



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, June 19

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.

Who: Akron Men's Garden Club members, their family and friends.

What: Strawberry Festival and Carry In Dinner

When: June 19, 2006 Dinner starts at 6:30 Come early and enjoy the park. If you want to come later just for the strawberry shortcake that is OK too.

Where: Goodyear Metropolitan Park Memorial Pavilion
2077 Newton St.
Akron, OH : map below

Bring your own meat, we will have the charcoal grills going. Bring a dish to pass. Bring your own table service. Club will provide the charcoal and the drink. Also, of course, the strawberries, shortcake and whipped cream.



A Message from Your President - Leroy Hart

Having beaten our trip to Newfoundland into the ground, it's time to get serious. At the last board meeting we made some decisions concerning the newsletter which will affect everybody who receives the Gabber. It was decided that since we had lost so many members it would be difficult to get to the two hundred copies that are needed in order to mail the newsletter at the bulk mailing rate. So will we be using first class mail. There are some advantages to first class mail. It will be delivered sooner; with bulk mail the delivery depends on when your mailman wants to deliver it. Also with bulk mailing it is not forwarded and we are not notified of a address change unless the newsletter requests an address correction, in which case we have to pay for it. Also with first class if you are going away for the winter you can have your mail forwarded. When we use first class we do not have to pay the post office a fee for the mailing permit. Another saving is we will be printing a lot fewer copies.

Several clubs have started sending their newsletters by e-mail. The board decided that this would be a big saving for the club. This issue will be sent both ways. All the members who have listed their e-mail addresses in the latest issue of the club's roster will receive a copy by e-mail. With this issue only everybody will receive a copy in the mail. If for some reason you do not receive your e-mail copy let Frank Mitch know and he will try to correct the problem. If you desire a hard copy of the newsletter you can print it out. If you cannot print it out again contact Frank and he will try to fix the problem. Members who have e-mail and who have not listed their e-mail address in the membership roster send your e-mail address to Frank. I want to thank Frank for taking over this job of keeping track of the e-mail addresses. So if you change your e-mail address let

Frank know by calling 330-666-2327 or e-mail fmm2065@hotmail.com

This paragraph concerns the widows of members. In the past we have sent newsletters to all the widows. We have heard that some of the widows really don't care that much about receiving the newsletter. we are asking that if you wish to continue receiving the newsletter let us know, If you have e-mail let Frank know your e-mail address. If you do not have e-mail let Charles White know that you still want to receive the Gabber. Charlie is in charge of mailing labels. You can reach Charles at 330-867-2055.

The other major change that the board made was to eliminate the advertising from the newsletter. I will send the advertisers a letter explaining this change and suggesting a way that they can keep in contact with the club if they so desire. I will tell them that they should contact me if they have programs, seminars, sales, etc.. that might interest our members. We have done this in the past.

The new roster books have been printed and they have been available to be picked up at the last two meetings. Some of you were at a meeting and failed to pick up your roster. They will be available at the next meeting. Several of you have spotted the error in the roster. The printer did not print a whole page. The corrections are available and will also be at the next meeting.

In the roster add the following names of members who have renewed their membership after the roster went to the printer: Jeff Andrew P. O. Box 237 Bath, OH 44210-0237 330-666-1889

Christopher Godard 2613 Cardington Green Uniontown, OH 44685-7526 330-699-0509

David Poling 346 S. Medina Line Road Akron, OH 44321-1008 330-666-2265

Habitat for Humanity Landscaping Report

On April 25 some members did preparation work on the yard of the new Habitat for Humanity home at 291 Arch Street near City Hospital. Jim Bell brought his trusty tiller and assisted with preparing the soil and removing stones, etc. preparing for planting grass seed. Thanks to Jim Bell, Leroy Hart, Dick Edwards and Frank Mitch for their work on this drippy, rainy day.

