



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

Published Monthly: Volume LXXII

November 2013

Number 11

President:

Sam Morlan
170 Hollybrier Drive
Wadsworth, OH 44281-9475
☎ 330-336-6269
Email: lorasam88@gmail

1st Vice President:

Arthur Britton
1989 High St..
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
☎ 330-836-2588
Email: garlic65@hotmail.com

2nd Vice President:

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

Secretary:

Sue Godard
2613 Cardington Green
Uniontown, OH 44685-7526
☎ 330-699-0509
Email: sstaats511@aol.com

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
Email: fmm2065@hotmail.com

Gabber Editor/Historian:

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

Monday, November 18

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, November 18, 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: Awards Night

For the program this month Cheryl and Clark Bordner will present the Beautification Awards. The recipients will be our guests for the evening. Clark says that there will be some pictures of the winning landscapes.

The second part of the program will be Mary Ann Ferguson- Rich with the service awards for club members.

Board Meeting: November 25 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://gogakron.org>

President's Message - Sam Morlan

November is a month of change and great beauty. The growing season is about to end but the gardening season is not quite over yet, I will explain a little later. We celebrated Halloween a few days ago with horrible weather for our Trick or Treaters. As we all know Halloween came to us through Ireland. It was a festival celebrated by many other cultures in Europe, mainly as harvest festivals, many of which had references to the dead. The pagan custom in Ireland was to disguise yourself so that the lost souls that were wandering the earth to take up residence in a living being so they would have a better chance of getting to heaven could not find you. A custom on this hallowed eve was to go from house to house, visit, and share what was called a soul cake. Being in disguise was a good time for a little fun by playing practical jokes on your neighbors.

Fall is a very important part of the growing season. Its time to plant spring bulbs (which can be done until the ground freezes) pruning, fertilizing, protecting and mulching.

You can cut back your perennials if you wish, but it is not necessary. I leave mine up so I know where they are next year and they do provide some winter interest to the garden, as well as perches for birds. Do not prune your roses until they have gone dormant (pruning before dormancy will encourage new growth). Never cut your roses to the ground but cut off long branches that may be broken off in a stiff wind, cut no shorter than 12 inches.

Fall is the best time to add fertilizer to your lawn. The best thing to do is get a soil test so you know what your turf needs, otherwise you may be wasting time and money on something you don't need. Some soil amendments take time to break down and do their job, especially lime. The soil test will tell you what your soil requires and the rate of application. A soil test every 3 years is a bargain because your soil tends to go back to what it was originally.

Save your leaves for both mulching and as a soil amendment. Shredded leaves are brown gold and can be used in many different ways. The easiest way to use them is to mow them until they are not in a dense mat. Mowing is also important for your grass. Keep your lawn mowed until it goes dormant. A lawn left to go into winter too high will encourage diseases. You can use leaves as mulch on your perennials and roses after the ground freezes. The purpose of mulch in winter is to keep the soil at an even temperature to help prevent heaving, especially among newly planted plants. If you compost you could save your leaves on the pile for next year when you have a lot of green material but have a hard time finding the carbon.

If you planted mums that you bought this fall and are hoping that they winter over - good luck. Even if the tag says hardy, most of them are not winter hardy here. I just read that you have a better chance overwintering if you do not mulch again until the ground freezes.

Remember the Endowment fund and door prizes if you have any. Also pay your dues as soon as possible so we can get the roster put together. Thanks.

Ten Tips for a Simpler, More Meaningful, Christmas

(Editor's note - It seems to me that each year the Christmas season begins earlier in the year. Thanksgiving is almost forgotten. This year some stores are not even waiting for the traditional beginning of Christmas shopping on black Friday but are starting their sales on Thanksgiving Day. So I feel that we need to stop and think about what the true meaning of Christmas really is. I believe that this article which is from the newsletter of Crown Point might help us do that.)

