



The Torii

Volume 9.8

Spring, 2009

From the Assistant Director

It's nice to look out my window and see the signs of spring erupting all around. The lawn is returning to its healthy green color, the robins are back in force and foraging about the grounds, and our greenhouses are beginning to burst at the seams.

For the most part, the gardens fared well over the course of the winter. However, due to high wind and saturated ground, we had five Douglas Fir trees uprooted near the bamboo grove and numerous small limbs downed throughout the grounds. With the help of volunteers, we've been raking most areas of the gardens; this not only removes debris but also helps remove thatch from the grass, which greatly improves the effectiveness of fertilizer and water.

Bed designs are changed each year, and 2009 is no exception. We plan on using tried and true annuals such as Geraniums, Begonias, and Impatiens; in addition, we are going to work with new varieties of Lantana, which is drought tolerant,

low maintenance, self dead-heading and quite floriferous. We'll be using new varieties of Cannas and Coleus, also for their floral qualities and low maintenance requirements.

I've mentioned low maintenance a few times now and want to expound upon that idea a bit further. When designing our beds there are many factors that must be considered such as disease resistance, water requirements, bloom removal, etc... Over the last eight to ten years, we've been striving to have beautiful yet lower maintenance gardens, thus enabling us to use our personnel more efficiently and allowing us to demonstrate to visitors how they too can have beautiful yet low maintenance gardens. The result is less fungicide applications, less watering and fewer blooms to remove.

Because of the aforementioned low maintenance designs, the perception may be that we are offering our visitors and members less value. On the contrary, we

have added more features to the gardens such as art exhibits in the galleries, sculpture exhibits, various garden seminars, and the new Brown Welcome Center. In fact, the quality and offerings of the gardens have improved immensely over the past ten years thanks to the financial support of our donors and members and the efforts of volunteers and staff. We've added to our lilac, iris, peony, tree and shrub collections every year. That being said, the added features require us to seek more assistance from our corps of volunteers, and they have answered the call every time.

So, as we enter 2009 we look forward to our best season ever. If you have interest in volunteering, have suggestions on how we can make your experience here more enjoyable, are planning an event or wedding, or if you'd like to make a donation to a specific area or project in the gardens, please contact the main office for more information.

David Halsey

2009 Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit

Schedel Gardens will feature the works of bronze sculptor, Barry Woods Johnston of Baltimore, Maryland. Sensitivity to the dignity and importance of personal meaning is at the core of his global appeal. Inevitably there will be one work or two that draws each viewer back for



"Ballerina" - Woods

Photo by Maggie Dandar

another look. Some may quietly meditate before a favorite piece while others restlessly circle seeking another vantage point or subtle change of perspective. It is the human purpose to which he applies his considerable accomplishment that make his sculpture so beloved.

Save the date: Hidden Gardens Party

Our annual "Hidden Gardens Party" Fundraiser will be held on the afternoon of Sunday September 13th. We hope that many of our readers will have interest in attending. Contact the office for further information. Good Friends! Great Food! Quality Entertainment! and Beautiful Surroundings!

May Blooms & Plant Sale

May and early June bring us many wonderful treats that you won't want to miss. Among these are our flowering trees, peonies (65 different varieties), a colorful iris garden, and a wall of fragrant lilacs that splash their fragrance throughout the grounds. Exactly when they bloom, and the duration of blooming varies depending on weather conditions. Make sure you time your spring visit to catch the show. For those of you thinking about future blossoms in your garden, we will have some perennials divided from our collection available for sale starting opening day, May 1. These will include peonies, garden phlox, and many others. Surplus annuals, tropicals (including cannas), and our much sought after pepper plants, won't be available until a little later.

An Elegant Evening at the Gardens

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens invites Schedel Members and their guests to join us on Friday, July 24th from 6-8:30pm for "An Elegant Evening at the Gardens". \$45 per person or \$340 for table for eight. Advance registration is required. The evening will begin with music and appetizers in the new Brown Welcome Center. The six course dinner will feature beef medallions and Maine lobster tail as the entree. The final touch on the evening, offers you a twilight stroll through the lovely 17 acre garden estate. Invite a new friend to the gardens!

SCHEDEL 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.

Admission Fee Adjustment

Effective May 1 we are changing the fee schedule for admission to the gardens for self-guided tours as follows: Adults - \$10, Seniors or AAA members - \$9, and children 6 to 14 years \$6. The price increase for adults and seniors was set with much hesitation; however, current economic conditions have imposed an even greater burden on us to generate a larger share of the cost of operations.

Garden Rule

When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant.