On Saturday, May 6, Bob Bell brought coffee and donuts for the landscaping crew. Grass seed was planted; a tree, hostas and other plants were installed. Thanks to Crown Point and Andy Bettick for the hostas and plants. The new lawn area was watered manually at last three times during the next week. Then the following week of good rains resulted in a good start for the grass. The place looks much different now because of the new landscaping, but also because the vacant lot next door has since been stripped of the large trees on its border. THANK YOU to our dedicated landscaping crew who contributed their time and effort to the completion of this project: Bob Bell, Dick Edwards, Janice Filipski, Roger Hite, Bob Johnson, John Lamer, John Lewis, Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, Ira McCans, and Frank Mitch.

Reported by Frank Mitch

Crown Point

Some of our members have been very involved with the Crown Point Ecology Center recently. Andy Bettick and Leroy Hart have been maintaining a garden on both sides of the walk leading to the entrance of Crown Point for at least three years. Recently this garden has done too well and become overgrown. Therefore, it was decided to wipe out the existing garden and start over. The plants were removed, the soil tilled and some of the plants replaced. Several members helped Andy and Lee do this over several days. They were John Lewis, Frank Mitch, Richard Edwards, and Robert Johnson. Most of the planting in the restored garden used the plants that were removed but Andy did buy some new plants. Some of the hostas that were too numerous to put back were taken to the May meeting plant sale by John Lewis where they were sold for \$1.00 each. Frank took some plants for the Habitat home we were working on at the time. Some plants went to our own gardens.

On Saturday May 20 Crown Point had a sale of vegetable and flower plants that they had started in their greenhouses. Leroy made a deal with them. The club would send some helpers at this sale if they would let us sell our leftover geraniums at their sale. Leroy Hart, Andy Bettick, Sam Morlan, John Lewis, and Frank Mitch worked at this sale. And we did sell a few geranium flats.

Herb Show

The Quail Hollow Herb Society is having a Herb Show at Quail Hollow State Park in Hartville on July 8 and 9, 2006. Members of the Men's Garden Club are invited to show their herbs. To obtain a schedule contact Jim Bell. Roger Hite and Leroy Hart will be judging this show.

Submitted by Jim Bell

From the Gardening Dictionary - **gar-den-ing** 1. n. the art of killing weeds and bugs to grow flowers and crops for animals and birds to eat.

perennial: Any plant which, had it lived, would have bloomed year after year.

A Message from the Regional President Anita Lanning

Hello Fellow Gardeners, (letter dated May 1)
There will not be a Johnny Appleseed printed until fall, but as the Region President I would like to share my message with you.

What a beautiful time of the year this is. Looking out the front window I can see green grass, tulips,, grape hyacinths and flowering crab apple trees. We just returned from the National Convention in Spartanburg, S,C, We had such a good time. As well as seeing beautiful green grass azaleas, rhododendrons and flowering trees, we saw many old friends and met new people as well. Upon returning home we found we were lucky enough to see a repeat of spring here.

I'd like to give you a little overview of what took place at the convention. We stayed at the beautiful Spartanburg Marriot at Renaissance Park. The Spartanburg club outdid themselves with the convention. Our 'continental breakfast' consisted of rolls and coffee, plus - eggs, bacon, potatoes, sausage, biscuits and gravy. Every morning we were given a newsletter of interesting information as well as the daily schedule, courtesy of the host club.

The community of Spartanburg is working hard to show how community beautification should be done.

On the day of our tours thunderstorms were predicted. The day turned out to be warm and sunny. We toured the Hatcher Garden and the Miliken & Co. Arboretum. The following day we were inside all day and we got the thunderstorms, for which the people of Spartanburg were thankful because they needed the rain.

As well as attending seminars Bill and I led one on Membership (recruitment/retention). It was very well attended and there was good participation and

good ideas were passed along. Some of the things of help in finding members for your club follow:

1st - Need to be determined to find new members. Someone needs to be a Spark Plug. Others must be recruited to help and do recruiting also. The more members who accept the challenge, the more chances for success.

2nd - Make new members welcome and feel important. Have several people greet and talk with them.

3rd - Hold good programs that are interesting. Have a good variety of programs.

4th = Continue involving new members in all aspects of the club and have them serve on committees.

