

**DEPARTMENT FIFTEEN  
FLORICULTURE  
DIRECTORS: EVELYN LIEB 419-680-9882  
BRENDA STULTS 419-552-1837**

**Superintendents: Barb Liskai, Nancy Sattler, Christine Michael**

**Entries** must be made at the Secretary's Office beginning **Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>** and ending at 4:00 p.m. on **Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

There will be two separate flower shows during the fair to provide a continuous display of fresh flowers. **Exhibitors may enter either or both shows.**

**Exhibitors must show pass to bring entries through the gates to bring flowers into Flower Building.**

**Entries for the FIRST SHOW** must be in place between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> and removed after 8:30 p.m. Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Entries for the SECOND SHOW** must be placed between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

The building will close at 5:45 p.m. on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Exhibits may be removed after 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. **NO EARLY REMOVALS.**

**Judging** will be at noon on the day of entry for both shows.

1. The Flower Show Committee may remove inappropriate exhibits.
2. Judging will be by accredited judges from the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc.
3. Judging session is open to floriculture exhibitors. Questions may be taken by judges after judging is completed. The judge's decision is final.

**All Garden Clubs are eligible to enter in the Garden Club categories. Please contact the director for more information.**

**STANDARDS FOR JUDGING**  
Points of Specimen flowers and foliage

- 25 pts. Form - Perfection of form for type of flower
- 15 pts. Color - Clear, rich, luminous color
- 20 pts. Substance - Firm, Crisp petals
- 10 pts. Size of Flower - Typical for variety
- 20 pts. Stem - Strong straight stem, length in proportion to size of bloom
- 10 pts. Grooming and Disbudding

**Special Awards**

The following points will be awarded in both shows for horticulture and artistic classes. Blue ribbon – 5, Red ribbon – 3, White ribbon – 1 (No points to Garden Club Entries)

- Overall Best of Fair Horticulture Rosette
- Overall Best of Fair Artistic Rosette
- Award of Distinction Rosette each show
- Overall Best Youth 6 – 10 Horticulture Trophy
- Overall Best Youth 6 – 10 Vegetable Trophy
- Overall Best Youth 6 – 10 – Artistic Trophy
- Overall Best of Youth 11 – 16 Horticulture Trophy
- Overall Best of Youth 11 – 16 Artistic Trophy

All previous award winners are eligible for 2026 awards. Awards are sponsored by Hayes Garden Club, Plant 'n' Bloom Garden Club, We'd Wackers Garden Club, Whispering Meadows Garden Club, and the Sandusky-Ottawa Master Gardeners.

**FLORICULTURE RULES**

1. Unless otherwise noted, an exhibitor may make more than one entry in each lot provided each entry is a different variety and labeled.
2. Class 2 Plants, an exhibitor may enter only one exhibit per lot.
3. Each variety **MUST BE IDENTIFIED** on entry tag in order to earn the Best of Show.
4. The exhibitor must grow all floriculture entries. Container grown exhibits must have been in exhibitor's possession at least three months.
5. All foliage must be attached. It should be clean with no evidence of spray residue, mildew or insect damage. No foreign substance permitted on foliage.
6. All "one bloom" exhibits must be disbudded. (Disbudding is removing bud side shoots as the specimen develops)
7. **Stem length should be cut in proportion to the size of the bloom.** Wedges (i.e., Saran Wrap, Styrofoam, Wood) may be used to hold the exhibit at the correct pose.
8. Fair Board provides vases, or you may use clear glass bottles. **No colored bottles.** No pop bottles.
9. Lots may be withdrawn, combined, or divided if the number of entries warrant. Exhibits not meeting the specifications of the schedule will be disqualified.

**ARTISTIC DESIGN RULES**

1. Exhibitors may enter as many classes as they desire but only one entry per lot.
2. All fresh plant material may be from any source and must be arranged by the exhibitor. Accessories are permitted.
3. No artificial or silk plant material permitted, except Class 9 Silk Flowers. Painted or artificially colored fresh plant material is never permitted.
4. Class 9 lots 1- 4 will be silk floral arrangements.
5. Bleached, treated (glycerin etc.) and dried material may be used unless otherwise stated.
6. Painted, dried, line material may be used in Creative designs.
7. On a separate 3 x 5 card list plant material used in the design and your interpretation of the title. Place the card next to the design.
8. All "Choice" designs must be labeled with the floral design classification the exhibitor is using.

**FLORAL DESIGN CLASSIFICATIONS**

All floral designs can be classified as either Traditional (naturalistic, geometric, including Oriental, European and early 20<sup>th</sup> century designs) or creative designs (contemporary and abstract)

**CREATIVE DESIGN** incorporates space within and usually shows restraint in the amount of plant material and the number of components used.

