

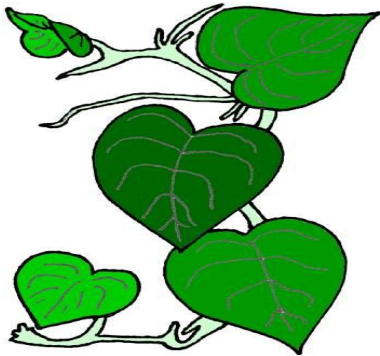


The SPADE



The "SPADE" is the newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland founded on January 1, 1932 as the Men's Garden Club of Cleveland. Its editor is Vince Staffileno who may be reached at vrs1023@gmail.com or 440-479-7897. Visit our web site at <http://www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org>.

April 9th Meeting



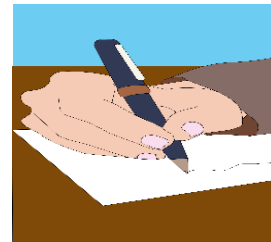
Our April speaker is Garrett Ormiston. His topic is "**Battle of the Invasive Species: Management Techniques in our Natural Areas and our Home Gardens.**"

Garrett Ormiston is the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and Stewardship Specialist at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History in their Natural Areas Division. Garrett oversees land conservation and stewardship projects, works through State and Federal grants for conservation and stewardship, and manages the department's GIS mapping database. He also promotes the use of native plants and natural landscaping techniques both through the outreach arm of the Museum's Natural Areas Division, and through his own small landscaping business, Ormiston Landscaping.

Please call your team captain with your "Dinner Reservation" by Thursday March 8th.

There will be a Board Meeting starting at 5:00 PM on 4/9/2018 in the Penthouse. PLEASE BE PROMPT.

Presidents Letter



We missed the March meeting because we went on a safari in East Africa, Tanzania to be precise. To say it's a different world is an understatement with herds of wildebeest by the thousands stretching from one end of the horizon to the other. Yes, it was very much like *Out of Africa*. But, what surprised us the most, other than the size of creatures like elephants and giraffes, were the flora and the birds. Tanzania is just south of the equator and known for its coffee and cut flower industry. We spent several nights on a coffee farm started in 1929 which turned out to be an arboretum and an ecological farm for the inn. They grew all of their produce and much of the stock for their kitchen. The chief horticulturist, a local man by the name of Lasaro, gave us a guided tour of their gardens. My favorite was the several herb gardens, especially the one with rosemary. Here are some of the plants we enjoyed, many of which will be familiar.



Chief Horticulturist



Water Lily



Hibiscus



Heliconia

Regional Meeting

Plan to attend the Regional meeting at Kingwood Center Gardens, Mansfield, OH on Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 10 AM to 2 PM. There will be a brief business meeting followed by a sandwich lunch (nominal charge). This time the presentation will be by Charles and Cynthia Lucius from “Amity Abloom”. Their seven acre home is an official A.H.S. Display Garden. They have more than 1,600 varieties of daylilies on display.

Larry Kell from the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be running the meeting as President of the region.

Spring is a favorite time to visit Kingwood Center and see their outstanding gardens. The greenhouse will be open and there are often plants for sale. The spring bulb displays are outstanding.

Contact Larry Kell or Tom Davis for directions or more information. Kingwood is 1.5 hours from Cleveland. The address is 50 N. Trimble Rd., Mansfield, OH 44906.

Their website is: www.kingwoodcenter.org. There will be free parking for people coming to the meeting.

March Board Meeting



The following are the minutes of the March Board Meeting:

TREASURER’S REPORT – John Budnik reported a quiet month with the normal expenses. The April report will be more active. The total number of members will in the future be added as a note on the Treasurers report. The last audit conducted was when John assumed the position of Treasurer.

PRESIDENTS REMARKS – None

DIRECTORS REPORT – Larry Kell announced the resignation from membership of Chuck Evans, a long time and active member. He was also known as “Two Buck Chuck” for the many tomato plants he grew and sold at the May Plant Sale. His interests are taking him in another direction. A letter of thanks for his contributions with Board signatures was sent and received.

