



Country Garden Club

Member Club of the Garden Club of America, Inc



DandyLines
Volume 89 Issue 06

January 2022



The Garden History and Design Committee's program on the Stranahan Arboretum and the Holiday Luncheon Committee deserve our thanks for a wonderful event. As a follow-up to Daryl Dwyer, Ph.D.'s presentation, the January, February 2022 edition of "Smithsonian" magazine has an amazing article about Robert Leverett, retired engineer and "the old growth evangelist" titled "The Old Man

and the Tree". The article talks about old growth forests in Massachusetts and Leverett's discoveries of the benefits of old trees with regard to climate change and proforestation, managing existing forests, vs. Reforestation, regrowing existing forests, and Afforestation, planting new forests. "The term old growth forest came into use in the 1970's to describe multi-species forests that had been left alone for at least 150 years." Dwyer mentioned that 17 acres of Stranahan Arboretum is old growth forest. Hopefully this peaks your curiosity and we can find out more.

As we've come to realize, out of every crisis is an opportunity for change and growth – a chance to look at issues and ourselves through a different and wider lens, and to adjust and adapt the ways we operate in our routines. The pandemic has been and continues to be a harsh test of human wisdom and resilience, but as we reflect on the wounded lives and institutions around us, we can affirm to be kinder....to smile more at others, to offer to help more often....to take more time to listen and to live more truthfully. My glad tidings for each of you are that the year ahead will be full of learning, meaning, gratitude and the love of family and friends. Happy New Year!

Nancy



Upcoming Events

- **February-NO BOARD MEETING.**
- **Membership Meeting: Monday, January 10, 10 am, W.W Knight Preserve. February-NO Membership Meeting.**
- **Garden History and Design:** Feb 21 Bradner Reserve
- **Horticulture:** January 18 10 am. (please note **Tuesday**) – Way Library Meeting Rooms C&D
- **Conservation:** January-Book review-discussion in January 18, 4:30 pm at Kim Frazier's home.
- **Provisionals:** "Cocktails & Concerns", January 26, 2022, 5:30 p.m., Jan Connor's home
- **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** February 1, 2022 - Deadline for submitting requests for change in membership status. April 1, 2022 is the deadline for submission of applications for the provisional class of 2022

Country Garden Club publishes the *DandyLines* Newsletter monthly for its members. The deadline is the last week prior to the next month's edition. Issues will be mailed around the first of the following month. Editor: Diane Gannon and Co Editor Janine Avila, with contributions from past editor, Mary Merrick. Please send us your articles, photos and ideas to dandylinesnewsletter@gmail.com



Submitted by Michelle Alexander, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President, Nancy Lehmann, at 11:40 a.m. Nancy welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting and luncheon. It was quite obvious to all that we were happy to be there because there had been a lengthy meet and greet period filled with lively chatter and laughter. CGC pottery and the toffee was available for purchase-all proceeds go directly to the club's treasury. The room was beautifully festive with holiday décor and the presentation of the holiday-themed dessert cakes from Eston's Bakery. The table centerpieces were a huge hit with everyone. In fact, by the time the meeting had started nearly every one of them had already been claimed by a new owner. By the end of the meeting there was not a single centerpiece left for sale. Nancy next introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Daryl F. Dwyer, Ph. D, Department of Environmental Sciences and the Director of the Stranahan Arboretum at the University of Toledo. CGC member Sally Goligoski introduced her guest for the day, Linda Justen.

Officers' Reports

Recording Secretary, Michelle Alexander: The minutes from the previous membership meeting were approved without change. **Treasurer's Report** – Annette Sipp announced to the group that moving forward she will be sending out a quarterly report for all members to see. The gross income for this year was \$42,400.00. Our investments reflect the unrealized gains due to market fluctuations. There were no further questions and the report was approved. **Vice President** – Judy Lang asked the members to please take note of the folders placed on each table regarding the CGC Endowment Fund. She encouraged us to consider giving to the fund in honor of someone rather than limiting our giving to memorials. **2nd Vice Presidents** – Jan Connors and Sherie Robarge: Due to time constraints for today's meeting and presentation, there was no report given. Sherie had given a report at the Board Meeting earlier in the day. **Corresponding Secretary** – Ann Worden No report.