**TRADITIONAL DESIGN** may be classified as line, line mass, or mass. Line designs exhibit lines as the most important feature and plant material is sparse. Line-mass designs incorporate both line using branches, stems or a series of blooms or leaves in a skeletal pattern; massing is along the main line, heavier toward the center and tapering along the outside edges. Mass design emphasizes a large mass of flowers with fullness and a minimum of voids.

An **INTERPRETIVE DESIGN** is the designers' own feeling idea, or translation of the class title to be depicted from the flower show schedule. The design could be traditional, creative, or abstract. If not stated, it is the designer's choice.

**FIRST SHOW**  
**THEME: Red, White, and Bloom**

**CLASS 1 HORTICULTURAL SPECIMENS**

**Premiums: 1st-\$3.00; 2nd-\$2.50; 3rd-\$2.00**

**ROSES**

**One single bloom** per stem, disbudded, any named variety, except as noted. Foliage attached, stem in good length in proportion to bloom. **A spray** includes a minimum of a bud, one partially open flower and one fully open flower.

**Lot Description**

1. Hybrid Tea White or Near White
2. Hybrid Tea Yellow or Yellow Blend
3. Hybrid Tea Orange, Orange-Red, Apricot, Orange-Pink, Blends
4. Hybrid Tea Pink or Pink Blend
5. Hybrid Tea Red or Red Blend
6. Hybrid Tea Any color not listed above
7. Hybrid Tea Full Bloom
8. Hybrid Tea 3 Stems, Same Variety
9. Hybrid Tea 3 Stems, 3 Different Varieties
10. Climbing Rose—One single bloom or one spray
11. Floribunda, 1 single bloom or 1 Spray
12. Polyantha, 1 Spray
13. Grandiflora, One Single Bloom
14. Grandiflora, 1 Spray
15. Shrub Rose, One single bloom or one spray

***BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE - ROSES***

**MINIATURE ROSES**

**One single bloom** per stem, disbudded, any named variety, except as noted. Foliage attached, stem in good length in proportion to bloom. **A spray** includes a minimum of a bud, one partially open flower and one fully open flower. **Your vase or florist pick; picks and Styrofoam base provided.**

**Lot Description**

16. White or Near White
17. Yellow or Yellow Blend
18. Pink or Pink Blend
19. Red or Red Blend
20. Orange, Orange-Red, Apricot, Orange-Pink, or Blends
21. Any other color not listed above
22. Full Bloom
23. Red or Pink Spray—1 Stem
24. Spray any Other Color—1 Stem
25. 3 Blooms—Same Variety
26. 3 Blooms—3 Varieties

***BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – MINIATURE ROSES***

**OTHER FLOWERS OR ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS**

**Lot Description**

27. Asters – 3 blooms, disbudded, 1 variety
28. Calendula – 3 blooms, disbudded, 1 variety
29. Celosia, Crested – 1 stem
30. Celosia, Plumed – 1 stem
31. Cleome – 1 stem
32. Coleus – 1 Stem disbudded, no flower
33. Cosmos – 1 spray
34. Cosmos – 3 blooms, disbudded
35. Decorative Foliage - 3 leaves same plant (named)
36. Flowering Shrub – blooming, one stem, 10 to 18 inches in length, includes leaves (ex. hydrangea, butterfly)

37. Rudbeckia – 3 blooms, disbudded, 1 variety
38. Snapdragons – 1 Stem – Any Color, remove seedpod
39. Vines and Ivy, not to exceed 12 inches Display 1 stem;
40. Petunia, Single, Solid Color, remove seed pods
41. Petunia, Single, Multi Color, remove seed pods
42. Petunia, Double, Any Color, remove seed pods
43. Sunflower, under 4 inches, 1 bloom, disbudded
44. Sunflower, 4 inches and over, 1 bloom, disbudded

**Display Any Other Flower, one stem, list available in office.**

**One entry per variety.**

45. Round Form Perennial (Named), disbudded
46. Spike Form Perennial (Named)
47. Spray Form Perennial (Named)
48. Round Form Annual (Named)
49. Spike Form Annual (Named)
50. Spray Form Annual (Named)
51. Any other root, bulb, corm, or tuber (Named)

***BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – OTHER FLOWERS or ANNUALS and PERENNIALS***

**GLADIOLUS**

All gladiolus stems should be cut to prevent top-heavy entries from falling over. **Side buds or shoots must be removed but Not Foliage.** Markings permitted. Wedging is encouraged to show best form. Display 1 spike.

