



The Spade

The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland



August 2019

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

Vol.87 No. 8

SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING:
Buffet Meal: Italian sausage & peppers, Red sauce penne pasta w/vodka sauce, grated Parm cheese-Garlic cheese, and Crostini on the side.

Please call your Team Captain with your Dinner reservation by Friday, September 6th. 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

The summer hiatus gives us the opportunity to look at the status of the club at mid-year and discuss what lies ahead. I am especially heartened by the number of new members who have joined the club since the beginning of the year. We have added a diverse group who bring new talents to the club. And while the future looks bright, we would be remiss not to note the contributions of our long-time members. Those of you who attended the June Scholarship meeting were witness to what Fred Robinson says was his final presentation of the club's scholarships and you awarded him with a resounding round of applause. We will miss his wit, wisdom and leadership of the Scholarship Committee.

We have also learned that several valuable members are stepping down from their duties. Our Secretary, Jodith Janes, and Treasurer, John Budnik, have informed the Board that they will relinquish their respective positions at the end of the year and will have to be replaced. These are critical positions for the operation of the club. Likewise, two Vice-Presidents will be needed as well as three or more Directors. If interested in serving or nominating a candidate, you should contact members of the Nominating Committee: Bob Pindell, Jonny Prell or Deb Kramarz.

The other big event for the fall is the Annual Horticulture Show which continues to get bigger and better under the leadership of Mark Occhinerio, ably assisted by Tom Davis and Julie Henry. The show is fully described in this edition and will be the focus of the September Spade as well. In the meantime, enjoy the great weather that has replaced the rain of June and heat of July.

Dave Dawson

September Horticulture Show Participants:

Bring your entries to the Penthouse of 1 Bratenahl Place between 5:00 and 6:15 PM on Monday, September 9th. Any entry after 6:15 will not be accepted. Use the elevators at either end of the corridor on the ground floor. The Penthouse is on the top floor. Please contact the Show Chair, Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry or Tom Davis with any questions.

National Convention/Business Meetings Report on Page 5



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2019 Gardeners of Greater Cleveland Horticulture Show September 9th, 2019

In 2012 we started having a small horticultural show for our September meeting. The first year we had only a few entries, but every year since then the show has grown in size and quality. This year we hope that even more members and guests will enter plants, fruits and vegetables. We have added more categories to allow for a larger variety of entries. This announcement is early to let you start planning your entries for September 9, 2019.

- You can make up to five entries per person.
- There will be clerks at the show to help you with the final preparation of your entries.
- Ribbons will be awarded for: “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” (popular vote by all present) awards again this year.
- Prize winning, or unusual entries will be discussed to carry out the theme of Gardening Education.
- What was new in 2018, will be continued in 2019.
- There will be a “Novice” category for people who haven’t entered the show before. This gives new participants an extra opportunity to win a ribbon.
- The Horticulture Judges – guests and the 3 from our own club – will limit their own entries to 2 or 3 items. This gives other members more of a chance to win.
- Only members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be eligible for the “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” Awards.
- There will be new categories for entries this year.
- The entry must be your property. You can submit a purchased plant if you have owned and taken care of it for at least two months. (Must be purchased before July 9, 2019.)

If you have questions or suggestions, please see Mark Occhionero, Show Chairman, Julie Henry or Tom Davis. All three of these members are Accredited Horticulture Judges.

What will your entry be?