MEMBERSHIP – Lou Pelton announced two new members and a guest for dinner. Look for those with a red badge.

PROGRAMS – Judi Strauss, author of “The Charmed Kitchen” is our May Speaker. She will talk about creating a healthy garden and landscape. June is Scholarship month. September is Horticulture Show Month. Work is progressing on a speaker for October. In November a talk about the Donald Gray Gardens created for the Great Lakes Expo of 1936 – 1937.

MEETING GREETERS – Greeting and collecting dinner money is working well. 50/50 raffle tickets should work better now the sellers have change. Lou requested that the reservation sheet be returned to him at the end of the meeting. Members will be asked to help with greeting.

FUND RAISING – Plant sale planning is moving ahead. Tomatoes and peppers seeds have been started. Help will be needed when it is time to transplant them. Help with publicity is needed. Vince noted that the Friends sends information to the Plain Dealer. Tom Davis can send information to the Sun Press.

SCHOARSHIPS – Fred Robinson reported that application forms have been mailed to schools. Deadline for applications has been changed to April 18th. There will be up to three awards, with a minimum award of \$1500 to each recipient. Fred has contacted Auburn Career Center, Gates Mills, Washington Park, Lakewood High School, Glenville High School and Green Corps.

AWARDS – A certificate of appreciation was delivered in person to Jeff Havel.

HOLDEN FOREST AND GARDENS – Jane Davis reported that Jill Koski is visiting Affiliate Clubs. She has visited five to date. We should invite her to a dinner meeting. Holden Forest and Gardens budget is some 3.6 million dollars. Memberships are a significant income for them. A new director for the Hersey Children’s Garden has been announced.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Bob Pindell reported there had been progress in the sense the committee has received “No’s” only.

COOKIES AND COFFEE – Tom Segelin noted that a request has been made for hot tea, decaffeinated and regular coffee in addition to more cookies. This is in response to member requests and comments. He noted that we are asking for more at the same price. At previous meetings the restaurant has supplied a cookie per reservation, however some members take more than one which leaves none for those at the end of the line. Tom notes that labor costs are increasing. A committee will be convened to look into the cost of meals.

SUMMER PROGRAM – Kathy Kosiorek reported on the possibility of a visit to Lakeview Cemetery to visit the Moses Cleveland Trees. There are considerations regarding a caravan of cars through the cemetery. A visit to the West Creek Watershed Stewardship Center in Parma was another suggestion. The Center is the first facility in Cleveland Metroparks dedicated to scientific research and promoting sustainable action in managing runoff with swales etc.

Dinner Menu



The Dinner Menu:

*House Garden Salad,
Oven Roasted Chicken Quarters, Sweet Potato Mashed
and Brussel Sprouts
Vegetarian Option*

*This is the Chef’s Choice at dinner time. There is no
advance menu.*

*If you wish a Vegetarian dinner please advise your
team captain to order it.*

Coffee and Cookies will be served in the Penthouse

Dinner Responsibilities

Lou Pelton is responsible for giving Bratenahl 1 our reservations for dinner. This he does by Saturday morning to give their **Chef** adequate time to order food. Please call your team captain and let him know if you are coming to dinner by the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Below is the list of Team Captains and their phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

TEAM CAPTAINS - TELEPHONE & E-MAIL

TEAM 1 LOU PELTON
440-666-6695

LOUPELTON305@GMAIL.COM

TEAM 2 LOU DRASLER
216-481-6854

LOUIS.DRASLER@GMAIL.COM

TEAM 3 Z. HAROLD DAVIS JR.
216-283-7111

TEAM 4 FRED BURKHALTER
440-526-2888

K1200RSL@AOL.COM

TEAM 5 KEITH BEIHL
440-237-5824

TEAM 6 RON HARTMILLER
216-671-1408

R_HARTMILLER@YAHOO.COM

TEAM 7 JANE DAVIS
440-498-0472

TSD123@ROADRUNNER.COM

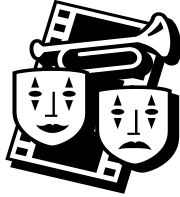
TEAM 8 CATHERINE ROSS
216-970-2854

ESTROGEN05@YAHOO.COM

TEAM 9 DEBORAH KRAMARZ
216-731-6324

DEBORAHKRAMARZ@AOL.COM

Upcoming Events



Regional CGLC Meeting – April 21 at Kingwood Center, Mansfield. See article for Details.

