



# THE JOHNNY APPLESEED BROADCASTER

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Summer 2008

## Presidents Message...Rodney J. Toth

**H**ello CGLR Garden Friends,  
It tis the season. Spring is finally here. The grass is growing. The weeds are growing. And, my cellar is full of plants under florescent lights. They will soon need to be transplanted and introduced to the wonderful world of outdoor gardening.

As usual I have been adventurous and have decided to try some new plants and varieties. A couple of the fare from Florida such as thee “Giant Potato Tree” or “Solanum macrenthum”, the “Coral Bean Plant: or “Jatropha multifida” and the “Buddha Belied Jathopha” or “Jatropha podarica”. New varieties that I started from seed are Eggplant “Red China”, Tomato “Litchi” and the Tomato “Pink German Tree”. Hopefully you are also trying something new.

Those attending the CGLR Spring Meeting wee fortunate to hear our speaker Dennis James as he introduced some new plants and gave some hints for more successful “Rock Gardening”.

At that meeting we decided that communication is very important. We can communicate and keep up to date through our CGLR Web Site, our National Web Site (both kept up to dated by web master Frank Mitch), the JAB (send news to Editor, Joe Alessi) and Anita Lanning’s Communication E-Mail. Thank you Fran, Joe and Anita.

Another highlight of the meeting was the election of John Kessen to the CGLR Board of Directors.

John Kessen is also chairman of the National Convention to be held June 12-14 in Fort Wayne, IN. John and his committee have worked very hard to make this a successful and enjoyable convention.

BE THERE!!! This is your opportunity to be part of a national event.

After the National Convention John Schinker our current CGLR VP and the Men’s Garden Club of Youngstown is sponsoring the CGLR Summer Conference July 26 in Wooster, Ohio. This is also another great opportunity to share with friends and learn something new about gardening. Hope to see you there. Rodney.

## **“Times A Wasting!” 2008 TGOA/MGCA Annual Convention**

**Fort Wayne, Indiana - June 12 – 14, 2008.** Now is the time to register. The Fort Wayne Club is planning a great program and lots of fun. It will be a mix that will delight you. Please **register now** and get seats at the seminars that really interest you.

It has been sixteen years since the last convention in Fort Wayne. When members gather at the national conventions they still talk about the good times at that 1992 convention. The 2008 convention will be better! Can you really afford to miss it?

For quick or additional registrations call TODAY!  
John Kessen – 254-854-2988.

### SUMMER ISSUE CONTENTS

President’s Message.....	Page 1
Ft. Wayne National Convention .....	Page 1
CGLR Spring Meeting Report.....	Page 2
Cleveland 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary.....	Page 2
Dump Cake Recipe.....	Page 2
Haydite.....	Page 3
Let’s Smile.....	Page 3
St. Fiacra De Breuil.....	Page 4
CGLR Annual Conference.....	Page 5
Officers, Director & Calendar.....	Page 6



## **REGIONAL SPRING MEETING**

**T**he business meeting agenda presided over by President, Rodney Toth [Youngtown] began promptly and included committee reports followed by comments and questions by those present.

John Kessen [Ft. Wayne] was elected to fill the vacancy created when Hugh Earnhart [Youngstown] was appointed National Third Vice President at the Director's meeting in November 2007.

President Toth appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to study the creation of a new regional award to be named after Bill Moorehouse [Akron]. The committee is to make their recommendations at the July 26 2008 Regional Conference in Wooster, Ohio.

After lunch the ceremonial installation of John Kessen as National Regional Director for Central Great Lakes Region presided over by Bill Carney [Youngstown].

The Fort Wayne club, of which John is President, is host for The National Convention in June. He is also the Second Vice President of the CGLR.

The speaker, Dennis James was introduced. He displayed and spoke about the many miniature and dwarf live plants that do well in containers, hypertufa and rock gardens. Many of which were purchased at the conclusion of his program.

He followed with an eighty-slide power point presentation and explanation of much other important information for a successful rock garden.

For additional information visit or call Dennis at; 1004 East Lake Road, Transfer, PA 16154 – 724-962-1230 or check his web site

[www.djsgreenhouse.com](http://www.djsgreenhouse.com)

Thanks to Dale and Marcia Davies [Van Wert] for providing the coffee and Dale's special CGLR baked donuts. *Eat up, guaranteed no calories* ☺

Twenty-nine members representing seven clubs from Indiana and Ohio sat in on the meeting. It is an improvement over the previous meeting when twenty-three members from six clubs attended.

