



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

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President

Clark Bordner

#330-388-6382

Email: cbordner@neo.rr.com

1st Vice President

Pat Pickard

#330-848-0667

Email: ppickard@ohio.net

2nd Vice President

Steve Hoot

#330-688-1875

Email: hootfs@att.net

Secretary

Sue Godard

#330-699-0509

Email: ssaats511@aol.com

Treasurer

Gabber Editor/Historian

Leroy Hart

#330-836-1407

Email: gardengabber@neo.rr.com

National Director

Frank Mitch

#330-666-2327

Email: frmm2065@hotmail.com

Monday, January 19

Make plans to attend each monthly meeting. It's a great opportunity to socialize, enjoy good food and learn more about gardening and our environment.

When: Monday, January 19, 2015

5:30 PM - Social Hour

6:30 PM - Dinner

Where: St George's Fellowship Hall
St George's Antiochian Church
3204 Ridgewood Road
Copley, OH

Program: Speaker - Larry Hunter
"Portage Lakes - The Purple Martin Capital of Ohio"

Our monthly board meeting is the fourth Monday of the month. All members are invited to attend..

When: Monday, January 26, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

Where: Faith Lutheran Church
2726 W. Market Street
Akron, OH

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

As I write this, I take pause to reflect upon last year and the accomplishments achieved by the Gardeners of Greater Akron. I feel a renewed vitality in our membership. People are excited about our club and both long standing and new members share in this enthusiasm. Where we have had problems in the past with filling our leadership roles, Pat Pickard and Steve Hoot have stepped up in the role of vice presidents to provide continuity for the foreseeable future. We have several new committee chairs that are taking up the challenge. I see that more of our members are becoming involved and allowing some of the "old" guard to relax a bit. A major need has been filled by all of you having a sense of purpose and the vision to make this club succeed!

Much has been said about the contributions that Arthur has made during his years as President. I firmly believe that if he had not been willing to serve, especially during the past year, that our club could have been in trouble. Arthur has brought the club together in many of the aspects that I outlined in the previous paragraph. Our partnership with Crouse school has already been rewarding and is sure to be an uplifting experience for all that participate with them. Arthur has been a pleasure to work with and I am sure that he would be ready and willing to provide counsel and assistance if necessary. We owe him much gratitude and I am personally proud to have served with him.

I am truly excited to have another opportunity to be able to serve as the President of the Gardeners of Greater Akron. I have the upmost of respect for all of you and I love working with you on the various projects with which we are involved. I welcome any and all of your recommendations to make our club even better. I am also excited about our speakers and programs for this year. I believe that we have an interesting mix of topics with which we all can relate. With all of your help, I believe that this year can be a banner year for our club.

We face many challenges in the months ahead. We need to continue to recruit new members through face to face interaction, flyers at strategic locations and also through social media. New members bring new energy and varying degrees of expertise in our gardening endeavors. I ask all of you to solicit your friends and acquaintances that are interested in gardening to attend one of our meetings. Also, we have lost several members for various reasons and our club membership has been declining in recent years. We must always be aware that we need a continuing influx of funds for our club to operate efficiently. We have been benevolent in the past and our savings are beginning to show signs of erosion. Our fund raisers are not as profitable as in the past and our expenses are growing. I am soliciting your suggestions to help "balance the budget". Working together, we can definitely achieve our goals and meet any challenges in the upcoming year.

As quite a few of you know, Lee Hart has had some health issues during the last few months. In his stead, I am the interim editor of the Gabber, hopefully for only one month as Lee recuperates. I requested some help in getting some articles for this edition of the Gabber from our membership. I received quite a number of articles and I am going to include them all in this edition. I am truly appreciative in your response. I hope all of you take the time to read all of the articles. In particular, I would like to encourage each of you to read the awards categories for our region. We have not had a recipient of any award for the past two years. I am certain that we have many eligible and worthy nominees and I encourage you to make your recommendations. I will make sure that they get to the right place.

