



The Garden Gabber



Affiliated with The Gardeners of America Inc. Men's Garden Clubs of America Central Great Lakes Region

Published Monthly: Volume LXVII

November 2008

Number 11

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Monday, November 17

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 17, 2008
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: St. George Fellowship Center
3204 Ridgewood Road
Copley, Ohio

Program: Awards and Question and Answer

Second vice president, Jack Cochran, will present this year's Beautification awards. Membership Committee chair, Jim Fee, will present the service awards to club members. There will be an election of officers for 2009. They will be installed at the December meeting.

Hello fellow gardeners if you have a questions as to what you have growing in your garden and are not sure where to go to get answers, then why not ask the Garden Club?. At the November meeting we will have a question and answer time, so between now and then if you have questions you can e-mail me or at the meeting write them down and we will try our best to answer your questions. See you there and happy gardening.

Submitted by Arthur Britton

The caterer has been asked to have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for us this month.

The final board meeting for the year will be on November 24, 2008 at 7 pm at Faith Lutheran Church.

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

A Message from Your President - John Lewis

As some of you may know, I missed the dinner meeting in October due to vacationing in the Smoky Mountains. I recall Leroy Hart writing of his vacationing in Newfoundland and it was very interesting. Since I am almost at a loss for things to write about, I hope you'll endure my attempt to emulate his writing experience.

The trip is about eight hours by car if you can avoid Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge, otherwise call ahead for very late arrival as you sit or inch along in bumper to bumper traffic. Once there be sure to take a trip through the mountains from Galtinburg to Cherokee. If you feel lucky [you won't be] and have some spare cash, visit the Cherokee Indian casino just outside Cherokee. The ride through the mountains will take your mind off your losses as it is breathtaking, and in places gut wrenching.

There are signs posted all over the area advising to not feed the animals. Animals? In seven days we saw three deer and one turkey. Avoid Cades Cove as it is an 11.5 mile one lane road around a valley and the traffic resembles Pigeon Forge. This is, however, the place where we saw the three deer, about a quarter mile away in a pasture, munching away, with traffic stopped while tourists jockeyed for the best location to take pictures. I've seen more deer in my garden in Wadsworth, and my neighbor across the road at one time had a bear which he would bathe with a garden hose in the middle of his driveway - and by law he had to dispose of its waste about 10 miles away. I digress. About half way around the cove are rest room facilities, a mill grinding corn meal [The corn bread I made from this meal was delicious.] and a gift shop. Just hope you make it in time.

The turkey was along side a busy road, with no apparent fear or interest in the traffic, just pecking away. The wildest thing I saw the entire time was my hair in the morning. Then came the eight hour trip home.

I'm getting up there in years and my thoughts increasingly turn to the hereafter, if there is a hereafter, and if my soul will be rewarded for all my good or bad deeds. I suppose God is different things to different people. If we are created in God's image, I wonder, does He have knobbly knees, nearsighted, unmanageable hair, is He not really great at calculus, not fully understand $E = mc^2$, black holes, the curvature of space, and quantum physics? Does the devil have a hand in this? Maybe my better half has a point, what makes me think God is a he. Well I'm stumped, so I'll stop thinking on the matter.

I also thought about Habitat for Humanity and landscaping done by the garden club. I wonder what passersby think of the group of white haired men toiling in the light rain on Cole Ave. in Akron. They surely don't know they are from Kent, Brimfield, Tallmadge, Cuyahoga Falls, Bath, Barberton, Clinton, Wadsworth, the Portage Lakes, and - Akron. That on weekends they may be joined by women, a young girl, and those working at a job during the week. What compels these people to get up early and give of their time and effort for half a day? Surely not a cup of coffee or juice or a donut or two. Another of history's mysteries.

I'm not mentioning names, you'll hear them during the awards portion of November's meeting.

Good bless them all, and all of you.

Habitat Landscaping in October 2008

During the week of October 13 our loyal HFH landscaping crew completed the landscaping of the 4th home this year. The home was built by a coalition of Bath/Copley/Fairlawn churches. The home is at 418 Cole Avenue near an area known in early Akron years as Goosetown.

Thanks to all who helped on this 4th home this year:

Bob Bell	Jim Bell
Andy Bettick	Al Eddy
Richard Edwards	Lee Hart
Roger Hite	John Lewis
Chuck Keach	Leslie Knight
David Martine	Ira McCans
Frank Mitch	Lowell Zurbuch

Additional thanks to members who contributed their own special plants for the landscaping: Les Knight, Richard Edwards and Andy Bettick. Daffodil bulbs were from Jim Bell. Thanks to Crown Point for some Hostas and other surplus plants. Preparation work was done early that week by Jim Bell, Richard Edwards, David Martine, and Frank Mitch. Chuck Keach assisted with some completion work on Saturday after the main work day on Wednesday.

