CFAES
SECREST ARBORETUM / CFAES WOOSTER CAMPUS

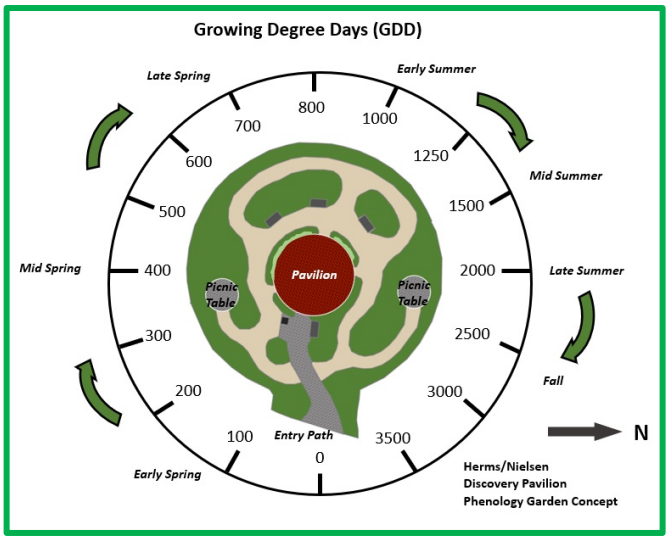
SECREST NEWSLETTER

All things Secrest

Fall 2022

From the Curator--A Phocus on Phenology

Many Secrest Arboretum regulars are familiar with the rounded, red-roofed Discovery Pavilion. But fewer folks are aware of the purpose and significance of this unique structure. Drawing inspiration from the Fort Ancient Earthworks in southwestern Ohio, the pavilion illustrates the historical importance of nature's rhythms to Native Americans--and how these phenomena still impact modern life. It also ties in with research conducted at Secrest Arboretum by entomologists Dr. Dan Herms, Dr. Dave Nielsen, and several collaborators over the years. Their work documented the effects of accumulated temperature or growing degree days (GDD) on plant flowering times and their reliable correlation with key events in the lifecycles of many insects.



In Wooster, the phenological year begins in late February to early March with the earliest flowers of silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) and cornelian-cherry dogwood (*Cornus mas*) at 30-40 GDD. It typically wraps up in November or December with an average total accumulation of 3,000-3,500 GDD. Along the way, we can reliably predict and observe the phenological milestones of scores of plants and insects. For example, it usually takes about 375-400 accumulated GDD to coax an Ohio buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*) into bloom, which generally corresponds with the emergence of adult holly leafminer flies (*Phytomyza ilicicola*). These relationships provide direction on the timing of preventative measures or other pest control practices. Thanks to Denise Ellsworth, this data exists for all to explore on The Ohio State Phenology Calendar website (https://weather.cfaes.osu.edu/gdd/).

While fascinating and extremely useful, the key aspects of GDD and phenology are not easily recognized or appreciated by casual visitors. A significant renovation of the planting beds around the Discovery Pavilion is aimed at changing that. For the last decade, plantings around the pavilion consisted mainly of edible varieties, from a sprawling vine of Concord grape (*Vitis labrusca* 'Concord Seedless') to specimens of the hip, highly sought-after pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*). However, several of these plants demanded an inordinate amount of maintenance, languished due to existing soil conditions, or slowly succumbed to insect or disease pressure. Moreover, they did not tangibly demonstrate the

concept of plant phenology. Most of the existing plants were removed this past summer, followed by a painstaking episode of soil rehabilitation via nicely decomposed horse manure. Now we have a great opportunity to create a more impactful experience by rethinking the plant palette and where each plant is sited.

