



# The Garden Gabber



Affiliated with The Gardeners of America Inc. Men's Garden Clubs of America Central Great Lakes Region

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## Monday, July 20

Make plans to attend each monthly meeting. It's a great opportunity to socialize, enjoy good food, and to learn more about gardening and our environment.

**When:** Monday, July 20, 2009  
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

**Where:** St. George Fellowship Center  
3205 Ridgewood Road  
Copley, Ohio

**Program:** The Environment - Green Gardening

Our speaker will be Glenn Davis from Olmstead Falls. He and his wife run an environmental camp in Canada. You might ask: "What is an environmental camp?" Come to the meeting and find out.

The ten minute talk will be by Les Knight. His subject will be Growing and Dividing Perennials.

Board meeting Monday, July 27 at 7:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 West Market Street. All members are invited to attend board meetings.

Club web site: <http://www.acorn.net/mgcakron>

## **Message from the President: Arthur Britton**

Hello and I hope that everyone had an enjoyable 4th of July and was able to take advantage of the wonderful weather and see some fireworks and enjoy a cook out or two.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone who was or is currently in one of the armed services to defend our country **THANK YOU**.

I would also like to give an update on the community garden at the church (Where our board meetings are held), I and another church member are planting a wide variety of vegetables. One row is for us and the other is for Open M. So far we have donated lettuce and radishes. And yes we have corn that is knee high and it appears that we will have a LOT of tomatoes and we found out that due to budget cuts, meals will be cut at Open M. They have not had any fresh vegetables since last fall. The Church is glad that we are able to help others.

I am looking for help to redesign the court yard at the church where the board meetings are held. At this time I am only asking for ideas, and then will be asking for plant donations to put the design into action, later this fall.

The board will be asking also for your help in deciding what we should do with the money that was raised by the geranium/plant sale. Should we spend more on advertising? Or should we???? Please bring your ideas to the meeting, or call me or send e-mail.

Talk about a great turn out for the strawberry festival. Many people attended and there was plenty of food for one and all. Some just came for the dessert, while others came early and stayed late. A special thanks to those who cleaned and prepared the strawberries and thanks to the Bordners for donating the French Vanilla ice cream (that has won 5 awards).

## A Note from the Editor

At the last board meeting the board suggested that since the club had paid my registration fee to the national convention I should make a report about the convention. I gave a short report and the board said I should put it in the Gabber for the whole membership to see.

The name of the convention was Roses and Wine in 2009. It was held on May 28 - 30 at Santa Rosa, California. The host club was Gardeners of America Santa Rosa. This is the only Men's Garden Club in the whole state of California. The site was the Flamingo Resort Hotel. This resort was built in the 1950's and remodeled since. They said this was in the 1950's a popular destination for the Hollywood set. It was a very nice location for the convention with nice rooms and plenty of space for meetings and meals. The only complaint I and several others had was they didn't cook the vegetables long enough.

I flew out nonstop on Continental from Cleveland to San Francisco, along with Mary Ann and David Rich. At the airport they rented a van; they were going to tour that part of California after the convention. So getting to Santa Rosa was no problem. I had toured that part of California several years ago so I came straight home. Frank Mitch also attended and he and I were room mates. He went out a day earlier; he had national directors' meeting and committee meetings to attend on Thursday morning.

The Riches and I arrived in time for the general business meeting Thursday afternoon. It was a rather boring meeting with no big issues brought up, no raise in the dues to the national etc.

Santa Rosa is in Sonoma County. If you know anything about the state of California you know that Sonoma County and its neighbor, Napa County, are the center of wine making in the whole country. As we traveled about the county we saw vineyard after vineyard with more being established. To make this all possible they have dammed the Russian River so they have plenty of water for irrigation. They gave us a map of the county listing the vineyards and wineries in the county, There were 241 listed. So you can probably guess what one of the chief activities of the convention was - wine tasting. At dinner Thursday they gave us a large glass of white Zinfandel and a small glass of Rose. For the entertainment they had a wine tasting with eight different brands of red Zinfandel. I'm not much of a wine drinker, I prefer beer, but I did try them all. I couldn't taste any difference in them, but, like I said, I am not a wine connoisseur. On Friday we toured the Ferrari Carano winery and had wine tasting. One of their wines was sweet enough for my taste and I bought a bottle. This winery had a beautiful garden. On Saturday we toured Korbel, the largest producer of American champagne in the country. They have to call it American champagne; the French get very angry if anyone else in the world calls their product just plain champagne. Here we had to make a choice; we could tour the garden or take a tour explaining how they made champagne in the old days before modern machinery and stainless steel tanks etc. A very time consuming and difficult process with a lot of hand labor. Of course we got to taste different kinds of champagne. When we got back to the hotel there was another wine testing. I skipped this one, I had had enough wine.

They had a unique way of passing out the individual gifts. Each person was given a Bingo card with horticultural terms instead of letters and numbers. If you got a winner you picked out a prize and gave up your card. This went on at every meal until everybody had won. They also had a silent auction with some very nice items including a quilt. They had three kinds of olive oil and Mary Ann had the highest bid for all three. (More about the convention next month.)

