



## President's comments--By Dave Slagle



Hello, Master Gardeners and friends. This photo on the left is how we are going to be feeling Sunday and all of next week

with highs of 90 plus degrees. Be conservative, take care of yourselves, and stay out of the heat; but it will be important to keep watering our plants during these extreme heat conditions.

We were fortunate to have a pleasant day on June 7<sup>th</sup> to mulch the Memorial Garden and to do some other things. The garden is looking very good as the photos in Doug's comments article show.

Looking forward to our next membership meeting at The Peoples Garden at the back of the Agape Distribution. See you soon. 🍀

### **Next Meeting—Bring Your Lawn Chair Wednesday, June 19, 2024 @ 2p.m.**

**At The People's Garden at Agape. No Zoom.  
Court Street & 209 Brooklyn Ave., Sidney**

**To get to the Garden, follow Court Street east past the courthouse and down the hill and across Miami Street. You will pass the Goodwill store on the right and will cross the river bridge. Right at the end of the bridge and before you get to the traffic light, turn right into the drive and follow it back to the garden behind Agape Distribution. There is plenty of parking.**

## Time to Look for Ticks!

Rylee Kay Puthoff, ANR Educator

Tick season is upon us! It is time to start checking yourself, as well as your pets, for ticks. Ticks can carry diseases, and five tick species in Ohio transmit diseases to humans. These are the Blacklegged (Deer), American Dog, Asian Longhorn, Lonestar, and Gulf Coast ticks. Each species is unique, but each inhabits different environments and not all live in the woods. Some can live in our lawns and gardens, which makes doing a tick check so important.

Ticks are small, only millimeters wide, and can easily attach to skin, clothing, and hair. This makes checking for them difficult. We need to do frequent tick checks, as ticks can transmit disease as soon as they attach to the skin. Pets are not immune to ticks and can carry them into the house. A tick collar or treatment regimen is ideal for animals. Contact your veterinarian for advice regarding pets.

Sadly, they have not made a tick collar for humans yet, which means we must use other methods to protect ourselves. Prevention is the best safeguard against ticks, which means avoiding their habitats. Of course, that is not always an option, so clothing treated with permethrin is another method of preventing ticks. The permethrin on the clothes deters ticks from climbing up them. Bug sprays with DEET are effective, but make sure you get one approved for ticks. Read labels for the most effective use.

A tick check should be completed after being outside in tick habitats for an extended period. Check your shoes, pants, legs, torso, arms, and back for ticks that have hitched a ride. It's helpful to have a companion to check areas that you cannot see. Another method of tick control is washing and drying clothes after being outdoors.

With this knowledge in hand, you are better able to protect yourself and your furry friends from ticks. 🍀

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## Coordinator's comments

By Doug Benson



Greetings! It seems like I just wrote a report: how time flies! I hope your gardening is going well. The weather continues to present challenges – too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry, too windy, hail, severe storms! What next? The forecast is for mostly dry this week and the temperature steadily increasing to the 90s next week. Our Rainbow Gardener members who run the flower show at the fair are afraid many of their potential entries will be “bloomed out.”

A check of the “summary” tab on the Growing Degree Days (GDD) chart <https://weather.cfaes.osu.edu/gdd/> shows that today's 1151 is considerably higher than the 20-year average of 929; only 2012 (1148) is even close. So, what does this mean? We need to be flexible and ready to make adjustments when the conditions change. Worse yet, the chart predicts that the emergence of adult spotted lanternflies is about 1160. We will exceed that today (Tuesday)! Be on the lookout!

I don't have a lot to report now, nor will I at our meeting next week. Our monthly coordinators' call is being postponed until June 26 because OSU, including our office, will be closed on Juneteenth. As far as I know, we will still have our meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> at the People' Garden (no Zoom). One thing I can report is that we had a great May meeting at Karen Seger's home. Great attendance, good weather, good snacks, and an amazing garden! Thank you, Karen.

