



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, June 20

President:

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich
1166 Broadview Rd.
Tallmadge, OH 44278
☎ 330-630-9625

1st Vice President:

2nd Vice President:

David Rich
1166 Broadview Rd.
Tallmadge, OH 44278
☎ 330-630-9625

Secretary:

Marti Williams
2981 Baughman Rd.
Clinton, OH 44216-9331
☎ 330-825-5315

Treasurer:

Leroy Hart
633 Schocalog Rd.
Akron, OH 44320-1033
☎ 330-836-1407

National Directors:

William Moorhouse
511 Overwood Road
Akron, OH 44313
☎ 330-864-0604

Frank M. Mitch
2065 Kemery Road
Akron, OH 44333-1937
☎ 330-666-2327

Gabber Editor/Historian:

Leroy Hart
633 Schocalog Road
Akron, OH 44320-1033
☎ 330-836-1407
email: gardengabber@neo.rr.com

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, June 20, 2005
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: Goodyear Heights Metropark Shelter

What: Return of the Strawberry festival!

Time: Strawberry workers please come at 4:00
Everyone else, bring a covered dish to share and something to grill for your own dinner. Those who don't want to grill can bring takeout or their own picnic. We'll plan on eating by 6:30, so allot enough time for our master grillers to cook your food.

Thanks to David Hawkins for reviving this event at a new location.

Thanks to Marti Williams for making our shortcake!

Please come if possible, as we are discussing an important issue at the festival. (See the president's message)

Looking forward to seeing you in the great outdoors, although we have a sheltered area if the weather doesn't cooperate!

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

Board Meeting: June 27 at the Fairlawn Park Garden and Civic Center, 7 p.m.
All members may attend.

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

A Message from President Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

As we move into June, the pressing issue of where to meet next year has become a priority with your board. After researching the possibilities, it has come down to two locations, Peg's Catering on Grant Street in downtown Akron near the university, and the Akron Woman's City Club, located where Portage Path meets Exchange Street, not far from our prior location at Tangier. Both locations have advantages and disadvantages which I list below:



Peg's

\$11.00 price
menu can be chosen
cash bar, no extra charge for bartender
reservations by Friday
she says she can take any amount above
the reservations amount

sound system, podium and screen

no security personnel in parking lot
plant sale is no problem

the room is adequately sized, although
not fancy as it started life as the Summit
County Medical Association

simple contract for a year

willing to have us try out the place for one
month if Bradley's will let us out of our
commitment.

City Club

\$15.00 price
menu can be chosen
BYOB with a corking charge of 3.00 for a bottle of wine
reservations by Saturday

can take additional, but not unlimited number above the
reservation amount

sound system, podium and screen

security personnel on duty
they think the plant sale will be okay, but we wouldn't
want to be making a big mess in such an elegant interior

the ballroom is gorgeous and elegant, as are all of their
dining areas

simple contract for a year

willing to have us try out the place for one month if
Bradley's will let us out of our commitment.

Do you want to have the club hold meetings at both places, if Bradley's agrees, so that a number of club members will have input? Do you want the board to decide by a vote on their own?

One place is significantly less expensive, (Peg's), one place is decidedly more elegant (the Woman's City Club). I personally feel that as many club members as possible should have a look at both locations. What do you think? Please be prepared to discuss the matter at the strawberry festival, we will decide what to do after that meeting. If you feel strongly about this one way or the other, now is the time to let your voice be heard. There is no way we can make everyone happy, but we can, I believe, determine what a majority of the membership currently attending meetings, wants to do.

Let's make this a positive experience for the club and find the new location that suits us best.

Thanks to Frank Mitch for his extensive research. I hope all of you know how many jobs Frank takes on for us. He is one of our most hardworking and devoted members!

