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Journal



Community Supported Agriculture:
The Rise of Flower CSAs
Lakestone Family Farm

FREE

Volume Twenty-four, Issue Four
July-August 2018



SARA'S GARDEN

Summer Gardening

The rush of the season has passed and now comes the part of the season where you evaluate: what you love or hate, what can you improve upon etc., etc. We spend the summer months watering and tending and all the while we are making notes about plant performance and placement. For example, we already know what petunias we will and won't be growing next season and what perennials we are propagating and dividing in bigger numbers. And the garden? I know now that the application of a pre-emergent in early spring just cannot be sacrificed—it is too important! Since it was still winter this past April, that garden task did not happen, and boy are we paying for it now. Don't let the dog days of summer get you down. Keep on weeding, watering, fertilizing and most importantly, learning.

Social Gardening

We would like to use this space to also remind you of the opportunities we offer for connection with us. Facebook is our favorite avenue, and while you're there take a moment to sign up for our email options too. Our best sales of the season are delivered this way.

Stone Wall Follies Finale

This will be our 10th year of the follies and what a wonderful journey these 10 years have been. We have met some of the most amazing stone-loving people. This season's anniversary brings to mind what John says, "Stones want to be together" ...and they bring people together too. John and Norman will be making their final appearance here in Brockport this session...they have devoted years to their craft along with teaching and traveling to enlarge the circle for the "dyker" at heart everywhere. Consider the beginners dry laid stone wall session this year to experience that last 'wee bit of magic' with true masters of the art. October 5, 6, and 7.

For details on the Follies, garden event opportunities or any other garden-related topic, call the nursery at **585-637-4745** or email us at kkepler@rochester.rr.com.

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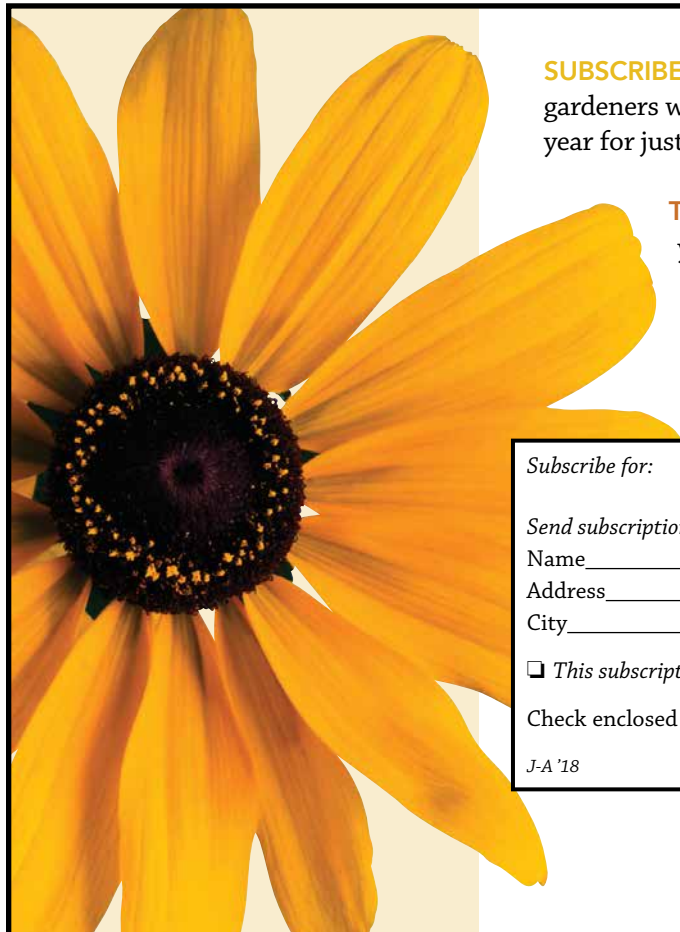
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On the cover: *Pee Gee Hydrangea, Pittsford, NY*
by Jane Milliman



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What To Do in the Garden in June & July



The dog days of summer are upon us. Ever wonder where that expression came from? Is it because it's too hot even for a dog to get up and run around? Not exactly. According to the *Old Farmer's Almanac*, the dog days start July 3 and run for 40 days, ending August 11. This coincides with the rising of the Dog Star, Sirius. Regardless of how the saying started or where it came from, we all think of this time of year as hot and sultry. Consider doing your gardening chores first thing in the morning or in the cool of the evening rather than in the heat of the day.

WATERING NEEDS

In the heat of the summer, monitor your new plantings for watering needs. A general rule of thumb is that plants need one inch of water per week. If Mother Nature does not provide it, you need to. Drip or trickle irrigation will deliver water directly to the root zone, which is great for vegetable plants. If they do not get adequate water, your vegetables will not develop normally. Try to water early in the day so the foliage has a chance to dry off by nightfall. Wet foliage can lead to disease issues. Using mulch will help maintain soil moisture and help keep weeds—which will steal moisture and nutrients from your plants—down. Avoid frequent, light watering. Instead, water deeply at wider intervals and let the water soak in. This will encourage new roots to grow deeper into the soil. Don't forget to water trees and shrubs that have been planted in the last three years. They are still establishing their root systems. During periods of drought, street trees can also use a drink.

DAYLILY CARE DURING JULY

Peak bloom is usually during the month of July. Removing spent blooms (deadheading) daily keeps daylilies looking great. While deadheading, check for pests or diseases, and also remove any unsightly foliage. Once blooms are done you can remove the scapes for a nicer appearance. This is also a good time to make note of any daylilies that may need to be divided once they are done blooming or in the fall.

HOUSEPLANTS

July and August is a good time to give houseplants a rest. Keep them watered and in a shady spot. Growth may slow down a bit as they rest. Tropical plants on the other hand need the sun but afternoon shade is always a nice respite for all plants. Water is a must along with good drainage.

LAWNS

Many of our lawns are made up of Kentucky bluegrass, which is a cool-season plant. Hot, dry summers stress it out. Without rain or irrigation, it will go dormant and turn brown until more favorable conditions arrive in autumn. Mow grass one-half inch higher than usual during the summer months to help conserve soil moisture. Do not remove clippings from the lawn unless the grass is excessively tall or weedy. Clippings return some nutrients to the soil and do not add to thatch buildup. When watering lawns, you should apply one to one-and-a-half inches of water in a single application per week. Keep newly established lawn watered during dry weather. Allow water to penetrate deeply into the soil rather than watering

frequently and lightly. Frequent, light sprinklings encourage roots to stay shallow, making them more susceptible to drought.

ANNUALS

Annuals are great for color throughout the summer. To keep them flowering, deadhead spent flowers and pinch back lanky annuals to encourage new growth and more blossoms. Coleus flowers should also be removed. When watering add a bit of fertilizer, especially to container plantings. If you have annuals that are distorted or oddly colored they may be infected with a virus. To prevent viruses from spreading to healthy plants remove the infected ones and put them in the garbage, not the compost pile.

VEGETABLES

In the vegetable garden, this is prime harvest time. Pick ripe fruits and vegetables to encourage more production. Fertilize producing crops, but avoid too much on tomatoes. Late crops in the garden like squash and cucumbers need fertilizer to keep producing. Sweet corn could be showing signs of earworms so treat as necessary. Pinch out basil flowers to keep the plants producing foliage. As space becomes available plant seeds or seedlings of cool-weather, short-season crops like lettuce, radish and spinach that will mature before a hard frost.

PEST PROBLEMS

You may find yourself trying to outsmart the local wildlife this summer. Depending upon what types of fruits and vegetables you are growing, July and August can be a prime month for four legged pest problems. Rabbits enjoy salad greens and squirrels like tomatoes as much as we do, birds will devour your fruit, and deer may nibble on anything they find. You may need to erect a sturdy fence around your garden if you haven't already. Bird netting can help deter birds from stealing your fruit before you can pick it.

Remain vigilant and continue pulling those weeds. Be ready to attack any weeds that plague your garden. Try not to let them go to seed! Don't put weeds that have gone to seed in your compost pile. Unless your compost pile heats up, those seeds will survive only to cause problems next year.