Committee Reports:

Conservation – Committee Chair Kim Frazier briefly explained the committee's intention to read the book on climate change and the discussion in January. She also reported on the visit from Nature's Nursery which took place at November's meeting. (See November DandyLines for details).

Floral Design – Maryann Fishbaugh and Susan Garn

Susan explained the story of how our beautiful centerpieces came to life. Much credit was given to Diane Zitzelberger for her design. The centerpieces were offered for sale at \$30.00 and all of them had already been snapped up by eager members.

Garden History and Design – Colleen McGoldrick and Marsha Molnar

Colleen announced our speaker for the day.



Horticulture – Jan Baker and Luella Smith

Luella informed the members that the 27 holiday pots planted at Hospice of Perrysburg were being very much enjoyed by both staff and patients.

Photography – Pat Todak

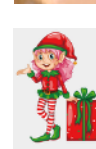
Pat announced a workshop planned for January 6, 10 - 11 am at Kohne Camera. No experience required. Any camera will do! Come and learn and have fun.



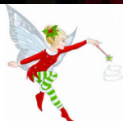
Community Projects – Kathy Attwood, Chairman

Kathy briefly announced that even though her committee has received numerous ideas for future projects, she is most definitely not feeling overwhelmed and we should keep the ideas coming.





Left: Colleen McGoldrick Introduces Dr. Dwyer.
Above: Floral Design Committee Centerpieces were a welcoming touch—designed by Diane Zitzelberger

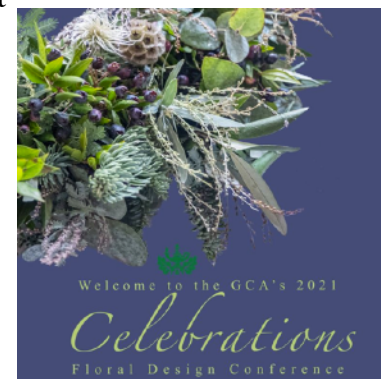


Left: Luncheon Committee Members Connie Murphy, luncheon Co Chairs : Michele Alexander and Annette Sipp, luncheon committee members Kris Young, and Marlene Mills. Not pictured are Karen Lucas and Carol Hall.

What a wonderful gathering we had to celebrate the season, friendships, and our mission. Thank you to the luncheon committee and Carranor staff for your time and talents. All the special touches were so appreciated.



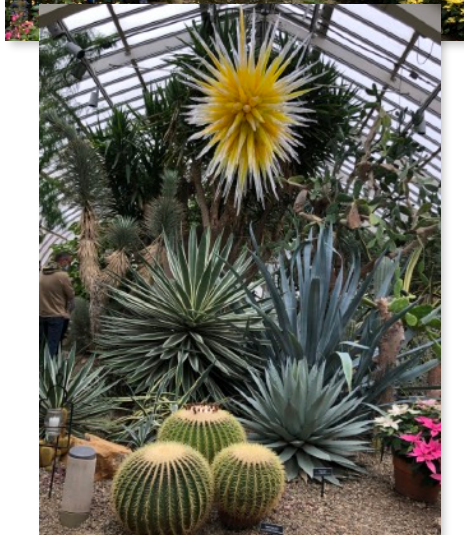
If you missed the GCA Floral Design Conference on December 8, you can revisit it by going to the GCA website. [CLICK HERE](#) to review the information delivered at the conference. Don't miss our January membership meeting, where our flower show chair Kathleen Carmony will share more information around the schedule for our 2022 show with this year's theme around **children's literature**. During our membership meeting in March, Kathleen will share more details about the show. For you snowbirds who may not be able to attend in person, our plan is to hold this meeting virtually using Zoom as well. Don't panic! Reach out to members who have participated, talk about their past



Visiting Gardens-submitted by Audrey Palumbo and Nancy Lehmann and Diane Gannon

The Garden Club of America Visiting Gardens video mentioned at the Holiday luncheon is wonderful and can be accessed via [GCA Visiting Gardens](#), committee pages.

Another gem within an arms reach is the Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh, PA. Diane Gannon had the opportunity to visit there during the holidays, and wanted to share some of their holiday beauty with everyone. In the photo below, note the owl Christmas tree ornament in the photo below only using recyclable materials—CD's, plastic forks and spoons, jar lids, and plastic bottle tops. Each ornament on trees displayed in this area was created utilizing only recyclable materials and created by students from different area schools.



