



The Garden Gabber



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President:

Arthur Britton
65 Mayfield Ave.
Akron, OH 44313-6827
☎ 330-865-5501
email: garlic65@hotmail.com

1st Vice President:

John Cochran
1675 Slusser Drive
Tallmadge, OH 44278-3046
☎ 330-633-20197

2nd Vice President:

Clark Bordner
225 Norton Ave.
Barberton, OH 44203-1931
☎ 330-745-4699
email: cbordner@neo.rr.com

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
email: gardengabber@neo.rr.com

National Director:

Frank M. Mitch
2065 Kemery Road
Akron, OH 44333-1937
☎ 330-666-2327
e-mail: fmm2065@hotmail.com

Gabber Editor/Historian:

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

Monday, June 15

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 15, 2009

Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.

The grill will start at 5:30 - to cook your meat you should be there by 6 p.m.

Where:

Goodyear Metro Park Memorial Pavilion
2077 Newton Street, Akron, OH

Program: Strawberry Festival and Pot Luck Dinner

Bring your family, bring your friends, bring meat to grill, and bring a covered dish to share, salad or vegetable, no dessert. The dessert is the strawberry shortcake. The club will provide the charcoal for the grill and the drink. Bring your own table service and table cloth

Board meeting Monday June 22, 7:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church 2726 West Market Street. All members are invited to attend the board meetings.

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

Message from the President Arthur Britton

I hope that this finds you well and that you are able to spend more time outside than inside. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for taking the time and effort to dig up and bring in your plants for the Spring plant sale. Over the years this is so successful that we are doing it more than once a year, we are also having a Fall sale. One of the many benefits that comes from buying at the sale is that we know that it came from this general area and we are able to ask more details because the person who brought it is probably at the same table or the next table over.

I am involved at the church in a project that we are calling a community garden, where members of the church are asked to plant two rows (about 60 feet) of whatever they want as long as they try to plant something for themselves and something to share (in the other row). The decision was to donate the food grown to Open M who will gladly receive the produce and share it with those who for some reason are not able to afford or to grow or to purchase fresh produce. I would like for each of us who are able to grow a garden to consider sharing some of your harvest. Many of you are wonderful gardeners and sharing with others is to me really something very special and there are many benefits that could come from this kind gesture.

Talking about growing, I would like to see another great turn out this month for the strawberry festival that we will have. Wonderful berries are provided and for dinner you get to use the Metro Park. Dinner is whatever you want to bring, and there is a grill. This whole evening is great, you can have a wonderful meal and spend an evening talking with those who enjoy not only gardening but the rewards of the garden.

With regards to the geranium/plant sale we sold out and had little or no left over and raised about \$3,900. Now we have the problem of what to do with the money. I would like to ask for the clubs input as to how to spend it. Many people have given many ideas and we are still looking into what to do. Some examples are: lower the dues, lower the dinner fee, do more at each habitat, and some say to save it. I welcome any ideas and the best way to do that is to send me an e-mail or put it in writing and hand it to me at the meetings.

We are truly thankful for the time and effort that people put into what they do for the garden club and I would like to thank Clark and Cheryl Bordner for the auction items that have really raised the quality to the next level. At the last auction we raised \$50 just on the auction. Thank you and please keep in mind that the profits from the auction go to the club. Please don't put in a bid that is not respectful of the item or the presentation.

Thank you all for what you do and we would love to have a greater turn out for all that the club does and not just the same people. Please come out and join an activity that you have not done before.

Thank you and happy gardening.



The Master Gardeners of Summit Co.
invite you to join them on
Saturday

June 27

2009

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

for a self-guided tour of some of Summit County's best private gardens and an opportunity to shop at their Posie Shoppe..

• **Advance Ticket Purchase Only**

- **General Admission** ticket \$15 per person
- **Patron** ticket which includes a breakfast in a Secret Garden. Ticket levels: \$50, \$75 and \$100 per person.
Patron tickets can only be purchased via mail.

• **To order tickets**, send a check payable to:

MGs of Summit Co., must be postmarked **before June 1**: TOG Tickets, B. Orosz, 3094 Bancroft Rd., Fairlawn, Oh 44333.

