



THE GARDEN GABBER



NEWSLETTER OF
THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON

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

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Monday, February 17

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, February 17, 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
Coley, Ohio

Program: Worms in My Basement

Our speaker for February is Geoff Kennedy. He is the Vice President of the Summit County Master Gardeners. He really does have worms in his basement.

Board Meeting: February 24 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 way to start 2014; wind chills of -50f and temperatures of a high of zero. With the health and safety of our members and the temp I canceled the January board meeting. In my years I do not remember a colder month and I am guessing that many of you are the same way?

I have tried to find ways to try to warm up. One of the ways is that I have been enjoying the seed and plant catalogs that have arrived. To me there is something that warms me up about looking at page after page of plants that are in full bloom and trying to find a place to put one in my yard/garden. I realize that this is something that works for some and not for others. Some have found another way of dealing with the cold and that is by heading south for the winter. These people and others have different ways to address the long months of winter in northeast Ohio. My question to you is how do you get through the winter without being in the garden/yard? I will ask at the next meeting.

This club is like many others in that we need to bring in more people in order to keep the club going or it will simply be a club of the past that is no more. I do not want that and many of you have indicated that you want the club to continue. In order for us to do that we need to advertise in many different ways to let people know what it is that we do and that we are an active club, and part of that is to participate in getting new members. Last month I asked for ideas as to how to "sell our club"; one of the ideas that were suggested was for us to increase how we connect with others with the same interest. The idea was that everyone increases the use of our web page and to like us on Facebook. As of the typing of this message there are only 23 people that "like us". To me this is something that everyone that has a Facebook account could help out with by simply going to the Gardeners of Greater Akron and simply clicking the "like page". This, to me, could only help and it costs nothing out of pocket, lets others know that you belong or at least like the club and maybe it will bring in some visitors and/or new members.

February is the month of Valentine's Day as we all know; I hope that this year everyone has a special day and that everyone will "Like" our Facebook page and continue to love gardening.

From the Membership Committee

We will be collecting dues for 2014 at the February meeting or mail your checks to Leroy Hart. Make your check payable to the club: Gardeners of Greater Akron or just GOGA.

The membership committee: Grace Cochran & Bob Bell

Regional Meeting

Make plans to attend the spring regional meeting on Saturday April 5 at Kingwood Center, Mansfield. Coffee hour at 9:30 and business meeting at 10. More about this next month.

Help the Historian

As the historian of the club I was going through some old material and I found these photographs. With most of them I had no idea who they were or what was going on. So, I am asking the members for help. I will bring the photos to the next meeting so you can see them. If nobody can identify any of them I will bring them to the March meeting. By April the snow birds should be back and they need to see them. In the meantime exercise your memory cells and try to identify these people and events.

Exhibit A - There is no mystery here. These shots are of the geranium sale at Faith Lutheran, but what year? Note the publicity they gave us on the church's board, even though they said the wrong club was having the sale. We should save the picture of Les until he gets back from Florida. Note also that while I appeared to be asleep Clark had his hand in the cash box.

If you would like to have any of these take them.

Exhibit B - There are mysteries about this set. First was about the envelope they were in. It ts from CPI Photo in St.Louis, Missouri. There were 35 photos so somebody had some expense with them.The first has a sign Artistic Creative Gardening. Was this the name of the whole show or just a part of the show? Also in this shot was a white ribbon that we use at our horticultural shows. This seems to indicate that the Mens' Garden Club of Akron was the sponsor. These white ribbons appear in several other photos. Next are several shots of the site of the show; note the fountain, this should help locate the place.Note the big sunflower, a table full of plants. Was this also a flower show? There is a close up of several flowers. There are shots of the artistic entries. (Almost everybody got honorable mention.)

All the rest of the photos are taken in a different location, Dillard's sign is prominent. There are chairs set up for an audience and several people are in them. There is a stage with several people on it but they are too far away to be recognizable.It is difficult to tell what these people are doing but I would guess they are announcing the winners and presenting a trophy.The larger group on stage may be all the winners.

So the questions are: what is the occasion, what was our club's role, where was it, when?

Exhibit C - These photos of two men were in the pile of photos in exhibit B.

Questions are: Who are they, what is the occasion, why are their pictures in the clubs memory?

Exhibit D - Another photo of two men, obviously not the same men. These photos have a clue. They are dated Jan. 74.Another clue: they have been in the bottom of the club's cash box for as long as I have been treasurer (I didn't put them there and they may have been there since 1974.).

