



# The Spade

The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland



October 2019

Visit us on the web at [www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org](http://www.gardenersofgreatercleveland.org).

Vol.87 No. 10

**OCTOBER 14TH  
MEETING: 3-Cheese  
Lasagna, Grilled  
Asparagus, Garden Salad  
Vegetarian Menu:  
Chef's Choice**

Cookies & Coffee served in the  
Penthouse before the meeting.

**Please call your Team**

**Captain** with your Dinner  
reservation by Friday, October  
11th. Lou Pelton is responsible  
for giving The Bistro at Bratenahl  
our reservations.

**Team Captains:**

Team 1 **Lou Pelton /**  
loupelton305@gmail.com

Team 2 **Lou Drasler**  
louis.drasler@gmail.com

Team 3 **Harold Davis**  
216-283-7111

Team 4 **Fred Burkhalter**  
440-526-2888

Team 5 **Keith Biehl**  
440-237-5824

Team 6 **Ron Hartmiller**  
r\_hartmiller@yahoo.com

Team 7 **Jane Davis**  
tsd123@roadrunner.com

Team 8 **Cathy Ross**  
estrogen05@yahoo.com

Team 9 **Deb Kramarz**  
deborahkramarz@aol.com

**There will be a Board  
Meeting promptly  
starting at 5:00 PM in the  
Penthouse.**

**PLEASE BE PROMPT.**

## President's Letter

In the last month I have witnessed what makes the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland unique. The annual Horticulture Show was another successful display of the gardening skills of the club. The show was superbly organized by Mark Occhionero and Julie Henry, with assistance from Tom Davis, among others, and judges from the Akron club with the Best of Show and People's Choice both going to Deb Kramarz for her Bonsai tree. The quality and quantity of plants exceeded that of previous shows.

The bulb sale which again ended in the black was handled by Patrick Boggins on the bulb side and by Bob and Sandra Pindell and Ron Hartmiller for the Willott Iris Garden. Not only do these sales help the club's finances, they also demonstrate the importance of the gardening education that occurs at these events. Customers leave with wonderful bulbs and plants and the knowledge of how to care for them.

Since we did not sell all of the bulbs, I hope you will buy our leftover Croci, Hyacinths, Tulips and Daffodils at the October meeting. You will also be able to purchase Orchids donated by MaryAnn Thesing.

Recently, one of the early leaders of the club, Art Steinmetz, passed away. We will remember his legacy which included starting the Scholarship Fund with Mike Busta by making a contribution to the national club's Gardening from the Heart program.

More recently was the passing of Chuck "Two Buck" Evans known for his expertise in growing many different varieties of tomatoes. Margaret, his widow, has generously donated much of his gardening equipment which will be auctioned at our November meeting.

Finally, our national officers, Tom Davis and Larry Kell, direct your attention to the last pages of the newsletter which is dedicated to the finances of the national organizations, The Gardeners of America and the Men's Garden Clubs of America. Please read Carl Christensen's letter and return the printed ballot to Larry or Tom at the October meeting or by US Mail to the address listed.

Dave Dawson



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## MEETING INFORMATION:

- WHEN:** 2nd Monday of each month, September through June
- WHERE:** 1 Bratenahl Place, Bratenahl, Ohio
- SCHEDULE:** 6PM - Social  
6:40 - Dinner  
7:30 - General Meeting  
8 to 9PM - Program



## OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT:** DAVE DAWSON
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** JONNY PRELL
- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** OPEN
- SECRETARY:** JODITH JANES
- TREASURER:** JOHN BUDNIK
- ASST TREASURER:** ANDY KOSIOREK

## DIRECTORS:

- HANK DOLL 2018-2020
- PAT BOGGINS 2018-2020
- KATHY KOSIOREK 2018-2020
- PHYLLIS DONNELLY-INGOLD 2017-2019
- DAVE RITTENHOUSE 2017-2019
- JULIE HENRY 2019-2021
- Z. HAROLD DAVIS 2019-2021
- GARRETT ORMISTON 2019-2021
- CHUCK PALSA 2017-2019

## STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Awards:** Bob Pindell, Chair; Hank Doll; Tom Davis
- **Communication:** Jonny Prell, Chair (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media); Phylis Donnelly-Ingold, (Publicity)
- **Finance:** Jonny Prell (Chair); John Budnik; Andy Kosiorek
- **Income Projects:** Dave Dawson, Julie Henry (Plant Sale); Pat Boggins (Bulb Sale); John Budnik, Ron Hartmiller, Julie Henry (Auction / Raffle)
- **Membership:** Lou Pelton, Co-Chair; Dave Rittenhouse, Co-Chair; Larry Kell, Chuck Palsa, Jonny Prell
- **Programs:** Kathy Kosiorek, Chair; Robert McMahon  
*Any program suggestions? Contact Kathy!*
- **Scholarship:** Harold Davis, Co-Chair; Hank Doll; Deb Kramarz; Lou Pelton
- **Service Projects:** Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National Organization: Tom Davis, Larry Kell  
Central Great Lakes Region: Larry Kell, Past President
- 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: Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry, Tom Davis
- Nominating: Bob Pindell, Chair; Jonny Prell, Deb Kramarz
- Wellness/Memorials: Harold Davis, Team Captains



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## 2019 Gardeners of Greater Cleveland Horticulture Show Report

The 2019 GoGC Horticulture Show was well attended and there were over 50 good quality entries this year. There would have been more entries except that the growing season weather wasn't very good, and the judges voluntarily held back on the number of their entries. The 2019 Best in Show and Peoples' Choice awards both went to Deb Kramarz for her bonsai tree planter. Last year the same double honor went to Hank Doll for his chard. There were many blue ribbons awarded in all the sections.

This was a tough year for growing plants and especially vegetables. We had heavy rains in the spring followed by a real drought in the late summer. Other Horticulture Shows in our area also had fewer entries especially for fruits and vegetables. On the other hand, there were many excellent entries in the Cactus and Succulent Section.

Thanks go to everyone participated, to our judges from the Gardeners of Greater Akron – Jim Bell, Cheryl Bordner and Clark Bordner – and to Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry and Tom Davis from the GoGC who organized the show. John Schinker from the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown was the clerk for the show. Tom Segelin organized the tables in the room. The check-in-table worked well helping members prep their entries and fill out the entry card. The show looked good with the table clothes and the well-organized sections.

We are planning on another show in 2020, so start thinking about an entry now. Who knows, you might win a trip to the honor table or even one of the top awards!





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## Judging Class

Jim Bell from the Gardeners of Greater Akron runs the training for Horticulture Judges for our Region (Ohio and Indiana). The training is typically four half-day sessions. Our club has three accredited judges – Tom Davis, Julie Henry and Mark Occhionero. These three members organize and run the annual horticulture show.

If any GoGC members have an interest in becoming a Horticulture Judge, please see Tom Davis or email Jim Bell at [Bell8676@aol.com](mailto:bell8676@aol.com). The training is interesting, fun and a real educational opportunity. You'll know much more about plants, the how and why of judging and meet some great people.



## October Speaker: Stuart Kline

Mr. Kline is an American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian. His topic is Tips for Growing Great Roses in Northeast Ohio, which will include something for everyone, including winterization

Stuart Kline has been growing roses for over 60 years. He started the hobby in the 1950's assisting his father and grandmother who were avid rose growers. They taught him about rose culture, planting, fertilizers, pruning, winter protection, and disease and pest management. Currently, Stuart has over 200 planted and potted roses.

Stuart was the President of the Cleveland Rose Society for 8 years, served as Vice President, and is now a Trustee. His specialties are stem propagation and disease and pest management. He has been an ARS Consulting Rosarian for over a decade.

Stuart earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Master of Science in Occupational and Environmental Health from Wayne State University. He was employed as a Health Physicist (Radiation Safety) at Wayne State University and The University of Michigan, and as the EHS Director at the University of Delaware and Purdue University. He recently retired from the Cleveland Clinic where he served as EHS





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## News and Events

The Club's Annual Bulb Sale was held at Rockefeller Greenhouse on September 19th, 20th and 21st. Pat Boggins did a great job managing and running the sale. Bob and Sandra Pindell and Ron Hartmiller also sold iris plants from the Willott Iris Garden. We will sell the leftover bulbs and orchids donated by MaryAnn Thesing at the October Meeting



In addition to our 50/50 raffle at the November meeting, we will be auctioning tools donated to the Club by Margaret Evans from Chuck Evans estate.



The fall meeting of **The Central Great Lakes Gardeners** (our region) will be at Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield on **Saturday, October 26th** starting at 10AM. Members are encouraged to attend for important discussions on the relocation of the National Club's HQ. There will be a speaker, lunch, coffee and donuts. You will have a chance to meet the gardening leaders from our area. Contact Larry Kell or Tom Davis for more information.

