



# 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, May 16

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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, May 16, 2005  
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

**Where:** Bradley's at the Copley Community Center

**Program:** The Fabulous Plant Auction with Lowell Moss presiding!

This has been one of our most enjoyable and lucrative events for the club in recent years. Please bring an unusual or favorite plant to share, and plan on acquiring something new for your garden. It is a fun evening, with friendly rivalries over the best items - plan on bringing a friend.

Board meeting: May 23, 2005 at the Fairlawn Park Garden and Civic Center, 7:00 p.m. All members may attend, snacks welcomed.

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

## A Message from President Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

I have just returned from traveling around the state with Garden Club of Ohio, as I am the president of that organization as well! We have over 6,000 members in that club and it involves a great deal of my time. I just want to give you an early warning: my term as president of the Men's Garden Club will be coming to an end in December. We do not have anyone waiting in the wings to take over as program chairman or president for 2006. At your dinner table this month, take a look at your companions and see who might make a good 1st Vice President and President and talk to them about volunteering for next year. I will be bringing to the auction a plant that I bought at a nursery in Chillicothe last week. It is a perennial that I have never seen before, Papaver burseri, 'Alpine Poppy'. It is described on the tag as having "showy, fragrant flowers in a range of vibrant colors including white, yellow, and orange (which) complement the finely divided blue-green leaves. Perfect for rock or alpine gardens or in troughs, as it requires excellent drainage to thrive." In addition to the lovely small flowers, this plant has a truly outstanding scent. I haven't seen it anywhere at local nurseries. If you aren't the lucky high bidder for this plant, maybe you can locate a source for it and let the rest of us know! I'm sorry I didn't buy more of them.



I also recommend the new line of impatiens with variegated leaves and double flowers known as the 'Summer Ice' series. I just bought some of the 'Cherry Ice' which is a strong red and resembles a miniature rose. This plant however, can grow in the shade which roses cannot. These are available at Donzell's, one of our advertisers. Don't forget, with your membership card you get a 10% discount at this nursery.

Thank you in advance, to all of those who signed up to work at the geranium sale. We have been getting a good response to our requests for workers at the meetings and nearly everyone shows up when they say they will! I hope that we will sell our geraniums out completely by Saturday, if there are a few left over at the plant sale, help us out and take a flat home. This is our principal source of income to fund the scholarships and besides, they are high-quality plants at below garden center prices.

Those of you who attended last month got to see many beautiful slides of Kingwood Center. The weather has been cool and so the tulips are not yet in peek bloom. Why not take an afternoon and head down to Mansfield this week, when and if the sun finally comes out? With 40,000 bulbs on display, it is a real treat and all this beauty is brought to you without an admission price. If you go into their wonderful gift shop, as I do, however, it will end up costing you some money!

Happy Gardening,

Your President, Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

### Member News

Our life member, A. Milton Frenberg, died April 12, 2005. He was a member since 1982 and a man of many talents in addition to serving in many ways in our club. Milt was an AARP tax preparer for 25 years, Project Learn reading teacher, and assisted with Medicare paperwork. He had many hobbies including golf, bowling, gardening, needlepoint, crocheting, organ playing and travel. Milt will be very much missed by his many friends and family.

Reported by Frank Mitch

## Scholarship Committee Report

The committee; co-chair James Fee, co-chair Frank Mitch, and President Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, is pleased to report that the scholarship winners of our two MGC of Akron scholarships for 2005 are: Heather Fahrni (GPA 3.867) of Wooster, Ohio and Melissa Kennedy (GPA 3.58) of Barberton, Ohio. They will receive \$1000 each for the academic year 2005-2006. Both of these women have extremely effective records above and beyond very fine academic accomplishments.

Heather is active in two service/academic honor societies. She was also instrumental in re-establishing the Nursery Club (folks active in the nursery side of the green industries) and serves as Secretary /Treasurer of the club. A four time Dean's List honoree, she will be in her second year with the completion of the current Spring Quarter 2005. She will complete a dual-major during the 2005-2006 academic year; Nursery Management and Floral Design and Marketing. In her application for a scholarship she states that "after graduating, I am looking forward to working in the horticultural industry."

