



Emerald Necklace Garden Club Newsletter ~ September, 2019



"Spring flowers are long since gone. Summer's bloom hangs limp on every terrace. The gardener's feet drag a bit on the dusty path and the hinge in his back is full of creaks."

- Louise Seymour Jones

BOARD MEETING:

The next Board Meeting is at **10:00am** on **Monday, September 9th** at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 9201 Brecksville Road, Brecksville.

If you are unable to attend please call Donna Hessel (440) 526-6295

Executive Board and Committee Chairs will meet immediately following the board meeting to review and discuss the 2019 Bylaws Revisions. **Please bring your copy of the 2019 Revisions.** Please remember to RSVP to Lisa Payne (440)838-0558 or lcpayne228@gmail.com) by August 31st if you are planning to attend.

MEETINGS ~ Pauline Dey/Carol Rosin

We hope that everyone enjoyed the field trip to Dayton Nursery. The rain held out and we had a beautiful day.

GENERAL MEETING: Our next general meeting will be **Thursday, September 12th** at **9:30am** at Harriet Keeler Pavillion, in the Brecksville Metropark off Route 82/Royalton Road.

In **September** we will meet at 9:30am, have our business meeting and set up for the potluck.

If you are bringing something that must stay cold, plan accordingly. There are electric plugs in the pavilion in case you have something that must stay hot. Plates, Napkins, cups, and utensils will be provided. Ice tea, water, and lemonade will also be provided. We hope to have a speaker from the high school to explain the recycle/conservation program at the school that we donated funds to. He will talk BRIEFLY during the Youth Committee part of the business meeting. During lunch/brunch we will

be able to socialize. Donna will also bring some scrapbooks to look at.

**Don't remember what you signed up to bring.....
SEE BELOW**

Appetizers/Fruit

- Donna Loeb (deviled eggs)
- Dianna Kulwicki (cheese/veggie tray)
- Pat Cotsman (cocktail meatballs)
- Donna Hessel (fruit plate)
- Shirley Grispino (ham-roll ups)
- Joan Castelucci (cowboy caviar)

Breads/soup

- Alice Sheeler (croissants)
- Coleen Taylor (pepperoni bread)
- Gail Berzins (soup)

Salads

- Kathy Smith
- Charlene Schuh (pasta salad)
- Sue Ditzig
- Denise Bowler
- Kathie Brusk (Orzo salad)
- Laurie Siebert (macaroni salad)
- Jane Petrie

Entrees

- Maureen Michel (veggie pizza)
- Mary Ellen Isaac (chicken)

Desserts/Pastries

- Marlyn Cerino (pastry)
- Lisa Payne (muffins)
- Carol Rosin (dessert)
- Virginia Little (dessert)
- Mary Drumm (lemon bread)
- Judy Paffilas (dessert)
- Elaine Geringer (dessert)
- Rose Marie Pitts (dessert)
- Dot Baily (dessert)

We will have a sign up sheet for our October meeting to the Zoo at the September meeting.

*Thank you
Carol Rosin, Pauline Dey
1st Vice Presidents*

Among other exciting programs planned for the remainder of 2019 are:

OCTOBER: Field trip, Horticulture Tour of Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

NOVEMBER: Holiday make and take

DECEMBER: Holiday Luncheon & Installation of 2020 officers.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Donna Hessel

Summer was way too short, but I'm looking forward to all of the best that fall has in store – cooler days and vibrantly colored leaves – and, of course, greeting everyone at our September meeting and hearing about all your summer activities! September's potluck social (Pauline will be emailing the list of who is bringing what) will be a great opportunity to catch up. It is not being advertised to the general public, but if you have met someone this summer who is interested in joining the club, be sure to invite them as it will be an excellent chance to get acquainted with members on an informal basis. If you have scrapbooks, histories, or other archival documents, bring them to the meeting. We'll display them to share and then provide them to *Gail Berzins* for digital archiving in our *Forever* account.

To our **"Friends of ENGC"**: If you want to be reinstated as a member of ENGC, your *dues for the remainder of 2019 are just \$10*, payable to **Denise Bowler** at the September meeting or by mail. Your **\$20 dues for 2020 will be due by the end of December**. We hope you will consider rejoining ENGC and joining us at the meeting in September!

The ballot for 2020 officers will be presented for a vote in September. Only the President and Treasurer remain the same. If you are interested in filling one of the other Executive Board offices, please contact Pauline ASAP.

