



The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

February 2025

Visit us on the web at www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org.

Vol. 94 No. 02

Monday, March 10th Menu:

Teriyaki Tempura Chicken
Stir Fry with Vegetables,
Fried Rice, Sesame Braised
Cabbage, and Spring Rolls.
Coffee, tea and cookies will
be served in the Penthouse
after dinner.

What's inside:

- **Nominations Needed,
Bob McMahon**
- **February Program
Summary, Carol Poh**
- **Upcoming Speakers,
Reminders & Updates**
- **Plant Sale Update**
- **NEW Updated Team
Captains List (NEWLY
REVISED 3/1/2025)**



Hi Everyone,

The first day of spring is just around the corner. I hope you all are having fun while you develop plans for your gardens. I would like to extend a huge thanks to Jonny, Bob, and everyone else who has worked to increase our membership. We continue to have new gardeners joining each month; many of whom are excited to get involved in the various service projects our club has to offer. Speaking of getting involved, our May plant sale is coming up soon. If you would like to donate plants, tools, pots, etc. please let Debbie know soon so she can plan accordingly.

As our club works to support the next generation of gardeners, I am happy to announce that in addition to our scholarship program we will be releasing a youth gardening grant this month. \$2,000 has been allocated to support area teachers who wish to incorporate gardening into their classrooms. If you would like to review scholarship or youth gardening applications, please let me know.

As always, please remember to RSVP to your team captain so that Gino and his staff can plan our dinner accordingly. I look forward to seeing all of you at our March meeting

Sincerely

Steve McIntosh





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NOMINATIONS NEEDED!

Even though the November 10, 2025 GoGC Officer and Director (Committee Chair) elections are still many months away, I, as the Nominating Committee Chair, want to update you on the status of the Officers and Directors. Per the GoGC Bylaws, Officers are elected to two-year terms during odd-numbered years, and Directors are elected to one-year terms with options to be re-elected.

After the November elections, Steve McIntosh will become the immediate Past President and Chair the Nominating Committee and VP Debbie Daniels will be the nominee for President. I will be seeking nominees for Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

These are the current Standing Committees of the club with the Chairs/Co-Chairs who also serve as Directors (per the club's current Bylaws in Articles XII and XIII). Awards: Larry Kell and Tom Segelin; Communications: Jonny Prell; Finance: Larry Kell; Income Projects: Debbie Daniels; Membership: Jonny Prell; Programs: Robert McMahon; Scholarships: Ed Tuhela and Fred Robinson; Service Projects: Garrett Ormiston; Holden Forests & Gardens Liaison: Deb Kramarz; Meeting Place Liaison: Tom Segelin; and National Director: Bob McMahon. So far, I will be seeking Director nominees for Membership, Holden Forests & Gardens Liaison, and Programs at this point. Committee Chairs/Directors, please let me know if you will be stepping down at the end of the year so that I may work on filling your positions.

Please be thinking over serving in one of these capacities and let me know. A club is only as good as the members who become actively involved in leadership positions, and I strongly encourage you to please consider serving in a leadership role. I have been honored to serve as President, Chair of the Nominating and Program Committees, and I am now the National Director. I would much rather have volunteers contact me than get on the phone and start calling people this summer.

Thank You!
Bob McMahon



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URBAN FARM EXPANDS WITH HELP OF GOGC GRANT

BY CAROL POH

February's guest speaker, Steve Roberts, updated our club on the recent expansion of the Trinity Cathedral Charlie Comella Urban Farm at East 35th and Cedar—work enabled by a grant of \$963 from the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland. Begun in 2005, the farm was initiated and is sustained by volunteers (many but not all affiliated with the cathedral) who labor there each Saturday to grow fresh vegetables for the tables of hungry city residents. Steve, a lifelong vegetable grower and the grandson of a Marion County agricultural extension agent, installed the farm's irrigation system 12 years ago and continues to maintain it by repairing winter damage and performing weekly upkeep.

