

# The JOHNNY APPLESEED BROADCASTER



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## President's Message...

**John C. Schinker...**



ello fellow gardeners, it's been said that birds of a feather flock together. Our common interest in gardening is the reason we join garden clubs. We pay our dues, go to meetings and participate in various activities and projects. In the process of expanding our gardening horizons, we make many new friends and establish relationships that will last a lifetime.

Membership in the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown is one of the best investments I've ever made. A small part of that investment enrolls me as a member in the Central Great Lakes Region. Contrary to the belief of some, the C.G.L.R. is not an elite group off in some distant state having a party with your dues. If you are a member in good standing in your club and your club is in good standing of the National, then you are a member of the region. There are a number of life members who are no longer associated with a local club. These members-at-large are also a part of our region.

The dues of \$1.00 per year are hardly enough to do any partying. It is used for printing, speakers, and any other costs of operation the region may incur. The officers are elected by the members and serve a one-year term in office.

We meet three times per year. A spring and fall meeting at the gatehouse of Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield, Ohio, and a summer conference hosted by our first vice President.

Our upcoming meeting will feature County Agent, David Goerig from the OSU Extension Office in Mahoning County. Dave will discuss plant pathology and treatment.

The question often asked is, "What does the region do for me?" The region can offer you the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of an active membership. Just as with your home club, if you don't participate you will receive little benefit. You owe it to yourself to give it a fair try.

Finally, we hope to see you at the CGLR Spring Meeting April 18, 2009 at Kingwood Garden (at the Gatehouse) in Mansfield, Ohio.

The meeting will begin at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be in a private room at The Fire Mountain restaurant.

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## FOR EDITORS ONLY

Please note that page four contains club newsletter and email excerpts. It's great sharing ideas with each other and to be able to glean material from your letters for the delight of JAB readers all around the gardening nation.

Many, but not all of you provide a copy of your newsletter. By adding me to your list of newsletter recipients you will allow us to print some of your ideas and information. [alessijoeapat@juno.com](mailto:alessijoeapat@juno.com) Give us a try!

## INVASIVE PLANTS

Written by Kathy Lee, Fort Wayne Gardeners of America.



I am on a rampage! Invasive plants be forewarned! I know that my small efforts cannot eradicate invasive plants from my community, but I'm on a mission to do my part to gain some control. While taking classes to obtain a Master Naturalist certificate, I picked up a brochure titled "Invasive Plants in Indiana" and another one titled "Landscaping with Non-Invasive Plant Species: Making the RIGHT choice." As I browsed through the material, it occurred to me that I am **harboring** several of these plants in my own landscape!

Don't get me wrong; I know that Canada thistle and garlic mustard are invasive. And I just plain don't like the looks of the henbit and the bedstraw. How about the beautiful, but too plentiful, Dame's Rocket? Siberian elms can sprout all over the place? And it's the same for the bush honeysuckle? My yard is loaded with Creeping Charlie (maybe you call it ground ivy); I have Vinca minor growing around several of my tree bases.

Some of these dreaded darlings I planted in total ignorance, like the Dame Rocket *Hesperius matronalis* [pictured here] that was in a bag of wildflower mix I sowed several years ago. Many of the other flowers have died out, but the Dame Rocket has multiplied!



I planted Vinca minor to ease mowing under the silver maple trees around the house. The Vinca keep creeping out into the yard and show up several feet from the original site.

I transplanted an elm in my yard when it was a six-foot tall sapling and then planted bush honeysuckle to get some screening from a neighbor's house. I got that start from the wooded area behind my yard and gave it a nice place in the sun where it now rewards me by spreading its offspring all over! It's insidiously crowding out native plants in and around my little patch of earth. And I've contributed to it!

So, you might ask, "What are invasive plants?" In the pamphlet "Invasive Plants in Indiana" you will read, "Invasive plant" is another name for a plant which grows quickly and aggressively, displacing other plants as it spreads." Usually the invasive plant is not native to the area and many Nurseries are still selling some of them. So what! You might say.

