



The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

October 2021

Visit us on the web at www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org.

Vol.89 No. 10

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President's Letter

In March, 2020, the GoGC held a regular dinner meeting without any idea of the challenges our organization would be facing in the coming 18 months. Your Board met on October 2 and decided that it's time for us to get back to our business at hand!

You should have received notice of our "Welcome Back" meeting next Monday, October 11th. The format for this will be different. Hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, soft drinks, and water will be provided at no cost to you.

Reflecting on these past 18 months causes me to reflect on the strength of our purpose as well as on the resilience of our membership and your combined commitment to the GoGC. We will soon be celebrating our 90th anniversary as an organization. This is no small feat but a tribute to those who have gone before us, preparing for this moment. The duty for continuation now falls on our shoulders. Bob McMahon and I will welcome any and all who are willing to work with us.

Bob McMahon and I started meeting in mid-summer to plan this eventual return. At the October meeting, you will see/hear a Power Point which will explain the results of countless hours of discussion since that time. We ask for your attention, patience, and understanding. Our primary goal involves membership growth. This simple phrase is an all-encompassing concept that will involve many elements within our organization. I will talk with the Club about this next week and further explain my ideas and goals in person to you!

We realize that not every member is comfortable with in-person meetings. We will be providing a live presentation for you via Zoom. The Power Point will also be on our website in the Members Only section for your perusal.

Looking forward to seeing you again next Monday!

Chuck Palsa



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Monday, October 11th, In-Person Meeting in the Penthouse

The GoGC will hold its first ever “Welcome Back” meeting on Monday, October 11th. Social hour will start at 5:30 PM. The Meeting will commence at approximately 6:15 PM. The typical dinner will not be served. Your club will provide beer, wine, water, soft drinks and heavy hors d’oeuvres to commemorate the event. Drinks from the bar are available at your own cost and you can carry them up to the Penthouse.

We need a count no later than Thursday for The Bistro, and Captains will be calling you for attendance confirmation. Please indicate a vegetarian dish if needed.

Masks will be required and may be removed while drinking and eating.

The meeting will be available live on Zoom for those unable to attend. The PowerPoint presentation on Restructuring is available on our Website under the Members Only section.

You will receive email instructions from Steve McIntosh for the Zoom presentation if you do not attend.

Our agenda is short:

- 1) Welcome Back message – Chuck Palsa
- 2) PowerPoint presentation on Restructuring the GoGC – Bob McMahon
- 3) Questions - Membership



Nominations To Be Voted on at the Annual November Meeting

Chuck Palsa - President

Robert McMahon - 1st Vice President

Larry Kell - Treasurer (Temporarily)



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Governance Reorganization Summary

The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland's Reorganization Committee is a special committee that was appointed by President Chuck Palsa. The committee was charged with reorganizing the governance structure of the club, working within the bylaws as much as possible. By doing so, this eliminates any objections, keeps the club qualified as a 501(C)3 organization and minimizes the revision of the bylaws following the reorganization. The committee has examined the club's governance structure to make appropriate revisions such that the club is more efficiently governed and better able to achieve the club's current purpose:

“To educate its members and the public and to promote interest in horticulture pertaining to home gardening, to acquire and disseminate horticultural knowledge in regard to materials, plants and ideas in connection with home gardens to and for the benefit of individuals and communities, and to encourage and promote civic interest and pride in individuals and communities, and to encourage and promote pride in individual or private gardens, community plantings and parks.”

The membership of this committee consists of Chuck Palsa, President and Chair; Bob McMahon, First Vice President; Tom Davis, Past President-GoGC and National Director-TGoA; and Larry Kell, Past President-GoGC and First Vice President-TGoA.

The Reorganization Committee has met and has reorganized the governance structure of the club that will be explained at the October club meeting. Nominations for Secretary and Treasurer will be published in the October Spade newsletter.

The annual meeting of the GoGC will be held on Monday, November 8th at which time the new Officers will be elected and installed. The reorganized governance structure of the club also will be voted on by club members at the November meeting.

+ The Powerpoint presentation on the reorganization will be presented to the Membership at the October meeting. It is Iso on the Club's website [here](#).



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Gardening Tips by Bob McMahon

For those of you who garden in large containers, it is possible to overwinter your perennials outside! Most of the Cleveland area is in USDA hardiness zone 6A or 6B. By selecting perennials that are at least one hardiness zone to the north (i.e. zone 5, 4, or 3), you stand an excellent chance of successfully overwintering your perennials, provided we don't have an unusually cold winter (like we did in 2014 and 2015). Most plant labels now include the hardiness zone of the perennial in question. Another factor is to minimize the "freeze-thaw" cycles that your overwintering perennials experience. This can easily be accomplished by mulching the surface of your container garden with several inches of mulch--decorative stone, bark, or even several layers of newspaper to keep the soil cold and the plants dormant until spring. Choosing containers with thick walls also helps to insulate the soil. I have several thick-walled foam containers that have worked well along with thick-walled ceramic containers. By following these steps, you should be successful in overwintering your container perennials and be rewarded by watching them emerge in the spring and grow into beautiful flowering plants every year!

