



The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

November 2023

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

Vol. 92 No. 10



December 11th Holiday Menu:

Appetizers, beer, wine and coffee will be served before dinner in the Penthouse.

Dinner will be roast beef with mushroom gravy, baked salmon with capers, honey glazed carrots, and roasted potatoes.

What's inside:

- November Program Summary, Carol Poh
- Lantern Court Adopt-A-Bed Update, Eddie Lagucki
- Christmas Kringler Recipe, Bob McMahon
- New Member Profile - Timothy Homan, Julie Shaw
- 2024-2025 Officers & Board Members
- Team Captains List (Rev 12-23)

Happy Holidays, everyone! This is my last letter to you as President and I want to thank you for your support and suggestions over these past two years. It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as President. A BIG thank you goes to my fellow officers and the Board who provided excellent leadership, suggestions and support for the well-being of our club. I hope that my term has moved our club forward in a positive direction. Under my watch, the club successfully celebrated its 90th anniversary at a gala affair in June 2022. The club's bylaws were revised and we resumed the May plant sale in 2022 and expanded the sale to include a holiday plant sale at Rockefeller City Greenhouse this month. Membership grew during these past two years and now exceeds 60 members, an increase of ~32% over the 47 members present at the start of my term. The VA Spinal Cord Unit gardens also were resumed in 2022, with another successful year this year. The club "adopted" a garden bed at Lantern Court Estate at Red Oak Camp, with members tending the plants there. Thanks to the Pindells, Ron Hartmiller, and some member volunteers, the Willott Iris Garden provided a lot of beauty for visitors. We enjoyed the speakers, who spoke on a wide variety of gardening or garden-related topics. Steve McIntosh started up a youth gardening program last year with a Cleveland elementary school and continued this year with a successful hydroponics project at Olmsted Falls High School.

I want to thank Gino, Tom Segelin, and Derrick for providing our club with delicious buffet dinners, equipment being set up for presentations and conveying RSVPs from Hiedi to Gino, and for outstanding service during social hour and dinner, respectively. We truly are grateful to you!

I also want to thank all members who volunteered at the May Plant Sale, at the club's various outdoor projects, helped decorate at the CBG's winter show, etc. It is my wish that more members volunteer their time to make this club even more successful. We indeed are "dirt gardeners" and that is something to be proud of!

Again, thank you for allowing me to be President of our club and I wish you a happy and meaningful holiday season!

Best Regards,

Bob McMahon





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GoA Grant Helps City Farm to Expand by Carol Poh

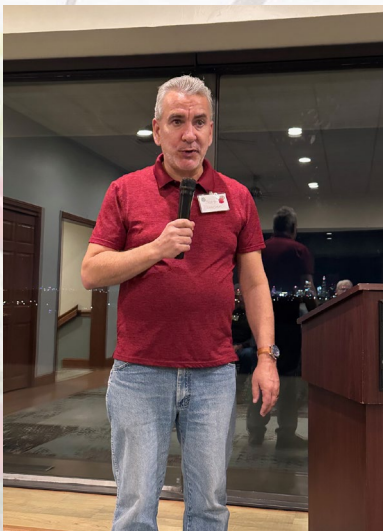
A former vacant lot at the corner of East 35th and Cedar has been paying handsome dividends. Since 2006 the Trinity Cathedral Charlie Comella Urban Farm has been operating there, yielding, to date, thousands of pounds of vegetables destined for inner-city tables. (The half-acre farm is named after the generous benefactor who made the land available but died before its first harvest.)

The farm is the initiative of Trinity (Episcopal) Cathedral downtown. Scott Blanchard, who has coordinated the project from its inception, was the guest speaker at the club's Nov. 13 meeting. By day, the Wooster native, who lives with his family in Old Brooklyn, is a marketing manager in the plastics industry. Operating the farm is his calling—a way to give back to his community.

During the 17 years the farm has operated, Scott and a corps of volunteers—most but not all are affiliated with the cathedral—have harvested some 50,000 pounds of fresh produce for the hungry of Cleveland's Central and Fairfax neighborhoods. Scott keeps close tabs on each harvest.