<https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/>



Five provisionals, their leaders and a handful of actives met at Black Diamond on November 29th to put the finishing touches on the baskets that will be displayed during the holiday season. Three kinds of greens along with gold and red balls and randomly placed lights helped to add one more festive touch to the downtown area. The city will place them on the street lights and the baskets will be enjoyed by all during the parade and throughout the season. Thank you Luella, for your expert tutelage and organization.



L-R: Deb Fragel, Susan Croci, Nona Snell, Susan Shaneck, and Judy Ashley.

Sherie Robarge and Jan Connors will host "Cocktails & Concerns," scheduled for January 26, 2022, 5:30 p.m., at Jan Connors home.



**Meet our 2021 Provisional Members
Katherine B. Jones**

1. What I like the most about Perrysburg is *its scholarly population.*
2. I have lived in Perrysburg *less than one year.*
3. If I had to pick one place in the area to bring a visitor it would be *Fort Meigs.*
4. My favorite "green" items to grow are *roses.*
5. I was born in *Traverse City, Michigan and grew up in Ottawa Hills, OH.*
6. My most rewarding work/volunteer experience was/is *teaching children.*
7. I'm never without *water.*



The WW Knight Preserve:

A Wonderful Place to Visit, even during the Winter!

Submitted by Audrey Palumbo

At the CGC’s August 16th Kick-off meeting, Kathleen Attwood gave a brief presentation regarding the significant contribution the CGC had made in the past to the WW Knight Preserve. My research on this subject revealed that members of the CGC originally approached the Knight family, asking them to donate the land for a park. They then coordinated efforts with the Wood County Park District to make the park a preserve. Additionally, the CGC hired BGSU students to find native grasses and plants, collect their seeds, and grow them so the Preserve could return as easily as possible to its native state.

This information piqued my interest enough to again visit the inside of the Preserve’s main building on a typical autumn day. Inside the building towards the back, there are three rooms. These three rooms are dedicated to education, and the preservation of the natural habitat of Wood County. The rooms are named the William and Elsie Knight Library, the LOONA (Look Out On Nature) room in memory of HL Thompson, Jr. from the Robert A. Foster Family, and the Country Garden Club of Perrysburg Educational Classroom.



The CGC’s Educational Classroom is equipped with a circular rug, and is decorated with wildlife taxidermy, comfortable little seats, a stage area for the students to use for storytelling (using the many animal hand puppets that are stored on one rack), and a variety of identified taxidermy. You might want to stay long enough to visit the live Midland Painted Turtle in an aquarium and an Eastern Tiger Salamander in a dry light-heated aquarium!



The Knight Library has many resources including a 12-volume set of the Audubon Nature Encyclopedia, a set of the Peterson Field Guides, and many other reference books.

The LOONA area has seats looking out onto what I understand to be native grasses, plants, and trees, accessible through a large south window (about 25 feet long and 8 foot high) and additional windows on the West wall. On the South wall are photographs of year-round bird residents, identified by name and height. They include the Cedar Waxwing, the Black Capped Chickadee, the Downy Woodpecker, the Northern Mockingbird, the Song Sparrow, the Common Goldfinch, the Eastern Towhee, and the Tufted Titmouse.

I live about a mile from the Preserve, and I provide several types of seed and keep the feeders and water clean at the site. I believe the only birds I have seen are woodpeckers, sparrows, gold finches, and other birds not mentioned in the LOONA such as cardinals, blue jays, and robins. But I’ll keep trying! If you are interested, six year-round birds of prey are also noted as visiting the Preserve, including the Peregrine Falcon, Northern Harrier, Red Tailed Hawk, Coopers Hawk, American Crested Hawk, and the Bald Eagle. During the summer and migration times, the Osprey, Rough legged Hawk and Northern Goshawk can also be seen. I can only imagine what wonderful things you and yours might see on a snow-covered winter day. Might be fun to give it a try during the winter.



