

# The JOHNNY APPLESEED BROADCASTER



The 2009, 2010, 2011 Regional Award Winning Newsletter  
Published Thrice Annually By the Central Great Lakes Gardeners  
Indiana – Michigan – Ohio – Pennsylvania.



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Spring 2015

## President's Message-



My name is Sam Morlan and I am your president for 2015. For those of you who do not know me, I'm a member of The Gardeners of Greater Akron. I hope everyone is getting along well through our OHIO winter. Winter is a great time to sit back in a comfortable chair with your favorite beverage and browse catalogues to plan your garden. I would also like to recommend two books worth reading one is *Honeybee Democracy* by Thomas D. Seeley (University Press, 2010), which I have read and found to be very entertaining and very eye opening about how honeybees make decisions. The other is *50 Plants That Changed the Course of History* by Bill Laws (Princeton Press, 2011), this book is a great account of how the plants we are familiar with influenced history.

I know one of the major concerns our local clubs are facing is maintaining and growing membership. I think if we plan to continue as a viable organization we have to reach a younger audience. The family today is very busy with working and taking care of their children. In our club, we have revitalized our youth program with a local Akron elementary school. We've had a good response from our members to help with this program mainly because it so rewarding to work with children. The problem is we lose these kids during the summer when most of the gardening takes place. We have to come up with a summer gardening program that involves not only the children but also the parents. A community garden in conjunction with summer garden program is I think the way to go it involves children parents and volunteers. The main problem is getting

enough volunteers to devote at least two hours a week to such an effort. I am putting youth gardening and fund raising on the agenda for our spring meeting so think about it and bring your thoughts to Kingwood.

Another way to both raise funds and contact new members would be to have events that are open to the public, garden seminars, how to programs, or maybe a youth horticultural show to let the public know what we are about. Many of these efforts depend on getting the word out which may require paying for advertising in local papers. The garden sections of many papers are limiting their free space to gardening organizations.

Hope to see you in April if not then maybe at the Summer Conference, Stay warm and plan. Our speaker for April is Eric Fitch who has a degree in Recreation and Wildlife Management from Hocking College. He also works for Summit County Parks as a project manager for natural resources. His knowledge of native plants relies heavily on the plants and practices used by Native Americans. *Continued p. 2.*

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## Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster

*Continued from p. 1 Sam's Message*

I am sorry to hear about the passing of Mary Jo Marshall our second vice president and would like to pass on to all that knew her my condolences.



### Club News

The CGLG Regional Awards page on our website is updated to show the correct date for the Spring meeting. The date is April 18, 2015 and the deadline for submitting awards nomination April 18, 2015.

Thanks to Rodney Toth. It is now on the Awards Page in our Region Website  
<http://cglr.org/Awards.htm>.

Updated is the Meetings page showing the 2015 dates and locations for the Summer Conferences.

Also, Thanks to Sheryl in the National Office for again updating more of the TGOA 2015 Updated Club Officers & Club Presidents as well as Directories.

Shortcut to those directories in Members Only:  
<http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Members/Luvtodig/Directory.htm>

TGOA National is looking for Clubs to send in a list of 8 to 10 of club's activities. Send the list to Sheryl Bacon in the National Office. You can see the Club Activities page updated on the TGOA website; also, this is where you can find CGLG Clubs Activities as well.

A shortcut to the page: <http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/ClubActivities.htm>

Thanks, Frank Mitch



### Key Dates

Spring Meeting of the Central Great Lakes Gardeners (CGLG) is Saturday, April 18, 2015 10AM at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, OH  
**See Agenda in this newsletter.**

## Spring 2015

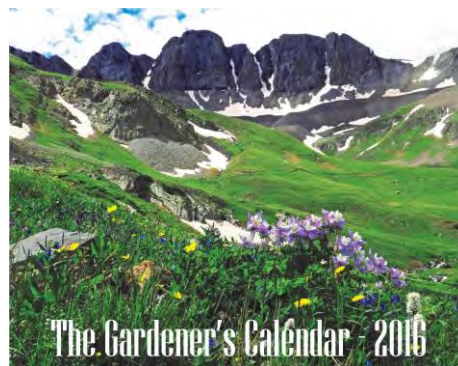


TGOA /MCGA National Convention. June 25-27, 2015 Clear Lake Iowa. **Please see invitation in this newsletter.**

Club Newsletters page in 'Members Only' was updated to add a club and remove clubs no longer active and some who have not posted their newsletters for several years. This page is for TGOA clubs with websites with a page containing copies of their monthly newsletters.

