



## Emerald Necklace Garden Club Newsletter ~ March, 2020

“Springtime is the land awakening. The  
March winds are the morning yawn.”

- Lewis Gizzard



### **BOARD MEETING:**

The next Board Meeting is at **10:00am** on **Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 9201 Brecksville Road, Brecksville. *If you are unable to attend please call Donna Hessel (440) 526-6295*

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### **General Meeting-Mary Drumm/Maureen Michal**

Our next general meeting will be on **Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 9201 Brecksville Road, Brecksville.

Our speaker will be Denise Ellsworth, Program Director of Pollinator eEducation in the Department of Entomology at the Ohio State University Extension. Denise will teach us how to attract pollinators to our gardens and how we can protect pollinators.

You don't want to miss her informative presentation. Please read her fact sheet about attracting pollinators prior to our general meeting. Copy and paste link into your browser.

[http://u.osu.edu/beelab/files/2015/03/ENT\\_47\\_14\\_jan\\_30-s6msli.pdf](http://u.osu.edu/beelab/files/2015/03/ENT_47_14_jan_30-s6msli.pdf)

Thanks, *Mary*

### **Spring Luncheon Raffle Chair: Pauline Dey**

**Luncheon Raffle Baskets.** If anyone has large baskets to use for the raffle, please bring to the March meeting. Smaller ones go to Patio Shop. I will also have sheets ready to sign up for putting a basket together. One or two of you can get together and plan your basket. Anything gardening goes well; also Lottery tickets, wine and restaurant gift cards. See you in March.

Thanks *Pauline*

### **PATIO: Maureen Michal/Mary Drumm**

Donations of baskets, pots and planters are needed as well as small decorative “treasures” that we can add to the potted plants. Please bring any

items to the general meeting or contact Mary or Maureen and we will come to your house.

Thanks! *Mary*

### **Cat Food Cans for FallFest**

My supply of cat food cans is diminishing this year. If you have a cat or know someone who does please save the cat food cans. The small cans are preferable (like Fancy Feast) and please clean and remove labels. These cans are used for the children's flower arrangements at FallFest. Typically we use 400-500 cans.

Thank you, *Maureen*

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: Donna Hessel**

We may see a few snowflakes still flying around, but Spring is definitely on the way. Crocuses and daffodils are starting to bud, forsythia branches are taking on a golden hue and tulips are poking up green leaves. With an extra hour of daylight beginning March 8<sup>th</sup>, we can look forward to getting more of those spring garden chores completed in daylight!

We hosted a sell-out crowd at our February 23<sup>rd</sup> education program. They loved the catalogs, garden gloves and seed pack giveaways and took lots of notes. Hopefully we'll see some of them at our meetings and/or luncheon. Thanks to Jane and Mary Ellen for coordinating the details that assured a very informative and successful meeting.

Horticulture specimens from your gardens are needed at the flower show for the GCO Convention April 15 and 16. Please keep this in mind as things start popping up with the spring weather. Staff at the flower show will be able to help you identify your plant material, fill out the paperwork and provide containers, etc. You just need to deliver your specimens to the Holiday Inn on Rockside and I-77, Ballroom 1, between 12 noon and 4:00 PM on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you want to attract more bees, butterflies and other pollinators to your gardens or containers, you'll want to hear Denise Ellsworth's presentation at our March meeting. She really knows her subject and will be able to answer any questions you may have. Hope to see you at the meeting

*Donna Hessel*

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### Lend a Hand Food Collection

In March we will be collecting breakfast foods – e.g. cereals, instant oatmeal, canned fruit, canned juices, etc. All donations are appreciated and contribution is voluntary.

*Donna*

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### Seeds of Friendship

We will be collecting seed packs for Seeds of Friendship at the March and April meetings. Seeds needed are bush green beans, green cabbage, onions, green peppers, tomatoes, cosmos and zinnias (all colors and sizes). Garden gloves are also provided with the seeds. Dollar Tree has some nice ones for \$1.00 if you want to add those. Our collection will be turned in to GCO at the April 28<sup>th</sup> district meeting.

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### Education Series - Jane Petrie/Mary Ellen Isaac

Our long awaited program "Waking up the Garden," was a huge success on Sun. the 23rd. We had an overflowing capacity of 45, eager to get their hands in the dirt.

Our own Nathalie and Donna, joined by 2 members of the Western Reserve Herb Society, Kate Williams and Lynn Griffin, showed or told them how to do it. Many handouts or a detailed power point, [Donna], made our gardening adventures come alive.