Mark Occhionero occhy1@aol.com
Julie Henry julanderso@yahoo.com
Tom Davis tsd123@roadrunner.com



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2019 Gardeners of Greater Cleveland Horticulture Show Rules & Schedule

1. The Horticulture Show is an educational opportunity for our members. The national judging manual stresses that all club members are expected to enter the show if they are able. We have made several changes this year to help members enter the show and succeed.
2. You can make up to five entries per person.
3. Clerks will be present from 5:00 to 6:15 to receive entries and help you with the entry card and staging the entry. We will have paper plates and other supplies.
4. Bring two return address labels per entry. That will make filling out the entry cards much faster and easier.
5. Entries like cut flowers should be in a clear glass container with no labels.
6. Ribbons will be awarded. There will be “Best in Show” and “Peoples’ Choice” (popular vote by all present) awards again this year. **Only members of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland will be eligible for the two top awards.**
7. If you have not entered the show before, you will be judged as Novice. Just tell the clerks when you arrive that you are a first-time exhibitor. This will give new exhibitors a chance to hone their skills.
8. Prize winning or unusual entries will be discussed by the entrant and/or the judges to carry out the theme of Gardening Education.
9. Judges will come from the Central Great Lakes Gardeners Region.
10. The show committee reserves the right to modify this schedule at a later date.

Please read the information on the following pages!

**Every year someone is disappointed because they don't follow directions
and don't win a ribbon.**



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2019 Gardeners of Greater Cleveland Horticulture Show Rules & Schedule

We have the following categories for the show this year:

1. Cut Annual Flowers in a Container -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers OR one for larger blooms.
2. Cut Dahlia flowers in a container - Include 1 or 2 leaves on a shoot. Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers OR one of larger blooms.
3. Cut Perennial Flowers in a Container -Three specimens of the same variety of small flowers or one of larger flowers.
4. Small Vegetables – Enter three specimens of smaller items (tomatoes, peppers, onions, and other smaller vegetables). All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch. Cherry tomatoes must be displayed by the cluster.
5. Larger Vegetables – Enter one specimen of larger vegetables such as eggplant. All vegetables should include a stem. Stems may be trimmed but should be at least ½ inch.
6. Small potted plants (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type except succulents.
7. Small potted succulents - (up to a 6-inch pot). It may hold a single plant or several plants of the same species and variety. The plant can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
8. Larger potted plants (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, several plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type except succulents.
9. Larger potted succulents (6 to 12 inch pots). It may hold a single plant, several plants of the same type or up to three different plants. The plant(s) can be of any type of succulent including cacti.
10. A branch (12 to 30 inches in length) in a container. A) Foliage Only. B) Foliage and Flowers. C) Foliage and Fruit.
11. A single leaf (like a Hosta Leaf) in a container.
12. One dish garden per member up to 14 inches in diameter.
13. Native Plant Specimen in any category.
14. Fruits - One specimen of larger fruits such as apples, peaches, etc.
15. Fruits - six specimens of smaller fruits such as berries.
16. Herbs - One stem of herbs such as rosemary, mint, borage, etc.
17. Potted herb plants (see 7 and 8 above).
18. Any of the above in an unusual or whimsical container.



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A Report on The Gardeners of America/Mens Garden Club of America (TGOA/MGCA) Business Meetings Held in July Prior to the Convention

The business meetings began on Sunday the 14th at 10:00 a.m. with the Executive Committee meeting. Each of the officers were present as was the office secretary, Sheryl Bacon.

The major topic to be discussed dealt with the organization finances. Miles Duck reported on the 2018 and year to date results. A budget for 2020 was outlined following the format that was used for 2018, which would rely on heavy withdrawals from the E & I Fund. The projected loss for 2019 would be nearly identical to the cash loss for 2018 of \$72,000 if changes were not made.

A second budget was presented by the Ad-Hoc Budget Committee which would be a balanced budget based on actual income from operations with only interest from the E & I Fund being included in funds available as authorized by the By Laws. The Executive Committee adopted the proposed balanced budget.

Sheryl announced that she was quitting, and left the meeting without providing access to the company computers or returning the keys to the office.

An E & I Fund meeting was to follow, but for lack of a quorum there was no meeting.

The Board meeting followed later in the day and the decisions of the Executive Committee were reviewed with the Board. The Board includes the elected officers, the past presidents and the club national directors. A power point presentation, which included the report of the Ad-Hoc Committee, was displayed at both the Executive Committee meeting and the Board meeting.

