



Sprigs N Sprouts



September 2008 - The Gardeners of Lima



President's Message
-Dick Hussey

FLOWERS & VEGETABLES

Just as sure as the weather warms in the spring most of us have already planted flower and vegetable seeds. It just gets in a person's blood to start plants growing. When this happens, you can bet on the weather going afoul and about fifty percent of the time you regret planting the seed so early. There is no way to tell when it will be warm enough and dry enough to put small plants in the ground. If you are smart it pays to wait until about the last week of May or first week of June to set most annual flowers or vegetables in the ground.

The general public has no idea how much work goes into raising flowers or vegetables. I am sure that some of the younger generation think all things you eat or the milk you drink comes only from a grocery store! This is why I think all children should have a chance to plant something that will look pretty or taste good

even if it is only one square foot of area. Just think what a joy for a young child to see a flower he or she planted bloom or tomato plant produce a red ripe tomato to eat. This is the way to get them hooked on gardening.

Another way to get children interested in gardening is participating in the County Fair. All you need to do is get him or her a membership for the fair. He or she can enter any one or all three of the flower shows, the vegetable show or the photography show. If they get a ribbon, they are usually hooked on entering something in the County Fair the next year.



Don McClure, from U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Findlay office, gave an interesting talk on no-till gardening at the August meeting. He said that good soil (that has had the benefit of being made by nature or by human
(continued on page 3)

See you at the
SEPTEMBER MEETING

Date: **Tuesday September 9**
Time: **7:30 PM**
Place: Faurot Park clubhouse
Program: **Monarch Magic**
Given by: Kay Studer and Rita Thelen



Unlock the mystery of the Monarch Butterfly. You will be informed on the life cycle, food sources, flight migrations, and much more. Your garden can become a Monarch Way-Station Stop.

Kay Studer is a programs coordinator at OSU Extension office, managing the Allen County Master Gardener Program, the Children's Garden, among others. Kay has been an active member of TGOL for a long time.

Rita Thelen is a Senior Naturalist with Johnny Appleseed Metro Park District (JAMPD) and earned the Master Gardener designation. She has worked extensively at the Children's Garden on the area that attracts BUTTERFLIES. Rita has put in many hours of work for TGOL, also.



Mr. Hussey awarding Matt Trentman \$1,500 scholarship from TGOL at the August meeting.



Mr. Hussey awarding Philip Hatfield \$1,500 scholarship from TGOL at the August meeting.

Board Meeting Report

Estimates on roof repair are being obtained. Estimates are not available yet. Insurance will cover the cost after the \$250 deductible.

Howard Elstro, a manager from City of Lima, plans to attend the September board meeting. The City of Lima position on the clubhouse lease may be clarified then.

The next board meeting is Thursday September 25, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse.

TGOL 2008 Programs

September 9, 7:30 PM
Monarch Magic- Kay Studer & Rita Thelen
and **final Tomato Weigh-in**

October 14, 6:30 PM Cook-out – Entrees & side dishes provided.

-BRING a DESSERT- as a Covered Dish. Johnny Applesed will visit. JA is actually Mark Mohr from JAMPD, but don't tell any one.

November 11, 7:30 – Earl Lockwood talks about plants

December 16 6:00 PM
Christmas Dinner & Awards
Old Barn Out Back

Winners from garden contest will be invited guests.

Officers for 2009 will be nominated at the October meeting, voted on at the November meeting, and installed at the Christmas banquet. Tentative nominations at this time are the following:

President – Steve Maki
1st VP & Program chair--
--OPEN for a volunteer
2nd VP & Membership chair – Donna Maki
Treasurer – Rex Maurer
Secretary – Teresa Heath

More 2008 Activities

Fall is just around the corner. And, that means clean-up for the downtown planters and clean-up of the beds at the clubhouse. A workday (a Saturday morning probably in October) will be scheduled

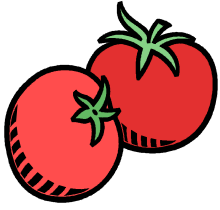
for downtown, and another workday (also a Saturday probably) will be scheduled for the clubhouse.

