



Garden Clippings

For Members only

Calendar of Events *see yearbook for more details

Jan	NO GENERAL MEETING
Jan 20	Board Meeting
Feb 6	General Meeting <i>Speaker: Thomas Becker</i>
Feb 17	Board Meeting
Mar 6	General Meeting POTLUCK <i>Avon Lake Tree Commission speaker</i>
Mar 17	Board Meeting
Apr 3	General Meeting <i>Speaker: Rodger Roeser</i>
Apr 16-18	GCO Annual Convention
Apr TBD	HFG Affiliate Forum
Apr 21	Board Meeting

Interesting names for groups of.....
Find these names throughout the newsletter beginning with
A Bevy of Ladies
(These are provided by *Elaine George*
from the *Birds and Blooms Oct/Nov 2024 issue*)

2024-2025 Officers

President	Barbara Peterson
Vice-President	Kamber Herrmann
Secretary	Marsha Soroka
Treasurer	Kathy Gottlieb
Corresponding Secretary	Georganne Wolnoski

President's Message

by Barbara Peterson

BEAUTY OF THE CHANGING SEASON

As we conclude another year and head into a new calendar year, we also transition from autumn to winter. Autumn is beautiful with warm days to revel in the colorful hues of the falling leaves. Leaves are pretty in the trees, but not so much once they hit the ground. Every autumn as I'm raking the never-ending layers of leaves, I have to remind myself that I am truly thankful for those majestic trees that produce the leaves. Yes, I do leave plenty of leaves for mulching and protecting the beneficial insects over the winter.

Side note - my yard has six maple trees yet the vast majority of leaves I rake are oak leaves - guess I'm helping out my neighborhood! I am thankful for the city leaf pickup and for the rich leaf humus we can use in the spring. So much of the tree canopy is aging - it is wonderful that the Garden Club is able to purchase new trees for the community.

Heading into winter we trade the bright colors for a more subdued palette - gray skies, brown grass and white snow. The quietness of the snow blanket on the ground masks the leaves I left to provide shelter for the insects. We can catch glimpses of brilliant cardinals and the deep black of the black-capped chickadees.

Soon enough it will be time to turn our attention back to the soft beauty of another spring. Preparation of soil, checking on those perennials, cleaning out last year's foliage, gearing up for our annual plant sale and back to the gardens!

Rest and enjoy the beauty of the winter season!

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Elsie Robinson (President 1984-85)

"I was born and raised in Farmington, West Virginia. Married Robert J. Robinson. We have 3 wonderful sons. Each have blessed us with 3 wonderful daughter-in-laws. To our delight they have given us 3 grandchildren and who have enriched us with 4 exceptional great-grandchildren. During World War II we lived and worked in Chicago and Florida. We moved from West Virginia to New Washington (Ohio), Arcadia (Ohio) and finally to Avon Lake where I told him we were staying! In Avon Lake I found a great friend, Jerry Paine, who introduced me to the Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club, for which I have enjoyed many years! My personal goal has been to plant as many gardens as spare time would allow. MAKE AVON LAKE BEAUTIFUL! (editor's note: she maintained the fence garden all by herself until the club finally approved making it a club garden!) The added blessing has been the many friends made while doing so. I cherish you all!" Aka: Alice M. Robinson

**Celebrating
her
100th
Birthday!!!!**



Elsie



Susan

Susan Hall

In 2017, we moved to Avon Lake. As frequent visitors to the library I noticed a flyer advertising the Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club. Once my schedule allowed, I reached out and was welcomed as a member of the club in 2023. I have been impressed with the many talents of club members. I am happy I can contribute to efforts beautifying our community and learning about related topics from the experts in our area. We are blessed to have three adult children and two grandsons that are close by! My husband and I enjoy attending area concerts and local activities.