The forthcoming iteration of the Discovery Pavilion Phenology Garden will retain an edible plant theme but will tend toward more sustainable "double duty" landscape plants—plants offering ornamental as well as gastronomic benefits while requiring minimal upkeep. By virtue of plant placement, the garden will illustrate where the flowering periods of these plants reside on the phenological calendar. By treating the circular layout of the pavilion and nearby beds like the face of a watch, earlier flowering plants like serviceberry (*Amelanchier*) will be found near the entry path, while later blooming items like blueberries (*Vaccinium*) will be found further into the phenological year. Corresponding signage will indicate the cumulative GDD as one progresses clockwise from the entry path, as well as information on notable entomological events. This arrangement also has implications on displaying when the fruit of featured plants typically reaches maturity, again in terms of GDD accumulation. Thanks to Dan Herms, we have excellent phenological data on many plants, but details on others will emerge as the garden matures. Some plants, including marginally hardy treasures, can be displayed in large self-watering containers while the phenological jury deliberates. We look forward to using a beautiful and conspicuous event like flowering to illustrate something far more subtle.

—Jason Veil

Plantsman Paul Snyder

When you visit Secrest Arboretum, you will surely come across Paul Snyder, Secrest Arboretum Operations Manager and Master Gardener Coordinator. It might happen on a tree walk, at a plant sale, at a workshop, or at the propagation greenhouse. No matter where it is, you will always be greeted with a friendly smile and by an individual eager to answer your plant questions or help you solve a garden or landscaping problem. Paul has a long history with the arboretum and a lifelong interest in horticulture.

Plants have always surrounded Paul. In his first small plot between his parents' garden rows on the Snyder dairy farm in Paris, Ohio, he grew beans, popcorn, and onions. His grandpa introduced him to the basics of seed starting and plant propagation, demonstrating his techniques under fluorescent lights in his basement. Although Paul was unaware of his destiny with plants as he and his sister peddled their bicycles down the lane of the neighboring farm, he was already seeking plant knowledge. At the end of that lane, his kind neighbor lady shared her love of gardening and enthusiastically answered the many gardening questions of the Snyder children who ventured there.

Throughout his youth, Paul was molded by the discipline and work of living on a dairy farm and by two agricultural organizations designed for young people. He was a member of both 4-H and FFA. In 4-H he showed dairy, poultry, and market hogs. He also raised vegetables to enter at the county fair. He

participated in FFA for four years and achieved the American Degree. This degree is FFA's highest honor and is achieved by only 1% of its national membership.

Paul's first real mentor was Tom Green, a high school horticulture teacher. When Paul was in middle school, his uncle introduced him to his friend Tom Green. Green's enthusiasm about plants captured the horticultural interest of his mentees, and Paul along with other students was soon participating in plant identification contests through the Ohio Junior Horticulture Association and the National Junior Horticulture Association. The contests were demanding, requiring the participants to identify and demonstrate knowledge of 50 random plants. Paul gained practical experience and more plant knowledge in his spare time in high school working at Mott's Greenhouse.

These early experiences influenced Paul to attend Kent State University where he attained a bachelor's degree in horticulture. During his university years, he focused on plants, propagation, and landscape design. As part of his college program, he interned for a landscape company, for the City of Akron's Urban Forestry Division, and for the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC, now the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences) in Wooster. When his internship at the OARDC ended in 2012, he was hired to work a split position between Dan Herm's entomology lab and Secrest Arboretum.

In 2015, Paul was hired full-time at the arboretum. Soon after, Joe Cochran sent him to attend a meeting in Columbus. It turned out it to be a Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator's meeting. When Paul was handed a coordinator's manual at the conference opening, he realized Joe intended for him to coordinate the new Secrest Master Gardener Volunteer Program. They had talked about reinstituting the program and Joe, recognizing Paul's leadership and organizational skills, must have realized that Paul had the temperament and dedication to lead theses classes successfully. The first class was held in 2016 and there has been a class each year since. Since then, the popular program has continued to grow and offers many unique opportunities and learning experiences for MGVs.

During his time at Secrest Arboretum from his first days as an intern in 2010 until now, Paul has seen many changes. He experienced the arboretum before and after the destructive tornado of 2010. He saw the devastation of the tornado, helped with cleanup, helped replant, and helped organize volunteers for replanting. As time has passed, he has enjoyed watching those plantings grow and seeing Secrest Arboretum recover. The arboretum has entered an editing process under Curator Jason Veil's guidance, and Paul finds this a satisfying process as the arboretum collections are managed, expanded, and taken to the next level.

