



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 19

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 19, 2012

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: Vegetable Gardening

Our speaker is Christine Harris a Master Gardener from Cuyahoga County. She was the state winner as The Master Gardener of the year in 2011. Her specialty is vegetable gardening.

Board Meeting: March 26 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>

President's Message - Sam Morlan

March is the first month in the Roman calendar, which they considered the beginning of the New Year. Many cultures in The Northern Hemisphere came to the same logical conclusion. Makes a lot of sense.

It seems like we are in for an early spring many birds are back early. I saw a red winged blackbird a few days ago and forsythia in bloom.

I have decided to change the date for the Lakeview tour to April 14. We plan on carpooling up to Lakeview and touring the place with audio tapes provided by the cemetery. The two main attractions, the Wade Chapel and Garfield's tomb, have tour guides in the buildings. Then on to lunch in Little Italy and maybe a stop at Rockefeller Gardens. I need to know how many cars will be involved so that I can have tapes reserved for us, you can either email me or call me. We will meet at 9AM at Barnes and Noble in Montrose pool up there or meet the people who have already done so. I need to know by April 7.

I also need to know how many people are interested in touring Carl Schneiders Garden open house on June 10 near Burton. I would like to make this a joint outing with The Cleveland club. My plan is to reserve a room (depending on how many people signup) for a Sunday Brunch at The Welshfield Inn for a total of about \$20.00 per person. I have to have some feedback fairly soon so I can make reservations.

We need help with the silent auction and door prizes. Cheryl Bordner has been doing a great job but needs items to either bundle together or put out on their own. They could be decorative pots or any thing that is still usable and nice but you find yourself not using any longer. Grace Cochran could use some door prizes, same criteria as the silent auction. We also need some realistic bids on the silent auction.

I want to thank Bob Bell and Grace Cochran for their work on getting the roster out

We also need a candidate for first vice president since Dave Lockledge is moving out of state in June. He will be greatly missed by me and I am sure by anyone who has had the pleasure of talking to him.

Philadelphia Flower Show- The Editor

Jim and Mary Bell, John Cochran, my wife and I have just returned from visiting the Philadelphia Flower Show. It was a trip sponsored by Kingwood Center in Mansfield. There were only 25 of us which made for a very nice trip. Monday was all day on the bus to the motel which was about 45 minutes from downtown Philadelphia.

Tuesday was the show. The theme of the show this year was Hawaii. Therefore most of the gardens were tropical rain forests. There were orchids everywhere There were hula hula dancers who danced to a story about a Hawaiian princess. I missed the beginning of the dance so I really didn't get the story.

I thought one of the most interesting displays was the long table loaded with many many different kinds of orchids. They had the ribbons on them that had been awarded by the judges.

More about this trip next month and possibly some pictures.

Paper Pot Youth Program

The Gardeners of GreaterAkron Youth Program has been asked to demonstrate and teach youngsters about our seed-stating newspaper pots program. The Akron library has requested our participation on Saturday, April 21st from 2:00 to 3:30 PM and again on Saturday May 5th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

As most of you know I have enjoyed doing this from the beginning of my membership in the club. There have been times when I needed help and it was generously given by Steve Thompson, John Cochran, Les Knight and Sam Morlan. Thanks guys. If any one of you other members wish to get involved please let me know. It is not terribly time consuming and very rewarding.

Also a big thank you to Tom Dayton for donating seeds for the program.

Al Eddy,Chairman, Youth Gardening Committee

Membership Rosters

The 2012 Roster is here. Please check out your personal information. If you find any errors please notify Bob Bell or Grace Cochran. We will issue a correction in the Gabber.

If you are unable to attend our regular meeting to pick up a roster call Bob Bell at 330-673-3553 to have it mailed.

Bob Bell and Grace Cochran, Membership Committee

Keep Akron Beautiful

Keep Akron Beautiful is an organization dedicated to improving Akron's quality of life through beatification and responsible environmental management. To learn more about Keep Akron Beautiful visit them online. Their annual Dreamscape Raffle has begun. Tickets are available at local nurseries for \$25.00 each. The prize is a professionally designed front or back yard makeover valued at \$10,000.

The Summit Soil and Water Conservation District is offering rain barrels for sale. Cost is \$80 for a 55 gallon clean, food safe blue plastic drum with a removable lid. They come complete with a spigot, overflow hose, and sight gauge. A second barrel is available for \$50.00. Deadline for ordering is March 30 and pickup is April 13. Call them at 330-929-2871.

Keep Akron Beautiful is encouraging all area residents to get involved in the 2012 Great American Cleanup by participating in the 31st annual Cleanup Up Akron Week, April 21st to 28th. In this program volunteers adopt a public parcel of land to clean during this week. These volunteers will hold litter and debris cleanups on public lands and waterways, host recycling drives, spruce up public ares like parks and playgrounds, remove graffiti, plant trees and community gardens, and other activities designed to improve our environment. Keep Akron Beautiful will provide free cleanup supplies and arrange for free disposal of trash during this week.

Farmers' Markets will be held this year at Howe Meadow in Cuyahoga Falls and Highland Square in Akron. The Howe Market is open from 9 AM to noon Saturdays, May 12 through October. The Highland Square Market is open 4 to 7 PM Thursdays from May 31 to October 4.

