

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

November 2024 Newsletter

2024 General Meeting Schedule *

November 14 Why We Are No. 1 and
Porch Pots
December 12 (Holiday Pot Luck/Installation
of 2025 Officers)

2024 ENGC Board Meetings**

November 11
December 9

* General Meetings begin 9:15AM at Christ
the Redeemer Lutheran Church. 9201
Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, unless noted.
**Board Meetings are the Monday before the
2nd Thursday of the month. Meetings start at
10AM, same location, unless noted.

Save the Dates:

November 8 - GCO Holiday Meeting (Friday)
November 11 - ENGC Board Meeting
November 11 - Fun with Succulents
(Monday 4-5PM)
November 14 - ENGC General Meeting
November 17 - CBG Tree Decorating
November 23- *Frost* opens at Cleveland
Botanical Garden
December 6 - Chippewa Place Tea and Tree
Decorating (10:30AM)
December 9 - ENGC Board Meeting
December 10 - Owl Craft and Story Time
(4:15-5PM)
December 12 - ENGC General Meeting
Holiday Pot Luck/Installation of 2025
Officers
January 6, 2025- First Board Meeting of 2025
January 9, 2025- ENGC General Meeting

President's Message - Nathalie Petri

What is all this talk about Garden Club Awards? I used to ask myself this question for the first couple of years as a member of the club. Well, I think I've finally figured it out. My explanation is: it is a guide for us to engage in our community the benefits of gardening, engage in civic and environmental projects and floral design. We do this through the activities we develop and participate in throughout the year. For example, Fallfest: A youth activity to promote the love and beauty of flowers and the fun of arrangements. Why are we dedicating a whole meeting to talk about this? Well, to celebrate our 2023 awards as we won a whole bunch of awards (that I won't go into here). Plus, November is a month to celebrate and be thankful for our achievements. Occasionally, one has to give oneself a pat on the back! My goal is to investigate and discuss the variety of awards available to us to learn if there is an area you would like us to engage in as a club. Come to discuss and celebrate at our November meeting!

Nathalie

Membership - Maureen Michal

2025 Dues are Due! A membership fee of \$30 can be submitted through cash or check in November or December.

1st Vice Presidents - Jane Petrie and Marlene Winter - November Program

The ENGC program for the November 14, 2024 General Meeting will feature club members who chaired the 15 projects and flower show that won awards. Presenters will offer a recap which led ENGC to be named GARDEN CLUB of the YEAR 2023.

Jane and Marlene

Remaining 2024 Program

December

In the coming weeks we will be looking forward to the final days of the year and celebrating the full year of activity and fellowship with old and new friendships. We will be installing our board members for more adventures into the unknown, even if you thought you know it all. And, if that isn't enough, we will look into our past many years to hear about the WHO, WHAT, and WHY of it all, for 60 past years!

This will all be done on Thursday, December 9th starting at 11:30AM in our usual meeting place, Christ the Redeemer Church.

This is a big change, as we are our own chefs and bakers as we bring our favorites, serving at least 8, with serving utensils. OH what FUN!!!

Is this not a day to share with a friend? We think so! Just sign them up, even more than one!

Look forward to seeing you and yours,
Jane and Marlene W.

Youth Committee - Sheila Humphrey

Mark your Calendars - Volunteers Needed!

Monday, November 11th, 4-5PM

Fun with Succulents

Cuyahoga Library - Brecksville Branch
- Small pots needed!

Tuesday, December 10th, 4:15-5:00PM

Owl Craft and Story Time

Cuyahoga Library - Brecksville Branch

Love Watching the Fireflies?

Fireflies live in leaf litter, underground burrows and rotting logs. They lay their eggs in leaf piles and damp soil. Summer seems like a long ways off but now is the time to welcome them to your yard!

Don't blow away their cover!

Leave the Leaves for Wildlife

Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

One of your Fall chores should be taking care of your hoses. You should drain them of all water and connect the ends together to prevent water or bugs getting inside. Store them in a shed or garage. On the topic of hoses, if you use them to water your vegetable garden you may want to use a rubber hose. Plastics can leach chemicals into the water and into your soil. Read the tags as they hide these details in the fine print mentioning carcinogenic chemicals.

When the dormant season comes is the time to check out the "bones" of your garden. Think about what you can plant next Spring that can add dormant season interest. There are a lot of dwarf evergreens with foliage ranging from chartreuse to blue. They have different growth patterns, upright, weeping, spreading, even contorted that can add visual interest in winter months. Oregon grape Holly is a broadleaf evergreen that isn't browsed by deer. Its shiny green foliage takes on a burgundy shade in winter. In Spring it has fragrant yellow blossoms followed by clusters of blue fruits birds love. I have several plants that do well in my soil and have even seen a plant that self seeded in the woods. Others to consider for winter interest are trees and shrubs with contorted branches, peeling bark or colored bark. Red twig dogwood is an example and also comes in chartreuse and salmon colored bark. Unfortunately, deer will browse it.

Your house plants will enter a dormant stage when light levels drop in winter months. They do not need fertilizer or as much water then. If your house tends to be dry and you are growing plants that need humidity try growing them in grouped on a tray filled with pebbles and water. Evaporation will increase the humidity around them. If you find clearance bulbs there is still time to plant them before the ground freezes. Order your Amaryllis bulbs now. There are many hybrids with colors ranging from white, pink, salmon shades and reds. There are some dwarf types that have shorter bloom stalks. There are some that have multiple petals on each flower. There are some really unusual types, cybister hybrids (google them). I noticed some of these were already sold out when I ordered mine. Amaryllis usually take at least 6 weeks to bloom when planted, sometimes longer. They really add interest in winter when nothing much is blooming.