A shortcut to the page: <http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Members/Luvtodig/NewsIndex.htm>

The Pre-Order form for the **2016 TGOA/MGCA** calendars is now on the Home page of our website. The deadline for pre-ordering at the very low prices is March 31, 2015. A shortcut to that page: [The Gardeners Of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Members/Luvtodig/PreOrder.htm)



### A Note from Les Knight: Summer Conference

#### CGLG 2015 Summer Conference Plans

**Date: Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18, 2015.**

**Location: Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI); Near Wooster, Ohio.**  
**Tentative Schedule: Business meetings, Two Garden related Seminars, Tours of Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and more.**

**Registration Forms: Available soon.**



## Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster

### Kathy's Kibitzin' for JAB Spring 2015

*Savory "maketh thin, and doth marvelously  
prevaile against winde."*

John Gerard (1633) in *The Herbal, or General  
History of Plants*

Savory has been selected as herb of the year by the  
International Herb Association. There are two  
related, but different, savories —winter savory  
(*Satureja montana*) and summer savory (*Satureja  
hortensis*).



Winter savory is a perennial hardy in zones 5-8. It  
has dark green, shiny, pointed leaves much stiffer  
in texture and dense in growth than summer  
savory. It is a woody plant growing to 2 feet in  
height with small white or lavender flowers.

Summer savory is a tender annual that grows up to  
18 inches tall. It has small bronze-green leaves  
and very small white or lavender flowers. The  
leaves are pungent and spicy but less so than  
winter savory.

Back "in the day" (way back) in traditional herbal  
medicine, summer savory was believed to be an



## Spring 2015

aphrodisiac, while winter savory was believed to  
inhibit sexual desire. In current times, either is  
used to treat flatulence, (what a drop in status!)  
thus its association with beans!

Summer savory is used more frequently than  
winter as it has a less pungent or strong flavor.  
Winter savory has a piney, sharp flavor. Summer  
savory is sweet flavored. It is a traditional popular  
herb in Atlantic Canada, where it is used in the  
same way sage is elsewhere. Either herb can be  
used to substitute for rosemary or thyme. It is  
widely used as a seasoning for grilled meats and  
barbecues, as well as in stews and sauces.

Both varieties can be easily grown in your garden  
or among the flowers. Along with other herbs, the  
flowers attract pollinators and predator insects that  
we want in the garden to help in the production of  
food and to protect plants from voracious insect  
pests. Savory is a companion plant for beans,  
onions and tomatoes.

Both of the savories can be saved for winter use  
by infusing them in oil or vinegar, freezing, salting  
or drying.

So well, now that we've been introduced to the  
Savories, what next? I'm going to challenge  
myself to use it in a recipe at least one time each  
week. I've already missed the 4 weeks in January  
and a couple of weeks in February. So, I will see  
if I can catch up.

Here's an easy recipe to get us started.

### Green Beans and Savory

1 pound green beans, washed and trimmed  
1 tsp. salt  
1 Tbsp. fresh summer savory  
1 Tbsp. butter

Cook beans in salted water to cover, with summer  
savory added to the water. When the beans are  
tender, drain and toss with butter.

And so it goes.....

Kathy Lee, [igarden2@aol.com](mailto:igarden2@aol.com)

The Gardeners of America - Fort Wayne



### How do weeds help in the garden?

It turns out that, although there is little hard science, there is a good deal of anecdotal evidence to support the belief that some weeds prefer certain types of soil and growing situations. Moss, as we all know, can be a good indication of poor drainage. But it can also be a sign of compacted soil or low fertility. So, "reading your weeds" isn't a foolproof way to evaluate your soil, but it can be a useful hint that something's going on below the soil surface. To find out what the weeds are really telling you, do a soil test to confirm nutrient levels and soil pH (acidity/alkalinity).

Here are some common weeds and what they may indicate about your soil.