I pledge to do my best in the office of your President and I am truly thankful to have elected to this position for the second time. With utmost best regards, Clark

This is directly from it (page 29)

CUCUMBER HINTS

Don't despair if the first blossoms don't set fruit: cucumbers develop only from female flowers and the first 10-20 plus flowers are male. Look into gynoecious (all female) varieties. Cucumbers are space grabbers, so try growing vines up chicken wire, posts or trellises. Best bet: a cucumber tree. Plant seeds an inch deep every 6 to 8 inches around a 3-4 foot diameter concrete reinforcing wire with 6 inch mesh (plenty big enough to pick through)

Because cucumbers are among the heaviest feeders, you'll increase production if you give the cucumber tree its own compost pile, i.e. a 4-5 foot ring of chicken wire or welded wire about one foot in diameter in the center or tied inside to one side. Fill with grass clippings, manure, etc. As the compost cone decomposes, it feeds the close planted cucumbers. Give cucumbers plenty of water.

Walter Starcher

Opportunities to Help Crouse Kids in 2015

In 2014, our garden club adopted Crouse Elementary School in Akron as a partner in the school's Teaching Gardens program. The teaching gardens are raised beds on the school campus. With the help of their teachers and our GOGA volunteers, students plant, maintain, harvest, and eventually clean up the beds in the fall. Students learn about plant identification, growth and care, and nutrition. Social attitudes such as personal and school responsibility, engagement, loyalty and pride are enhanced. Lessons in the gardens are carried into the classroom when students apply reading, writing, math, social studies, and science to their experiences in the gardens.

With many positive Crouse/GOGA experiences already accomplished in 2014, the GOGA Youth Teaching Team looks forward in 2015 to even more opportunities to help Crouse kids.

Will you consider helping in the following Teaching Gardens work areas? In most of the areas, you will be working with kids, their teachers and the GOGA area leader at the school, rather than doing things for the kids away from the school. Time commitments are in the two-three hour range and occur variously during school hours, after school, and/or on Saturday. The busiest activity times are spring, summer, and fall.

Will you read the following work areas and consider helping Crouse kids in 2015 in at least one of them? Our GOGA volunteers in 2014 will tell you the kids are fun to work with, and the teachers and administrators are very helpful, supportive, and appreciative. Please help us help Crouse kids to learn the benefits and joys of gardening! ***GOGA team members named below would appreciate a call from you; all are listed in the GOGA directory.***

1. **PLANT MATERIALS.** Purchase and seek contributions of starter plants, seeds (vegetables and flowers), and soil amendments for spring planting by all grade level kids in the teaching gardens. Consult with teachers and kids regarding their "wish list." GOGA member **Sharon Aaron** leads this area; talk to her for more information.

3. **LEARNING.** Working with kids in the spring, prepare the soil in the teaching gardens and plant seedlings, seeds. Help them consider plant growth habits, spacing, and care. As they work, review with kids the essentials for plant growth. Talk to GOGA member **Ken Bell** who leads this area.

3. **EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION.** In late winter and early spring, work with Crouse kids and GOGA member and leader **Les Knight**. A cold frame greenhouse has been purchased and needs to be assembled (again with some of the older kids). Also, two composters have been purchased and need to be assembled and situated near the gardens. Some of the board frames that are the teaching gardens need to be strengthened and/or replaced. In 2014, GOGA members donated or purchased three wheelbarrows for the gardens, so they are available for use. Footpaths between the gardens are a future project needing our leadership and assistance.

4. **TEACHING.** Crouse teachers strive to give "integrated" lessons. That is, blending the curricular areas such as language arts and math with what kids experience in the gardens. A math concept such as perimeter, for example, becomes meaningful when tied to the distance around a grade's teaching garden frame. This past fall, GOGA members worked with first and third graders in writing about their garden experiences. Members helped students recall, organize, and find the words and sentences that captured their garden memories. Self-stories were edited with adult help, illustrated by the kids, and then made into posters which were proudly displayed in the school hallways for all to see. If you can help in this area, contact GOGA member **Marilyn Fellenstein** for information.