**Lot Description**

52. Gladiolus, Cream or White
53. Gladiolus, Orange
54. Gladiolus, Pink
55. Gladiolus, Red
56. Gladiolus, Yellow
57. Gladiolus, Lavender
58. Gladiolus, Green
59. Gladiolus, Smokey Variety
60. Gladiolus, Salmon
61. Gladiolus, Miniature
62. Gladiolus, Violet "Blue"

***BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – GLADIOLUS***

**DAHLIA**

Display 1 bloom must be disbudded and include one full set of leaves if possible. You may exhibit more than one per lot if each exhibit is a different variety and identified.

**Lot Description**

**Dahlia, "A" size over 8"**

63. Formal or Informal Decorative
64. Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlia

**Dahlia, "B" sizes 6" to 8"**

65. Formal or Informal Decorative
66. Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlia

**Dahlia, "BB" sizes 4" to 6"**

67. Formal or Informal Decorative
68. Cactus or Semi-Cactus Dahlia

**Dahlia – miniature size up to 4"**

69. Formal or Informal Decorative
70. Cactus or Semi-Cactus

**Other Dahlia**

71. Ball Dahlia, 1 Bloom
72. Dahlia, Pom Pom, 1 Bloom
73. Dahlia, Other Types 1 Bloom, Identify

***BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – DAHLIAS***

## **MARIGOLDS AND ZINNIAS**

### **Lot Description**

74. Marigold, 1 Bloom, White
75. Marigold, over 2 1/2", 1 Bloom, Orange
76. Marigold, over 2 1/2", 1 Bloom, Yellow or Gold
77. Marigold, under 2 1/2", 1 Orange or Yellow, 1 Spray, do not disbud
78. Marigold, under 2 1/2", Bi-Colored, 1 Spray, do not disbud
79. Zinnia, Large Dahlia Type, 3 Blooms, 1 Variety 1 Color
80. Zinnia, Large Cactus or Quilled – 3 Blooms, 1 Variety 1 Color
81. Zinnia, Bi-Colored, 3 Blooms, 1 Variety 1 Color
82. Zinnia, Small Flowering, 3 Blooms, 1 Variety 1 Color

### **BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – MARIGOLDS AND ZINNIAS**

## **NEW\* HORTICULTURAL VARIETY WITHIN THREE YEARS**

83. New Variety Any Horticulture specimen within 3 years-Single stem

### **BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – NEW VARIETY**

## **CLASS 2 PLANTS CONTAINER PLANTS (To remain both shows)**

**Premiums: 1st-\$3.00; 2nd-\$2.50; 3rd-\$2.00**

1. One entry per lot.
2. Plant must be owned by exhibitor for three months prior to fair date and not show evidence of recent transplanting.
3. Leaves must not be oiled or treated.
4. Maximum container size 14" diameter.
5. Previous winning exhibits cannot be entered again.
6. All watering is to be done by the exhibitor, but before the noon judging.

### **Lot Description**

1. Any Foliage, 1 variety, labeled Container size 14" or less
2. Succulent or Cactus Dish Garden - Container size 14" or less
3. Mixed Planter - Container size 14" or less
4. Fairy Garden - Container size 14" or less
5. Any Flowering Plant not listed Container Size 14" or less

### **BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – PLANTS**

## **CLASS 3 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENT**

### **THEME: Stars, Stripes, and Blooms**

*Include index card listing flowers, leaves and your interpretation of title.*

**Premiums: 1st-\$4.50; 2nd-\$3.50; 3rd-\$2.50**

1. **"Red, White and Bloom" NOVICE CLASS.** (Vertical Design).  
**NOVICE CLASS is for new designers or exhibitors who have not earned 2 blue ribbons at previous fairs.**
2. **"Midnight Ride of Paul Revere"**– (Illuminary Design) An Illuminary Design is a creative design incorporating light(s) as one of the components. The lighting must be an integral part of the design, not something added for the sole purpose of including lights. Mechanics of special lighting such as wires, batteries, etc., must be concealed within bases, and/or containers, or in the background, underlay or other components. These designs are not to be confused with those where spotlights are used to enhance the overall design. Emphasis is placed on color, pattern, and balance. Design may or may not be abstract.
3. **"Continental Army"** (Traditional Mass Design) A traditional Mass Design emphasizes a large mass of flowers rather than the individual flower heads. It always has fullness and a minimum of voids. It may be very compact or loose, open and airy. Shape should resemble geometric form such as cylinder, cone, sphere, pyramid, or oval with few voids.
4. **"13 Original Colonies"** - (Choice) Using 13 flowers.
5. **"Let Freedom Ring"** (Creative Framed Spatial) using bell(s). Designed as a single unit, suspended in a frame-like structure not to exceed 3 square feet. Movement is implied, design firmly

anchored above and sides. Attaching wire, string, or line appears invisible. Materials cannot actually or visibly touch the frame.