Be on the lookout for the beginning of late blight in your tomatoes and potatoes. USABlight.org tracks confirmed cases of late blight. By checking the site you can track its progress from the southern states and take precautions when it makes it to New York. Late blight is considered to be a "community" disease and should not be ignored. Infected plants should be destroyed so that they do not continue to spread the disease. Fungicides need to be applied preventively for late blight. Chlorothalonil is the most effective conventional fungicide available to gardeners to help prevent plants from becoming infected. For organic production a copper fungicide is recommended. When using any pesticide always read and understand the label.

Want more tips? Check out our expanded almanac at upstategardenersjournal.com/almanac-july-august-2018/

—Jan Beglinger and the Genesee County Master Gardeners

INSET: Buddy the Boston terrier helping to move plants, Rush, NY

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Slow and Steady: The Rise of Flower CSAs



by Michelle Sutton

ABOVE: Flower bouquet
by Linda VanApeldoorn.
Photo by Anna Simonak

You've probably heard of the Slow Food Movement, and maybe even the Slow Gardening concept coined by horticulturist Felder Rushing. If you buy cut flowers from local growers, you are likely participating in the burgeoning Slow Flowers movement.

The concept of Slow Flowers was popularized by garden writer Debra Prinzing who launched slowflowers.com in 2014 as a means to connect consumers to farmers, florists, and grocery stores who sell locally grown flowers. It was through Prinzing's

website and its grower directory that I found Linda VanApeldoorn of Take Your Pick Flowers in Lansing just outside Ithaca, and Carrie Kling of Windy Acres Horticulture in Royalton, an hour east of Buffalo. Both provide flower CSAs to their customers.

CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture, and CSAs are farms that offer subscriptions to their customers for regular (usually weekly) deliveries of produce and/or flowers. Both Linda and Carrie found their way into flower CSAs as a natural outgrowth of

their customers' desire to have regular deliveries of bouquets. Here they are in their own words.

LINDA VANAPeldoorn's STORY

I started flower farming and operating a pick-your-own in 2006 soon after I moved in with then-new husband Paul. His home, to my delight, happened to be situated on the only hillside with sandy loam in all of clay-heavy Tompkins County! In 2008 the Lansing Farmers Market opened and I took bouquets to sell. Shortly thereafter, I left my day job, started growing flowers full time, and added doing flowers for weddings and events to my business.

The CSA branch of the business began in 2007 after my chiropractor said, "You know, I'd love to get your flowers but I don't have time to come out there and pick them. If you bring them to me, I'll buy them!" I started bringing flowers when I had my weekly appointment with her, and then other people started getting interested.

This year I have 53 flower CSA members. Some pick up their bouquets here at the farm, but we also have drop-off locations in Tompkins County and I do some deliveries to homes, offices, restaurants, and retailers in the Ithaca area. Folks can opt for 10- or 15-week seasons. Each year I add new varieties to the mix. My business motto is "Flowers from Seed to Centerpiece!" ... as I start most of the plants from seed in my home under grow lights.

I suppose I was part of the Slow Flowers movement before it was named as such. My philosophy is to grow flowers as sustainably as possible. I try to let Nature do her thing as best she can. On the rare occasion I use a pest control product, it has to be certified organic. Buying local is so very important, as most store flowers are grown in South America, injected with chemicals, packed dry, and have such a long journey to your table, the life gets sucked out of them while the carbon footprint mounts. You can see the difference between imported and locally grown flowers, so if you're going to buy flowers, why not buy real ones? One reason my CSA has been so successful is that people are in such disbelief about how long my flowers last. They pick up their flower CSA delivery and comment that last week's bouquets are still looking fresh.

I belong to the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers and keep learning from them. They have a great YouTube video about locally grown flowers that I highly recommend (youtu.be/PEXs9UUgqqg). I've done seed trials for them over the past few years, so sometimes I get early access to new and unique varieties of cut flowers.

A really lovely arrangement came out of the drought summer of 2016, as it was then that I met Glen Robertson from Challenge Workforce Solutions in Ithaca. Challenge finds work for folks with disabilities and other barriers to employment, and Glen runs a program called Ability to Bloom that grows and sells cut flowers. Because the drought compromised flower productivity



that summer, Ability to Bloom was having trouble meeting their flower quota, so Glen purchased some from me. We then joined forces; now I hire Challenge crews to work here a couple days a week, and I also go up to their plot to work when they need me.

I started teaching workshops a couple of years ago on flower arranging, how to make flower crowns, drying flowers, and dried flower crafts. There are several upcoming ones listed on my web site, takeyourpickflowers.com.

TOP: Linda's wreath for the bride. Photo by Linda VanApeldoorn

BOTTOM: Linda VanAppeldoorn. Photo by Sheri Negrea



THE PRINCIPLES OF THE SLOW FLOWERS MOVEMENT

(from slowflowersjournal.com)

To recognize and respect the seasons by celebrating and designing with flowers when they naturally bloom

To reduce the transportation footprint of the flowers and foliage consumed in the marketplace by sourcing as locally as possible

To support flower farmers small and large by crediting them when possible through proper labeling at the wholesale and consumer level

To encourage sustainable and organic farming practices that respect people and the environment

To eliminate waste and the use of chemical products in the floral industry

CARRIE KLING'S STORY

Windy Acres Horticulture (windyacreshorticulture.com) is a small farm in Royalton, New York. We grow flowers on just under an acre-and-a-half of our 75-acre farm. I began by selling potted plants at a farmer's market more than eight years ago. Over time I was drawn to the simple beauty of flowers grouped together in a bunch, and to flowers so artistically arranged that they would make your heart stop for a moment while you admire nature's colors and shapes.

The flower CSA evolved naturally from a desire to market my flowers directly to consumers. My friend Julie Blackman from Blackman Farms and I would talk about our goal of retiring from our jobs in health care to pursue our dreams of farming. She went on to open a brick-and-mortar store in Snyder called Farmers and Artisans where local and artisan foods and products are sold, and I gave up my medical career to focus on growing specialty cut flowers. It evolved naturally that we would partner and that Julie would provide the

distribution for the flower CSA at her store, along with her vegetable and fruit shares.

Putting a name and face on a product is what consumers want and need. We are surrounded by mass marketing which is impersonal and isolating. People want a connection to others and to the land. We have all experienced seeing a mass-marketed bouquet, where each flower looks like the next, a clone of its neighbor in color and form. Lost are the nuances that nature brings to individual flowers and stems. I strive to make each week's bouquet of our 18-week subscriptions different and unique from the last. In addition to the CSA customers, florists, event planners, and brides are appreciating the benefits of local flowers that are naturally grown at Windy Acres Farm.

I continue to grow and experiment in the field of cut flowers. This year, I am trialing a partnership with another flower farmer to provide flowers for her CSA, thereby increasing her options for artfully designed seasonal bouquets. We've started providing floral

TOP: Carrie's creativity at work. Photo Courtesy Carrie Kling

BOTTOM: A Carrie Kling creation centering heirloom chrysanthemums. Photo Courtesy Carrie Kling



design classes, usually in the fall. After instruction in basic flower care and design, attendees create their own beautiful arrangement to take home. It is a huge amount of fun.

Becoming a part of the Slow Flowers movement was something I felt I had to do to support the larger industry. Slow Flowers is about making a conscious choice to educate people on the source of their flowers and to grow flower farms once again in the U.S. Many people don't know that most of the flowers sold in the U.S. are shipped in boxes from South America, Africa, the Netherlands, and other places.

To survive their long trip as cargo, they have been grown to withstand the rigors of being out of water for at least a week. These flowers have been hybridized to the point of becoming scentless and are sometimes lifeless in appearance. They are fumigated with pesticides to prevent the importing of pests into the U.S. Flower variety and a diverse gene pool is being lost as only varieties that withstand shipping are grown for seed.

Workers, mostly women, are exposed to sub-optimum working conditions and dangerous chemicals.