Paul greatly appreciates both Friends of Secrest Arboretum (FSA) and the Master Gardener Volunteers (MGV). He states, "FSA and MGVs both make our jobs easier. They give not just monetary and volunteer support to Secrest, but they also encourage our staff. Sometimes it is just as simple as seeing how excited they get about plants!"

In choosing plants for his home garden, Paul finds plants he likes or wants to try. He focuses on textures that he doesn't have, and he considers how the plant will look throughout the seasons. He has a vegetable garden, but he also plants vegetables throughout his landscape plantings. For other gardeners he advises, "Have fun with your garden. It doesn't have to be perfect. Also consider the impact of what you're doing on the broader ecosystem. Ask questions, such as why am I doing things this way?" Sometimes you will be surprised, as Paul was when sorghum seeds sprouted to great heights along his front walk. Pictured with the towering sorghum is his daughter Shiloh.

Paul also has earned a MATS, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, from Malone University. In 2017, Paul and a friend began Hope Community, a nondenominational church, in Minerva, Ohio. Here Paul volunteers as a pastor, lovingly caring for, cultivating, and nourishing the community members as he does his own gardens and the arboretum. For Paul, there is a deep connection between his horticultural and faith paths. He says, "We were made for green spaces, to bring order out of chaos…Gardening brings order; it brings a sense of *shalom* or wholeness. There is something mysterious and mystical about a garden that helps people connect at a deeper level." He adds, "Humans were made from the dust of the garden, just like the plants. They were part of it, not above it." It is this understanding of nature that empowers Paul daily.

For the past 15 years, it has been Paul's practice to spend the first part of his day reading the Scriptures. Although early morning reading can sometimes be challenging, he finds that this daily practice makes his day run smoothly. He states, "I don't read them because they simply inspire, but because in them I learn more about myself and God."

If you see Paul driving alone and appearing to be talking to himself, don't panic. He has been taking online vocal lessons. He loves to sing, but he also wishes to improve his speaking. In his off moments as he drives, he practices the various vocal exercises and breathing techniques that his vocal coaches encourage. Paul has found this quite helpful as he leads his church in song on Sundays or he teaches a class at the arboretum.

Paul's leads a busy, fulfilling life. Whether he is planting a tree at the arboretum or pastoring his church members, he is enthusiastically cultivating life and appreciating its beautiful dimensions. Most importantly, he is blessed with a wonderful family life. He and wife, Jacoby, are proud of their two beautiful children, Shiloh and Judah. Without a doubt, the plants and the people he touches will continue to flourish under his watchful eye.

—Pat Warner

Notes from Friends of Secrest Arboretum

It has been about 18 months since the last Friends of Secrest Arboretum (FSA) update in the Newsletter, so I thought it a good time to look back and see what we've accomplished. As a reminder, FSA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that traces its history back to 1994 when it was known as Secrest Arboretum Volunteers, Ltd. Since Secrest Arboretum is part of Ohio State, you can't be a member of it, so FSA serves that role. It is a great way to support Secrest! Membership benefits include discounts at

the plant sales and selected educational classes as well as Reciprocal Admissions at more than 300 Arboreta and Botanic Gardens throughout the US through our membership in the American Horticultural Society.

We were happy to be back in person for our Spring and Fall plant sales. These, along with our Winterberry and Holly sales, are our major fundraising activities. They couldn't happen without the wonderful group of volunteers that help with all facets of the sales. This, our second year of Music at the Arboretum Concerts, was very successful as we again partnered with ORMACO (Ohio Regional Music Arts and Cultural Outreach). We had a large variety of musical genres that brought many first-time visitors to Secrest.

FSA now has a logo (below) and we been selling T-shirts with it on the front. Many of you have complimented us on them. They are available for purchase at plant sales, concerts, and the Garden Fair. We are actively looking into selling additional branded merchandise.

