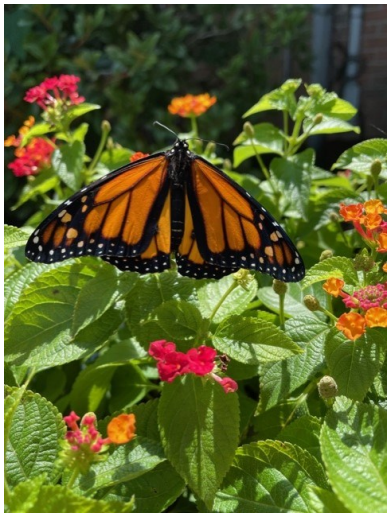
As many know, I raise monarch butterflies inside my house. This is my 5th year doing so. But just as 2020-2021 has been a very "eventful" year for all of us, this year has been for me raising monarchs.

Usually, they show up the middle of June, but this year they were very late, at least in Newark, Ohio. But in other places in Ohio they were right on time. Why does this happen? Who knows, but I'm just glad they finally showed up in my yard and out at the gardens.

I will end up raising about 120 total, which is a down year for me. I have raised in the past up to 300 in a summer. But I did this with the help of a few gardener friends who shared their milkweed with me. That is the most important part of raising monarchs: you MUST have enough food to feed them as they grow. They eat so much more as they grow from instar to instar and really like the huge leaves of the common milkweed best when they are in their 5th instar, which I call "fatties". This is when they are ready to go into "J" for 2-3 days then pupate into their beautiful chrysalis. Then in 10-12 days, they are a gorgeous monarch butterfly ready to fly off, mate, lay eggs on milkweed and begin the cycle of life again.

Except this time of year, the "migrators" are flying off to Mexico to spend 7 months of life in the fir trees there. So amazing, they arrive in Mexico the first week in November, when the country is celebrating the annual "Day of The Dead" festival.

I hope you can spare a small patch of milkweed in your yard to help the monarchs…it's the right thing to do for all pollinators. Monarchs use the milkweed as their host plant, but all pollinators enjoy the nectar from their flowers.



When Life Gives you ~~Lemons~~ Walnuts….. Elaine Boaz

We all know the expression “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” This summer Thor and I experienced a new twist on that old expression. We learned “When life gives you walnuts, make nocino.”

In early July a storm blew through the county. The gusty winds knocked down a large walnut tree that was in one of our pastures. While we knew the clean up would be time-consuming, we put that job on hold once we saw the abundance of immature walnuts within easy reach.

You see, there is a liqueur that was introduced to us by a Slovenian friend. In Slovenia it is called orehovec. However, more often it is called by its Italian name, nocino.

Traditionally, green walnuts (from either black or English walnut trees) are harvested on June 25. They are soaked in either vodka or brandy along with aromatics such as oranges, lemons, cloves, cinnamon sticks, vanilla beans and/or star anise. After a few months the mixture is strained, a simple sugar syrup is added to taste and it rests for another few months. Six months after it has been made, on December 25, it is ready to be enjoyed.

There are many recipes available on the internet, with slight variations in techniques. For those of you with access to immature walnuts, here are two recipes to consider. Maybe next year you will want to try making some!

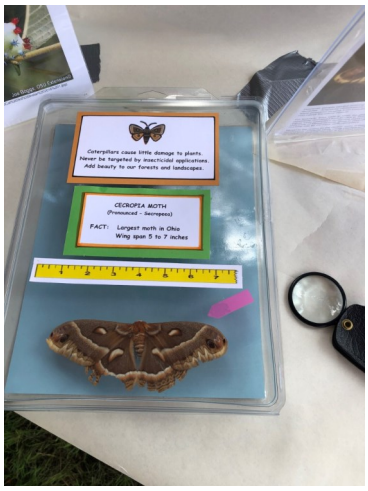
https://www.davidlebovitz.com/liqueur-de-noix-green-walnut-liq/

https://homestead-honey.com/homemade-black-walnut-liqueur-recipe/

Our batch of nocino now sits in a dark, cool location as it continues to steep. We are counting on it to warm us up when the cold December weather arrives.

STEM Fest

Despite the numbers being lower than previous years, our volunteers still enjoyed educating those who attended—especially the kids!