Affiliate Day - As members of the Affiliate Garden Clubs of CBG we are invited! The date is Thursday, April 12, 2018. See the article later in the SPADEV for sign up instructions.

Tip of the Hat



- To **John Budnik** for the use of his greenhouse to prepare plants for the May Plant Sale.
- To **Julie Henry** for ordering seeds for various vegetable and plants to be started and nurtured in John's Greenhouse for the plant sale.
- To **Deah Stark** for propagating the seeds for later transplanting for the plant sale.

Japanese Maples & Mary Ann Thesing



MaryAnn Thesing, our February presenter, has graciously invited Garden Club members to visit her property on the following dates in May:

Sat. May 12th: 11am - 3pm

Sat. May 26th: 9am-1pm

Put the date(s) on your calendar – the property is worth the trip.

Her address is 115 E 216th St, Euclid, OH 44123

Phone: (440) 667-7764

She will be happy to answer any questions during tours and/or via email. Email: gardenphd.2015@gmail.com

More information can be found on her website – Gardenphd.com.

Auction Items



For our meeting auctions Julie Andersen has been obtaining the items that have been presented. Some she has found and others come from members as do those for this month's meeting.

If you have an item or items please bring them to the next meeting or whenever you have the opportunity or contact Julie and let her know what you have. Julie would be most appreciative of the help.

Gardening Aloft - Dr. Robert W. McMahon



Picture on canvas



Elm Cutting Board

These two things were donated by MaryAnn Thesing.
Both of these were handmade by MaryAnn herself!

New Members



Welcome the following new members to our club:

Robert W. McMahon – From Lakewood, Ohio. He is an Emeritus Associate Professor of Horticulture: OSU Wooster Campus.

His gardening interests include container gardening, insectivorous plants and assorted exotic tropical houseplant species. His other interests include cooking, reading, hiking, bicycling, travel and speaking to groups about horticulture.

Michelle Schwertner – From Cleveland, Ohio. Her interests are being outdoors and gardening.

Our guest speaker at the March meeting gave an illustrated presentation on “Balcony Container Gardening.” Dr. Robert W. McMahon is emeritus associate professor of the Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute, where he taught greenhouse gardening and plant propagation for almost three decades. McMahon, who describes himself as a “plant geek,” resides on the 19th floor of Winton Place, on Lakewood’s Gold Coast. There, he has transformed his balcony into an attractive outdoor living space by gardening in containers.

Surprisingly, he said that, with the exception of a few “polar-vortex winters,” he has been able to over-winter his plants—an achievement aided by using larger containers and adding protection to withstand wind and cold. Here are some of his key recommendations:

- When planting, don’t place stones in the bottom of containers; these hinder drainage.
- Use a soilless potting mix.
- Fill to within one inch of the top of the container.
- Replace the top inch of potting mix annually, but there is no need to replace the rest.
- For fertilizer, he recommended Rapid Grow and Miracle Grow; for insects, Safer Soap or a thorough spray of warm water.
- When watering plants, water until the soil is saturated and the water runs into the saucer.

The list of plants suitable for balcony container gardening is a long one. In addition to annuals and perennials, McMahon recommended woody plants such as birch, boxwood, burning bush, and conifers with thin needles; Hosta ‘Morning Light,’ daylilies, Solomon’s seal, and hellebores (Lenten rose). McMahon avoids buying plants at big-box stores such as Home Depot; he relies on Lakewood Garden Center, located at Detroit and Clarence avenues. Whatever you plant, he stressed, make sure that it is suitable for Zone 6.