New this year, and extremely well received, was our first Secrest Garden Fair which was held in early June under clear skies. Over forty vendors participated as well as multiple food trucks providing varied food and desserts. As with the plant sales this could not have been done without our excellent volunteers. Plans are already underway for next year's fair.

During the past year FSA has provided support to Secrest and its staff in multiple ways. For example, in 2022 Secrest had 308 new accessions which consisted of 484 new plants, in 66 families, and in 139 genera. FSA paid for roughly 80% of these acquisitions. The Whiz Bang Science Shows at the Amphitheater were paid by FSA this year. These shows bring people of all ages to Secrest.

As with most smaller nonprofits, the Board is both a working board and a volunteer board. As of our October Annual Meeting, the Board consists of President Robert Everett, Vice-President Julia Wiesenberg, Treasurer Holly Lantis, Recording Secretary Merry Gentry, Corresponding Secretary Andrew Cerniglia, and Membership Chair Carol Rakoczy. We are always looking for volunteers that can help FSA do more for Secrest. We especially need help with technology, the website, social media, and marketing. Contact me at RobertGEverett@Gmail.com if you are interested.

In the next Newsletter I will be describing events FSA has planned for 2023. You can keep track of coming events through our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends.of.Secrest, our website https://www.friendsofsecrest.com/, or Secrest's website https://secrest.osu.edu/.

I'd like to end by encouraging all of you to join Friends of Secrest Arboretum if you're not already members. If you are a member – thank you for your support!

—Robert Everett, President,
Friends of Secrest Arboretum.

FRIENDS OF SECREST
ARBORETUM

Gardening for Goldfinch

As an avid birder and gardener, I enjoy being able to combine the two activities through my love of both the American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) and purple coneflowers (*Echinacea purpurea*). I fell in love with the American Goldfinch as a child, watching them feed in the fields around our home. We didn't feed birds in those days; however, I enjoyed watching their undulating flight and hearing their plaintive calls (*tristis* is Latin for sorrowful). My mother did not grow coneflowers in her garden, but I wanted to make them part of mine as I admired their color and shape.

About five years ago, I redid one of my gardens and planted coneflowers with a variety of natives. As the flowers came into bloom in midsummer, I arrived home one day to find a half dozen American Goldfinch clinging to my purple coneflowers, whose petals had just begun to droop. At that moment, I made a connection to the type of plants Goldfinch depend on for their habitat and to feed their young.

American Goldfinch are found throughout Ohio, and many also over winter here. They prefer weedy fields, flood plains, cultivated land, orchards, and gardens. The male Goldfinch is a small bright yellow bird during breeding season, with a black cap and black wings. The female finch is a dull olive-yellow, lacking the black cap of the male. In the fall, the male will take on that same dull coloring as the female until spring arrives once again.

The Goldfinch is a late nesting bird in summer, not laying eggs until July and August. A large part of this timing is due to its primary food sources, since its diet consists almost entirely of the seeds of grasses, weeds, and composite flowers. Among the strictest vegetarians in the bird world, Goldfinch usually get seeds while they are still on the plant. In order to feed their young, the birds need a steady supply of seeds, which only occurs later in the summer. The American Bird Conservancy notes that with their long legs and dexterous feet, they can scamper up and down plant stems with ease as they collect materials from the flowers.

An interesting fact about the American Goldfinch is that Brown-headed Cowbirds cannot successfully fledge in their nests. Cowbirds are notorious for laying their eggs in other bird's nests, then leaving them to be hatched and raised by the unsuspecting adoptive parents. After those young cowbirds hatch, they often crowd out the other nestlings or destroy the other eggs. Because Goldfinch are seedeaters, the

Cowbird nestlings rarely survive more than three days. They are insectivores and cannot live on the seed diet the Goldfinch provide them.

The purple coneflower is native to Ohio and has proven to be a perfect source of food for American Goldfinch and their young. Coneflowers are a great source of sustenance throughout their blooming cycle. The plant grows one to three feet tall and produces a characteristic cone at the center of the flower. They tend to bloom midsummer and continue to flower sporadically into the fall.