The Fair Trade Agreement of the 1990s that allowed these imports literally put most flower farmers in the U.S. out of business. The Slow Flower movement strives to bring American-grown flowers back. My CSA is a natural outcome of joining the Slow Flowers movement, as is engaging with other flower farmers through the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers. This group selflessly shares information, resources, and best practices with the goal of helping each member to succeed. There is no limiting sense of competition, but a mutual sense that each member is vested in your success.

Michelle Sutton (michellejudysutton.com) is a horticulturist, editor, and writer.

ABOVE: Carrie Kling with her peony border. Photo Courtesy Carrie Kling

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From a New Generation of Farmers

On the farm with Denis Lepel of Lakestone Family Farm

Story and photos by Donna De Palma unless noted

Denis Lepel never suspected that tending a garden would lead to a life of farming. Lepel, and his wife, Trish, picked up roots in Rochester and moved to Queens when Trish’s father fell ill with Parkinson’s. Lepel’s father-in-law bestowed the care and feeding of his tomato garden on Denis.

While in Queens, Denis and Trish joined a CSA on Long Island. “Even though I’d worked as a produce manager at a local grocery store for eight years, I was introduced to vegetables I’d never seen before like Hakurei turnips and many different varieties of eggplant” says Lepel.

The couple’s excitement about organic and local foods expanded. Lepel’s awareness about our food system was awakened by the video series, “Meatrix.” The films opened Lepel’s eyes.

“We watched these films which were cartoon parodies of the Matrix movies. They talk about factory farming and the meat system and how the meat we eat is raised.”

Shortly after viewing the “Meatrix” series, Lepel decided it was time to start eating healthier food. He and Trish decided

to visit the CSA farm they’d joined. “That was when it hit me. Farming might be something I’d be interested in doing.”

Lepel expanded the garden plot in his father-in-law’s yard. He gardened in raised beds behind the house in Queens. “I had an affinity for gardening. My garden got larger and larger. I employed home garden methods such as square foot gardening to increase yields on small plots. It worked well. We had 30 different varieties of vegetables growing in a 48 sq. ft. garden.”

“When my father-in-law passed away, it was a pivotal moment for us. We had already started our family and wanted to raise our children near our parents. My parents were all we had left and they were in Rochester. We asked ourselves, ‘What can we do for work if we move back.’ We toyed with the idea of buying land and starting a farm. Worst case scenario and the farm folds, I could get a traditional job.”

“My wife and I started thinking maybe we could do this. We trolled the internet for anything within a 30-mile radius of Rochester. We thought Rochester would be a good market. A lot of people live in the area. Organic produce is gaining in

LEFT: Tomatoes.

RIGHT: Denis Lepel with hens.

popularity. Our farm would be close enough for people to visit as members of a CSA.”

“We found some property online in October, 2010. We were visiting Rochester for Thanksgiving that year and said to ourselves, ‘If it’s still there when we visit, we’ll take a look.’ The property sounded much better than it actually turned out to be.”

The Lepels fell in love with the 1850’s farmhouse for sale in Farmington but they didn’t know anything about the land it was on. “When you’re farming, the land is the most important thing. But I had never farmed a day in my life, so I didn’t know how important soil was. I thought, at the time, a farm is a farm.”

Lepel booked a reservation to attend the winter conference of NOFA NY in Saratoga Springs in January of 2010. And he started reading about farming—anything he could get his hands on.

Lepel went to his first NOFA conference armed with computer printouts and aerial maps of the farm. “Half of the people I met at the conference thought buying this land was a mistake. They said the soil was too rocky.”

“But I felt such a connection with the people at the NOFA conference. The community was so inviting. They told me I wouldn’t make money but no one told me I was crazy to want to farm. So that clinched it in my mind; that this could be something I could do.”

Lepel needed the exposure to other organic farmers. “I met a whole lot of people that I’m still in contact with to this day. People I see on a weekly basis at farmers’ markets. It’s such a tight community.”

“People at the conference told me I needed to learn more about farming. It was there I heard about Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture in Westchester County. I applied for an apprenticeship. Instead, I was awarded an internship because I didn’t have any farming experience. I use many of the techniques and principles I learned at Stone Barns Center on my farm today.”

Lepel interned at the Center from June through October of 2010. “Because I couldn’t wait to begin farming, immediately upon returning to Queens from the first NOFA conference, I picked up an organic food guide. I called every farm within an hour of my house in Queens to volunteer.”

Restoration Farm in Old Bethpage on Long Island took Lepel in as a volunteer in February of that year. His first project, besides shoveling snow, was converting a tractor from fossil fuel to electric power.

The Lepels closed on the farmhouse in Farmington in the summer of 2011 and haven’t looked back since starting Lakestone Family Farm in the spring of 2012.

The training Lepel received at Restoration Farm served him well. “We started seeding, planting and clearing land. My system of farming is a combination from those two farms because that’s all I ever saw before I started here. The things we did—the raised bed system—came from the model at Stone Barns and many of my planting techniques are similar to those at Restoration Farm.”

Lakestone Family Farm has grown in the seven years since the first seeds were planted. Lepel worked alone for most of the first season, breaking ground, plowing and building raised beds.

“I planted three-quarters of an acre myself that first year. By the second year it was a full acre. By then, I’d hired help,” says Lepel.

Lepel is still perfecting his craft. His 64-acre farm has room to grow. “I had never started a plant from seed before the farm. I built a greenhouse without knowing how to use one. The best tomato transplants came that first year before I knew what I was doing.”

He’s learned to work with the heavy, silty loam and clay subsoil on his farm. According to Lepel, soils are very local



and soil types can vary within a single farm.

The Lepels also raise chickens, 500 hens that lay, on average, 28 dozen eggs a day. How did Lepel learn to raise chickens? He read a book. “Our chickens are on fresh pasture daily. Our pastures are our gardens so where we have fallow land that was gardened, that’s where we put our chickens to fertilize the land.”

Lepel plans to expand his poultry processing facility later this summer to increase its processing capacity from 1000 chickens to 20,000.

The Lepels CSA has 50 members, many of whom come to the farm to pick up vegetable, egg and chicken shares. Lakestone Family Farm grows mini-jewel lettuce bouquets, kale, Hakurei turnips, baby bokchoy, spinach, string beans, tomatoes, eggplant, garlic, leeks, onions, summer, fall and winter squash, ten varieties of peppers, cherry tomatoes, Swiss chard, strawberries and more on two acres for their CSA and for local farmers’ markets.

“I raise close to 100 varieties of vegetables here. We started our CSA in 2014. The CSA model was one of our motivations for starting the farm. Because we were members of a CSA and I was volunteering at a CSA farm—Restoration was a CSA—I really had that as my mindset. I wasn’t interested in farmers’ markets then because most of what I had read was written by CSA farmers who downplayed farmers’ markets.” According to Lepel, farmers’ markets now account for a major portion of the farm’s annual income.

Lepel hasn’t quite hit his projections yet. He was hoping to be in the black by now, but says he’s getting closer day by day.

Denis and Trish Lepel plan to grow their farm and their family. Their three children, Abby, Josh, and Ben, haven’t known much other than farm life which is what Denis and Trish always dreamed of for them. Life on the farm is good and the Lepel family, and their farm, are thriving.

Donna De Palma is a freelance writer based in Rochester.

ABOVE:
Lakestone Family
Farmhouse
courtesy Denis
Lepel



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Fresh Summer Bruschetta

Pair with *Spring Lake Spritzer*

Serves 4-6

1 baguette
4 tomatoes from the vine
1 cup of Kalamata olives
1 bunch of parsley
Pinch of salt
Whole garlic
Olive oil

1. Slice baguette into thin slivers. Spread out on a cookie sheet and toast in the oven under low broil on both sides until lightly toasted.
2. Rub one side of the toasted bread pieces with fresh garlic, then lightly brush with extra virgin olive oil and sprinkle with salt.
3. Chop tomatoes, parsley and olives. Combine in a bowl and place a spoon full of the mixture on each bread piece. Enjoy!