Prepared By Carol Pohl

Horticulture Show 2018

In 2012 we started having a small horticultural show for our September meeting. The first year we had only a few entries, but every year since then the show has grown in size and quality. This year we hope that even more members will enter plants, fruits and vegetables. We have added some sections to allow for a larger variety of entries. This announcement is early to let you start planning your entries for September 10, 2018.

You can make up to five entries per person. There will be clerks at the show to help you with the final preparation of your entries. Ribbons will be awarded. There will be “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” (popular vote by all present) awards made again this year. Prize winning, or unusual entries will be discussed to carry out the theme of Gardening Education.

What’s New in 2018?

There will be a “Novice” category for some sections for people who haven’t entered the show before. This gives new participants an extra opportunity to win a ribbon. The Horticulture Judges – guests and the 3 from our own club – will limit their own entries to 2 or 3 items. This gives other members more of a chance to win. Only members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be eligible for the “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” Awards. There will be new sections (categories) for entries this year.

The entry must be your property. You can submit a purchased plant if you have owned and taken care of it for **at least two months.** (Must be purchased before **July 10, 2018.**)

If you have questions or suggestions, please see Mark Occhionero, Show Chairman, Julie Henry or Tom Davis. All three of these members are Accredited Horticulture Judges.

What will your entry be?

Prepared by Tom Davis

Horticulture Show 2018 Schedule (Classes and Rules)

2018 GoGC Horticulture Show September 10, 2018 Show Announcement and Schedule

In 2012 we started having a small horticultural show for our September meeting. The first year we had only a few entries, but every year since then the show has grown in size and quality. This year we hope that even more members will enter plants, fruits and vegetables. We have added some sections to allow for a larger variety of entries. We are also introducing a “Novice” category for people who have not entered before. This announcement is early to let you start planning your entries.

- **The Horticulture Show is an educational opportunity for our members. The national judging manual stresses that all club members are expected to enter the show if they are able. We have made several changes this year to help members enter the show and succeed.**
- You can make up to five entries per person.
- Clerks will be present from 5:00 to 6:15 to receive entries and help you with the entry card and staging the entry. We will supply paper plates, etc.
- Ribbons will be awarded. There will be “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” (popular vote by all present) awards made again this year. Only members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be eligible for the two top awards.
- If you have not entered the show before, you will be judged as Novice. Just tell the clerks when you arrive that you are a first-time exhibitor. This will give new exhibitors a chance to hone their skills. We have marked the sections below that are Novice eligible.
- Prize winning or unusual entries will be discussed to carry out the theme of Gardening Education.
- Judges will come from the Central Great Lakes Gardeners Region.
- The show committee reserves the right to modify this schedule at a later date.

Please read the information below! Every year someone is disappointed because they don't follow directions and don't win a ribbon.

We have these sections for the show this year:

- 1. Cut Annual Flowers in a Container** -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers or one for larger blooms. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 2. Cut Dahlia flowers in a container** - Include 1 or 2 leaves on a shoot. Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers OR one of larger blooms.
- 3. Cut Perennial Flowers in a Container** -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers or one of larger flowers. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 4. Small Vegetables** – Enter three specimens of smaller items (tomatoes, peppers, onions, and other smaller vegetables). All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch. Cherry tomatoes must be displayed by the cluster. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 5. Larger Vegetables** – Enter one specimen of larger vegetables such as eggplant. All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 6. Small potted plants** (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type except succulents. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 7. Small potted succulents** - (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
- 8. Larger potted plants** (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, several plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type except succulents.
- 9. Larger potted succulents** (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, several plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
- 10. A branch** (12 to 30 inches in length) in a container. **A) Foliage Only. B) Foliage and Flowers. C) Foliage and Fruit.**
- 11. A single leaf** (like a Hosta Leaf) in a container.
- 12. One dish garden per member up to 14 inches in diameter.**
- 13. One hanging basket entry per member.**
- 14. Fruits** - One specimen of larger fruits such as apples, peaches, etc.

- 15. Fruits** - six specimens of smaller fruits such as berries. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 16. Herbs** - One stem of herbs such as rosemary, mint, borage, etc. **Novice entries welcome.**
- 17. Potted herb plants** (see 7 and 8 above).
- 18. Any of the above in an unusual or whimsical container.**

Judging Requirements: (please read carefully!!)

