

The MERION VILLAGE 25th ANNIVERSARY

VILLAGER

The Merion Village Association Newsletter

Volume 17 No. 3

July/August 2010

Merion Village 11th Annual Garden Tour

Bill Doughton

The Merion Village Association proudly presents the 11th Annual Merion Village Garden Tour, Sunday July 11. Tour hours are : 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Merion Village Association. Explore the unique and lovely gardens of our Merion Village neighborhood at your own pace.

There are 10 fabulous gardens this year, ranging from larger, more expansive gardens, to smaller, more intimate settings. Whether you come to get ideas for your own garden, to explore our historic streets and homes, or to just enjoy the day outdoors, you are sure to enjoy our annual summer tradition.

'Community Greening thru Education & Awareness'

With the help of our 2010 Supporting Partners, the Merion Village Association will be promoting our "Green Initiatives". All 2010 Garden Tour homes have been certified by the City of Columbus as "Greenspot Residences". As our community moves forward, we are striving to remain at the forefront of environmental responsibility. At a selected residence, the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District will demonstrate a rain-barrel installation. Information on 'rain-

gardens' and other programs will be available. We encourage all tour-goers to take advantage of this educational opportunity for the sake of future Merion Village generations.

As always, since it's inception in 1999, the Merion Village Garden Tour is **FREE** to the public, thanks to the generosity of our many sponsors and partners. These partnerships have been essential to the development of Merion Village. Once standing barren, in silent testimony to decades of neglect and decay, Merion Village is alive once again, vibrant with new energy, culture, and diversity. **PLEASE JOIN US** as we celebrate our neighborhood history. Bring your family and friends. The event is held **RAIN OR SHINE**. Gardens may be visited in any order.

The Merion Village Information Center at 1330 South Fourth Street will be open on tour day from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tour maps and programs will be available. Restroom facilities and air-conditioning as well. Water and

beverages will be available at the center in addition to select tour locations.

Our wonderful local sponsors will again offer food and refreshments. Ice cream from Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams, cupcakes from Bakery Gingham, and sandwiches from Luna Burger among other offerings. Our popular Garden Tour raffle will be held at the Info Center and select tour locations. As always local nursery sponsors have generously donated plants and garden items for raffle and purchase. All proceeds from the event benefit the Merion Village Association.

For more information contact:
gardentour@merionvillage.org
or call: 614.444.3144

Tour maps are available for download at: www.merionvillage.org

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Kenneth W. Fultz
2010 Honorary Chair

2010 Garden Tour Committee
Brad Beer – Beth Gill
Sherry Rea – Todd Mayberry
Michelle Isroff – Bill Doughton





Association Board Members

Bob Leighty, President

Joe Stefanko, Vice President

Jeff Wise, Secretary

Edwin John Yang, Finances Manager

Tony Roell, Member-at-Large

The Merion Village Association conducts monthly meetings involving neighborhood and city issues. For information about the meetings, call 614-444-3144. Meetings are open to the public

MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Board members and committees can be contacted by visiting www.merionvillage.org. Also visit us on Facebook, and Twitter.

Association Issues and Events

614.444.3144 or info@merionvillage.org

School Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Newsletter

Joe Stefanko.....jstefanko@merionvillage.org

Safety Committee

Martin Cataline.....info@merionvillage.org

Friends of Moeller Park

Martin Cataline.....info@merionvillage.org

Garden Club

Ken Fultz and Michelle Gabor..... gardenclub@merionvillage.org

Trash Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Zoning Issues

Ken Fultz and Scott Fulton.....614.444.3144

Social Club

Scott Fulton.....socialclub@merionvillage.org

Code Enforcement Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Website and Social Networking

Joe Stefanko and Phil Birnie...info@merionvillage.org

City Services 311 or 614-645-3111

Neighborhood Liaison

Jo Anne St. Clair614-645-5220, fax: 614-645-5221
JASStClair@Columbus.gov

Garden Club News

Ken Fultz

The hot summer days are here already, and my hydrangeas will attest to that. Hydrangeas are blooming very well this year, but mine only look good early in the morning before the heat of the day causes their droopy heads without additional watering. Mulching and early morning watering will help keep these and other sensitive plants looking their best.

