



# 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, January 21

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, January 21, 2013

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:** The Hydroponics Industry

Our speaker is Dr. Natalie Bumgarner. She has her PhD in horticulture from The Ohio State University. She is employed by Crop King in Lodi, Ohio. This company is one of the biggest suppliers to the hydroponic industry. She will give us an overview of this industry and how it fits into the total agricultural industry. This company does much research on plants that are best suited for hydroponics and also on state of the art equipment.

Board Meeting: January 28 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://mgcakron.org> & <http://ohiogardeners.org>

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - Sam Morlan**

First, let me wish you a Happy New Year and I hope you all had a great Christmas holiday.

January got its name from the Roman god Janus who had two faces, which gave him the ability to see both forward and backward at the same time. I think this tradition still lives on today as we make our New Year's resolutions and look back on the previous year with both regrets and the memories of good times and friends. The years gone by teach us many things about ourselves and the world around us through education, new friends and mistakes we made, also things we did right. It is always helpful to remain curious and open-minded. Gathering information has become easier now than anytime in our history with the internet, but you have to choose your sources wisely.

Taking stock as a club is also a good idea from time to time. The past year was without any outstanding problems, our membership has held steady, our revenues are adequate. I see only two issues that we need to address. One is that we need to get more of our new members involved with our projects. We also need some new input from the membership on what you want the club to be by coming to board meetings or by emailing or calling me. I realize that because we are all becoming more mature our bodies are not able to do as much. Maybe we could manage more and use groups like the Boy Scouts to help on projects which require more strenuous labor (Habitat; Crown Point).

I was impressed last month with a little nine year old from Arrowhead School named Virginia Williams when I, Al Eddy, and his wife went to the school to present Virginia her awards for winning the biggest sun flower award and for coming in third for pumpkins. As we were waiting in the office, I was talking to Virginia's mother. She said Virginia was concerned about the next growing season since she will be leaving Arrowhead and going to the middle school where there is no garden program. The Williams have a shady lot not suitable for gardening so Virginia suggested they obtain a spot in a community garden where she and some of her classmates could garden. I think that there is a lot of interest in gardening out there among the youngsters. We need to help encourage that interest.

January is a good time to look back at the past gardening year and figure out what worked and what was a bust. Of course the biggest problem is that none of us has a crystal ball to help us predict the weather so we have to be wise in our choice of plants and sites. I think raised beds solve the problem of too much water but you will have to spend time and money watering. I suggest getting some good garden magazines or garden books and do some research. The internet is a useful tool, there are many .edu's and .gov's to get great information and some of the .com's are OK. Actually Google is the fastest way to find information. Ohio Gardener and Garden Gate are both excellent. Don't forget the lectures many of the garden centers have starting in January at Dayton's and others throughout the spring.

If you have any gardening related items we could use as door prizes please bring them to the meeting.

Happy Gardening!

## Endowment Fund Report

My apologies for not getting the third quarter report into the December GABBER. Our plan is to provide each quarter's report on the second month after the quarter ends. I have attached the updated spreadsheet reflecting performance of our Club's Endowment Fund investment in the Akron Community Foundation. This year the income available to spend is \$473.03. Since the original investment in 2011 the amount is \$538.54. The Board of Directors has agreed with the Committee recommendation that the distributions be left in our account.

Bob Bell - Chair - Endowment Fund Committee

11/4/2012	<b>Gardeners of Greater Akron Endowment Fund</b>				
	For Year 2012				
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Calendar 2012
Beginning Balance	\$ 10,800.24	\$ 11,777.14	\$ 11,464.60		\$ 10,800.24
Contributions	\$ -	\$ 125.00	\$ 20.00		\$ 145.00
Investment Activity	\$ 995.33	\$ (400.67)	\$ 561.52		\$ 1,156.18
Administration Fees	\$ (18.43)	\$ (36.87)	\$ (37.22)		\$ (92.52)
Grants	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
Ending Balance	\$ 11,777.14	\$ 11,464.60	\$ 12,008.90		\$ 12,008.90
% Investment Activity	9.2%	-3.4%	4.9%		10.7%
% Due to Contributions	0.0%	1.1%	0.2%		1.3%
% Total Increase	9.0%	-2.7%	4.7%		11.2%
<b>Grant Summary:</b>					
Spendable Income Allocation	\$ 157.48	\$ 155.46	\$ 160.09		\$ 473.03
Available for Grants			Incudes amount from 2011		\$538.54

