

# Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster

October 2002

*The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America  
Central Great Lakes Region*



## President's Message

By Frank Mitch

**C**ongratulations to our new officers for 2003. They will be officially installed at our meeting at Kingwood Center on October 19, 2002. Please give them your full support next year.

**President:** Geraldine Herman

**First Vice President:** Pam Bockey

**Second Vice President:** Dale Davies

**Secretary:** Marcia Davies

**Treasurer:** George Hoover

**Directors:** William Moorehouse, Edward Flynn, Frank Mitch

**Alternate Directors:** John Lloyd, Cathy Morgan, Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich

### Region Progress in 2002

Thanks to Bill Lanning and committee the revised bylaws adopted this year provide for a much larger board of directors to include the presidents of all affiliated clubs.

Region communications have improved with three full newsletter issues, more advance meeting notices, and letters of information to club officers. Thanks to editor Paula Singleton for very attractive and informative JAB issues.

Summaries of club activities that were submitted by clubs were sent to all club presidents and editors.

A number of the clubs held successful horticulture shows as a way of providing a public display and presence.

A very successful annual summer conference was held at Kent State in June; many thanks to the Stow club for hosting this event and to the very dedicated conference chair, Gerry Herman.

There was increased emphasis on gardening lectures or programs at the region's spring and fall meetings.

The new 501(c)3 tax deductible coverage is fully in effect this year and tax deductible contributions have already been received.

Lee Hart was appointed as historian and plans to compile some interesting facts from the region's past.

Last, but not least, Gerry Herman has developed a "Club Assistance" series of sessions to begin in 2003 that will coincide with fall and spring meetings.

### Moving into the Future

Thanks so much to Gerry Herman, Pam Bockey, Marcia Davies, George Hoover, and Bill Carney for their good work this year; also to our national directors Bill Moorehouse, Dale Davies, Ed Flynn, and especially to the JAB editor Paula Singleton.

There are a few unfinished goals I would like to pass along to our new 2003 president and officers. I will offer my assistance where I can be helpful.

- Continue the Club Assistance series originated by Gerry Herman.
- Encourage all club presidents and members to participate in the region.
- Improve the coordination of judging schools and judging of region shows.
- Assign specific clubs for contact by the national directors and alternates.
- Collect additional region historical material and assure its preservation.
- Discover a new JAB editor as capable as our resigning editor.
- Reinstate the region's Web site.

### Inside this issue:

Gardening on the Web	2
News from Around the Lakes	3
Members and Programs	4
What are Our Clubs Up To?	5
Summer Conference Recap	6
Honesty, Communication and Cooperation	7
Autumn in Verse	7



*Tickle it with a hoe and it will laugh into a harvest.  
-English Proverb*

## Gardening on the Web

Here are some favorite sites of gardeners in the Central Great Lakes Region:

### Men's Garden Club of Akron:

[www.newfs.org](http://www.newfs.org)—New England Wild Flower Society's site. Terrific information-filled catalog on native plants. Seeds are available through mail order, but plants are not.

[Http://bygl.osu.edu](http://bygl.osu.edu)—This is the Buckeye yard and garden line. Lots of interesting and timely issues being handled by OSU extension horticultural agents are highlighted here.

[Http://www.tgoa-mgca.org](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org). Click on <Members Only>, enter the password: merlehay, click on <Red Book>, click on the pages you wish to view or print. This is the famous Red Book full of information about the operation of garden clubs, duties of officers, committees, youth gardening, how to order awards, and much more.

### Stow Community Garden Club:

[Www.sunset.com/Magazine/Sections/Garden/gardengateway.html](http://www.sunset.com/Magazine/Sections/Garden/gardengateway.html).

Happy surfing!

*If you have a favorite gardening Web site that you'd like to share, please contact the JAB editor.*



## Regional Biz

### Help Your Region and Pay Less Tax

The region now has IRS tax exempt 501(c)3 status with group coverage provided by TGOA/MGCA.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the region before the end of this year. It will be much appreciated, and will assist with the newsletter, mailing fees, and other expenses. You will be able to take the tax deduction on your federal income taxes when you file your report for this year. It's good for the region and will be good for you also.