I can't say when people first started making connections between weeds and soil types, but Bud Markhart, a professor of organic horticulture at the University of Minnesota, helped me track down the chart from which all other weed/soil charts may have come.

Created by Ehrenfried Pfeiffer, a German soil scientist and biodynamic farmer, the chart first appeared in Pfeiffer's 1951 book, *Weeds and What they Tell*. As a follower of biodynamics, Pfeiffer, who died in 1961, took a holistic approach to soil management. In his chart he noted the relationships between certain weeds and soil types and then offered up possible responses.

For example, red sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), docks (*Rumex* sp.), lady's thumb (*Polygonum persicaria*) and horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.) all indicate low pH. Pfeiffer suggested that gardeners could improve their soil by adding non-acidic organic matter, growing cover crops, improving drainage and/or adding lime. Unlike many of the sources for this type of information that I found during my research, Pfeiffer was careful to add a disclaimer: "This chart will help you learn to recognize and respond to what the weeds are trying to tell you. These recommendations are not absolute; they're just representative of common patterns. Don't rely

on this or any book to guide you, but let these clues help lead you to the appropriate action for your specific situation."

### How to Use the Information

None of the scientists I interviewed disagreed with the basic premise that, just by growing where they do, weeds can tell us a lot about soil type and conditions, such as drainage, nutrient deficiency and pH level. What's in question, says Robert Becker, a weed scientist and professor of agronomy at the University of Minnesota, is what to do with the information gleaned from the presence of certain weeds.

Becker advocates managing overall soil health rather than adding lime, sulfur or other things to remediate the soil conditions suggested by the weeds. He advises getting a soil test to see if your weeds are telling you an accurate story. Some weeds are simply opportunistic colonizers, for example, and are commonly found where the soil is tilled or disturbed frequently. Their presence in vegetable and flower gardens may just be the result of an abundance of seeds on open ground with little competition. Perennial weeds that invade lawns and other long-established areas may be stronger indicators of soil conditions, however.

Once you've confirmed your soil conditions with a soil test, you have two options.

1. Grow plants suited to the soil you have.
2. Take steps to amend the soil to better accommodate the plants you want to grow.

Got a site with a whole mess of hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) on it, indicating acidic soil? Either seize the opportunity to pluck out those unwanted invaders and replace them with acid-loving plants like blueberries, azaleas or hydrangeas. Or raise the soil pH by adding lime, according to the recommendations on your soil test results.

Troubled by burdock (*Arctium minus*) or chickweed (*Stellaria media*)?: Rejoice that you're



*Continued from p. 4.* fortunate to have naturally moist, rich soil. Pull up those invaders and fill their spots with vegetables that thrive in very fertile soil, such as broccoli, lettuce and squash. If you want to grow plants that prefer leaner soil, such as nasturtiums and some wildflowers, grow them somewhere else.

Like other folklore and hand-me-down anecdotes that contain a kernel of truth, reading your weeds is a tradition based on careful observations of nature. Combine the clues gleaned from the wisdom of the ages with the tools of modern science to accurately learn the whole story and determine what's best for the future of your soil and the plants you want to grow.

### More Information

<http://www.gardeners.com/on/demandware.store/Sites-Gardeners-Site/default/mPage-Show?cid=7935>



Wood Sorrel *Oxalis Stricta* may indicate moist, fertile soil

Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis* often found in hard, compacted soil.



### The Top 15 Vegetable Seed Companies

1. [Johnny's Selected Seeds](#) (Winslow, Maine)
2. [Seed Savers Exchange](#) (Decorah, Iowa)
3. [Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds](#) (Mansfield, Mo.)
4. [Burpee Seeds and Plants](#) (Warminster, Pa.)
5. [Territorial Seed Company](#) (Cottage Grove, Ore.)
6. [Seeds of Change](#) (Rancho Dominguez, Calif.)
7. [Ferry-Morse Seed Company](#) (Fulton, Ky.)
8. [Southern Exposure Seed Exchange](#) (Mineral, Va.)
9. [High Mowing Organic Seeds](#) (Wolcott, Vt.)
10. [Fedco Seeds](#) (Waterville, Maine)
11. [Nichols Garden Nursery](#) (Albany, Ore.)
12. [The Cook's Garden](#) (Warminster, Pa.)
13. [Botanical Interests](#) (Broomfield, Colo.)
14. [Renee's Garden Seeds](#) (Felton, Calif.)
15. [Peaceful Valley Farm & Garden Supply](#) (Grass Valley, Calif.)