Following questions and discussion, those twelve Board members attending the meeting that were eligible to cast a vote, voted 12 to 0 to accept the balanced budget and recommendations of the Executive Committee and 11 to 1 in favor of the move of the HQ to Ohio.

The significant factors include using only earnings projected from the E & I Fund. The recognition that the current membership level could neither support the headquarters operation of the staff of three. While there were a few members arguing that TGOA/MGCA should keep invading the E & I Fund until the funds were exhausted, the majority realized that in order to keep the organization alive and to

maintain its status as a 501c3 tax exempt organization, it was necessary to make drastic changes.

Going forward, it is likely that the Iowa HQ will close this fall. In the interim, President Christensen, President-Elect Lee Olson and Treasurer Miles Duck will mind the store and keep the finances in order. A potential move to the Wooster Campus of OSU is in the works in order to operate within the proposed budget. An agreement has been signed with the College to occupy office space on campus at a monthly rental of \$160.00 (\$1,920 per year compared to the \$17,000 per year to maintain the Iowa HQ grounds.)

There will need to be changes to the By Laws to incorporate the moves necessary to keep the organization alive, including streamlining the organization, and engaging members to act as volunteers.

Some of the past activities, such as merchandise sales, will be handed off to outside suppliers. The committee structure will need to be modified to keep those activities which are core to the TGOA/MGCA mission and to eliminate others. Scholarships, Gardening From the Heart, Children's Gardening will be maintained; but likely at a reduced level of commitment.

Although not required, members of the Iowa group insisted that the entire membership be notified and allowed to express an opinion on the potential move of the HQ. This takes a 90-day notice period and a return of paper ballots. A needless expense.

History about the Iowa HQ: The use of the facility was granted by Pioneer Seed Company to the Men's Garden Club of Des Moines in 1977, and in turn to TGOA in 1982. When TGOA leaves, the use of the building and grounds will revert to the Des Moines Men's Garden Club.

Discussions, and a meeting with a representative of Pioneer, outlined what will be taking place and to put the property owner on notice that in the fall, the official HQ of the TGOA/MGCA organization will be leaving the facility.

Lawrence A. Kell
Second Vice President, TGOA/MGCA
Member, Gardeners of Greater Cleveland



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Judging Requirements: (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!)

1. The specimen must be properly identified with the plant name and the variety. We will supply entry forms and give you help filling them out. Bring two return address labels per entry to paste on the entry forms.
2. The specimen must be your property. You can submit a purchased plant if you have owned and taken care of it for at least two months. (Must be purchased before July 9, 2019.)
3. All submissions must be disease and insect free.
4. The specimen should be as perfect a sample as you can find. For example, a Hosta leaf should not be damaged and should be typical for the variety.
5. Individual leaves and stems should be supported so just the bottom of the leaf – or no leaf on a stemmed plant – is in the water. They should be upright. You can use plastic wrap or aluminum foil to support the leaf or stem in the container. Just wrap it around the stem at the bottle neck. Use a plain container like a pop or beer bottle without a label.
6. Fruit and vegetables should be on a plain, white paper plate.
7. Potted and hanging plants should be “groomed” with all dead leaves and spent flowers removed. The pot must be clean. Fancy pots don’t win; good plants in clean pots do.
8. Orchid leaves are not judged, just the flower.

Bring your entries to the Penthouse of 1 Bratenahl Place between 5:00 and 6:15 PM on September 9th. Any entry after 6:15 will be disqualified. Use the elevators at either end of the corridor on the ground floor. The Penthouse is on the top floor. Please contact the Show Chairman, Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry or Tom Davis with any questions.

Good luck!

