



The Garden Gabber



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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, 2008
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: St. George Fellowship Center
3204 Ridgewood Road
Copley, Ohio

Program: Horticultural Show

Because of another commitment of the space the library cannot host our horticultural show this year. Instead we will hold our own show at the August meeting. The show schedule and the hours are on page 5 of this copy of the Gabber. The show's director, Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, says that if every member would bring at least one entry we would have a very successful show. According to Mary Ann the judges, from the Youngstown club, will do the preliminary judging before dinner. After dinner they will explain why they awarded the blue ribbon winners and will select the best of section winners and the top three winners. There will be prizes awarded for these top three winners. The board decided to add another winner that is not listed on the show schedule, a people's choice winner. This is determined by a vote of everyone present. It will be chosen from the blue ribbon winners. There will be a prize for this also.

There will be no ten minute speaker this month.

Board meeting August 25, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 West Market Street, Fairlawn. Park behind the church and enter by the back door of the church. All members are invited to attend board meetings.

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

A Message from Your President -John Lewis

Folks, by a twist of fate, as luck would have it, or by any analogy, and by virtue of my being president of the club at this time, I have the honor of making the following announcement.

The prestigious and coveted Master Gardener's Award is now the William Moorehouse Award.

Our good friend and fellow member, Bill, is being recognized for his outstanding dedication and service to all the garden clubs; local, regional, and national. This award in his name is an honor bestowed on only one other individual in the history of the TGOA/MGCA (insofar as I know) and that is the Delbert Dunbar Award. this is truly a very significant event.

I suspect that this was a surprise and shock to Bill as he never anticipated any personal reward for his services. As you all know, he is almost inconspicuous except for selling calendars, and I can assure you this honor has a lot more behind it than calendars. As former treasurer of the club, I can never recall any time that he asked for reimbursement for expenses for which he was fully entitled, everything was for benefit to the club.

In club business matters or policy I would always defer to Bill and his common sense approach to problems. I suspect many others did likewise. Almost all decisions had his stamp of approval on them. He did everything, and a lot, no matter how large or insignificant.

In closing, in a previous message about Charley White I wrote "I like Charley. He is a hell of a man." And now I am reiterating myself. I like Bill, He, too, is a hell of a man. There is none more deserving to be honored with an award in their name. We all salute and congratulate you, Bill, all of us, the gardeners of America.

A Note from the Editor

I would like to add a little to John's message about Bill. The Master Gardener Award, now the Bill Moorehouse award is a once in a lifetime award,. given by the Central Great Lakes Region of the club to a member of a local club who has given significant service to gardening in his community. The award also recognizes significant service given by the recipient to his home club. There used to be two of these awards given by the region each year but now, in recognition of the importance of this award, there will be only one given each year.

Bill also served the national organization by being a national director for many years. This meant that he had to attend the national meetings and I believe there were four of them each year. Theses meetings were held at various locations all around the country. Bill attended these meetings at his own expense.

Bill was also engaged in, what I felt, was an important role in the geranium sale. Each year we would have leftovers and Bill would take a bunch of these leftovers and put them in his yard and sell them.

Bill is still active in the club and attends as many meetings as his and his wife's health will permit. There are, I am sure, many other things we could say about Bill and his service to the club, locally, regionally, and nationally. We appreciate you, Bill, and thank you for your years of service to the club.

Welcome New Member

Lillian E. Harris, 397 Wyant Road, Akron, OH 44313, phone 330-867-2224
e mail: HARRIS_LILLIANE@yahoo.com

Lillian is married to Roger E. Harris. She is employed by the City of Kent as the secretary to the Law Director. She lists her gardening interests as flowers, herbs, landscaping, and perennials. Her application does not list a sponsor but lets give Grace Cochran the credit.

Member News

J. Ralph Gillman, a former member passed away recently. He was a former superintendent of Summit County schools and was very active in many musical organization in the community, as well as the Kiwanis and our club.

Preview of Coming Attractions

The board thought that the membership would appreciate an advance notice of the next two month's programs. In september we will have another plant sale. The sale in May was so successful that the board felt that we should try another sale in the fall. So, as you are digging your perennials and dividing bring in a portion for the sale. Even if you aren't going to divide your perennials perhaps you could bring in a small portion of them without destroying your whole flower bed. This probably won't be as large a sale as the one in May so we will not be so late. We are supposed to leave the church by 9:00 pm.

For the October meeting the board has suggested we have an open forum where all members can share their thoughts about the club, ask questions. receive answers etc. This forum will be under the leadership of Arthur Britton, our First Vice President. Some topics that could be discussed might be scholarships, the geranium sale, possible fund raisers, possible programs in the community for the club to support. At the present time the club has the scholarships, landscaping the Habitat homes. and the maintenance of a garden at Crown Point. There may be other things that you think the club should be involved in - contact Arthur Britton at garlic65@hotmail.com with your ideas.