- Invasive plants hurt wildlife by eliminating the plants our native animals need for food and cover.
- Invasive plants destroy habitat for native wildflowers and animals; they threaten two-thirds of all endangered species.
- Invasive plants cost money. Agencies around Indiana spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to eradicate these species and protect our natural areas.

Purdue University says: "The term '**invasive species**' is a biological attribute, meaning that the species under consideration can establish itself and out-compete other species, usually severely disrupting the stability of the affected ecosystem. It may or may not be exotic. The term '**exotic species**' is a geographical attribute, meaning that the species in question is not native to Indiana; it may or may not be invasive.

Earlier this summer I spent a considerable amount of time, raking up all the little whirligigs that the silver maples spin off every year.

And another bit of time, removing clots and clumps of the cottonwood poplar seeds that collected around the foundation, plants, and in the screens.

Those are examples of native specimens that are much too aggressive to my way of thinking, but at least they are part of our natural ecosystem. They provide shelter and nourishment for the birds, animals and insects that are common to our environment. The invasive exotics crowd out the natural habitat, reducing what is available to the native animals, birds and insects.

So, all of this being said, I've pulled Canada thistle, Dame's Rocket, baby elms, bush honeysuckle, and whatever other weeds I've seen getting ready to flower or set seed and put them into my trash pick up. The Dame's Rocket is a biennial. I got most of it out before it went to seed, but the work of the Convention prevented me getting it all. (Continue to page 3) >>>>>

(Kathy Lee's "Invasive Plants" continued from page 2)

Now I'll have to pull the first year growth or use Round-Up or some such thing, or next year will be the same. (If you don't understand about biennials you can get an explanation by calling your county extension office, ask at your local library, or ask a Master Gardener in your club to explain it.)

Perennial Canada thistle is another story! All the while it is growing; it is storing energy in its stem and root system. As the energy builds up, the plant sends runners underground to emerge a few or many feet away. Up pops another plant! You can pull it, cut it, dig it, and spray it. But, until you have been persistent enough with those methods to starve the root system, the plant will continue to grow. By all means GET IT OUT OF THERE BEFORE IT GOES TO SEED!

As I am motoring around on these end-of- July days, I see big puffs of Canada thistle seed floating through the air looking for new ground to invade! The Dame's Rocket has gone to seed so has slunk back into the shadows, but Oh! Look at the beautiful purple bloom over there along that water way! Isn't that gorgeous!! Echhh! Purple Loosestrife!!!

can store enough energy in their stems and leaves to finish setting and maturing seeds if you have let them get far enough along to set seed.

The perennial thistle has enough energy in its stem and piece of root to produce another plant. Many of us don't get enough heat in our compost piles to kill the seeds or plant. Put them in a black plastic bag that will heat up and kill everything in it; give it to the dump!



You may have different invasive and exotic plants where you live. Contact your county extension office to learn what plants are invasive in your area and what you can do to help reduce the spread of these verminous plants!!!

I have 3 – count them THREE books on weeds. My favorite is *My Weeds a Gardener's Botany* by Sara B. Stein. She writes in a delightful, entertaining, and educational manner. That book is probably out of print

as I got it at a yard sale. But, laughing while reading about weeds!! How weird is that!

*The Gardener's Weed Book- Earth-Safe Controls* by Barbara Pleasant gives understandable information about what your weeds might be saying to you and how to manage them.

*Weeds of the Northern U.S. and Canada* by France Royer and Richard Dickinson is great for identification. Beyond those, if you have access to the internet, try typing in your state name and Department of Natural Resources. I'm sure they will have a link to the invasive plants in your area. Or, just type invasive plants. That will give you information too.

Take charge of your own little piece of this earth! Don't wait for someone else. After all, we are only tenants here for a little time. Let's leave it a better place than we discovered. Kathy.

## SO - WHAT'S NEW?

*In addition to page one in color is a new masthead design, plus another sheet, that's two pages of copy added to the JAB, thanks to the additional material provide by you. And the postage is unchanged.*

## Anger Management

One day a husband said to his wife, "When I get mad at you, you never fight back. "How do you control your anger?"



His Wife answered, "I clean the toilet"

The husband asked, "How does that help?"

The wife replied, "I use your Toothbrush"

JAB Summer Pre Conference issue deadline, May 1. Email editor in MS Word document.