SPRING LAKE SPRITZER

Serves 1

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Calendar

BUFFALO

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

African Violet & Gesneriad Society of WNY meets the third Tuesday of the month, March—December, at 7pm, Greenfield Health & Rehab Facility, 5949 Broadway, Lancaster. judyoneil1945@gmail.com.

Alden Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except July & August) at 7pm, Alden Community Center, West Main Street, Alden. New members and guests welcome. Plant sale each May. 716/937-7924.

Amana Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January) at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main Street, West Seneca. Visitors welcome. 716/844-8543; singtoo@aol.com.

Amherst Garden Club meets the fourth Wednesday of the month (except December, March, July & August) at 10am, St. John's Lutheran Church, Main Street, Williamsville. New members and guests welcome. 716/836-5397.

Bowmansville Garden Club meets the first Monday of the month (except June, July, August & December) at 7pm, Bowmansville Fire Hall, 36 Main Street, Bowmansville. New members and guests welcome. For more information 716/361-8325.

Buffalo Area Daylily Society. East Aurora Senior Center, 101 King Street, East Aurora. Friendly group who get together to enjoy daylilies. Open Gardens in July. See *Calendar (below)* for all: July 22: Daylily Day at Lasting Dreams Daylily Farm. August 25: Hosta, Daylily & Iris Sale. 716/ 698-3454; Facebook.

Buffalo Bonsai Society meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Buffalo Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Ave., Buffalo buffalobonsaisociety.com.

Federated Garden Clubs NYS – District 8. Marcia Becker, District Director. 716/681-3530; marshmel0601@yahoo.com; gardenclubsofwny.com.

Friends of Kenan Herb Club meets Monday evenings, Kenan Center for the Arts, 433 Locust Street, Lockport. Meeting dates, times and campus locations: kenancenter.org/affiliates.asp; 716/433-2617.

Garden Club of the Tonawandas meets the third Thursday of the month at 7pm, Tonawanda City Hall, Community Room.

Garden Friends of Clarence meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, September–June, Town Park Clubhouse, 10405 Main Street, Clarence. gardenfriendsofclarence@hotmail.com.

Hamburg Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month at noon, Hamburg Community Center, 107 Prospect Avenue, Hamburg. Summer garden tours. 716/649-6789; lonabutler4@gmail.com.

Kenmore Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of the month (except March, July, August & December) at 10:00am, Kenmore United Methodist Church, 32 Landers Road, Kenmore. New members and guests welcome. genjif3@gmail.com.

Ken-Sheriton Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of the month (except January) at 7pm, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 576 Delaware Road, Kenmore. Monthly programs, artistic design and horticulture displays. August 14: *Everything Hydrangea with Carol Ann Harlos.* September 11: *Bulbs with Therese Melchiorre.* New members and guests welcome. 716/833-8799; dstierheim@gmail.com.

Lancaster Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, St. John's Lutheran Hall, 55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster. No meetings January, July & August. September 12: *Brown Bag Auction*

& *Intro to Paper Flowers for Roswell.* October 10: *Flowers and Food for Others.* All are welcome. 716/685-4881.

Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club meets the second Friday of the month at 7pm, Zion United Church, 15 Koening Circle, Tonawanda.

Niagara Frontier Orchid Society (NFOS) meets the first Tuesday following the first Sunday (dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.), September–June, Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo. niagarafreierorchids.org.

Orchard Park Garden Club meets the first Thursday of the month at 12pm, Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, 4369 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park. President: Ruth Ann Nowak, 716/662-1017.

Silver Creek-Hanover Garden Club meets the second Saturday of the month at 2pm, First Baptist Church, 32 Main Street, Silver Creek. Sue Duecker, 716/934-7608; duke.sue@roadrunner.com.

South Town Gardeners meets the second Friday of the month (except January) at 9:30am, West Seneca. New members welcome.

Town and Country Garden Club. August 8: *Henry's Nursery, 6pm, tour & talk about cutting flowers.* September 13: *Arbordale Nursery, 6:30pm, tour & discussion about garden design.* All are welcome.

Western New York Carnivorous Plant Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm, Menne Nursery, 3100 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst. wnyclub@aol.com; Facebook.com/wnyclub.

Western New York Herb Study Group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo.

Western New York Honey Producers, Inc. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County, 21 South Grove Street, East Aurora. wnyhpa.org.

Western New York Hosta Society. East Aurora Senior Center, 101 King Street, East Aurora. Meetings with speakers, newsletter, sales. See *Calendar (below)* for all: August 25: *Hosta, Daylily & Iris Sale.* September 15: *Fall Hosta Forum.* 716/941-6167; h8staman@aol.com; wnyhosta.com.

Western New York Hosta Society Breakfast Meetings, a friendly get-together, first Saturday of the month at 10am, Forestview Restaurant, Depew. wnyhosta.com.

Western NY Iris Society usually meets the first Sunday of the month (when Iris are not in bloom), 1–4pm, at the Lancaster Public Library, 5466 Broadway, Lancaster. Information about acquiring and growing irises (bearded & non-bearded) and complimentary perennials, annual flower show & summer iris sale. Guests welcome. August 25: *Hosta, Daylily & Iris Sale, see Calendar (below).* 716/837-2285; drsnooks@twc.com.

Western New York Rose Society meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm, St. Stephens-Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 750 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville. July 18: *Rosarian Round Table Q&A.* August 15: *Delaware Park Rose Garden Tour, 6pm, self-guided.* wnyrosesociety.net.

Wilson Garden Club generally meets the second Thursday of each month at 7pm, Community Room, Wilson Free Library, 265 Young Street, Wilson. Meetings open to all, community floral planting, spring plant sale, local garden tours. 716/751-6334; wilsongardenclub@aol.com.

Youngstown Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm, First Presbyterian Church, 100 Church Street, Youngstown.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BECBG: Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14218. 716/827-1584; buffalogardens.com.

BMAC: Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, 1610 Welch Road, North Java, NY 14113. 585/457-3228; 800/377-1520; buffaloudubon.org.

CCE/EC: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Erie County, 21 South Grove Street, East Aurora, NY 14052. 716/652-5400 x177; mgerie@cornell.edu; erie.cce.cornell.edu.

REIN: Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, 93 Honorine Drive, Depew, NY 14043. 716/683-5959; dec.ny.gov.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

• Ongoing: **Family Walk at Beaver Meadow,** Sundays, 2 pm. Naturalist-led walk through the preserve. Donations. **BMAC**

Ongoing through August 19: Nature's Kaleidoscope, 10am–5pm. See kaleidoscope-inspired displays incorporating hexagonal and leaf patterns on glass and other surfaces. Included with admission. **BECBG**

• **July 14: Citizen Science Training – The Search for Monarchs,** 10:30am. Learn how to search for and record monarchs at Reinstein Woods or in your own backyard. For adults and children 12 and older. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

July 14: Aliens! 2pm. Guided tour to discuss some of the plants and animals that have been introduced from other parts of the world. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

July 14: Native Plants for Environmental Sustainability, 2–3:30pm. Learn ways to provide environmental diversity no matter your location – urban, suburban or rural. Native plants, bushes and trees will be discussed. Registration required. \$5. **BMAC**

July 18: Senior Stroll, 10am. Enjoy a leisurely guided walk through the woods. Adults only. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

July 19: Botanics & Brews, 6–9pm. Live music, beer tastings, food, raffle, tours of the Gardens. \$30 members; \$35 non-members; \$40 after July 9. **BECBG**

T- **July 20–21: Ken-Ton Garden Tour – Night Lights,** 8:30–11pm. See the gardens illuminated at night. Self-guided. Free. kentongardentour.com.

• **July 21: Edible Flowers,** 9–11am. The group will collect flowers in bloom to accompany other flowers for this demonstration of blooms that can be eaten. Ages 12 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult. \$7. Registration required. **BMAC**

July 21: Woods Walk, 11am. Join a guided nature walk through the woods. Free. No registration required. **REIN**

T- **July 21–22: Ken-Ton Garden Tour,** 10am–4pm. Self-guided tour in the Village of Kenmore & Town of Tonawanda. Free. kentongardentour.com.

