



# The Spade



The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

April 2022

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

Vol. 90 No. 3

## MONDAY, APRIL 11TH, BUFFET

**DINNER MENU: 6:15 PM**

Dinner in The Bistro will be Caribbean Chicken Quarters, Yellow Rice with Black Beans, Plantains. Coffee, Tea and Cookies will follow.

### What's inside:

- **April Program Information: Lawn Care Tips, Dr. Ed Nangle, Turfgrass Management at OSU Wooster**
- **March Program Summary**
- **Awards Committee Recognition Article, by Kathy Kosiorek April 2022**
- **Three Numbers on Fertilizer Containers - What Do They Mean?**  
Member, Bob McMahon
- **Martha McMahon's Clam & Shrimp Spagetti Sauce**  
Recipe from Bob McMahon
- **Members Birthdays**
- **Team Captain Information**

Members, if you have any recipe that you would like to share, or a garden tip, please send it to [Jonny Prell](#) and she will publish it in The Spade!

*HAPPY OFFICAL SPRING, EVERYONE!* Spring officially began on March 20th, and with March averaging 6+ degrees above normal as I write this letter in late March, Spring is advancing more rapidly than usual. On my recent walks, I have observed snow crops, snow crocus, Lenten Rose, winter aconite, and witch hazel in bloom. Many tree and shrub species are budding and the morning and evenings are filled with a plethora of melodic bird songs. April will see the star and pink saucer magnolias, cherry and weeping cherry trees, forsythia, lilacs and most spring bulbs and early-flowering perennials burst forth into flower, and garden centers will be selling perennials, trees, shrubs and hardy violas and pansies. Home gardening will start up again, a welcome change in our routines as we awaited Spring finally to arrive. Now is the time to start seedlings indoors, including lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, marigolds, zinnias and other easy-to-germinate garden crops. Happy Gardening!

*As you probably know by now, our longtime member, Lou Pelton, passed away on March 11th. Lou loved being a member of the club and was the recipient of the 2022 Potter Bowl Award. I attended his Celebration of Life mass with three other club members and it was a fitting tribute to Lou. A \$100 donation is being made by the club to the Gardening From the Heart fund of The Gardeners of America.*

Be sure to check out the GardenWalk Cleveland 2022 website, <https://www.gardenwalkcleveland.org/contact/> to enter your garden on the tour in one of the Cleveland city neighborhoods (click on "Add Garden") or to volunteer (click on "Volunteer") at one of the neighborhood information stations. The dates are July 9th and 10th.

Please plan to attend the club's combined 90th anniversary party and scholarship awards on Saturday, June 11th, from 1 to 4 PM at Dunham Tavern Museum for which planning is well underway. Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, President of The Gardeners of America, will be the featured speaker!

I look forward to seeing you at the April 11th meeting.

*Bob McMahon*



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## Monday, April 11th Program - Lawn Care Tips

Our speaker is Dr. Ed Nangle, Assistant Professor, Turfgrass Management at OSU Wooster (ATI) who will provide Lawn Care Tips. For more information about Dr. Nangle, <https://ati.osu.edu/people/ed-nangle-phd>.



## Monday, March 14th, Program Summary - Bees in Your Ohio Backyard

Ms. Denise Ellsworth gave an informative and enjoyable presentation about bee pollinators last month. I had no idea that there are over 350 species of bees in Ohio and that the bees and pollen have opposite electrical charges to attract the pollen to the bees! A lot of excellent information was given during the talk, including plant species to plant to attract these pollinators to your gardens.





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## Awards Committee Recognition Article, Kathy Kosiorek

Over the next few months the Awards Committee will be recognizing the many Club members and friends who helped the Club weather the pandemic.

Our sincere thanks to Jonny Prell who, as President, continued to call virtual board meetings, publish *The Spade* and find ways for Club projects and scholarships to continue. *The Spade* always contained interesting articles and beautiful pictures of members gardens.