[alessiojepat@juno.com](mailto:alessiojepat@juno.com)



What you do for others can live forever!

## OHIO MASTER GARDENER MANUAL



orticultural Educator, Denise Ellsworth at Ohio State University Extension and a Columnist for the Akron Beacon Journal presented the "Take Pick From Gardening Books".

The following subjects are available on line by searching the title in your favorite search engine.

- Botany
- Soils and Fertilizers
- Entomology and Pest Management
- Plant Pathology
- Plant Propagation
- Houseplants
- Lawns
- Herbaceous Ornamentals
- Woody Ornamentals
- Vegetables
- Herbs
- Fruit
- Glossary

Editor Note: I went on the Google.com and entered the book title and it came up immediately. Happy surfing. *Vince Staffileno Editor - TGOA of Greater Cleveland. Newsletter "The Spade"*



(Ft. Wayne's Flora Flash - Editor, Cheri Kessen) "**Gardening requires lots of water, most of it in the form of perspiration!**" - Lou Erickson

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People are so worried about what they eat between Christmas and the new year when they should be worried about what they eat between New Year's Day and Christmas. Anon. (Youngstown's The Germinator - Editor, Dave Campana)



## NOTICE OF FREE HORTICULTURE BOOKS

First come first served. The TGOA/MGCA Book Review Committee Chairman, Frank Mitch (*Akron Club*) is looking for a few good national members to do Gardening and Horticulture book reviews.

The main requirement is to read and then write in your review what you learned and your opinions about the book. Then send the review to Administrative Assistant/Editor, Sheryl Bacon at [tgoasecy@dwx.com](mailto:tgoasecy@dwx.com) for publishing in the newsletter and probably on the National Website.

After completion of your written review of a new book you will have the option of keeping the book or giving it to our TGOA/MGCA library.

We want the books reviewed to be useful to all areas of the country. Especially needed are books written with the south and west-seldom covered.



We'll get new books that cover your interests. Build your personal library by doing book reviews, and earning some free books. How can it be better than this?

*Edited from Frank Mitch's E-mail*

### LET'S PLANTGATE

The Littleton (CO) Garden Club has an activity we call "Plantgating". At our annual May meeting we have a tailgate-like/plant exchange party in the parking lot where we meet for our regular meeting.

Our members tend to bring more plants than they exchange thus leaving more for those members with less established gardens to take home and use.

Last year we followed with a light sub sandwich dinner and enjoyed sitting together and talking about our spring plans. (Email from Cindy Amack)

What you do for others can live forever!

## 2009 CGLR SUMMER CONFERENCE

July 24 & 25, 2009



Our Conference theme is Environmentally Sound in 2009. It will be held at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College, Wolf Lake, Indiana. The two-day conference registration fee is \$75.

The conference business meeting opens Friday, July 24 1:30 PM. followed by two workshop sessions. At 6:00 PM we will have a barbecue and an interesting activity at 7:15 PM.

Saturday morning will start with a seminar and then with a field trip. Afterward we'll have lunch, (*not included in the registration fee*). After lunch we start out for Amish Acres. The musical, "Oklahoma", will start at 2:00 PM (*included in the registration fee*). Before and after the musical we'll have time to visit the shops at Amish Acres.

At 5:00 PM we will have a Threshers Dinner at Amish Acres (*included in the registration fee*). Awards, etc. will follow the dinner; we'll adjourn around 6:30 PM. There will be an interesting program for the spouses.

Goshen College dormitory accommodations are \$20 per night. There is a Historic Victorian Bed and Breakfast about six miles from Merry Lea has rooms from \$79 - \$129. The Nappanee Inn at Amish Acres has double occupancy rooms for \$80.

It's necessary at this time that we have an idea of how many members and spouses plan to attend the conference, please E-mail John Kessen - [lakelover60@yahoo.com](mailto:lakelover60@yahoo.com)

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*"Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important." Anonymous*

*"School is always in session and life challenges us to excel as both student and teacher." H. Jackson Brown Jr.*

## "What Do You Do?"

*What I do for myself dies with me,  
What I do for others can live forever!*

Three events occurred that got me thinking about gardeners and what we do now and how much more we can do to promote our gardening knowledge.