Thanks to the hard work of a small but dedicated crew the Memorial Garden is looking great! In less than two hours, the crew spread three yards of black mulch. More plants were added, and a few old ones were moved or removed. The challenge now will be to keep the plants growing and the weeds dying.

We still haven't received dates for the state-sponsored diagnostic clinics – the nearest being in Putnam and Clark Counties. The “Plant by Numbers: Hummers and Singers (for the Birds!)” is finally going to occur this week or next. The two sets of plugs have been in storage at the Soil & Water Conservation office for so

long that Amanda thinks it best to just combine the survivors into one bed which will be located in front of the log cabin at the fairgrounds. Some serious work will be needed to create suitable growing conditions – like maybe using a jackhammer to break up the “soil”(??).

As I reported in an email update, the SEEC, Shelby Environmental Education Consortium, finally met and both initiated and finalized plans for the fair. We will be responsible for the building on “Senior Day,” Tuesday, July 23. We will open the building at 8:00 am and close at 9:00 pm. No group is doing an evening activity, and some are not planning an afternoon craft. Last week, we had a full house for the Hotline, but there were no calls, so the ladies decided to sort out all of our leftovers from past craft activities. They found enough for an afternoon activity – some buckeye necklaces, the glow-in-the-dark jars, and some other things. We should have no or very minimal expenses, and we clean out some of accumulated “stuff.” I will be posting a sign-up schedule on HOC soon. I may ask for some assistance in updating the display board. This year I want to focus on poison hemlock, wild parsnip, and some other invasives. We also need to decide what, if any, door prizes we will award at the three county fairs. Bring your ideas to the meeting.

Hotline inquiries have been sporadic at best. It seems like they seldom come during our designated hours. However, please continue to sign up. If nothing else, you can look for information for your own use, and it's a great time to visit with other volunteers. All the dates are now posted on HOC.

Remember that this month's meeting will be at the People's Garden at Agape. I hope we are not considered disrespectful for meeting on Juneteenth. You will need to bring your own chair. Driving directions are included elsewhere in the newsletter. Until then, be careful with the heat. Keep hydrated, avoid working outside during the hottest part of the day, and take regular breaks. Your health is more important than your flowers and your lawn. 🍷



## 6 Best Ways to Attract Orioles

By Karen Seger

Why is attracting orioles so fun and exciting? First, orioles are absolutely gorgeous! Their exotic plumage makes them look like they belong in a rainforest instead of my backyard! The other reason is that even though orioles are not rare, they are uncommon to see. They are shy birds that tend to stay high up in the trees away from people.

Six effective strategies you can use to attract orioles:

1. Select foods that orioles actually eat. In the wild, orioles eat ripe fruits and insects. Orioles enjoy eating a wide variety of fruit including oranges, grapes, bananas, berries and cherries. Oranges are relatively cheap, and orioles are attracted to the color orange. The following are foods orioles like to eat:
  - Orange cut in half
  - Grape jelly
  - Nectar (Just mix 4 parts water with 1 part sugar and heat to dissolve.)
  - Mealworms can be offered either alive or dead.
2. Be seasonally savvy with the foods you offer. The Orioles are not year-round here in Ohio. They spend their winters in Central America and migrate north in late April or early May to breed and raise their young. Then in September, nature calls and they make their way back south.

In the spring and late summer/early fall orioles need high sugar to convert to energy. Summer diet consists mostly of insects.