## Membership Renewal

The membership committee has extended the deadline for membership renewal. However, this deadline will not be extended again. So if you have not renewed your membership for 2013 by the end of this month the committee will assume that you no longer want to remain a member of the club. Therefore, this is the last newsletter you will receive, your call from the calling committee will be the last. At the end of this month the membership list will be sent to the printer for the membership roster.

The treasurer reports that the payment for dues has already been sent to the national and to the region. We try to keep up to date on our obligations.

## Resolutions for Gardeners

A new year typically brings about resolutions, whether for losing weight, being more organized, or just an overall wish to "be better". Resolutions are good goals to have.

Most gardeners wish for better gardens! Following are five resolutions that we think gardeners, no matter their level of expertise, can embrace for 2013.(from Donzell's newsletter)

### **1. I will not blame myself for gardening failures.**

Oftentimes Mother Nature is not our friend when it comes to gardening, or, life just gets in the way. Don't despair! Simply try again and learn from experience. Your garden, and your gardening friends, are both extremely forgiving.

### **2. I will not be afraid to ask questions.**

How else can you learn? Take advantage of the experience of your neighbor, your friend, or the knowledgeable staff here at Donzell's.

### **3. I will try something new.**

Gardeners are always looking for the newest of the new, for bragging rights if nothing else! Try something more than just a new plant or seed, like maybe a new growing style or a completely new crop of vegetables.

Cruise around the internet

for the hundreds of great garden sites full of ideas and stop in often to share your ideas with us and see what we have in store for you this year!

### **4. I will share my passion.**

Chances are you got your start as a gardener by learning from someone else, maybe a parent, grandparent or other family member. Can you be that mentor? You could be the reason your son or daughter serves homegrown vegetables, or that your neighbor plants window boxes for the first time!

### **5. I will embrace nature and garden for the birds, the bees, and the butterflies (bats, too!).**

One of the most enjoyable benefits of having a garden is being able to enjoy the beautiful creatures who visit it. So plan your flowers and vegetables with that in mind, then sit back and enjoy the show!

## Spring into Gardening

The Akron Summit County Library is offering a program on gardening tips for small space gardening. One is Creative Container Gardening by Cathy Morgan. She will tell you the beginning steps to building a container garden with minimal care and expense. Gardening for Small Spaces the Ohio State University Extension Summit County. Learn how to maximize your growing space using intensive gardening techniques. Akron Grows/ Let's Grow Akron by the City of Akron's Akron Grows Community Garden Program and Let's GrowAkron. They will explain how each program works and the participation requirements. Saturday February 2, 9:30 am - 12:15 pm at the main library. No charge and free parking. Call Science & Technology at 330-643-0075 or e mail [stdiv@akronlibrary.org](mailto:stdiv@akronlibrary.org) to reserve a space for any of these classes.



## 2013 Gardening Seminars - Registration Form

### \_\_\_\_\_ January 19th, New Plants for the Garden ... see what is new & exciting for 2013!

*Speaker: Keith Manbeck, Willoway Nurseries, Inc.*

Keith will introduce you to new plants for your garden, patio or deck. There are some fantastic new shrubs including many hydrangeas as well as perennials & fruit plants for you to try this year. We'll go through a brief description of the plants, where they will grow and how they'll thrive best in your garden. Keith has over 30 years experience in the green industry. Willoway Nurseries, Inc. is a wholesale nursery located in Avon & Huron Ohio with over 1,000 acres in nursery production.