Mark Occhionero

2019 Horticulture Show Chairman

A few winners from last year





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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 | DAVE RITTENHOUSE |
| PAT BOGGINS | JULIE HENRY |
| KATHRYN KOSIOREK | Z. HAROLD DAVIS |
| PHYLLIS DONNELLY-INGOLD | GARRETT ORMISTON |
| | CHUCK PALSA |

STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Awards:** Bob Pindell, Chair; Hank Doll; Tom Davis
- **Communication:** Jonny Prell, Chair (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media); Phyllis 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
- **Scholarship:** Harold Davis, Co-Chair; Hank Doll
- **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 Shows:** Mark Occhionero, Julie Henry, Tom Davis
- **Nominating:** Bob Pindell, Chair; Jonny Prell, Deb Kramarz, Dave Dawson
- **Wellness/Memorials:** Harold Davis, Team Captains
Members, please remember to notify Harold Davis or your Team Captain with any information you may have regarding wellness of any member or yourself.



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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: Tree canopy, pond and garden plants
- 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

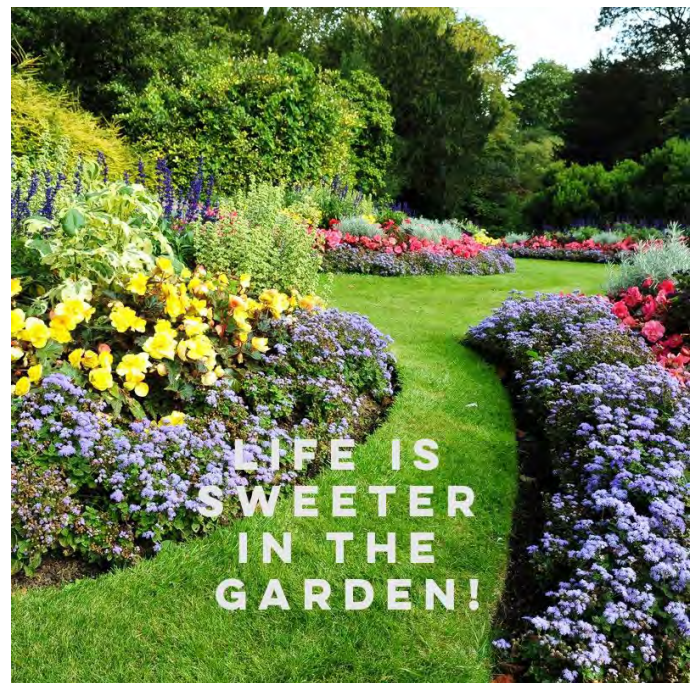
The purpose of the **Gardeners of Greater Cleveland** is to provide members with all types of information related to gardening - whether their own personal gardening or community projects through our monthly meetings, our newsletter **The Spade** and our website.

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.





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Upcoming Events & Projects

Friends of Euclid Creek: Lake Erie Speaker Series

Thursday, August 8th, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM at the Beachwood Community Center

Three environmental speakers and refreshments.

Rust Belt Riders: Compost 101

Saturday, August 10th, from 1PM to 3PM at Rust Belt Riders HQ, 1288 Marquette St., Cleveland, OH 44114

Learning how composting works, what you should and shouldn't put in your home compost pile and why. How to set up a simple, no turn compost system. If you are a member, tickets are free. Membership is only \$5.00 per month and comes with perks throughout the year.

Volunteer Member Projects and Events:

- The iris garden at Rockefeller Greenhouse and Gardens is always in need of maintenance help. Saturday afternoon is a great time to stop and spend a few hours helping with weeding! If you have any questions, contact Bob Pindell or Ron Hartmiller!
- Any member interested in volunteering to work on one of our projects (iris garden, VA project, etc), please contact Bob Pindell, or contact Garret Ormiston on other upcoming projects.
- The Club will have their annual **Bulb Sale in the Fall** at Rockefeller Greenhouse. Pat Boggins will be running the sale. We are looking for volunteers to help Pat out with this event.
- Chuck Palsa is already planning for the 2020 May Plant Sale. Chuck is looking for someone who is growing Variegated Liriope in their yard and is considering splitting it for next season. Please contact Chuck to let him know, and maybe split it this Fall so he can start as many shoots as he can, and have them ready for the May sale.