Coneflowers are one of the easiest plants to grow, as they are drought tolerant once they are established. While they may prefer well drained, moist loams, they are readily adaptable to a wide variety of soils. The plant will self-seed, and may become over-crowded every three to four years, at which time it is a good practice to divide them. They prefer full sun but can also grow in part shade.

One of the lessons I learned from Doug Tallamy about naturalizing and growing natives is to plant for what you want to attract to your yard. Purple coneflowers are great for attracting American Goldfinch, but they are also great for attracting a variety of pollinators as well. Consider delaying deadheading the flowers in your garden through the fall and winter as the goldfinch will continue to work at the seed heads and insects will use the stalks to overwinter. Wait until spring, when the weather has been above 50 degrees for at least seven days, before cutting back the dead stalks. That will allow both the goldfinch and insects to use the plants more effectively throughout their cycle.

Happy gardening!

—Brenda L Meese

Sources for further reading

Tallamy, D. (2019) *Bringing nature home: How you can sustain wildlife with native plants.*

American Goldfinch
https://abcbirds.org/bird/american-goldfinch/
https://nhpbs.org/natureworks/goldfinch.htm
https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American_Goldfinch/overview
https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/american-goldfinch

Purple Coneflower
https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/echinacea/
https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/echinacea-purpurea/
https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/DocumentLibrary/factsheet/pdf/fs_ecpu.pdf
https://www.allaboutgardening.com/coneflower/

Leave the Leaves

What should I do with the leaves in my yard?
That is a question with different solutions. Some people—perhaps you are one—feel the impulse to remove every single leaf from their yard as soon as it hits the lawn. Even people who do not have a nice lawn otherwise, feel this need. Other people choose to let fate take care of the leaves, and by fate, I mean the wind—just allow the wind to carry the leaves away. Afterall, they will eventually disappear. And a third group of people, choose to leave their leaves in place. If you're the in the first category, this last group of people causes you great distress. Stick with me.

If you fall into one of the first two categories I encourage you to consider allowing your leaves to remain in place. I know you may be thinking, "Oh no, my lawn!" Some of you don't have a lawn, so stop worrying about killing the creeping charlie and clover. But for those of you who do have a nice lawn established under your trees, you don't have to worry. This is different from allowing them to fall and simply remain where they landed. Instead, when we talk about leaving your leaves, we mean mulching them with your lawnmower and leaving them in place. Chopping your leaves with a lawnmower may look bad for a few days, but once we receive rainfall, the leaves begin to make their way down through the tops of the grass to the soil line through the aid of earthworms. These leaves are not shading out your turf if they are chopped with a lawnmower. And if you end up with a patch that is a little too heavy and isn't working its way down through the turf, take a rake or leaf blower and spread those leaves out.

This practice has benefits for the soil and ultimately your plants.

Allowing the leaves to be mulched back into the soil returns trace micronutrients back to the soil. These are nutrients that the tree removed from the soil over the growing season. In a natural forest system, some of these nutrients are returned to the soil annually, while others remain in the plant. Even though *our landscapes are not a forest ecosystem*, we can learn from the forest. Nutrient cycling is a natural part of the forest. But that system, albeit somewhat unnatural in our landscapes, becomes broken when we remove leaves annually. With the leaves goes the micronutrients, those nutrients that plants need in small quantities. This problem compounds over time and can lead to micronutrient deficiencies in plants. While plants need trace amounts of micronutrients compared to macronutrients (nutrients needed in large quantities like N, P, K), they are just as important as macronutrients for plant growth and health. It should be noted that leaves *do not* add a significant amount of nitrogen to the soil (that is where leaving your grass clippings come in, but that is another article), rather micronutrients and organic matter.