A Clubs Communication Committee is a new committee that was formed at the National and I was asked to chair it. The following people volunteered to help with this committee: Gerry Herman, Daniel Logan and Bill Lanning. We want to share ideas about what your club is doing that would be interesting to others. Please send ideas/projects you would like to share with other clubs to me. We need communication!

There were 25 people registered from the Central Great Lakes Region.

we are looking forward to a wonderful summer. The judging of shows has started as well as gardening. This year we plan to take some one day trips. There are so many places of interest in this great state of ours that we haven't seen and we plan to take advantage of them.

Thank you Frank Mitch and Bill Jones for your presentations at the Regional Meeting April 8th in Mansfield. Success in any organizations accomplished by participation. We have a great group of people in our Central Great Lakes Region. We are always pleased to say we represent the Central Great Lakes Region.

(Editor's Note - I attended the National Convention, along with Frank and Amy Mitch. It was as good a time as Anita said. More of us should attend the regional and national conventions. The Lannings are from Findlay, Ohio. Their club doubled in size last year so they know what they are talking about in club growth.

About June

June, our sixth month, was originally the fourth in the ancient Roman calendar, and had only twenty-six days. Then Romulus gave June four more days. Numa Pompilius took one from it and finally Julius Caesar restored this month

is a much debated question as to how June received its name. Some believe that the word came from the fact that the month was dedicated to the Juniores or lower branch of the Roman law making body. Others say it may have been connected with Junius from the Consulate of Junius Brutus. Others say that it was named to honor Juno, wife of Jupiter, king of the gods. Juno was the special deity of women, the goddess of marriage and childbirth. In her honor, the Romans observed a festival on the first of June.

The Anglo-Saxons had several names for June; one was "Weydmonath" because cattle then found good pasture in the meadows; another term was "Weed-monath," meaning "weed month; some of them also named it the "dry month."

June has always been considered one of our most desirable periods. Trees and flowers are seen in their new splendor, and in many places the weather is delightful. Our sixth month has long been a busy one for farmers. While June is a time of great activity for many adults, it is the time when, freed from school, children enjoy the freedom of sunny days out-of-doors. Since June is the beginning of the vacation season, the urge to travel to faraway places takes possession of many people. For centuries June has been associated with weddings. It is said that this came about because, since the preceding month was observed for "the unhappy dead", May was considered unlucky for marriages, so weddings were postponed until June, and the custom continues. June is the

only month of the twelve in which no President was born. However, many other notables were born in June: Brigham Young, Jefferson Davis, King George III, Nathan Hale, Robert Louis Stevenson, Prince Philip, Harriet Beecher Stow, John Wesley, the Duke of Windsor, Pearl Buck, Edvard Grieg, Frank Lloyd Wright, Fred Waring, Pat Boone, Judy Garland, and Amerigo Vespucci.

There were many important events that took place during the month of June: in 1683 William Penn made an important treaty with the Indians; in 1692 the first witch was hanged in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1775 George Washington was made Commander-in-Chief of the Colonial Army, in 1798 the United States passed the first Immigration Act; In 1812 we declared war on Great Britain; in 1837 Victoria became Queen; in 1876 General Custer made his famous last stand; in 1885 the Statue of Liberty arrived in the United States as a gift from France; in 1896 Henry Ford finished his first motor car; in 1903 the first cross-country automobile trip began; in 1917 the first Americans arrived in France to take part in World War I; in 1919 the Treaty of Versailles was signed; in 1940 the Germans occupied Paris; in 1944 D-Day, the invasion of France began; in 1945 fifty nations signed the United Nations Charter; and in 1947 The Marshall Plan, to help Europe recover from the war, was announced.

There are several holidays in June: in Hawaii, on June 11, Kamehameha Day is observed to honor the first king who ruled over the islands; Father's Day is observed on the third Sunday; Fag Day is held on the 14th; two important religious holidays are the Jewish Feast of Weeks (Shavuoth) and Pentacost (Whitsunday) which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles in Jerusalem (also known as the birthday of the Christian Church).

The June birthstone is the pearl. The pearl, emblem of purity, has been held in esteem by various races from very early times. Alternate birthstones for June are the Moonstone and the Alexandrite.

The flower for June is the Rose and the alternate is the Honeysuckle.

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