Assisting Jonny with the virtual meetings was Steve McIntosh, whose expertise as a teacher flowed over into our board meetings and membership programs. Steve worked with our presenters so that they could share their power point and video presentations in a professional manner.

Deb Kramarz suggested interesting program presenters and Bob McMahon used his experience as a professor at OSU's Agricultural Technical Institute to find the club excellent programs from bees to orchids and the latest in hydroponic growing techniques. Our programs were great.

Keeping a steady hand on the operation of the Club with well thought out insights was Larry Kell. Larry also assisted with the members only sale in May, 2021 by creating the order forms. Larry also served as President of the Central Great Lakes Gardens and helped facilitate the move of the Gardeners of America to its new headquarters in Wooster, Ohio.

Each month we will feature more of our "heros" remembering that the whole is more than the sum of its parts.

**Kathy Kosiorek**

*Chair, Awards Committee*

## Club Updates

**Reminder:** Please contact your Captain to RSVP for the dinner/meeting. If you do RSVP and you do not attend, you will be responsible for that cost. See Page 7 for Captains & Teams.

### **May Plant Sale**

The dates for the plant sale are May 12 - May 14, 2022 and we will be back in-person at the Rockefeller Greenhouse. Dave Dawson is heading the committee. members will be asked to donate plants from their gardens. Please contact Dave directly if you wish to volunteer. There is a plan to sell plants and vegetables to our members through Donald A. Schuster Greenhouse in Elyria, avoiding the 10% of member sales to Rockefeller Greenhouse. Last year's order will be edited for us this year.

### **Service Projects**

Steve McIntosh is heading the Youth Gardening Project at Willott Iris Garden and has interest from teacher in the Cleveland School system. There will be more information coming soon.

### **CBG's Affiliates Meeting**

Deb Kramarz announced the Affiliates' meeting will be held Thursday, April 21st . The speaker will be Tom Arbour, Curator of Living Collections at Holden Forests & Gardens (HF&G).

### **90th Anniversary Celebration**

We are in the process of organizing the event. Hiedi Winston, Joyce Nesbit, and Deb Kramarz are currently working on the committee. The location will be The Dunham Tavern where the Club hosted our 85th Anniversary. The celebration will be held it in June and will also have the Scholarship Awards Presentation at the event.



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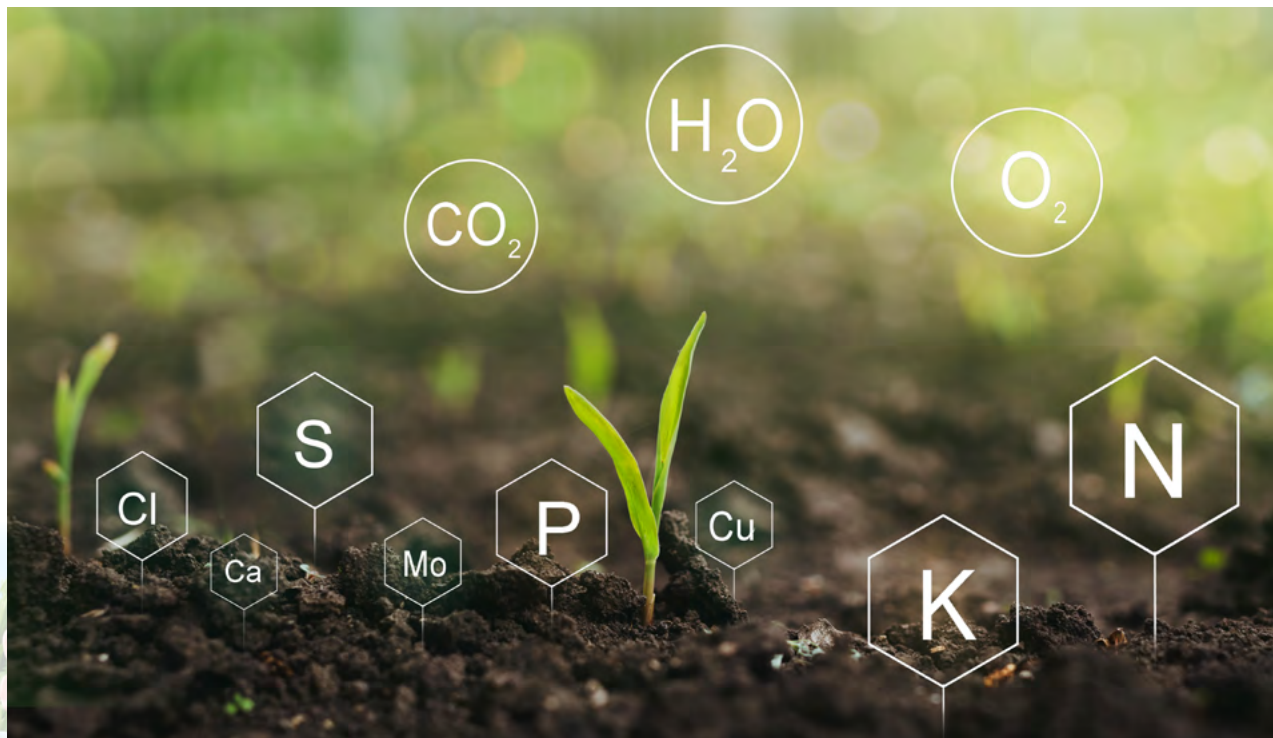
The Newsletter of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