Please mail contributions to our treasurer, George Hoover. His address is on the back page of this newsletter.

Reported by: Frank Mitch, Region President

### A Reminder to all clubs...

Please be sure to send the names of your 2003 officers to the national and regional secretaries no later than January 2003—even if the names of your officers do not change from 2002. Thank you!

### Wanted: Central Great Lakes Region History

Have you ever wondered about the history of the CGLR gardening organization? When was it organized and who were its past presidents? We have not been able to find answers to these questions.

Leroy Hart from Akron has been appointed as historian for the region. Lee is searching the few past records available to provide some answers. Any club members with historical material, correspondence, news clippings, photos, Johnny Appleseed newsletters, directories, etc. are urged to make copies available. Please send copies or originals to Lee or let him know what you have available.

Lee Hart  
633 Schocalog Rd.  
Akron, OH 44320  
Phone: 330-836-1407

Reported by: Frank Mitch, Region President

### Wanted: New JAB Editor

I am unable to continue serving as editor of the JAB due to business demands. Editing the JAB has been a fun project, requiring approximately 15 to 20 hours per issue, three times per year. When members submit articles, the time commitment is further reduced. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (330)836-5059. If you would like to be considered as the new editor, please contact Gerry Herman at (330)688-5782.

*Respectfully submitted by Paula Singleton*

## News From Around the Lakes by Paula Singleton

First and foremost, it was brought to my attention by William Lanning that this is the 70th anniversary of our organization. "It started as the Men's Garden Clubs of America in 1932, and became The Gardeners of America," said Lanning. "The Fort Wayne club was one of the founding groups, and they are still very active. Perhaps our clubs can incorporate an anniversary celebration in one of their meetings. An organization that has lasted this long deserves special recognition."

I couldn't agree more. Happy anniversary, and congratulations to all of the members who work tirelessly to support our clubs and make a difference in our communities. Below are just a few club activities and achievements since our Spring issue.

**The Gardeners of Lima** awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to students pursuing careers in horticulture and related occupations. TGOL is in second place nationally for the club with the highest percentage increase in membership for 2002—as of June 30, the club had a 72 percent increase. Member Dick Hussey won the giant tomato contest with a tomato weighing 2 pounds, 8.6 ounces. Finally, the club has an activity point system that recognizes members who go the extra mile in making the club successful. To earn a membership pin, members must serve on a committee, attend five meetings and volunteer five hours on various club projects. Both new and established members are recognized for accumulating the most points.

Congratulations to the following **Men's Garden Club of Akron** members who won awards at the annual summer conference: Bill Carney—The Green Bronze Medal; Lee Hart—Master Gardener award; Andy Bettick—Horticultural Achievement award; Walt Starcher—Environmental Conservation Achievement award; Cathy Morgan—Spark Plug award.

Winners from other clubs include: Horticulture Journalism, and Master Gardener—Gerry Herman (**Community Garden Club of Stow**); and Green Bronze Medal—Ed Flynn (**Ft. Wayne**).

**The Men's Garden Club of Grosse Pointe** member Harold B. Lee received the beautification award for the Southeastern region of Michigan for outstanding horticultural contributions. Dr. Richard Pollard, at the 2002 national convention, received the Booster award—bronze level. Congratulations! Club members and student residents from the Frontier Cottage (Children's Home of Detroit) planted 11 flats of flowers in the flower garden area of the cottage. Last year the students won first prize for the best garden, and they are hoping to repeat the honor again this year. The students also maintained the garden over the summer months.

**Cuyahoga Falls Men's Garden Club** member Bob Van Kirk is serving as president for the third time (not in sequence) and has been the newsletter editor for 26 years. Bob celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in April, and continues to work as the gardener for the Village of Monroe Falls.

## For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Submitted by *Bill Slabe,*  
*Youngstown*



### Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind  
Peace of heart  
Peace of soul

### Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip  
Squash indifference  
Squash grumbling  
Squash selfishness

### Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful  
Lettuce be kind  
Lettuce be patient  
Lettuce really love one another

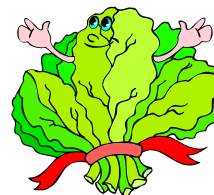
### No garden is without turnips:

Turnip for meetings  
Turnip for service  
Turnip to help one another

### To conclude our garden we must have thyme:

Thyme for each other  
Thyme for family  
Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.