5. **WEEDING, HARVESTING, FALL CLEANUP.** Assisted by Crouse teacher and fellow GOGA member **Julia Spangler**, in the summer, work with Crouse kids who live in the neighborhood to pull weeds, prop up plants, pick vegetables and flowers. In late fall, we will again, as we did in fall 2014, pull up dead plants, carry to the composters, work up the soil, and spread rye grass seed as "green manure." Talk to GOGA member **Steve Thompson** if you think you can help in this area.

6. **CONTESTS.** In 2014, GOGA provided Crouse teachers with red, white, and blue ribbons for first, second, and third place student-written narratives about their garden experiences. In 2015, we want to continue to provide recognition to individual students, to whole classes, and possibly contributing parents and neighborhood people for their accomplishments in and for the teaching gardens. All kids thrive on recognition, and Crouse kids are no exception! GOGA members **Claire and Graham Reinke** head this area and would love to have your ideas and assistance.

7. **COOKING/HEALTHY EATING.** Growing vegetables, harvesting them, and eating them are "go-togethers" and the Youth Gardening Team would like to assist Mrs. Spangler and neighborhood volunteers as they provide lessons to kids and grownups in the Crouse community kitchen regarding healthy snacks, tasty side dishes. But we don't have a GOGA member to lead this area?! Can we interest you in getting involved? Talk with **Steve Thompson** and/or **Julia Spangler** at Crouse.

2015 Region and TGOA Events

TGOA National Convention

Date: June 25-27, 2015

Hosted by The Gardeners of Northern Iowa

Location: Clear Lake Iowa, Best Western Holiday Lodge

Theme: Planting Your Dream in 2015

Schedule of Events, Registration Form, etc. on the TGOA website:

<http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Convention2015.htm>

Central Great Lakes Gardeners Region Summer Conference

Date: July 17-18, 2015

Hosted by your club GOGA

Committee Chair: Leslie Knight

Location: ATI and OARDC at Wooster Ohio

Meeting rooms and overnight rooms at ATI

Registration forms, Schedule of Events, etc. TBA later

Wooster is near enough to commute and not necessary to stay overnight.

CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS

Gardening Education And Excellence In Horticulture Since 1932

TO: ALL CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS TGOA/MGCA CLUBS

FROM: THE C.G.L.GARDENERS AWARDS COMMITTEE

RE: YEAR 2015 C.G.L.GARDENERS 66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Note! Dates and locations are tentative and subject to change

Dear Club President and Awards Chairperson,

The Awards Committee would like to have all C.G.L.GARDENERS Clubs participate in the awards program. Please review the enclosed material with your members as soon as possible and refer this material to your President, Awards Chairman and Newsletter Editor. Also, please save this material for future reference.

The following are once in a lifetime awards: THE WILLIAM MOOREHOUSE AWARD (Replaces THE MASTER GARDENER AWARD. Previous recipients are not eligible for this award.), THE GREEN BRONZE MEDAL and THE DELBERT R. DUNBAR AWARD.

In addition to the awards above we call your attention to the following: HORTICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT, HORTICULTURE JOURNALISM, CERTIFICATE OF HONOR, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT and the SPARK PLUG (please note Spark Plug criteria updates on the CGLG website) awards. There are many people deserving of these awards. **Please help us honor them by nominating them for an award.**

Awards will be presented at the C.G.L.GARDENERS 66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE which will be hosted by The Gardeners of Greater Akron July 17 & 18, 2015 in Wooster, OH area. The conference is open to all C.G.L.GARDENERS Club members. **Please encourage your members to attend!!!** For more info contact Leslie Knight, GOGA, llandcknight@aol.net

The deadline for submitting nominations is April 4, 2015. You may re-nominate a person if they were previously nominated but did not receive the award. Please e-mail or mail nominations and supporting data to all the committee members listed below or bring nominations and data to the C.G.L. GARDENERS Spring Meeting at the Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield, OH on April 4, 2015. **NOTE!** Criteria and a list of past recipients of these awards can be located on the CGL GARDENERS website (<http://www.cgldr.org>) under REGION AWARDS – Submission Details & Instructions.