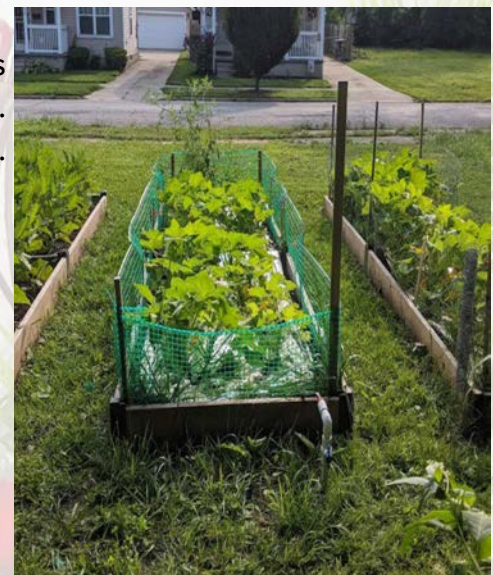
Earlier this year, the Gardeners of America (of which our club is an affiliate) awarded the project a grant of \$250 to fund the extension of a water line equipped with a faucet to enable irrigation of six new raised garden beds, each 4 feet by 8 feet in size. The work was accomplished on May 6, when volunteers used a rented trencher to dig the line and laid 145 feet of PVC pipe. The extension allowed the new garden beds to produce 44 pounds of eggplant and yellow squash during the 2023 season. All of the farm's produce is delivered to the food pantry of the Friendly Inn Settlement located at 2386 Unwin Road.

Each year, Scott meets with the staff of Friendly Inn to discuss varietal preferences for the next year's planting. Vegetable plants and seeds are provided by the Ohio State University Extension Service through the Summer Sprout Program, a partnership with the City of Cleveland that helps communities establish and maintain neighborhood gardens. Scott's goal for the future: to continue to increase each year's harvest because, he said, "The need is great."



Part of Trinity Urban Farm's recent expansion. Scott Blanchard photo.

Scott Blanchard, guest speaker at the November meeting, described his work as coordinator of the Trinity Urban Farm.





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Lantern Court Adopt-A Bed Update, Eddie Lagucki

We had a very successful first year in the Lantern Court Estate Adopt-a-Bed thanks to all our hard-working volunteers from the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland! The spring began with a forgotten bed and a vision. The 20' x 20' area was filled with aggressive ground covers like mock strawberry and bugleweed along with several high value plants, including a 60-year-old Small-leaved 'Ramapo' Rhododendron, two Lowbush Blueberries, and a Pinxterbloom Azalea.

The Adopt-A-Bed looks leaps and bounds better than it did this past spring. Throughout the year, volunteers worked tediously to remove the Bugleweed and Mock Strawberries from the Stonecrop groundcovers and around the bases of intentional plantings. As these plants were removed, Tom and Julie Davis donated several plants from their personal garden to fill in the empty bed space. Plants include Wood Poppies, Golden Alexander, Little Joe Pye and Green-and-Gold. They were also kind enough to donate a Rough-Leaved Dogwood, Bottlebrush Buckeye, and Devils Walkingstick that were planted in other areas of Lantern Court (all native species!). By Spring of 2024, there will be a small sign in the adopt-a-bed recognizing the hard work out the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland volunteers! If you have interest in volunteering in the Lantern Court Adopt-A-Bed, beginning 4/1/24, or would like a copy of the plant list please send an email to elagucki@redoakcamp.org.

I welcome everyone out in the springtime to enjoy the adopt-a-bed and newly planted 2000 bulb daffodil display near the Lantern Court that was sponsored by the Garden From the Heart grant! Without the clubs help, this would likely not have been possible. I will communicate a concrete date for a tour as spring approaches. Throughout the past year, I have really enjoyed getting to know club members and bouncing my gardening and education ideas off other inspiring professionals. You all have helped develop the foundation of the Lantern Court gardening community and have inspired me to always strive for more as a horticulturist!



Daffodil Bed - Before



Daffodil Bed - Planning



GoGC Adopt-A-Bed



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Christmas Kringler Recipe, Bob McMahon

Ingredients For The Crust:

- 1 cup flour
- 3 TBSP water
- ½ cup butter, softened

Combine flour and butter with a pastry blender, then add the 3 TBSPs of water to make the pastry. Divide into two portions and pat each half portion onto a 3"X13" strip of cardboard covered with aluminum foil. Place on a cookie sheet so that the strips are separated by at least a couple of inches and set aside.

Ingredients For The Cream Puff Layer:

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup butter
- 4 jumbo eggs
- 1 tsp almond extract

Combine 1 cup water and ½ cup butter in a 4 quart saucepan. On high heat setting, heat the mixture to a FULL ROLLING BOIL (IMPORTANT!!: such that the bubbly mixture rises several inches high for about 15 seconds with the lid on). Remove from heat, add the flour and almond extract to the water-butter mixture, and beat until smooth using a wooden spoon. Then add ONE EGG AT A TIME (I have each egg broken into a separate small dish in advance, ready to add), beating until the mixture is smooth after each egg (this takes some effort!). After adding the four eggs separately and making sure the mixture is smooth, spread the cream puff mixture evenly over both crusts.

Bake in a 350-degree oven until the tops have puffed up and are light brown and crisp, about 40 to 50 minutes, depending on the oven. Take out the Kringlers to cool—the cream puff layer will settle and form a layer over the crust. Spread with the butter frosting and sprinkle with toasted thinly-sliced almonds (toast the almonds 7 to 9 minutes in a 350-degree oven until lightly browned), gently pressing the almond slices into the frosting.