---

# Members and Programs

By Edward J. Hall, Garden Club of Kent

**W**hat contributes to meetings members want to attend? There are two major factors which contribute to successful meetings and growing clubs.

The first is a dinner meeting. Members and their spouses appreciate an opportunity to dine out. A dinner meeting provides this occasion.

The second and most important factor is an interesting and well-organized series of gardening programs that are publicized well in advance.

Most of your programs should be about some aspect of dirt gardening—still a broad horticultural subject. Try to choose a topic that is seasonal and current. In the Kent area we have two members who are orchardists, and attend our meetings. We had a biology professor from Kent State University who discussed pesticides and plant hormones. They really perked up their ears when he began discussing a plant hormone, Alar and apple production.

A call to the Cooperative Extension Service could result in a list of master gardener speakers or a list of qualified master gardeners.

Another method used by program chairpersons and first vice presidents is to join several local clubs as an associate member. Attend other club meetings, enjoy the social aspect and check out their speakers. Keep a file of names for next year and check them out. Did the club pay an honorarium or mileage? Do academics want letters of appreciation to put in their promotion and tenure folders? Excellent programs will pay for themselves with increased membership with spades, and retention with trowel awards. Members will bring their friends to field trips and interesting speakers.

Instead of a speaker have a club member do a “show and tell” about one of his projects—raised beds, drip irrigation, or growing vegetables hydroponically. Follow with questions and answers.



Conduct an informal survey and find out about club members' interests, then locate local speakers on these topics. Find out the names of experts in other local clubs. Rodney Toth of Youngstown is a great speaker on dahlias, as is Richard Poffenbaugh of Mansfield on gardening and garden writing. Identify a speaker who knows about landscaping and flowers, then invite new homeowners to your meeting to hear her.

Another idea is to add something new to your meetings. Ask four or five members to each bring a plant to the next meeting. Have two experienced speakers from your club judge the plants during the dinner or the business meeting. At the end of the program the judges can announce the winners, and discuss how they judged the plants. This helps your members prepare their entries for the annual horticultural show.

Also build interest by placing door prizes near the entry. Award these at the end of the evening.

After you have recruited new members keep them coming back by involving them in club activities.

That is how to retain members.

## What are our clubs up to?

*A snapshot of membership statistics and activities for clubs in the Central Great Lakes Region*

Are you interested in how other clubs are faring, and what types of programs and activities they offer?

The following information was taken from the club membership and program report, which Frank Mitch compiled for the executive committee in June 2002 from information submitted by the clubs' secretaries.

**MGC of Akron:** Members: Annual 107, Life 116; Total 223

Fund Raising: April plant sale, May geranium sale and plant auction.

Activities: Speakers or presentations at monthly dinner meetings. Maintain Hospice Center perennial garden and flower bed at Crown Point; beautification awards; big tree contest; horticulture show. Youth gardening in elementary schools, scholarships for two Wooster ATI students.

**Gardeners of Bluffton-Pandora:** Annual 21, Life 15; Total 36

**Cuyahoga Falls MGC:** Annual 10, Life 6; Total 16

**Erie County MGC:** Annual 30, Life 3; Total 33

**Fort Wayne GOA:** Annual 14, Life 2; Total 16

In 2001: Fund Raising: Plant sale. Activities: Meets every month. Flower and garden exhibit each year at a local park. Carry-in dinner and plant auction in October. December party where members tell good and bad garden experiences from the past year.

**Findlay M & W GC:** Annual 24, Life 4; Total 28

**Forget Me Not GC:** Total 10 Life

**Fulton County GC:** Annual 11, Life 5; Total 16

**Greater Cleveland MGC:** Annual 62, Life 12; Total 74

**Greater Toledo GOA/MGC:** Total 5 Life

**Grosse Pointe MGC:** Annual 94, Life 19; Total 113

**Kent GC:** Annual 48, Life 45; Total 93

**Lima MGC:** Annual 30, Life 5; Total 35

Fund Raising: May plant sale.