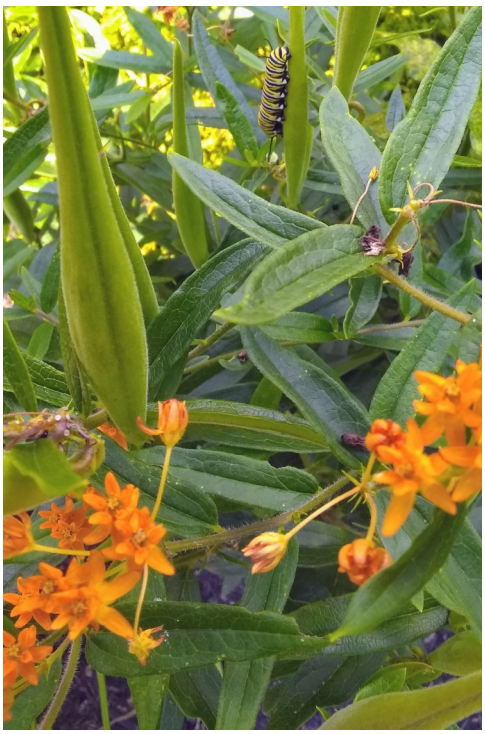


Butterfly Weed

Joe “Grizz” Smith

REDDINGTON VILLAGE GARDENS - PLANT OF THE MONTH
Butterfly Weed - Asclepias tuberosa

Many confuse Butterfly Weed with Butterfly Bush. This perplexity can and has caused invasive damage in many parts of the United States.



Butterfly Weed, a species of milkweed, is native to American prairies and grasslands of the Midwest and great plains. With 73 native milkweed species, Butterfly Weed, as it is commonly known, attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and numerous other pollinators with it's intense orange flower and abundant production of nectar. This bushy, herbaceous (non-woody) perennial grows 2 to 3 feet tall and wide. It is prized for its large 1 to 5 inch flat-topped clusters of bright orange flowers. Being herbaceous, it can be grown in our village's Primary Easement areas (Handbook ref. 2.3.1) without Board approval (Handbook ref. 2.3.7). Butterfly Weed, like all milkweeds, are host plants for the adult Monarch butterfly.

Butterfly Bush, on the other hand, is native to Asia (China/Japan) and is identified as an invasive species in many states (not Ohio), as well as England and New Zealand. While the Butterfly Bush's flower is high in providing nectar to our pollinators, not a single native caterpillar eats butterfly bush leaves. If you select to plant Butterfly Bush you also need to be committed to deadheading the spent flowers so to control seed production. Each Butterfly Bush produces over 100,000 seeds that are distributed by the wind that can actually alter and impair the health of our local ecosystems. Every plant we include in our gardens affects the local food web and may cause environmental harm, even the beautiful, nectar-producing, seemingly harmless Butterfly Bush.

(continued on page 11)

Put Your Garden On The Homegrown National Park Map!

The mission of Homegrown National Park https://homegrownnationalpark.org/ is to recruit “anyone with some soil to plant in” to raise native plants for pollinators. You can add your garden to their website and be counted toward their goal of 20 million acres. The Learning Garden is already on the map!

Start a new HABITAT™
HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK™

Goals: *(continued from front page)*

To provide a rich ecosystem for pollinators by selecting nectar and pollen plant species and providing water, shelter, nesting, egg-laying, and overwintering sites to support the life cycles of pollinators.

To transform the garden into a 'destination location' for public enjoyment, learning, inspiration, and respite.

To provide educational opportunities for adults and children to learn about the importance of pollinators and ways to invite pollinators into their gardens.

To serve as a learning laboratory for LCMGVs, interns, and adult volunteers.

The collaboration between Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers and The Dawes Arboretum has fostered an enormously positive relationship between our organizations. A new sign at the entry to the garden recognizes our collaboration. The Dawes Arboretum provides a beautiful central site, support, guidance, knowledge, and enthusiasm for the master gardeners working there each Tuesday morning. In return, our LCMGV members plan, design, select plants and tend the garden using science-based and pollinator-supportive practices.

2022 promises to be one of the most exciting in the garden's ten-year history. The Dawes Arboretum Executive Director, Luke Messinger, has approved many significant enhancements to the Pollinator Garden, and our members will provide leadership for its redesign.

Enhancements include a new central walkway, smaller trails for exploration, re-designing beds, re-positioning plant locations, and adding seating, hardscaping, new signage and varied educational support materials for adults and children.

Karla Long, The Arboretum's Director of Learning and Engagement, kick-started an educational project to create a series of Pollinator Garden videos. The first video, an introduction to the garden, is currently in production, starring Jim Williams and Lydia McCue. The videos will be shown on The Dawes Arboretum YouTube website. In keeping with our shared mission of public education, other educational videos will be produced focusing on the garden through the seasons.

