

Emerald Necklace Garden Club June, 2026

Dates to Remember

June 5 - 10 AM

CBG 2026 Tree
Planning Meeting

June 7 - 11:30 - 3:00

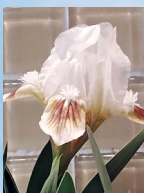
St. Basil Church
Children's Garden Activity Booth

June 8 - 10 AM

ENG C Board Meeting

June 11 - 9:15 AM

Field Trip - Meadow City
Native Plant Nursery



Congratulations to Joanne Cornelius, winner of the "Name the Iris" promotion. The name she submitted, Twinkle, was selected by the iris grower for the new cultivar. Joanne won a \$25 gift certificate to Suncrest Gardens and a free year's membership in ENG C. She said, "the timing is perfect; I just retired!" So please welcome Joanne if you see her at a meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nathalie Petri

I can't believe we are entering June! What an interesting, fun first half of the year we've had. Engaging speakers from Upcycle Junk Gardening, Care of Roses, and Food Strong, to an engaging field trip to Crown Point Ecology Center. I even got to hold a chicken so I can cross that off my bucket list! This month's trip should be equally rewarding to Meadow City Nursery — an up and coming native plant nursery. Plus, we can't forget our successful plant sale! Whew! I'm glad that's behind us.

None of this would happen without the involvement of each of you. This year we have several board positions to replace, President, 2nd Vice President (fundraising), and Recording Secretary. I want you to consider one of these positions. Believe me they are not as daunting or time consuming as they may appear. I too was fearful to step into the President position, but with the support of all of you and the board it was a wonderful experience. Please step up; we will support you. Thank you!

Nathalie

PROGRAMS

Fran McIntyre & Lisa Schieman

ENG C will take a field trip on June 11 to Meadow City Native Plant Nursery, 15006 Westropp Avenue in Cleveland. The nursery promotes and sells local native plants and collects seeds from the field and propagates them. The nursery was founded by a group of friends who love nature. All 3 met at OSU's School of Environment and Natural Resources. Learning about the richness and biodiversity of Ohio's wild habitats made them realize how much was missing from the lawn-dominated landscapes.

Members should plan to meet at 9:15 AM at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church to carpool. Please let Fran McIntyre (franiliz@yahoo.com) or Lisa Schieman (wschieman@hotmail.com) know if you plan to carpool and/or go by yourself. Also, let them know if you are willing to drive others from the church. Parking is available across the street from the nursery in a church parking lot. The parking lot can accommodate only five cars, so carpooling is strongly advised. Lastly, bring an umbrella if it looks like rain because all of the nursery is outdoors.

BIG WINS FOR ENGC AT GCO DISTRICT MEETING!



Debra Turner, GCO President, (at left) presented the awards

We were awarded NGC and Espoma's "Best of the Best" - \$500 cash (the judges were "enchanted" by our rain garden entry according to the NGC grants chair); and GCO Plant America Grant - \$900 (more than we were expecting). Renee Buszta's granddaughter's mason bee house installation at the rain garden that we submitted as an award won \$100 from NGC. We also won an "Achievement Award" from NGC for 2025 ENGC activities - certificate only.

SUNSHINE

Shirley Grispino

From Jane Petrie: many thanks to members for their caring and thoughtful messages.

I visited Pauline; she's looking good. Walking is better, about 50 steps! Pauline is worried about cleanup of her front yard. Let's set up a date to help her out.

Cheryl Schmidt is starting to walk. She hopes to come on the field trip with us.

Congratulations to Dan Grispino, Beachwood Chief of Police and son of Don and Shirley Grispino, on being named 2026 recipient of the Michael J. Kelley Excellence and Innovations Award.

Congratulations to Skye Raftery on receiving the Certificate of Merit and her thoughtfulness in donating her monetary gift to the club.

ENGC MEMBERS BRAVED A CHILLY DAY IN MAY FOR MEETING AT CROWN POINT CENTER IN BATH

The 55 degrees with wind chill felt more like 40, but some of us bundled up and met on May 14th at Crown Point Ecology Center in Bath to learn about the organization's programs and tour the grounds.