Other ideas below:



Another source for overwintering: [How to save your container plants over winter](#), by Jennifer Howell, Garden Gate Magazine.



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Bob McMahon's family recipes

AUTHENTIC GREEK CHICKEN RECIPE FROM, MASON CITY, IA

MARINADE: Mix well together the following ingredients: $\frac{3}{4}$ cup olive oil, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup freshly squeezed lemon juice, $\frac{1}{2}$ small can of tomato sauce and 3 to 5 tablespoons of dried oregano, per your taste. **NOTE:** If you plan to use the cooked marinade as a sauce for pouring over baked/roasted potatoes, rice, or other side dishes in addition to the cooked chicken, I recommend doubling the quantity of the marinade recipe because the cooked marinade is delicious!

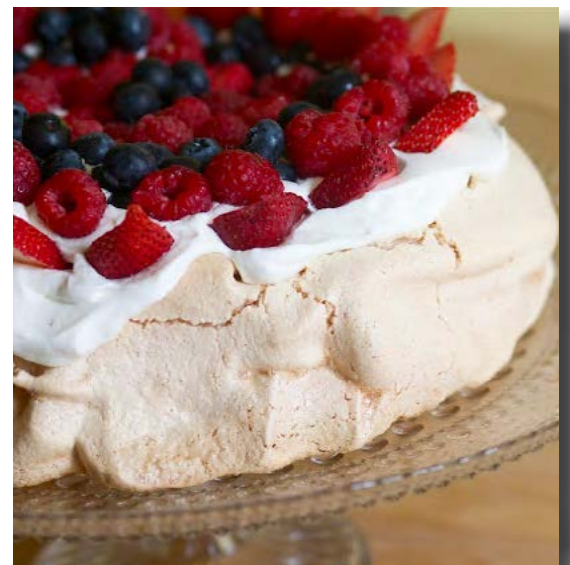
PREPARING THE CHICKEN: Season two chickens (or the equivalent in parts) with pepper and garlic powder (**NOTE:** instead of garlic powder, I mince 2 to 3 cloves of garlic and add the minced garlic into the marinade recipe above). Pour the marinade mixture over the chicken in a baking dish and marinate for at least 1 hour (I usually marinate the chicken for 3 hours). Bake in an oven at 350° for 1.5 hours. Serve up the cooked marinade in a separate container/pitcher to pour over the chicken; the cooked marinade also is great over roasted potatoes, rice, etc.



MARTHA MCMAHON'S SCHAUM TORTE

In an electric mixer, beat the 6 egg whites until frothy, then very gradually add the sugar followed by the vinegar and vanilla. Continue to beat on high speed, scraping the bowl occasionally, until the mixture is quite stiff (forms peaks when the beaters are lifted out). Pour the mixture into an ungreased 9"X9" baking pan and bake at 275 degrees for an hour. The mixture will puff up and form a hard crust. Let the torte cool and then breakup the crust as necessary so it rests on the main part of the torte.

When completely cool, whip up 2 cups of heavy whipping cream (I add 1 teaspoon of vanilla and 1 teaspoon of sugar) and spread over the top of the torte. Refrigerate the torte for at least 8 hours or overnight. Serve the torte with cut-up strawberries, sliced peaches or raspberries. ENJOY!