Activities: Planting merchant containers downtown. Best garden winners announced in June. Heaviest tomato contest. Fall flower and vegetable show. Hosted a cookout and tour in 2001 for Van Wert and Bluffton Clubs.

**Maple City MGC:** Annual 4, Life 7; Total 11

**St. Marys GOA:** Annual 16, Life 3; Total 19

Fund Raising: Flower sale.

Activities: Plant and maintain flowerbeds in the city and at the county fair. Family summer outing each year. Helps Boys Scouts with Eagle projects. After first year the club pays members' dues if active in projects and meetings.

**Stow Community GC:** Annual 41, Life 28; Total 69

Fund Raising: Plant sales, bulb sales, cash prize drawings at meetings.

Activities: Dinner meetings every month with speakers and programs. Annual bus trip every August to points of interest. National award winning youth gardening program; adult garden spaces also. National award winning newsletter. Hosted 2002 CGLR Summer Conference at Kent State.

**Tallmadge MGC:** Life 3; Total 3

**Van Wert MGC:** Annual 46, Life 44; Total 90

Fund Raising: May plant sale.

2001 Activities: April Arbor Day program and tree planting in the city. Flower show and peony festival in June. Bus trip in June to points of interest. Club tour of local gardens. Area beautification awards in August. Plantings for the Farm Fest farm event. Booth at the county fair, judges and awards for the youth contest. Working with 4-H clubs through the extension office. Prepare, plant, and tend numerous beds through out the city. Hosted a cookout and tour for Lima, Ft. Wayne, and St. Marys clubs in July.

**Western PA Gardeners:** Life 9; Total 9

**Youngstown MGC:** Annual 42, Life 37; Total 79

Fund Raising: 2001: Flower Sale in May. Mum Sale in August.

Activities: Monthly meetings with speakers and programs. Horticulture Show in August.

**At Large – Central Great Lakes:** Annual 3 – Life 129 – Total 132

**Total CGLR:** Annual 603, Life 507; Total 1110



---

# Central Great Lakes Region Summer Conference Recap

By Anita Lanning

*An excerpt from The Manure Spreader, a publication of the Stow Community Garden Club*

This year's CGLR summer conference was held on the campus of Kent State University. Registration started Thursday afternoon. That evening we had a get-together and welcome.

Friday morning we met for breakfast and boarded a bus for a very interesting tour of the Holmes County Amish community. We got a good look at their lifestyle up close. On our first stop we toured two farmhouses. The first house had a bakery in the rear where many of us enjoyed purchasing some freshly baked goods. After we toured the homes we took buggy rides. Our driver, Eli Yoder, was a very nice person and seemed to enjoy visiting with us.

At noon we went to another Amish farm where we had a most delicious meal. Everyone came away full and happy! We went on to visit a cheese factory, and another bakery. There were cabins behind the bakery where people could stay. We talked to a man who was staying in a cabin with his family, and he said they got up and went into the bakery for coffee and good baked rolls for breakfast. After this we went back to campus. That evening we enjoyed a very good buffet dinner.

The people who stayed in the dorm (better known as the "dormies") had two fun evenings of fellowship before retiring. The word we dormies used to describe our rooms was HOT, but we survived. You do miss out on the camaraderie when you don't stay on campus.



Saturday we were up bright and early for another good breakfast. No matter where we were we always had good food. After breakfast the business meeting began, which was handled in a timely manner. Afterward, we attended some very good seminars. There were six seminars in total; each person could attend three.

We had lunch, and then took either a tour of campus or the fashion museum. Some decided to stay behind where it was cool, and visit. No matter where you went you could always find friends together enjoying each other's company. We then had two more seminars.

The conference ended with a memorial service and a very

nice banquet. A women's singing group entertained us with musical selections. They ended their performance with some patriotic music. I don't know if there was a dry in in the room. They got a rousing round of applause.

Our awards presentations closed the conference.

Like I heard so many times, the people who don't attend just don't know what they're missing. This conference is right at the top of the list as one of the best we have attended! If you didn't have a fun time this weekend, you have no one to blame but yourself.