Respectfully submitted by your C.G.L.GARDENERS Awards Committee,

Rodney Toth, Chairman
5637 W. Liberty St.
Hubbard, Ohio 44425
330-759-1993
tkdahlias@aol.com
fjrtree@roadrunner.com

Kay Musgrave
4215 Gallmeyer Ct.
Fort Wayne, IN 46835
260-492-6233
kgrdchr@msn.com

Fred J. Robinson
7191 Auburn Rd.
Concord, OH 44077
440-358-1464

**AWARDS THAT MAY BE GIVEN BY AN AFFILIATED REGION OF TGOA/MGCA
THE GREEN BRONZE MEDAL**

PURPOSE: As recognition for a member of TGOA/MGCA who has rendered outstanding service to his or her regional organization.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: One award may be made each year by each region.

PROCEDURE: The region shall order the medal 30 days prior to their award date from the national office.

NOMINATIONS:

1. Any club in the region may make a nomination.
2. Only one nomination can be made by any club in one year.
3. The same person can be nominated any number of times.
4. The award can only be made once to any individual.

RECIPIENTS OF THE GREEN BRONZE AWARD C.G.L.R.

YEAR	NAME	CLUB
1965	D. Kennedy	Akron, Ohio
1980	George Mines	Akron, Ohio
2003	Frank Mitch	Akron, Ohio
2004	William Moorehouse	Akron, OH
2005	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich	Akron, OH
2011	Robert Bell	Akron, OH
2012	Leroy Hart	Akron, OH

[REDACTED]
Replaces the MASTER GARDENER AWARD July 26, 2008. Previous recipients are not eligible for this award.

PURPOSE: To honor the service that William Moorehouse has rendered to the Central Great Lakes Region. This award is given to an individual who has performed significant service to GARDENING in his or her respective community. The term GARDENING shall be interpreted to include all phases of horticulture, conservation and landscaping.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The recipient must reside within the covered area of the region.
2. The service must be rendered directly by the recipient.
3. The service be rendered to or in the individual's own community of residence.
4. The service must be performed without compensation.
5. If the individual is engaged professionally in the field for which the award is being made, the activities must be performed beyond the normal course of professional interest and pursuits.

NOMINATIONS: Nominations should be submitted together with the appropriate statements and any evidence favoring the candidate thirty days before the award is to be given.

1. Any club in the region can make a nomination.
2. Only one nomination can be made by any club in one year.
3. The same person can be nominated any number of times.
4. The award can only be made once to any individual.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: One award may be given each year.

RECIPIENTS OF THE WILLIAM MOOREHOUSE AWARD
Formerly The Master Gardener Award 1964-2008

YEAR	NAME	CLUB
1972	George Mines	Akron, Ohio
1973	Carl Graefe	Akron, Ohio
1976	Dr. J. C. Lichty	Akron, Ohio
1980	James A. Riffer	Akron, Ohio
2002	Lee Hart	Akron, Ohio
2004	Roger Hite	Akron, OH
2006	John Lewis	Akron, OH
2008	James Fee	Akron, OH
2010	Robert N. Bell	Akron, OH
2012	James R. Bell	Akron, OH

DELBERT R. DUNBAR AWARD

CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION

PURPOSE: To honor the memory of Delbert R. Dunbar by recognizing a region member who has rendered outstanding service to the National Organization, the Central Great Lakes Region, and the local club in the TGQA/MGCA organization.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: One award may be made each year (placue).

CRITERIA: The recipient must have performed outstanding service in all the following areas:

1. Serve as a national officer, committee chairperson, or director.
2. Serve as a regional officer or committee chairperson.
3. Serve the local club as an officer or committee chairperson.