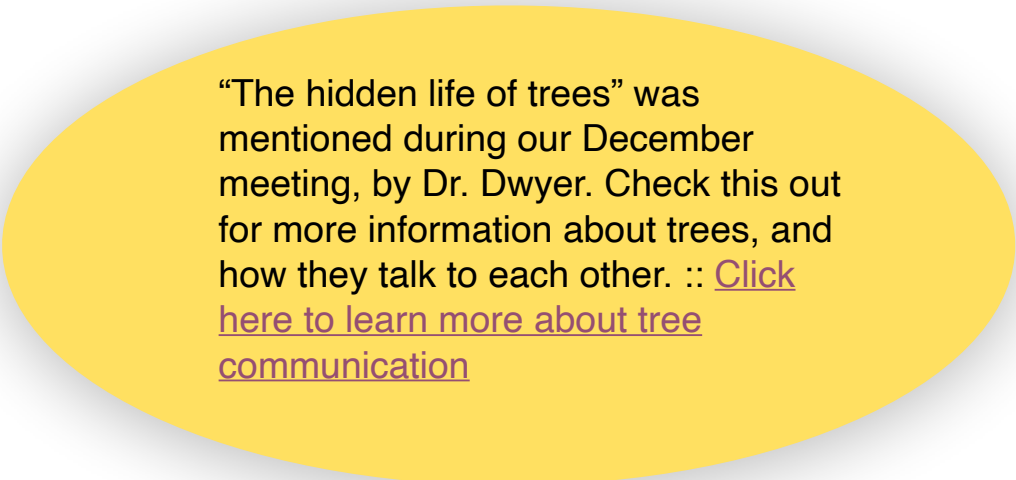
Cultivated – The Elements of Floral Design

By
Christin Geall

This smallish book’s size belies absolutely amazing content. This lovely book pairs exquisite color saturated photographs of stunning arrangements with very readable content. The book is designed as a guide to floral design ranging from information about caring for flowers and choosing the right containers for your arrangements to preparing arrangements for perfect photographs. The arrangements in this book have a very strong baroque quality and the personal stories shared by the author add warmth and value to the information given. This is a book that should be read and savored by anyone contemplating adding skill to her personal floral arranging abilities.

As we continue our 2021-22 year in Book Nook, the books that will be reviewed will focus on floral and plant arranging in order for us all to learn the nuances of this lovely art form as we all prepare for the Flower Show to be held June 3-5, 2022 at the Way Library in Perrysburg.

The current focus of the Horticulture committee is to educate members on needed information for the June Flower Show. A hands-on workshop is being planned for the April meeting. Reminder: April is Ohio Native Plant Month!



“The hidden life of trees” was mentioned during our December meeting, by Dr. Dwyer. Check this out for more information about trees, and how they talk to each other. :: [Click here to learn more about tree communication](#)





The Stranahan Arboretum
submitted by
Marsha Molnar and Colleen McGoldrick

“Our mission is to understand the contributions of plants, particularly trees, to urban landscape ecology and other earth science-related issues and to educate the public concerning the nature of our cultivated and native plant life in Northwest Ohio.”

Dr. James Dwyer, current director of the Stranahan Arboretum, provided an enlightening overview of the Arboretum for members attending our December Holiday Luncheon. Located on 15 acres at the intersection of Corey Road and Sylvania Avenue in Toledo, the parcel was donated to the University of Toledo in 1964 by Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Knight, Jr. Of the 47 acres, 17 are natural woods with 22 native species of trees.



Early beginnings. 1967

The remaining 30 acres were soybean fields at the time. In 1966 the first 408 trees were planted by Wilbur Wistinghouse. In 1967 two ponds were constructed with dams and a water system to help irrigate the area. Since that time, however, the watershed supply has changed, and the water supply is no longer viable. 100 dogwood were planted in the existing woodland along with medicinal trees: black cherry, sassafras and white oak.

Additional trees have been planted over the years, but Dr. Dwyer indicated that like all living things, many have enjoyed their life span at the arboretum and need to be replaced. Signage and trails are no longer updated or maintained, due to funding cuts from the University of Toledo Budget. The presentation was a pleasant reminder of what the garden provided to our community through its first 50 years of existence, but is now in need of assistance to sustain itself, to continue its mission to the community.



Community Outreach

“The hidden life of trees” was mentioned by one of the audience members during our question and answer session. Click here to take a peek: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-whispering-trees-180968084/>

Please join the group February 21 to investigate the Bradner Reserve and in May for the Toledo Botanical Gardens. Contact Colleen (cmmc1004@aol.com) or Marsha (marsha_molnar@hotmail.com) for more information. The group has begun creating labels for the Vrablik Conifer Gardens in Rossford. The goal will be to create signage for plant identification as people visit.