The three states that make up the CGLR list several hundred members that miss the advantage of regional meetings and Annual Conference. Hope that more of you will join us for the 2008 Annual Conference in Wooster, Ohio.

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## **TGOA-GREATER CLEVELAND 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**T**he Gardeners of America, Greater Cleveland Chapter announce plans to celebrate their Diamond Jubilee 6:00-8:00 PM on August 19, 2008 at the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

For event information call 440-247-5317 or mail registration and check for \$30.00 per person to: Vince Staffileno, Treasure TGOA-GC, C/O Chagrin River Company #101, Chesterland, Oh, 44026 before July 19<sup>th</sup>.



### **DEPRESSION ERA "DUMP CAKE"**

- Use 9"x12" cake pan un-greased
- One Can Whole Cranberry Sauce
- One can apple pie filling
- One box yellow cake mix [dry]
- One stick butter...cut up
- One cup chopped pecans



Put all ingredients in layers...bake at 325 degrees for one hour and 15 minutes.

Serve topped with ice cream or cool whip.





## HAYDITE

By Joseph Alessi Jr., Youngstown Club

**A**t a March bonsai workshop, Bonsai Master, Jim Nicora, stressed the need for good drainage material in each bonsai container. He introduced and used a material new to my ears.

Then at the CGLR April meeting Dennis James, the main speaker talked about rock gardening and the vital need for good drainage using a good stone and gravel-like base. Haydite? I thought.

These speakers peaked the interest that led to my researching this material called 'Haydite'. Following is what I learned.

Manufacturers produce Haydite by expanding and vitrifying selected shale in a rotary kiln at temperatures in excess of 2000 degrees Fahrenheit to pyro-process and expand clay, shale or slate.

The process creates Haydite sterile and environmentally inert. It is a natural, non-toxic, highly absorptive ceramic granule with a generally neutral pH. It is dimensionally stable and will not degrade or compress and does not need to be re-applied every year.

The end product is a strong and durable lightweight aggregate used in numerous types of construction throughout the world. In addition it has many other uses as high performance lightweight structural concrete and masonry units, landscaping mulch, soil conditioners and Geotechnical Fills

The product is graded large, medium and small. Coarse material is used in concrete, landscaping and other applications.

The micro porous internal structure of Haydite helps to free passage of air and water to root systems while significantly reducing soil

compaction. Thus, it maintains optimum moisture levels for vigorous healthy plants.

It is an excellent ground cover and mulch that will not fade, rot or easily blow away.

Haydite absorbs excess water during rain or watering, then slowly releases this excess water as the soil dries, acting in effect like a time-release capsule watering system. It is a concept that works equally well in gardening, nurseries, containers and turf cultivation.

Haydite was invented and patented by Stephen Hayde in the early part of the twentieth century. Today several companies produce and market expanded shale lightweight aggregate. One such company with plants in Ohio & Indiana are both within the CGLR - Hydraulic Press Brick Company

PO Box 31330, Cleveland, OH 44131.  
1-888-593-0395 – Fax 216-524-4069

P.O.Box130, Brooklyn, IN 46111  
(317) 831-0710 - Fax: (317) 831-8975

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### **My Dad's Better Than Your Dad!**

Three boys are bragging about their Fathers.

The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, people give him \$100."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$200."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people with baskets to collect all the money in the building!"

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**NOTICE!** DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES AND CLUB NEWS FOR THE FALL JAB ISSUE – AUGUST 1, 2008. Email a Word Document or mail to Editor...see page six for addresses.



## SAINT FIACRE DE BREUIL

'The Patron Saint of Gardens and Taxi Cabs'

**T**hought to be born with the Celtic name Fiachra he is debated to have lived from either, 600-670 A.D. or 700-777 A.D. and is claimed by both Ireland and Scotland. He joined the Benedictine monks and later went forth to France to preach Christianity to the heathen Gauls.

Tiring of the nomadic life he requested and was granted by Bishop Faro (Pharon) of Paris a nearby piece of forestland in Breuil. Fiachra cleared the land and began a hermit's pious life while skillfully growing vegetables, herbs, fruits and flowers.

Word soon spread about his great sanctity and gardening skills leading many common and important nobles to flock to him for healing their ills, comfort and spiritual guidance.