July 22: Daylily Day, 11am–2pm. Educational tours, discounts, giveaways, refreshments. Optional tours of additional gardens, 2–5pm. Presented by Buffalo Area Daylily Society & Lasting Dreams Daylily Farm, 6425 South Abbott Road, Orchard Park. 716/ 698-3454; Facebook.

- **July 28: Summer Wildflowers**, 10am. Search for seasonal wildflowers and learn their uses and folklore. For adults and children ages 10 and older. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

T. July 28–29: Garden Walk Buffalo, 10am–4pm. Over 400 urban gardens. Self-guided. Five free shuttle buses. Free. gardensbuffaloniagara.com.

T. August 3–4: Northwest Buffalo Tour of Gardens, 9am–4pm. Self-guided walking tour, plant sale, garden art market. Guided bus tours, 2 hours, fee. In conjunction with *Starry Night Garden Tour* (see below). Headquarters: St. Mark's All Saints Church, 311 Ontario Street, Buffalo. Free. brralliance.org.

T. August 3–4: Starry Night Garden Tour, 8–10pm. Self-guided. In conjunction with *Northwest Buffalo Tour of Gardens* (see above). Headquarters: St. Mark's All Saints Church, 311 Ontario Street, Buffalo. Free. brralliance.org.

- **August 4: Bug & Butterfly Round-up**, 9–11am. Naturalist Mark Carra will lead this expedition to find and observe insects in order to gain a greater understanding of them. \$5. Registration required. **BMAC**

August 4: Woods Walk, 11am. See description under July 21. Free. No registration required. **REIN**

August 11–September 29: Botanical Gardens Docent Training, six Saturdays, 9am–2pm. Docents lead tours, teach hands-on programs, answer visitor questions during special plant exhibits & events and assist the education staff. Registration required. **BECBG**

August 15: Senior Stroll, 10am. See description under July 18. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

August 18: Woods Walk, 11am. See description under July 21. Free. No registration required. **REIN**

S- August 25: Hosta, Daylily & Iris Sale, 9am–2pm. Presented by WNY Hosta Society, Buffalo Area Daylily Society & WNY Iris Society. Experts will be on hand to answer questions. Free. **BECBG**

August 27: Full Moon Walk – Fruits, 7pm. Enjoy a walk during the full moon as the group looks for native fruits. Free. Registration required. **REIN**

September 6: Fall Gardening, 7–8:30pm. Topics include: *Late Season Propagation*, *Fall Clean-Up*, *Overwintering*. Taught by CCE Master Gardeners. Free. Clarence Public Library, 3 Town Place, Clarence. **CCE/EC**

September 8: Fall Garden Fair, 9am–5pm. Classes, specials, vendors, music & food. Lockwood's Greenhouses, 4484 Clark Street, Hamburg. 716/649-4684; weknowplants.com.

September 8–October 20: Horticulture I Certificate Series, six Saturdays, 11am–1pm. Horticulturalist David Clark will cover: *Botany 101*, *Plant Propagation*, *Pest Management & Disease*, *Shrubs & Trees*, *Annuals & Perennials*, *Garden Design*. Series: \$108 members; \$138 non-members. Single session: \$18 members; \$23 non-members. Registration required. **BECBG**

September 12: Fall Gardening, 7–8:30pm. See description under September 6. Free. Seneca-Babcock Community Center, 1168 Seneca Street, Buffalo. **CCE/EC**

September 15: Fall Hosta Forum. *Fun, Fun, Fun*. Four speakers will cover hostas, conifers & clematis. Live and silent auctions. Vendors. University of Edinboro, Edinboro, PA. wnyhosta.com.

- **September 15–October 14: Mum Exhibit**, 10am–5pm. Enjoy the colors of fall with numerous varieties of mums. Kids can visit the 4-H Farm with ducks, sheep, rabbits and more. Included with admission. **BECBG**

SAVE THE DATE...

September 17: Fall Gardening, 7–8:30pm. See description under September 6. Free. Orchard Park Public Library, 4570 S. Buffalo Street, Orchard Park. **CCE/EC**

September 21: Gala at the Gardens, 6pm. Catered dinner, silent and live auctions, raffles and more. **BECBG**

ITHACA

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

Adirondack Chapter, North American Rock Garden Society (ACNARGS) meets the third Saturday of the month (except in summer) at 1pm, Whetzel Room, 404 Plant Science Building, Cornell University, Ithaca. Meetings are open to all. 607/269-7070; acnargs.org; [Facebook.com/acnargs](https://www.facebook.com/acnargs).

Auraca Herbarists, an herb study group, usually meets the second Tuesday of the month at noon, Cornell Botanic Gardens, Ithaca. Brownbag lunch at noon followed by the program and herb of the month. Field trips during the growing season. All are welcome. Contact: Pat Curran, pc21@cornell.edu.

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Unitarian Church annex, corner of Buffalo & Aurora, Ithaca. Enter side door on Buffalo Street & up the stairs. 607/257-4853.

Windsor NY Garden Group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 10am, members' homes or Windsor Community House, 107 Main Street, Windsor. windsorgardengroup.suerambo.com.

FREQUENT HOSTS

CCE/TOM: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tompkins County, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607/272-2292 x146; jrc10@cornell.edu; csetompkins.org.

W&B: Wine & Blooms, 3284 Myers Road, Genoa, NY 13071. 607/216-6058; info@poplarpointstudio.com; wineandblooms.com.

CLASSES / EVENTS

July 10: Succulent Centerpiece, 6:30pm. Craft a centerpiece using a wooden box filled with white candles and succulents. Materials included. Instructor: Kalee Doeing. Location: Liquid State Brewing Company, Ithaca. \$45. Pre-registration required. **W&B**

July 17: Succulent Centerpiece, 6:30pm. See description under July 10. Instructor: Kalee Doeing. Location: The Apple Station, Cayuga. \$45. Pre-registration required. **W&B**

July 18: Fall Gardening in the Finger Lakes, 6–8pm. Learn timing and techniques for planting fall and winter crops. Hands-on class takes place outdoors. \$7–\$10, sliding scale. Registration required. **CCE/TOM**

July 20: Succulent Centerpiece, 6:30pm. See description under July 10. Instructor: Kalee Doeing. Location: Grisamore Cider Works, Locke. \$45. Pre-registration required. **W&B**

July 23: Succulent Centerpiece, 6:30pm. See description under July 10. Instructor: Kalee Doeing. Location: Crossroads Bar & Grille, Lansing. \$45. Pre-registration required. **W&B**

July 25: Edible Garden Tour – An Urban Oasis, 6–8pm. See how this private garden integrates ornamentals and edibles, including herbs & fruits, along with stonework built over the years by family generations. \$7–\$10, sliding scale. Registration required. **CCE/TOM**

July 28: Compost with Confidence, 12–1pm. Master Composters teach how to setup and manage compost, includes tour and demonstration. Ithaca Children's Garden. Free. **CCE/TOM**

August 1: Plant Disease ID & Organic Control, 6–8pm. Learn how to identify common diseases in the early stages, how to treat them organically and preventative steps to minimize problems. \$7–\$10, sliding scale. Registration required. **CCE/TOM**

August 8: Edible Garden Tour – A 40-year-old Edible Garden in the Hills, 6–8pm. The homeowners will share what they have learned from their evolving landscape that has met most of their food needs for 40 years. \$7–\$10, sliding scale. Registration required. **CCE/TOM**

August 25: Compost with Confidence, 12–1pm. See description under July 28. Freeville Community Garden. Free. **CCE/TOM**

ROCHESTER

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

7th District Federated Garden Clubs New York State, Inc. meets the first Wednesday of the month. *August 13: Horticulture Specialty Flower Show*, see *Calendar* (below). 7thdistrictfgcnys.org.

African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Rochester meets the first Wednesday of the month (except in summer), 7–9pm, Messiah Church, 4301 Mount Read Blvd., Rochester. *August 1: Show & Tell Gesneriads*. *September 5: African Violets 101*. All are welcome. Stacey Davis, 585/426-5665; stacey.davis@rit.edu; avgsr.org.