Read more:

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/best-vegetable-seed-companies-zm0z11zsto.aspx#ixzz3PInBj6Py>





## **CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS SPRING MEETING**

**APRIL 18 2015: 10AM- 2:30 PM**

**KINGWOOD GARDENS, MANSFIELD OH 44906**

### **Business meeting:**

- 1. Pledge prayer and roll call**
- 2. Treasurers Report- Bill Lanning**
- 3. Approval of October minutes-Marcia Davies ( included in newsletter)**
- 4. Directors Reports: Cheri Kessen, Anita Lanning, Frank Mitch**
- 5. Committee Reports: Awards- Rodney Toth; Health and Welfare; Historian-Leroy Hart  
Newsletter- Marggie Faley; Judging- Jim Bell; Website- Frank Mitch; Youth gardening- Cheri Kessen**
- 6. Old Business:**
- 7. New Business: Report on Summer Conference**

### **11 AM- NOON- Discussions:**

**I would like to discuss how we could take advantage of youth gardening programs by not only educating the youth in our community but to also engage the parents in gardening. I believe this approach along with community gardens could possibly grow our membership. I welcome any thoughts you might have on this topic.**

**The second topic I would like to consider is fund raising. The Akron club has been running a deficit the last few years mainly because our fundraisers have lost some of their appeal. Possible ideas might be to involve the public more with seminars, garden tours, and garden demonstrations. I do realize that some of these ideas take a lot of time and volunteers; maybe we could do something as a Region with assistance from larger clubs.**

### **NOON- Lunch Golden Corral**

**1:30-2:30 Eric Fitch will speak to us about native plants, Native Americans and how they used the plant world around them.**

**Thanks, Sam**

CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS  
FALL MEETING, OCTOBER 11, 2014  
KINGWOOD CENTER, MANSFIELD, OH.



President Tom Davis opened the meeting with greetings. He asked veterans to lead pledge of allegiance. Rodney offered prayer. Roll call was answered by 22 attendees from 6 clubs.

Bill Lanning provided the treasury report. Due in January, the CD is \$7,239.01. The checking account balance \$1007.00. Total \$8,246.01. Summer Conference realized \$267.30. Thanks Sam.

July minutes were provided. No corrections. John Kessen moved to accept, seconded by Sam Morlan. Vote approved.

#### DIRECTORS REPORT

Cherri Kessen reported her visits, and supplied news article.

Anita Lanning reported on her activities, attendance and contacts.

Frank Mitch provided written report. Facebook has 168 Friends. He highlighted his concern for upcoming board meeting in Mississippi and addressed the resolution to be voted on, to the By-laws. Was much discussion on the subject.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS - Rodney. Keep sending him nominations any time

HISTORIAN- Leroy read a list of clubs from an old file- sometime in 1900's.

J.A.B. - Cheri reported for Marggie Faley, Editor. Marggie Appreciates all articles, keep them coming. March issue deadline, February 1. Please send clubs schedules of activities.

JUDGING -Jim Bell has a class for Youngstown scheduled in spring. Keep in mind Judging Schedule of Gourd Show date at Delaware, OH.

YOUTH GARDENING- Cheri reported 5 clubs ordered seeds. 3 clubs have responded.

SUMMER CONFERENCE- Sam Morlan had 39 registered attendance. He felt good with the results.

NEW BUSINESS: Tom suggested a donation be made to Gardening From the Heart Fund as a Memorial to Ron Heggen. With discussion, John Schinkler moved to do so, in the amount of \$500. Sam seconded the motion. Vote approved. In January when the CD is renewed, move said amount into general fund to cover the donation.

John Kessen suggested the Region provide monies for conference workshops each year to host club. Discussion followed. Funds will be available as needed, for a speaker for Summer Conference.

Spring Meeting set for April 18, 2015.