We'll be finalizing the design and ornament selection for our **GLOW** tree at the Botanical Garden on **September 5th at 10 AM at Jane Petrie's home** in Brecksville. The theme of our tree this year is **"Is Your Garden Dragon,"** within the overall theme of **"Tiny Treasures."** Dragon flies, water lilies, drops of water and rivulets (for garland) are decorating suggestions. The color scheme is blues and light

greens (aqua, turquoise, etc. for dragon flies; rose, fuschia for water lilies for contrast; iridescent materials for "water") Bring any samples you've created to the meeting. (Lots of ideas on Pinterest) We have a 10 foot tree to decorate and we need lots of ornaments, a tree topper design, and multiple volunteers to make this happen. If you've participated in the past, you know how much fun we have doing this and our trees are always spectacular. Please join us!

Don't forget about **Fall Fest** at *Brecksville Metroparks* on **Sunday, September 29**. **Maureen Michal** will have more information on this event at the September meeting, but be thinking about late blooming flowers, dried materials, greenery, grass fronds, etc. from your gardens that you can contribute for children to make the flower arrangements at our table. Your help for a couple of hours at this event will be greatly appreciated. *Fall Fest* is a great opportunity to create awareness of our club and introduce kids to one aspect of gardening through making the **"Posies in Pots."**

Jane and her committee have designed an outstanding educational program for **October 6th at the Brecksville library**, open to the public. Watch for more details and mark your calendars. This is not an ENGC scheduled meeting, but having members present to promote the club to attendees would be an advantage. Jane has amassed an amazing selection of handouts and you'll undoubtedly learn something new from the presentations.

See you in September!

Donna Hessel

GCO FEED OHIO

We'll skip donations for September and October (because of the field trip) and will begin collecting items for this GCO program again in November. Be thinking about the various products that make up your holiday meals and start stockpiling items to donate in November.

Donna

BOTANICAL GARDEN LIAISON: Jane Petrie

So much has been going on behind the scene to help enrich our lives this summer....

1. The next GLOW work/meeting is at my home **September 5th at 10am**. We need more hands to bring forth our Dragonflies etc.

OUR THEME **"IS YOUR GARDEN DRAGON?"**

Mark your calendar now for a busy early October.

- 2. Affiliates Day, Fall Forum, October 3 at 9am**
CBG.....Hear the 50 yr. history of the beautiful Herb Gardens of our CBG.
- 3. Annual Herb Fair Saturday, October 5th At CBG. 9am.**
- 4. Our own first Education Series, Sunday, October 6th at Brecksville Library 2-4pm.** Topic:"Breaking down the Garden".
Speakers...Nathalie Petri,Pat Keltner Owens and Alan Klonowski. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC...NO FEE

Flyers at our meeting with details.

[Committee...Jane Petrie, Lisa Payne and Mary Ellen Isaac]

Like I said, "Interesting days ahead".

Jane Petrie

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2020

Nominating Committee: Pauline Dey, Sue Ditzig & Shirley Grispino]

The officer nominations for 2020 (hard to believe that's next year) are as follows:

<u>President:</u>	<u>Donna Hessel</u>
<u>1st Vice Presidents:</u>	<u>Mary Drumm</u>
	<u>Maureen Michal</u>
<u>2nd Vice Presidents:</u>	<u>Kathie Brusik</u>
	<u>Sue Ditzig</u>
<u>Corresponding Secretary</u>	<u>Shirley Grispino</u>
<u>Recording Secretary:</u>	<u>Charlene Schuh</u>
<u>Treasurer:</u>	<u>Laurie Siebert</u>

We will vote on the slate of officers at the September meeting. As per the Bylaws, nominations for positions will also be taken from the floor.

Thank you from the nominating committee--
Pauline Dey, Sue Ditzig, Shirley Grispino.

Fall Fest: Maureen Michal

Please mark your calendars now for **Fall Fest on Sunday, September 29!** As always we can use all the help we can get as we are one of the more popular venues. Every year we have been busy with kids who can't wait to make their arrangement and go continuously until we run out of flowers/plant material.

The week before *Fall Fest* please go through your garden and any nearby fields and roadsides and collect any plant material that you think could be used (this includes grasses, cat tails, fern fronds, even

boxwood and pachysandra or other greenery for filler).

You can drop off your flowers/plant material at my house on **Friday, Sept. 27** or **Saturday, Sept. 28** (I will have buckets of water in front of my garage) at 10439 Fitzwater Road, Brecksville or if you are helping the day of then just bring it with you.

Jane has graciously said that she will continue to be in charge of the cookies and publicity table. If you would like to bake cookies I am sure she would appreciate it and if you need the recipe she will have it for you at our September meeting.

I will have a sign-up sheet at our September meeting but if for some reason you will not be at the meeting, you can call or email me what shift you would like to work. We have three overlapping shifts, they are: Set-up 9:30 - 11:30, 11am - 2pm, and 1pm - 4pm. The second and third shift we need as many people as we can and if you actually want to stay longer than the assigned shift that would be great but if you can only do an hour or two that is also okay. This is a very fun event and one where our club interacts with the public in a big way, the last few years we have helped kids make somewhere between 500 - 700 arrangements!

