



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, March 16

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, March 16, 2015

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

Copley, OH

Program: **Speaker – David Brunfield**

"Metro Parks System"

Board Meeting: Monday, March 23, 2015 at 7:00 p. m.

Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 West Market Street, Fairlawn, Ohio.

All members are invited to attend board meetings.

Greeter – Steve Hoot

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

President's Message
March 2015

As I am typing this letter on the 7th of March, there is snow falling. The endless winter continues. Thankfully, there are a few days next week with temperatures predicted in the 40s and one day at 50. Hallelujah!! Our gardens are ready to spring forth in all of their glory.

I felt that Jan Becker did an outstanding job with her presentation. She always has a lot of interesting information for us. We are going another direction next month. When we visited Nature Realm this summer, I inquired about someone who could talk about our beautiful park system. They contacted a speaker from the Summit Metro Park system to speak to us about the parks. Several of our club members have participated in the Spring and Fall hiking sprees for years. As a matter a fact, Frank Mitch has participated in every one since they started in the sixties! We have a photo at home from the Beacon Journal that features the hiking club from Garfield High (to include Cheryl) as they participated in the very first hiking spree. We have many varied parks from which to choose and I am excited to hear about them from an expert.

Many of you expressed concern about the change in venue at our last meeting. I believe that the other room was being prepared for another engagement and that we will be back there for our next meeting. I am hopeful that we will grow in membership to the point where we will fill up the big room.

Frank Mitch, Les Knight and I will be travelling to ATI next week to interview potential recipients of our two 1,000 dollar scholarships. This trip was one of the highlights of my tenure as president in 2011. We had a lively discussion about the number and amount of these scholarships at our last board meeting. The board decided to keep the scholarships as they presently exist due to our mission and the positive effect on young people's lives.

You will read a letter about our youth gardening efforts with Crouse elementary school later on in this newsletter. Don't forget, we had a similar relationship with Arrowhead school in Copley. That program is very well established and the gardens are unbelievable for a public school. We have been asked to donate monies to help defray the cost of several books for their library. Instead of a lump sum donation, I am recommending that we donate as individuals toward that effort. If any of you have children's books on gardening that you would be willing to donate, I am sure that they would be very well received.

We will be given ballots for the election of TGOA/MGOA officers at the next meeting. I encourage all of you to take the time to vote. Please pay particular attention to the proposed by law changes. We are honored to have Frank Mitch and Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich as members of the national bylaws committee. I will probably ask Frank to speak about the by law change as it pertains to us.

I hope that this letter finds all of you well and I look forward to seeing you at our March meeting.

With the utmost best regards, Clark

GOGA Endowment Fund News

The club's Endowment Fund with the Akron Community Foundation had a very good increase last year. The total value at the end of 2013 was \$15,813 and at the end of 2014 was \$16,508. Investment activity was \$470 and contributions were \$450 during last year.

Thanks very much for the contributions from eight individuals or families. Many of these contributions were made as memorials to friends or relatives. Please see the following list:

<u>Contributor</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>
Mrs. George T. Parry	Debby Franz's mother
Pat Pickard	-----
Bryan and Susan Kinnamon	Kate Hamlin to Mrs. Mars
Henry B Ball Jewelers West	Jack Brillhart – joined the club in 1987
Frank and Amy Mitch	-----
Frank and Eileen Field	Judge Harold White – joined the club in 1984
Howard A. Palmer	Earl P. Carlton – Club president – 1970
Robert Freitag	-----

If you wish to make a contribution, memorial or otherwise during the year, the contribution form is on our website: <http://gogakron.org/Endowment.htm>. You can also ask Frank Mitch for a copy of the form. Included on the form is a link to the Akron Community Foundation (ACF) website. You can contribute on the website with a credit card or mail in the form with a check.

Submitted by Frank Mitch – GOGA Endowment Committee Chair

2015 TGOA/MGCA National Convention

"Planting Your Dreams in 2015"

The 2015 National Convention will be in Clear Lake, Iowa on June 25 - 27, 2015 and will be hosted by the Gardeners of North Iowa. Registration forms and information were included with your recent copy of the TGOA/MGCA March/April Newsletter. You may also find a copy of the form and other convention information on our website: <http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Convention2015.htm> Registration cost for the 3 day event is \$195.00.