The Pollinator Garden is included in The Arboretum's designated fundraising outreach; donors can target their giving to this garden, providing additional funds for further development.

What started as the nucleus of an idea from a small group of dedicated Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers has evolved into an ongoing working relationship with The Dawes Arboretum.

Interested in volunteering at a place that nourishes the soul through abundant beauty and meaningful work? You are invited to join the MGV Pollinator Garden Team, where you will have an opportunity to see what can happen through the power of collaboration, hard work, and mutual dedication to improving the environment and educating the public.

Contact LCMGV member Kathy Stout by email at kdstout@gmail.com for more information.

Our Beer in on Tap!

Three Tigers Brewery in Granville has just started pouring the beer made with Learning Garden hops, along with fresh hops from a couple other Licking County residents. It's called LC Freshies

https://threetigersbrewing.com/menu/beer

Writers Needed! Lori Swihart

Enjoy writing about your garden passion? Our state coordinator is looking for individuals who can write articles for a blog on the Ohio Department of Agriculture/OSU website. Submissions can be as long as you want but must be about vegetable gardening. Photos are encouraged. Need ideas on how articles have looked in the past? Go to u.osu.edu/ohiovictorygardens to see some samples. If interested, contact me for details.

I am also looking for articles for the Newark Advocate and the state MGV website.

After VMS...

Hands-On Connect (HOC) is ready for volunteers to use. First training is set for September 28 at the Licking County Library at noon for those feeling comfortable meeting in person in the large meeting room.

Please email Lori to register for this event. Members are to bring their own laptop or iPad. Next scheduled training will be on Thursday, September 30 at 11 am in the Extension Meeting Room. Space is limited so **please register** for this event, too. Again, bring your own devices. If needed, I will host one-on-one Zoom meetings. I should be receiving a step-by-step PDF soon and will send it out before the training so members can have a walk through if they wish.

Everyone: *I encourage you to have your volunteer and continuing education hours totaled* and we will enter them into the new system as part of the training. We will do a lump sum entry of your hours from February 15 to present. If you entered hours prior to February 15 for this year, it should already be in HOC. You can continue to collect and submit hours till December 31.

Certified Members: This will be the last year that any education hours can be used to fill a deficit of volunteer hours. Example, if you have a total of only 25 education hours, 10 hours can go to continuing ed and 15 can go to volunteer. You will need to find 5 more hours in this case. Licking County requirement is 10 education and 20 volunteer hours per year for certified members. Interns are working on their 50 hour requirements so this example will not pertain to them. They have until July 2022 to get all their required volunteer hours. Interns will submit their accumulated ed and volunteer hours.

If you need more hours, consider helping in the Learning Gardens. We need weeders, deadheaders and planters. We are cleaning out plots to winter over perennials for the plant sale next year. We need waterers. Come on a Monday or Thursday morning and we can put you to work. If you want to help in the garden but cannot do mornings, email Cheryl Campbell and ask what you can do when more convenient for you. Her email address is: ccamptwin1@embarqmail.com. If Fall Fest happens, we will be needing help with that event on Saturday, October 23. Email us for more information about volunteering. You can also go to the State website at https://mastergardener.osu.edu and click resources and watch Hort Lunch and Learn and Happy Hour webinars of interest to you. There are many to choose from.

Recipes

Homemade Pumpkin Puree and & Pumpkin Pie (Jim Rengert)

Use a Sugar Pie Pumpkin and easily prepare the “meat” of the pumpkins by cutting the pumpkins into 4 pieces, and slice from top to bottom. Then remove the strings and seeds and stack them, meat side down, on a broiler pan that has about ½” of water in the bottom. Set the oven to 325F and cook about an hour. When done, the skin will have slightly pulled away, and the pumpkin will be soft.

The next step is to cut the pumpkin into 1-inch squares, and process them in your blender or food processor. The product can be frozen before the processing, and then pulled out to process for some good old-fashioned autumn breads, pies or rolls.

The pie recipe (below) was taken from *The Joy of Cooking book,* 1975 edition.

Preheat oven to 425F. Place your prepared pie dough into a 8-9” pie pan.

Mix together:

- 2 C. prepared pumpkin
- ¼ C. brown sugar
- ½ white sugar
- 1 1/2 C. undiluted, condensed milk
- ½ t. salt
- 1 t. cinnamon
- ¼ t. nutmeg or allspice
- ½ t. ginger
- 1/8 t. ground cloves
- 2 slightly beaten eggs

After thoroughly mixed, pour into unbaked shell. Bake 15 minutes at 425F, before turning oven down to 350F. Then continue to bake for another 45 minutes or until a knife blade inserted in the center comes out clean. Of course, you’ll want to serve this with whipped cream or Coolwhip, and it can be flavored with rum.

