



THE GARDEN GABBER



NEWSLETTER OF
THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON

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Monday, August 18

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, August 18, 2014

5:30 p.m. – Social Hour

6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: St. George's Fellowship Center
St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church
3204 Ridgewood Road
Copley OH

Program: Horticultural Show

This month's program is the annual horticultural show. So look through your garden and flower beds for entries to the show. Remember an entry does not have to be perfect in order to be an entry in the show, or to be beautiful.

Entries should be brought between 4:00 and 5:30 so they can be placed in the proper place in the show and be judged. As usual the judges will be from the Youngstown Men's Garden Club. Will there be cash prizes this year? Bring your entries and find out.

The rules for the show (the Bible for the show) are on pages four and five. Mary Ann Ferguson Rich has provided this set of rules; thank you Mary Ann.

Board Meeting: August 25 at 7:00 p m at Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 West Market Street, Fairlawn, Ohio. All members are invited to attend board meetings.

Club web site: <http://gogakron.org>

President's Message - Arthur Britton

Hello to one and all! What a summer this has been, I have many green tomatoes that are waiting for the summer heat to come and stay for a while, so they can turn red. Some have said that their yellow tomatoes are doing fine. How is your garden going? One of the reasons that I ask is that the month of August is our Horticulture Show. For those that do not know, it is a time for each gardener to bring in your best looking flower, tomatoes or other plant. There is a whole list of what will be judged and how to present. At the present time all I have is a bunch of green tomatoes, and hopefully the bugs will decide not to have them for lunch before I do, or bring them in.

Those that attended the regional conference this year greatly enjoyed it. A little heads up there will be a conference in 2015 in mid-July in Wooster, Ohio. If you have not attended a conference lately I would strongly urge you to attend and I am sure that you will be glad that you did.

The youth program committee has done a lot of research and has decided to help out and participate in a program at Crouse Elementary School. They have a program and are looking for donations. At the moment they are in need of wheelbarrows, they are carrying things in a bucket to the garden and then back in a bucket. If you have one to donate please let us know. Also if you have small hand tools that children would be able to use, then please let us know. Here is some information about the school if you are not familiar: Crouse Elementary School is one of 36 elementary schools in Akron City School District. It is a public school that serves 327 students in grades K-5.

As we continue to spend time in our gardens and drive around town, please keep a lookout for a residential or commercial flower bed or landscaping that could be considered for this year's Beatification Awards. I realize that some are waiting to make sure that the flowers are at their best before letting Pat Pickard know that there is a location that he needs to take a look at. Please do not wait he needs time to go to the different locations.

Please also let us know if you are doing the plant a row. We would like to know about how many are doing this and about how much has been sent to the different programs. Not everyone is able to have fresh fruit or vegetables, if we share what extra we are able to grow it will be a help to people in our own town,. After all we are the Gardeners of Greater Akron.

One of the many ways that a club is able to continue is to let others know that you are a member and there are many ways that people are able to do this. One of the ways, if you have a garden shirt, wear it to an event or activity where you normally wouldn't wear a gardening shirt. By doing this simple low tech. activity, we are able let others know that we are gardeners and then when they ask a question we hopefully will be able to answer the question and share with them some information about our club.

May we all continue to enjoy Gardening

Member News

Jack Brillhart passed away in May. He was a member of the club since 1987. He was 94, a Navy veteran of WW II, and a retiree of B. F. Goodrich.

New Youth Team Partners with Crouse Elementary

A new Youth Education Gardening Team has been formed within GOGA. The purpose of the team, consisting of members of this club, is to provide volunteer service that supports kids who are learning about the source of the food they eat, who can profit from hands-on experiences with plant growth and harvesting, who need head knowledge about plant ecology, and who can, with the help of adult modeling, develop a respect for mother earth.

In pursuit of that purpose, the team visited three candidate locations with on-going youth gardening programs. From those, the team in July chose Crouse Elementary School (Akron) at 1000 Diagonal Road, Akron to partner with. Julia Spangler, a third grade teacher and Angela Harper, principal, are the leaders of the school's Teaching Garden program. Sponsored and promoted by the American Heart Association, the national program tries to help cultivate an appreciation for healthy eating among young school children. The program provides elementary schools with the tools they need for students to get their hands dirty planting vegetables and herbs while learning about the benefits of heart-healthy eating.

Our team is currently making plans with the Crouse leaders that will allow members of the team, and the entire membership of the Gardeners of Greater Akron, to participate in the GOGA/Crouse Partnership. Volunteer participation will take many different directions: activities within the classroom as well as in the raised gardens outside of Crouse, activities that require little physical effort to those that require more, activities that will occur during the school day and those that occur at night or on a weekend, and activities that build on the various interests and skills of our GOGA members.