Crown Point's mission is to connect people to the land, food and one another through sustainable agriculture, environmental education, and community stewardship.

Ian, Executive Director, talked about the many programs in the event barn. A tour included the native plant flower garden, hoop houses in which seedlings and tomatoes were being



readied for planting outside and visits to the chicken coop and the goat and pig pen where members were able to interact with the animals. Volunteers were weeding between rows of garlic in the fields in spite of the chill.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OUR SUMMER BABIES!

JUNE

**Mary Drumm
Christine Glick
Shirley Grispino
Kathy Pierce
Cheryl Schmidt
Laurie Siebert**



JULY

**Paul Helm
Donna Hessel
Nathalie Petri**

AUGUST

**Joy Grad
Sheila Humphrey
Dianna Kulwicki
Irene Ochrin
Rosanne
Radziewicz**

HELLO FROM CHARLENE SCHUH IN THAILAND -- May 1, 2026

Still Loving Thailand!

Yesterday we went to Khao Yoi which is a huge rain forest/jungle wild animal preserve near where we live. It's absolutely HUGE with a paved road running through it and a really nice asphalt hiking path with lots of bridges, hilly trails and steps to navigate. Also, lots of protected wild animals and waterfalls, although being the end of the hot/dry season there wasn't much water in the Falls. Also, we went mid-day so we didn't see any Asian elephants or endangered tigers — (good on the tigers though)! We did see several Sombar Deer (they look very different from Ohio Whitetails).



We saw a colorful lizard and some very mischievous monkeys who have a reputation for stealing things from the tourists. While we were there, a tourist bought a doughnut. The monkey snuck up from behind, stole the bag and scurried to a tree to eat what he pillaged. Cute little fellow, but I held tightly onto my phone!



Charlene is in the red shirt

Here is a picture taken during *Songkran* which celebrates the Thai New Year. It's like one big water fight; and with the hot season underway...it feels soooo good to get doused with water (some even throw ice in the water they use). We celebrated Songkran on April 13, 14 & 15 in Nakhon Nayok where we are staying (which is about 2 hours outside of Bangkok). Some

Note for our newer members: Charlene joined ENGC in 2010, was president in 2015-16 and was the newsletter editor for many years. She moved to CA and then to Thailand in 2024 to be with her son and his family there.

holdovers actually keep celebrating for the entire week. Lots of people in the streets with loud music to dance to, and LOTS of water & laughter. They also keep putting white talc-like powder (mixed with water) on your face for good luck — which keeps getting washed off by all the water.

Whenever they got me, they also said, “Welcome to Thailand.” The people here are very friendly -- lots of smiles. The streets are packed with people and you just don't walk on the street, or drive by with your car windows open, unless you want to get doused. You can tell by the picture that I was having a blast!

I've been contacted by a few of you since I left. Thanks.....I really love it. Thai time is exactly 12 hours off of Ohio time so when it's near 12 midnight there, it's near 12 noon the next day here. Last Tuesday shortly after 12 noon here, (which would have been Monday there close to midnight) was a **NO SHADOW** event where the sun was directly overhead thus casting no shadows over Bangkok. Unfortunately, it was a little overcast which minimized the effect; but we still could see the difference.

The middle of June, we're planning a trip to Hanoi, Vietnam. I understand it is really beautiful, much cooler, and the Vietnamese people apparently love American tourists. They are supposed to have fabulous French food because of France's colonization years back

I am so loving all the fruit I've been eating. Much comes from trees on our property --mangosteens, dragon fruit, bananas, mangos, durian - all of which are native to the tropics. Also, there is one that is red with long soft spiky things that cover the seed POD. Starts with an "R" — (*rambutan according to AI; (aka “hairy fruit” and “sea urchin fruit”)*) I don't think we have one of those trees on our property, but it is really tasty.

