

The Torii

Volume 8.6

Fall, 2005

From the Director

For all of us here at the gardens, I am pleased to report that we have had an outstanding summer and are now looking forward to fall, which is one of my four favorite seasons. As with every summer, we have encountered some of nature's extremes – periods of cool and wet, then extremely hot and dry, and then hot and humid. The many days of 90 degree plus temperatures made for much discomfort for our gardening crew. Add to this high humidity and the level of discomfort is made much worse for our staff; however, it provides very favorable conditions for garden pests, especially disease organisms. We set a record this year for the amount of time and money spent trying to keep insects and disease under control. Fortunately, the effort paid off – all major problems were managed successfully and the gardens, we feel, are more beautiful than ever before.

The hot weather had a negative affect on attendance; however, we are beginning to see attendance pick up with the more seasonal weather conditions. Even with anticipated attendance approximately 20% below our

expectations in June, July and early August, our overall income is ahead of last year, thanks mainly to the generosity of members and donors.

Visitors this year have been treated to some of the most beautiful garden displays one could imagine. Early in the season the scent of lilacs permeated the entire facility. Next our iris garden put on the best show ever and, due to the relatively cool, dry conditions, they lasted for a couple of weeks. They were followed by the peonies and then the roses went into high gear and were never more beautiful. By this time the annuals were doing their thing and it has been one show of color after another since. Now the roses are getting back to their best, the kitchen garden, with its nearly 100 hot pepper varieties, is catching everyone's eye, and the dahlias are coming into full bloom. What a place!!

We hope you will visit soon and will join with our many members and friends, if you haven't already, in helping us to continue to grow and improve these wonderful gardens.

Fall is coming. Fall is coming. FALL IS COMING!

This is our mantra at Schedel Gardens lately. Although the gardens are beautiful, and the plants look great, it's been a long, HOT, DRY summer, and we are looking forward to the arrival of cooler weather. And so are the plants. Even with all of our hard work, sometimes by September some of the annuals are tired (as are we!), and we need to do some revisions of certain flower beds. A good case in point would be last year and the driveway beds. The coleuses had overgrown the begonias, and were getting so tall that branches were beginning to split off. We were left with holes in the beds, and a look we didn't like. What should we do? Mums are the most commonly planted flowers for fall color (see article on Fall Flowers). We decided to tear out the driveway



flower beds, from the front gate all the way back to the office, and plant mums. Over FOUR HUNDRED of them! It was a big undertaking, but with the help of our loyal volunteers, and dedicated work force, we were able to accomplish the job in two days. We were pleased. And more importantly, so were our visitors. So much so, that now we feel the need to once again plant mums in the driveway beds. We will be doing this after the middle of September, so volunteers, get your knee pads cleaned up, and your gloves at the ready. We would love to see all of you again. And if anyone is interested in donating money to our beautiful cause, we would appreciate that also. So, repeat after me..... Fall is coming. Fall is coming. FALL IS COMING!!!

Ladybug Beetles

Early observations suggest that the Asian ladybugs may be a problem this fall. We suggest that in anticipation of their presence in large numbers this fall you may want to take steps during the coming weeks to "ladybug proof" your home. As the autumn temperatures drop these little critters start looking for a warm place to spend the winter. Since it is a long way to Florida for them, they opt to let you go there and take up residence in your home back here. They consider the warm air leaking out of your home through various openings, such as windows left slightly ajar or gaps caused by deteriorating caulking, as an invitation to come and take a long nap. If you have experienced large scale invasions in the past, you may need to call for assistance from your builder, painter, or exterminator. In any case, it is better to take steps to keep them out. They are like the in-laws (Not mine of course.) - once they come to visit, they can be very difficult to get rid of.