Melissa is a sterling representative of the non-traditional student. She had many years in green industry work before returning to academic work to complete her degree requirements. She is taking 18 hours the winter quarter which is representative of the work load she carries. She works as a freelance designer at a shop in Akron (Neil Leeson Decor Floral) hence she cannot devote time to the honorary organizations that many traditional student enjoy. She has that happy advantage of being accepted as both a peer student by her younger friends and functioning as a mentor to the others when they need help and advice from someone who is in the working world. "I am planning on opening my own floral shop in my home town (Barberton). I have already been able to fulfill some of my goals by acquiring experience and basic floral shop knowledge over these past five years with established floral shops. Finishing my Floral Design and Marketing degree will provide me with the skills I need to start my business and make it a success."

Scholarship Committee, MGC of Akron; James Fee, Frank Mitch, and Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

(Editor's note - Melisaa was at our April meeting , but Heather had to work so she could not attend. Both of these young women have written very nice thank you notes to the club; however space will not permit their inclusion in this report. Jim Fee has these notes if you would like to see them.)

### **S-Team Report: Searching Is on the Move!**

I report that searching for new members for the MGC of Akron is bearing fruit. Andy Bettick brought in his first (for the new season) in the person of Richard Edwards. Dick Cotton introduced his first in the person of Lynn Parker at the dinner meeting in March. Some of us met the young man from Medina that Walt Starcher brought to a meeting late last year. Walt said that work circumstances have stalled that young man's entry for the moment. Any one in the club who knows of other prospects over in the Medina area really ought to contact Walt and let him know.

Everyone is eligible to be a working crew member of the S-Team. All you have to do is declare your interest and start your search for new members. You can contact any of the current crew members to give them the names of prospects that you know might be interested. That may be a first step in developing interest in coming in as an S-Team member. The names of the S-team are listed on page 5

Jim Fee, Membership Committee Chair

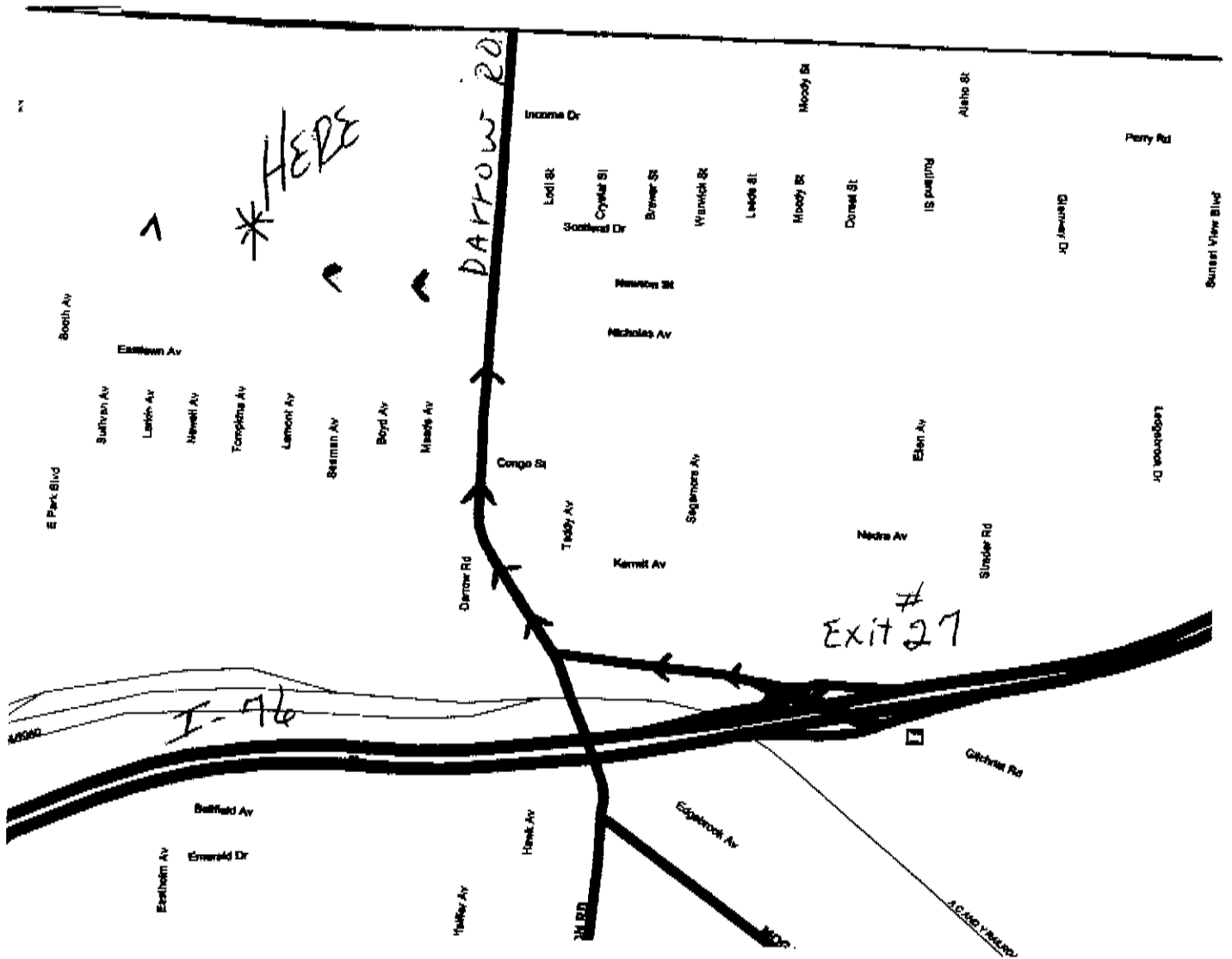
# STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Monday June 20, 2005 Men's Garden Club of Akron will have a Strawberry Festival and Potluck Dinner. It will be held at the Goodyear Heights Metropolitan Park shelter house located on Newton Street. The Social will be from 5:30 to 9:00 PM