**Our newest member, Dane Vannatter, will be performing at Nighttown on October 26th at 8:30 PM.**

Dane has performed for several years at the annual Mabel Mercer Cabaret Convention in New York. In Pittsburgh, Dane has performed for First Fridays at the Frick, and sings regularly at Fairmont Hotel's Jazz at Andy's and James Street Gastropub & Speakeasy. On July 31, 2015 Dane was called to the stage by Patti LaBelle during her concert in Columbus, Ohio. After hearing Dane sing and inviting him to duet on her classic "Lady Marmalade" Patti exclaimed.

- There are also many, many events being held through the month of October at the **Cleveland Botanical Gardens and Holden Arboretum**. Visit their website online for more details. Highlights include: **Goblins in the Garden at Holden Arboretum** on Saturday October 5th and Sunday, 6th from 10AM to 4PM. \$6 Member Child, \$10 Member Adult, \$12 Nonmember Child and \$20 nonmember adult.
- **Botanical Bash at CBG** on Friday October 18th and Saturday October 19th from 5:30PM - 8:30PM. \$12 Member Child (2 & older), \$15 Nonmember Adult. Reservations required.
- **Western Reserve Herb Society Herb Fair** on Saturday, October 12th from 10AM to 3PM. Free for members with admission for nonmembers at the CBG.



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**If you have questions or problems with your garden, plants in your garden and need advice, our Club has many members who have the background and knowledge to help you.**

- Keith Biehl: Gardener by profession
- Pat Boggins: Log planters
- John Budnik: Herbs and flowering bulbs
- Diane Circle: Hostas
- Jane Davis: Flower arranging
- Tom Davis: Native plants
- Hank Doll: Dahlia growing
- Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold: Orchids
- Ron Hartmiller: Weeds
- Herb Klein: Unusual plants and perennials
- Deb Kramarz: Master Rain Gardener
- Andy Kosiorek: Above-ground sprinkler systems
- Kathy Kosiorek: Veggies and container gardening
- Lou Drasler: Cannas and environmental issues
- Garret Ormiston: Native plants, azaleas and roses
- Chuck Palsa: “knows a little about everything”
- Lou Pelton: Vines and clematis
- Bob Pindell: Iris propagation
- Sandra Pindell: Iris care
- Fred Robinson: Care and knowledge of trees
- Deva Simon: Perennials
- Tom Sheehan: General landscape design, water gardening and tropical plants
- Bill Stark: Begonias
- Deah Stark: Perennials

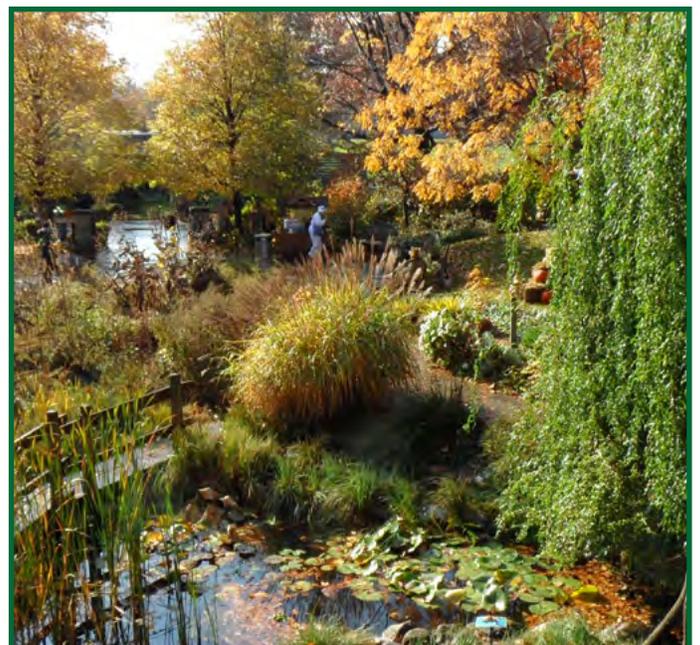
The purpose of the **Gardeners of Greater Cleveland** is to provide members with all types of information related to gardening - whether their own personal gardening or community projects through our monthly meetings, our newsletter **The Spade** and our website.

We promote horticulture in our community by installing and caring for gardens at various community service facilities such as the VA Hospital, Joseph's Home for Disadvantaged Men, and Malachi House among others.

We hold two sales per year at Rockefeller Greenhouse. In May, we have the plant sale. This is a major source of funds for our scholarship program. It is also a great time to meet gardeners, answer questions and recruit new members. In the fall, we also have a bulb sale.

Membership is open to residents of the Greater Cleveland Area including Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties.

To join, please contact **Lou Pelton**, our Membership Co-Chairman at [loupelton305@gmail.com](mailto:loupelton305@gmail.com).