A Sculpture from this Year's Exhibit Donated for our Permanent Collection



We are pleased to announce that as a birthday gift for Linda Reiter, Ed Reiter purchased "Solitude" by Tuck Langland. The inscription on the plaque will read "To my wife Linda. I thank God every day for you." What a wonderful gift for Linda! And for the Schedel Arboretum & Gardens. We cannot thank Ed & Linda enough for their continuing dedication and support. In addition to their generous financial support, they give of their time as members of our

Director's Council, and regularly do promotional work for our various fundraising activities, including serving as honorary hosts for our Hidden Garden Party fundraiser.

SCHEDER ARBORETUM & GARDENS

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The Schedel Arboretum & Gardens is an operation of the Joseph J. and Marie P. Schedel Foundation. The Arboretum and Gardens is dedicated to preserving and improving this marvelous legacy from Joseph and Marie Schedel. It is funded by income from the Schedel Foundation, memberships, donations, grants, and special fund-raising events. The Schedel Foundation is governed by a board of directors.

SA&G visitors are often treated to an opportunity to observe regional artists, such as Robert Martin of Toledo, capturing the beauty of the gardens on canvas.



Help Us With Mums

As Susan mentioned in her report in this issue, we anticipate planting between 400 and 500 mums this fall. As you can imagine this is quite an expense and we really could use some help. For those donating \$100 to \$200 we will acknowledge their assistance with a sign in the gardens. Donations of \$250 or more will be acknowledged by naming a mum display in their name. Just clip the donation form in this newsletter and fill it out earmarking your donation for "Fall Mums."

Garden Video

We have a wonderful DVD featuring beautiful photographs and movie clips of some of the most striking scenes and plants at various stages throughout the growing season. This 15 minute video on DVD is presented such that the viewer feels as though he or she is on a tour of the gardens. It was professionally produced and narrated especially for sale in our gift center. The price is \$12.00 including tax. Stop by and pick one up or, we can ship it to you for an additional \$2.50.

Help us Save

We continue to call for your assistance in conserving on mailing cost by allowing us to offer the Torii to you on the internet instead of having it mailed. All you need to do is send us an email message saying you would be willing to receive your newsletter via electronic mail and we will begin notifying you each quarter when it is posted on our website. The



website version offers numerous benefits to recipients including full color. So, those two-color images appearing in the hard copy version will be in full color with the electronic version. Our email address is; schedelgardens@woh.rr.com

From David's Desk

My favorite plants throughout the entire seventeen acres of these gardens would have to be the Peonies. When I was a child in Woodville, Ohio there was an elderly woman that lived behind us who had the most beautiful peonies in her flowerbeds; and, I remember being fascinated by the whole peony flowering process. I'd watch for the red stems to come up through the ground in the spring and would patiently wait for flower bud formation. What exactly were those little ants doing on the buds? Did they in some way help the flower open? Of course much later on I realized that they were dining on the sweet sap excreted by the buds. She had purple, red, white and pink peonies and most were fragrant, though some smelled awful and attracted flies, but we'll leave that mystery for a later article.

This year we hope to expand our peony collection by adding ten more early, mid, and late season bloomers. Some specimens worthy of mentioning are 'Carl G. Klehm', 'Diana Parks' and 'Topeka Coral'. For descriptions of these and many others, and to learn more about the world of peonies, feel free to visit www.songsparrow.com. We will be heading out to the peony bed soon to begin the sod removal and ground preparations. Peonies like well-drained, loamy soil and prefer a pH of 6.5 to 7.0, though I know people who can grow them in fairly poor soil too. Extra care should be taken when planting peonies. When dividing or planting peonies, it's best to wait until mid to late September or early October.