Big Springs Garden Club of Caledonia-Mumford meets the second Monday evening of the month, September–November, January–May. New members and guests welcome. 585/314-6292; mdolan3@rochester.rr.com; Facebook.

Bloomfield Garden Club meets the third Thursday of the month (except May, July & August) at 11:45am, Veterans Park, 6910 Routes 5 & 20, Bloomfield. New members and guests welcome. 585/657-4489; kjmonrad@frontiernet.net.

Bonsai Society of Upstate New York meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Brighton Town Park Lodge, Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester. 585/334-2595; bonsaisocietyofupstatenyc.org.

Country Gardeners of Webster meets the second Monday of the month (except February, July & August) at 7pm at various locations. All aspects of gardening covered, outside speakers, projects, visits to local gardens, community gardening involvement. Includes coffee and social time. Guests welcome. 585/265-4762.

Creative Gardeners of Penfield meets the second Monday of the month at 9:15am (except July & August), Penfield United Methodist Church, 1795 Baird Road, Penfield. Visitors welcome. Call 585/385-2065 if interested in attending a meeting.

Fairport Garden Club meets the third Thursday evening of each month (except August and January). Accepting new members. fairportgc@gmail.com; fairportgardenclub.com.

Calendar

ROCHESTER cont.

Garden Club of Brockport meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm, Jubilee Church, 3565 Lake Road, Brockport. Speakers, hands-on sessions. Georgie: 585/964-7754; georgietoates@yahoo.com.

Garden Club of Mendon meets the third Tuesday of the month, 10am–1pm, Mendon Community Center, 167 North Main Street, Honeoye Falls. Work on community gardens and gather new ideas in a casual, social environment. 585/624-8182; joanheaney70@gmail.com.

Garden Path of Penfield meets the third Wednesday of the month, September–May at 7pm, Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road, Penfield. Members enjoy all aspects of gardening; new members welcome. gardenpathofpenfield@gmail.com.

Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets the first Monday following the first Sunday of the month (dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.), September–May, Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester. GROS is an affiliate of the American Orchid Society (AOS) and Orchid Digest Corporation. facebook.com/geneseeorchid; geneseeorchid.org.

Genesee Valley Hosta Society meets the second Thursday of the month, April–October, at Eli Fagan American Legion Post, 260 Middle Road, Henrietta. 585/538-2280; seubckner@frontiernet.net; geneseevalleyhosta.com.

Genesee Valley Pond & Koi Club meets the first Friday of the month at 6:30pm, Adams Street Recreation Center, 85 Adams Street, Rochester, except in summer when it tours local ponds. president.gvpkc@gmail.com; gvpkc.shutterfly.com.

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) meets Sundays at 2pm, dates vary, St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls. Public welcome. July 21–22: *Iris Sale*, see *Calendar (below)*. September 9: *meeting*. 585/266-0302; thehutchings@mac.com.

Greater Rochester Perennial Society (GRPS) meets the first Thursday of each month at 7pm, Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1200 South Winton Road, Rochester, except in summer when it tours members' gardens. 585/467-1678; smag@rochester.rr.com; rochesterperennial.com.

Greater Rochester Rose Society meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm, First Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Road South, Room 110, Rochester. July meeting is a garden tour. 585/694-8430; rochrosesociety@gmail.com; Facebook.

Henrietta Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except May–August & December) at 6:30pm, Department of Public Works Building, 405 Calkins Road, Henrietta. Guests welcome. 585/889-1547; henriettagardenclub@gmail.com; henriettagardenclub.org.

Holley Garden Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 7pm, Holley Presbyterian Church. 585/638-6973.

Hubbard Springs Garden Club of Chili meets the third Monday of the month at 7pm, Chili Senior Center, 3235 Chili Avenue, Rochester. dtoogood@rochester.rr.com.

Ikebana International Rochester Chapter 53 meets the third Thursday of each month (except December and February) at 10am, First Baptist Church, Hubbell Hall, 175 Allens Creek Road, Rochester. August 16: *Ohara School of Ikebana – Demonstration & Workshop*, \$5. September 20: *Chiko School of Ikebana – Demonstration & Workshop*, \$5. 585/301-6727; 585/402-1772; rochesterikebana@gmail.com; ikebana-rochester.org.

Kendall Garden Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Kendall Town Hall. 585/370-8964.

Newark Garden Club meets the first Friday of the month at 1pm, Park Presbyterian Church, Newark. Guests are welcome.

Pittsford Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of the month at 11am, Pittsford Public Library, Fisher Meeting Room, 24 State Street, Pittsford, except in July & August when it visits members' gardens. 585/425-0766; BKRU888@aol.com; pittsfordgardenclub.wordpress.com.

Rochester Dahlia Society meets the second Saturday of the month (except August & September) at 12pm, Trinity Reformed Church, 909 Landing Road North, Rochester. Visitors welcome. September 15: *Dahlia Show*, see *Calendar (below)*. Facebook; rochesterdahlia.org.

Rochester Herb Society meets the first Tuesday of each month (excluding January, February & July) at 12pm, Potter Memorial Building, 53 West Church Street, Fairport. Summer garden tours. New members welcome. rochesterherbsociety.com.

Rochester Permaculture Center meets monthly to discuss topics such as edible landscapes, gardening, farming, renewable energy, green building, rainwater harvesting, composting, local food, forest gardening, herbalism, green living, etc. Meeting location and details: meetup.com/rochesterpermaculture.

Seabreeze Bloomers Garden Club meets the fourth Wednesday of the month (except January) at 7pm, location varies depending on activity. Meetings may include a speaker, project or visit to local garden-related site. Members receive a monthly newsletter. New members welcome. July 25: *Make a Glass Garden Totem*. August 29: *Hosta Gardens Tour*. Contact Bonnie Arnold: 585/342-8653; bonniearnold@frontiernet.net.

Stafford Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of the month (except December & January) at 7pm, Stafford Town Hall, 8903 Morganville Road (Route 237), Stafford. Plant auction in May. All are welcome. 585/343-4494.

Victor Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January & February) at 6:30/6:45pm. New members welcome. Meeting and location details: victorgardenclubny2.com; 585/721-5457.

Williamson Garden Club. On-going community projects; free monthly lectures to educate the community about gardening. Open to all. 315/524-4204; grow14589@gmail.com; growthewilliamsongardenclub.blogspot.com.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BGC: Broccolo Garden Center, 2755 Penfield Road, Fairport 14450. 585/424-4476; broccolotreeandlawn.com.

CCE/GC: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Genesee County, 420 East Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020. 585/343-3040; genesee.cce.cornell.edu.

FCGN: Flower City Garden Network, facebook; flowercitygardennetwork.com.

SG: Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park, 151 Charlotte Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424. 585/394-4922; sonnenberg.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

• Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales.

T- Indicates garden tours.

• **Ongoing through August 3: Moonlight Stroll Concert Series**, Fridays, 8–10pm. Enjoy live music and stroll through the gardens lit for the evening. \$8 members; \$10 non-members; \$5 youth ages 6–17; free ages 5 and under. **SG**

Ongoing through September 26: Scottsville Midweek Farmers' Market, Wednesdays, 4–7pm. Fresh local produce, cut flowers, eggs, honey and more. Rain or shine. No market July 4. Parking lot, Smith-Warren Post 367, American Legion, 61 Main Street, Scottsville. 585/889-3981; kmemccall@aol.com.

July 12: A Multilayered, Four-Dimensional Garden in the City, 6:30–8pm. See this 19th Ward property that has plantings atop waist-high stone walls combining craftsmanship and plantmanship with artistic and humorous touches. Directions will be emailed. Free to members and a guest. Registration required. **FCGN**

July 15: The Four Season Garden, 12:30–2pm. Landscape designer KC Fahy Harvick will discuss design elements specific to maintaining an attractive garden all year. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

T- July 21: Backyard Habitat Tour, 9am–4pm. Explore seven gardens in Mendon, Brighton, Henrietta and Pittsford that focus on gardening in harmony with nature and wildlife. \$15 members; \$20 non-members. **GLT**

July 21: Natural Solutions for Detering Deer, Stink Bugs & More, 10–11:30am. Michael Hannen will provide a handout with proven homemade remedies, show some products available to buy and will demonstrate correct usage. He will also discuss deer tolerant plants. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

S- July 21–22: Iris Sale, 10am–4pm. Members will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice on growing iris. Presented by Greater Rochester Iris Society. Gro-Moore Farms, 2811 East Henrietta Road, Henrietta. thehutthings@mac.com.