The most current and immediate need at Crouse is for used but serviceable wheelbarrows that can be donated to the school. Their use will eliminate the use of pails to carry equipment, soil, mulch, etc. from the school building to the garden site beside the school. To donate, please contact a member of the team. Other information will be forth coming in future months.

Team members are Sharon Aaron, Ken Bell, Eileen Field, Les Knight, Sam Morlan, Carole Reid, Claire and Graham Reinke, and Marilyn Fellenstein. Team coordinator is Steve Thompson (330.666.5065).

Strawberry Festival

This year's Strawberry Festival was a huge success despite the annual rainfall that always seems to happen on the third Monday of June due to the efforts of the best ever committee which included Lora Avens and Sam Morlan who lovingly made all the shortcakes, Cheryl and Clark Bordner who provided the delicious ice cream, the wonderful berry cleaners Grace Cochran, Jim Bell, Chuck Keach, Dick Cotton, Barb Croghan, Marilyn Fellenstein, Gene Chlosta, and Claire Reinke, and last but not least Chris Godard who put up with me and did whatever I asked him to do!

Sue Godard

Judging School

Gardeners in the CGLG interested in Horticultural Judging: Jim Bell from GOGA is the Chairman of the Judge Committee for CGLG and is willing to start a class of interested people this fall if there are enough people interested. Jim uses the "Judges Manual" available through TGOA/MGCA for training as well as live plants, vegetables and arrangements. If interested please contact Jim at 330-644-6867 preferably or by e-mail at bell8676@aol.com. Thank you.

Les Knight

HORTICULTURE SHOW SCHEDULE AND RULES

AUGUST 18, 2014 MEETING

Entries will be accepted from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Entrants must provide their own entry containers, preferably clear, glass bottles, and have them ready to display.

Entry cards were passed out 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 or Jim Bell at 330-644-6867.

You must identify your exhibit with the variety or cultivar 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 prizes shall be awarded to the three best of show winners and the People's Choice Winner.

All items must be removed at the close of the meeting.

If you have questions call the show chairman, Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich at 330-630-9625 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 Chairman and Co-Chairman 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-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. 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 C-1 Any vegetable

Class C-2 Any heirloom vegetable

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

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

Section F-Herbs in containers

F-1 One plant in a container

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

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

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Section H-Orchids in pots.

Section I-Flowering plants in pots.

Class I-1 Single plant in a pot

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

Section J-Foliage plants in pots.

Class J-1 Single plant in pot

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

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

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

Section M-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-One branch not less than 12 and not more than 30”.

Section T-Arrangements:

“Summer in Miniature”-a design not to exceed 8 inches in height or width.

“Take Me Out to the Ballpark”-A design of any size, which expresses this theme. (Floral material used in designs does not have to be grown by the exhibitor)

Accessories that help to express the theme are permitted.

RODNEY and KAY'S 18th ANNUAL OPEN GARDEN

You are invited to visit Rodney and Kay Toth's gardens **Sunday, August 31, 2014, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.** They reside at 5637 W. Liberty St. (Rt. 304) Hubbard, OH 44425. (2.5 miles east of Belmont Ave., State Rt. 193).

Come and enjoy the gardens with many specialty plants such as Mexican Petunias, Sunflowers 'Shock o Lot' & 'Waooh', Hibiscus 'Tequila Sunrise', Tomato 'Burpee's Steakhouse', Purslane 'Cupcake', Sedum 'Sea Urchin', Pole Beans 'Rattlesnake' and a Mexican Quilt.

There are several major gardens that include a **Mexican Dahlia Garden**, different and unusual varieties of tomatoes (in **The Giant Tomato Forest**), peppers, hosta, coleus, annuals, perennials, **The Great Gourd Tunnel** (a forty foot long gourd arbor), the **Grandchildren's Garden** which consists of eight triangular sections – one for each grandchild, a **Super Sky High Sunflower Garden** and **The Potpourri Pole** with Blue Sky Vine and Red Mandevilla.

Special guests will be **singing entertainment** by Monica Toth Baker at 2:00., John Schinker from the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown with **mums** and Alice Lang with **decorative gourd art**. **Come** and have a relaxing day visiting and sharing with friends. **Note – Ample Parking** is available. There is **no admission fee**. For additional info or to arrange **Garden Club Tours** on other dates contact Rodney Toth at (330) 759-1993.