Dig a hole 12 to 18 inches deep and 12 inches wide depending on the size of the root mass. Put some of

the soil back in the hole, forming a mound for the roots to lie over. At this point go ahead and mix some bone meal into the backfill. The eyes (little red buds at the base of the brown stems that are next year's canes), should be no deeper than one inch below the surface of the soil. If you plant too deep there is a good chance that blooming will not occur, and if you plant them too shallow, they are likely to heave and freeze to death. Firm the soil around the rest of the roots using your hands only to eliminate air pockets and then water thoroughly. Depending on the fall weather, one should water them deeply every 10 to 14 days. We also put a two inch layer of mulch over each new planting to assist overwintering. When spring arrives we regularly go out and check to see if the canes are coming up through the soil. If we find that growth is occurring, we GENTLY remove the mulch until we can just see the tips of the canes coming up through the thin layer of mulch. They are very fragile at this point so be careful while working in your peony garden.

There is much more on the subject of peonies, and we have found that the internet provides a wealth of information on the subject and also enables us to make contact with other suppliers and hobbyists who share the same love of peonies that we do. Be sure to watch our website towards the spring for further developments in the peony collection.

David Halsey

Note: If you, like David, find peonies to be a favorite, maybe you would like to help us add those new peonies to the collection. If so, please mark the included contribution/membership form indicating your donation is for the peony collection.

Emerald Ash Borer

To our dismay, the Emerald Ash Borer has made its way to Northern Ottawa County thanks to a careless camper bring ash firewood into one of our parks. This is of course reason for grave concern both from economic and ecological perspectives. In addition, it is of great concern to residents and organizations like ours which have beautiful mature ash trees gracing their properties. Within the confines of the intensively managed portion of the Schedel Foundation property, which we call the Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, there are 24 ash trees. Unless the spread of the ash borer can be stopped, these beautiful trees, along with countless others throughout the eastern USA, are doomed. The emerald ash borer, which is a relatively recent introduction to North America, is a quick and lethal attacker. It spreads rapidly and has no known natural enemies. In contrast, indigenous borers may infect a tree causing minimal damage over the first several years and in many cases healthy trees can survive infestations. Furthermore, though often rather costly, we have treatments that can often prevent or control native borer infestations.

Grant for Our Tree and Shrub Collection

Thanks to a substantial grant from the Pack Trust, we are able to devote greater resources to the care of our tree collection as well as to improving it. One of our first steps, now almost completed, was to do a survey and assessment of our trees. This work was performed with the assistance of the Davey Resource Group of the Davey Tree Expert Company. It involved, among other things, confirmation of the identity and pinpoint location of most of the nearly 1,000 trees on the grounds. Additionally, an assessment of the condition of each tree was performed and a three year plan was developed that included detailed recommendations addressing problems that were identified. This survey will be of great assistance to our Board of Directors and Director's Council as well as our staff as we work to preserve our outstanding collection and develop a comprehensive master plan that will provide guidance for future allocation of effort and resources. Our most sincere thanks are extended to officials at The Pack Trust for their support for the care and preservation of trees and forests. We are most grateful for this assistance.



Schedel Arboretum and Gardens Membership Program

FRIEND'S CIRCLE

Buckeye Level -- \$35

Single membership (fully tax deductible †)

Redbud Level -- \$50

Family membership. (fully tax deductible †)

Lilac Level -- \$100

Family membership and four passes.
10% discounts on plant and gift sales.
(fully tax deductible †)
Family = Spouse and dependent children.

Dogwood Level -- \$250

Family membership and four passes.
SA&G tee shirt for new members.
10% discounts on plant and gift shop sales.
(fully tax deductible †)

Magnolia Level* -- \$500

Family membership and four passes.
SA&G tee shirt for new members.
10% discounts on plant and gift shop sales.
10% discount for a hosted social event. ††
(\$465 is tax deductible †)

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

Benefits also include all those at Friend's Circle levels.

Lily Level* -- \$1,000

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.
(\$930 is tax deductible†)

Dahlia Level* -- \$2,500

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.
Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 100 guests at no charge. ††
(\$2,320 is tax deductible†)

* At this level, payments may be made quarterly.

† Estimated for Federal Income Tax purposes. Consult a tax advisor.

†† Arrangements to be mutually agreed upon. Benefits at any level may be waived to maximize tax deduction.