This may possibly be paid for some of our GOGA elected officers if they plan to attend. Payment needs to be approved by our Board, as has been the case in recent years. For all others the event is well worth the cost, with many gardening seminars and garden tours, and meals for 3 days.

Crouse Elementary School (Community Learning Center) News and Update

Although the weather in GOGA is still snowy and subfreezing, Julia Spangler and her third grade students started their learning projects related to gardening in February. The projects started early in order to incorporate gardening and upcoming curriculum on life cycles, i.e., hatching chicks. The students started planting vegetable seeds under the grow lights; they are learning about worms and their importance to the soil; and will begin looking at soil samples by comparing plants growing in different soil samples, to mention a few.

These children may have some fun now while learning hands on, but the knowledge and experience they gain now may sprout and bloom large in the future for some. Many of us GOGA members can testify to the fact that they developed gardening interests from just being exposed to gardening as young children.

Along that line, there are few projects waiting, coming the spring, for the Youth Garden Team. These projects will be done as joint effort of the students, teachers and GOGA members, and they include:

1. The repair and/or replacement of boards that surround the raised gardens
2. The assembly of the two composters (already purchased)
3. The assembly of the cool frames (yet to be purchased)
4. The possibility of adding a chicken coop and pen to the garden, per Julia Spangler's request, and preapproved by her principal.

We are soliciting help from members in accomplishing aforementioned projects. While doing the actual physical work, we will be mentoring the kids as they will be working next to us. Your time given to the children is well spent, leaving positive impressions on their lives, even though the evidence may not be immediate.

We are very happy that Nick Calabro, one of our new members, signed on to help with the Crouse garden project.

In addition to the spring projects, currently there are projects in progress in Julia Spangler's classes and she could use extra adult help. The projects are taking place in three different periods: 1st period 10:00 - 11:00; 2nd period 11:45 - 12:30; 3rd period 1:30 - 2:15. So choose the most convenient time for you to assist in this area: Contact Marilyn Fellenstein if you are able to assist in this area.

Thank you, and come join us!!

Submitted by Sally Cole

MARCH-ING

If you listen hard enough,
Tho the weather may be rough,
You can hear the breezes sing,
March is marching us to Spring.

Bulbs you planted in the Fall,
Rise now at the marching call,
Sending shoots up to the sky,
Working at their blooming try.

All our world's turning green,
Eyes drink in the changes seen,
Birds are back and it is clear,
Gardeners love this time of year.

Bob Van Kirk (former associate member of our club)

Submitted by Grace Cochran

Rosters

The rosters are completed and distribution started at the February meeting. If you notice any errors, please notify Bob Bell or Grace Cochran.

Please check your name off of the provided roster as you pick up your roster.

This roster is filled with interesting information regarding the club and your co-members as well as the monthly GOGA and regional meetings.

Membership

Membership is important to all of us in the club

Have a friend who likes gardening? Ask him or her to be our guest @ a dinner meeting.