First, Hugh Earnhart, Past-President of the Youngstown club, whom many of you know, made known to me an article from The American Gardener published by the American Horticulture Society with the title, "Growing Fertile Minds and Communities" He did so because I currently serve as Chairman of the Youth Committee in that same club.

The article mentioned how to motivate young people by sharing ideas and inspiration that focused on programs involving plants, gardening, and nature.

Then, during an Email exchange with Anita Lanning, of the Findlay Club concerning clubs that had left the CGLR and their Life Members, that I recalled the two-line filler above that I wrote to fill a page for this JAB.

Later that morning a non-gardening friend told me that he wants plant a small vegetable garden, his first. He asked the types of questions many of you have been asked by new or novice gardeners in these situations.

Of course I gave him the answers he sought about the steps to produce a vegetable garden. I proceeded then to tell him about the garden club and all the top-of-the-line members with their varied Master Gardener knowledge and experiences and how helpful and willing servants they had proven to be to others less knowledgeable.

I happened to have with me a membership application and an old copy of The Germinator. I gave these to my friend while explaining to him the wisdom of joining such a successful group of gardeners and the benefits of an association of gardeners locally and nationally.

I left him with this thought, as I do you; "What you do for others can live forever!" *Joe Alessi*

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*"Honor is better than Honors" - Abe Lincoln*

What you do for others can live forever!

## A BIT OF HISTORY

[Written by – Gerry Herman – Stow Club]



ardeners sometimes overlook the beauty to be found in our own. One area is our own beautiful Adell Durbin Park, located just South of Route 59 on Route 91 in Stow.

Besides an arboretum of trees and shrubs, you will also find hiking trails, a prairie grass area and Cambell Lodge. Unfortunately my favorite lodge, Denning Lodge, has been condemned due to foundation problems, etc. I believe a new lodge is on the drawing board for the future.

If you haven't visited the park in the past several years, you will be pleased to see concrete stairs leading to the tennis court area and a series of 80 steps located where the old toboggan chute used to be. Part way down these steps is an observation platform where you can take in the beauty of the surrounding area and the creek down below. Both of these steps were constructed by the CCC.

The CCC, the Civilian Conservation Corps, was established in 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, to boost Americans out of desperate poverty provoked by the Great Depression.

Four departments -- Labor, Agriculture, Interior and the Army -- worked together to establish and operate the camps. The Labor Dept. helped select the volunteers, the Army ran the camps, and Agriculture and Interior provided technical support. Because of these hundreds of thousands of young men, more than 60 CCC camps were established in Ohio between 1933 and 1942.



Through CCC efforts, millions of seedlings were planted across the Ohio scarred hillsides. Between 1933 and 1942 three billion seedlings were planted, but they did a lot more.

For those of you who love our state parks as I do, we should remember that the CCC also built bridges and carved roads. They built dams to create lakes for water supplies and public recreation. They sculpted the

landscape to control erosion and they built marvelous buildings on public lands.

Because of WWII, the CCC camps were abandoned but their legacy still stands today. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources and its Division of Parks and Recreation were created in 1949. State Parks that were created included Tar Hollow, Lake Hope Zaleski and Blue Rock State Park and State Forest.

Nine of these state parks have beautiful lodges with sleeping accommodations: Burr Oak, Deer Creek, Geneva, Hueston Woods, Maumee Bay, Mohican, Punderson and Salt Fork and Shawnee.

My favorite is Hocking Hills State Park. It has cabins but no sleeping rooms in the lodge. If you are a hiker, this is your park. Old Man's cave still shows the work the CCC did in carving steps, making bridges and cutting through rock to make passageways.



[Deer Creek State Park in S.W. Ohio]

The vegetation, under story trees and shrubs are as lush as the varieties of moss, likens and wildflowers. Be sure to bring along your tree and wildflower books and don't forget your camera. One of the most beautiful sites is the morning sun with rays breaking through 80 - 100 feet high trees.

We travel miles and take cruises while here in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan is a wealth of beauty, peace and natural wonders waiting for you. Thanks to the CCC.

