



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, November 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.

When: Monday, November 19, 2007
5:30 p.m. – Social Hour
6:30 p.m. – Dinner

Where: The Memorial Dining Room
440 Grant Street
Akron, Ohio 44311

Program Awards Night

Tonight we welcome past presidents of the club and their spouses as our guests. Also the beautification awards and big tree awards. Jim Fee will present the service awards to members. The election of officers will be held.

Frank Mitch will have the ten minute talk on the Habitat for Humanity program.

Last board meeting of the year Monday, November 26, 7 pm at the Garden Forum building, corner of West Market Street and White Pond Drive. All members are invited.

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

A Message from Your President - Bob Bell

Did you get your gardens cleaned up for the winter? October gave us a lot of opportunity to work outdoors without freezing. I mowed my lawn the last day of the month and it is looking like I will need to mow again. It's a good thing that we get the garden work done as we need to turn our attention to the holidays. Maybe that is why we have so many of them this time of year.

The last few meetings have been filled with a lot of interesting and informative topics. Many of our members are offering their expertise in presentations to the club. Please consider making a 10 minute presentation at one of our future meetings. Also come prepared with questions regarding your gardening interests or concerns. If you can't get to Angelo or Tom Dayton on the radio, you can find your answers here.

You have been reading in the Gabber and hearing at our dinners that we are recognizing Past Presidents of our club during the November dinner. So far at least 15 Past Club Presidents have said they will be coming. This will be a great opportunity to visit with some who haven't been able to attend very often, and to recognize the commitment that these men and women have made to our club. Did you know that this also is the 70th year of Men's Garden Clubs of America. This dinner meeting is also awards night, recognizing the work our members have contributed. And, we are holding elections for next year's officers. We have nominated a great slate of officers. I know that you will make every effort to attend. Only Lee Hart has an excuse.

NOW. Please take note. November's dinner is the same place we have been meeting at 440 Grant Street. I am repeating that. NOVEMBER'S DINNER is the **SAME** place. We have been talking about moving and that we shall. December's meeting will be at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church on Ridgewood Road just west of I77.

Come to the Board Meeting Monday, November 26th, at the **Fairlawn Park and Garden Center**. 7:00 PM. We continue working on new ideas to help our club grow and be an even better experience.

New Officers

The nominating committee presents the slate of officers for 2008. They are:

President	John Lewis
First Vice President	Arthur Britton
Second Vice President	John Cochran
Secretary	Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich
Treasurer	Leroy Hart

These officers will be installed at the December meeting. We welcome all the new officers and we pledge them our support in the coming year. Since the First Vice President is also the program chair, he will welcome any and all suggestions for next year's programs.

A Note from the Treasurer

Some members have expressed a desire to know more about the financial status of the club. The board members are aware of this and realize that the membership should know about our finances.

The club is in good financial shape. We carry a checkbook balance of \$1000.00 to \$2000.00. We have a savings account of \$2518.97 and two CDs. One is for \$1027.04; this is the endowment fund. The other is for \$16,672.28; this is one-half savings and one-half endowment fund. This endowment fund was established several years ago and it provides an opportunity for a member to make a contribution to the club. We are a tax exempt non-profit so any donation made to the club can be written off on income tax. There is no specified use for this fund. The board has discussed what to do with this money. One suggestion was to build the fund up to the point where the interest from the fund would be sufficient to pay for the scholarships that the club provides.

The club usually breaks even between income and routine expenses for the month. The \$12.00 we pay for dinner goes to the caterer; the club does not make a profit on dinners as some clubs do. The money from the 50/50 raffle and the silent auction goes to pay for the \$50.00 we must pay the Medical Services Bureau for the bar. Sometimes there is a profit from the 50/50 and the silent auction. Most months we pay the speaker \$50.00.

About the bar bill: When we started coming to this location there was no charge for the bar, Peg's catering must have paid it herself.; possibly one of the reasons she went out of business so abruptly. The caterer who replaced her made us pay this. Fortunately, this will not be a problem for us at our next location.

We have several ongoing expenses: we pay \$25.00 a month to the Garden Forum for the use of their building for board meetings. We did meet for a while at a library but they make us leave at about 8:15. We pay \$500.00 each year for insurance; this is mostly

liability insurance. The Garden Gabber costs about \$450.00 a year to print and about \$270.00 to mail. The membership roster is about \$200.00 to print. This year the Habitat for Humanity expenses were \$440.00. The expenses for the horticultural show were \$315.00. We made \$100.00 in memorial donations for deceased members. So far this year we have had about \$100.00 in miscellaneous expenses.

Now for the big expenses. We paid \$500.00 to send two members to the national convention. We donated \$1000.00 to the Fort Wayne club for next year's national convention. We donated \$1000.00 to Crown Point for their new garden. Finally we spent \$2000.00 for scholarships to ATI in Wooster.