Member News

Zenas E. "Zeke" Cruickshank, age 92, passed away May 2, 2005 after a lengthy illness. He was a Life Member and first joined in 1988. Zeke was a well known rose expert, at one time having over 500 rose bushes on his property. He maintained the Rose Garden at Stan Hywet for many years. It was no secret that Zeke opposed the change to membership by women in the Akron club and the National organization. In fact he was so opposed that he resigned and joined another local club. But Akron members asked what it would take for Zeke to return. Zeke's answer was to give him a petition signed by 100 Akron members, probably thinking that would not happen. The petition requesting his return was signed very quickly and Zeke was back as an Associate Member and then as an Honorary Member in recent years. Zeke will certainly be missed by many gardeners in the area, male and female, as well as his many friends and family.

Reported by Frank Mitch

Geranium Sale

The geranium sale is over. It was not as big a success as in other years. There were about 150 flats left over after the end of the sale on Saturday. Several of us took flats home after the sale and tried to sell them. The leftovers were taken to the May meeting and sold at cost to members. The leftovers after the sale were taken home again by three members and hopefully sold. Some are being held for use at the Habitat for Humanity homes we will landscape this summer. The good news is that since we were cooperating with the Garden Forum there was no charge for the use of the site. Also we only had to pay very little for security Friday night as compared to last year. We gave Jason Morgan, Cathy's husband, \$50.00. He and some of his friends came on at 9 PM and stayed until the Saturday morning crew arrived.

As of May 31 we have received \$12,013.00. The cost of the flowers was \$9464.48 to Cedar Lane Farms. This means that we have made a profit of \$2498.52 minus the \$50.00 for security. There may be more money outstanding: if you have some, please get it to me ASAP.

The big sellers of tickets were Chet Lowry who sold 52 tickets and Andy Bettick who sold 45. Walt Starcher didn't take any tickets but he sold at least \$545.00 worth.

Many thanks to our members who worked at the sale.

To help unload the trucks on Friday morning:

Bob Bell	Leroy Hart	Frank Mitch	Wendell Rupaner
Dick Edwards	David Hawkins	Cathy Morgan	Walter Starcher
Gene Fitch	John Lewis	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich	Marti Williams

The sales crews consisted of :

Joyce Baldwin	Gene Fitch	Chet Lowry	Cathy Morgan
Bob Bell	Leroy Hart	Frank Mitch	Lori Ryder
Jim Bell	Karen Ketterman	Louise Montgomery	Walt Starcher
Dick Edwards	John Lewis	Tom Montgomery	Charles White

On Saturday the following took home the leftovers: Janice Filipiski, Leroy Hart, John Lamer, John Lewis, and Mary Ann Ferguson- Rich.