A Scurry of Squirrels
A Descent of Woodpeckers
An Unkindness of Ravens

September Meeting the Annual President's Tea



Shea Alttmont - speaker
Wizard of Oz comes to the library



September GCO Cleveland District Meeting

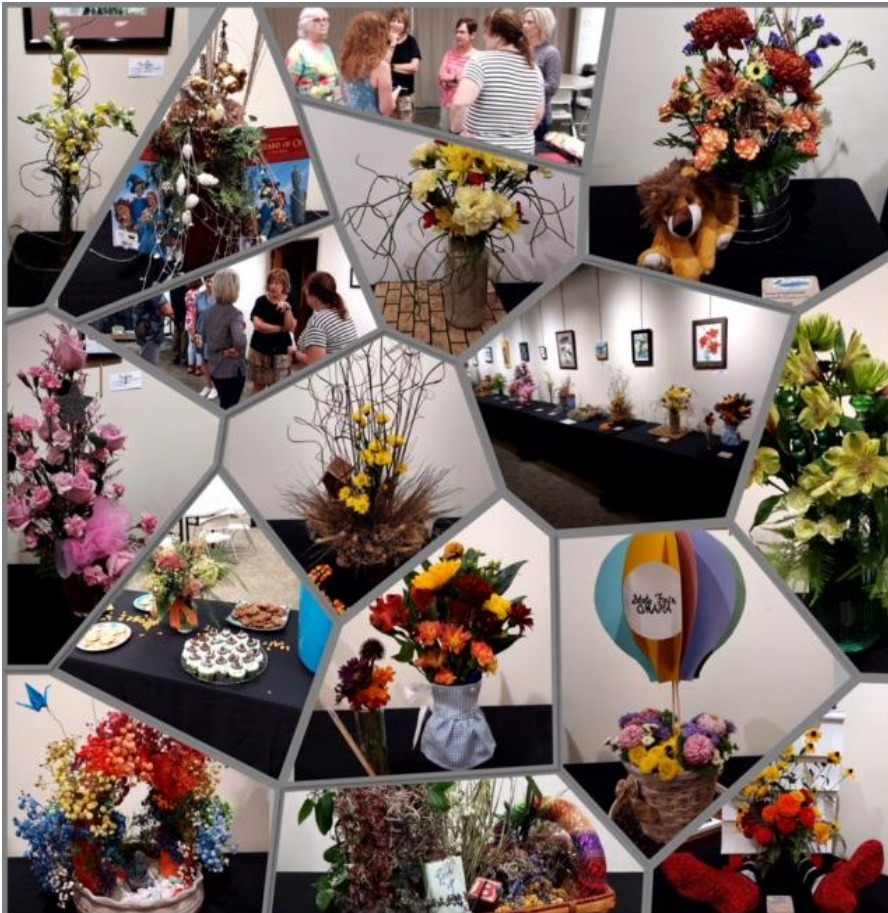
Our own **Jo'c Walker** and **Judy Morley** of the Cleveland Flower Arranger's Guild presented

"A Study in Color"



An Exaltation of Larks
A Murmuration of Starlings
A Walk of Snails

September Avon-on-the-Lake Gallery Show



Elsie Robinson's money tree plant wreath

September 23 at Miller Park



September 27th and October 2nd Adventure to Green Circle Growers



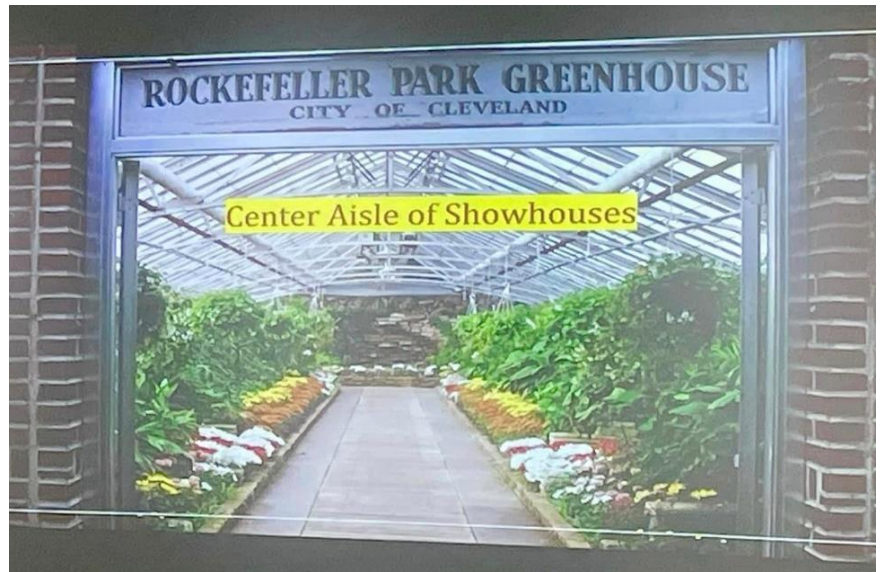
Arrangement for the Cleveland Botanical Garden entrance created by Judy Morley