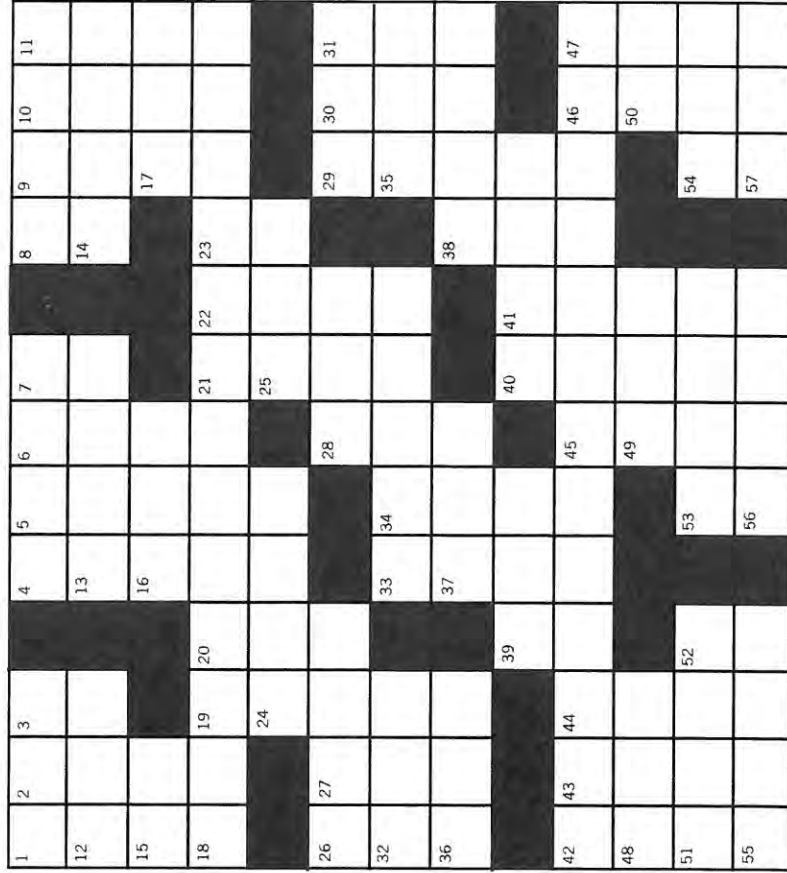
Don't forget! For every new member you sponsor, you will receive a \$10 gift card to a local nursery

Look for flyers and business cards each meeting @ the sign in table to distribute.

Monthly Puzzle

Be sure to check the last page of the Gabber for this month's puzzle. We had six entrants for the prize last month. Our winner of the initial puzzle solving contest was Neil Raber. I encourage everyone to enter for an exciting prize at the next meeting. Be sure to completely read the instructions so you are not disqualified on a technicality. Last month, once you solved the word search, the remaining letters formed words of wisdom for us gardeners.

Canadian Gardening



ACROSS

- 1 Popular Perennial (for short)
- 4 One of the Desperate Housewives
- 8 Dice up veggies from the garden
- 12 Non prescription (abbr.)
- 13 Hawaiian garlands
- 14 Auto tester
- 15 Over achiever (abbr.)
- 16 Poetic shortening for over
- 17 Soak
- 18 Large leafy plants
- 24 Edges of a border
- 25 Internet provider (abbr)
- 26 Perennial flowering plant
- 28 Apiece
- 29 Some plants need plenty of this to grow
- 32 Beak
- 33 Shasta or African flower
- 35 Medical X-Ray device (abbr.)
- 36 401 in Rome
- 37 Charged at the bank (abbr.)
- 38 Reeds grow this big
- 39 Microsoft portal (abbr.)
- 40 Libra birthstone
- 42 Purple coloured houseplant
- 48 Actor DiCaprio
- 49 Slippery fish
- 50 Little Rock st.
- 51 Tops
- 53 Letters between K and P
- 54 Sooner than, poetically
- 55 Summer drinks
- 56 Mislead
- 57 --- Tree Hill

DOWN

- 1 Fen
- 2 Neighbour of Nevada
- 3 Rapper Hammer
- 4 Blossom
- 5 Tall stalks
- 6 Ireland
- 7 Plural suffix
- 8 Disc jockey need (abbr.)
- 9 Champion
- 10 Sign
- 11 Indoor planting containers
- 19 Antelope
- 20 Orcus
- 21 Negative votes
- 22 Fishing boat
- 23 Fashion icon (init.)
- 26 Company abbreviation
- 27 Popular colour of roses for romance
- 28 Peach or plum center
- 29 Size before medium
- 30 Internet address
- 31 Nothing
- 33 Plate
- 34 Actress Paquin
- 38 Famous Las Vegas nightclub
- 39 Musical note
- 40 Kitchen appliances
- 41 Perennial Sky ----
- 42 Dogwood plant Cornus ---
- 43 Eat
- 44 Romantic flower
- 45 "Finding ----"
- 46 Take home a paycheck
- 47 Forest dweller
- 52 Poet Eliot
- 53 Fashion catalogue --- --- Bean
- 54 Michael Jackson movie "Captain --"