We had a very nice Plant Exchange that was hosted by Bonnie Halchin-Smith. Plants that were brought included cleome, basil, cosmos, painted palette, iris, variegated sweet flag, spotted dead nettle, and jade plant. Bonnie had some very nice refreshments on her patio, and we all had a joyful evening - that included her being locked out of her house during the event – twice!

I have learned a few things about tree removal this month when I had two large trees removed from my backyard in early June. This has caused some dramatic changes to the garden, as much of a change in temperature without the trees cooling the air as with the additional sunlight reaching the plants. Usually when you plant a tree you hope the tree will be around for a long time and don't plan for their removal. In my case, one tree had become too large and the other was deceased. The plan of removing the trees with a crane had to be scrapped when the crane could not navigate the allies. With many of our gardens being quite small, removal of large trees can

be quite taxing on a garden with the removal of large branches and fallen sections of tree trunk. I chose to leave the stumps level with the ground since bringing the equipment into the yard to remove the stumps would have caused even greater damage. At least the tree removal will provide new space for a planter to be placed on the one stump and room for a bench over the other stump.

Our next planned activity will be the Build-A-Bouquet that I will host on August 17, at 7 pm. Hopefully you will see some positive effects from the tree removal in my garden by then. Each person should bring some cut flowers or foliage from their garden that we will use to create a floral arrangement. One lucky person will then get to keep the arrangement. Please RSVP so I will know how many people will be attending.

Everyone is welcome to join the Garden Club. There are no separate dues for the Garden Club only membership in the Merion Village Association is required. For questions about the activities call Ken Fultz at 614-443-5365, or e-mail us at gardenclub@merionvillage.org.

The current list of Garden Club activities for 2010:
August 17, 2010, 7:00 p.m.; Build-A-Bouquet; hosted by Ken Fultz
September - proposed Twilight Garden Tour: pot-luck & tour of 3 gardens
October - proposed Halloween Party

Next newsletter deadline is Friday, September 3 at 5pm.
All articles and ads can be sent to info@merionvillage.org

11th Annual Garden Tour Brunch

For those homeowners on tour and **ALL** Merion Village Association members, remember our Pre-Tour Brunch. Always a wonderful affair, a great tradition, and fabulous food. This years hosts are Brad & Todd at 1295 City Park Avenue. Brunch is on Saturday, July 10, 10a.m. to 12:30p.m. Guests are asked to bring a covered dish. This is a great way to meet your neighbors in a beautiful and relaxed setting. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

Merion Village information can be found on the web at www.merionvillage.org and on Facebook as the Merion Village Association

Curb Appeal Chris Macisco

“You never get a second chance to make a first impression” something you definitely need to remember if you are considering selling your home. When a Realtor and their clients pull up to your home, in that several second first encounter with the curb appeal of your home/ or the lack there of; initial opinions are formed that can't be easily changed. That's why proper maintenance and upkeep of your property is so crucial.

Buyers must be able to imagine themselves calling your residence a home! Home gardens can be a great selling point to the right buyer, however if the buyer doesn't have a green thumb or the time to maintain your hard work, the value and investment may not be seen. Cheap fixes include mulching flowerbeds and trees, planting some decorative

grasses or small shrubs and even placing a planter on the porch with decorative flowers for color.

If you are considering selling you may want to know some info on other properties in the neighborhood that have recently sold. Within the past 3 months 31 properties in the Merion Village neighborhood have sold! They range anywhere in price from \$28,000 to \$300,000!! That is a HUGE range so location, amenities and improvements need to be taken heavily into consideration.