I have plenty of cat food cans but will need help stuffing them with Oasis. I will announce a date at our meeting when whoever can come over to my house and help prep the cans would be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, if you really want to get in the spirit of things you are invited (even encouraged) to wear any pioneer period type costume to the event although this is not necessary.

*Thanks,
Maureen*

2019 ENGC HOSTESSES

September 12: Potluck-Metropark

Barbara Harviatt, Marlene Winter

October 10: FIELD TRIP – no hostesses

November 14: Mary Drumm, Judy Paffilas,

Pat Cotsman, Lisa Payne

December 12: Holiday Luncheon – NO Hostesses

SUNSHINE REPORT ~ Mary Drumm

If you are aware of any sunshine news, please contact our **Corresponding Secretary, Mary Drumm,** [(440)546-0776; Keemm@roadrunner.com].

YEAR BOOK CHANGES:

If you have any changes, the following members need to know ASAP: *Denise Bowler, Donna Hessel, Kathie Brusk.*

Shirley Grispino new email address:

sagrispino@gmail.com

September Birthdays

Kathy Smith	Sept. 11
Maureen Michal	Sept. 12
Colleen Taylor	Sept. 21



Save the Dates:

September 5th (Thursday) 10am GLOW
work/meeting at Jane Petrie's house.

September 9th (Monday) 10am ~ ENGC Board Meeting

September 10th (Tuesday) ~ GCO Fall District Meeting –

September 12th (Thursday) ~ ENGC Potluck/Metropark

September 29th (Sunday) – Fall Fest in the Brecksville Metropark

October 3rd (Thursday) 3 at 9am ~ Affiliates Day, Fall Forum

October 6th (Sunday) 2-4pm ~ ENGC Education Series "Breaking down the Garden" at Brecksville Library.

Garden Tasks for September**1. Plant Annual Flowers**

In frost-free regions, September is an ideal time to add annual flowers, such as **begonia**, **ageratum**, **zinnia**, and **celosia**, to your garden. They thrive in the mild autumn temperatures and bloom through the early winter. Make sure to water them every day or so for the first week or two to help get them established. Also, mulching them helps maintain consistent soil moisture. Look for transplants with bright green leaves and thick stems. Avoid tall, leggy specimens.

Trial Garden Tip: Pair annual flowers with ornamental grasses for a spectacular effect. The blooms of the annuals contrast nicely with the dramatic, airy seed heads of ornamental grasses.

2. Add Color with Mums and Pansies in Your September Garden

Instant impact! That's what you'll get when you add ready-to-bloom chrysanthemums and pansies to beds, borders, and containers. These easy-care plants relish cool weather and provide an injection of color in your September garden. Look for stocky plants that are still in bud so that you can enjoy them longer. Blooming plants are great if you need color for a same-day event, but they're further into their bloom cycle and won't last as long as budded specimens.

Trial Garden Tip: Chrysanthemums are available in two basic types: florist and garden. Florist mums make wonderful gifts, but do not do well outside. For landscape use, look for garden mums.

3. Improve Your Soil

Fall is a great time to improve the soil in your September garden. After you remove dead and dying vegetables and flowers, spread a 2- to 3-inch-deep layer of rotted manure or compost over the surface of the soil. Spade or rototill it into the top several inches of soil and rake smooth. If the area had been mulched previously, just spread the soil amendments over the mulch and then rototill everything at the same time. In smaller beds, use a garden fork to turn the soil. If you want to protect your soil from wind erosion during the winter, sow a cover crop of annual rye grass now in September. It grows quickly and keeps the soil in place until spring. By then, the grass will be dead and you can turn it under to add an extra dose of nitrogen to your soil.

Trial Garden Tip: If you have a source of fresh horse or chicken manure, spread it directly over your garden in early fall. Winter snows and rains help break it down so its high nitrogen content won't burn your crops in the spring. At other times of the year, fresh manure needs to be composted before applying.

4. Plant Spring-Flowering Bulbs

Enjoy a bounty of bloom in your garden next year by planting spring-flowering bulbs now. Tulips, daffodils, crocus, hyacinths, and other early-bird bloomers can be massed in beds by themselves or tucked in between established perennials and shrubs. Planting bulbs is easy: Just dig individual holes (8 inches deep for large bulbs like daffodils, 4 inches deep for smaller bulbs such as crocus),

drop the bulb in, and cover with soil. Or, dig one large hole and toss in a dozen or more bulbs. Planted this way, they'll pop up in one impressive drift of color.