Ingredients For the Butter Frosting:

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 TBSP softened butter
- ¼ tsp almond extract
- 2 to 3 TBSPs cream



Mix the above ingredients until it is smooth and of spreading consistency (using the cream for this).





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New Member Profile - Timothy Homan, submitted by Julie Shaw

Please welcome Tim who joined our club in October, referred to us by Kathy Kosiorek. Tim graduated from CSU with a BA of Arts in Sculpture, and received an MBA from CWRU. He has worked his entire career in the non-profit sector, in finance and fund-raising. In retirement, Tim is volunteering as the gardener at the Lakewood Historical Society's two museums: The Nicholson House, and The Oldest Stone House. His passions include botany, garden design, and art collecting. In addition to a collection of succulents, he has recently begun coaxing indoor plants into bonsai forms. Welcome to our garden club, Tim!

2024-2025 Officers & Board Members

Congratulations to the following officers who were elected and installed at the November meeting and will assume their official duties on January 1st, 2024: Steve McIntosh, President; Debbie Daniels, Vice President; Hiedi Winston, Treasurer; and Melissa Supler, Secretary. Our club will move forward to new heights under the fine leadership of these officers. Bob McMahon will serve as Past President, giving advice and support to Steve and the officers.

Thank you, Deb Kramarz, who is retiring from the Board at the end of this year. Deb contributed many good suggestions and ideas during her tenure and also gave Bob numerous contacts for speakers, which he greatly appreciated. Deb will continue on as our club's liaison for Holden Forests & Gardens, for which she does a fine job!



GoGC's Wreath at Cleveland Botanical Garden's 'FROST'.
Photos provided by Joyce Nesbit.





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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:** ROBERT MCMAHON
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** STEVE MCINTOSH
- SECRETARY:** JONNY PRELL
- TREASURER:** HIEDI WINSTON
- ASST TREASURER:** LARRY KELL
- PAST PRESIDENT:** JONNY PRELL

Current DIRECTORS:

- DEBORAH KRAMARZ / 2021-2024
- ROBERT MCMAHON
- DEBBIE DANIELS
- ED TUHELA
- FRED ROBINSON
- GARRET ORMISTON
- LARRY KELL

CURRENT STANDING COMMITTEES

- *Awards:* Larry Kell, Tom Segelin and Jonny Prell
- *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, Larry Kell, Co-Chairs; Julie Shaw
- *Programs:* Robert McMahon, Chair
- *Scholarship:* Ed Tuhela, Fred Robinson, Co-chairs; Deb Kramarz,
- *Service Projects:* Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

CURRENT SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National Organization: Larry Kell, President; Tom Davis, 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: Open
- Nominating: Bob McMahon, Chair; Debbie Daniels, Melissa Supler
- Wellness/Memorials: Team Captains
- Archive Committee: Steve McIntosh, Chair



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Team 1

Team Captain: Harold Davis, Jr.
216-283-7111 (NO EMAIL)

- Dave & Virginia Dawson (216.751.2739 Home/216.374.8916 Cell)
- Joyce Nesbit (216.469.4892 Cell)
- Carol Poh (216.692.0747 Home)
- MaryAnn Thesing (440.667.7764)
- Geoffrey Kibler (502.715.3510)
- Alan Bodner (216.524.2443)

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
- Jodith Janes
- Larry Kell
- Hiedi Winston
- Bob McMahon & George Roscoe
- Paul Bilyk
- Al Hopf
- Rachel Laughlin

Team 4

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

- Fred Robinson
- Steve McIntosh
- Bob & Sandra Pindell
- Tom Segelin & Julie Giroux
- Kevin Borowiak
- Kathy Talty
- Sharon Yarnell
- Timothy Homan (New Member)

Team 5

Cathy Ross: estrogen05@yahoo.com
216.970.2854

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

Team 6

Keith Biehl: 440-237-5824 (NO EMAIL)

- Davd & Diane Circle (440.628.8063 Home)
- Paula & Ron Koenig (440.212.5700)
- Deva Simon (440.915.0161)
- Ed Nangle (614.208.2298)
- Mark Yoders (330.264.4944)
- Chancy Jackson (216.322.8343)
- Scott Blanchard (330.322.8111)

Team 7

Team Captain: Julie Shaw,
julieoshaw@gmail.com / 914.525.3834

- Fred Burkhalter
- Tom Davis
- Emily Dennis
- John Schinker
- Deah Stark
- John Tilisky
- Dave Tomashefski
- Susan Brownstein
- Cyndi Konopka (New Member)

**Team Captains, please call in your
RSVP number directly to Hiedi Winston.
(440.752.2617 or email at [hwinston@
naipvc.com](mailto:hwinston@naipvc.com)) by Thursday evening.**