In addition, allowing the leaves to naturally break down in the soil increases the soil organic matter, the part of the soil that is made up of the decomposition of plant and animal matter. This does several things for the soil. First, it makes micronutrients more accessible to plants. The lower the soil organic matter, the more likely that nutrient deficiencies will appear. Second, it improves the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soil. This means several things including improved soil structure, thereby reducing runoff; reducing the stickiness of clay soils; improving the cation exchange capacity (CEC); and providing food for the soil microorganism community.

A healthy soil microorganism community can help in the suppression of diseases and pests, and accelerate the breakdown of minerals over time, making the nutrients available to plants. This results in plants that are overall healthy, something we all want.

It is commonly promoted that allowing the leaves to remain on your lawn and landscape beds benefits pollinators and insects. According to Dave Shetler, Professor Emeritus, OSU Entomology, this information is incorrect. Most pollinators over winter in the soil, in the hollow stems of plants, tree bark, and their host plant, not in leaf litter. Dave said, "Of course, there are quite a few of the arctiids (woolly bears) that overwinter in leaf litter, but I find them most commonly in my landscape along the edge of my home or deck, tucked in very nicely under the few stones or landscape timbers that I have." Thus, leaving the leaves has little to do with pollinators and invertebrates, and more to do with nutrients and organic matter.

I should also mention that you may get to a point in trying to mulch leaves into your lawn, where your lawn will not accept any more. These mulched up leaves can be blown into your landscape beds. Even leaves from oaks, which are high in tannins and take a while to break down, will mostly break down over the course of a season in your beds. And when your beds are full of leaves, the lawn is full of leaves, then perhaps you may need to haul some to the curb for your municipality to haul away. But this should be a last resort.

So why not give it a try this fall? What have you got to lose? If anything, your plants and soil stand the most to gain, and you have more time for things you enjoy. I have never talked to anyone who enjoyed raking leaves. Most people hate it. So why spend time more doing something you hate? The benefits to the soil are not immediate but will take time. One final thing. Instead of loathing your neighbors who remove all their leaves, educate them. Because chances are they don't know. And when you educate them, do so with gentleness and respect because you are equally ignorant of the things you don't know.

—Paul Snyder

Further Reading:

http://treefruit.wsu.edu/micronutrients/

https://smallgrains.wsu.edu/soil-and-water-resources/essential-nutrients/micronutrients/soil-factors-that-influence-micronutrients-availability/

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2665972719300078

https://franklin.cce.cornell.edu/resources/soil-organic-matter-fact-sheet

Featured Plant of the Season -- Parrotia subaequalis, Chinese ironwood

Many gardeners know *Parrotia persica,* Persian ironwood, a native of Iran and the Caucasus mountains, but about 3,500 miles away in Eastern China is a different species of *Parrotia, Parrotia subaequalis*, the Chinese ironwood. This plant was only correctly identified in 1992 and is just now starting to become known in the Unites States. This obscure plant is a beautiful one.

Parrotias are members of the hamamelidaceae, the witch-hazel family. The plants have flowers that are modified for wind pollination. The flowers on Chinese ironwood, which resemble *Parrotia persica*, lack petals, bracts, and stamen filaments something that other members of the hamamelidaceae have. Instead, they have long feathery anthers. The plants bloom about the same time as Persian parrotia, around 110 GDD (Late March to early April).

Parrotia subaequalis was originally collected in 1935 by Professor H. T. Chang of Sun Yat-sen University, who identified the plant as a species of *Hamamelis, H. subaequalis*. This was based on the fruit structure, which is a two-valved capsule like *Hamamelis*. *Parrotia subaequalis* was not collected again by botanists until 1988, leading scientists to believe that the plant was extinct. After monitoring a population of *H. subaequalis* for three years, that the plants finally flowered, letting the scientists know it was not a species of *Hamamelis* but *Parrotia* (this took until 1996 to figure out!).

Figure 1: *Parrotia persica* bark.

In China there are five known populations of *Parrotia subaequalis* and their habitat is under threat from competition with bamboos, humans, and its own alternate year fruit production. There has been an effort to collect seeds from these various populations to grow outside their native range to conserve the species. Several of these other accessions of the species circulating in the U.S. thanks to the Arnold Arboretum. We currently only have two forms since one died after planting. Another form turned out to be *Parrotia persica*.

