



Sprigs N Sprouts



May 2009

The Gardeners of Lima



President's Message

-Steve Maki

The seeds from last year's winning big tomato have sprouted. Last year I started an experiment. I have heard some say that it is best to keep your seeds over the winter in the freezer. So, after the seed preparation I placed some of the seeds in the freezer and the remaining seeds in a brown envelope in a Mason jar and placed the jar with the other canned goods. The data thus far: 32% of the seeds that were in the freezer have germinated and 37% of the seeds in the Mason jar have germinated. The seeds that were in the Mason jar look healthier. In both cases the seedlings range from just popping out of the seed starter to being five inches tall. The seeds in the Mason jar continue to germinate; whereas the seeds that

were in the freezer have reached a plateau. I currently have a total of 34 plants (14 from the freezer seeds and 20 from the Mason jar seeds). It does not look like they all will survive, but there should be enough if the members want to use the plants from last year's winning big tomato. Remember to give your \$5 over to our treasurer, Rex Maurer, if you want to enter the contest.

Donna and I will once again attend the national convention, which is being held in Santa Rosa, California this year. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at last year's convention and look forward to another exciting time and to catching up with friends that we made at last year's convention. In addition to the business to be conducted, we will learn about Bonsai, Olive Oil Production, Sweet Peas, Organic Seed Production and Wine Making (which will include tours of two vineyards). We will also see the majestic redwoods, where we will hold our

memorial service. Luther Burbank, one of the 20th century's most famous gardeners, is a Santa Rosa icon and his farm and gardens will be on our tour schedule. It is not too late to register to attend the convention – Donna and I would welcome the company of other Lima gardeners.

Nancy has lined up another great program – all about those destructive insects. The Japanese beetles really did a job on our roses last year. I hope I will learn how to mitigate the possibility of damage again this year. Let Nancy know what insects you would like to learn more about.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that I must tell you that one of our Lima gardeners has gone to tend to God's garden. Edith Latvala, Donna's Mom, passed away last month, from her brain cancer. Donna and I thank the members for the beautiful plant given to us in memory of Donna's Mom.



Spring Plant Sale

@ Elmview (Shawnee&Breese Rds)

Look for the sale banner above

Friday, May 8, 8 AM- 5 PM

(Friday only—Master Gardeners will be selling perennials)

Saturday, May 9, 8 AM-Noon



Springtime sprouted at the end of April after all the rain and several very warm days. The above yellow tulips finally burst open. The blooms did not last long—only a few days. The picture of the yellow tulips are all that I will see of them until next year again. I got down on the ground for the above picture and used the “macro” setting, which on my camera is an icon of a flower. My neighbor’s house could be seen in the background, but with “Paint Shop Pro” software to edit the picture--like magic--the house is gone! Photography adds a new dimension to gardening! TGOA/MGCA website has a photography guide.
--Teresa Heath



Rex Maurer at the April meeting, above right, talked about seed sprouting techniques and demonstrated planting seeds indoors. Gardeners like to have plants get a good start before facing the full rigors of living outdoors, there are plants that only come in seeds, and less cost per plant are a few of reasons to start plants indoors.

Rex drafted a helper at the meeting-- Dave Edwards, above at left. Dave expressed that he still has quite a bit to learn about starting plants so Rex got him hands-on experience in seed starting.

Rex told attendees that he especially likes to get a start on his favorite Burpee tomatoes that keep until at least Thanksgiving when stored carefully.

Rex likes to use the sprouting pellets that are flat until water is added. After water is added the pellets expand and are ready for seed to be added to the pellets.

Rex Maurer is a graduate of the Master Gardeners’ classes, and has been very active with The Children’s Garden. Rex also works hard for The Gardeners of Lima in many capacities.

Thanks, Rex, for a fun and informative presentation!

Welcome to Newest Member
Vernon Dewayne Archer

who is usually called
Dewayne—he says.

**WELCOME
DEWAYNE!!**

Report on Board Meeting Held April 30

The Secretary reported that the ballots were mailed to the requested mailing address on April 25, 2009.

Hot Water Heater update was given by Steve Maki because he is finding that equipment to be priced more around \$250 instead of the previous estimate that was around \$115. \$115 purchase was approved at the last board meeting. MOTION APPROVED: Purchase replacement small hot water heater for about \$250.

Publicity was brainstormed. Nancy Siatkosky has ideas and is working on them. The Secretary will make some kind of stakes to be placed in downtown planters and the clubhouse.

Fund Raising Ideas were brainstormed. Nancy Siatkosky has ideas and is working on them.

The next Board meeting is on Thursday May 28 at 7:00 PM at the Faurot Park Clubhouse.

*****Next Meeting*****

Tuesday May 12, 2009

7:30 PM

**Faurot Park Clubhouse
(east side of park,
stone building on the hill)**

Curtis Young, PhD, Ohio State University Extension Educator, will be guest speaker at the May meeting.

He will be speaking on insect issues countywide and statewide. He specifically mentioned Emerald Ash borer, gypsy moth, and Japanese beetle as being "bugs of interest." He would like to gear his talk to our specific interests. If you have particular insect that is a problem or you want to know more about, please let me know and I will pass the info along. **Thanks!!**

"The gardening bug can bite at any moment." - Barbara Damrosch

Nancy Siatkosky,
Program chair



In memory of Edith R. Latvala—May 1, 1935 to April 10, 2009

Upcoming Events

Friday May 8 and Saturday May 9--Big Plant Sale, of course

Saturday, May 16, workers needed plant downtown planters and clubhouse beds. Meet at gazebo on the square in downtown Lima at about 9:30 AM. Rex Maurer is contact.

May 28, 29, 30--National Conference, Santa Rosa California.

Springtime until frost is maintenance of downtown planters and clubhouse grounds

June meeting--tour of gardens of contest winners from last year. Last issue incorrectly said July was the tour.

July 24 & 25 (Friday & Saturday)--Central Great Lakes Region Summer Conference in Goshen Indiana. See The Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster (regional newsletter) at the regional website.

August and September meetings - Biggest Tomato contest weigh-ins.

October meeting - annual "cook-out"

November meeting - specialty soups
November is new officer election

November & December - Poinsettia sales.

December meeting--
holiday banquet

2009 Officers

(contact any one for information)

President – Steve Maki
smmaki1111@embarqmail.com
(419) 643-8450

1st VP & Program chair – Nancy Siatkosky
SSiatkosky@woh.rr.com
(419) 339-8606

2nd VP & Membership chair – Donna Maki
themomma@embarqmail.com
(419) 643-8450

Treasurer – Rex Maurer
rexjeanne@aol.com
(419) 222-4356

Secretary – Teresa Heath
heathter@wcoil.com
(419) 516-8020

National - website
<http://www.tgoa-mgca.org>
password: lily

Regional - website
Central Great Lakes
<http://www.acorn.net/cgl>

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 \$23 - 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:

Donna Maki
The Gardeners of Lima
8230 Sugar Creek Rd.
Lima, Ohio 45801
419-643-8450