July 22: Daylily Garden Open House, 1–5pm. Cobbs Hill Daylily Garden (a National Display Garden), Charlie and Judy Zettek, 1 Hillside Avenue, Rochester. 585/461-3317.

July 28: Healthy Gardening – Tools & Techniques for Garden Longevity, 10–11:30am. KC Fahy Harvick will explain how to do garden chores in a way that does not cause physical pain and reduces wear and tear to joints and muscles. She will also demonstrate a few tools to make tasks easier. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

August 1: Visit a Wildflower Meadow at a Peaceful Canal-side Retreat, 6:30–8pm. Explore a private property while enjoying wine and refreshments. The home owner, Marcy Kupchella, and naturalists Carol and David Southby will be on hand to share information about establishing a meadow. Directions will be emailed. Free to members and a guest. Registration required. **FCGN**

August 4: I Did Promise You a Rose Garden, 10–11:30am. Jeanine "J" Fyfe will discuss successful types of roses. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

August 7: Garden Talk – Autumn Awesomeness, 12:15–12:45pm. Learn about plants with autumn appeal. Bring lunch. Free. **CCE/GC**

August 13: Horticulture Specialty Flower Show, 1–3pm. *Colors are the Smiles of Nature*. Presented by Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc., 7th District Judges Council. Ontario Volunteer Emergency Squad Building, 1632 Furnace Road, Ontario. 7thdistrictfgcnys.org.

August 16: Webster Arboretum Tour & Get-Together, 6–7:30pm. Enjoy refreshments and a tour encompassing several formal gardens, an herb garden, arborvitae maze, trails and a conifer landscape. Free. Registration: flowercitygardennetwork@gmail.com. Kent Park, 1700 Schlegel Road, Webster. **FCGN**

August 18: Pining for You, 10–11:30am. Jeanine "J" Fyfe will discuss adding evergreens to the landscape. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

August 18–19: Arts at the Gardens, 10am–5pm. Fine art, music, food and wine vendors. Rain or shine. \$7. **SG**

August 27: Jerry Kral's Incredible Landscape in Late Summer, 6:30–8pm. See small and medium-sized evergreens, deciduous trees and shrubs in combinations with unique perennials and annuals all linked by artful pathways and stone walls. Directions will be emailed. Free to members and a guest. Registration required. **FCGN**

September 1: For the Birds, 10–11:30am. Jeanine "J" Fyfe will share information about plants that attract birds: what they like to eat, where they nest and shelter. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

September 4: Garden Talk – Tips on Ticks, 12:15–12:45pm. Learn what to do to protect yourself. Bring lunch. Free. **CCE/GC**

September 8–9: US National Bonsai Exhibition, Saturday, 9am–5pm; Sunday, 9am–4pm. Displays, demonstrations, vendors. \$20. Total Sports Experience, 435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester. 585/334-2595; usnationalbonsai.com.

September 15: Creating a Natural Fall Wreath, 10–11:30am. Join Jeanine "J" Fyfe in using local dried flowers and grasses to create a one-of-a-kind wreath. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

S- September 15: Fall Garden Gala, 10am–1pm. Plant sale featuring indoor and outdoor plants, auction and free soil pH testing. Presented by Genesee County Master Gardeners. **CCE/GC**

September 15: Dahlia Show, 1–5pm. Presented by Rochester Dahlia Society. Flower arrangements for sale: Saturday, 10am–5pm; Sunday, 10am–1pm. The Garden Factory, 2126 Buffalo Road, Gates. Free. Facebook; rochesterdahlias.org.

SAVE THE DATE...

September 20: Continuous Containers, 6–7:30pm. Garden designer Christine Froehlich will demonstrate how to combine plants with interesting

foliage, berries and flowers to create combinations that will brighten up the fall landscape. \$15. Registration required. **BGC**

September 28: Harvestfest, 5:30–9pm. Featuring live music; beer, wine and food available for purchase. \$7. **SG**

October 13: Fall Gardening Symposium, 10am–5pm. Speakers, book sales & signing. Includes lunch & park admission. \$55 members; \$65 non-members. Registration required. **SG**

SYRACUSE

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

African Violet Society of Syracuse meets the second Thursday of the month, September–May, Pitcher Hill Community Church, 605 Bailey Road, North Syracuse. 315/492-2562; kgarb@twcny.rr.com; avsofsyracuse.org.

Bonsai Club of CNY (BCCNY) usually meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Pitcher Hill Community Church, 605 Bailey Road, North Syracuse. 315/436-0135; lnwell1@gmail.com.

Central New York Orchid Society meets the first Sunday of the month, September–May, St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Road, Baldwinsville. Dates may vary due to holidays. 315/633-2437; cnyos.org.

Gardening Friends Club meets the third Tuesday of the month, March–December, at 6:30pm, Wesleyan Church, 4591 US Route 11, Pulaski. 315/298-1276; Facebook: Gardening Friends of Pulaski, NY; ViLaDeeDa@frontiernet.net.

Gardeners of Syracuse meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Enter from Melrose Avenue. 315/464-0051.

Gardeners in Thyme (a women's herb club) meets the second Thursday of the month at 7pm, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville. 315/635-6481; hbaker@twcny.rr.com.

Habitat Gardening in CNY (HGCNY) meets the last Sunday of most months at 2pm, Liverpool Public Library, 310 Tulip Street, Liverpool. HGCNY is a chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes; wildones.org. Meetings are free and open to the public. 315/487-5742; hgcny.org.

Home Garden Club of Syracuse usually meets the first Tuesday morning of the month. Members are active in educating the community about gardening, horticulture & floral design and involved with several civic projects in the Syracuse area. New members welcome. homegardenclubofsyracuse@gmail.com; homegardenclubofsyracuse.org.

Koi and Water Garden Society of Central New York usually meets the third Monday of each month at 7pm. See website for meeting locations. 315/458-3199; cnykoi.com.

Men and Women's Garden Club of Syracuse meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Meetings feature guest speakers on a variety of gardening and related topics. Members maintain gardens at Rosemond Gifford Zoo & Ronald McDonald House. Annual spring & fall flower shows. 315/699-7942; Facebook.

Syracuse Rose Society meets the second Thursday of the month (except December) at 7pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Enter from Melrose Avenue. Club members maintain the E. M. Mills Memorial Rose Garden, Thornden Park, Syracuse. Public welcome. syracuserosesociety.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

- Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.
- Ongoing through August 31: **Baltimore Woods Nature Center Summer Camp**, weekly, 10am–3pm. Week-long day camps that promote discovery, physical fitness, problem-solving skills, social interaction and awareness through direct contact with the natural world. *Traditional Summer Camp*, grades K–8, \$187 per week. *Nature's Little Explorers*, half-day for ages 4–5, \$77 per week. Registration required. Baltimore Woods Nature Center, 4007 Bishop Hill Road, Marcellus. 315/673-1350; info@baltimorewoods.org; baltimorewoods.org.

Deadline for Calendar Listings for the next issue (September–October 2018) is Friday, August 10, 2018.

Please send your submissions to deb@upstategardenersjournal.com.

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Adding Kid-Pizzazz to Your Garden

by Valerie E. Shaw



If your garden is anything like mine, things are finally starting to kick in, some seeds need to be replanted, and there are a few last-minute plants to pick up at the nursery. The flowers are beginning to fill out, the tomatoes are getting unruly, and the children are eyeing the ripening raspberries with voracious patience.

School is finished, and with those carefree summer days will come a whole chorus of “I’m bored!” Now’s the time to start thinking about a whole other level of gardening fun: the kid projects!