3. Use oriole friendly feeders.
4. Provide water.
5. Plant Native Trees That Appeal to Orioles. Oak, maple, sycamore and elm trees are attractive to orioles for nesting. On a side note, orioles build some of the most complicated nest of any species. The nests are woven of hundreds of strands of fibers and hang from the end of tree branches. To encourage nesting in your yard, provide 6" or less pieces of string and yarn, which I place in a suet feeder.
6. Lastly, orioles are naturally attracted to the color orange. Try to landscape your yard with plants that have orange flowers, I just added a Trumpet Vine to attract the hummingbirds and orioles. 🍌

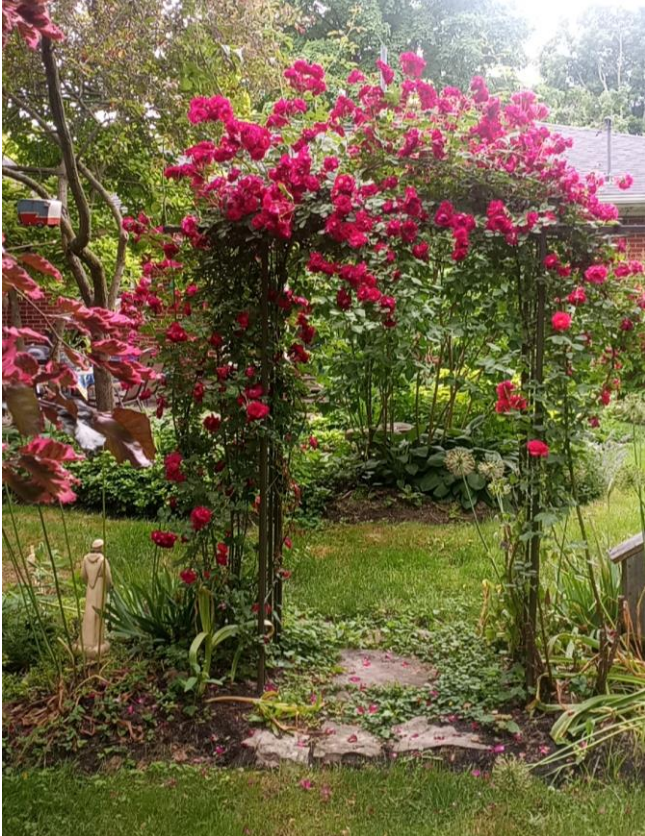


*(Photos courtesy of Karen's brother, Jack Hoying.)*

## Don Juan Rose

By Karen Seger

The Rosa ‘Don Juan’ was cultivated in 1958 by Italian rose breeder Michele Malandrone. The Don Juan starts to bloom in May and can continue on until frost when the rose sheds its leaves and enters dormancy for winter. It has large flowers reaching 5” across and are fragrant. It is a repeat bloomer, so deadheading is imperative. The plant can grow to be very tall, between 12-14 feet tall. The Don Juan is a low maintenance rose and requires simple care. 🌿



## How to grow and care for a Hoya plant?

By Mary Delzeith

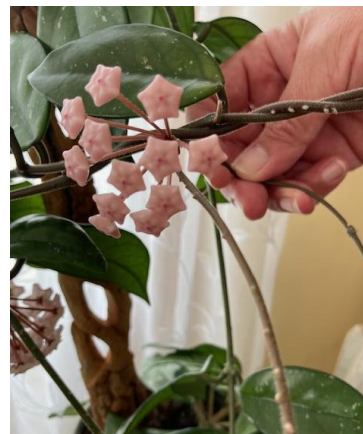
I got a start of a Hoya at one of our Master Gardening training sessions. Doris Hibner demonstrated how to take cuttings and propagate. I believe this was in 2017. After reading an internet article or two, I was sure I could make this plant grow and bloom. Supposedly, a Hoya can stand neglect and when it comes to growing houseplants, I have a brown thumb! So let me share a few tips from the internet gurus. Hoyas are also called wax plants, porcelain flowers or honey plants. They are a “low maintenance” and have fragrant flowers that grow in a ball-shaped cluster. The woody stems have waxy leaves which remain evergreen. The plant stems can be 2 to 4 feet in length.

Hoyas require bright indirect sunlight for up to 6 hours daily. My Hoya plant enjoyed the view from many different windows, and one year even spent the summer on the patio. It remained about 10 inches in length and had 2-3 new stems in the first ‘5’ years of living at the Delzeith home.