A Charm of Humingbirds
A Flutter of Butterflies
A Siege of Cranes

October General Meeting

Speaker: Ron Hartmiller, retiree and volunteer at Rockefeller Park Greenhouse



A Skulk of Foxes
A Flamboyance of Flamingoes
An Army of Caterpillars

Cleanup
at the
Wildflower
Garden



November General Meeting

Speaker: Jane Bodnar, Diversity in Flower Arranging



Horticulture, Conservation, Birds & Blooms Topics

by Jeanne Akhaven

October Meeting

Japanese Lanterns

The Japanese Lantern plant, also known as Chinese Lantern or Winter Cherry (*Physalis Aklekenji*) symbolizes safety, comfort, and protection. This perennial spreads by rhizomes or seed and can become invasive. Deer tend to avoid it. Grown in a container to contain it is best and when placed in the sun turns it a beautiful orange. It takes your fall arrangements to the next level. To dry, place in a dark, airy area and enjoy its beauty for a long time.



November Meeting

Cornucopias

A cornucopia (or Horn of Plenty) dates all the way back to 5 BC. It is the traditional symbol of abundance that can be depicted as a hollow horn shaped basket having been filled with fruits, vegetables, and sometimes flowers. It originated in Greek mythology and is thought to represent the horn of a goat, Amalthea, who nursed Zeus as an infant. Used today on Thanksgiving tables and is a basket instead of a horn! It also appears on the state flag of Idaho and is the Coat of Arms for Panama, Columbia, Peru, and Venezuela.



**An Ostentation of Peacocks
A Loveliness of Ladybugs
A Committee of Vultures**

Garden Club of Ohio's Holiday Event

Perennial Bloom Award Winner from CAR (Central Atlantic Region)



Oh you kids never rest. Thanks for the great honor, it really is. I must have had a good writeup. How exciting and unsettling it was when the announcement came at the luncheon. Thank heavens I didn't swallow my tongue, I was in the middle of swallowing a mouth full of coffee. My first endearing comment was, "Oh you kids are goofy." , is what I remember. You're always thinking of others. For our newer members who might not be aware, this award is given to a club member who has contributed to the club over the years and helped the club grow. This award encompasses a seven state area in our region and there are eight regions in the country. The National Garden Clubs is a wonderful organization. There is warmth and comradery in our club that brings out the best. I'm so happy to be a part of this club and sorry I'm not as active and have gone into a mentor role so please call if you need anything. And just to mention, Elsie Robinson was the recipient of this award a few years back. Thanks for your confidence in me.

Fondly,
LCS

The club sold its Christmas Frost tree ornaments from previous years at the GCO Holiday Show....\$101!



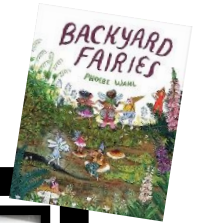
Jennifer, the saleslady!

Decorating the tree at the Botanical Garden for FROST

Frost: An Ice-Capped Garden Experience

Fables & Tales of Frost Flora and Fauna

Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club's Theme: Enchanting Fairy Forest



***Kamber, Karen B, Sylvia, Pat, Karen H.
Bonnie, Margaret, Kathy, and Diane***

December Christmas Luncheon at the Veranda



Lots of **RED**
that day!



Pam Ohradzansky, Executive Director to CRS

*"You [our club] are the perfect example of how the support we receive
nurtures seeds of kindness, growing into beautiful blooms that
benefit our neighbors in need"* - Pam

CRS Donations!!!!
Over \$2540



Happy Holidays to everyone!!!!!!