Our guests came from all over, thanks to Donna's great PR and word of mouth. Our guests were treated with delicious sweets made by Joan, Pat, Marlene and Mary Ellen, along with coffee. There were also many choices of fine catalogs to take plus a new pair of garden gloves and seed packet for each guest. We also ordered a beautiful sunny day!! What a treat for all.

Two hours just is not enough time for speakers who have so much great information to share, plus guests with so many questions.

On to our next Education Series.....

Co-Chairwomen  
Jane Petrie/Mary Ellen Isaac

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### 2020 ENGC HOSTESSES

Below are the hostesses for the remainder of 2020:

March: *Barbara Harvatt; Gail Berzins; Charlene Schuh; Carol Rosin*

April: *Colleen Taylor; Denise Bowler; Mary Ellen Isaac; Pauline Dey*

May: **FIELD TRIP ~ NO HOSTESSES**

June: *Sherry Klodnick; Cheryl Spieth; Kathy Smith; Elaine Geringer*

July/August ~NO MEETINGS/NO HOSTESSES

September: *Donna Hessel; Sue Mack; Shirley Grispingo; Sue Ditzig*

October: **AFTERNOON FIELD TRIP ~ NO HOSTESSES**

November: *Christine Glick; Connie Anselmo; Pat Keltner; Jane Petrie*

December: **HOLIDAY LUNCHEON ~ NO HOSTESSES**

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### 2020 Calendar of Events

March 12: *"Pollinators" - Denise Ellsworth, Program Director Pollinator Education, OSU Extension*

April 9: *"Native Plants" - Jo Ann Bartsch, Master Gardener, Chippewa Garden Club*

May 14: *Field Trip - ATI/Secrest Arboretum, Wooster*

June 11 *"Cuyahoga Valley National Park" and potluck picnic*

July/August ~ NO MEETINGS

September 10 *"ENGC Funded BBHHS Class Projects" - Dan Reynolds*

October 8 *Field Trip - Mapleside Farms - 1:00 PM - Fall Fun*

November 12 *"Creative Creations" - Sandy Apidone, Owner, Countryside Florist*

December 10 *Holiday Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Creekside Restaurant, Brecksville*

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### SUNSHINE NEWS ~ Shirley Grispingo

If you are aware of any sunshine news, please contact our **Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Grispingo**

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## YEAR BOOK CHANGES:

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

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<b>MARCH BIRTHDAYS</b>	
<b>Kathie Brusk</b>	
<b>Barbara Harvatt</b>	
<b>Connie Anselmo</b>	
<b>Gail Berzins</b>	
<b>Marlene Winter</b>	
<b>Charlene Schuh</b>	

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## Save the Dates:

**April 15-16 ~ GCO 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, Cleveland**

**April 28 ~ GCO Spring District Meeting**

**May 3, 2020 (Sunday) ~ Olmstead Falls Plant Sale**

**August 25 ~ GCO Fall District Meeting**

**November 5 ~ GCO Holiday Program North**

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## **Regional Gardening Guide for March**

Gardening Tips for the Beginning of Spring

Written by [Marie Iannotti](#)

Updated 01/13/20

<https://www.thespruce.com > Outdoors & Gardening > Landscaping>

March is a guessing game in the garden. Will it warm up soon? Will it stay warm? Will the rains start/stop? About the only thing we can count on is that March too shall pass. So go ahead and push the envelope, but keep the [row covers](#) handy.

Everyone should have their seeds started, their trees and shrubs pruned, and their tools ready to go. After that, the most important thing is to have patience. It's tempting to take advantage of warm days, but even in Zones 9 and 10, spring gets the last word in the garden.

**Here are regional gardening tips to take with a spoonful of judgment.**

### All Regions

- Start feeding [houseplants](#) again. Repot, if necessary.
- Avoid walking on wet soil in the garden. This is because soil can be wetter this time of year than during the core winter months, and you can compact the soil by walking on it. Compacting the soil could result in poor root penetration, poor drainage, and lack of necessary air space between plants.
- Get your soil tested.

### **Northeast**

- Good luck [planting peas](#) for St. Pat's Day. You'll have better luck if you wait for the soil to get warmer and drier.
- Start seeds of warm-season vegetables and flowers indoors.
- [Force](#) some spring-blooming trees and shrubs such as forsythia, pussy willow, quince, and crab apples.
- Keep tabs on plant crowns that may have heaved out of the ground during a thaw.
- Begin removing mulch at the end of the month, as temperatures increase.

Please email articles to [ccschuh@gmail.com](mailto:ccschuh@gmail.com) by the 25th of the month.

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