



THE GARDEN GABBER

NEWSLETTER OF
THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON

Affiliated with The Gardeners of America Inc.,
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Monday, September 16

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, September 16, 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: Noelle Clark Akin, Director of
Communications and Education at Petitti
Garden Center.
She will be talking about how to treat your
garden in the fall.

Mark your Calendar: The Great Lakes Gardeners
regional meeting will be at Kingwood
Center in Mansfield, Ohio on
October 5, 2013, at 10:00 a.m.

Board Meeting: September 23 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>

September President's Message – Sam Morlan

I am writing this on Labor Day before I head out for a family outing. There is always a bit of sadness in the air at this time knowing summer is closing out and fall is not far behind. All the seasons have their special appeal. Spring is the season of hope and renewal as we plan our gardens and wait to see what has survived the winter. Summer is the season for watching our gardens progress, prosper and to enjoy the beauty and opportunities to be out and about. Fall and late summer is time to enjoy your gardens bounty whether it's flowers or vegetables. Winter a great time to do some research and browse through catalogues or internet to help you plan a garden or discover new tips on how to become a better gardener. I am always amazed at what pops up when you *google* something.

This has been a strange growing season. We had wet early on, then some drying and a cool August. Tomatoes seem to have suffered most. My tomatoes were slow to bloom and start growing but when they took off, they are the biggest vines I have ever had. I had a new problem with tomatoes this year with a deformity known as cat-facing, I found out it is the result of wet weather during the bloom cycle. Some of my friends have had problems with squash and zucchini not being pollinated. The strange thing about this is that it is not universal. The only thing I can think of is that the squash bee, which is a native bee that is ground dwelling, may have been impacted by the wet weather. Not sure, what happened. In my own backyard just as the tomatoes were finally ripe, an invasive critter known as a woodchuck took up residence.

I would like to thank Cheryl Bordner for the fabulous door prizes last month. What a great idea, as we always need door prizes maybe more of us could bring things we have processed from our gardens. I also want to thank Grace Cochran for bringing plants to share with the rest of us, another great idea. We can continue this as long as the weather permits.

I regret to announce that we will not be hosting The National Convention in 2014. I would like to thank everyone that offered to help.

A reminder of coming events:

Dr. Doug Talley will be at the Summit County's main library in downtown Akron, September 17 at 7:30. Dr. Talley is a well-respected expert on invasive species and their effect on our environment and us.

October 5 has two conflicting events. One is our regional meet at Kingwood in Mansfield and the other is a plant sale at Secrest Arboretum 9:00 - 12:00. You can get a plant list if you search Secrest Arboretum.

I also want to urge all the committee heads to send your list of volunteers to Mary Ann for awards. I believe it would be helpful to mention how many times an individual participated.