Submitted by Leroy Hart

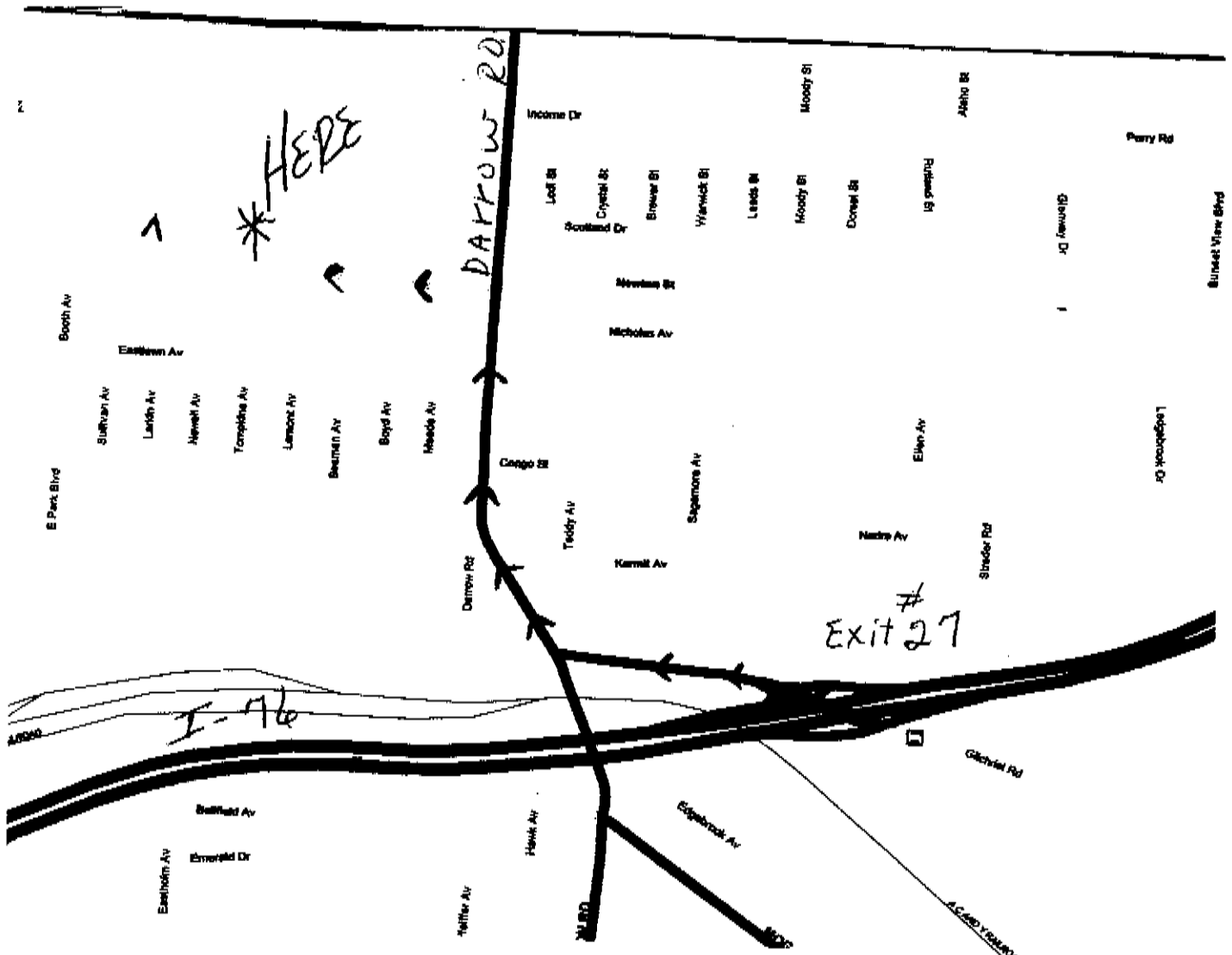
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

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



Upcoming Events

There are two upcoming events that will take place in our area in June and July that may be of interest to some of our members. As far as I know, so far only Frank Mitch and myself are planning to attend these meetings.

The first of these events is the 75th Anniversary Celebration of The Men's Garden Club of Youngstown, Ohio to be held on Thursday June 30th, 2005 at the Fellows Riverside Gardens, 123 McKinley Avenue in Youngstown. On this day there will be seminars on gardening subjects, garden tours, a lunch, and a banquet. The cost for all day is \$40.00.

The Youngstown club was organized in June of 1930 as the Steel City Men's Garden Club as the 5th oldest men's garden club in the country. In the 1940's it was renamed The Men's Garden Club of Youngstown.

I will be driving to Youngstown for this event. If you would like to attend call me for details etc.

The second event is the Central Great Lakes Region Summer One Day Conference which will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2005 at Findlay. As usual this event will include seminars on gardening topics, a garden tour, lunch, and a dinner. The details of this conference were in the last issue of the Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster which was published in March. If you do not have a copy of the Johnny Appleseed and might be interested in this conference give me a call.


submitted by Leroy Hart

Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster

Speaking as the treasurer of our club, the editor of this newsletter and the editor of The Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster, the newsletter of the Central Great Lakes Region, I have some concerns about the JAB. With our local newsletter we print 205 copies. In order to qualify for the reduced bulk mailing rate at the Post Office we send the Garden Gabber to all members, widows, and advertisers. On the other hand we only receive 110 copies of the JAB which is for our

members only. We do not receive more because the region pays for the printing. The problem is, how do we distribute the JAB to the members? The board has decided that to mail it to all members would be too expensive since it would require first class postage. So I have been taking it to meetings. However, only about half are being picked up after being taken to three meetings.

Submitted by Leroy Hart



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