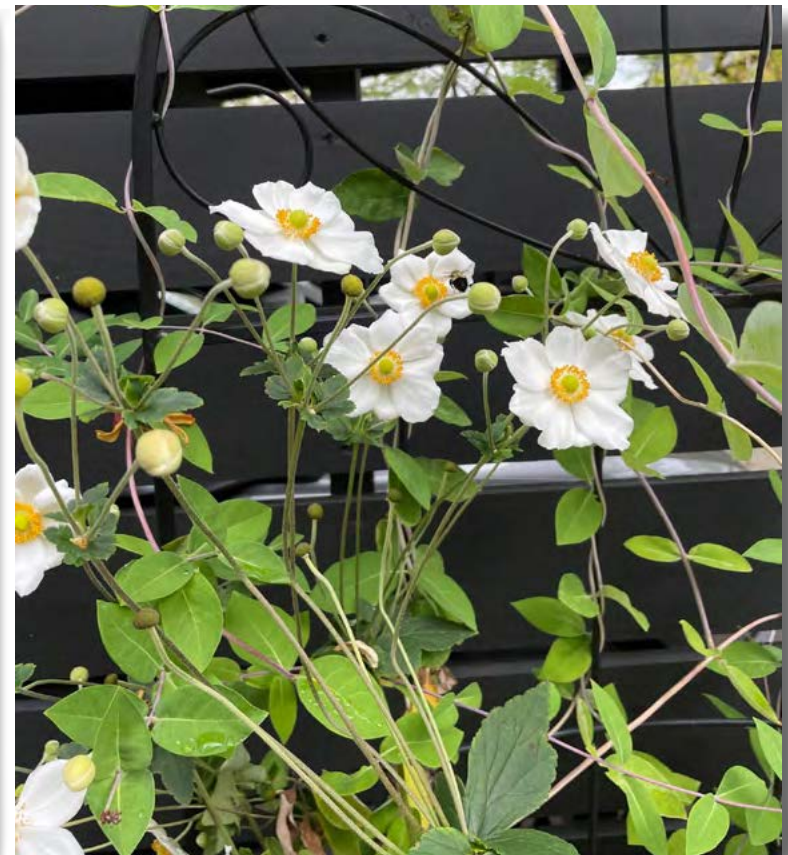


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A few photos from Member, Joyce Nesbit's garden





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STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Awards:** Bob Pindell, Chair; Hank Doll; Tom Davis
- **Communication:** Jonny Prell, Chair (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media)
- **Finance:** Bob McMahon (Chair); Larry Kell, Andy Kosiorek
- **Income Projects:** Dave Dawson, Julie Henry (Plant Sale); Pat Boggins (Bulb Sale); John Budnik, Ron Hartmiller, Julie Henry (Auction / Raffle)
- **Membership:** Lou Pelton, Co-Chair; Dave Rittenhouse, Co-Chair; Larry Kell, Chuck Palsa
- **Programs:** Robert McMahon, Chair; Cynthia Andersen
- **Scholarship:** Hank Doll, Co-Chair; Harold Davis, Fred Robinson, Dave Dawson
- **Service Projects:** Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION: (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

WHEN: 2nd Monday of each month,
September through June

WHERE: 1 Bratenahl Place
Bratenahl, Ohio

SCHEDULE: 6PM - Social
6:40 - Dinner
7:30 - General Meeting
8 to 9 PM - Program



SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National Organization: Larry Kell, First Vice President; Tom Davis, National Director
- Willott Iris Garden: Sandra and Robert Pindell, Ron Hartmiller
- Friends of the Greenhouse: Joyce Nesbit
- 1 Bratenahl Place & Bratenahl Place Bistro: Tom Segelin
- Horticultural Shows: Julie Henry, Tom Davis
- Nominating: Jonny Prell, Chair, Deb Kramarz, Julie Henry

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:	CHUCK PALSA
1ST VICE PRESIDENT:	BOB MCMAHON
2ND VICE PRESIDENT:	OPEN
SECRETARY:	JODITH JANES (TEMP)
TREASURER:	HIEDI WINSTON
ASST TREASURER:	ANDY KOSIOREK

DIRECTORS:

DAVE RITTENHOUSE	JOYCE NESBIT
JULIE HENRY	CYNTHIA ANDERSEN
GARRETT ORMISTON	LAWRENCE KELL
STEVE MCINTOSH	PHYLLIS DONNELLY-INGOLD



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If you have questions or problems with your garden, plants in your garden and need advice, our Club has many members who have the background and knowledge to help you.

- Keith Biehl: Gardener by profession
- Pat Boggins: Log planters
- Diane Circle: Hostas
- Tom Davis: Native plants
- Hank Doll: Dahlia growing
- Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold: Orchids
- Lou Drasler: Cannas and environmental issues
- Ron Hartmiller: Weeds and grasses
- Herb Klein: Unusual plants and perennials
- Deb Kramarz: Master Rain Gardener
- Andy Kosiorek: Above-ground sprinkler systems
- Kathy Kosiorek: Veggies and container gardening
- Bob McMahon: Insectivorous plant culture, balcony/patio container gardening, and houseplant care
- Garret Ormiston: Native plants, azaleas and roses
- Chuck Palsa: “knows a little about everything”
- Lou Pelton: Vines and clematis
- Bob Pindell: Iris propagation
- Sandra Pindell: Iris care
- Fred Robinson: Care and knowledge of trees
- Deva Simon: Perennials
- Deah Stark: Perennials
- Hiedi Winston: Vegetable gardening, container gardening, and perennials

Our Mission:

To educate its members and the public and to promote interest in horticulture pertaining to home gardening, to acquire and disseminate horticultural knowledge in regard to materials, plants and ideas in connection with home gardens to and for the benefit of individuals and communities, and to encourage and promote civic interest and pride in individuals and communities, and to encourage and promote pride in individual or private gardens, community plantings and parks.

To join, please contact Dave Rittenhouse, our Membership Co-Chairman at dwrittenhouse@sbcglobal.net