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## The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America Members

At the National convention in Johnston in July, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors took action to address the current operating deficit crisis. In 2018, the cost to maintain the office and staff cost \$110,675.73 (\$72,631.20 more than the income.) The loss was covered by transfers from the E & I Fund.

Our goal going forward is to ensure that our organization will continue to exist and thrive, and to carry our mission. Hard choices need to be made.

Treasurer Miles Duck informed the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, that to continue to operate our headquarters in Johnston with paid staff, in the coming budget year, Six Thousand Dollars per month would have to be withdrawn from the E & I Fund. At that rate, all of the E & I Funds would be entirely depleted within five years. This is not an option.

Our bylaws allow us to use ONLY the earnings from the E & I Fund to operate, and NONE of the principal, to ensure that our funds are never depleted.

Our estimated income for the coming year is approximately \$22,000.00.

An Ad Hoc Committee (appointed at the 2018 Convention in Ft. Wayne, IN, headed by Past President John Schinker) proposed the following budget, which was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors:

### REVENUE:

Dues	\$8,800.00
Sales	1,000.00
Calendar	1,000.00
E&I Earnings (3%)	<u>12,000.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$22,800.00

### EXPENSES/COSTS:

Gardening from the Heart	\$ 3,000.00
Scholarships	3,000.00
Youth Gardening	1,500.00
Newsletter	1,500.00
Small Office & Staff	<u>10,700.00</u>
Total expenses:	\$19,700.00

**Operating Reserve (14%) \$ 3,180.00**

In addition to adopting the foregoing budget, voting members present at the Board of Directors Meeting on July 14, approved by 11 in favor, and 1 against to relocate the headquarters to a small office on the campus of The Ohio State University located in Wooster, Ohio.

For \$160.00 per month we will have the use of a small office in a building with meeting rooms and other open gathering areas, with utilities included. We will be forming an association with an agricultural/horticulture school with an eye to cooperative ventures and learning experiences in the future for our members. It is an excellent location to affordably host a convention. We would function there at nearly a nominal cost.

In Des Moines, we did not own the building or the extensive grounds we were required to maintain at great cost. Although we are currently in discussion with the corporation that owns the Johnston facility, to possibly recoup some of our recent and extensive improvements, they are under no obligation to give us anything. When our membership was 10,000, we could afford to support the luxury of the Johnston headquarters and the convenience of a paid staff- at approximately 1,600 members, that is no longer feasible.

Please understand that a negative vote against the actions of the Board will not result in our continuing to have paid staff in Johnston and continuing to operate our office there. A negative vote would only leave us in the position where our officers must maintain TGOA/MGCA from the officers' and committee heads' homes.

Sheryl Bacon resigned during the Executive Committee meeting but may help with the transition.

The officers and committee heads will continue to perform their duties and tasks from their homes. The current office phone number, address, and email address can be used for calls and correspondence during the interim period. We will try to promptly reply to all inquiries. We would like to have the new office established as soon as practical.



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## The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America Members

At the general meeting a motion from the floor requested that all members be allowed to vote on the move. The motion included a direct mail and return ballot proposal. After a review of that proposal which would have required us to spend approximately \$2,000 it was decided to use a more cost-effective means to communicate this message to the members who were not at the convention.

It was determined that the process used for the election of officers would be a more effective means of communication. The election of officers is handled by email to each of the clubs (more than one officer) with the clubs contacting their members and returning the results of the member votes.

This is the process leadership has chosen, as there is no assurance that the current membership mailing lists is accurate and up-to-date. Accordingly, we are following the officer election protocol to establish the membership vote on this issue. This not a secret vote. If the vote were at the meeting, all present would know who voted by a show of hands.

If you have questions, feel free to contact by email any of the officers at any time. We realize that these next few months will be a challenge, but we will all benefit from a balanced budget that allows us to continue scholarships (there were none this year), Youth Gardening, and Gardening-From-the-Heart, without depleting the E & I Fund. Please help us to preserve this terrific organization.

When the votes have been obtained by each club, email, or mail the results to: Michael Auriene at [txauriene@sbcgloal.net](mailto:txauriene@sbcgloal.net), or by USPS to 3806 Cross Country Trail, Arlington, TX 76001 to be received no later than October 31, 2019. We hope everyone casts their vote.

Your 2019 President  
Carl Christensen

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I agree with the actions of the Board to move the Headquarter offices from the current location at 5560 Merle Hay Road in Johnston, Iowa.

GARDENERS OF GREATER CLEVELAND

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Member Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Signature