---

*When we toured the Amish area we tasted a wonderful spread made by a woman named Elsa. I purchased her cookbook and some of us were talking later about how good that spread was. It is quick, and easy too!*

*-Anita Lanning*

## **Amish Peanut Butter Spread**

1 cup marshmallow crème  
1/2 cup peanut butter  
Karo or maple pancake syrup

Mix first two ingredients well. Add enough syrup to create desired thickness. Very good served on homemade bread or crackers. Served at Amish church services.

# Honesty, Communication, and Cooperation Make Succession a Snap

By Gerry Herman, Stow Community Garden Club

For the past four years I was the Stow Community Garden Club registrar. When I accepted the task I had no idea what it involved. Perhaps I would sit at a table and sign up gardeners for specific sites? What an eye opener! After I had accepted the position I met with the former registrar to go over a timetable of things to be done. Whew!

This year my (very wise) club president suggested that I was burning my candle at both ends, and a new registrar was appointed. We met with the president and went over past activities, a timetable for this year, and what changes should be made now, and in the future. Forms were amended or changed, and we were off and running. How did things turn out?

Our registration day this year was the most successful ever. The answer to the most frequently asked question, "When will the gardens be ready?" was posted on the wall for all to see.

I credit this year's success to a couple of things. I believe that being there to work side-by-side with the new registrar made the job less overwhelming for everyone. It allowed me to point out things that he might want to do in the future. Some excellent ideas and changes for next year were discussed.

Making oneself available to incoming committee chairs and volunteers is the most important step in retaining successful programs. Communicating what is expected of volunteers is also critically important, as is a thorough job description for every task. Instead of saying, "There's nothing to it," let's take the time to communicate honestly about what is expected of our members when they volunteer for committees and programs, then be there to help them make the program successful. This way everyone wins.

## Autumn in Verse

All those golden  
Autumn days  
the sky was full of wings.

-Laura Ingalls Wilder



Joys come from simple and  
natural things,  
mists over meadows,  
sunlight on leaves,  
the path of the moon  
over water.

Even rain and wind and  
stormy clouds bring joy...

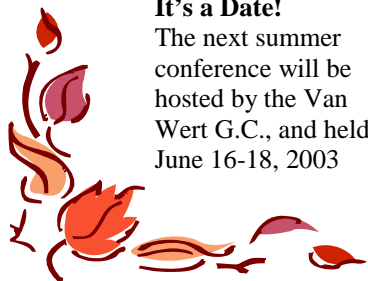
-Sigurd F. Olson  
1899-1982

The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden  
Clubs of America  
Central Great Lakes Region



Contact:  
Paula Singleton, Editor  
Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster  
453 Inverness Road  
Akron, OH 44313-4566  
Email: pss453@neo.rr.com

*Special thanks to  
Central-Hower Graphic Arts  
for printing our newsletter.*



**It's a Date!**

The next summer  
conference will be  
hosted by the Van  
Wert G.C., and held  
June 16-18, 2003

Affix Address Label Here

## 2002 Officers—Central Great Lakes Region, TGOA/MGCA

**President and National Director**

Frank Mitch  
2065 Kemery Road  
Akron, OH 44333  
(330)666-2327  
fmitch@compuserve.com

**Second Vice President**

Pam Bockey  
6163 John Yoh Road  
Van Wert, OH 45891  
(419)238-9089

**National Director**

William Moorehouse  
511 Overwood Drive  
Akron, OH 44313  
(330)864-0604

**Past President**

William Carney  
2984 Algonquin Drive  
Poland, OH 44514  
(330)757-9207

**Secretary**

Marcia Davies  
P.O. Box 524  
Van Wert, OH 45891  
(419)238-9351

**National Director**

Dale Davies  
P.O. Box 524  
Van Wert, OH 45891  
(419)238-9351

**First Vice President**

Geraldine Herman  
2139 Maple Road  
Stow, OH 44224  
(330)688-5782

**Treasurer**

George Hoover  
7151 Indian Trail  
Poland, OH 44514  
(330)757-2221

**Alternate National Director**

Edward Flynn  
4006 Reed Road  
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815  
(219)485-5628