NOMINATIONS:

1. A letter of nomination by a Central Great Lakes Region member, listing in detail the service and dates of the nominee's contribution.
2. All nominees to be living members in good standing.
3. Only one nomination can be made be any club in one year.
4. The same person can be nominated any number of times.
5. The award can only be made once to any individual.

RECIPIENTS OF THE DELBERT R. DUNBAR AWARD

YEAR	NAME	CLUB
1999	William Moorehouse	Akron, OH
2003	Frank Mitch	Akron, OH

HORTICULTUREAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PURPOSE: As recognition for a person in their region who has made outstanding achievements in the field of horticulture.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Any number may be awarded.

PROCEDURE: The region shall order the number of certificates needed at least 30 days prior to the presentation of the award from the national office. May be recommended by any member of a local club and forwarded through their club president to the regional awards chairperson.

RECIPIENTS OF THE HORTICULTUREAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2010	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich	Akron
2012	Sam J. Morlan	Akron

HORTICULTURAL JOURNALISM AWARD

PURPOSE: To honor those who through their writings have contributed to gardening and horticulture. It may be given to any person who has authored an outstanding book or pamphlet on gardening or horticulture, or any newspaper, television or radio garden editor whose original horticultural material may or may not necessarily be in printed form.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Any number may be awarded.

PROCEDURE: The region shall order at least 30 days prior to their award date the necessary number of certificates from the national office. This award may be recommended by any member of a local club and forwarded through their club president to the regional awards chairperson.

RECIPIENTS OF THE HORTICULTURAL JOURNALISM AWARD

YEAR	NAME	CLUB
	Leroy Hart	Akron
	Frank Mitch	Akron

CERTIFICATE OF HONOR

PURPOSE: There are no restrictions as to the use of these certificates. The purpose for which they are used and the manner of their presentation is left to the discretion of the region.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Any number may be awarded.

PROCEDURE: Each region may order from the national office the necessary number of certificates needed. Also, local clubs may order certificates from the national office to honor their members.

2010	Frank Mitch	Akron
	Amy Mitch	Akron
	Les Knight	Akron
	Carol Knight	Akron
	Sam Morlan	Akron
	John Cochran	Akron
	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich	Akron
	David Rich	Akron
	Leroy Hart	Akron
2011	Grace Cochran	Akron
	Sam Morlan	Akron
2012	Clark Bordner	Akron
	Marti Williams	Akron
	Christopher M. Goddard	Akron
	Sue Goddard	Akron

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT

PURPOSE: To recognize outstanding achievement in enhancing the environment and conservation of natural resources through gardening. Awarded to an individual, community, organization or governmental agency.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Certificate - One award a year.

CRITERIA: Should be involved in one or more of the following:

- A. Involvement in enhancing the environment and conservation of natural resources through gardening.
- B. Promoting public awareness of the environment and conservation through the media and public presentations.
- C. Development of educational programs promoting enhancement and conservation of resources in school and the community.
- D. Initiation of environmental or conservation projects locally or regionally.
Securing funding or grants for environmental or conservation projects locally or regionally.

PROCEDURE: A packet of material should be assembled consisting of the following:

1. Detailing specifically and clearly the type of environmental or conservation project they have been involved with and the role that they played in the project for one or more of the criteria stated above.
2. Copies of articles and pictures from newspapers, magazines, etc. and other supporting material.

SPARK PLUS

PURPOSE: To recognize a first or second year member who has shown an outstanding level of activity – local, regional or national.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Certificate - unlimited

CRITERIA: Complete at least two of the following:

- A. Serve as a committee chairperson – local or region.
- B. Serve as a regional committee member.
- C. Articles published in any TGOA/MGCA publication.
- D. Present a program or educational material – local or region.
- E. Attend two of the three yearly region meetings.
- F. Attend a TGOA/MGCA National Convention.

PROCEDURE: Nomination from a regional member detailing nominee's local, regional and national activities.

SECRETARY OF THE SPARK PLUS AWARD