- The specimen must be properly identified with the plant name **and the variety**. We will supply entry forms and give you help filling them out.
- The specimen must be your property.** You can submit a purchased plant if you have owned and taken care of it for **at least two months**. (Must be purchased before July 10, 2018.)
- Any submission must be disease and insect free.**
- The specimen should be as perfect a sample as you can find. For example, a Hosta leaf should not be damaged or sun-scorched, and should be typical for the variety.
- Individual leaves and stems should be supported so just the bottom of the leaf – or no leaf on a stemmed plant – is in the water. They should be upright. You can use plastic wrap or aluminum foil to support the leaf or stem in the container. Just wrap it around the stem at the bottle neck. Use a plain container like a pop or beer bottle without a label.
- Fruit and vegetables should be on a plain, white paper plate.
- Potted and hanging plants should be “groomed” with all dead leaves and spent flowers removed. The pot must be clean. Fancy pots don't win; good plants in clean pots do.
- Orchid leaves are not judged, just the flower.

Bring your entries to the Penthouse of 1 Bratenahl Place between **5:00 and 6:15 PM** on September 10. Any entry after 6:15 will be **disqualified**. Use the elevators at either end of the corridor on the ground floor. The Penthouse is on the top floor. Please contact the Show Chair, Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry or Tom Davis with any questions.

Good luck!

Mark Occhionero, 2018 Horticulture Show Chairman

Affiliate Day 2018

The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland is an Affiliated Club to the Cleveland Botanical Garden (CBG). One benefit of our membership is this invitation to Affiliate Day. **ONLY** members of Affiliated Clubs are invited, so take advantage of this special program.

- **All members of Affiliate Garden Clubs are invited!**
- **The date is Thursday, April 12, 2018**
- It runs from 9:30 to noon (check-in and payment begin at 9:00)
- The event will be held in Woodland Hall
- Continental breakfast will be provided
- Opening speaker will be David Burke, Chief Program Officer – Science, Horticulture & Conservation
 - David will give us an update on his new role with Holden Forests & Gardens, as well as information regarding the important research work happening
- Program speaker will be Ann Cicarella, owner of Ann Cicarella Landscape Design, LLC
 - Her topic will be: “Pots with Panache”
 - “Using containers presents a great opportunity to provide pops of color to your house, garden or patio all season. Explore intriguing plant combinations using color, texture and height that will make a visual statement and go full throttle even when the rest of the garden is sulking.”
- Cost:
 - Current members of Holden Forests & Gardens (Cleveland Botanical Garden and Holden Arboretum)
 - \$8, payable at the door
 - Nonmembers of Holden Forests & Gardens
 - \$13.50, payable at the door
- **Limited free parking** will be available

Registration is ONLINE ONLY. Please go to: <http://www.cb garden.org/support/affiliated-garden-clubs.aspx> to the Affiliate Home Page and click through to the registration page or go to <http://www.cb garden.org/support/affiliated-garden-clubs/spring-affiliate-day.aspx>

We ask that you make your reservations no later than **Monday, April 9**, in order to ensure sufficient seating and breakfast – thank you!

Prepared by Tom Davis

TGOA/MGCA Election of Officers

Annual Election of Officers

The Gardeners of America/Men’s Garden Clubs of America

Our club is a member of the National Organization “The Gardeners of America/Men’s Garden Clubs of America (TGOA/MGCA).” Every year members are encouraged to vote for the officers for the next year (vote now for the officers for 2019). Those elected will be installed at the national convention in Ft. Wayne June 27 – 29, 2018. This year our own Larry Kell is running for 3rd V.P. of the National Organization. Having a lot of our club members vote for Larry would be a sign of support and respect for him.

You will find a ballot and voting instructions attached to this issue of the Spade. I suggest you print out or cut out the ballot, mark your choices and bring it to the April or May meeting. I will collect the ballots and mail them as a group to the committee (I am a committee member). You can mail your ballot individually if you prefer – the address is at the bottom of the ballot.