6. **"Firelands"** - Satelitic design using two (2) containers connected with a curving line.
7. **"Washington Crossed the Delaware"** - In the Oriental manner showing water.
8. **"Boston Tea Party"** - Small Design more than 5" but not to exceed 12" in any one direction. Using a teacup as the container.

### **BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE– ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENT**

**YOUTH CLASSES 4-8 WILL EARN \$1 FOR EACH DISPLAYED ENTRY. LIMIT 5 EXHIBITORS PER LOT.**

## **CLASS 4 HORTICULTURE Age 6-10**

**Premiums: 1st-\$2.00; 2nd-\$1.50; 3rd-\$1.00-**

### **Lot Description**

1. Dahlia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
2. Marigold, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
3. Zinnia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
4. Gladiolus, 1 Spike (side shoots removed but not foliage)
5. Combination Patio Planter, pot not to exceed 14" in diameter. Include at least 3 varieties and identify them.

## **CLASS 5 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS Age 6-10**

### **Lot Description**

1. **"My Patriotic Posy"** - (Choice)
2. **"Bloom Boom"** - (Choice)
3. **"Continental Army"** (Terrarium with lid; or Bottle Garden) Identify plants.

## **CLASS 6 VEGETABLES Age 6-10**

1. Plate of Vegetables – Display 3 of One Kind (uniform in size, color, and condition)
2. **"Betsy Ross"** Make a flag using vegetables, seeds, buttons, etc.

### **BEST OF SHOW YOUTH ROSETTE --AGES 6-10**

## **CLASS 7 HORTICULTURE Age 11-17**

### **Lot Description**

1. Dahlia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
2. Marigold, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
3. Zinnia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
4. Gladiolus, 1 Spike (side shoots removed but not foliage)
5. Combination Patio Planter, pot not to exceed 14" in diameter. Include at least 3 varieties and identify them.

## **CLASS 8 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS Age 11-16**

### **Lot Description**

1. **"Boston Tea Party"** - (Choice) Using a teapot as the container.
2. **"Let Freedom Ring"** - (Choice) Incorporate bell(s).
3. **"Minutemen"** (Terrarium with lid; or Bottle Garden)

### **BEST OF SHOW YOUTH ROSETTE --AGES 11-16**

## **CLASS 9 SILK FLOWERS - Open Class**

**Premiums: 1st-\$4.50; 2nd-\$3.50; 3rd-\$2.50**

Note: Accessories need to be an integral part of the design, not added as an afterthought.

### **Lot Description**

1. **"Boston Tea Party"** (Choice) Using a ceramic teapot as the Container.
2. **"Bomb Bursting in Air"** - (Showing Motion)
3. **"Tri Corner Hat"** - (Triangular)
4. **"Yankee Doodle"** (Vertical)

### **BEST OF SHOW ROSETTE – SILK FLOWERS**

**\*New for 2026 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD ROSETTE.  
Fairgoers may vote on their favorite exhibit in each flower show. Winner will earn a rosette and \$5.00.**

**CLASS 10 INVITATIONAL (Garden Clubs)  
TO REMAIN BOTH SHOWS. AN ENTRY FEE OF \$35.00 WILL BE  
ACCEPTED AT THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE.**

**Premiums: \$7.00 per entry.**

Niches, Spot Gardens, Patio Planters, Hanging Baskets, and educational displays are open to any invited Garden Club.

**(Note: Table Trays in 2nd Show Class 20)**

**Lot Description**

1. PATIO PLANTERS: Planter must be owned and maintained by a Garden Club Member. (To remain both shows) **Identify Plant Materials.**
2. HANGING BASKETS: To contain a growing plant or plants – **Identify** (To remain both shows)
3. EDUCATIONAL: Your Choice (To remain both shows)
4. NICHE: **"Betsy Ross" Niche** size 32" high, 30" wide. (To remain both shows). Must include an arrangement.
5. Decorate a SPOT GARDEN: **"Red, White, and Bloom"** Use collections of container grown plants attractively arranged to suggest a corner of a garden or terrace. Background provided by the fair board. Measuring 6' high, with 5'x 5' x 12.5' triangular area. (To remain both shows)

