



THE GARDEN GABBER

NEWSLETTER OF
THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON



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

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Monday, January 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, January 17, 2011

5:30 p.m. – Social Hour

6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: St. George Fellowship Centre

3205 Ridgewood Road

Copley, Ohio

Program: Noelle Clark Akin

The speaker is Noelle Clark Akin, The Director of Communications and Education at Pettiti Garden Center. She is going to speak to us on house plants and winter care..

Board Meeting: January 24 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://mgcakron.org> & <http://ohiogardeners.org>

President's Message

Clark Bordner

What an honor! I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to serve as the president of the Gardeners of Greater Akron. This Club has a long and distinguished history of service to our community in many capacities. We can be proud that we have a positive effect on the organizations that we support. One of my goals is to nurture and perhaps expand these relationships. Another aspect of our club that particularly appeals to me is the vast pool of knowledge in all aspects of gardening that we have in our membership. My second goal is to give our members the opportunity to use their talents to further educate our members as well as certain aspects of the community in their specialties. I look forward to the challenges that this position presents and to serving you in the best way possible.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Arthur for his two years of exemplary leadership. When many garden clubs are losing members and even disbanding; our club is growing and has a sense of vitality that is great to see. Arthur has taken charge of some tough and sometimes controversial issues. He made them work for the betterment of the club. I firmly believe that our club is much better today due to the leadership that Arthur provided as president of the Gardeners of Greater Akron. Thank you, Arthur, for your service to our club.

I was very happy to see the report on Arrowhead Primary School Nature Zone that Al Eddy provided in the December Gabber. If you have not had a chance to read this report, I encourage you to do so. Al set up a meeting for me at Arrowhead with Paula, the director of the program. I was astonished at all of the different aspects of gardening and the study of nature that are incorporated into a relatively small area. We can set up tours for those who are interested in the spring. There are opportunities for us to become involved in an interaction with children where we work beside them as they garden. Financial contributions from our club are much needed and appreciated, however, the knowledge and mentoring that we could impart would have great impact upon the children in this program. We will develop a potential mentoring relationship with Arrowhead in the near future.

We may be able to reestablish our relationship with Stan Hywet Hall. I personally believe that the gardens there are some of the most beautiful that I have seen. The leadership there has changed and Sam Morlan is exploring what it would take for us to become partners with them again. I believe that this would be a perfect marriage. Let's hope that they accept our proposal.

I am truly excited about the path which our club is taking. There are many opportunities for all of us to do what we all love, gardening. Let's take advantage of all of the programs in which we participate and have a great 2011!!

Sincerely

Up Coming Program

In April we are planning an open forum to begin the gardening season. We will have some basic demonstrations on starting seeds and/or cuttings in our homes or green houses. We will have a panel of club members to answer any questions you may have.

I am looking for members to either present a topic they feel they are expert in and also to help field questions from the floor. Please let me know if you are interested in presenting a short message or answering questions.

I would also like for members who have a specific question to submit it to me or anyone else you think could answer it and we will try to get as many answers as possible before hand. THANKS

Sam Morlan
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We need a lot of cooperation for this to work

Habitat for Humanity

Chris Godard, the chairman of the Habitat committee received this letter, dated December 15, containing Habitat's appraisal of our club. Chris feels that we should be very proud of our efforts:

On behalf of the board of trustees and our partner families please accept this letter of thanks for the landscaping work you and your fellow gardeners did on our home projects at 1180 McIntosh in Akron, 3909 Moreland and 3925 Moreland in Stow. Your help and generosity is greatly appreciated.

The families have all moved into their new homes and have been able to celebrate the holidays with the best gift of all...homeownership. Lijoi Brown and her son now live at 1180 McIntosh. Lijoi is a bank teller with First Merit Bank. Lathya McClendon and her three children now live at 3925 Moreland. Lathya is a group home manager with United Disability Services. Finally, Charles and Justine Oddo and their two daughters live at 3909 Moreland. Charles works two jobs - one in manufacturing and for UPS. Justine takes care of Emma 3 and Gracie 18 months. Gracie has Acardi Syndrome and is unable to ever walk or speak due to the front portion of her brain never developing. Her constant seizures are a symptom of her condition.

