



The Garden Gabber



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

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Monday, August 21

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, August 21, 2006
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

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

Program All About Gladioli

Bill Lanning and his wife Anita will be with us again this month. They were with us last September when Bill told us about gourds. Bill also is an expert on the growing of glads; each year he plants hundreds of them.

Bill and Anita are from Findlay, Ohio. He is a former National President of the MGCA and is now the Treasurer of the Central Great Lakes Region. Anita is a national director of TGOA/MGCA and President of the region.

We will continue the short presentation by a fellow club member. This month it will be Frank Mitch speaking on the subject of Pests and Varmits in the Garden.

All members are invited to attend the board meeting on Monday, August 28 at 7:00 P.M. at the Garden Forum building, the corner of West Market Street and White Pond Drive.

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

A Message from Your President - Leroy Hart

At The July board meeting we discussed the results of the mini brainstorming session that was held at the July meeting, led by 1st Vice President Bob Bell. The board felt that it had been a productive session with good cooperation from the membership. We will be having another similar session at the next meeting. Again think about what is good about the club and what needs improvement. Think about what the club should be doing to make the club better and to have it more involved in the community.

To refresh your memories, these are the things that were discussed during this session at the July meeting, in no particular order of importance. They are all important and need further discussion and possible implementation:

1. Have a plant and seed exchange as a part of a meeting. Bring in your extras and take home somebody else's extras.
2. Visit, member to member, each other's garden.
3. Have a bus trip to some significant garden spot.
4. Put new members to work immediately. Assign them to some committee.
5. Have a information booth at the County Fair.
6. Rent the club out for the day. Have several members donate their time to work on somebody's project, like we do at the Habitat homes, only for pay.
7. Have better public relations so that the community knows more about the club and its activities. The Beacon Journal and the West Side Leader were possibilities.
8. Invite students in the area who are studying horticultural etc., subjects.
9. Highlight a different member each month in the newsletter. This would help us to know each other better. This used to be done in the Gabber but was dropped some time ago.
10. Have a booth at the Farmer's Market on Thursday evenings.
11. We could cooperate with Elaine Evans and Let's Grow Akron. They sponsor neighborhood gardens on vacant lots throughout the city.
12. We could cooperate with Keep Akron Beautiful. A few years ago they suggested a site that we might want to landscape but for several reasons this project was not started.

Think about these possibilities and add others at the August meeting. You will have a chance to discuss these and others, if presented, and we can rank them as to their importance to the club.

The annual Horticultural Show will be held on Saturday, August 12 and Sunday, August 13 at the downtown library. Bring your entries to the library between 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. on Saturday. Judging will be from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. You should pick up your entries on Sunday by 3:00 P.M. Entries left after 3: P.M. will be discarded. Parking at the parking deck next to the library is free on Saturday and Sunday. Try to park on the lower levels and close to the library so that it will be easier to bring your entries to the exhibition area.

Some of the most beautiful entries last year were from members of the Youngstown club. They will be coming again this year. Let's have a big turnout from our club this year and try to out do Youngstown. The show is in a prominent location in the library and draws lots of viewers so lets have a lot of participation by our members and make a good impression.

Geranium Sale

Treasurer. John Lewis, gave a final report on the geranium sale at the last board meeting. All of the money is in (with the exception of the \$30.00 bad check, which may never be covered). Total received was \$12,198.75. Expenses were \$8738.88 to the grower for the plants and transportation and \$217.72 for expenses of the sale for a total expense of \$8956.60. Our profit was \$ 3242.15. This profit was used to pay the \$2000.00 scholarships which were awarded earlier. The remaining \$ 1242.15 will be used for club expenses for the year.

Chet Lowry, the chair person of the geranium sale committee, thanks all the members who supported the sale either by selling tickets and/or working at the sale. Special thanks to Walt Starcher, John Martindale and Bill Moorehouse who took the left overs and sold them by placing them on their lawns.

The sale was a bigger success than last year's; we ordered fewer plants but made more profit. This is the club's biggest fund raiser so it is very important that it be successful.

Dues Are Due

It was suggested at the last board meeting that we begin to collect dues earlier in the year. We are supposed to get our dues to the national by the end of December. Also if anyone wishes to continue membership in The American Horticultural Society they need to know by the same time so they can get the membership card to you on time.

Since the national, by the vote that was held earlier in the year, is dropping out of the AHS if you wish to continue membership in the AHS you must do so individually. The cost is \$15.00 payable along with your local dues. Last year the national dues were higher and our club paid the difference between the higher dues and what we paid before the increase. This year without the membership in the AHS the national dues are back down. Our dues remain the same as last year: \$35.00 for regular members, \$15.00 for life members, and \$60.00 for a family membership, two members in the same household. Again \$15.00 to continue to belong to the AHS.

Member News

It is the custom of our club to make a contribution to the national in memory of deceased members. In the past two months we made contributions in memory of Dr. Jimmy Snoga and Robert Van Kirk. The national sends a thank you to the club for these contributions; also they send an acknowledgment to the family of the person memorialized. We received, from Mrs. Snoga, a copy of the form telling of the gift that the club made in memory of Dr. Snoga and a thank you card from her and the family.

Lost and Found

There were a few items left after the club picnic in June. There was a red back pot holder, a pot holder with a green hem and a serving spoon from a bean dish. Jim Bell has these items and he said he would bring them to the next meeting.

Address Changes

Charles White Jr. has moved to Rockynol. His new address is 1148 West Market Street, Akron, OH 44313-7145 Apt. 110 The phone number is the same.

William Bacon has been at Rockynol for some time but the address in the directory is wrong. The correct address is 1150 West Market Street instead of 1148.