I think of all of you often and love getting the newsletter to keep up to date.

I hope to hear from some of you soon.

Charlene (Scuba) Schuh
Verizon cell (440) 292-5653 (Remember the 12 hour time difference!) Email: ccschuh@gmail.com

HORTICULTURE

Pat Cotzman

In June our focus as gardeners turns from planting to nurturing what's in our garden. If you have newly planted trees and shrubs, they will not have made deep roots to access water in dry weather. Make sure they get about an inch of water a week in dry spells. It's better to water deeply once a week than to sprinkle a bit every day. Put a hose on trickle and leave it by the tree or shrub for an hour (set a timer) once a week in dry spells.

Watering deeply once a week in dry weather works for the vegetable garden as well. If you use a sprinkler, late afternoon or early evening is good. You want the leaves to dry before nightfall to deter fungal diseases.

Your containers may need watering twice a day in hot, dry weather if they are in the sun. You may also need to prune more aggressive plants to keep them from crowding out daintier residents. If things start looking ratty in August, cut the plants back by a third and use a liquid fertilizer on them. In a week or two they should be growing back nicely.

Deadheading or removing spent flowers on some perennials will sometimes lead to reblooms. They will

be smaller but still something will be blooming. You can also trim back certain perennials like asters before July to make them less tall and bushier. Mums can also be pinched back until July to make them bushier.

If you have phlox, you can trim back a few stems by 4". These stems will bloom about a week later than the untrimmed ones and give you a longer bloom period.

If you notice insects on your plants, try to wait a day or so before using an insecticide. A couple years ago, I noticed my dahlia stems were lined with black aphids. The next day I planned to spray them with water from the hose but noticed a large black beetle, a ladybug and a Daddy Long Legs eating the aphids. I left them alone and in two days all insects were gone. You won't have predatory "Good Bugs" if there is nothing for them to eat. Also, things like caterpillars may turn into butterflies or food for baby birds. Try to view pesticides as a last resort. If you do use pesticides, spray in the evening when the bees are not active.

Have a fun and safe summer.



CONTAINER PLANTED BY MEMBERS AT THE HERSHEY CHILDREN'S GARDEN INSPIRES SENSORY EXPLORATION

On May 18th, Nathalie Petri, Laurie Siebert and Maureen Michal planted coleus, begonia, corkscrew plant, pulmonaria, ostrich fern, lady's mantle, chenille and hosta plants in a container. The plants were selected for their sensory characteristics — soft, fuzzy, stiff, brightly colored blooms, curly, wavy — for children visiting the garden to experience.



ST. BASIL SUMMER PICNIC PROJECT

ENG C will participate in the St. Basil Summer Picnic on Sunday, June 7th at St. Basil the Great Catholic Church, 8700 Brecksville Road in Brecksville. Our project will be helping the kids make pine cone birdfeeders, and we expect about 80 to 100 kids to visit our booth. We need members to help the kids with this craft. We need 4 people to work from 12 Noon – 2:00 PM and 2 people after 2 PM. We will be outside. Workers get free lunch provided by St. Basil cooks — always good! Please let Sheila Humphrey (sleeha@gmail.com) know if you are able to help.



RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

June 7 - 13 Rosanne / Jane
June 21 - 27 Nathalie/ Sheila
July 5 - 11 TBD
July 19 - 25 Debbie / Sheila
August 2 - 8 Denise / Pat
Sept 6 - 12 Barbara H / Shirley



MORE GRANT FUNDING FOR RAIN GARDEN PENDING

We have applied for the Dorothy Kountz Grant, which is a Garden Club of Ohio grant for beautification and/or restoration of a Community Garden, as well as a few other categories. We submitted the application along with a photo journal of our restoration steps and the publicity we have received for the rain garden. The

maximum ask is \$5000. Considering we have already won \$900 from the Plant A Future Grant and \$500 from Espoma Best of the Best, we applied for \$3600. This will help pay for benches, additional money for the sign, additional plantings, and an ADA cement walkway. Winners will be announced and money awarded by June 30th.