If you would like a full list of the 31 properties that have sold or to find out more on what helped these properties sell and what could be done to your home to increase resale feel free to call me at (614) 273-7709 or email Chris.Macisco@RealLiving.com

Calendar of Events

MVA Meeting

July 7, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Movies in the Park

Saturday, July 10, 9pm
Moeller Park

MV Garden Tour

July 11, Sunday, 10am-4pm

MVA Social Club Meeting

July 14, Wednesday, 7pm
Red Brick Tavern 292 E Gates St.

MVA Safety Committee Meeting

July 21, Wednesday, 5:30pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Meeting

August 4, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Movies in the Park

Saturday, August 7, 9pm
Moeller Park

MVA Social Club Meeting

August 11, Wednesday, 7pm
Red Brick Tavern 292 E Gates St.

MVA Garden Club

August 17, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Build-A-Bouquet; hosted by Ken Fultz

MV Block Party

August 28, Saturday, 2pm-8pm
E. Gates St at Bruck
Bring Side Dish and Beverage of Choice

MVA Meeting

September 1, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

Word on the Street

Sherry Rea

Finally made it to Hal and Al's on Parsons. No it isn't a gay bar like my neighbor thought. It is considered a "hip" bar with a vegan menu and a yummy one at that. If you ever had a hankering for fired avocado, and who hasn't, march on over.

Michelle, our lovely server (Virginia is her alias while undercover), was quick with the pharmaceutical remedy of Colorado whiskey for Michelle Gabor's sinus issues. The whiskey was cheaper than antibiotics and less side effects too. All the menu items were good including the pretzels and mac and cheese. Prices are reasonable. They have a small patio with plans to expand and even add a rain barrel.

Ok, Ollie's is going in at Great Southern Shopping Center.

Supposed to be like Big Lots only more stuff. I am excited about that. They carry books so the guy down the street has another place to sneak off to, to expand his world's largest book collection. And of course I will have another place to buy stuff I have no use for.

Speaking of useless stuff, do people really buy rugs they sell out of the back of a

truck? Across from the wonderful Parsons Ave Library, there was a truck displaying those awful faux animal print rugs. Does Parsons Ave really need this? I am going with no!

Car break ins, what can you say that hasn't already been said? Do you ever read the German Village Gazette's crime report? It appears that people think their cars are giant safety deposit boxes. A leather jacket valued at \$2,500 along with a family heirloom ring were stolen from a car between the hours of 7am to midnight. Are you serious???

Either these people are liars that report this or they are stupid. We ain't in Mayberry folks and no one is.



On a recent morning walk with Boo, after my neighbors car windows were smashed, I played detective. Yep sure enough there was a woman's purse, plain as day, sitting in the passenger seat. Lead them not into temptation. Need I say more?

If you see Pam Bentley walking Jack with a big smile on her face, it might be because she is RETIRED! How great is that? Saw her at Peggy Kent's birthday party and she

was quite happy with her new status. Peggy was quite happy with her karaoke machine. Jan is happy with her new tenant in her third rehab project on Jenkins. I hope she takes on some more houses and waves her magic wand.

Farmer Joe, across from me, proudly announced that he and Julie are empty nesters. Hard to believe the youngest, Matthew, has graduated from high school and the other child, Lake, is at Oberlin. They raised two good kids and didn't have to move to the "burbs" to do it.

The Garden Tour is July 11th, don't forget. We'll be all over the village from Whittier to Markinson. There will be some old favorites as well as new. So prepare to be dazzled and of course sweaty, cause you know it will be hot. Gates Fourth is having a spaghetti dinner on July 10th so you can eat pasta on Saturday then walk and sweat it off at the Garden Tour on Sunday.

To those folks that said they weren't ready to be on this years tour but will be ready next year...Billy and I don't forget. We will be hunting you down early next spring.