The board must make these decisions but the board would appreciate more input from the membership before theses decisions are made. It is the club's money that is being spent and you should have some say as to how it is spent.

Open House

Club members and guests are invited to an open house at the home of Grace Cochran on Saturday, August 9 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Grace lives at 1270 Walton Drive in Akron.

Most of you will be coming on West Market Street. Turn onto Castle Blvd. (Castle only goes one way off of West Market.) Continue on Castle and cross over Garmen Road (the four way stop). The next street past Garman is Walton Drive. Turn right on Walton (east). There is a large magnolia tree in front of her house; she is next door to the blue house.

Rodney and Kay's Open House

You are invited to visit Rodney and Kay Toth's gardens **Sunday, August 31, 2008, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.** They reside at 5637 W. Liberty St. (Rt. 304) Hubbard, OH. (2.5 miles east of Belmont Ave., State Rt. 193)

There are several major gardens that feature **dahlias**, a showcase of 19 different varieties of tomatoes, several varieties of peppers, hosta, coleus, many other annuals and perennials and a **forty foot long gourd arbor**. As an additional attraction there will be **singing entertainment** by Monica Toth Baker at 2:00 p.m.. **Come** and have a relaxing day visiting and sharing with friends. **Note – Ample Parking** is available. There is no admission fee.

Rodney Toth is a member of the Youngstown club and has been a speaker at the Akron club, speaking about dahlias.

Walt's Gardening Tips for August

Roses should not be fed after the middle of this month. If rose flowers are left to mature into rose hips the overall health of the plant will be improved.

Remove weeds before they go to seed. Put them on your compost pile.

To estimate the age of a living tree; multiply the tree's diameter in inches at 4 1/2 feet above the ground by a factor assigned to that species. For the species factor see Walter Starcher.

If your perennial beds are dull and drear, take a Sunday drive and observe gardens around town for ideas on next year's August garden.

For September

Bring your house plants indoors before the heat is turned on. Check for insects and take the necessary steps if you find them. I once brought an active mouse nest into my house in a house plant pot.

Power rake and over seed a thin lawn now. Weeds will not be a problem in the fall.

It's hard to see a favorite tree taken down, but when it becomes a hazard to people and property, then a charming asset could become a dangerous liability. Nesting holes, dead limbs, trunk decay, a poor root system are all signs of a potentially dangerous tree.

A few shrubs and trees that attract and provide berries for birds are holly, oleander, cherry laurel, ligustrum (privet), barberry, mahonia (Oregon holly-grape), pyracantha (fire-thorn), dogwood, wild black cherry, Japanese yew, red cedar, and wax myrtle (bittersweet).

Insecticides should be stored with labels intact where children and pets cannot reach them. Never store near food. Never reuse an empty insecticide container. Follow community codes for disposing of chemical containers.

**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF AKRON
HORTICULTURE SHOW
AUGUST DINNER MEETING**

RULES

1. ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM 4:00 TO 5:30.
2. ENTRANTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN ENTRY CONTAINERS AND HAVE THEM READY TO DISPLAY.
3. ENTRY CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE JULY MEETING AND ON THE DAY OF THE SHOW. PLEASE LIST YOUR PLANT'S BOTANICAL AND VARIETY NAME. TOP AWARDS WILL NOT BE GIVEN TO UNNAMED VARIETIES!
4. JUDGING WILL BE FROM 5:30 TO 6:30, EXCEPT FOR SECTION WINNERS AND THE BEST OF SHOW, SECOND BEST OF SHOW AND THIRD BEST OF SHOW. SECTION WINNERS AND TOP 3 ENTRIES WILL BE DECIDED AFTER DINNER WITH THE JUDGES PROVIDING COMMENTARY AS TO THEIR DECISIONS, FOR THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT OF MEMBERS. ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.
5. All cut specimens shall be a single stem, spray, branch, etc., unless the exhibit is of miniature or small proportions, (i.e. thyme), when three stems, may be displayed.
6. All items must be removed at the close of the dinner meeting.
7. Rosettes will be awarded to Section Winners and Prizes shall be awarded to Best of Show, 2nd Best of Show and Third Best of Show.
8. Any questions, call the show chairman at 330-630-9625. Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

Section A-Annuals

Section B-Perennials

Section C-Vegetables-One of peppers, tomatoes, eggplants, etc. (Beans and cherry tomatoes and other small vegetables-six) Paper plates will be provided.

Section D-Fruits-One of larger fruit such as apples or peaches, six of small fruits such as berries. Paper plates will be provided.

Section E-Herbs

Section F-Corms, Bulbs, Tubers

Section G-Orchids in pots

Section I-Flowering plants in pots

Section J-Foliage plants in pots

Section K-Fairy Gardens

Section L-Hanging Baskets

Section M-Largest Tomato (By circumference) (Can be green) ; Longest Zucchini

Section N-Best Geranium (Limited to those varieties obtained at our sale!)

Section O-Trees and Shrubs-One branch not less than 12" and not more than 30"