Rose Level* -- \$5,000

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and Dinner at the gardens.
Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 200 guests at no charge. †† (\$4500 is tax deductible†)

Life Membership

An invitation for two to attend the Director's Reception and dinner at the gardens. Use of the gardens for a social event for up to 200 guests. †† Recognition with a plaque in the gardens.
1 - \$10,000 one time payment.
2 - 10 annual installments of \$1,250 each
3 - Cumulative gifts exceeding \$15,000.

September

Please cut out and return with your check to:
Schedel Foundation, P.O. Box 81, Elmore, OH 43416

2005

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail Address _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for my membership at the _____ level.

\$ _____ for general garden improvements \$ _____ purchasing plants for 2005 season

\$ _____ for purchasing mums \$ _____ purchasing poenies _____

_____ I am interested in Volunteer Work. Please contact me with more information.

From the Head Gardener's Desk

Fall Flowers for Fall Flair

The vast majority of people who do any type of gardening in the U.S. know that for fall color, Chrysanthemums, or Mums as they are called, are a good choice, and they are commonly used. People decorate their porches, plant them in containers, place them with scarecrows, pumpkins and corn stalks for a Halloween display, or just place them in their gardens to replace summer annuals. They are a great plant. And they are easily found. But with a little searching, there are many other choices for adding flair to a fall flower bed. And these plants can be planted now (through about mid Sept. in our area – any later, and their roots don't get established enough to make it through the winter freezing and thawing and heaving), or in the spring. Many nurseries and garden centers still have perennials, and many have sales on them this time of year, so you can get a deal. The trade off is there might be a better selection in the spring. With a bit of planning, you can create a garden that not only looks good in the spring and summer, but one that extends the beauty of flowers into the fall.

Asters probably head the Fall Blooming Flower list. Many times these small daisy-like flowering perennials are offered next to mums at a fall garden center display. They come in a range of colors - whites, pinks, blues and purples, and sizes. Robust and hardy, many garden hybrids stem from the native New England and New York asters. Old favorite taller varieties growing 3 to 4 feet tall include the glowing salmon-pink 'Alma Potschke' and the lavender-blue *Aster frikartii* 'Mönch'. The more recently introduced 'Purple Dome' grows a compact 18 inches tall. As with mums, pinching asters back during the growing season will produce a more compact plant with numerous flowers. And it will also delay the flowering time a little.

Helenium - *Helen's Flower* or *Sneezeweed* (no, it doesn't cause sneezing) is another perennial that blooms in the fall. In the fall color palette, colors range from yellows to rusts to reds and mahoganies, and size varies from 1 to 3 feet in height.

Boltonia asteroides - **Boltonia** can range from just under 2 feet to about 4 feet in height. The plant forms mounds covered with aster-like flowers and bloom from late summer into early fall. Flowers are pink to white, and the plants do require rich, moisture-retentive soil in full sun. If grown in drier soil conditions, height will be affected. The two most commonly grown cultivars are 'Snowbank', with white flowers, and 'Pink Beauty', with pink flowers.

Eupatorium - **Joe Pye Weed** - Tall (in the 4 to 6 foot tall range) and stately, and very sturdy (we never stake ours), it's a real butterfly magnet for almost six weeks in late summer when its large heads of tiny, dusky pink flowers bloom. It's even attractive once the flowers turn silver with age (kind of like our director!).

Solidago - **Goldenrod** is a classic fall flower, most commonly found along roadsides and ditches, and oft maligned as the instigator of many a runny nose. This is

not the case – ragweed blooms at the same time as goldenrod. The non-distinct flowers of ragweed go unnoticed next to the more flamboyant yellow of goldenrod. There are many varieties of goldenrod, from tall, upright varieties to shorter, weeping varieties with plume-like panicles. Colors range from lemon yellow to deep butterscup.