Your tickets will be mailed to you if you enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your check.

Be sure to indicate type of ticket(s) you wish & names of those attending.

• **After May 15**: General Admission tickets can be purchased at the following locations:

- OSU Ext., 2525 State Rd., #250, Cuyahoga Falls
- Graf Growers, White Pond Dr, Copley
- Donzells, 937 E. Waterloo Rd., Akron
- Suncrest Gardens, 5157 Akron-Cleve. Rd., Peninsula
- Hoffman's Garden Center, 1021 E. Caston Rd., Akron

• **For additional information**, contact 2009 TOG Chair, Rita Chambers, 330.869.0889 or reet442@yahoo.com

Habitat For Humanity Landscaping Postponed Until June 6

The plans for HFH landscaping in May had to be postponed because the driveway was not finished. We will try now for Saturday, June 6. Time: 9:00 AM to 12 noon. Hopefully donuts and drinks will be furnished. Location: 1363 Moore Street, 1/2 block south of Cole Avenue. Bring a rake and shovel, wheel barrows welcome. Any spare perennials are welcome too. Thanks to all for your good work,

Frank Mitch

Geranium Sale

I would like to thank all the members who helped with the geranium sale. I think we had a very successful sale and made \$3900.96. Along with selling most of the geraniums we were able to sell all of the bedding plants and hanging baskets, as well as 11 of the orchids.

Jim Bell, chairman of the Geranium Sale

Garden Tour

I am having a garden tour on Saturday June 20th from 9 am to 3 pm. My wife is having an orchid sale. Address is 48 Flowerdale Drive in the Portage Lakes area.

Jim Bell

Plant Sale

The plant sale at the May meeting was very successful, making \$1898.80. Thanks to Walt Starcher, the auctioneer, and to all of his helpers. Thanks also to all of the members who brought plants to sell, we sold them all. The geranium sale and this plant sale are the biggest fund raisers the club has and as a result of both of these sales the club is in good financial shape for the year.

Answers to Last Month's Quiz

1. Determinate tomatoes grow to a certain height and fruit near the top. Indeterminate tomatoes keep growing, producing fruit as they grow. One needs taller stakes or baskets for the latter.
2. Most seed catalogs list only bush limas. However, Shumway's catalog has pole lima beans.
3. Corn is pollinated mostly by wind blowing pollen from one plant onto the silk of another plant. For that reason, it is best to plant two different varieties in alternating rows.
4. Rotenone, as I understand, is manufactured from the resin of a tropical tree. I haven't been able to find it at Home Depot. Has it been banned? Or do the experts think Sevin and Malathion are more effective?
5. DDT has been banned for use in the U.S. However, as I understand, it is still being manufactured in the U.S. for use in Third World countries.
6. Blueberries require and acid soil. To make our soils have a lower pH, apply a sulfate, such as ammonium sulfate.
7. Applying fresh animal manure to your garden reduces the nitrogen in the soil because it uses nitrogen to decompose.
8. Prune fruit trees before the buds open in the spring. However, a well-known orchardist once said to prune "whenever the shears are sharp."
9. My research was flawed. Ask Andy Bettick.
10. Probably not. The clay will merely attach itself to the grains of sand.
11. Lettuce and peas can be planted in March. Beans cannot withstand frost. I doubt if corn can either.
12. Apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, quince, spiraea, hawthorn, strawberries, blackberries, black and red raspberries, and almonds.

(Editor's note - Did you remember to save last month's Gabber so you would have the questions? If not, ask somebody who did.)

New Quiz

1. Peanuts are dug as the edible part the root?
2. Why rotate your garden crops from year to year?
3. Why do non-smoking gardeners use tobacco?
4. Which relatives of poison ivy are delicious?
5. Name two plants prized for their fruits which are reported to be poisonous?
6. OSU fans ! What color are Ohio Buckeye flowers?
7. Are hollyhocks and cotton related?
8. Name three garden plants or herbs related to poison hemlock.
9. Are huckleberries and blueberries the same?
10. Which is more closely related to the potato? The sweet potato or the tomato?
11. Are tobacco, tomatoes and petunias related?
12. In what way are belladonna and foxglove related?

