



# The Garden Gabber



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

Published Monthly: Volume LXV

November 2006

Number 11

**President:**

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

**1st Vice President:**

Robert Bell  
1832 Sandy Lane Road  
Ravenna, OH 44366  
☎ 330-673-3553

**2nd Vice President:**

David Rich  
1166 Broadview Rd.  
Tallmadge, OH 44278  
☎ 330-630-9625

**Secretary:**

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich  
1166 Broadview Rd.  
Tallmadge, OH 44278  
☎ 330-630-9625

**Treasurer:**

John Lewis  
3066 Rohrer Road  
Wadsworth, OH 44281-9576  
☎ 330-336-9336

**National Directors:**

William Moorehouse  
511 Overwood Road  
Akron, OH 44313  
☎ 330-864-0604

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

**Gabber Editor/Historian:**

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

## Monday, November 20

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 20, 2006  
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

**Where:** Vino La Bella  
440 Grant Street  
Akron, Ohio 44311

**Program:** Awards Night

The November meeting is the traditional awards night when we have the big tree awards by Walter Starcher and the beautification awards by David Rich.

This year we are adding the members service awards by awards committee chairman Jim Fee. Last year this was done in December, but this year we are keeping the December meeting for installation of officers and the program.

Board meeting November 27 at 7:00 P.M. at the Garden Forum, corner of West Market Street and White Pond Drive. All members are invited to attend.

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

## **A Message from Your President - Leroy Hart**

I think it is a good idea to keep the membership informed about what occurs at the monthly board meetings. At the last meeting plans were made for the December meeting. It was decided to ask the caterer to have a sit-down dinner instead of a buffet. The cost of a sit-down dinner is higher but the board felt it makes for a more enjoyable evening if the dinner is served. Some of the board members felt that the poinsettias that were given to the ladies last year were too small. It was decided to order the next larger size this year. As usual the order will be placed with Barco's. Willard Barco is an honorary and long time member of the club. Red and white poinsettias will be ordered.

The caterer has been contacted by Bob Bell and he agreed to the prime rib and salmon menu. The cost of a sit-down dinner is higher than the cost of the buffet but the cost will be the same as last year - \$15.00.

Dues were discussed and it was decided to keep them the same as last year. They will be \$15.00 for life members, \$35.00 for regular members, \$40.00 for a life member and spouse, and \$60.00 for a regular member and spouse. The cost of becoming a life member is \$200.00. We will not have the automatic membership in the American Horticultural Society. The national decided that the cost of this automatic membership was becoming too large so the national broke off this relationship. However, if you still desire to continue your membership with the AHS you can do so. To continue your AHS membership indicate that when you pay your local dues and John Lewis will send your name to national who will then give your name to the AHS; the Ahs will bill you directly. Your cost will be \$35.00 for two years and \$10.00 for the third year. This seems to be complicated but this is the way that the AHS wanted it done. Apparently the AHS is not too happy with us for backing out of our agreement with them. One of the advantages of membership in the AHS is that you get free or reduced charges for admission to other gardens etc. However, if you are a member of Stan Hywet you have the same privileges.

The slate of officers for 2007 has been completed. President, Robert Bell; First Vice President, John Lewis; Second Vice President, James Bell; Secretary Mary Ann Ferguson Rich; Treasurer, Leroy Hart. The election of this slate will be at the next meeting and they will be installed in December.

Silent Auctions were discussed. We have not had a silent auction for some time. There will be one this meeting. Bob Bell is donating a special clock for this auction. A person is needed to be in charge of the silent auction. It was discussed whether to have a 50/50 raffle at the December meeting. It was decided to have one; if you don't like the 50/50 you don't have to participate, but some of us look on it as a donation to the club.

The board decided to have a seed exchange next February. When you cut back your perennials save some of the seed and bring it to this exchange. More about this later.

Our work at Crown Point Ecology Center was discussed. Andy Bettick and I have been maintaining a small perennial garden near the entrance of their building. When we have extra work to be done other members come to help us. This year this extra work was tearing out the whole bed and starting over; the bed had become too crowded. Now Crown Point wants to expand the landscaping to another area. Andy will meet with the landscape architect and will report back to us about how much we should get involved in this project.

The Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster will be available at the meeting if you did not get it at the last meeting.



## About November

November, now our eleventh month, retained its name (from the Latin, *nouem*, denoting “nine”) when January and February were added to the calendar. The Romans did try to change it, but were as unsuccessful as they were in their attempts at changing the names of other months. The Senate also tried to honor Tiberius by naming the month for him, but the Emperor refused to allow this change (even though his birthday fell during November) and said, “What will you do, Conscript Fathers, if you have 13 Caesars?”

In the Julian calendar, November had 31 days; then one was taken away and added to August, leaving the month with 30 days. This was considered an important month as winter set in on November 11. Ancient Saxons called November “Wint-monat” or “wind-month”, because of the heavy gales prevalent then. It was customary for seamen to give up seafaring, and to lay up their fishing craft on the beaches until the next spring, for they dared not risk their lives by fishing during the furious wind storms. November was also dubbed “Blot-monath” or “blood month”, probably because it was during this time that they sacrificed animals to their deities; they also slaughtered cattle and salted the meat for winter use.

For many decades numerous people have considered this month the gloomiest one in the entire calendar, “the month of blue devils and suicides,” with dull skies and fog - especially in cities like London.

Five Presidents were born in November: James K. Polk, Zachary Taylor, Franklin Pierce, James Garfield, and Warren G. Harding. Other famous persons born in this month are Daniel Boone, Marie Antoinette, William Cullen Bryant, Will Rogers, John Philip Sousa, Paderewski, Martin Luther, Dale Carnegie, Lousia M. Alcott, Winston Churchill, Mark Twain, Robert L. Stevenson, Robert Fulton, Nehru, Voltaire,

Mendelssohn, Marie Curie, and Prince Charles.

Some important November events are: in 1577 Sir Francis Drake ended his round-the-globe voyage; in 1635 the original settlement was made in Connecticut; in 1681 people had the first sight of Haley’s Comet; in 1731 Benjamin Franklin started the first circulating library; in 1765 the Stamp Act went into effect; in 1783 the British soldiers left America, and the Revolutionary Army was disbanded; also in 1783 the first post office in America was founded; in 1789 we had the first official Thanksgiving; in 1800 Congress met for the first time in Washington D.C.; in 1842 Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln were married; in 1860 Lincoln was elected President; in 1864 he gave his Gettysburg Address; in 1869 the first college football game was played; in 1881 the American Federation of Labor was started; in 1899 the first patent for an automobile was granted; in 1918 World War I was ended; in 1952 the U.S. exploded its first hydrogen bomb.

In the Christian Church November 1 and 2 are celebrated as All Saints Day and All Souls Day - perhaps replacing the old Celtic feast of the dead.

In the United States election day comes on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. November 11, Veterans Day (formerly Armistice Day) is observed in honor of service men and women of all wars. Thanksgiving Day occurs on the fourth Thursday of the month.

The November birthstone is the topaz. This is the most popular and highly valued yellow stone. In early times all transparent yellow gems were termed “topaz” but today the term is used only for the yellow type of quartz known as “citrine”. Topaz is fairly hard, exceeded only by the diamond and the corundum in hardness. The name “topaz: may have come from the name of an island in the Red Sea or it may have come from the Greek word “Topazas (“top” means to “shine”) or from the Sanskrit work that means “heat”.

The November flower is the Chrysanthemum.

5  
**2007 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 mail to:

John Lewis  
3066 Rohrer Road  
Wadsworth, OH 44281-9576

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Christmas Dinner**

For our Christmas dinner we have a choice of entrees, prime rib or salmon The cost for either entree is \$15.00. Send this form with your check payable to Men's Garden Club of Akron to John Lewis at the above address. The date of the meeting is December 18. Your form should be returned by December 11. This is the only notice of this dinner you will receive; it will not be printed in the December Gabber. The details about the program will be in the December Gabber. You may combine dinner payment with dues payment.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners as follows:

Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a number for each choice:

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Member's name \_\_\_\_\_

**Akron Men's Garden Club**  
**1148 West Market St #110**  
**Akron OH 44313-7145**