



# THE GARDEN GABBER

**NEWSLETTER OF THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON**

**Affiliated with the Gardeners of America Inc., The Men's Garden Club of America and the Central Great Lakes Gardeners**

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## August Meetings

### Monthly Club Meeting

Our monthly meetings are on the third Monday of each month.

Make plans to attend. It's a great time to socialize, enjoy good food and learn about gardening, our environment and our community involvement.

When: Monday, August 21

5:30 PM – Social Hour

6:30 PM – Dinner

Where: St Georges Fellowship Hall

St Georges Antiochian Church  
3204 Ridgewood Road  
Copley, Ohio 44321

Program: Horticulture Show  
Adjudicated by MGCY

### Monthly Board Meeting

Our monthly board meeting is the fourth Monday of the month. All members are invited to attend.

This a great opportunity to learn about the operations of our club and to become a more active participant in club activities.

## Monthly Board Meeting (cont'd)

When: Monday ,August 28@ 7:00 PM

Where: Faith Lutheran Church  
2726 West Market St  
Akron, Ohio 44313

## Greeters for August Club Meeting

### Clark and Cheryl Bordner

Greeters should arrive at 5:30 PM to assume their position at the front door. We still have several greeter positions open for this year. Please see Steve Hoot if interested.

## Web Site

All members are encouraged to visit our club website – <http://gogakron.org>

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## President's Message and Club News



*A raised bed at Crouse School*

## President's Message

The Horticultural Show is this month! Please plan to attend and bring an entry. This item could be from your garden, your neighbor's yard, the city park or I even know of one entry that came from a local garden center! Anyway bring something and a friend also. We have excellent judges and the competition is very entertaining. I hope we get some rain soon to help all our plants as I am getting tired watering and my water bill is going to look like the National Debt.

Steve Thompson has the Crouse School Garden Program going very well. Everyone should go take a look at what Steve and his helpers have done. We should be very proud of the effort put forth. Hoping to hear from Andy Bettick about his garden and the amount of produce he has donated this year. Again something we as a club should be proud of what one of our members has done,

## President's Message (Cont'd)

One of the items brought up at the July Board Meeting was this year's Bulb Sale. Don't worry the sale is still on, we just have not received the 2017 catalogs yet; they should be here soon. Also we spoke about the need for everyone to help Amie with the Beautification Awards by sending her pictures or the address of gardens that should receive recognition.

I'm looking foreword to seeing you and your horticultural entries at the August meeting, let's have a big turnout.

## Crouse School

I watered the gardens again yesterday, July 19, and am happy that most every "crop" is looking good--some failures due to a critter eating off the top of peppers, but that's about it. See picture: egg plant, cucumbers, tomatoes, squash, potatoes, strawberries (sending out runners). Thanks to Les, Chris, and Ken and pinchhitter Virginia Wojno-Forney for weeding, placing tomato stakes and tying, planting, watering, and more. In her breaks from family care, teacher Julia Spangler has spent time at the site, too (Julia, you can see how the milk weed for butterflies, etc. has really thrived). Mark, the school custodian/lawn mower, has been a great help with keeping the grounds mowed and trimmed. You all are welcome to drive by Crouse School (1000 Diagonal Road, Akron) to see for yourself!

## Club News (Cont'd)

### Crouse School (Cont'd)



*Seed Packs used at Crouse School*

We have cleared off several of the beds and planted veggies for fall/after-school-starts again student harvesting. See the pic of seed envelopes to see what got planted yesterday. All the envelopes say "keep evenly moist" so that won't be followed, unless Mother Nature gives us rain in the next few days. I'll be back to Akron next week July 26, to resume watering.

One satisfying note: as I was working in the raised gardens yesterday, two girls came down the hill (did you know the Akron Zoo is close behind the school?) and walked through the gardens. The younger, about fourth grade, was very interested in the gardens and told me that when she made the walk between neighborhoods, she always stopped to look at the plants. She isn't a Crouse student but I couldn't understand where she attended. Anyway, she went from bed to bed, saying "what's this?" She could identify tomatoes but

### Crouse School (Cont'd)

nothing else. She wanted squash and a few other things that aren't ready for harvesting, so I had to explain that what she was seeing were "babies" and weren't ready yet. She saw purple beans and yellow and I told her that other beans were green--that was a bit confusing--how could one thing be three colors?! I showed her how to pinch the purple beans rather than pull them in order to pick them, and she got enough for about two helpings--plus a yellow salad tomato which she promised to try when she got home. Those plus a flowering phlox stem, and she was one happy little girl! I don't need to tell you that that visit and conversation made my day!