Nourishing visitors with food from his gardens and spiritual concern these strangers were readily blessed fed and sheltered. With his wise words he gave them comfort and peace of mind; sharing his garden harvests he eased their pain and cured their ills while passing on his knowledge and mastery of gardening.

Because of a miracle about how he acquired additional land to satisfy the needs of his growing visitors, he was elevated to Sainthood and became known as St. Fiacre de Breuil. Following his death a Benedictine monastery and shrine were erected on the

site. His remains are in the Cathedral of Meaux; he is also referred to as The Miracle Worker of Meaux.

During the seventeenth century and at the height of his popularity Parisians visiting his shrine in Breuil hired wagons and carriages to drive them from the door of the Hotel de Saint Fiacre to the shrine. It began the taxi driver's adoption of St. Fiacre as their patron Saint. Many to this day will display a flower or image on the cab's dashboard.



September first is considered his feast day. He is always shown with a spade in one hand and bible, trowel, flower or plant in the other.

There is a Statue of Saint Fiacre in the Shade Garden located at Fellows Riverside Gardens in Mill Creek Park, Youngstown, Ohio. You may check for him in your area or purchase him for your garden.

Don't confuse Saint Fiacre with Saint Francis the Patron Saint of Birds and Animals or as he is often considered the Protector and Guardian of Gardens.

*By Joseph Alessi Jr., Youngstown Club*

**"ARE YOU OPEN?"**

If you can't push the door open,  
Then pull on the door,  
If you still can't open the door,  
Then we're closed!



## Central Great Lakes Region Summer Conference

The Summer Conference will be held on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Agricultural Technical Institute of The Ohio State University, 1328 Dover Road, Wooster, Ohio. Registration and a continental breakfast will be from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at Skou Hall, Room 30. Featured speaker will be Dr. Ken Cochran, Director of Secrest Arboretum. Dr. Cochran will explore the history and the future direction of the Arboretum. After a lunch break, he will conduct a personal tour of Secrest Arboretum at 1680 Madison Avenue in Wooster. After the tour we will proceed to Quail Crest Farm, 2810 Armstrong Road, Wooster Ohio, where we will be given a tour of the farm and have time to shop at the garden center. At 5:45 p.m., our banquet will take place back at the ATI in Skou Hall where awards will be presented.

### Directions to Skou Hall



### Directions to ATI



### Housing - ATI'S Applewood Village Townhouses

Housing rates vary according to the number of bedrooms and the number of occupants. A typical two-bedroom Apartment with 2 occupants is \$35. per person plus a \$5 per person charge for linens. For information and reservations call Jamie Harty (Assistant Housing Coordinator) at 330-287-7504. Be sure to mention that you are attending the Central Great Lakes Region Conference.



### REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Number of participants: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$39.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Make checks payable to Men's Garden Club of Youngstown and mail to John Kolar, 1037 North Avenue, Girard, Oh 44420 \*\* For questions contact John Schinker – 330-799-6046 or 330-518-4384

## CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE DATES

**CGLR Conference – Saturday – July 26, 2008 –Agriculture Technical Institute, Wooster, Ohio – 330-799-6046**

CGLR Meeting – Saturday – October 11, 2008 –10:00 AM – Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio – 330-759-1993

CGLR Meeting - Saturday – April 11, 2009 10:00 AM – Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, Ohio – Guests Welcome

### CGLR 2008 OFFICERS

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Contact Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor – 330-792-4355 – [alessijoepat@juno.com](mailto:alessijoepat@juno.com) concerning this publication or how you too can become a member of the CGLR. – Web Sites: National – [www.tgoa-mgca.org](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org) - Regional – [www.acorn.net/CGLR/](http://www.acorn.net/CGLR/)



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Joseph Alessi Jr., Editor  
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### Regional Family of Clubs

**Indiana** - Fort Wayne – 260-854-2988

**Michigan** - Maple City – 517-264-5617

#### Ohio

Akron – 330-336-9336

Bluffton-Pandora – 419-659-5638

Cleveland – 440-247-5317

Cuyahoga Falls – 330-928-4114

Erie County – 419-625-1874

Findlay – 419-420-3661

Lima - 419-991-6396

St. Mary's – 419-586-8912

Stow – 330-633-9183

Van Wert – 419-238-9351

Youngstown – 330-792-4355