Sedum - Here is a plant that is not only good for the fall garden, but is attractive as a new plant in spring, and has interesting broccoli-like flower heads in the summer. There are low growing sedums, but the tall varieties are the ones that are good for the fall garden. As summer turns to fall, the flowers change to various shades of pink, red, or mahogany. Sedums do well in average soil, full sun, and are easy to grow. Some even have variegated leaves! Some varieties to try are the venerable 'Autumn Joy', 'Vera Jameson', 'Frosty Morn', with light pink to white flower heads and variegated leaves, and the newer varieties, 'Ruby Glow', with deep red flowers, and 'Matrona', which has beautiful pink flowers on dark red stems.

I could go on and on, but time, space, and Dr. Noble, limit this article. The following perennials are just as interesting, though maybe less well known than the ones listed above. Some are bulbs - OK, I'll need to cover this with a brief paragraph, as these are "Wow"ed over a lot in our gardens.

Colchicum – often mistakenly called Fall Crocus, we call it colchicum. There is a crocus, **Crocus sativus** (Saffron Crocus) that blooms in the fall also, and the stems are the saffron used in cooking – also beautiful for fall landscapes. But we are focusing on the "Wow" factor here. Colchicums produce leaves in the spring, which then die down, producing no flower. But wait until fall, and what a wonderful surprise. At first just a few purple or white tips show through, but soon a huge, crocus-shaped flower emerges. And they are prolific. We have 'The Giant' and it is giant, and it simply glows in the landscape. Easy to grow, just give it well drained soil and sun or part shade. Worth the cost – a single bulb can be a bit pricey, but don't let that stop you.

The following perennials also add color and flair to the fall landscape, and are worth a bit of online or library research, and definitely worth planting for your fall garden -

Grasses – an important part of the fall landscape, they come in all sizes from the very short to the extremely tall. The seed head can be very bold, or colorful, or ethereal. They have the added bonus of being attractive on into winter.

Turtlehead (*Chelone oblique*), **Toad Lily** (*Tricyrtis*), the **Black-Eyed Susans** (*Rudbeckia*), **Coneflower** (*Echinacea*), and **Russian Sage** (*Perovskia*) are just a few others.

Just because summer is over, doesn't mean your garden needs to become dull. Planning and planting for a fall garden can prolong your pleasure far into the autumn. Happy Gardening!

Susan Shaffer

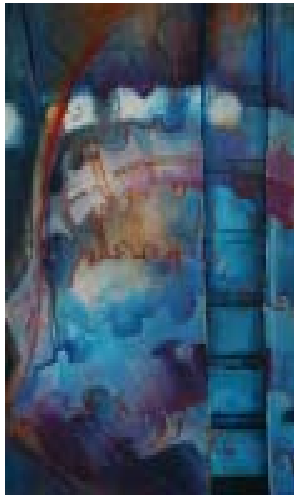
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Trellis Gallery Exhibit II – “A SCHEDEL SHOW STOPPER”



The Schedel Arboretum and Gardens Trellis Gallery Exhibit II hits the high mark set by the first show of the season with colorful large-scale paintings, evocative photographs and enchanting three-dimensional work in ceramics and glass.

This exhibition features distinctive abstract painting styles of three Bowling Green area painters, Jacqueline Marie Jasionowski, Chris Kakas and Gordon Ricketts, as well as black and white photographs by Deborah Orloff, of Toledo, who portray evening landscapes, some with written captions questioning



our fear of the dark. Beautiful floral-inspired majolica ceramics by Ann Tubbs of Ottawa Lake, Michigan provide a refreshing counterpoint, while Toledo artist Leonard Marty's glass forms are seductively lovely.

The exhibit is curated by BGSU Gallery Director Jacqueline S. Nathan. She notes that, "It is really a pleasure to work with such talented artists and to be able to bring their work to such a charming venue. The combination of gardens, grounds and art is a marvelous way to enjoy a summer or fall day." The exhibit will continue through September.