Again we had some help from one of the previous partner families. Keana Wallace came to work with us on Wednesday. She is the owner of a HFH home at 140 Cole Avenue. We landscaped that home late in the fall of 2004.

Thanks again to all who worked with us this year for a total of 4 homes for the year. We have completed 22 homes since the start of this project.

Reported by Frank Mitch

Update on Our Purple Martins

According to Larry Hunter, organizer of the Purple Martin Association, This year, 2008, proved to be the most successful since its founding in 2000. There were 125 nesting pairs of martins, 574 eggs laid and 484 hatchlings fledging 464 baby birds. Larry reports that 65 or more people donate their time year round managing the existing colony sites and creating sites for new colonies that return each spring from the south. Over \$15,000 has been spent on housing for purple martins and tree swallows. The plan for 2009 is to erect five more poles for martins and ten more for tree swallows bringing the total to 29 poles with 366 gourds for martins and 32 poles for tree swallows. Martins and swallows significantly reduce insect populations. This project proves it. To get involved, contact Larry Hunter at 330-644-1540 or Les Knight at 330-633-2616.

Submitted by Les Knight

Committees

Committee	Chair/CoChair	Phone
10 Minute Presentation	Andy Bettick	666-8793
Awards	Jim Fee Dick Cotton	864-0442 867-7250
Beautification	Clark Bordner	633-2019
Calling Committee	Bob Bell	673-3553
Crown Point	Andy Bettick Lee Hart	666-8793 836-1407
Geranium Sale	Chet Lowry	864-4328
Habitat	Frank Mitch	666-2327
Horticulture Show	Mary Ann Ferguson Rich Kathy Morgan	630-9625
Membership	Bob Bell Grace Cochran	673-3553 864-4352
Memorial	Margaret Gentile	384-8875
Newsletter	Lee Hart	836-1407
Plant Sale	Walt Starcher	725-7193
Programs	Jack Cochran	865-5501
Publicity	Les Knight	
Scholarship	Jim Fee Frank Mitch	864-0442 666-2327
Seed Exchange	Andy Bettick	666-8793
Silent Auction	Grace Cochran	864-4352
Strawberry Festival	Marti Williams	825-5315
Youth Gardening	Al Eddy	666-3158
Web Site	Frank Mitch	666-2327

Board of Directors for 2009

	Officers	Immediate Past Presidents	
President	Art Britton	MaryAnn Ferguson Rich	2005
First VP	Jack Cochran	Leroy Hart	2006
Second VP	Clark Bordner	Bob Bell	2007
Secretary	Marti Williams	John Lewis	2008
Treasure	Leroy Hart		

Member News

Unfortunately there are a couple of deaths to report this month. Long time member Jay Halverson passed away. Jay could not attend meetings because of poor eyesight but he remained active in the club as a member of the calling committee,

Bob Johnson's wife Nancy passed away on October 8. Our sympathies to Bob and to Jay's family.

Harold White's wife, Jenett, is very ill. Harold is also in poor health. For these reasons he has not been able to attend meetings.

2008 Membership Report

During 2008 We Have Received the Following New Members:

	Sponsored By:
Cheryl & Clark Border	Jim Bell
Bobbie Dora	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich
Darrell Dube	Grace Cochran
Lillian Harris	Grace Cochran
Donna Hazel wood	Grace Cochran
Carol Kern	Grace Cochran

As of this October, We Have 90 Members. Let's Keep Growing!!

Reported by Grace Cochran

Silent Auction Garden Tools

Thanks to Dick Frenberg, son of long time member Milt Frenberg, we will have a bunch of his father's garden tools in our Silent Auction in the next few months. Best of them is a handheld electric leaf blower with a long power cord. There is a very nice small electric chain saw and also an older gasoline chain saw. Save your money also for a lot of other garden tools and small hand tools and clippers. These and other miscellaneous garden items will be coming in to the future Silent Auctions.

We previously received a group of garden tools from the Frenberg home. These were given to Charly for his youth gardening program.

2009 Dues Are Due

- Regular Members - \$35.00 _____
- Life Members - \$15.00 _____
- Associate Members - \$15.00 _____
- Family Life Members - Spouse is not a Life Member - \$40.00 _____
- Family Regular Member - Spouse is not a Life Member - \$60.00 _____
- New Life Membership - at any age - One time payment of \$200.00 _____

Please complete the following form , enclose your check and bring it to a meeting or mail it to:

Leroy Hart

633 Schocalog Road

Akron. OH 44320- 1033

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address (if OK to print in club roster) _____