If you have suggestions for candidates for next year, please mark them on the ballot. That will make the job of finding nominees for 2020 much easier.

Thank you,

Tom Davis, National Director, TGOA/MGCA
Chair, Nominating Committee, TGOA/MGCA

TGOA/MGCA Election of Officers - Ballot

3806 CROSS COUNTRY TRAIL

ARLINGTON, TX 76001

OR; Give your ballot to Tom Davis, our National Director, and he'll mail them as a batch.

Prepared by Tom Davis

2018 TGOA/MGCA National Convention Information

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT FOR 2019

THE GARDENERS OF AMERICA/ MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA

PRESIDENT: CARL CHRISTENSEN, THE GARDENERS CLUB OF GREEN BAY

(Yes)___ (No) ___ Write in _____ **

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: LEE OLSON, GARDENERS OF NORTH IOWA

(Yes) ___ (No) ___ Write in _____ **

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: MARY ANN FERGUSON-RICH, GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON (Yes) ___ (No) ___ Write In _____ **

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT: LARRY KELL, GARDENERS OF GREATER CLEVELAND

(Yes) ___ (No) ___ Write in _____ **

Larry A. Kell has accepted the nomination for 3rd V.P. for TGOA/MGCA. Larry has been the president of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland (preceded by Secretary, 2nd V.P., and 1st V.P.) and is currently President of the Central Great Lakes Gardeners (our regional organization). He has attended several national conventions and was on the central planning committee for the 2017 Cleveland Convention. Most convention goers would recognize him as the person who organized and led the outstanding convention tour in Cleveland.

TREASURER: MILES DUCK, GARDENERS OF NORTH IOWA

(Yes) ___ (No) ___ Write in _____ **

Member's club name: **The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland**

****IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS AT ALL, PLEASE WRITE THEM IN. ALL SUGGESTIONS WILL BE REVIEWED. NOTE: You should have the person's permission to write in their name.**

Mail ballot to: MICHAEL AURIENE

TGOA/MGCA ELECTION

The 2018 National Convention for the Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America (TGOA/MGCA) will be held **June 27 – 29 in Ft. Wayne IN.** Everyone who was involved with the 2017 convention here in Cleveland knows how important, educational and fun these National Conventions can be. There will be speakers (including Tom Davis from our club), a Horticulture show, and an all-day tour on Thursday with an Amish dinner that night, and lots of time to get to know gardeners from all over the country. There will be one business meeting for all club members where some important announcements will be made and possibly a vote on an important issue.

You will find the registration form and the hotel information at the end of The Spade. All the convention information (Registration, Hotel, Horticulture Show, Convention Schedule, Ft. Wayne information, etc.) is also on the club's web site: www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org

You can also find that information on the National Website: www.TGOA/MGCA.org

You can also contact Tom Davis at tsd123@roadrunner.com with any questions.

See You in Ft. Wayne!

Gardeners Reign in Fort Wayne!

2018 TGOA/MGCA National Convention
June 27-29, 2018 Fort Wayne, Indiana

REGISTRATION FORM

Please use separate form for each person

Convention Fee (per person) \$230 Fee after May 15 \$280

Cancellation Fee after May 15 \$ 50

INCLUDED: Day Tour on Thursday, June 28 to Old Fort Wayne gardens, a private garden and Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site gardens and prairie/wetlands restoration. The day includes a guided tour of Amish land and dinner in an Amish home, ending with a winery visit.

INCLUDED: Lunch and dinner all three days. (Restaurant breakfast free for hotel guests.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

ZIP _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____ Badge Name _____

TGOA/MGCA Club _____

Location _____

Day Rates: Special Diets:

Wednesday, June 27 \$75 Vegetarian Gluten Free

Other

Thursday, June 28 \$85 Friday Night Banquet:

Friday, June 29 \$90 Beef Medallions Chicken

Chardonnay

I need an airport shuttle

AMOUNT INCLUDED IN CHECK: \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TGOA/MGCA
National Convention

MAIL REGISTRATION AND CHECK TO:

The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of
America

PO Box 241

Johnstown, Iowa 50131-6245

SEMINARS

See Schedule for Details

Wednesday, June 27

SESSION I 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Growing Fruit Organically

Butterflies

Youth Gardeners

Friday, June 29

SESSION II 10:15 – 11 a.m.