Questions are: Who are they?

What was the occasion, and why were they in our cash box?

Leroy Hart, Historian

Many Thanks

Many thanks to Grace for getting the card and mailing it to me. Many thanks to all the members who signed the card. I had surgery on the day of the meeting and was in no shape to attend. I should be at the February meeting. Again many thanks to all who gave me their best wishes

Leroy Hart

Gardening Seminars

Graf Growers

February 15th - Cool Perennials for Trouble Spaces and Color Spots.

Speaker, Laura Kaufman, Perennial and Nursery Manager at Graf Growers Garden Center.

Everyone has those spots in their garden that, quite frankly, just need something. It may be as simple as adding a perennial with unusual characteristics or finding the perfect plant -that tolerates dry], wet, or other crazy growing conditions. This presentation will introduce you to perennials for all of the frustrating growing conditions and provide tips for combining them with perennials that bring color and drama to your garden each season.

February 22nd - Gardening in Containers for All Seasons.

Speaker, Bob Rensel, Manager of Horticulture, Cleveland Botanical Gardens.

If you're new to container gardening or want a refresher course, this is the seminar for you. Bob, who designs and creates the container gardens at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, will cover the nuts and bolts of how to successfully grow plants in containers. He'll also do a review of plants that do well in containers as well as cover design and plant combination considerations for your patio and yard. Bob will also cover how to create displays and containers for all four seasons.

At 9:30 am Graf will have coffee and light refreshments available. The seminars run from 10:00 to 11:30.

The seminars cost \$12. Preregistration is encouraged but latecomers can attend if seating is available.

Dayton Nurseries

February 15 - Sensory Gardening

Speaker, Michelle Riley, All About Your Landscape Design

Create your own sensory garden. Discover interesting plants to touch, the most fragrant selections, fantastic and hardy color displays, and curious edibles.

February 22 - The Birds, The Bees & Everything In Between

Speaker, Carol Zeh, a local Audubon member and Metro Parks volunteer.

Learn everything you need to know about back yard bird feeding. She will discuss the scope of local birds, seed mixes to attract different species as well as types of bird feeders and where to plant them in the landscape. She will also touch on the best plants that serve as food source, nesting areas and protection. She will also raise your awareness of the recent reduction of bees and how to use bee friendly gardening practices to help prevent further loss.

March 1 - The Miniature of Fairy Gardening

Speaker, Jill Manda, Manda's Plant Farm

While some believe that attracting fairies to the garden brings good luck and happiness, others simply enjoy the beauty of gardening with miniatures. Ms. Manda of Manda's Plant Farm in Canal Fulton will teach you to build miniature landscapes using small scale plants and accessories.



Join us for A Garden Affair!

Saturday, February 22, 2014
Main Library Meeting Room 2AB

The weather outside is frightful.
Escape from the cold as we offer a trio of programs to get you
looking forward to spring and planning for the new garden season.

1 pm: Get-Ready to Garden

Summit County Master Gardeners will offer the first in a series of programs designed to help you "Get-Ready to Garden!" Gardening basics will be covered in this series including seed starting, variety selection, garden design, succession and companion planting, and soil building basics.

2 pm: Garden Trends

Find out what's old, what's new, and what's tried and true. **Mary Beth Breckenridge**, Home and Garden writer for the *Akron Beacon Journal*, will offer an overview of recent trends in garden design and care.

3 pm: Cooking with Fresh Vegetables

Sarah Mentzer, Executive Chef, Home for Dinner Personal Chef Service

Join us as Certified Personal Chef Sarah teaches us how to best use fresh vegetables to make healthy, tasty meals. As a graduate of the University of Akron Culinary Arts program, Chef Sarah will inspire you with her creative and easy vegetarian meals. Learn tips and techniques to make the most of your garden.

Finally, don't forget to stop by our **Seed Sharing Library** to pick up some heirloom variety seeds to get you started.



All programs are free and open to all. Free parking is available all day on Saturdays in the High Street parking deck adjacent to the Library.

Please contact Science & Technology, at (330) 643-9075, to reserve your spot in any of these programs.

*Interpretive services are available.
Please inquire.*



**Akron-Summit County
Public Library**

Science & Technology Division
60 S. High Street, Akron, OH 44326
www.akronlibrary.org