An interesting variation I’d like to try, substitutes 2 T. molasses and 1 ½ C. sour cream for the milk or heavy cream.

Recipes

Cranberry Pumpkin Muffins (from Phil & Mary Ann Metzler)

Ingredients

2 cups flour - 1/2 cup brown sugar - 1 tsp baking soda - 1 tsp cinnamon - 1/2 tsp nutmeg - 1/2 tsp salt - 1 cup pumpkin - 6 oz. package Ocean Spray Craisins (dried cranberries) - 1/2 cup oil - 1/4 cup milk - 1/4 cup molasses - 1 egg

Directions

Preheat oven to 350. Add dry ingredients to a bowl & stir. Combine remaining ingredients in a separate bowl. Add liquid ingredients to dry & mix just until dry ingredients are moist. Fill each muffin cup 2/3 full. Bake 30 minutes or until golden brown (be careful to not over-bake). Remove from cupcake pan & cool on wire rack

If you have a mini-muffin pan, that size would be perfect for sharing these at a group gathering. Also, Craisins come in different flavors; we used "original" (regular) but "cherry" might be good also.

Pumpkin Butter (submitted by Nancy McClary)

Fruit and veggie butters are sweet like jams and jellies but offer a more intense flavor. Traditionally, making a fruit and veggie butter takes hours on the stove with constant monitoring—nobody has time for that! Break out your slow cooker and let it do all the hard work for you.

Ingredients and Tools

- 2-15 oz cans pure pumpkin puree
- ½ cup apple juice
- 1½ cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
- slow cooker

Combine all ingredients in your slow cooker and stir well. Cover with lid and cook on LOW for 6 hours, stirring occasionally. You can substitute the pumpkin spice with just cinnamon and the apple juice with brandy for extra depth of flavor.

Transfer the mixture to jars, and store in refrigerator. Let the pumpkin butter cool overnight prior to using, as it will continue to thicken and the flavor will intensify.

Enjoy on freshly baked croissants, toast or straight out of the jar. Add a dollop or two of the pumpkin butter to some yogurt for a delicious seasonal treat.

Store in refrigerator up to 1 week, or freezer up to 3 months.

LCMGV Officers

Coordinator: Lori Swihart
President: Kathryn Bierley
Vice President: Collette Peugeot
Secretary: Karen Jackson
Treasurer: Mary Beth Mathews

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(continued from page 8)

Butterfly Weed is also known as Butterfly Milkweed, Orange Milkweed and Pleurisy Root because Native Americans chewed the root as a remedy for pleurisy. Desiring full sun, Butterfly Weed will tolerate a few hours of shade. It requires long days and dramatically responds to photoperiod, which is the period of time an organism receives illumination. The orange flower clusters start appearing in June and last through August. Deadheading prevents seed formation, which encourages increased flower production. Stop deadheading in late summer if you desire Butterfly Weed's decorative seed pods in the fall lasting through early winter. Butterfly Weed propagates through seed disbursement. To control plant reproduction, remove the seed pods just as they begin to open (early Autumn) and directly plant the seeds in the desired location for new plants next Spring. You can expect flowers the first year planted. Butterfly Weed can also be transplanted. As new growth emerges in the Spring, or new plants grow from the rhizome's root system, dig up the plant or divide the rhizomes and plant in the desired location about 18 to 24 inches apart. Look closely at the Butterfly Weed photo (see page ####) and you'll see the Monarch butterfly in it's metamorphosis caterpillar life stage. This exquisite winged creation of delicate beauty has become the symbol for rebirth and new life.

See you in the gardens - "Grizz"

Birthdays of the Month

September
John Kauffman 4th
Dianne Hoffman 6th
Dave Proctor 7th
Pam Satterfield 13th
Lina Robinson 23rd

October
Bridget Harris 2nd
Linda Bishop 7th
Kaye Alban 13th
Grace Winter 20th
Peggy Geyer 21st
Alicia Bellew 27th (intern)
Rory Utt 30th

Attention MGVs!

Garden Spark

Who was your “garden spark”? We’d like to feature stories of those who set you on the garden path. Please submit stories and photos to stearns.107@osu.edu. This website features some lovely examples.

High Five Nominations

Do you know of a member that has gone beyond what is expected? How about nominating them for a High Five award?
Email Lori the name of the person and a little paragraph about the amazing work they have done. They will be recognized at the following Monthly Meeting. Let's show some appreciation!