Calendars

I have the 2007 calendars and will be bringing them to the meetings. If people want them and can not attend the meetings I will see they get them if they call me. Price is \$3.50. They cost the club \$2.45. The pictures are the best from the National photo contest.

Bill Moorehouse

A Little Fun

(Editor's note - I have some space to fill and I thought a break from the serious business would be appropriate. I don't know where this came from or who gave it to me.)

You may be from Ohio (pronounced ah-hi-uh) if:

1. You think all pro football teams are supposed to wear orange.
2. You know all the four seasons: winter, still winter, almost winter and construction.
3. You live less than 30 miles from some college or university.
4. You know what a buckeye really is, and have a recipe for candy ones.
5. You say "Toward the lake" to mean "north" and "toward the river" to mean "south".
6. You know if other Ohioans are from southern or northern Ohio as soon as they open their mouths.
7. You can spell words like Cuyahoga, Olentangy, Bellefontaine, Tuscarawas, Wapakoneta and you know which letter is doubled in Cincinnati.

8. For you "Vacation" means spending a day at Cedar Point in the summer and deer hunting in the fall.
9. You measure distance in minutes.
10. Your school classes were canceled because of cold.
11. Your school classes were canceled because of heat.
12. You had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day.
13. You know what should be knee high by the Fourth of July.
14. You end your sentences with an unnecessary preposition. Example: "Where's my coat at?"
15. You install security lights on your house and garage and leave both unlocked.
16. You think of the four major food groups as beef, pork, beer and Jell-O salad with marshmallows.
17. You carry jumper cables in your car.
18. You know what "pop" is.
19. You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit.
20. You know that driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow.
21. You think sexy lingerie is tube socks and a flannel nightgown.
22. Your local paper covers national and international headlines on one page but requires six pages for sports.

More Humor

Get What You Pay For - On their way home from Sunday worship, Wally and Wanda were complaining about their church - the pews were too hard, the sermon too long and the organ too loud. In the back seat little Wally listened to all his parents' complaints. Finally, he popped up, "What do you expect for a dollar?"

Simple Explanation - A country gentleman was asked why he had never married. He replied, "Well, I would rather go through life wanting something I didn't have than having something I didn't want."

An "A" for Honesty - A boy brought home his disappointing report card and rather sheepishly handed it to his father. After looking it over and mulling about it for a few moments the father scowled, "Well there's one good thing - with those grades, you're not cheating."

About August

Our eighth month, August, once called “the forerunner of splendid beauties” was originally named “Sextilis” by the Romans, as it was the sixth in their calendar. At first August had 29 days, then for some time, 30.

Julius Caesar had adopted his nephew, Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus, and make him his heir. The Senate gave this ruler the title of “Augustus” meaning “revered” or “reverend.” (Later emperors added this to their names.) The Senate honored Augustus by naming a month for him and “Sextilis” became “August”. The Emperor took one day from February, adding it to August, so that his month would have 31 days, the same as July that honored his uncle, Julius Caesar.

Anglo-Saxons named August “Arn-monath” (“arn” meaning “harvest”) for at this time they were busily harvesting their crops. Since the hot weather continued during the month, everything grew rapidly; weeds were plentiful, so the Saxons also called this time “.Weod-monath.”

The most popular holiday if the entire year, in England, “Harvest Home” was celebrated in August. After the last wagon had carried its load to the barn, the landlord and his workers gathered for a festive meal. All rejoiced together over the bountiful harvest.

Presidents born in August were Benjamin Harrison, Herbert Hoover and Lyndon B. Johnson. Other notables were Thomas Gainsborough, Percy Shelley, Harry Lauder, Alfred Tennyson, Princess Margaret, Carrie Jacobs Bond, Annie Oakley, Leo Tolstoy, Napoleon, Sir Walter Scott, Frederick the Great, Prince Albert, Queen Wilhelmina, Izaak Walton, Goethe, Orville Wright, Davy Crockett, and Marshall Field.

Many historic events have occurred during August: in 1456 the Gutenberg Bible was completed; in 1501 Columbus first landed on the continent of North America; in 1588 the Spanish Armada was defeated; in 1642 the first commencement took place at Harvard; in 1770 Captain James Cook took possession of Australia for England; in 1789 the U. S. War Department was organized; in 1790 the first national census in America was taken.

In 1806 the first coal was mined in the U.S; in 1807 the steamer Clermont sailed on the Hudson River; in 1814 Dolly Madison fled from the burning White House; in 1831 the first steam railroad went into operation; in 1846 the Smithsonian Institution was established; in 1859 oil was discovered at Titusville, Pennsylvania; in 1884 the cornerstone for the Statue of Liberty was laid; in 1896 the Alaska gold rush was on; in 1920 the 19th Amendment to the Constitution went into effect, giving the women of America the right to vote; in 1934 Hitler took over Germany; in 1935 Will Rogers and Wiley Post were killed in an airplane crash; in 1944 the Allies liberated Paris; in 1945 General McArthur landed in Japan; and in 1958 the Nautilus, a nuclear-powered submarine made the first undersea crossing at the North Pole.

On August 4, 1790 the U.S. Revenue Marine was founded; this was the forerunner of the Coast Guard. On August 14, 1941 President Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill met and produced the Atlantic Charter, this document stated the peace aims of the United States and Great Britain. August 14, 1945 was V J Day.

The August birthstone is the Sardonyx. Sardonyx is a kind of onyx, which contains layers of sard, a brownish red variety of chalcedony. Often in sardonyx there is a white layer contrasting with the brownish-red one; this color is caused by the presence of iron oxide.

The alternate birthstone is the Peridot.

The August flower is the poppy and the alternate is the glad iolus.

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