## **The Three Numbers on Fertilizer Containers - What do they mean? By Bob McMahon**

Do you ever wonder what the three numbers on fertilizer containers stand for? It actually is quite simple. Basically, the three numbers in order represent the percent by weight of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium (i.e., N-P-K) in the container. For example, if you have a 10-10-10 fertilizer, which means it contains 10% nitrogen, 10% phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) and 10% potash (K<sub>2</sub>O) of the total weight of the fertilizer in the package. The phosphate and potash forms of phosphorous and potassium, respectively, represent the available form of these two essential elements that plant roots absorb.

Nitrogen promotes vigorous vegetative growth of leaves and stems. Phosphorous promotes root/bulb growth and flowering & fruit set, while potassium promotes plant hardiness and overall vigorous growth. Thus, if you have house plants or plants grown for their foliage, fertilize with a fertilizer with a larger nitrogen content or higher first number. If you have flowering plants and vegetables, pick a fertilizer with a higher phosphorous content/middle number. If you give flowering plants and vegetable plants that flower and set fruit a fertilizer with a high nitrogen content, the plants will not flower/fruit as much and instead be more vegetative in growth. These three fertilizer elements are known as “macroelements” as they are present in plant tissue in relatively high amounts.

There are a lot of organic and inorganic fertilizers from which to choose. There are ‘general purpose’ fertilizers, such as 20-20-20, that promote overall vigorous growth, but may not be the best for flowering/bulb plants. In such cases, use a fertilizer such as a 10-20-10 that has a higher amount of phosphorous to promote root/bulb growth and vigorous flowering and fruit set. Such fertilizers often are labeled “Bloom Booster” or “Root and Bloom” or similar names. Most of these fertilizers contain all the essential elements needed for healthy plant growth.





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## Bob McMahon's Family Recipe

### **MARTHA McMAHON'S CLAM & SHRIMP SPAGHETTI SAUCE**

4-6 green onions (white portions), sliced

3 large cloves of minced garlic

1 TBSP of parsley flakes

½ cup (i.e. 8 TBSP or one stick) butter or margarine (I use butter!)

3 6.5 ounce cans of minced clams

8 ounces of cooked salad shrimp (I buy a 1 lb package of cooked frozen salad shrimp)

1 TBSP of cornstarch (or possibly more depending on how thick you like the sauce)

1 pound of cooked, drained angel hair pasta

3 TBSP of grated Parmesan cheese

Sauté onion, garlic and parsley in the melted butter for ~3 minutes. Drain the clams, saving the clam juice. If there is not enough clam juice to make a generous 1 cup of liquid, either add water to make 1 cup or add in some bottled clam juice (which is what I do). To the 1+ cup of clam juice, mix in the cornstarch until well blended and then add to the melted butter mixture and cook until thickened, stirring constantly. If you want a thicker sauce, whisk in a little more cornstarch.