### \_\_\_\_\_ January 26th, Annual & Tropical Plants for Summer Color in Your Landscape & Containers

*Speaker: Brian Jorg, Manager of Horticulture, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden*

As the manager of horticulture at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, Brian is responsible for the annual trial garden which includes growing over 200 varieties of the newest annuals available to the industry. Brian will share his hands-on experience with annuals & tropical plants and give insight on many ways to use them to bring color to your landscape and containers as well as helpful tips for successfully growing them all summer long. Brian combines his love of horticulture with his passion for photography to provide an enthusiastic presentation that will inspire & inform his audience for a more rewarding gardening experience.

### \_\_\_\_\_ February 2nd, Resisting Deer in Your Garden

*Speaker: Joyce Braun, Cuyahoga County Master Gardener*

Joyce has been a lifelong gardener and Master Gardener since 2001. She will draw on her personal experience gardening on 2 1/2 acres surrounded by woods to help us understand our enemy (the deer) and what we can do to live with them and enjoy a beautiful garden. She will provide helpful information on deer resistant plants as well as repellants to keep them from destroying our gardens.

### \_\_\_\_\_ February 9th, Creating a Perennial Garden with Perpetual Interest

*Speaker: Laura Deeter, Associate Professor, OSU at ATI Wooster*

The key to creating a beautiful perennial garden is planning it so there is something interesting to draw your attention every season. Laura's presentation will introduce you to perennials for each season and provide tips for combining them for ongoing interest in the garden. Laura is a long-time favorite speaker at Graf Growers. She combines her vast knowledge & enthusiasm for perennials and landscape design along with her lively sense of humor for an entertaining and informative program.

### \_\_\_\_\_ February 16th, New Ideas for Creating a Colorful Shade Garden

*Speaker: Lisa Graf, Graf Growers Garden Center*

It is hard to imagine the shade garden without Impatiens 'Wallerina' however, due to a far reaching and devastating disease affecting impatiens we will need to find alternatives. We will briefly discuss this disease named Downy Mildew and the impact it will have for our gardens. Then we will focus our attention on colorful and exciting alternative plants for container gardens and beds in the shade.

### \_\_\_\_\_ February 23rd, Ideas & Inspiration for Improving Your Landscape

*Speaker: Craig Graf, Graf's Landscape & Design*

If you are thinking of updating or enhancing your landscape this **free** seminar will provide you with valuable ideas & inspiration to get started. Whether you're a nature lover, empty nester, or have a growing family Craig will show you landscape designs & materials that will complement your lifestyle. Furthermore, he will provide creative ideas for solving landscape issues such as drainage, slopes, and privacy, as well as, concepts for enhancing spaces and adding interesting elements. We invite you to join us and learn about the great ways you can enjoy your landscape!

**Cost: \$12 per seminar, (prepaid) except Feb. 23rd Landscape Seminar is Free**

Seminars will be held at Graf Growers on Saturday mornings from 10:00 – 11:30. (Coffee served at 9:30)

Enrollment is limited to 50 per class. You may sign up in person, by phone, or mail your registration. Please mark an X beside the seminars you plan to attend & save the top portion as a reminder.

Please remit this portion with cash or check to Graf Growers, 1015 White Pond Drive, Akron, Ohio 44320

Call (330)-836-2727 for phone registration, or fax registration to 330.836.0476

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME or CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please provide a phone number that we can reach you on the day of the seminar in case of bad weather.)*

Please write in the number of persons attending each seminar below.

Jan. 19th \_\_, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> \_\_, Feb. 2<sup>th</sup> \_\_, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> \_\_, Feb. 16<sup>h</sup> \_\_, Feb 23rd (Free) \_\_, Total # of seminars \_\_ x \$12 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Gardeners of Greater Akron**  
**633 Schocalog Road**  
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