Our original, and most impressive plant, S2013-0119, is a rooted cutting from an accession collected in China by Mikinori Ogisu (a Japanese Botanist), brought to Japan where it was then brought to the US by Harald Neubauer (a nurseryman). Collected in Shan Juan Dong, Yixing, Jiangsu, April 1998.

With maturity, the tree has beautiful exfoliating bark, much like Persian parrotia, though our plants have yet to reach this stage. In addition, the plant appears to be just as tolerant of heat and drought as Persian parrotia but is more cold tolerant. The flowers have five sepals, four to fifteen stamens, with many long anthers. In mid-August the green foliage begins to turn burgundy.

The foliage remains burgundy until late October when it begins to turn brilliant red. The best and longest fall color transition of any plant I know! Our plant has flower buds and should flower this spring.

You can see our best specimen on the southeast corner of Judy's Garden. Look for more of this plant at future plant sales. This is an outstanding plant!

More information: http://arnoldia.arboretum.harvard.edu/pdf/articles/2008-66-1-the-chinese-parrotia-asibling-species-of-the-persian-parrotia.pdf

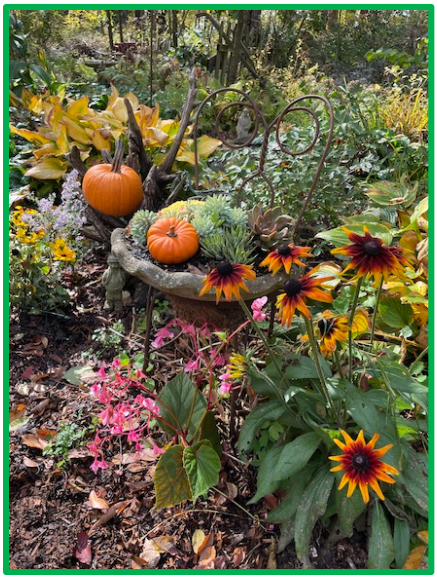
—Paul Snyder

Figure 2: *Parrotia subequalis* foliage

Figure 3: *Parrotia persica* flowers.

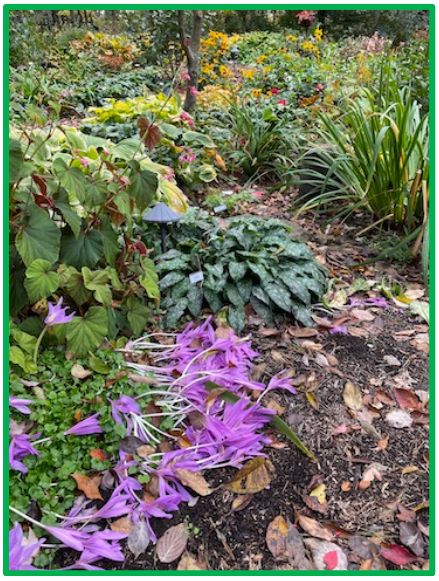
Fall's Final Fling

Theses perennials are a lot like us gardeners. They just refuse to give up the garden to winter until the last hard freeze moment. These pictures were taken November 6th and show the joy and beauty of the late fall garden thanks to the recent milder weather. Many insects are still out there and were visiting these flowers as the pictures were being taken. As you clean up the garden, don't be too hasty to rake up and cut back too much. Get rid of the diseased plant material but skip the leaves and stalks that serve as winter homes for our pollinator friends. That can wait until spring and the insects will thank you for it.



Nothing quite says fall like a pumpkin or two with some garden structure framed with hardy begonias and Rudbeckias.

Autumn Joy sedum with white Dahlias pair with the woodland asters and set off the Rudbeckia, Indian Summer, in the background.



Fall crocus called Colchicums are a must for fabulous bright purple color especially with the yellow turning leaves of the hostas.