The awesome thing about children is this: they have spectacular imaginations. Your garden can become a wonderland with just a few simple activities, and they can be scaled to whatever budget you have at hand. Here are a few suggestions of projects I’ve found to be successful in our decade-long child wrangling.

Water. It bears repeating: kids love water. Kids also love fish and frogs. One of the easiest things to create in your garden is a pond. This can be a full on, fiberglass insert style pond, a dug pond with liner, or something as low-key as a storage tote filled with water. Nab some fun water plants at your garden center (we like the water hyacinths as they grow very quickly), have the kids clean up some nice rocks for the bottom, a flower pot for the fish to hide in, and voila, a mini-pond! We bought a handful of feeder goldfish from Walmart for 13 cents each. One, named Fred, has grown immensely, overwintering in our basement. We also have an overgrown puddle pond that fills with frogs in the spring, and the kids spend hours there, catching and releasing froggy pals. That was an hour of digging to make an existing puddle much deeper and bigger, and now it’s a star kid attraction whenever friends come over. Mosquitoes are controlled with fish and lawn care.

A Bridge. This can be over a stream, a dry bed of stones, or, just plunked somewhere interesting in your garden. Ours is a wide plank with two big flat stones on either end, laid in the middle of a very large mint bed. The mint grows up around it, making a waving sea of fragrant green. Everyone, even the family cat, uses this bridge. People sit on it, daydream, chew peppermint, and watch bumblebees. It’s part of the running adventures, and every sword fight must end up on this bridge. Again, so simple, but somehow, bursting with inspiration.

Concrete Projects. We have really enjoyed making stepping stones from the kits found at craft stores. My son, in particular, loved improvising with his, and instead of all the pretty glass bits, his is decorated with nuts and bolts and

various metal items. We’ve also made leaf impression stones from large squash leaves. It’s really easy, and kids love to see the results. For older kids, these projects could even lead to making some summer cash! You can find directions online, and all it takes is a quick trip to the hardware store, some big leaves, and a little patience.

Branch Teepees. These are a definite point of interest in our garden! All it takes are zip ties and plenty of branches or small saplings. Kids like helping to weave the branches in and out. We often see our teepees decorated with picked flowers, bead chains or colorful yarn. Sometimes the kids hang windchimes in them. Just a tip: make sure you make the door opening wide enough to admit a lawn mower, or the grass will take over in your teepee. Last year we surrounded them with scarlet runner beans and flowers; this year, we have mini pumpkins planted that will hopefully climb the teepee and hang their fun orange orbs down for some festive teepee décor.

Wind Chimes, Spinners or Flags. Watching the wind play with a creation is something kids enjoy. You can make wind chimes from many easy to find items—shells from the lake, for example. One fun design uses leaves or flowers preserved in clear contact or wax paper, and hung amongst little jingle bells. Flags can be made from scraps of fabric, either purchased or repurposed. Acrylic paints will bond to fabric just as well as more expensive fabric paints. Make an easy flag banner by adhering fabric triangles to a thick ribbon. You can either sew them on or use staples or hot glue. No-sew methods may not be as durable, but children appreciate the joy of just doing a thing almost as much as having the project last a long time, and something like a banner can happily decorate a bedroom just the same as your sunflower bed.

Before I leave you to your garden adventures, I have a kid- and pet-friendly treasure to share. If your yard, like mine, is chock full of mosquitoes who are taking the fun out of the outdoors, I’ve discovered a garlic-based product, Mosquito Barrier, that truly does work. As someone who experienced the West Nile virus last summer, I push hard for mosquito control, and I especially look for nontoxic, nonchemical formulas. Our kids usually wear lightweight, long-sleeved clothing in the evenings. And don’t forget to check your house screens for holes.

“Remember that children, marriages, and flower gardens reflect the kind of care they get.”
—H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Care dearly, my friends!

Valerie Shaw is a mom, writer, and gardening addict who lives in West Monroe, NY, with her family, some goats, and too many ducks.

ABOVE: Goldfish in galvanized tub. Photo courtesy Flickr: Brianna Privett



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Address Upgrade

by Cathy Monrad



This house number planter will bump up the curb appeal of your homestead without breaking the bank, or taking too much time away from gardening. Some planning is required to customize it for your house number.

MATERIALS

- 1 x 6 Dimensional lumber, 4 or 6 feet long
(see Step 1 to determine length needed)
- House numbers with hardware
- Wood glue
- 1 ¼ inch nails, 18 gauge
- 4 Screws, 3 inches long
(for attaching planter to house)
- Desired plants

TOOLS

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Circular or table saw
- Sandpaper (optional)
- Drill and various bits
- Hammer
- Paint or stain
- Paint brush
- Screwdriver

Prepare: Plan, Cut and Drill

- Place house numbers on uncut board as shown in Figure 1 and described in key. With pencil, mark back board height 11 inches from bottom of last number. Next, mark number hardware placements and corner screws.
- Cut project pieces as follows:
 - 1 back board (see Step 1)
 - 1 front piece: 5 inches tall
 - 1 bottom piece: 4 inches tall
 - 2 side pieces: 4 ¼ inches x 4 inches
- Dry fit pieces as shown in Figure 2 and make any adjustment cuts as needed.
- Drill drainage holes in bottom piece using ¼ drill bit. Drill corner holes in back board using bit that is slightly thinner than corner screws. Drill pilot holes for house number hardware.

Finish: Assemble, Paint and Plant

- Run a bead of glue along front edge of bottom piece. Use nails to attach front piece to bottom pieces as shown in Figure 2. Wipe off excess glue.
- Run a bead of glue along front and bottom edges of one side piece, then nail to front and bottom pieces as shown in Figure 2. Wipe off excess glue. Repeat with other side.
- Paint or stain the inside of the planter before attaching to the back board. Take care not to paint or stain edges to ensure proper glue adherence in next step. Let dry.
- Run a bead of glue along bottom and side edges of box, then attach to back board as shown in Figure 2. Wipe off excess glue. Let dry.
- Paint or stain as desired and let dry.
- Attach house numbers with screwdriver.
- Attach planter to house using long screws, then plant as desired.

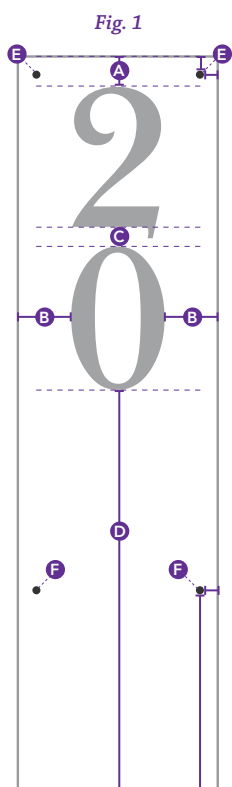
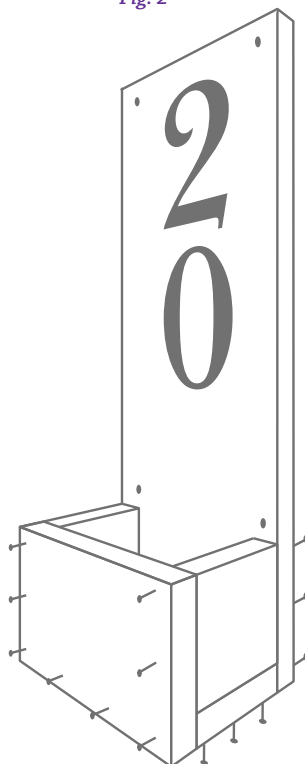


Fig. 1 Key

- A. Start first number 1 inch from top
- B. Center numbers on board
- C. Space numbers equally as desired
- D. Add 11 inches from bottom of last number
- E. Each top corner hole is ¾ inch from top and outer sides
- F. Each bottom corner hole is ¾ inch from outer side and 6 inches from bottom

Fig. 2



Cathy Monrad is the graphic designer and self-proclaimed garden crafter for *Upstate Gardeners' Journal*.

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