



“Open the gate,
step into the Garden”

March/April 2010

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m. Board meeting in the Club Room.
- Tuesday, March 23, at 7:00 p.m. Program: Prune Along With Bob and Business Meeting in the Brecksville City Hall Community Room. Bob Witsaman from Royal Victorian Gardens will share pruning techniques with us and answer specific pruning questions.
- April 13-14 GCO 82nd Annual Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Tuesday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. Board meeting in the Club Room.
- Saturday, April 24, at 10:00 a.m. Garden Therapy at the Pleasantview Care Center. Call Lynne Evans to help with the daffodils and tulips program.
- Tuesday, April, 27, at 7:00 p.m. Program: Cacti and Succulents. Kathy Habib, winner of too many blue ribbons to count, will show a Power Point presentation, discuss a few plants, and answer questions on how to successfully grow these plants.
- Wednesday, April 28 GCO Spring District meeting at St Michael's Woodside.
- April 30 Arbor Day

President Kathy Ziemba's Message

Dear Chippewa Garden Club Member and Friend,

The Home and Flower Show was a wonderful way to forget about all the snow and cold outside and enjoy the flowers. I have been working on an Easter gift for my daughters, daughter-in-law and mother-in-law. I made them each an 8-inch flower pot that I planted cat grass in. It will look like grass but a little taller and won't hurt cats if they eat it. I then put a "Think Spring" sign in each one. It felt good to work with dirt and to plant something.

Thank you to Jo Ann and Aggie for their wonderful program on petite flower arrangements. I hope next year more of you will try one at our flower show. Our March meeting will be "Prune Along With Bob" and April "Cacti and Succulents" with Kathy Habib.

Please let me know if you are going to The GCO Annual Convention April 13th and 14th. Also think about the GCO Spring District Meeting at St. Michael's Woodside on April 28, 2010.

Keep thinking Spring! See you all at the meeting and until then...



Keep on digging,
Kathy Ziemba



PRUNE ALONG WITH BOB **Our March Program, Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m.**

Ladies, if you weren't part of Chippewa the last time Bob Witsaman pruned for us, you're in for a real treat. If you were a Chippewa member, you have to be excited about having Bob back to prune again with us! Bob is from Royal Victorian Gardens in North Royalton. He knows the whys, the whens, and the how to prune for any shrub or tree you might have. Bring your problems (in a photo, please) and challenge him to solve them! I can't wait to ask him if basal pruning is the only alternative for my ugly crabapple!
See you March 23.

The Program Committee

February Program Designing Women Part I

On February 23rd, Jo Ann Bartsch and Aggie Goss demonstrated the creativity of line design and the artistry of the petite floral design. Jo Ann defined creativity as looking at things in a new way, taking risks, challenging assumptions, recognizing patterns, making connections, and networking ideas.

Aggie then described and demonstrated three types of line designs. A traditional line design is a design in which line is dominant, there is a minimum of plant material, lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, and a dominant feature is movement.

A parallel line design has three or more groupings of plant material or other components placed parallel to one another in a single container, on a base, or on both. Multiple containers or bases may be used if combined to appear as one unit, and lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.

Tubular designs are creative designs having a dominance of cylindrical elements. Tubular designs can have more than one unit, and tubes can be man-made or plant material such as plant stems. Plant material and other components complete the design.

Petite floral designs are included in all design types and are classified into two sizes. Miniatures are five inches in height, width, and depth, and small are eight inches.

Jo Ann has an acrylic box which instantly identifies any part of the design which exceeds the eight-inch measurements.

Staging should be in proportion to the design size, and petites never compete with full size designs.

Because of their size, petite designs create some challenges including the scale of the container, plant material, other elements, and staging. Containers should be about one-third the size of the design and suggestions include small perfume and medicine bottles, baskets, votives, items from a child's tea set, tubes of any kind, and seashells. Aggie and Jo Ann measured containers to demonstrate which would be appropriate and which were too large or too small.

Suggested plant materials were numerous— miniature roses, chive blossoms, lily-of-the-valley, berries, and parts of flowers such as delphiniums, to name a few.

Jo Ann and Aggie then critiqued the four lovely petite designs brought to the meeting by Jo Ann, Margaret DeWolf, Betty Walter, and Kathy Ziemba

Members were reminded that two-thirds of the design should consist of plants.

New Member Profile

JoAnn Sherman joined the Chippewa Garden Club last summer having heard about it through her good friend Jane Whitehead who invited her to attend some meetings. Way to go, Jane! JoAnn has been a gardener from the time she was old enough to count out the right number of beans to put in a hill. She became serious about gardening after she retired. She and her husband had a home on a lake where she had many flower beds and a raised vegetable garden. In 2006, they returned to Brecksville and bought an end-unit condo. Her flower space is very small, but she compensates by planting 15-20 pots on the deck. She plants the depth of their unit with vegetables: asparagus, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and sugar snap peas. She has a problem lawn area that she's turned into a moss garden and is slowly adding bulbs, hostas, ferns and other shade loving plants. She and her husband have a small piece of land in Florida, and it has been a challenge, especially this winter when most plants froze to the ground, but she plans to keep keep trying. JoAnn submitted entries in our September Flower Show Thanks For The Memories including a petite design, and she won the horticulture award of merit for annuals.

Cacti and Succulents

Kathy Habib's lecture on April 27, will cover the following points.

- Define the difference between a cacti and a succulent.
- Learn where these two types of plants grow in the world's deserts and jungles.
- Discover how they grow in nature and how you can grow them at home.
- Identify products which are produced from succulents.
- Locate nearby succulent gardens to visit.



Other Events

A breath of spring comes to Cleveland when Orchid Mania returns to the Cleveland Botanical Gardens February 27-March 28. The show is free with the price of Garden admission. Visitor hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5:00 p.m. Check the CBG's website at <http://www.cbgarden.org/>

Also at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens is the Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale on Saturday, March 20, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 21, noon-5:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Gardening Fun For Kids at the Brecksville Library. Call Carol Burns for more details.

New Member Profile

The newest garden club member is Helyn Docs who lives in Sagamore near the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. She is an enthusiastic gardener who surrounds her home with gardens on all four exposures. When I asked if she had any favorite plants she named several including lilac, Rose of Sharon, tulip tree, crab apple tree, pear tree, and baby Norfolk pine. She also grows rhododendron, azalea, hosta and acid loving plants. She has eliminated the use of pesticides, believing in natural gardening and weeding as required; the birds keep her home insect free. Purple is the dominant color of her gardens. Please introduce yourself to Helyn at the next meeting, and welcome her to our garden club.

**Newsletter Chair:
Pat Gabriel**