From Left: Salvia (New Dimension Rose), Coneflower (Sombrero Salsa Red), Cranesbill Geranium (Rosanne), Rudbeckia (Cupachino and Indian Summer)

Campanula (Blue waterfall), Daisy (Banana Cream), Lavender (Hidcote), Dahlias (gifts unnamed)

Colchicums (Waterlily), Cornflower, Hibiscus, Perennial mums

Winter months find us garden dreaming by pouring over flower and seen catalogs and finally reading our garden magazines that we were too busy to do during the summer. When we make out "must have" list, maybe consider some of the above common perennials to get some of that great late fall pop of color. You'll love it and so will the pollinators. Happy winter dreaming.

—Sue Cook

Finally, a bouquet toast to another great summer. Happy winter dreaming!

Pride and Joy: Enjoy the variety of the projects and personal spaces of our Master Gardener Volunteers.

Kathy Varner's Pride and Joy at the Ashland County Fair

Sue Sivey's Pride and Joy

Right: I cannot claim credit for growing these beautiful Chicken of the Woods mushrooms. I'll give that to Mother Nature. This is a 10' oak log in my woods that has produced a crop for at least the last 2 years. I harvested a small part of these and made several trays of "chicken fingers" which I then froze.

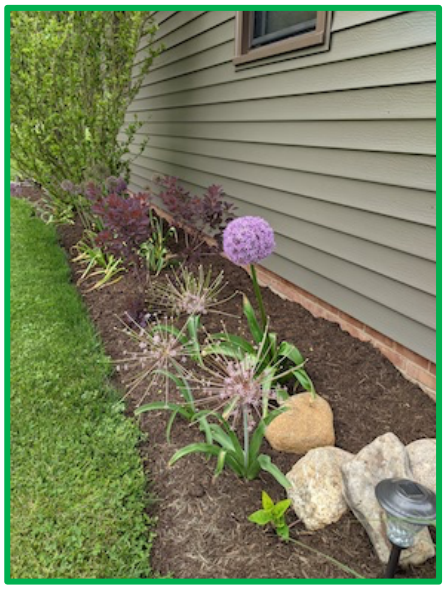
Photo taken October 23 of a late lettuce crop that has been grown under row covers.

Below left: Some of the 40 or so fermented pickles harvested from my garden this year. As of October 26, there were still a few pickles on the vines in the unheated green house.

Far right: I've been busy all summer but especially the last 2 months harvesting and drying herbs for tea, seasonings, and medicine. This is just this year's harvest.

Right: I just brought my ginger and turmeric plants in from the greenhouse to grow under lights for the winter. The turmeric has the wide leaves and ginger the narrow leaves. They both take about 10 months to grow here, so I start them under lights in very early spring, move them to the greenhouse for the summer, and then in the fall I bring them back inside under led lights. I will dig a pot at a time as I need them.

Lynne Massey's Pride and Joy



I had such fun with the alliums this spring. Especially the schubertii. Lots of folks stopped to look at the Dr. Seuss flowers. I have many more planted in this bed for spring of 2023.

Joanna and John Stevic's Pride and Joy

Joanna and John were busy with both their volunteer work in Marshallville and their home landscaping projects. They are involved with the Village of Marshallville Gardens and the Heartland Rails to Trails gardens in Marshallville.

Left: Rails to Trails bollard at East Market Street crossing in Marshallville.

Right: Bollard with bicycle—second year. The other bollard was prepped and planted this spring. The goal is to add new perennials next year.

One of our home projects was to add an additional Baby Joe-Pyeweed and Butterfly Weed to our fence row to attract more pollinators and monarch butterflies.

Wayne County Fair Master Gardener Volunteer's Pride and Joy

This group has been beautifying the Wayne County Fairgrounds for a number of years. Here are some of their gardens from the summer of 2022.

Bottom L to R: Connie Barnes and Ed Gasbarre.
Top L to R: Sally Call, Becky Frank, Linda Palombi, Kathy Batchelder, Ruth Bishop
Back L to R: Dennis Mohn and Tom White

Left: Sally Call and Nancy Lilburn

Newsletter edited by Pat Warner