



## A YEAR OF ANNUALS

Every year Kingwood Center creates an all new design scheme for our display of annuals. I would like to think that gardening enthusiasts in the area visit each year to see how each garden was designed this year differently from the past. Perhaps the most photogenic annual display is the formal garden's sunken garden. And perhaps the most photographed annuals are those at the north terrace, part of the most popular wedding venue. I love to see what shade plants are used on the terraces leading up to the Pan sculpture and I love how small annual beds in the Terrace Garden are incorporated with the woody and perennial plantings.

I am happy to report that this has been a banner year for our annuals. This is Bill Collins' first full year of responsibility for the display, and he has done a terrific job. He inherited a legacy of well tested annuals and an inventory of tender perennials and woody plants that we overwinter in protected locations like the greenhouse. Bill had to orchestrate the list into designs and present Jeff Russell in the greenhouse with a list of what he wanted to use and how much of each. Jeff and his staff and volunteers then have the challenging job of ordering and growing the seed, taking cuttings, and dividing or just protecting selected plants for the show. By May there is hardly room in the greenhouse to turn around. By the end of May the horticulture department virtually shuts down while it gives its almost exclusive attention to getting the spring tulips out and the annuals in. By July the show is kicking into high gear until frost or when the calendar says it is time to get the tulips in for spring.



## KINGWOOD HALL BRICK REPAIRS

The south terrace of Kingwood Hall includes a brick retaining wall that insisted on popping out its mortar in spite of two re-pointing attempts. Lacking the funds to do the whole job we hired Chuck Russell and his crew of masons to get as much done as they could with the money we were able to put forward. They discovered how the water was getting in behind the brick and set about rebuilding the wall, often from the ground up. With our own maintenance staff playing a supporting role Mr. Russell and his crew have achieved far more than we anticipated, but we will still have more work that will have to be funded next year.



Chuck Russell and crew repairing the south terrace



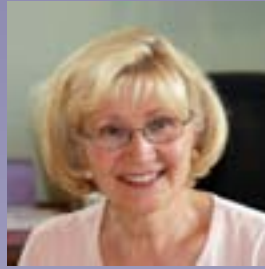
The south terrace



A before picture of the south terrace

## KAY HOSTETLER RETIRES

The last Newsletter reported long time gardener Don Miller's retirement, now we are sad to report the retirement of our volunteer coordinator, Kay Hostetler. Kay spent thirteen years with us at Kingwood and developed quite a following among the volunteers. We recently added weddings to Kay's responsibilities which filled her schedule and then some. We will miss Kay but are relieved to hear that when she is not vacationing in Tuscany she plans to do some volunteer work with us, particularly in flower arranging and, we hope, at Christmas.



Kay Hostetler

## KEEPING UP KINGWOOD HALL

A favorite fantasy of visitors and employees alike is to imagine what it would be like to live in Kingwood Hall. While enjoying the fun musings of bouncing around in such a huge space, pause for a second to think about the upkeep. We had a good example recently when staff members heard water running and complained that the hot water was lukewarm. Long searches turned up nothing until finally someone noticed that it sounded like it was raining in a downstairs closet. Holes drilled into the ceiling revealed nothing, so the maintenance staff started tracking down the hot water lines in the area. A couple of holes through interior brick walls and a hole in a concrete floor finally revealed the leak under the floor of that closet in which it sounded like rain on the ceiling. The leaking water had been soaking into the soil under the house. Finally, even with the leak revealed it was still not just another plumbing job, because the water line was brass!



We had to break through the concrete floor to find the water leak below

## SALES AREA SPOTLIGHT

The bulb sale will start a day earlier in the week this year with the member's preview sale from 3:00 to 6:00 on Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>. The sale will continue on Friday and Saturday. Beginning with the bulb sale and continuing for the balance of the year will be a special perennial sale – buy one/get one free. "Fall is for Planting" as they say and we still have a good selection of sale plants to choose from. Now is the time to evaluate your garden, especially for late summer weaknesses and shop at the greenhouse to buy the plants that will bolster your garden show. And wait – there's more! Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> will be our annual FREE day. Come and walk through the gardens, enjoy the African Violet Show, shop for bulbs, and buy our sale priced perennials without paying a parking fee.



Daffodils will be just one of the many bulbs for sale at the greenhouse this fall



Morning glory is a late summer bloomer



Blue wood aster is a great garden feature in the fall and is native to our area



The Japanese anemones are long time favorite late summer bloomers. This one is called Whirlwind



Mist Flower is a late season bloomer native to southern Ohio



Hibiscus 'Caroline' one of many selections of hardy Hibiscus

## SEPTEMBER FLOWERS:

I usually get a bit discouraged with my garden in August. The hot dry weather takes its toll not only on my plants but on me as well. I can't give up. September brings cooler weather, rain and a host of fresh new flowers and features. We often get through September without a frost; so many plants that had been struggling through August perk up in September like dahlias, nasturtiums and many of the annuals. The products of intense hibiscus breeding is evident in late August and September as we see beautiful dinner plate size flowers of a wide assortment of colors and forms. The grasses really come into their own as they start to form seed heads. Traditional late season favorites like asters, Japanese anemone and hardy mums begin to bloom. The ever popular

Sedum 'Autumn Joy' and all the similar sedums that were popularized in Autumn Joy's shadow are spectacular in dry lean soil in September. Re-blooming bearded iris never fail to shock gardeners with their seemingly out of season fall flowers, and the long wait for the heavenly blue or deep purple of my favorite morning glories is finally rewarded.