Proclamation from the City of Avon Lake for ELSIE ROBINSON



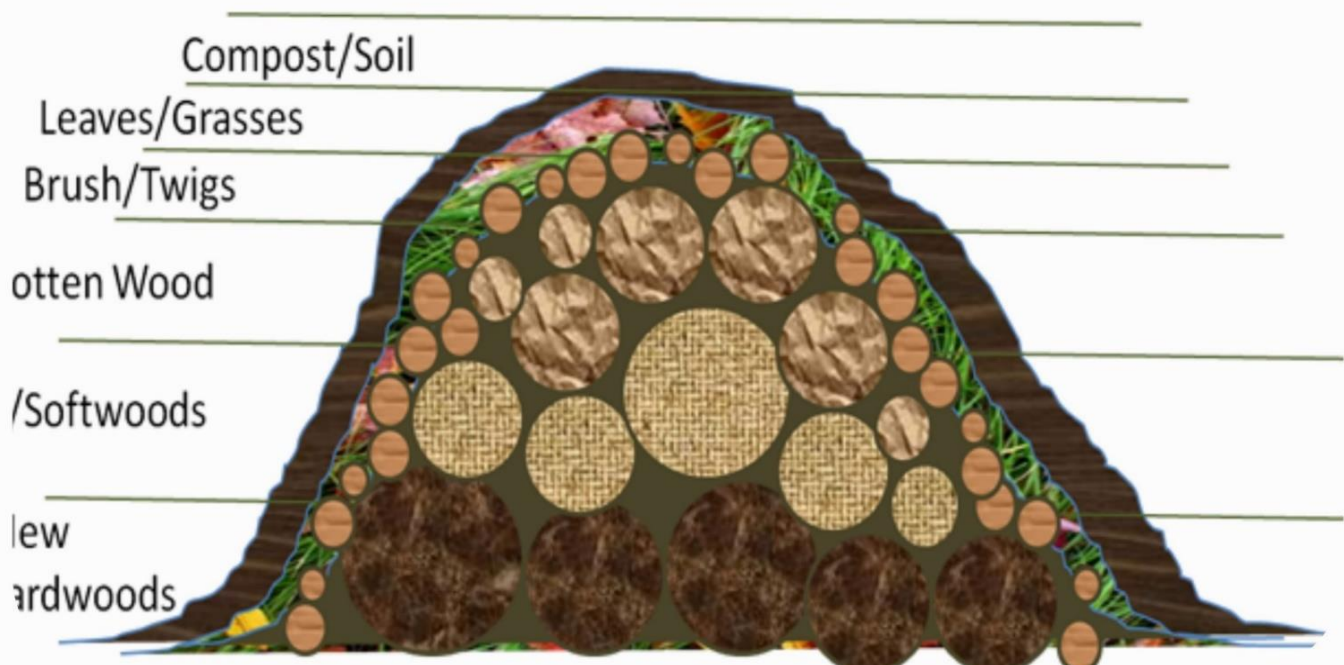
Signage found in Nannen Arboretum

in Ellicottville, NY, an official Tree City

*helps improve soil
fertility, water retention
and soil warming
benefitting plants
grown on or near*



Time Stacking with Hugelkulture



Additional Tips to add to your Tip Booklet:

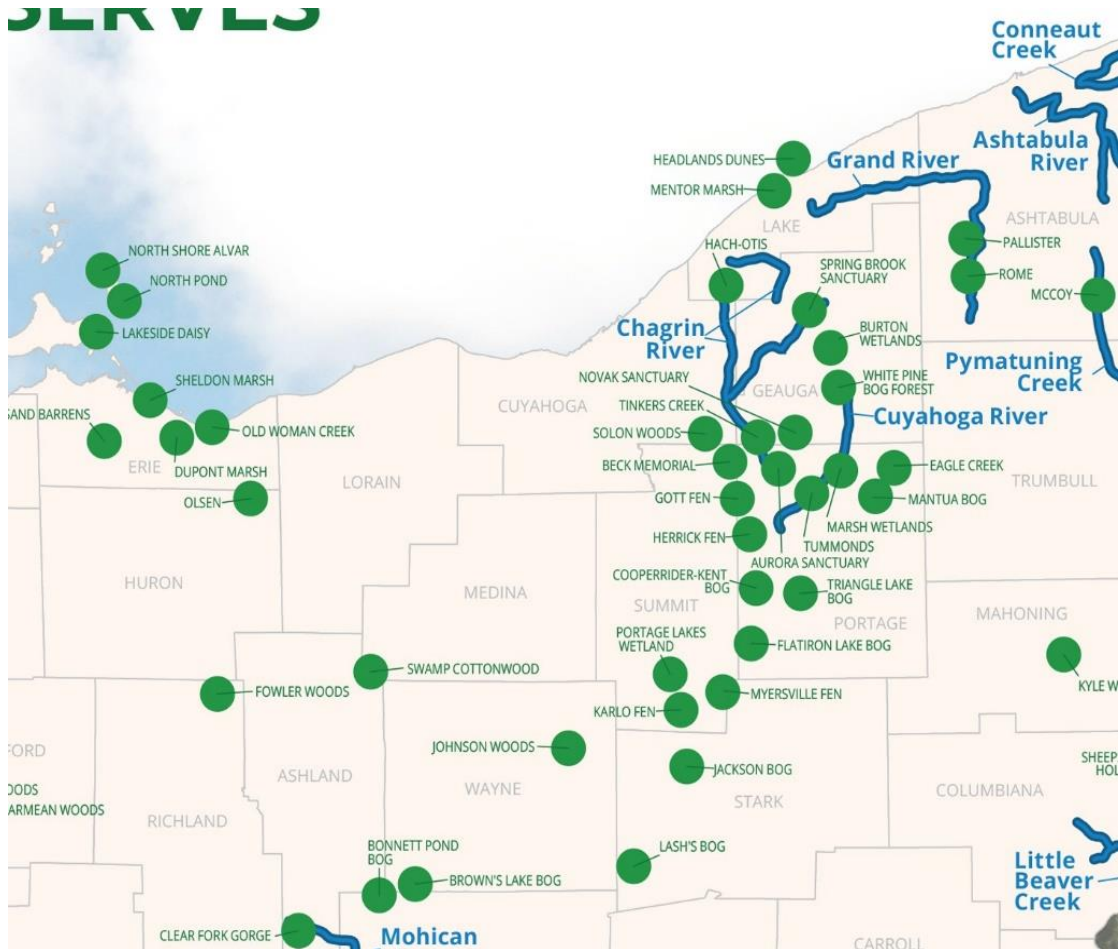
"Why some trees...cause...misery for allergy sufferers" by Peter Krouse, Sun Sentinel