A round table discussion of member recruitment was held. Different clubs presented their ways of attracting prospective members, how to incorporate their interest in club meetings and activities.

Installation of 2015 Officers was conducted by John Kessen.

Moved to adjourn the Business Meeting by Anita, seconded by Jim. Break for lunch.

Lunch at Golden Corral, An award was given to the management of Golden Corral for their accommodation to us.

Resumed at 1:30PM for Educational Presentation by Ann Brandt ; Healthy Soils

Submitted by Marcia Davies, Central Great Lakes Gardeners

(mmf/2/2015)



CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS

Gardening Education And Excellence In Horticulture Since 1932

To: ALL CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS TGOA/MGCA CLUBS

FROM: THE C.G.L.GARDENERS AWARDS COMMITTEE

RE: YEAR 2015 C.G.L.GARDENERS 66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Note! Dates and locations are tentative and subject to change

Dear Club President and Awards Chairperson,

The Awards Committee would like to have all C.G.L.GARDENERS Clubs participate in the awards program. Please review the enclosed material with your members as soon as possible and refer this material to your President, Awards Chairman and Newsletter Editor. Also, please save this material for future reference.

The following are once in a lifetime awards: THE WILLIAM MOOREHOUSE AWARD (Replaces THE MASTER GARDENER AWARD. Previous recipients are not eligible for this award.), THE GREEN BRONZE MEDAL and THE DELBERT R. DUNBAR AWARD.

In addition to the awards above we call your attention to the following: HORTICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT, HORTICULTURE JOURNALISM, CERTIFICATE OF HONOR, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT and the SPARK PLUG (please note Spark Plug criteria updates on the CGLG website) awards. There are many people deserving of these awards. Please help us honor them by nominating them for an award.

Awards will be presented at the C.G.L.GARDENERS 66th ANNUAL CONFERENCE which will be hosted by The Gardeners of Greater Akron July 17 & 18, 2015 in Wooster, OH area. The conference is open to all C.G.L.GARDENERS Club members. Please encourage your members to attend!!! For more info contact Leslie Knight, GOGA, lhandcknight@att.net

The deadline for submitting nominations is April 18, 2015. You may re-nominate a person if they were previously nominated but did not receive the award. Please e-mail or mail nominations and supporting data to all the committee members listed below or bring nominations and data to the C.G.L. GARDENERS Spring Meeting at the Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield, OH on April 18, 2015. NOTE! Criteria and a list of past recipients of these awards can be located on the CGL GARDENERS website (http://www.cglr.org) under REGION AWARDS – Submission Details & Instructions.

Respectfully submitted by your C.G.L.GARDENERS Awards Committee,

Rodney Toth,Chairman
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## Invitation to TGOA/MCGA 2015 National Conference



Dear Gardeners of America and Friends

The Gardeners of North Iowa are excited to be hosting the 2015 convention of The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America.

The theme for the convention is "**Planting Your Dream in 2015.**" Our gardens are our dreams whether large and formal, small and intimate, shady or sunny. We dream, plant, watch, and wait for our gardens to grow just as we do for our dreams.

We have on our garden tour, "The prettiest farm in Iowa" as portrayed in the Iowa magazine in June/July of 2013. The garden of Stan Fitz in Rockford Iowa was featured in Better Homes and Gardens and his garden is also on the tour. Central Gardens in Clear Lake is 2.75 acres and home to 22 theme gardens including Victorian, wetland, butterfly, shade and more. Kitty Clasing's habitat is shade gardening at its best and Mary Shultz's large prairie area gives us a totally different side of gardening. The tour will wind up at Judy Mulkey's spacious acreage where we can lounge in the gazebo by the lake and enjoy the beautiful sound of the nearby waterfall they have created.