How do we pay for all this? This was a good year. We will make \$50.00 to \$100.00 on the sale of calendars. The geranium sale had a profit of \$2600.00 and we had an outstanding plant sale in May; making \$1100.00.

Back to the subject of scholarships. There is a national scholarship fund which awards five \$1000.00 scholarships each year. For the past several years our club had recommended at least one of these winners; this year we had recommended two. This fund was started at the national organization by a gift from George Mines. Many of you will remember George. He was one of the best members this club has ever had. Many of us joined the club because George recruited us. He also was a great contributor to the horticultural show. He could grow the most beautiful hanging baskets.

I suppose this is more about finances than you really wanted to know; but I do run on. If you are really concerned about finances come to board meetings and share your opinions with the board. All members are invited to all board meetings.

Leroy Hart, Treasurer

William Moorehouse

At the October meeting of the Central Great Lakes Region special recognition was given to Bill Moorehouse for his years of service to the club as a national director. These directors are what you could call the official board of the national organization. They meet three times a year at different locations around the country. So this involves considerable expense for the directors.

Bill has also given great service to the local club. He is a past president and is still a board member. He also is the calendar salesman. He still attends the national conventions and the regional meetings. Thank, Bill, for all that you have done, and are doing, for our club.

Calendar Correction

Speaking of Bill Moorehouse I received an e-mail from him about an error in the national garden club calendar. If you purchased your calendar from Bill before October 5, 2007 you will need a correction strip to paste over the last week in January. I looked at mine and they skipped the 27th. See Bill at the meetings or call him at 330-864-0604 to get a correction strip. Bill suggests that if the national wants to stay in the calendar business they better get a new printer and establish a proof reading committee. He says that this printer had made mistakes every year. Last year they got Good Friday, Easter, and the national convention dates wrong. Another time they got the phases of the moon wrong. One time they left out July 31st.

Get your correction strips from Bill and thanks. Bill for fixing those sold after October 5.

Leroy Hart, Editor

Habitat for Humanity October 2007

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated group of members who responded with short notice to complete the landscaping on three new Habitat for Humanity homes in October. Now the green grass is showing at these locations and will have a good start before winter arrives. Shrubs are in and daffodil bulbs were planted and will pop up in the spring. Thanks to all who turned out to assist.

1364 Curtis In Firestone Park: Saturday, October 6

Bob Bell	Jim Bell
Arthur Britton	
Amelia Britton	Jack Cochran
Alfred Eddy	
Dick Edwards	Chris Godard
Leroy Hart	
John Lewis	Robert Johnson
Charles Keach	
Leslie Knight	Chester Lowry
Ira McCans	
Frank Mitch	MaryAnn Ferguson-Rich

Dick Edwards and Frank Mitch tilled and did some prep work a few days prior to the main day.

326 & 334 West South Street, near Summit Lake -

	Wednesday, October 17	
Leroy Hart	Les Knight	Charles Keach
Jack Cochran	Jim Bell	Ira McCans
Robert Johnson		David Martine
Frank Mitch		
John Lewis		

The back yards of these two homes were planted with grass seed previously by another volunteer group. Even so the front and side yards were quite a task for our smaller group available for the mid week scheduled date. A big thank you for all who participated on these as well as the other homes this year.

Reported by Frank Mitch

Membership Report

At the board meeting it was suggested that the membership might appreciate a report on the current status of our membership. In the green membership roster book that we received this spring there are 104 names listed. Of these 41 are life members, 40 are regular members, 16 are family members (eight couples), five are associate members and two are honorary members (William Bacon and Willard Barco) Since the book was published we have taken in two new members and we have lost two by death (Clint Walker and Louis Kreek Jr.) so the total membership still is 104. When I joined the club we had over 400 members. This year, so far, 29 life members, 16 regular members, six family members, two associates, and the two honorary members have renewed their dues for 2008. Please use the form on this page to renew your membership.

During the year we received the following new members: (First 10 are in the roster book, last 2 are not)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Don and Mary Ann Carlson | Sponsored by Grace Cochran |
| John Cochran | Grace Cochran (Her uncle) |
| Alfred L. Eddy | Andy Bettick |
| Michael Flynn | Dick Cotton |
| Janice Kelly | Dick Cotton |
| Janet F. Kucko | Don and Mary Ann Carlson |
| David Lockledge | Jim Bell |
| Claire and Graham H. Reinke | Frank Field |
| Susan L. Tewell | Jack Cochran |
| Cindy Michael | Grace Cochran |

2008 Dues Are Due!

- Regular Members - \$35.00 _____
- Life Members - \$15.00 _____
- Associate Members - \$15.00 _____
- Family Life Members - Spouse is not a Life Member - \$40.00 _____
- Family Regular Member - Spouse is not a Life Member - \$60.00 _____
- New Life Membership - at any age - One time payment of \$200.00 _____

Please complete the following form , enclose your check and mail to:

Leroy Hart
633 Schocalog Road
Akron, OH 44320-1033

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address (if OK to print in club roster) _____

Amount enclosed _____