Flower Show Photography Criteria



Required

1. Please carefully read and follow the GCA Rules, General Information and the Timetable for Exhibitors.
2. An exhibitor may make only one entry in a class but may enter **state how many entries an entrant may enter** classes. Registration is required by **date**.
3. If forced to withdraw, an exhibitor must notify the division chairman and/or class consultant and find a substitute unless there is a waiting list for the class.
4. A photograph previously entered in any GCA, GCA Major, GCA Non-Major Flower Show or a GCA *Focus* online contest may not be entered again even with slight alterations and reprinting. The same photograph may only be entered in one show at a time.
5. Each photograph must be the work of the exhibitor, under whose name it is registered. In manipulated photographs, any added imagery must be the work of the exhibitor. Commercial overlays and textures are allowed. Matting, mounting and printing may be done professionally. All photographs must be 2-dimensional and printed on paper unless otherwise specified. All post-production must be done before the photograph is printed.
6. Any editing at any stage must be the work of the exhibitor. This includes enhancement for color or clarity, removal of a part of the image, combining images, or distorting the original subject.
7. Photography entries are limited to subjects consistent with The Garden Club of America interests such as horticulture, floral design, gardens/landscapes, conservation and the environment, historic preservation, civic improvement and the natural world. Plant material is **required/not required, but is strongly encouraged**, in photographs.
8. Photographs must be mounted on mat board or foam core and may/may not be matted. The overall dimension of entry must be a minimum of ___" and not exceed ___" in total perimeter measurement. The matting color, if any, and surface finish are the choice of the exhibitor. Glass and framing are not permitted.
9. Photographs will be hung against a [state background color or surface]/displayed on an easel.
10. Photographs must be received no later than **Deadline Date**. Deliver photographs to **Name/Address**. Your registration will be confirmed and receipt of your photograph will be acknowledged.
11. Only appropriate images of a child or children should be submitted, passed and exhibited in Photography Divisions and published in *Focus*.

The scale of points by which the classes are to be judged.

Creativity	25	Composition	25
Technical Skill	20	Conformance/Interpretation	20
Distinction	10	Total	100

For creative techniques classes the scale of points is:

Creativity	30	Composition	20
Technical Skill	20	Conformance/Interpretation	20
Distinction	10	Total	100





CONSERVATION COMMITTEE 2021-2022

Submitted by Kim Frazier

Instead of a December meeting, the Conservation Committee delivered a small book to each committee member on the first and second of the month. Each committee member is expected to read this book that is filled with practical suggestions for helping our environment.

The book is called “The Climate Diet-50 Simple Ways to Trim Your Carbon Footprint”, by Paul Greenberg. This book provides a mindfulness with respect to climate, a daily awareness of the crisis at hand, and a daily response to that crisis. If we all make small changes, it adds up to a larger change. -Book review-discussion January 18, 4:30 pm at Kim Frazier’s home.

In January, if Covid restrictions don’t escalate, the committee will meet to discuss their thoughts and ideas and hopefully hear the changes they have made in their homes and lives in a more climate friendly direction.

Please keep saving your empty prescription bottles with labels removed. Drop them off at Kim Frazier’s home or



Thank You for December Endowment Gifts!

By Judy Lang

Your ongoing support of the CGC Endowment Fund helps assure a vibrant future for our Club. Gifts are always encouraged, not only in memory of someone who has passed away, but also in honor of special people and occasions...or “just because.”

Thanks so much to these members, who made contributions to our Endowment Fund in December:

- MaryLouise Bowe, in memory of Barbara Reed
- Gretchen Downs, in memory of Julie Brown and Barbara Reed
- Shelley Julius, in memory of Barbara Reed
- Nan Miller, in memory of Julie Brown
- Betty Raker, in memory of Barbara Coon and Joyce Quinlivan
- Mary Richter, in memory of Barbara Reed
- Gingi Rothman, in memory of Barbara Reed
- Annette Sipp, in memory of Barbara Reed and Deb Buker

Interested in making a gift?

It’s easy! And any amount is appreciated. Make a check out to “Country Garden Club.” Attach a note of explanation regarding who or what occasion is being remembered and who from the honoree’s family should be notified of your contribution. Send to: Country Garden Club, PO Box 818, Perrysburg, OH 43552.