By Quiz Master, Walt Starcher

Welcome New Members

Michael Dockrill, 10121 Forest Glen Drive, North Royalton, Ohio 44133 phone 440-539-7185 e-mail michael-dockrill@hotmail.com. Michael did not indicate on the application whether he was retired or working and whether he was married or not. He did list an interest in perennials and a interest in working on the Habitat houses landscaping.

Clarence (Bud) Lucas, 3405 Wadsworth Road, Norton, Ohio 44203, phone 330-825-4014, e-mail clbudlucas@gmail.com He says that he knows Al Eddy in the club. On the application form he used there were no other questions asked.

Welcome Back Old Member

Mitzi Goss has come back into the club after an absence during which she was caring for her ill mother. To add her name to your rosters her address is 460 Meadows Drive, Wadsworth, Ohio 44281 phone 330-336-3254 e-mail ilovecnn@wadsnet.com

Our Club's History

(Editor's note - In the last issue I started to repeat the history of the club which Don Birdsell published in 1994 and 1995. This history had been written by the former historian of the club, Paul J. Crowley, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the club in 1987.)

Oscar L. Schneyer became president in 1946. During his term of office the club traveled to the experimental gardens at Wooster. The usual picnic for the families was held. The flower show was held in August with over 275 entries. Bill Lyons continued to give good advice to the members on lawns and lawn problems. He took good care of Firestone but had little time for his own lawn. The annual Christmas dinner was held again at Spindlers in the Falls.

H. E. Reeves became president of the club in 1947. We now have a new editor of the Gabber, Mr. C. W. Johnson. In March of 1947 the club left the Parrish House and moved to the Congregational Church Parrish House at East Market and Union Streets. The club made a trip to Medina with their ladies to visit the Shepard rose gardens. The fifth annual garden show was held at Maple Valley library. The club also entered a flower show sponsored by the Women's City Club. Dr. Joy Lichty was now inquiring about unusual trees about the county and was interested in species, size, and where located. This evidently was the beginning of the Big Tree program which is now in the hands of Walt Starcher. The Club met at Mozena's restaurant in Medina for their Christmas dinner. This year the club dues were raised to three dollars.

1948 saw C. W. Johnson become president of the club. The club seems to have trouble settling down. After only ten months at the First Congregational Church they moved in January to the West Congregational Church on the corner of Balch and West Market (now the site of the Red Cross). The meeting dinners were \$1.35 now. The club was off to a poor start with the treasurer reporting a negative balance of sixty seven cents in the treasury. An interesting item from the Cleveland Public Schools reported that 8500 students were enrolled in one or more garden projects in 138 schools. There were the usual picnics and Bill Lyons entertained the club at the Firestone club house. The annual club flower show was held at the First Congregational church with over 300 entries. The Christmas dinner was a stag affair held at the Congregational Church at a cost of \$2.00 with all you could eat. The club membership at the end of the year stood at 80 members.

A. P. Hardman was elected president in 1949. In January and February the club met at Semmler's Tavern in Cuyahoga Falls but in March they were again back at the First Congregational Church. Dues were still a problem with 24 members unpaid in May. Dues were now \$4.00 per year. Bill Lyons still continued to have the club meet for practical demonstrations at the Firestone gardens. M. O'Neils hosted the largest Garden Forum flower show in September. Many club members entered. The annual picnic was held in Copley with many displays of flowers and vegetables. The annual stag Christmas dinner was held again at the Congregational Church.

1950 saw C. M. Strafford elected president of the club. The usual monthly meetings featured good speakers on a wide variety of garden subjects. The club continued to have its annual flower and vegetable show which was held during the strawberry festival at the First Congregational Church. The show was a great success according to the Gabber. In July the club toured the gardens of their club members. The club still had problems settling down, moving from the Congregational Church to the All Nations Club, then to the Leidertafel Club where they had their Christmas dinner.