Schedel's NW Ohio Woodland & Wildlife Family Festival

Saturday, May 30th Schedel Gardens will host a Family Festival from 9am to noon. This event is free to the public!

It will feature hourly sessions such as; Container Gardening, Composting, the Black Swamp Doctor (John Jaeger), Guided Gardens Tours, and Concrete Creations. In addition to the hourly stations, there will be booths staffed by the Ohio Division of Forestry, Wildlife & Pheasants Forever, and our Bonsai experts. The Schedel staff will be stationed to answer questions on tree care, tropicals, roses and Schedel history. Plus, the Schedel plant sale will be in progress.

Kid's activities will also be provided by Nature's Nursery, Toledo Zoo, plus activities on fishing safety, archery, bamboo trail, and a scavenger hunt. Fun for the whole family!

Schedel Web Calendar of Events

Please keep an eye on our website calendar of events. This is where we will be posting our upcoming seminars, clinics, monthly evening guided tours, and art exhibits in both the new Brown Welcome Center and the Trellis Gallery.

Examples of seminars and clinics that we are planning, include:

June	Tropical Orchids
July	Organic Vegetable Gardening Unique Tropical Plants
August	Organic Herb Gardens
September	Rain Gardens

Check the calendar at www.schedel-gardens.org frequently because we will continue to add new activities as arrangements are finalized. These events will require advanced reservations. Fees will vary.

Ginkgo Biloba

Dr. Noble

DID YOU KNOW? You may have a “living fossil” in your yard - *Ginkgo biloba* (commonly called ginkgo tree). Oldest living fossils of this current day species date back 170 million years, farther than any other tree existing in today’s world. All of the other members of the genus that existed in prehistoric time are extinct. There is no widely accepted scientific explanation for ginkgo’s survival while other tree species failed to make it. In the time period 70 to 150 million years ago *Ginkgo biloba* trees were numerous and widespread as demonstrated in the fossil record. In more recent geologic time their numbers declined as other members of their genus became extinct. They are desirable urban trees because they are one of the most, if not the most resistant of all modern day trees to environmental insults. Seldom are they damaged by natural phenomena such as wind, ice, temperature extremes, or flooding. They are also very resistant to damage by air pollution, highway salt spray, and other chemicals that are common in the urban environment. These trees grow relatively slowly and are not considered by many landscape designers to be especially attractive until they attain considerable size (It has been said that the young tree has somewhat of a “Charlie Brown Christmas tree look”). In the Far East, specimens are commonly found that are hundreds of years old. One



Ginkgo Biloba

specimen in Japan that is more than 80’ tall, with a trunk 12’ in diameter, is claimed to be 3,000 years old. The ginkgo nut can be prepared into a tasty treat if prepared properly; however, the fleshy fruit of the nut has a strong, obnoxious odor. Fortunately, ginkgo trees are either male or female; thus, it is important to ensure that trees planted in the urban setting come from a reputable source that can confirm the sex of the tree. Otherwise there is risk that one may discover several years after planting that their cherished specimen has begun creating quite a stink. From the beginning of recorded history Ginkgo has been credited with various medicinal remedies ranging from dementia treatment to removing freckles. Its perceived medicinal value in ancient times is probably a reason

for it becoming elevated to sacred status in Asia. This guaranteed its protection there from ancient to modern times. Late in the 20th Century it became best known as a source of an anti-platelet aggregating factor agent (PAF prevents blood clotting) and continues to be used for this purpose and is being evaluated by scientists for other medicinal components. Some scientists believe that because ginkgo has survived in nature so long it has had time to produce a greater variety of compounds, thus a greater array of extremely complex molecules, some of which have value to us.

Newsletter Mailing Policy

In view of the difficult economic times and the ever increasing cost of producing and mailing our newsletter, we are compelled to stop mailing to those who have not contributed or been a member in the past three years. Those who fall in that category may continue receiving newsletters via mail by donating a minimum of \$25 annually. Alternatively, if you utilize e-mail, you may send us your e-mail address and we will notify you each time the newsletter is posted on our website, where it may be found in full color. If becoming a member, or making a \$25 donation creates a hardship, we will continue your mailings if you will send us a note letting us know. We hope no one will be offended by this new policy and that all will realize the expense of getting a newsletter issue out costs thousands of dollars.

Photo Contest

We will be hosting our 4th annual Photo Contest this fall. Monetary prizes will be awarded for the top photographs. All photos must be taken at the gardens between September 2008 and August 31, 2009. The deadline for submitting entries will be September 1, 2009. The top 25 photos will be exhibited in the Trellis Gallery September 15-October. Visit our website for more details.