## Another Habitat Home Landscaped

On the bright and sunny morning of Saturday, June 6 our trusty Habitat crew completed the landscaping of the new Habitat for Humanity home on More Steet in the Firestone Park area. Thanks to all who cooperated to complete this one in less than two hours, a record time. Special thanks to Bob Bell for the donuts and drinks. Another special thanks to Jim Bell and Dick Edwards for prep work on Friday; tilling, tree planting, etc. Some prep work also by Summa hospital nurses and other volunteers.

To the MGCA Akron crew, thank you:

Roger Hite	David Martine
Chuck Keach	Ira McCans
Leroy Hart	Jim Bell
Gene Fitch	Les Knight
Clark Bordner	Dick Edwards
Bud Lucas and Mrs. Lucas	
Bob Bell and son-in-law	
Lowell Zurbuch	Frank Mitch

Reported by Frank Mitch

## Member News

The e-mail address for new member Michael Dockrill was slightly wrong in the June issue. It should be: michael\_dockrill@hotmail.com

## William Moorehouse

Former TGOA/MGCA National Director William Moorehouse died peacefully on June 4, 2009. He served for many years as one of the Directors from the Central Great Lakes Region. He was the Nominations Committee Chair previous to this year, having nominated many of the officers eventually becoming National Presidents. He also managed the group ordering of calendars each year for most of the CGLR clubs. Bill has been a member of the Akron club since 1984 and served as the Akron club president in 1987. Bill also was an

accredited show judge which he enjoyed very much at various CGLR clubs' horticulture shows. Bill's opinion was that all members should learn how to be judges. He also was very good at writing detailed contracts covering club dinner meetings and ordering large quantities of geranium plants for the Akron club's annual fund raising sale. There was a Memorial service for Bill on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 2:00 PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Akron.

Reported by Frank Mitch

It has been reported that Sue Tewell has been in the hospital for several weeks with pancreatitis.. We hope and pray that Sue will soon recover. We extend our condolences to Mrs. Moorehouse and the rest of his family. The club has made a memorial gift to the national. This is our club's policy upon the death of a member.

New phone number for Arthur Britton is 330-836-2588

(Editor's note - We have not had poetry in the Gabber since Mr. Van Kirk passed away. but a new poet has emerged from our ranks. He is very modest and only identifies himself by hid initials. do you know who our mysterious poet is?)

## Summer?

Did I hear the word Summer?  
Or maybe I misunderstood.  
Is Ma Ma Nature playing jokes  
On us garden folks?  
It will be hot and dry  
just wait and see.  
That's why we love Ohio  
Because of it's diversity.

J. E. P.

When Don Birdsell was editor he put what he called Pithy Sayings in the Gabber. There's one that is appropriate for this season: Golf is a game in which a ball 1 1/2 inches in diameter is placed on another ball 8,000 miles in diameter. The object is to hit the smaller ball without hitting the larger one.

## Answers to the June Quiz

- 1 .No. the flower blooms above ground and then buries itself to form the nuts underground.
- 2 .Each crop uses something or depletes the soil. others, such as peas and beans, fix nitrogen in the soil.
3. Tobacco is a great insecticide, in dust or powdered form. Spitting tobacco juice on your roses may not improve the appearance of your roses.
4. Cashews and pistachios.
5. American holly and the vine Bittersweet.
6. Yellow.
7. Yes. They are both in the Mallow Family.
8. Caraway, parsley, fennel, coriander, celery, anise, parsnip, and carrot.
9. This is generally a regional subject of opinion, but according to the plant experts, the scientific genus of blueberries is *Vaccinium*, and that of huckleberries is *Gaylussacia*. both are tasty, but only blueberries are grown commercially.
10. The tomato. The sweet potato is closely related to the morning-glory.
11. Yes. They are all in the Nightshade Family, along with ground cherries, belladonna, eggplant and peppers.
12. While not related botanically, they have both been used medicinally to slow the heart rate.

## July Garden Quiz by Walter

1. Roses are annuals,perennials, or shrubs?
2. Old -fashioned roses are superior to modern hybrid roses in their \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Why should one grow modern roses in separate beds, rather than in combination with other flowers?
4. Name four groups of modern roses.
5. What is the difference when planting bare-root roses in localities where the temperature can fall below 20 degrees below zero and in warmer climates?
6. Most roses require: full sun, partial shade, or full shade?
7. Which needs more water: old-fashioned roses, or Modern roses?
8. What is the greatest mistake when watering roses?
9. How often should one feed(fertilize) hybrid roses?
10. Why should one stop feeding nitrogen fertilizer six weeks before the first fall frost to roses?

## Boost Your Health with Better Berries

This article taken from the BARDIC Report of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center

Black raspberries contain cancer fighting properties, but how much these compounds benefit the consumer may depend on environmental factors and cultural practices. OARDC scientists studied four common black raspberry cultivars at eight production sites throughout Ohio and found varying levels of antioxidants. The finding suggests that phytonutrient properties may be influenced by how the crop is grown and harvested and by the environmental and soil conditions present at the growing site.

This study entitled “Antioxidant Capacity and Phenolic Antioxidants of Midwestern Black Raspberries grown for Direct Markets are Influenced by Production Site” was published in a recent issue of the journal *HorScience*. (Learn more at [www.ag.ohio-state.edu/-news/story.php?id=5037](http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/-news/story.php?id=5037))