Poinsettia sales will start with the October meeting (or before, if you like). Dave Williams has started growing the poinsettias already. If you do not have sales forms, ask a club officer. And, the sales forms and information will be added on to the October *Sprigs N Sprouts*.

Traditionally at the Christmas banquet members pay membership dues for the next year. Membership dues go toward local club and national club expenses. 2009 membership dues will be as follows:

Single: \$17 (\$15 goes to natl. and \$2 goes to local)
Family: \$20 + \$2 for each family member (\$20 goes to natl. and each \$2 goes to local). A lifetime membership is also available.

Also payable at the Christmas banquet will be the per person charge of only \$10 per person. That will include pre-meal hors d'hourves, wine, and soft drinks; buffet meal, entertainment, and fine fellowship.



Big Tomato Contest results from the August tomato weigh-in weights are (in order from the BIGGEST first are:

- Frank Cooley – 1 lb. 14.4 oz.
- Bob Niese – 1 lb. 12.8 oz.
- Charlie Bowsher – 1 lb. 1.5 oz.
- Persetta Bowsher – 1 lb. 0.0 oz.
- Dick Hussey – 14.2 oz.
- Gene Buhrmester - 9.2 oz.

The final tomato weigh-in for the Big Tomato Contest is at the September 9 meeting. Let's hope Dick Hussey doesn't win AGAIN this year!

Congratulations to Dick Hussey—our leader—for winning 2008 Grand Prize in the Grapes/Quinces category at the Allen County Fair.

Jesse Higbie continues to do the mowing at the club house.

Rita Stephens probably is pretty unhappy when she sees how dry the beds at the club have become since it hasn't rained here for a month! It was suggested that a rock garden be put in the beds by clubhouse door. Or, hardy perennials that can handle the conditions.

Pathfinder House residents and staff are still watering the planters downtown. Their work is appreciated.



It was great to meet Dean Cooley (at right) at the August meeting who is the grandson of TGOL member Frank Cooley (at left).



TGOL member Persetta Bowsher holds the pie (apple?) that was a door prize at the August meeting.

2009 TGOA/MGOA calendars are available for \$3.50 each on a first-come, first-serve basis. Dick Hussey and Rex Maurer have them.



TGOL members Georgie Buhrmester and Janet Hussey visit at the August meeting.

*Don McClure article--
--Continued from page 1*

intervention) should not have to be stirred (tilled or rototilled) to grow healthy crops. He said it is the organic matter that makes soil work by binding together plant matter and the soil. Tilling the soil breaks down and destroys the organic matter.

Recommendations for addition to the compost pile are: grass clippings which breakdown easily and do not have much carbon, leaves—soft maple and hard maple breakdown best. But, oak leaves have a lot of carbon and need nitrogen added. He also said manure and sawdust can be put on directly on top of the soil, and earthworms will have no problem breaking down the manure.

In addition, leaves are excellent weed control and good for decomposing into the soil. Leaves should be put on plants only after the plants are big enough to not be eaten by slugs that leaves can attract.

There was much more to his talk. Get more info on USDA'S research at <http://www.usda.gov>

Below is part of one of Nanci Cochensparger's Sunday articles that are always informative.

It is from *The Lima News* dated August 10, 2008.

There were no better words than Nanci's to describe the winners of the beautification. So below are Nanci's wording (word for word) from her article. Thanks, Nanci. And, please don't sue me!

"...Congratulations to this year's winners of the Gardeners of Lima Civic Beautification Contest, **Richard and Jane Plummer**, 1866 Wonderlick Road, and **Sam Boyer**, 7980 Fort Amanda Road, both west of Lima.

The Plummer's front, back and side yards are planted with colorful flowerbeds, including a large wagon planter built by Richard and spilling over with flowers. Jane's favorite flower is Zinnia "State Fair," an exceptionally large variety.

The Plummers like to choose primary colors for every year; the colors cannot help but catch your eye if you drive past their

home.