Enjoy the Fall foliage, *Pat*

Sunshine News - Laurie Siebert

If you are aware of any sunshine news throughout the year, please contact our 2024 Corresponding Secretary, Laurie Siebert.

Kathie Brusk continues with her struggle with cancer. She is at home on hospice care. Cards are welcome and please share any special memories with her.

Mary Ellen Isaac's brother died in October. He had back/neck surgery in July and couldn't recover from it. Our prayers go out to Mary Ellen and her family.

Shirley Grispino returned from a 9 day cruise of New England and Canada.

Sheila Humphrey traveled to New England.

Denise Bowler is back from a 2 week trip to Ireland.

Lisa Schieman took a trip to Memphis.

Gail Berzins took a land and sea cruise to Alaska.

Mary Drumm also traveled to New England.

Joan Castelucci had a stay-cation watching her 2 grandchildren.

Charlene Schuh will be at the November meeting and then she will be permanently moving to Thailand where her son and daughter-in-law live. Godspeed Charlene!

Garden Stories

The program earlier in the year was so popular; let's continue sharing our garden stories!

Feel free to include pictures of your garden, a favorite plant, and/or lists of favorite gardening books and share why you started gardening, what it means to you, special garden memories, and/or your future goals for gardening.

Starting in 2025 I'd like to include your stories in the newsletter!

Please email your story and a picture of your garden or plants, if available, to Anne Morrison at amorrison05@icloud.com.

Leftover Pumpkin from Halloween? You Could....

Compost it

Eat if uncut

See if a local farm, zoo or animal shelter would like them to feed animals

Turn it into a bird feeder

Smash and leave for local wildlife

(If unpainted and not bleach treated)

SAVE THE DATE- WORKSHOP!

Make a Holiday or Winter Porch Pot

With the holidays fast approaching, could you use some fresh ideas to make a porch pot to decorate your home? Would you be willing to share some greens or other dried outdoor plant material that would add eye-catching elements to a pot?

This will be an event where you can create your own porch pot and share extra greens and items with others in the club. We will share our ideas and you will take home something that will last through the holidays and beyond!

Date/Time: *Thursday, November 12 at ENG C General Meeting after the program; around 10:30-11AM*

Location: *Christ the Redeemer Church, Brecksville, Ohio*

Ideas for items to bring and/or to share:

- *Porch pot*
- *Garden Gloves*
- *Cutting tools (be sure to label your tools)*
- *Greens (e.g Fir, Noble, Balsam, Douglas, Silver, Pine, Cedar, Juniper, Spruce: tips and branches)*
- *Other plant and woody items (e.g. Winterberry, Curly Willow, twigs or taller branches, Birch poles, Magnolia, Eucalyptus)*
- *Pine cones, berries (blue, white, red, gray), dried hydrangea and coneflower, red yarrow*
- *Outdoor bow or ribbon, Wilt Stop*

There is no charge for this event. You will get ideas for other items you can add to your pot should you wish to decorate after the event. We can help bring pots into the church if needed.

Recipe Share

Recipes provided by Joan Castelucci

Old Fashioned Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies

Moist and yummy pumpkin chocolate chip cookies!

Prep Time: 25 mins Cook Time: 10 mins

Yield: 30 servings

Ingredients

- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 large egg or 1/4 cup applesauce
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup + 2 Tablespoons canola oil (for extra fluffy, omit 2 tablespoons canola oil)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon or pumpkin spice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 1/3 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375 and line cookie sheets with parchment paper or spray with non-stick spray.
2. Using a whisk, beat pumpkin, egg, sugars, oil, vanilla, cinnamon all together in a bowl, until blended well.
3. In another bowl, add salt, baking soda, baking powder and flour together in a mixing bowl and then add to wet mixture and mix together until just combined.
4. Stir in chocolate chips.
5. Using a small scoop or rounded tablespoon measure, drop onto cookie sheets - 12 cookies per baking sheet, cookies will spread a little.
6. Bake cookies on parchment-lined baking sheet for 10-13 minutes.
7. Remove from tray and let cool on wire rack.

Cinnamon Sugar Apple Cake

Author: Pinch of Yum

Total Time: 1 hour

Yield: 12

Ingredients

Apple Cake:

- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1/3 cup oil
- 1 egg
- 1 cup buttermilk or (1 cup milk +1 tablespoon white vinegar)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 1/2 cups chopped Honeycrisp apples

Cinnamon Sugar Topping:

- 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Mix or whisk ingredients in order given, stirring until just combined. Fold in your apples.
2. Pour batter into a buttered 9x13 pan (alternatively, you can line with parchment paper).
3. Combine last 3 ingredients to make a topping and sprinkle/spread it evenly over the batter.
4. Bake for 45 minutes. Test with a toothpick if needed. Serve with honey butter or whipped cream if you want. Apple cake is the best!

Sustainable is Attainable!
**Bring your own coffee cup to
ENGCC meetings!**



2024 Hostesses

November 14 Mary Ellen Issac
Nathalie Petri
Denise Bowler

December 12 (Holiday Potluck Luncheon)
Marlene Helm
Paul Helm
Dianna Kulwicki
Cheryl Schmidt

The Newsletter deadline is always the 25th of the month.

Please email articles to amorrison05@icloud.com or mail them to Anne Morrison. (See Yearbook for address).
Gardening tips, websites to browse, and recipes always welcome.



Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a member of
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www.gardenclubofohio.org



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