AROUND TOWN

Propagate and Divide for More Plants, June 9 at 7 pm, Ben Franklin School Gardens, 1905 Spring Rd., Old Brooklyn

Hudson Home & Garden Tour, June 12 & 13, presented by Hudson Garden Club, \$35 presale, \$45 day of event. Tickets at hudsonhomeandgardentour.org

Summer Tree ID Workshop with Cleveland Metroparks, June 13-14, \$30, Watershed Stewardship Center, Parma

Sustainability Market, June 13, 9 am to 1 pm. Orange Village Service Bldg.

Through the Garden Gate Garden Tour, June 19 & 20, 10 am to 4 pm, presented by Gates Mills Garden Club, \$35 presale, \$40 day of event: thegatesmillsgardenclub.org

Summit County Master Gardeners Tour of Gardens, June 20, Check-in 9 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Akron. **Advance tickets required:** summitcountymastergardeners.org

Control of Common Weeds, July 14 at 7 pm, Ben Franklin School Gardens, 1905 Spring Rd., Old Brooklyn



RED, WHITE AND BLUE FLOWERS CELEBRATE OUR COUNTRY'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Sheila Humphrey and Nathalie Petri placed a container with red, white and blue flowering plants in ENGC's Blue Star Memorial garden at the Broadview Hts. Community Center on May 26th.

The Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker 2026 program "Planting Patriotism" is a call to all garden clubs to honor our Blue Star and Gold Star Families.

Color speaks when words fall short. Let us be mindful of the symbolism of each color. The color red represents valor, sacrifice, and the blood shed for our freedoms. The color white represents purity of purpose, peace, and the unwavering integrity of service. The color blue represents loyalty, perseverance, and the unity of a grateful nation. By planting memorial gardens in red, white, and blue, garden clubs create a universal symbol of patriotism and gratitude that is instantly recognizable to every visitor. Together, these colors not only form the colors of our flag, but the heart of the American spirit. These colors remind us of freedom earned, lives given, and families forever changed.

Let us embrace this unique moment in American history with dedication, color, and care. Let every Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker become a beacon for generations of Americans to be aware of the daily

sacrifices, constant worry, and long separations that go unseen by our brave Armed Forces. Let us establish this legacy with pride in our military as we unite in the celebration of 250 years of shared history and freedoms. These red, white, and blue flowers will be our living commitment to honor our military's service and to acknowledge that they are not forgotten.

NGC-inspired Blue and Gold Star Memorial gardens have long been the quiet stewards of beauty, remembrance, and community pride. From courthouse lawns to national parks, city parks, and botanical gardens, from national cemeteries to colleges and universities, our memorial gardens tell stories of hope, sacrifice and love of country.

Note: Article excerpts are from the Spring NGC newsletter article by Candace F. Wells, NGC Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker Chairman.



CBG TREE PLANNING MEETING JUNE 5

Our first planning meeting for "Down Under the Tropical Coral Sea" will be Friday, June 5 at 10:00 AM at Jane Petrie's home. Our decorations will showcase the undersea botanicals and marine life in the Coral Sea near Queensland, Australia (see map below). We will incorporate creative ideas that both educate and inspire visitors. Bring your imagination and ideas/pictures for creative decorations. Pauline has offered to teach us how to make paper fish at a later meeting. Some pre-meeting Internet research might be helpful. Please join us!



HEY ENGC MEMBERS — HOW GROWS YOUR GARDEN?

We are planning to email a mid-summer issue of the newsletter this year, and we will feature photos of YOUR gardens in it.

Please be sure to take photos and send jpg images and photo descriptions to Donna Hessel (hessel0722@gmail.com) of your favorites for sharing by July 25th. We will include as many as possible.

Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a Member of



Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

www.Gardenclubofohio.org



Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs Inc.

<https://www.CAR-SCG.org>



National Garden Clubs

www.gardenclub.org



Holden Gardens & Forests (Cleveland Botanical Garden)

www.hfg.org