"Those trees pollinated by the wind....are the ones that nail you." "Oak, maple and birch are primary offenders, followed by sycamore, hickory, elm and ash."

Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club donates to the TNC!

The Nature Conservancy has 145 reserves in Ohio

These are the ones closest to us. Consider a day trip!



Additional Tips to add to your Tip Booklet:

"Gardening can grow mental well-being, cultivate friends" by Richard Sima, The Washington Post
"...through the connection with nature and its aesthetic beauty....to connect with other people."

A Convocation of Eagles

A Party of Blue Jays

A College of Cardinals



Thanksgiving cactus

Schlumbergera truncata



Christmas cactus

Schlumbergera bridgesii



Easter cactus

Rhipsalidopsis gaertneri



Succulents native to Brazil

Learn more about the differences and care requirements at

GardeningKnowHow.com

This link supplied by **Sue Jagoda** , who also posted this on our Facebook page.



Pat Hadam's

Baklava Pumpkin Pie



KATE KARDOL



Recipe

For The Walnut Crumble

- ☐ 1 cup finely chopped walnuts
- ☐ 2 tablespoons raw cane sugar
- ☐ 1 tablespoon cinnamon

For The Crust

- ☐ 1/2 pound phyllo dough, properly thawed (see note)
- ☐ 1/4 cup [extra virgin olive oil](#), plus more if needed
- ☐ 3/4 cup quality honey, warmed, for drizzling

For The Pumpkin Pie Filling

- ☐ 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree (no sugar added)
- ☐ 3 eggs
- ☐ 1/4 cup [honey](#)
- ☐ 3 tablespoons raw cane sugar
- ☐ 1/4 cup whole milk (or unsweetened almond milk)
- ☐ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ☐ 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ☐ 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- ☐ 1/2 teaspoon [allspice](#)
- ☐ 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- ☐ Very small pinch kosher salt

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- 1 Get ready. Position a rack in the middle of your oven and heat to 350°F. Brush a springform pan or a 10-inch nonstick tart pan with 3-inch sides and a removable bottom with olive oil.
- 2 Prepare the pumpkin pie filling. In a large mixing bowl, add the pumpkin puree, eggs, honey, sugar, milk, vanilla extract, cinnamon, ginger, allspice, nutmeg, and kosher salt. Whisk to combine.
- 3 Prepare the walnut crumble. In a small bowl, combine the walnuts, sugar, and cinnamon. Mix well.

- 4 Prepare the phyllo. Soak and wring out two clean kitchen towels so they're very lightly damp. Lay one on your work surface, then unwrap and unroll the phyllo sheets over the towel. Place the second lightly damp towel on top. This will keep the phyllo from drying and breaking as you work.