- In Mason City just 7 miles from the Best Western Hotel is the Historic Park Inn Hotel, the last standing Frank Lloyd Wright hotel in the world. Just down the street is the Stockman House, which is a restored Frank Lloyd Wright home and sits in the area of prairie school homes that numerous well-known architects like Walter Burley Griffin designed.
- The Charles H. MacNider Art Museum hosts the world famous Bill Baird puppets and well as great pieces of art.
- Visit the Music Man Square with the streetscape replica from *The Music Man* complete with 76 trombones. What a fun place to visit! If you loved *The Music Man*, you will love visiting here. There is a museum along with Meredith Willson's boyhood home.
- The Kinney Pioneer Museum lets you experience life on the Iowa frontier.
- East Park features Cannonball locomotive built in 1912, an historical little band shell and beautiful gardens maintained by the Gardeners of North Iowa and other volunteers.
- Clear Lake offers the Surf Ball Room where Buddy Holly, J.P. Richardson (the Big Bopper), and Ritchie Valens played their last concert before dying in a plane crash. The crash site is a short drive from town.

There is so much to see in North Iowa so come early and stay later. The hotel rate is \$79.00 per night, which includes breakfast. Reservation must be made by June 3, 2015 to receive this rate. Registration fee for the convention will be \$195.00 if registered before May 1, 2015 and \$245.00 if after. Registration forms will be on the web page soon and we would love to see you in North Iowa *Planting Your Dream in 2015*.

Sincerely,

Lee Olson Chairperson Kitty Clasing Co-Chair

Mary Hamiel Co-Chair

August 1, 2014

**Mary Jo Marshall**  
**June 26, 1944 – January 31, 2015**



The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland are saddened to announce the death of Mary Jo Marshall. Mary Jo was a director of our club and the Second Vice President of the Central Great Lakes Region.

Mary Jo was one of our members who were always eager to help with thoughtful suggestions, a willingness to take on a challenge in leadership, and all with a gracious smile. She was also co-chair with Bill Novak and Deah Stark of the club's spring plant sale.

Her motto seemed to be, "Why not?" "Why not do a service project at the VA hospital?" "Why not serve the club or the region?" "Why not take Jim Bell's judging class?" "Why not help with the plant sale?" "Why not do a children's garden project at the Cleveland Botanical Garden?" Every club should be so lucky as to count a person like Mary Jo among their members. The Gardeners of Greater Cleveland and the Central Great Lakes Gardeners will certainly miss her.

## OCTOPUS



“OCTOPUS PROJECT began in 2014. It is a program in which any member of any club that has “found” a youth doing something involving gardening or gardening related activities”.

A new year, a year of new beginnings with new ideas and the Octopus has a few for our youth. A new contest called “5 in 15” is launched for National Competition in 2015.

It will consist of 5 different categories that our youth may enter for this year’s contest. A youth may enter as many different categories as they want. The first three are our usual Giant Pumpkin, Big sunflower and Container Gardens (Section #1, #2, #3) with all the same requirements that we have for those contests.

New this year is **Sections #4 Favorite Flowers** and **#5 Perfect Plants**.

These two new categories will have a simple form with a few questions to fill out along with three pictures as the only requirements. These categories will be working with subjects that the youth want and choose for themselves. Hopefully, this will encourage gardening as well as experimentation, creativity and exploration along with a lot of fun.

**Favorite Flowers** could be growing one favorite variety or a mixture of flowers. A small theme flower garden, like flowers for the shade, or a butterfly garden, could be fun. It’s all each youth’s choice. Flowers could be from seeds, bulbs, tubers, etc. They could be large or small, indoor or outdoor.

**Perfect Plants** can really be exciting and fun. There are so many new strange, weird and unique plants to put into your garden. How about growing different colored beans, tomatoes, etc.? Or pick something that you have never grown before for a real adventure. This is definitely a *do your own thing* category.

Octopus can hardly wait to see what our youth come up with for the 2015 National Contest.

Also, new this year will be an additional cash award for all first place winners. Keep reading Octopus for more details.

It is time to order your pumpkin and sun flower seeds from National, if you plan to enter section #1 or #2.

Simple forms for Sections #4 and #5 will be ready before summer.

Cheri Kessen





2015 CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE DATES  
Gardening in Education and Excellence in Horticulture Since 1932

CGLG Regional Meeting- April 18, 2015 - 10:00AM Kingwood Center Mansfield, Ohio – Sam Morlan  
TGOA MCGA Summer Conference – June 25 - 27, 2015 Clear Lake, Iowa - Sam Morlan, 330-336-6269  
CGLG Regional Summer Conference- July 17- 18, 2015. Wooster, OH – Les Knight 330-633-2616

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