Each season gardeners should take stock of their gardens to determine how they look. Meanwhile gardeners should be visiting other gardens to take an inventory of what is in bloom and doing well under growing conditions such as their own. Next, bolster your own garden with the plants you admire. Remember fall is almost as good of a time for planting as spring. Don't let the

opportunity get away.

Finally, many of us kind of "cheat" by buying potted mums already in bloom and a few more adventurous buy flowering kale. In either case these are for what we call "plunging" into the garden. They can be very beautiful and satisfying. In fact some people make another whole seasonal bedding scheme with late season potted plants. This is especially possible in zones six and seven with long falls. I don't really have anything against this practice even if I do sort of compare late season plunging to hiring scabs in a labor dispute. There are just so many plants to choose from that would grow year round in your garden and provide as good or better fall interest.

Chuck Gleaves, Director

# Kingwood Center

900 Park Avenue West  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
419-522-0211

[www.kingwoodcenter.org](http://www.kingwoodcenter.org)

*Change service requested.*

## CALENDAR

### September

- 3-5 Richland Camera Club Photography Show and Contest**  
Meeting Hall, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily
- 13- 10/18 Tai Chi for Health – Beginning**  
This slow-motion form of exercise promotes health, calm and a sense of well-being in regular practitioners. No experience is necessary for this six week program, and it is safe for people with a variety of medical conditions. Join Bob Casey, TCH (Tai Chi for Health) certified instructor, for this gentle martial art.  
Tuesdays, September 13 through October 18 - Beginning: 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.  
Continuing: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Exhibit Hall - \$48 fee, members & volunteers \$36 – Advance Registration Required
- 16-17 Ohio State African Violet Society Show**  
Meeting Hall, Friday 1 to 5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 16-18 Kingwood Bulb Sale**  
Greenhouse, 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m.
- 24 Autumn Garden Walk**  
The Kingwood grounds are beautiful in the fall with the autumn color of the trees and shrubs, the ornamental grasses, fall annuals and perennials. On this walk we will look at many of the plants which make the garden and landscape so special at this time of year.  
Saturday- 1:30 to 3 p.m. - Meet at Kingwood Hall - Bill Collins - Free with admission to Kingwood
- 24-25 Mansfield China Painters Show**  
Exhibit Hall, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days
- 24-25 Brush and Palette Art Show and Sale**  
Meeting Hall, 10-5 both days
- ### October
- 1 Dividing Peonies**  
Fall is the time to divide your herbaceous peonies when clumps have become overgrown or do not bloom well. Using the Kingwood Peony Collection, the class will learn proper methods of dividing and resetting peonies in the garden. Students will receive a division to take home and plant.  
Saturday- 10 to 11:30 a.m. - Exhibit Hall - Bill Collins - \$10 fee, members & volunteers \$8
- 8 Bulb Planting Techniques**  
Fall is the time to plant many of the spring blooming bulbs. There are many factors to think about when planting. When should they be planted? What type of soil? How deep? Should they be fertilized? What bulbs can be planted? These are questions which will be discussed during this workshop.  
aturday, 10 to 11:30 a.m. - Meeting Hall - Bill Collins - \$6 fee, members & Volunteers \$5

## HOURS

### Grounds

March, Nov., Dec. - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily  
April through October - 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily

### Greenhouses

Opening March 16<sup>th</sup> through October  
8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday  
Closed Monday

### Kingwood Hall

Sundays - 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Group Tours by Appointment  
Library by Appointment  
Christmas Hours - see Calendar of Events

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 506  
MANSFIELD, OHIO

### October continued

- 14 Autumn Dried Flower Design**  
Learn how to design a beautiful autumn floral design using an intriguing mix of dried flowers, seed pods and grasses for that special spot in your home. Students will create their own design to take home.  
Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon - Meeting Hall - Bill Collins - \$25 fee, members & volunteers \$23
- 16 Ohio Lily Society Bulb Sale**  
Meeting Hall, 12 noon to 3 p.m.
- 22 Mansfield Dulcimer Players**  
Meeting Hall, 1 to 3 p.m.
- 29 Children's Pumpkin Carving & Halloween Stories**  
Scary Halloween stories will start the class, followed by a fun time of carving a unique face or design on a pumpkin. Students will learn different ideas and techniques and then carve a pumpkin of their own to take home. Ages 5 and up.  
Saturday 10 to 11:30 a.m. - Kingwood Hall - Bill Collins - \$7 fee, members \$
- 29 Spoken Images**  
Meeting Hall, 2:30p.m.

## PUMPKIN GLOW CANCELLED; BIG CHRISTMAS SHOW PLANNED

We are a victim of our success with the Pumpkin Glow. The popularity of the event overwhelmed our capacities, and our capacities were recently diminished following two retirements and some staff turnover. We reluctantly concluded that the event was beyond our means.

Instead we are going to make a special effort at Christmas. The gardening season will be over and some empty staff positions should be filled in time to help with our Christmas celebration. At the risk of revealing our plans prematurely, we are anticipating a gingerbread house competition, a special model train display and even a resident Santa Claus. These features are in addition to our traditional room decorations created by local garden clubs, musical entertainment, and our ever popular member's party.