Once the sauce has thickened and is bubbling, add the minced clams and the thawed salad shrimp, stirring them into the sauce, and heating for a minute or two until they are hot. Toss the grated Parmesan cheese with the hot drained angel hair pasta, top with the sauce and serve. ENJOY!!!





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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
- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** OPEN
- SECRETARY:** JODITH JANES (TEMP)
- TREASURER:** HIEDI WINSTON
- ASST TREASURER:** LARRY KELL

## DIRECTORS:

- PHYLLIS DONNELLY-INGOLD 2020-2023
- JOYCE NESBIT - 2021-2024
- LARRY KELL - 2022-2023
- DEBORAH KRAMARZ - 2022 - 2025
- TOM DAVIS - 2022 - 2025
- FRED ROBINSON - 2022 - 2025
- TOM SEGELIN - 2022 - 2025

## STANDING COMMITTEES

- *Awards:* Kathy Kosiorek, Chair; Bob Pindell, Hank Doll and Tom Davis
- *Communication:* Jonny Prell (The Spade Newsletter, Website / Social Media);
- *Finance:* Larry Kell Chair; Hiedi Winston,
- *Income Projects:* Dave Dawson, Chair; Dave Dawson, Robert McMahon (Plant Sale), Pat Boggins (Bulb Sale), Dave Dawson, (Auction / Raffle)
- *Membership:* Larry Kell, Jonny Prell
- *Programs:* Robert McMahon
- *Scholarship:* Deb Kramarz, Co-Chair; Fred Robinson, Co-chair; Dave Dawson
- *Service Projects:* Garrett Ormiston, Chair; Bob Rensel, Steve McIntosh

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Arboretum: Deb Kramarz
- National Organization: Larry Kell, Second Vice President; Tom Davis, National Director;
- Central Great Lakes Gardeners: Larry Kell, President
- Youth Gardening: Steve McIntosh, Garrett Ormiston, 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: Tom Davis
- Nominating: Jonny Prell, Chair; Deb Kramarz
- Wellness/Memorials: Team Captains



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**APRIL  
BIRTHDAYS**

RON HARTMILLER - April 2th

ANDY KOSIOREK - April 23rd

## Team 1

**Team Captain: Harold Davis, Jr.**  
216-283-7111

- Dave & Ginnie Dawson
- Tom Davis
- Julie Shaw
- Joyce Nesbit
- Carol Poh

## Team 2

**Head Team Captain: Ron Hartmiller,**  
r\_hartmiller@yahoo.com / 216-671-1408

- Garrett Ormiston
- Hank Doll
- Lou Drasler
- MaryAnn Thesing
- Bob Rensel

## Team 3

**Team Captain: Andy Kosiorek,**  
kosiorek@cox.net / 216-226-4503

- Kathy Kosiorek
- Jodith Janes
- Larry Kell
- Hiedi Winston
- Bob McMahon
- Paul Bilyk

## Team 4

**Team Captain: Deb Kramarz,**  
deborahkramarz@aol.com / 216-731-6324

- Fred Robinson
- Phyllis Donnelly-Ingold
- Steve McIntosh
- Bob & Sandra Pindell
- Tom Segelin & Julie Giroux

## Team 5

**Cathy Ross, estrogen05@yahoo.com**  
216-970-2854

- Patrick Boggins
- Jonny Prell
- Kelly Adkins
- John Tilisk
- Deb Daniels

## Team 6

**Keith Biehl, 440-237-5824**

- Jeff Ardo
- Davd & Diane Circle
- Deva Simon
- Deah Stark
- Dave Rittenhouse