**CLASS 11 OPEN COMPETITION FOR ADULTS, TO REMAIN BOTH SHOWS**

**Premiums: 1st-\$4.50; 2nd-\$3.50; 3rd-\$2.50**

**Lot Description**

1. Hosta collection of 5 leaves attractively displayed-label varieties.

**AWARD OF DISTINCTION FIRST SHOW (Classes 1 – 11)**

**SECOND SHOW**

**THEME: Starts Stripes, and Petals**

**CLASS 12 HORTICULTURAL SPECIMENS**

**Must be in place between 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Friday.**

**Premiums: 1st-\$3.00; 2nd-\$2.50; 3rd-\$2.00**

**LOTS 1 thru 83 the same as first show**

**CLASS 13 INVITATIONAL PROFESSIONAL/JUDGES**

1. Choice Design for floor or pedestal (no premiums or ribbons awarded)

**CLASS 14 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS**

**Premiums: 1st-\$4.50; 2nd-\$3.50; 3rd-\$2.50**

**Lot Description**

1. **"Dawns Early Light"** NOVICE CLASS (Your choice of design; must List flowers and leaves on index card.) **The NOVICE CLASS is for new designers or exhibitors who have not earned 2 blue ribbons at previous fairs.**
2. **"Minuette"** Miniature - not to exceed 5" in any one direction
3. **"Rockets Red Glare"** -Framed Spatial. Designed as a single unit, suspended in a frame-like structure not to exceed 3 square feet. Movement is implied, design firmly anchored above and sides. Attaching wire, string, or line appears invisible. Materials cannot actually, or visibly touch the frame
4. **"The Bluecoats Vs Redcoats"** – Using two containers
5. **"A Toast to Victory"** –(Vertical) Using a stein as a container
6. **"This Land is Your Land"** – Choice using only foliage

**Free Make it and Take it: Nancy Sattler will be offering a class on how to make terrariums at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> in the Flower Building. Limited to the first 20 that sign up in Secretary's office by Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>.**

7. **"Muzzle Loader"** (Showing Motion)

8. **"Home of the Free" Choice**

**BEST OF SHOW – ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS**

**YOUTH CLASSES 15-18 WILL EARN \$1 FOR EACH DISPLAYED ENTRY. LIMIT 5 EXHIBITORS PER LOT.**

**Class 15 – 19 Premiums: 1st-\$2.00 2nd-\$1.50 3rd-\$1.00**

**CLASS 15 HORTICULTURE Age 6-10**

**Lot Description**

1. Dahlia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
2. Marigold, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
3. Zinnia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
4. Gladiolus, 1 Spike (side shoots removed but not foliage)
5. Hanging Basket, pot not to exceed 14" in diameter. Identify plants.

**CLASS 16 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS Age 6-10**

**Lot Description**

1. **"Independence Day"** Choice
2. **"Stars and Stripes"** (Fairy Garden) Identify plants, Container not to exceed 14" in diameter.

**CLASS 17 VEGETABLES Age 6-10**

**Lot Description**

1. Plate of Vegetables-Display 5 different vegetables. Identify
2. **"Liberty Bell"** Make a bell using vegetables, seeds, buttons, etc.

**BEST OF SHOW – 2<sup>ND</sup> SHOW YOUTH AGES 6 - 10**

**CLASS 18 HORTICULTURE Age 11-17**

**Lot Description**

1. Dahlia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
2. Marigold, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
3. Zinnia, 1 bloom with foliage, disbudded
4. Gladiolus, 1 Spike (side shoots removed but not foliage)
5. Hanging Basket, pot not to exceed 14" in diameter. Identify plants.

**CLASS 19 ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS Age 11-17**

**Lot Description**

1. **"Golden Years of Independence"** (Choice)
2. **"Patchwork Zinnias of America"** (Choice) Using the color of Orange
3. **"Francis Marion the Swamp Fox"** (Fairy Garden) Identify plants. Container not to exceed 14" in diameter.

**BEST OF SHOW – 2<sup>ND</sup> SHOW YOUTH AGES 11-17**

**CLASS 20 INVITATIONAL (Garden Clubs)**

**Premiums: \$7.00 per entry**

**Lot Description**

1. TABLE TRAY: **"Honoring 250 Years"** – (tray furnished by exhibitor) Floral unit and appointments must be stable. Tray should not be overcrowded. Since tray is smaller than a normal table, the scale and proportion, particularly the floral unit, must be maintained. (No food or Flat Silver) A 3 x 5 card identifying your flowers. (2<sup>nd</sup> Show Only)

All 2026 Best of Show exhibits earn a rosette and \$5.00 sponsored by Christine Michael who served 33 consecutive years on the Ag Society Board of Directors and continues to help with the flower department.