January in the Garden in Ohio

By Mary Merrick

Here we are in a new year and we now begin to look forward to our garden's awakening in the spring. Early January is the time to try to work toward a healthy and happy garden for the coming year. There are plenty of tasks to keep us busy in the garden on those sunny bright winter days. The main tasks to consider are;

1. Clean your gardening tools and pots and tidy up the greenhouse or potting shed.
2. Plan for spring planting, start to order your seeds and new plants as you enjoy a cup of tea on a snowy winter morning.
3. Check that your winter protection of plants such as stakes, ties and coverings are still in place and adequate to protect your plants in the coming weeks.
4. Be sure to continue to look after the wildlife in your garden, the birds and little beasties need a wee bit of help through the cold and snowy weather. If you are to be away from home for more than a few days try to find someone to take on the feeding tasks.
5. This is the time to prune and trim grasses and some bushes which are now dormant, tidy up any dead plants that remain in the garden.
6. Be sure to remove any heavy snow that comes our way from bushes and plants as the weight can damage these resting friends.
7. Remember to keep your indoor plants well hydrated; misting is a very good option to create a moist environment.



Flower photography opportunities await in this year's Toledo Zoo Orchid Show.

February 11-27 at the Conservatory.





Caring for your Christmas Cactus

Submitted By

Mary Merrick

Many of us were fortunate enough to be given a Christmas cactus as a welcome gift over the holiday season, now we must care for this new treasure in our house plant collection. There are a few ways we can help keep this plant healthy.

1. Give your Christmas cactus bright but indirect light. Keep your plant near a window but away from direct light. Keep your plant away from drafts, heat vents, fireplaces and other sources of hot air.
2. Provide a source of humidity if your house is dry like many of our homes during the winter months. You may want to place your cactus on a tray of water that is half full of water allowing the water to evaporate and provide humidity to the Christmas cactus. Misting the plant two or three times a week will help keep the environment around the plant humid. Try to keep the humidity level at 50-60% near your cactus.
3. Use a well-draining container with well-draining soil for your plant. Use three parts potting soil to one part sand to assure good drainage. An alternative is 1 part potting soil, 2 parts peat moss or compost, and 1 part sand or perlite.
4. Give your plant house plant fertilizer following the instructions on the product label. Generally fertilizing 2-4 times a year with a 20-20-20 feed is good but you will want to stop fertilizing one month before you want the plant to bloom. That usually means discontinuing fertilizing in early to mid-November for Christmas blooms.
5. Do not overwater or underwater your Christmas cactus. Remember that this cactus is a tropical cactus not a desert cactus. It cannot tolerate completely dry soil, water your plant when the top 1 inch of soil is dry. During our winter months you will likely need to water the plant once a week, in very dry climates or if the plant is out of doors you should water every 2-3 days. Watering less frequently will promote blooming. If your plant experiences bud drop it suggests that you are watering too much.
6. About a month after the blooming period you should prune your cactus which will encourage the plant to branch out. Also remember to stop watering for 30 days after the blooming is done and allow the cactus to rest.





THESE PIECES AND MORE ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR FAVORITE GARDENER, MOM, DAD, FRIEND, SIS, SISTER IN LAW, AUNTS, GREAT AUNT, GRANDMOTHER.....or better yet—YOU!

!



Packer Creek Pottery-Country Garden Club
2021 ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

!!!!NEW!!!! Christmas Ornament _____ Qty. @\$20

Mug: _____ Qty. @ \$40 ea. = _____ TOTAL 4" Coaster: _____ Qty. @ \$20 ea. = _____ TOTAL

6" Plate: _____ Qty. @ \$35 ea. = _____ TOTAL 6" Trivet: _____ Qty. @ \$25 ea. = _____ TOTAL

8" Plate: _____ Qty. @ \$40 ea. = _____ TOTAL Sm. Flower Pot _____ Qty. @ \$50 ea. = _____ TOTAL

10" Plate: _____ Qty. @ \$50 ea. = _____ TOTAL Lg. Flower Pot _____ qty@ \$90 ea. = _____ TOTAL

TOTAL FOR THIS ORDER: _____

Please indicate the quantity for each Item, and return completed order form and payment **payable to Country Garden Club**

Mary Merrick

25831 Edinborough

Perrysburg, OH. 43551

Email your order or questions to Mary marymerrick41@gmail.com