Tomatoes will soon come on and will need to be picked. What to do with them? I suggest that you put them in a sack/box and take to the office. They can put them out for summer school people and/or leave at the school entrance for free pickup by anybody in the neighborhoods. They should be used well--and not be an invitation for tomato fights!

I hope YOUR gardens are prospering and thanks again to all club members for your interest in junior gardeners!

-Steve Thompson

### National Convention

Be sure to seek out someone who attended the National Convention and ask them about it! This was a great time to meet new people, learn about gardening and have a altogether fabulous time. We also garnered several awards at both the regional and national level.

-Editor



# Gardeners of Greater Akron

## Horticulture Show Schedule and Rules

### August 21, 2017

ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM 4:00-5:30 p.m. Entrants must provide their own entry containers, preferably clear, glass bottles, and have them ready to display. Entry cards will be available at the July meeting and are available the day of the show, or prior to the show by calling Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich at 330-630-9625. You must identify your exhibit with the variety or cultivar name, (or the botanical name), to receive a top award. Please include the botanical name if at all possible. Example: *Capsicum annum*, 'Gypsy' pepper.

Judging will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. except for section winners and Best of Show, Second Best of Show and Third Best of Show. Those awards will be decided after dinner with the judges providing commentary about their decisions. This will be an educational benefit for the members. All decisions of the judges are final. Those in attendance will vote on a People's Choice winner. Rosettes will be awarded to section winners and trophies shall be awarded to the three best of show winners and the People's Choice Winner. The Marshall Greenlun Big Blue Award will be given to the entrant with the most blue ribbons.

All items must be removed at the close of the meeting. Any questions, call Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich or Jim Bell at 330-644-6867.

Specimens shall be a single flower etc., unless the rules specify a larger number. Paper plates and wedging material will be provided as necessary for display. The Show Chairmen will subdivide the sections into classes at the time of entry. (Two or more entries may constitute a class) We reserve the right to add as many classes and/or sections as deemed necessary.

Section A-Annuals-Three specimens of small flowers, one of larger flowers; Example: three dwarf marigolds; one only of the large, carnation-type marigolds.

Section B-Perennials-Three specimens of small flowers, one of larger flowers.

Section C-Flowering shrubs-(i.e. hydrangea), one specimen

Section D-Vegetables-Three specimens of tomatoes, peppers, onions, summer squash and other smaller vegetables. One specimen of larger vegetables such as eggplant, winter squash and pumpkins. (Unless it is a miniature variety, such as Fairytale eggplant, then three). All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch. Cherry tomatoes shall be displayed by the cluster-one cluster with tomatoes still attached, six or more tomatoes on the cluster.

Class D-1 Any vegetable



Class D-2 Any heirloom vegetable

Section E-Fruits-One specimen of larger fruits such as apples, peaches, etc., six specimens of smaller fruits such as berries.

Section F-Herbs One stem of larger herbs such as rosemary, mint, borage, etc. Three stems of small herbs such as thyme.

Section G-Herbs in containers

G-1 One plant in container

G-2 Multiple plants in a container (can be the same herb or an assortment of herbs)

Section H-Corms, Bulbs, Tubers and Hemerocallis-One specimen.

Section I-Orchids in pots

Class I-1 Single plant in a pot

Class I-2 Multiple plants in a pot (one type or a mixture of plants)

Section J-Flowering plants in pots

Class J-1 Single plant in pot

Class J-2 Multiple plants in pot (one type or a mixture of plants)

Section K-Foliage plants in pots

Class K-1 Single plant in pot

Class K-2 Multiple plants in pot

Section L-Hanging baskets. One type or a mixture of different plants in the basket.

Section M-Miniature Gardens-(with accessories in containers of any size)

Section N-Foliage- One leaf specimen of any plant

Section O-Cactus and Succulents in pots.

Class O-1 Single cactus in a pot

Class O-2 Multiple cacti in a pot (can be the same variety or an assortment)

Class O-3 Single succulent in a pot

Class O-4 Multiple succulents in a pot (can be the same variety or an assortment)

Section P-Largest tomato by circumference, can be green

Section Q-Longest zucchini

Section R-Best Geranium-limited to those varieties obtained at our sale.

Section S-Trees and shrubs-on branch lot less than 12" and not more than 30".

Section T-Arrangements:

Class T-1 Any arrangement under 15" in height or width.

Class T-2 Any arrangement over 15" in height or width.

(Floral material does not have to be grown by the exhibitor)