Each of the above families are forever in our hearts as they continue on their journey with our organization. The service you provided in landscaping these three homes is something we are grateful for and your support of our organization is much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Rochelle D. Fisher
President and CEO

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all you gave and continue to give in this club.

With care, Chris Godard

Match the Name of the Variety With the Vegetable, Fruit, or Flower.

Waltham Butternut	celery
Knock-out	sweet corn
Mary Washington	lima bean
Green Globe	blueberry
Stringless Green Pod	corn
Copenhagen Market	asparagus
Giant Pascal	pie cherry
Detroit Dark Red	apple
Half-runner	cantaloupe
lochief	rose
Wolf River	potato
Black-seeded Simpson	pepper
Montmorency	cabbage
Early Blue Ray	lettuce
Rainbow Indian	peanut
Marglobe	artichoke
Jumbo Virginia	bean
Crenshaw	lettuce
Late Flat Dutch	potato
Kennebec	pepper
California Wonder	tomato
Fordhook	cabbage
Little Marvel	squash
Sweet Banana	watermelon
Yukon Gold	bean
Hubbard	beet
Tom Watson	winter squash

Injury Report

Roger Hite reported that his wife, Jeanie, fell 14 steps while putting up Christmas decorations. She broke her collarbone and had many bruises.

At the Christmas dinner Amy Mitch had her arm in a sling, the result of a fall. She didn't say what the damage was. We wish both ladies a speedy recovery.

Walt's Gardening Tips for January

1. Design a plan incorporating any changes for the next year. Most vegetables benefit from a different site each year.
2. Inspect trees, shrubs, and evergreens for scale insects. Applying a dormant oil spray now will eliminate these and other overwintering pests. Do this when the temperature is over 45 degrees.
3. It is easy to read a rain gauge if you put a few drops of food coloring in the tube. Even if the colored water dries up, there is enough residue to help read the next rainfall.
4. Prune deciduous shade and fruit trees during this period. Check with local garden centers for proper pruning methods and for those varieties of trees which should not be pruned during winter months, such as maples.
5. Bring branches of flowering trees such as peach, cherry, apricot, and plum indoors to bloom in a vase in a cool sunny room.
6. Please feed the birds and other small creatures that may not be able to find food.
7. If the ground is still workable, it is a good time to turn your soil. This will expose insect eggs to the cold and the birds. It will also help break up clods.
8. If the soil isn't frozen, water outdoor container plants to prevent them from drying out during winter months.
9. Pick up a good book and learn more about this great hobby - gardening.
10. Clean, sharpen, and replace your pruning tools.

For February

1. Store seed packets of spinach and lettuce in a cool place. Move them to the freezer two weeks before planting. Wrapping them in freezer bags may prevent drying out in a frost free freezer.
2. Mark your calendar for flower shows. At flower shows you meet people with like interests, see different varieties, and enjoy the beauty and pleasure of flowers.
3. Because February is light on yard work, it is a great time to work your imagination and plan some landscaping changes.
4. Order trees for spring planting.
5. Have your soil tested.
6. Cut branches from forsythia, quince, spiraea, flowering almond, and pussy willow to force to bloom. Keep them in a cool room and mist frequently.
7. Birds appreciate your keeping a full feeder, but they will be more grateful for suet.

Member Dues

Quite a few members have not paid their dues for 2011. Hopefully, this is just being forgetful on their part and they will send a check to the treasurer or pay at the next meeting. The board will discuss this problem at the next meeting and come up with some ideas on how to get these members back.

Our club took in twelve new members during 2010. This was very good when compared to other clubs that have reported a loss of membership. Let's keep up the good work and bring in even more new members this year. Bob Bell and Grace Cochran are the membership committee and they do a great job of keeping track of our membership.