Native Plant Gardens

Gardening for the Birds

More than Weeds

SESSION III 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Native Plant Gardens

Rain Gardens

More than Weeds

SESSION IV 1:15 – 2 p.m.

Youth Gardeners

Rain Gardens

Native American Plants

SESSION V 2:15 – 3 p.m.

Flower Pounding (limit 20)

Gardening for the Birds

Native American Plants

Gardeners Reign in Fort Wayne!

**2018 TGOA/MGCA National
Convention Headquarters
Ramada Plaza Fort Wayne Hotel &
Conference Center
305 E. Washington Center Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
260-484-0411**

Home base for the 2018 national convention June 27-29 is the Ramada Plaza Fort Wayne Hotel & Conference Center, a member of Wyndham Hotels. Located just off Interstate 69 at Coldwater and Washington Center roads, the Ramada Plaza provides easy access to all that Fort Wayne has to offer. [Link to map.](#)

The \$99 per night rate includes two breakfasts in the Ramada Plaza's full-service restaurant, free Wi-Fi and free parking. A limited number of pet-friendly rooms are available for a \$50 fee for the duration of your stay. Book before May 29 to receive The Gardeners of America rate.

To reserve rooms, call the hotel direct at **260-484-0411** and request The Gardeners of America block rate.

Check out the rooms and facilities on the Ramada Plaza Fort Wayne website.

Prepared by Tom Davis

Garden Planning



Great gardens don't just happen, they are built – literally – from the ground up. While poor, neglected soil may be able to grow healthy looking plants for a few years, this kind of garden can't stand the test of time. Beneath every sustainable landscape or consistently breathtaking floral display lies a healthy soil. Whether the garden is in sun or shade, rich soil full of organic matter fosters healthy plant growth. Soil building may not be the most exciting part of gardening but it is the most essential.

Composting is one method of acquiring good soil. Composting may consist of leaves, garden green waste, or kitchen food scraps or some combination thereof. These items are made into a pile which is slowly eaten by an assortment of insects, worms and microbes. The resulting humus, ready to use when it no longer resembles any part of its former self, is then spread throughout vegetable and flower gardens. Once this compost is delivered to the gardens it is time to start the pile all over again.

As the pile is built from our waste ingredients it can be turned periodically every month or so to increase available oxygen to the pile and also distribute heat and microbes. You can also use the lazy man's approach and let it be self-sufficient – that is do nothing and let Mother Nature take its course. Either will work except the latter takes longer. There is one exception relative to no work and that is the pile must have moisture throughout.

Organic matter is the most important component of a healthy soil consisting of 3 to 10% of its volume. In the soil organic matter consists of organisms that break down plant and animal material, dead plant and animal matter and the resulting humus created during decomposition. These components of organic matter are sometimes referred to as the living, the dead and the very dead.

Soils that are high in organic matter can retain valuable nutrients and water for plants to use. They also have good soil structure which helps to improve drainage and brings oxygen to plant roots. Organic matter helps soil to buffer against rapid changes in pH, stimulate root development and protect plants from high levels of harmful chemicals.

Some gardening practices are detrimental to the soil because they speed the decomposition of organic matter. Tilling is one of the most damaging actions a gardener can take, especially when soils are wet. Tilling introduces large amounts of oxygen

which seeds the decompositions and subsequent depletion of organic matter. When the soil is wet tilling increases compaction by destroying soil. If you choose to till be sure the soil is dry and limit tilling to once a year if at all possible.

New beds should be constructed by incorporating about 2 inches of organic matter into the top 6 to 8 inches of the existing bed. A top dressing of organic material is very beneficial for existing beds and can be applied yearly. Fresh manures should not be used in the spring. These are best composted over the winter and then added in the spring.