Boyer, on the other hand, has adapted his spacious gardens to the contours of his land and includes stepped landscaping on either side of a large gully over which his tri-level brick home spans.

His gardens include two vegetable gardens, fruit trees, an arboretum at the rear of his property planted with the help of Allen County Master Gardeners several years ago, all center pieced with a crystal clear swimming pond.

Both gardens will be featured next June on the annual Gardeners of Lima tour...." End quote.

Richard and Jane Plummer and Sam Boyer will be the special guests of The Gardeners of Lima at the Christmas banquet/Awards dinners in December.

And, for sure, The Gardeners of Lima look forward to getting to see their gardens next year.

CGLR
Regional Events
Central Great Lakes
Region Fall Meeting
Saturday October 11, 2008
Kingwood Gardens,
Mansfield.
See the regional website
below.

**Yes, it is kinda early,
however,**

**2009 NATIONAL
CONVENTION**

**May 28 - 30, 2009
Santa Rosa, California**

[National - website](http://www.tgoa-mgca.org)
http://www.tgoa-mgca.org
password: lily
then press ENTER

[Regional -website](http://www.acorn.net/cglr/)
Central Great Lakes
Region
http://www.acorn.net/cglr/



**WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MEMBER OF
“THE GARDENERS OF LIMA”?**

Guests are always welcome!



MONTHLY MEETINGS MARCH THROUGH DECEMBER- Meet and share gardening experiences with other gardeners in the area. Interesting speakers will present information on a wide variety of gardening topics of interest to members. Gardens are for sharing and we often share items of interest including plants, bulbs, seeds and produce at our meetings. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month beginning in March at 7:30 p.m. at our clubhouse in Faurot Park.

SPRIGS 'N SPROUTS- Is our monthly newsletter filled with news about our various activities, upcoming events, member news, committee activities and other information of interest to our members.

LENDING LIBRARY- As a member, you will have access to a wide variety of gardening books, magazines and catalogs. You may check out up to 3 items each month for return the following month. Why buy great garden books when you can borrow from our growing library.

MAY FLOWER SALES PROJECT- Those helping with the setup and unloading of flowers for the sale on Thursday afternoon will get to “cherry pick” flats and hanging baskets before they go on sale to the public the following morning.

COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION- As a member you can take pride in the various club activities to beautify and support gardening in the Lima community. These include the planting and maintenance of the planters in the downtown area, Faurot Park and other projects as may be appropriate.

SCHOLARSHIPS- As a member you can also take pride in the funding of Scholarships for students pursuing a career in Landscaping, Turf Management or a related horticultural field.

GARDEN TOURS- As a member you will have an opportunity to tour some of the most beautiful gardens in the Lima and surrounding areas.

We participate in other gardening activities as funds, imagination and energies permit. At the same time we are learning as we share our collective knowledge of gardening. “The Gardeners of Lima” is an organization dedicated to keeping the art of gardening alive and well in the Lima community.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
THE GARDENERS OF LIMA



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

My (our) primary gardening interests are: (Rank in order of interest starting with 1 as first choice)

Annual Flowers _____ Shrubs _____ Lawn _____

Perennial Flowers _____ Bulbs _____ Trees _____

Vegetables _____ House Plants _____ Bonsai _____

Water Gardens _____ Weed Control _____ Insect Control _____

Other: _____

The Gardeners of Lima is an active gardening club for both men and women. One of the best ways to meet and get to know other gardeners and learn about gardening techniques is to take an active part in one or more of the many projects or committees. Please check two or three that would be of greatest interest to you.

Downtown Beautification _____

May Flower/ Plant Sale _____

Programs _____

Clubhouse/Grounds Maintenance _____

Public Relations _____

Poinsettia Sales _____

Membership _____

Club Newsletter _____

After Meeting Refreshments _____

Club Officer _____

National dues are \$15 - single membership or \$20 - family membership.
Regional dues are an additional \$1 per person.

Membership applications may be returned to any officer or to the Membership Chairman listed below:

Dave Williams
The Gardeners of Lima
1874 Bowman Rd.
Lima, Ohio 45804

Phone: 419-225-1458