Continued on page 5

Central City Chiropractic



1269 S. High Street
(614) 228-9440

Central City
Dr. Ken Jenkins
Chiropractic

Word on the Street Continued

I have a confession. After much ridicule of it, I have become a “texter”. Not a full blown, need an intervention, kind mind you but a “texter” none the less. I thought I would need a weekend workshop but not so. I taught myself. Comes in handy for important things like who is at the South High Flea Market

and is it worth going to? You know that kind of stuff. This is way better than those walkie-talkie Nextel phones with that annoying beep and people screaming their business into them. Geez.

Kroger on Parsons had a Grand Re-Opening with lots of free samples and lots of Kroger big shots wandering around. Mr.

Stefanko thought this would be a good opportunity to spread the word about Merion Village as well as the Columbus South Side Area Commission. Lillie Banner and Randi Bowman were there to represent CSSAC. Everyone that walked in knew those two. It was like sitting next to celebrities.

Got to meet Cathy that lives on Sheldon right across from Kroger. She mentioned her garden and invited the guy down the street, Michelle and I for a look see. Of course we headed right over when our shift was done at the Grand Re-Opening. Cathy and Gen have lived there for three years. They voiced some concerns with traffic and safety issues. We quickly invited them to the next safety meeting. We

also mentioned the spread of food that Joanne prepares for that meeting. It was a nice experience to reach out to the neighborhood.

While writing this article, we were notified that President Obama would be coming to Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Imagine my excitement. Well it looks more like he will be doing a drive-by. That’s ok though. I wonder if he’ll want to take one of those rugs on Parsons back to the White House, or check out a book at the library? Maybe he will stop at Planks for pizza or some carryout at Happy Dragon. He could play some hoops with Steve Allen, CEO of the hospital at Livingston Park. That would be cool. That’s all for now.



slrsherry@yahoo.com

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Beat the Heat with Red Cross Safety Tips

As the sweltering summer heat sweeps the nation, the American Red Cross reminds everyone to take precautions against heat related incidents. So many simple measures can be taken to significantly reduce the chance of getting heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Everyone is at risk when temperatures rise above 90 degrees but the elderly and the very young are most susceptible to heat and heat-related illnesses. Heat-related illnesses can cause serious injury and even death if unattended. Signs of heat-related illnesses include nausea, dizziness, flushed or pale skin, heavy sweating and headaches.

Red Cross Heat Safety Tips

Dress for the heat. Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. It is also a good idea to wear hats or to use an umbrella.

Drink water. Carry water or juice with you and drink continuously even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, which dehydrate the body.

Eat small meals and eat more often. Avoid high-protein foods, which increase metabolic heat.

Slow down. Avoid strenuous activity. If you must do strenuous activity, do it during the coolest part of the day, which is usually in the morning.

Stay indoors when possible. If air-conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine. Remember that electric fans do not cool, they simply circulate the air.

Be a good neighbor. During heat waves, check in on elderly residents in your neighborhood and those who do not have air conditioning.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org.

Garden Tour Sponsors

We would like to take a moment to thank all of the sponsors that help keep the Merion Village Garden Tour a free event to the public.

Merion Village Dental
The Kroger Co.
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Columbus Kitty Rescue & Adoption Center

Thank you for your continued support of the Garden Tour and of the Merion Village Association.

List above includes all sponsorships at date of printing of this publication.



HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS!
4PM-8PM DAILY
half price drafts & drink specials

- great lineup of rotating hand-crafted brews
- complete selection of domestics
- check the website for full menu & complete listing of events



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1297 PARSONS AVE.
COLUMBUS, OH 43206
(614) 375 - 4812
www.halandals.com



Merion Village Association

1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, Ohio 43206



Uncle Nathaniel (Merion) Wants You!

You can help yourself and your neighbors in making Merion Village an even better place to live. All you have to do is volunteer. Please check any of the events that interest you, and return this form to the Merion Village Information Center, 1330 S. Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio 43207.

If you prefer you can email jstefanko@merionvillage.org for more information.

Planning committees are being formed now!

Upcoming events that need volunteers

Your name: _____

Your phone: _____ Your e-mail: _____

Your skills and interests: _____