Weeds

Weeds in your lawn come bearing a message. They are telling you that you've fertilized the grass too much or not enough. Or, maybe that you've cut it too short or that your soil is too hard. Maybe they are simply pointing out that you are growing the wrong type of grass for your conditions. The following is a problem-solving guide for managing some common lawn weeds and why they exist.

CRABGRASS –

CAUSED by cutting your lawn too short. This allows sunlight to reach the low –growing stems, which put down new roots where turf grass is sparse.

PREVENTION Mow your lawn on the high side. After reseeding bare spots in your lawn remove crabgrass from those spots until the lawn grass can compete with the weeds.

BROADLEAF PLANTAIN –

CAUSED by dense, compacted soil. It also thrives in moist shaded sites and in high traffic areas where many turf grasses cannot compete.

PREVENTION For compacted soils aerate with a core aerator and add compost to improve the soil. This will allow water, air and nutrients to reach grass roots. If the area is shady or receives a lot of foot traffic, plant grass that will tolerate these conditions

DANDELION –

CAUSED by thin spots in the lawn which allow the windblown seeds to establish themselves.

PREVENTION The quick fix is to dig them out. Long term encourage a dense stand of turf grass by cutting the grass higher. Also remove the dandelion flowers before they form seed heads

GROUND IVY –

CAUSED by shady spots in the lawn where turf grasses do not thrive.

PREVENTION In deep shade, plant a non-grass shade loving ground cover such as pachysandra or sweet woodruff. If you must have grass try the shade tolerant Supina bluegrass. It is available through major seed distributors. On the other hand you can just live with it. The blue flowers are attractive and it is a very good ground cover.

WHITE CLOVER –

CAUSED by sparse spots in the lawn and often in soil which is low in nitrogen.

PREVENTION Feed your lawn a slow release, nitrogen rich lawn fertilizer at the start of the growing season. This is early spring and late fall. On the other hand it brings benefits including adding nitrogen to the soil and its flowers attract bees.

Purpose of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

The purpose of the **GARDENERS OF GREATER CLEVELAND** is to provide members with a better understanding of all varieties of gardening through our monthly meetings, our newsletter **THE SPADE** and our website, www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org.

Also we promote horticulture in our community by installing and caring for gardens at various community service facilities such as the VA Hospital, Joseph Home, and Malachi House among others.

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 6PM at 1 Bratenahl Place, Bratenahl, OH.

Membership is open to residents of the Greater Cleveland Area including Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain counties. To join contact us via Lou Pelton, our Membership Chairman at loupelton305@gmail.com or write to him 305 Woodstock Rd., Eastlake, OH 44095.

Gardeners of Greater Cleveland



The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland (GOGC) is an organization of men and women who have joined together to learn about gardening as well as to share their experiences and enjoyment of gardening with others and with their community. Their meetings are:

WHEN -- *Second Monday of each month
September through June*

WHERE – *1 Bratenahl Place, Bratenahl, OH*

TIMES - *Social Hour 6:00 PM
Dinner 6:45 PM
Meeting 7:45 PM*

GOGC Executive Board

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1ST VICE PRESIDENT	JULIE HENRY
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	JONNY PRELL
SECRETARY	JODITH JANES
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WILLOTT IRIS GARDEN	BOB PINDELL, RON HARTMILLER

Musings



I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils; beside the
lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and
dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line along the
margin of a bay:

Ten thousand saw I at a glance, tossing their
heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they Out-
did the sparkling waves in glee: A poet could
not but be gay, in such a jocund company:
I gazed--and gazed--but little thought what wealth
the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills, and
dances with the daffodils.

- William Wordsworth



Those who would make us feel must feel themselves.
CHARLES CHURCHILL

Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavor.
TRUMAN CAPOTE

Insanity is hereditary – you get it from your children.
SAM LEVENSON

Money's a horrid thing to follow, but a charming
thing to meet.
HENRY JAMES

So, let us not be blind to our differences - but let us
also direct attention to our common interests and to
the means by which those differences can be resolved.
JOHN F. KENNEDY

Honest differences are often a healthy sign of
progress.
MAHATMA GANDHI

“THE SPADE”

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FIRST CLASS MAIL