Treasurer's Report

2011 Summary

Income

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Dinners | \$6188.00 |
| 50/50 | 581.00 |
| Silent Auction | 85.00 |
| Dues | 2470.00 |
| Geranium Sale | 6624.60 |
| May Plant Sale | 998.10 |
| Calendars | 130.50 |
| Interest Savings Account | 2.42 |
| Interest CD.s | <u>219.84</u> |
| Total | \$17,299.46 |

Expenses

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Dinners | | \$6487.00 |
| Programs | | 475.00 |
| June Picnic | | 179.96 |
| Flowers for December Dinner | | 175.00 |
| Tips for Waitresses | | 200.00 |
| Dues, National | | 733.00 |
| Dues, Regional | | 97.00 |
| Printing | | 684.62 |
| | Newsletter | 280.03 |
| | Mail | 244.59 |
| | Membership Roster | 160.00 |
| Committees | | 254.12 |
| | Membership | 32.46 |
| | Youth | 32.48 |
| | Service | 164.15 |
| | Publicity | 25.03 |
| Projects | | 576.71 |
| | Crown Point | 89.80 |
| | Habitat | 61.55 |
| | Beautification | 96.00 |
| | Horticulture Show | 329.36 |
| Donations | | 4685.00 |
| | Memorials | 85.00 |
| | Betty Jane School | 200.00 |
| | Faith Lutheran Church | 400.00 |
| | Scholarships | 4000.00 |
| Geranium Sale | | 3962.94 |
| | Flyers | 30.00 |
| | Racin Products | 3658.70 |
| | North Coast Perennials | 184.85 |
| | Ferns | 89.39 |
| Website Expenses | | 62.36 |
| Financial Report Fee | | 250.00 |
| Calendars | | 106.00 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | | <u>31.93</u> |
| Total | | \$18960.64 |

Does not include regional summer conference income of \$3700.00 and expenses of \$3298.30

Our Club's History

(Editor's note -In 1994 and 1995 Don Birdsell, the previous editor published the history of the club. The occasion was the 50th anniversary of the club. In 2003 I repeated part of this history. Since this year is the 75th anniversary of our club I thought it was appropriate to again publish our club's history. Also we have many members who have joined since 2003.)

The Men's Garden Club of Akron was organized April 27, 1937 when a group of men interested in gardening met at the Times Press building with E. V. Newton, president of the National Men's Garden Clubs of America, and Mr. Frankel of the Cleveland club to explore the possibility of forming a club in Akron. Ray Cheetham called the meeting and at that meeting was elected president of the new club. The annual dues of \$1.50 were set and membership and program committees were formed. No records tell of the number of persons who attended the first meeting but the minutes of the October meeting showed fifteen men in attendance. In November of 1937 the Akron club joined the National Men's Garden Clubs of America. The initiation dues were fifteen dollars plus twelve cents per member.

In 1938 H. H. Ferrall was elected president with Dr. Joy Lichty as vice president. The club met in the Parish House located on the corner of Oakdale and Crosby streets. The minutes of the meeting recorded the first flower show at that location on September 11, 1938. Fifteen members contributed 135 entries. Ray Cheetham won the sweepstakes prize with 26 points. The prize was a blue spruce tree. The first dinner the club held was at the Canteen on State Road and Grant Street in December 1938.

In January 1940, Joy Lichty became president and the monthly paper was first published. The club now had 22 members. C. M. Carson became the first editor of the paper. The name, Garden Gabber, was chosen as the title of the publication. The second flower show was held again in August at the Marvin Parish house. It was a great success. A picnic for the families was held at Craftsman Park in August. The membership in December was now 47 men.

Albert Clifford was elected president in 1941 and the club now had 48 members. The annual flower show was held again at the Marvin Parish house and there were 215 entries. Ray Cheetham entered the Cleveland Flower Show and won second place with his floral entry. The year ended with a family picnic at Craftsman Park and a Christmas dinner for club members.

Ted Saxman became president in 1942. That year the National reported 56 men's clubs with 5,000 members. The club met at the First Congregational Church in March for a ham dinner at \$.52 per plate. Victory (War) Gardens were the central theme. Dr. Barton invited the club to a May walk in his woods near Copley. It was well attended and gave the club members a "taste of nature". Christmas was celebrated with a dinner at the Congregational Church in Tallmadge at \$.75 per person. Due to the work pressures of war work no flower show was held in 1942, however, the club continued to have good speakers during the year.

Dr. H. W. Barton was chosen as president of the club in 1943. The club now had an official rosarian when Dale F. Powers accepted the position. Bill Lyons of Firestone talked to the club on foliages and grasses. There was a picnic and corn roast at the airport shelter with the women joining in on this occasion.

S. B. Moul was elected president in 1944. The club was still meeting at the Marvin Parish house and continued meeting there until 1947. The Fifth Annual Garden Show was held at the Maple Valley Library in August. The Akron club participated in this event. The first discussion on DDT appeared in the Gabber that year. The October meeting was held as a picnic and featured displays of flowers and vegetables. The annual Christmas dinner was held at Spindlers in Cuyahoga Falls.