Hoyas prefer moderately moist, well-draining soil that should dry out between waterings (not a problem for me). And a well-balanced fertilizer monthly (that may not have happened). Being a tropical plant, they prefer humid conditions.

Supposedly, Hoyas are reliable warm weather bloomers, but they need the right light, adequate water and humidity and nutrients. Hoya flowers grow in a ball-shaped cluster and are very fragrant. At first the flower looks like a star and then it opens and releases its sweet pungent fragrance.

How do I know this? Two years ago, my daughter rescued my Hoya plant and took it to her home. It is now living a happy life, having grown from a sickly baby into a thriving adult (it can take up to 2 to 5 years for a Hoya to bloom per the internet). 🌿



## PEACH FUZZ

By Ann Heeley

What is Pantone's Color of the Year? It's "Peach Fuzz"! Pantone is the institute that selects a new color each year to influence art, interior design, home furnishings, cosmetics, horticulture, and fashion. While some of Pantone's color choices in past years may not translate well in the garden (think Turquoise and Ultimate Gray), others have had a major impact on the huge companies and breeders that introduce new hybrid plants/flowers into garden centers. For example, "Radiant Orchid", "Tangerine Tango", and "Honeysuckle" seem to seem to be based on the colors we see in nature.

"Peach Fuzz" is definitely one of those colors we see in many of the hybrid plants on the market. It's a soft, pastel orange that contrasts well with flowers in the blue/purple spectrum. It can also brighten a shady area when accompanied with pale yellow and white flowers. Against a dark background or a cluster of shrubs that have already bloomed, "Peach Fuzz"-colored flowers will stand out.

It may be too late to incorporate "Peach Fuzz" in the summer garden this year, but just wait until next year when the prices are lower and the choices will be more abundant. Here are some ideas to ponder while you sip a fuzzy navel. 🍷



'Fragrant Falls' Begonia



'Peach Fancy' Astroemeria



'Alan's Apricot' Ice Plant



'Oso Easy Peachy Cream' Rose



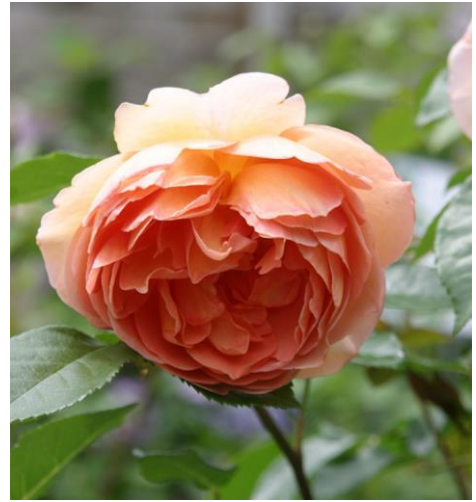
'Super Trooper Orange' Dianthus



'Pinokkio' Foxtail Lily



'Chorus Line' Daylily



'Pat Austin' Rose



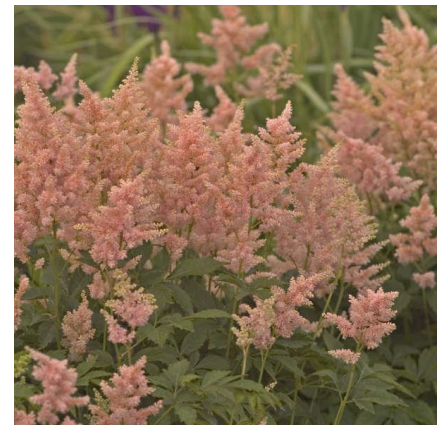
'Clyde's Choice' Dahlia



'Beverly Hills' Bearded, Reblooming Iris



'Peach Melba' Gladiolus



'Peach Blossom' Astilbe

**Flag Day is a holiday celebrated on June 14 in the United States.**



It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The Flag Resolution stated "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army birthday on this date, as Congress adopted the American continental army after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. On August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. New York Consolidated Laws designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day, a state holiday. (Source: Wikipedia)