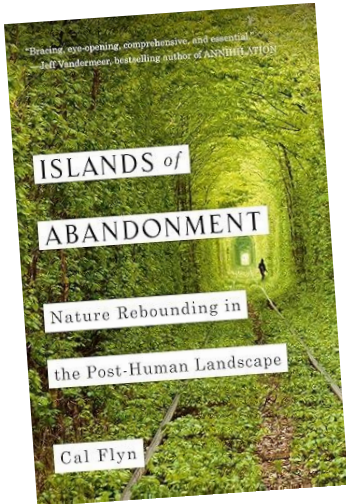
- 5 Assemble the phyllo crust. Lay 2 sheets of phyllo on the bottom of the pan (there should be extra slack hanging over the sides). Brush the top sheet with extra virgin olive oil, then rotate the pan and lay another 2 sheets on top. Brush once more and continue rotating and layering until you've used about 3/4 of the dough. The phyllo should cover the pan all around with slack hanging over the sides.

- 6 Add the walnut crumble. Brush the final sheet with olive oil, then sprinkle about 3/4 of the walnut mixture to cover the bottom of the pan. Keep the remaining phyllo sheets covered for now.
- 7 Add the pumpkin pie filling. Add the pumpkin filling and use a rubber spatula or metal spoon to spread so it's even throughout.
- 8 Layer. Fold the phyllo slack over the pumpkin filling. Bunch the remaining phyllo sheets, one at a time, and arrange them over top until you have covered the filling (don't worry, it will look very nice after baking).

- 9 Finish assembling the pie. Brush the top phyllo layer with a little olive oil and sprinkle the remaining walnut crumble.
- 10 Bake. Bake on the center rack of the heated oven until the phyllo is golden brown and crispy, 40 to 50 minutes.
- 11 Finish and cool. Remove from the oven and immediately drizzle with the honey. Allow the pie to cool completely before serving (about 1 to 2 hours).

Courtesy of Tina Gentile

If this is too difficult to read and you would like a copy, I can send you a copy. -Anne



Book Review
by Marianne Stern

Islands of Abandonment

Nature Rebounding in the Post-Human Landscape

by Cal Flynn

328 pages, Published 2022

"Flynn captures the dread, sadness, and wonder of beholding the results of humanity's destructive impulses, and she arrives at a new appreciation of life, 'all the stranger and more valuable for its resilience.' " - *The New Yorker*

This is one of the most fascinating books I have read in quite a while. Investigative journalist Flynn travels to places around the world that have been abandoned by humans because of war, disaster, disease, or industrial contamination and finds life returning to many of these places. These are not islands in the true sense, but areas that humans have abandoned because of being unfit to habitate.

One area she described was Chernobyl which was contaminated April 1986. The explosion affected 1,600 square miles which included 2 major towns and 74 villages. It is the most radioactive environment on earth. Today 70% of the zone is forested. The ground is still contaminated but elk, deer, lynx, owls, bears have returned in large numbers. They have found that some plants actually absorb the radiation from the soil. Radiation is decreasing over the years but it will take over 270 years before it is back to safe levels. Most insects are still missing.

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal near Denver was the site of a chemical warfare facility that was shut down in 1945 after WWII. It was deemed unsafe for any humans to occupy the land. Wildlife began moving into this site. It is surrounded on three sides for the growing city of Denver. Since being abandoned by humans and undergoing some removal of contamination, it is now teeming with 332 species of wildlife. The Rocky Mountain Arsenal Motion's Wildlife Refuge was established in 1992.

Her message is encouraging and uplifting on how some of these contaminated areas can rebound over time with and sometimes without the interference of man. It is a story of redemption.

This book received the British Academy Book Prize and best travel book of the year in *The Washington Post*, and *Newsweek*.

Newspaper Article out of the The York Times, Sunday, October 6, 2024, supplied by Georganne Wolnowski

"To Shift from Lawn to Meadow, Effort is Required: page 9

This article describes the effort of a couple trying to shift to a meadow in their front yard, and the concern they had in respect to their neighbors. They contacted professionals to help them, and all agreed that a sign stating their intentions, "Native Meadow in Progress", not only informed but invited conversation.

An Idea to Ponder: Fall/Winter Garden Planting

Take the days to maturity for the crop, count back that number from the frost date and add 4 weeks.

IDEAS TO USE WITH CHILDREN: Make corn husk dolls and seed mosaics

Creative ways to get children involved in gardening; tap into interest or skills such as art, reading, writing



WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN? SHARE YOUR PHOTOS



Bonnie Armstrong's backyard



Aren't Fall colors beautiful????

Links you might be interested in researching

2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/home>

NEXT ISSUE IN MAY

deadline for items for the newsletter will be April 15th

send to Anne at aklyon028@gmail.com