Membership Deal

In an effort to add new members and encourage current members to elevate their memberships we are offering a discount. Become a new member at the Lilac Level (\$100), or above, and receive a \$25 discount. Existing members who elevate their membership one level or more will also qualify for a \$25 discount. This offer ends May 31, 2009.



Artist, Carol Pletz

Athena Art Society Exhibit May 29th –July 12th

We are pleased to have this talented group of Toledo area artists exhibit their work here at the gardens. The Athena Art Society is one of the two oldest women's professional art organizations in the country. It was founded in 1903, at the original Toledo Museum of Art, by a group of 18 Toledo women artists, led by Nina Spalding Stevens. Athena's purpose is to assist and encourage women in all branches of the visual arts.

The approximately 65 current members of the Athena Art Society are all outstanding award winning artists in the greater Toledo area. Members work in all media: painting, drawing, prints, mixed media, photography, ceramics, sculpture, and



fiber art. It is Athena's pleasure to bring the public, the artists and their work together – an opportunity to enrich more lives through art.

Plastic Recycle Project

The Sandusky/Ottawa County Master Gardeners have organized and are promoting a plastic recycling program in Sandusky and Ottawa Counties. Start date is planned for May 1 and will continue until October 31, 2009. If it is successful, plans are for it to become an annual event and perhaps expand to other counties.

Gardeners, farmers, homeowners, business owners, etc. can bring any meltable plastic to the collection sites.

Items accepted include:

Pots, flats, trays, cell packs, nursery tubs, etc (soil and plant material removed), plastic sheeting, stretch wrap, beverage bottles, milk jugs, agricultural and garden chemical containers (must be triple rinsed, plastic grocery bags (securely bundled), plastic toys (e.g. outdoor play equipment)



These items will be processed by PIPO, Inc. (an industrial plastics recycler in Norwalk, Ohio) and then supplied to Monroeville Industrial Moldings, Inc, where the raw material will be manufactured into highway safety components and other specialty products.

The Master Gardeners would like to help educate the general public and motivate people to join in this effort to reduce land-fill waste by reusing non-biodegradable materials. In the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca District alone, approximately 26,000 tons of plastics are land filled each year. At \$35 a ton, the cost of disposing of plastics in the OSS District is \$900,000 annually. In addition, research shows that one ton of recycled plastic saves 685 gallons of oil.

Collection sites in Ottawa County are:

Bench's Greenhouse - 18063 W. St. Rt. 105, Elmore, Ohio
 Bench Farms St. Rt. 2 - 9151 Jerusalem Rd., Curtice, Ohio
 Barnes Nursery - 1283 N.E. Catawba Rd., Port Clinton, Ohio

Please join in helping make our environment in northwest Ohio a little greener.

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 "one day" passes.
10% discounts on plant and gift sales.
(fully tax deductible †)

Bald Cypress Level -- \$150

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

Dawn Redwood Level -- \$200

Family membership and four passes
Invitation to Selected Receptions
15% discounts on plant & gift sales
(fully tax deductible †)

Dogwood Level -- \$250

Family membership and four passes
Invitation to Selected Receptions.
20% discounts on plant & gift sales
(fully tax deductible †)

Magnolia Level* -- \$500

Family membership and six passes.
Invitation to Selected Receptions
20% 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.

April

Please cut out and return the lower portion with your check to:

2009

Schedel Foundation, P.O. Box 81, Elmore, OH 43416

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail Address _____

____ Yes, in order to save on printing and mailing costs, I am willing to receive my "Torii" via email.

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

\$ _____ for general garden improvements

\$ _____ plant donations \$ _____ flower pots

\$ _____ my donation for chairs for the Brown Welcome Center

____ I am interested in Volunteer Work. Please contact me with more information. 2009

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens

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Donations for Flowers and Pots

It's Spring, and time to think about one of my favorite things at the gardens – Flowers and The Flower Pots! We over-winter some large plants from year to year (as many as we can squeeze into our greenhouse) to use in our flower pot designs, and we utilize some of our extra annuals that we use in the flower beds; but one of the things that make the flower pots special is the unique plants that we find at local greenhouses - plants that make people stop and ask us what they are and where they can be purchased. We



love to have something new, different, eye-catching and noteworthy. If you would like to help us keep our flower pots really special, we would certainly appreciate your donation, in any amount. Donations of \$100 or more will be acknowledged with a sign in a flower pot naming the donor. With a donation of \$250 or more, your sign can be placed in a bed in your honor or in the memory of a loved one. If you would like to help, just use the membership form in this issue and mark the box designated for plant donation.

Susan Halsey