1. Plan ahead. Instead of going on auto-pilot the day after Thanksgiving, hold a family meeting to decide what the group really wants to do and who's going to do what.
2. If you need a symbol for giving (in addition to Jesus and the Wise Ones), learn about St. Nicholas. Santa Claus has been completely taken over by commerce.
3. Avoid debt. Refuse to be pressured by advertising to overspend.
4. Avoid stress. Give to yourself. Don't assume that things have to be the same as they've been.
5. Draw names rather than everyone giving something to everyone else in your giving circle. Set a ceiling for each recipient. Give children *one* thing they really want, rather than so many gifts. If need be, pool funds.
6. Give appropriate gifts. Get to know the recipient. Give what they need, not what you want to buy.
7. Give alternate gifts. Give 25% of what you spent last year to the truly needy... individuals or groups locally, nationally, or internationally. Buy crafts and clothing from developing countries at alternative gift markets, not from commercial importers, so that the artisans receive a fair price for their work. Give of yourself, not just "stuff" - a coupon book for future services (such as baby sitting or and "enhanced evening") or something baked, sewn, handmade, composed, etc.
8. Celebrate Advent for four weeks before Christmas.
9. Put gifts under the tree shortly before opening them. Then take turns opening them, not all at once, so that each gift can be admired and each giver thanked.
10. Make changes slowly but persistently. Don't try to change everything and everybody all at once.

Member News

Alfred T. (Al) Eddy passed away unexpectedly on November 3rd. Al was a very active member of the club, attending almost every meeting and board meeting. He was most active in the youth committee, demonstrating for the children how to make paper pots out of newspaper.

His wife, Rosemary, passed away last April 15.

Calling hours are Wednesday November 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. At Redmon Funeral Home, Stow, Ohio. The funeral service will be at 7:00 p.m.

A complete obituary notice will be in the Sunday, November 10 Akron-Beacon Journal.

Endowment Fund 3rd Quarter Report

The current value of our Fund invested with The Akron Community Foundation is \$14,280. Since our original investment in 2011, the fund has \$1035 that is available for our Club's use. The Endowment Committee continues to recommend that the funds remain invested at this time.

All members should have received a letter from the Endowment Committee with information regarding making a contribution to our Endowment Fund with the Akron Community Foundation. If you did not save your letter I am including here the form you may use or, you may contribute online at <http://bit.ly/T6HEfT>

A GIFT FOR THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON	
Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to support the mission of our Club.	
Given By: _____	
Street _____	City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone: _____	Email:(optional) _____
In honor of: _____	
In memory of: _____	
Please keep my name anonymous. <input type="checkbox"/>	
Please send acknowledgement to:	
Name: _____	
Street _____	City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Please make the check payable to: ACF/ THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON ENDOWMENT FUND	
Send to Akron Community Foundation,, 345 W. Cedar, Akron, OH 44307	

A Little Humor

The graveside service had just barely finished when there was a massive clap of thunder, followed by a tremendous bolt of lightening accompanied by even more thunder rumbling in the distance. The little old man looked at the preacher and calmly said, "Well, she's there."

Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, some one would be stupid enough to try to pass them.

I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

2014 RENEWAL FOR MEMBERSHIP - GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON

The campaign for membership renewal starts in October. We plan to receive all renewals by the December meeting with the intent of the Roster being available sometime in January 2014.

Please be aware this year there will be no ‘reminder calls for membership renewal as this slows down the completion of the 2014 Roster.

Annual dues are \$35.00 per individual/year
\$60.00 per couple/year
Life/Associate member dues are \$15.00/year

Make check payable to Gardeners of Greater Akron and bring them either to the dinner meetings or mail to Leroy Hart 633 Schocalog Rd. Akron, Ohio 44320 (330-836-1407) or Bob Bell 1832 Sandy Lake Rd. Ravenna, Ohio 44266 (330-673-3553).
Sooner is better than later.

If you have been unable to attend meetings and would like the Roster mailed to your home address please check the box below.

Please send Roster to my home address: _____

To keep the Roster current, if you have any changes to your address or phone, please fill out those areas.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone #: _____

Cell #: _____

Thank you from the membership committee.

Any questions contact: Bob Bell, Grace Cochran, or Leroy Hart.
Updated: 9/27/13