Steve explained that the grant allowed farm volunteers to add three new beds this past May, each 16 feet long and 4 feet wide. (An earlier grant from the Gardeners of America, of which our club is an affiliate, funded the extension of a water line equipped with a faucet to enable irrigation of six new raised garden beds.) In all, the new beds this season yielded 652 lbs. of tomatoes, 22 lbs. of yellow squash, and 6 lbs. of peppers. All of the farm's produce is delivered to the food bank of the Friendly Inn Settlement in Cleveland's Central neighborhood.

No urban farm is without its tribulations. Steve recounted an errant motorcycle rider cutting across the farm's garden beds. (The damage to the beds could be repaired, not so the motorcycle.) Then there was a battle with lantern flies. Finally, Steve said, because the farm is not fenced and adjoins a busy car wash, "some amount of produce feeds the neighbors. But we're fine with that."

Following his talk, Steve expressed the hope that a younger generation of gardeners will help keep the farm going. In addition to volunteers, he said, the farm property needs "serious trimming" of intrusive woody plants.



Raised garden beds under construction, May 8, 2024. Trinity Farm Volunteer Paul Hergasell checks on progress.

Steve Roberts Photo



Waterline has been extended and plants are thriving, June 8, 2024.

Steve Roberts Photo



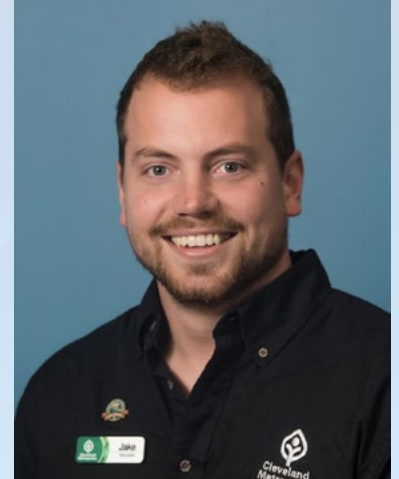
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CLUB UPCOMING SPEAKERS, UPDATES, REMINDERS & INFORMATION

March speaker will be Jake Kudrna from the Cleveland Metroparks who will give a talk on the year-round flora of the Metroparks. Jake joined Cleveland Metroparks in 2014. He has a master's degree in Biology from Miami University and a BS in Wildlife and Fisheries Resource Management from West Virginia University.



Meadow City Gardens, a Cleveland nursery plans to transform vacant land along I-90. A great article in Cleveland.Com. Click [here](#).

Our **MAY PLANT SALE** is coming up! Any items that you might have and would like to donate, please bring them to the March meeting!

Important Reminder!

PLEASE remember to let your Team Captain know if you are attending the meeting so we can have an accurate count for dinner.

All Team Captains need to communicate with Hiedi Winston and let her know the members that are attending!

Also, please think about reaching out to Fred Robinson. He would love to hear from us either by phone or visit. His information is in the roster that was sent out earlier.



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PLANT SALE UPDATE

On Friday, February 14 and Tuesday, February 18, Debbie Daniels and Bob McMahon met at Washington Park Community School's greenhouse complex and sowed seed into a total of 48 flats of mainly herbs and native plants. Species included a variety of basil cultivars, thyme, rose mallow, ironweed, coleus, dill, parsley, and milkweed, to name a few for the May Plant Sale! Bob also took cuttings from his Thanksgiving and Christmas cacti at his home, treated them with rooting hormone, and stuck these directly into ~3" pots for the Holiday Plant Sale in December. Additional crops to be grown from seed include vegetables, such as tomatoes and peppers, and some floriculture crops. Additional crops of flowers and vegetables started from purchased seedlings (AKA plugs) also will be ready for the May Plant Sale. If you are interested in helping with sowing seed and/or transplanting seedlings into containers, please contact Debbie Daniels. Thank you!

We are grateful to Julie Stanton, Coordinator and educator of the Greenhouse Program at the school, for giving us greenhouse space to grow these crops and will save the club a lot of money versus purchasing in finished plants.