Members are requested to bring a covered dish (**NO DESSERTS**) to share with all members (not enough for every member but enough to share). Members must bring their own table service and cups. Please bring your own tablecloth. The Men's Garden Club will provide drinks (nooo... alcoholic beverages allowed in park) and all the Strawberries you can eat.

This is a family Event. Feel free to bring your Family and friends, who may be interested in joining the Club Please contact Dave Hawkins at 330-784-1956 if you can help clean Strawberries. I will have a sign up sheet at the May meeting.

Directions to the Park : Take I76 East to Gilchrist Rd -Canton Rd Exit, turn left at light go West to Canton Rd.. At Canton Rd turn right Go North to Second light , Newton St. Turn left on Newton St. Go West to First Entrance to Park. See Map



## S Team Members

Free Lance Armada: (No crew chief presently)

Valerie Becker	330-864-3222
Andrew Bettick	330-666-8793
Richard Cotton	330-867-7250
David Hawkins	330-784-1956
Roger Hite	33- 825-8670
Cathy Morgan (cell phone)	33- 990-8460
David Rich	330-630-9625
Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich	330- 630-9625
Walter Starcher	330-725-7193

~Sa~Flotilla:

Karen Ketterman; Crew Chief	330- 923-7355
Arthur Britton	330- 865-5501
Janice Filipski	330-666-0234
Gene Fitch	330- 867-1949
John Lamer	330-666-0234

## Welcome New Member

**Lynn Parker**, 1477 Centerview Drive, Copley, Ohio 44321 - 1901 Phone 330-666-2547. Lynn is an area sales manager at Kaufmann's in the Summit Mall. She lists her gardening interests as annuals, birds and butterflies, conservation, flowers, herbs, landscaping, perennials, and vegetables. She was recommended by Richard Cotton.

## Feast Your Eyes: The Unexpected Beauty of Vegetable Gardens

The Smithsonian Institution's Horticultural Services Division is bringing an exhibit to Stow about the beauty of vegetable gardens. Centuries ago vegetable gardens were designed to be pleasing to the eye as well as being productive. As time went by this beautifying aspect of vegetable gardening was lost. Today this process is being reversed and beauty is again important in the vegetable garden. This exhibit traces this development from Aztec gardens, the vegetable gardens of China's Ming dynasty, and the gardens of Louis XIV at Versailles to present day gardens.

Date: to May 29, 2005

Times: daily from 9 AM - 4:30 PM.

Sat. 11 AM -3 PM Sunday from 1 - 4 PM

Call 330-689-2756 for evening hours

Place - Stow City Hall Atrium , intersection of Rt. 91 and Graham Road in Stow



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