For more information on your own state parks go to Magazine Mailing List, 2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. C-3, Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693, or sign up on their website, [www.ohiostateparks.org](http://www.ohiostateparks.org). For Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources check out [www.state.in.us/dnr](http://www.state.in.us/dnr)



For Michigan DNR contact [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

*Corpsmen plant seedlings at Michigan's Silver Lake Camp. Will your Grandchildren enjoy the shade beneath a tree you plant today?*

What you do for others can live forever!

CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION

*Gardening Education And Excellence In Horticulture Since 1932*

TO: ALL CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION TGOA/MGCA CLUBS

FROM: THE C.G.L.R. AWARDS COMMITTEE

RE: YEAR 2009 C.G.L.R. 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Dear Club President and Awards Chairperson,

The Awards Committee would like to have all C.G.L.R. Clubs participate in the awards program. Please review the enclosed material with your members as soon as possible and refer this material to your Awards Chairman. Also, please save this material for future reference.

The following are once in a lifetime awards: THE WILLIAM MOOREHOUSE AWARD (Replaces THE MASTER GARDENER AWARD. Previous recipients are not eligible for this award.), THE GREEN BRONZE MEDAL and THE DELBERT R. DUNBAR AWARD.

In addition to the awards above we call your attention to the following: HORTICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT, HORTICULTURE JOURNALISM, CERTIFICATE OF HONOR, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT and the SPARK PLUG awards. There are many people deserving of these awards. **Please help us honor them by nominating them for an award.**

Awards will be presented at the C.G.L.R. 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE that will be hosted by The Fort Wayne GOA, July 24 & 25, 2009 at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College in Wolf Lake, Indiana. The conference is open to all C.G.L.R. Club members. **Please encourage your members to attend!!!** For more info contact John Kessen at [lakelover60@yahoo.com](mailto:lakelover60@yahoo.com).

The deadline for submitting nominations is May 1, 2009. This is necessary to give the Awards Committee time to select winners, order and prepare the awards. You may re-nominate a person if they were previously nominated but did not receive the award. Please e-mail or mail nominations and supporting data to all the committee members listed below or bring nominations and data to the C.G.L.R. meeting at Kingwood Garden in Mansfield on, April 18, 2009. **NOTE!** Criteria and a list of past recipients of these awards can be located on the CGLR web site (<http://www.acorn.net/cglr>) under REGION MEETINGS – SPECIAL IMPORTANT NOTICE – Submission Details and Instructions.

Respectfully submitted by your C.G.L.R. Awards Committee,

Rodney Toth, Chairman  
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*“There are no shortcuts to any place worth going” Anon*

*What you do for others can live forever!*

## 2009 CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE DATES

Regional Meeting – Saturday – April 18 – 10:00 AM – Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio – 330-799-6046

Regional Conference – Friday & Saturday - July 24 & 25 Goshen, Indiana – John Kessen – 260-854-2988

Regional Meeting - Saturday – October 10 – 10:00 AM - Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio – 330-799-6046

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### CGLR 2009 OFFICERS

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Contact Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor – 330-792-4355 – [alessiwoepat@juno.com](mailto:alessiwoepat@juno.com) concerning this publication or how you too can be a part of the CGLR of garden clubs. National Web – [www.tgoa-mgca.org](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org) - Regional Web – [www.acorn.net/CGLR/](http://www.acorn.net/CGLR/)

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Central Great Lakes Region  
Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor  
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Youngstown, Oh 44511-3444

Kingwood Perennial Gardens  
Site of the CGLR meetings!

### **Region's Family of Garden Clubs**

**Indiana** - Fort Wayne – 260-854-2988

**Michigan** - Maple City – 517-264-5617 \*

**Ohio** Akron – 330-336-9336 \*

Bluffton-Pandora – 419-659-5638 \*

Cleveland – 330-655-0516

Cuyahoga Falls – 330-928-4114 \*

Erie County – 419-627-0763

Findlay – 419-423-1010

Lima - 419-516-8020

St. Mary's – 419-586-8912 \*

Stow Life Members – 330-688-5782

Van Wert – 419-238-9351

Youngstown – 330-792-4355