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GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION:

- WHEN:** 2nd Monday of each month, September through June
- WHERE:** 1 Bratenahl Place
Bratenahl, Ohio
- SCHEDULE:** 5:30 PM - Social
6:15 PM - Dinner
7:15 PM - General Meeting
7:30 PM - Program



OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT:** STEVEN MCINTOSH
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** DEBBIE DANIELS
- SECRETARY:** MELISSA SUPLER
- TREASURER:** HIEDI WINSTON
- ASST TREASURER:** LARRY KELL
- PAST PRESIDENT:** BOB MCMAHON

2025 DIRECTORS:

- ROBERT MCMAHON
DEBBIE DANIELS
ED TUHELA
FRED ROBINSON
GARRET ORMISTON
JONNY PRELL
LARRY KELL

STANDING COMMITTEES

- Awards: Larry Kell, Tom Segelin, Co-Chairs
- Communication: Jonny Prell, Chair; Steve McIntosh (*The Spade* Newsletter, Website / Social Media);
- Finance: Larry Kell Chair; Hiedi Winston
- Income Projects: Debbie Daniels, Chair; Bob McMahon, Melissa Supler
- Membership: Jonny Prell, Chair; Larry Kell
- Programs: Robert McMahon, Chair
- Scholarship: Ed Tuhela, Fred Robinson, Co-chairs; Deb Kramarz,
- Service Projects: Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Holden Forest & Garden Council: Deb Kramarz & Joyce Nesbit
- National Organization: Larry Kell, Past President; Bob McMahon, National Director;
- Youth Gardening: Steve McIntosh, Chair; Larry Kell
- Willott Iris Garden: Sandra and Robert Pindell, Ron Hartmiller
- Friends of the Greenhouse: Joyce Nesbit
- 1 Bratenahl Place & Bratenahl Place Bistro: Tom Segelin
- Horticultural Show: Vacant
- Nominating: Bob McMahon, Debbie Daniels, Melissa Supler
- Wellness/Memorials: Team Captains
- Archive Committee: Steve McIntosh, Chair



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Team 1

Team Captain: Ginnie Dawson
ginniedawson@gmail.com / 216.849.2781

- Dave Dawson
- Joyce Nesbit
- Carol Poh
- MaryAnn Thesing
- Rachel Laughlin
- Harold Davis
- Geoffrey Rapp
- Darren Palmer

Team 2

Head Team Captain: Ron Hartmiller,
r_hartmiller@yahoo.com / 216.671.1408

- Garrett Ormiston
- Hank Doll
- Lou Drasler
- Herb Klein
- Bob Rensel
- Eddie Lagucki
- Deborah Dockery

Team 3

Team Captain: Andy Kosiorek,
kosiorek@cox.net / 216.226.4503

- Kathy Kosiorek
- Judith Janes
- Larry Kell
- Bob McMahon & George Roscoe
- Paul Bilyk
- Susan Post
- James & Audrey Kasper

Team 4

Team Captain: Deb Kramarz,
deborahkramarz@aol.com / 216.731.6324

- Fred Robinson
- Steve McIntosh
- Bob & Sandra Pindell
- Tom Segelin & Julie Giroux
- Kathy Talty
- Sharon Yarnell
- Cyndi Konopka

Team 5

Cathy Ross: estrogen05@yahoo.com
216.970.2854

- Patrick Boggins
- Jonny Prell
- Kelley Adkins
- Debbie Daniels
- Melissa Supler
- Ed Tuhela
- Lisa Skufca
- Kelly Rodriguez

Team 6

Keith Biehl: 440.539.2019 (NO EMAIL)

- Davd & Diane Circle (440.628.8063 Home)
- Paula & Ron Koenig (440.212.5700)
- Deva Simon (440.915.0161)
- Scott Blanchard (330.322.8111)
- Timothy Homan (216.219.0746)
- John Tilsky (440.256.1414)

Team 7

Team Captain: Hiedi Winston,
hwinston@naipvc.com / 440.752.2617

- Fred Burkhalter
- Julie Shaw & Tom Davis
- John Schinker
- Deah Stark
- Sherry Doughten
- Dave Tomashefski
- Susan Brownstein
- Laurie Burke
- Bob DiLiberto & Jan Horvath

Captains, please contact Hiedi Winston by Thursday evening with a dinner count!



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