Trial Garden Tip: Select a variety of bulbs that bloom at different times to ensure color from early spring through to early summer. Some species, such as snowdrops, bloom as early as February, while late bloomers such as alliums flower in early June.

5. Clean Up Vegetable Gardens

The best way to prevent insects and diseases from affecting your vegetable garden next year is to clean it up this fall. Always remove rotting fruit, diseased foliage, or dead vines as soon as they appear. This is especially true with crops such as tomatoes, potatoes, melons, and squash. Pests and diseases love to overwinter on these vegetables if they are left in the garden to rot. Compost your garden refuse as soon as possible and, if your crops have been ill over the summer, consider burning the remains or bagging them for garbage pick-up.

Trial Garden Tip: Make sure any leaves or tendrils are cleaned off tomato cages and supports before you store them for the winter. It only takes one insect egg case or spore clinging to the support to cause havoc in your garden next spring.

6. Bring Houseplants Indoors

If you haven't done so already, bring vacationing houseplants indoors before frost. Give each plant a cleansing spray from the garden hose, then inspect them closely for insect hitchhikers hiding in the foliage. Wipe the pots clean to remove any soil that may have splashed up on them during the summer. Let them dry and then carry them into the house placing them on saucers to protect your floors from runoff. Some plants may also have put on a lot of new growth over the summer and will require a bit of pruning to shape them up before you bring them inside.

Trial Garden Tip: To prevent unexpected soil pests from moving indoors, sink each pot in a bucket of water for a few hours before bringing the plant indoors. This process drowns or uncovers any slugs, snails, worms, or beetles hiding below the surface of the soil.

7. Enhance your Landscape

September is an ideal time to add shrubs and trees to your landscape. **Hydrangeas**, roses, and other flowering shrubs and trees flourish during the cool, moist fall weather. Just be sure to do a little research before you add any plants to your landscape: Look for varieties that are hardy in your climate and won't grow too large for the space you have. And always remember that even the smallest sapling will eventually grow into a tree that could swallow your home if planted too close.

Trial Garden Tip: Improve winter survival of trees and shrubs by watering them deeply right up until hard frost. The soil should be moist before it freezes solid.

8. Improve Your Lawn

Give your lawn some attention this month. Most cool-season lawns benefit from dethatching, aeration, and fertilization. You can also seed or sod new lawns at this time or fix bare spots in older lawns. It's also the season to control perennial weeds such as clover and dandelion. In the fall, these weeds prepare for winter by pulling nutrients and starches from their leaves into their roots. When you apply a lawn herbicide in the fall, the plants will also draw the chemical into their roots and die. Southern grasses such as bahia, Bermudagrass, zoysia, and St. Augustine can also be fertilized this month. Choose a fertilizer that contains controlled-release nitrogen that will feed the turf as it needs it.

Trial Garden Tip: There's no need to purchase lawn tools such as aerators, dethatchers, or rototillers: They are all available to rent at your local home store.

9. Dry Flowers

Savor the colors of your September garden all winter long by creating dried bouquets of your favorite flowers. Strawflower, **globe amaranth**, celosia, **sedum**, statice, **yellow**, and **artemisia** are just a few examples of flowers that are easy to dry and preserve beautifully for winter bouquets. Just cut the blooms (leaving as long a stem as possible) in the morning after the dew evaporates. Bundle them, and hang them upside down in a dry, well-ventilated, dark location. After a week or two they can be taken down and mixed together to create everlasting bouquets or wreaths.

Trial Garden Tip: Use a piece of foam core at the bottom of your vase to keep dried flowers in place. Just stick each stem into the foam base for stability.

10. Engage a Kid

Now that school is back in session, engage the budding scientist in your life with a terrarium project. Terrariums are fun and allow children to create a miniature world all their own. Plus, kids learn valuable lessons about how soil, plants, water, and air interact in a perfect environment. They can even choose between a jungle or desert themes.

Jungle-theme terrariums can include plants such as [peperomia](#), [pilea](#), fern, [nerve plant](#), [selaginella](#), begonia, philodendron, and saxifrage. In a desert garden, try [mammillaria](#), [echeveria](#), sempervivum, portulacaria, crassula, kalanchoe, sedum, and haworthia.

Trial Garden Tip: Any glass container can be transformed into a jungle terrarium. Avoid the urge to water too frequently: Misting your plants once a day provides needed humidity without flooding the container. Dish gardens planted with desert plants should only be lightly watered once or twice a month.

Please email articles to ccschuh@gmail.com or mail them to Charlene Schuh, 9196 Highland Drive, Brecksville, OH 44141.

Gardening tips, websites to browse, and recipes are always welcome.