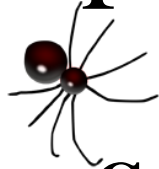




# Sprigs N Sprouts



October 2009

## The Gardeners of Lima (Ohio)

### President's Message for

October 2009



Autumn has arrived. We have had our first frost – killed some of our

garden plants, but it looks like most of the flowers survived. The trees will soon be in full color. Talk a walk and enjoy the beauty of the change in seasons.

Autumn trivia questions:

1. Because the days are shorter what is there less of?
2. In the Northern Hemisphere, autumn begins in September; when does it begin in the Southern Hemisphere?
3. What language does the word autumn come from?
4. In poetry, what emotion is autumn associated with?
5. Autumn is also known as what?

6. Prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, what was autumn referred to as?
7. What major holidays are celebrated in autumn?
8. What foods are associated with autumn?
9. Why do leaves change color in autumn?
10. Can pumpkins grow to be over 1,000 pounds?

Our October meeting will be our annual cookout (or cook-in). If you have not already responded to Donna's phone call or voice mail message, please do so.

In celebration of Halloween I will be in costume. I wonder if you will guess that it is me? [It may be a little difficult for me to hide behind a costume when I will be wielding the gavel.]

Oh, yeah – answers to the trivia questions will be provided at our October meeting.

See you on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Steve

### October Meeting

**Tuesday October 13, 2009**

**6:30 PM---Note the earlier time**

**Faurot Park Clubhouse**

October meeting is traditionally a cook-out (or -in).

This will be a Cook-In and a Halloween Party

**Provided will be: Catered Entrees (meat dishes) & Side Dishes**

**Please bring a covered dish—maybe a Dessert or whatever dish you want to bring**



**and, special this year—we are having a Halloween party!**



**Please dress for Halloween, if you like. And, Kids & Grandkids are invited.**

Also, election of officers for 2010 will take place at the October meeting



Nancy Siatkosky

Nancy Siatkosky gave a very good presentation at the September meeting. She was so prepared with good suggestions for dividing perennials. She showed how, and she even had lots of plants for us to take home. It was fun and informative. She had a good handout called, "Secrets to Dividing (perennials) in the Summer." The handout is still available at the clubhouse

**Frank Cooley won the 2009 Biggest Tomato Contest!**

**Congratulations, Frank!**

Tomatoes weighed in as follows:

Frank Cooley 2 lb 8.1 oz.

Dick Hussey 2 lb. 7.8 oz.

Steve Maki 2 lb. 5.9 oz.

Kit Siatkosky 2 lb. 5.5 oz.

Gene Buhrmester 2 lb. 4.6 oz.

Nancy Siatkosky 2 lb. 1.9 oz.

Bob Nees 1 lb. 12.7 oz.

Charlie Bowsher 1 lb. 11.8 oz.

**Good Job Everyone !!**



Frank Cooley, Dick Hussey, and Steve Maki

Donna Maki, Janet Hussey, and Dick Hussey were awarded all of those ribbons at the 2009 Allen County Fair. The Gardeners of Lima has (at least three) very talented people. The large white ribbons are for the top awards—Best of Show.

Donna Maki won Best of Show Pickled Fruits/Vegetables--under Canned Goods;

Janet Hussey won Best of Show Herbs under Canned Goods and also won Best of Show Best Cut Flower under Third Flower Show.

Dick Hussey won Best of Show Other Vegetables under Open Class Grains, Fruits & Vegetables.

Listing of the other awards that these three winners won would take an entire page. Donna Maki wrote an excellent article, "Tips and Tricks I Learned at the County



Donna Maki, Janet Hussey, and Dick Hussey

Members nominated officers for 2010 at the September meeting. Proposed slate of officers for 2010 was as follows:

President: Steve Maki

1<sup>st</sup> VP/Program Chair:

Nancy Siatkosky

2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Membership Chair:

Donna Maki

Secretary: Ed Morrison

Treasurer: Rex Maurer

The tentative slate of officers was presented to the membership by President, Steve Maki. He asked for nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. MOTION: Charles Bowsher, member, motioned to accept the proposed slate of officers, as announced. Janet Hussey, member, seconded the motion. Steve Maki, President, requested that all in favor of the motion reply with Aye. President Maki requested that all not in favor of the motion reply with Nay. The Ayes were unanimous, and there were no nays. MOTION APPROVED: The slate of officers as announced was unanimously approved.

### Report on September Board Meeting

Minutes from the last meeting and the report from the treasurer were reviewed.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/ Program Chair's Reported that the November club meeting will be a program on invasive plants to be given by Tom Sciranka.

The meeting on October 10, 2009 of the Central Great Lakes Region (CGLR) was discussed. Steve and Donna Maki are planning to attend.

The convention in June 2010 of TGOA/MGCA, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, was updated. Of the 15 door prizes needed—3 have been obtained. Of the 150 each of two "goody bag" items needed—1 has been obtained.

Members are asked to keep an eye out for garden-related items that might be markdowns or sale items in stores for door prizes and help brain-storm on goody bag items.

Qwick-as-a-Wink (the printer) is too expensive to have signs printed for downtown planters. Board members are working on other ideas.

The Secretary is still working on the history brochure and on the website.

Steve Maki has a summary of the many available national awards.

Dave Williams said that he ordered everything for growing all the requested plants for the Spring Plant Sale.

The next board meeting is Thursday October 29, at 7:00 p.m.



### Beautification Contest Winners Announced

Nancie Cochensparger announced in her gardening column in *The Lima News* that the winners in The Gardeners of Lima annual Home Beautification Contest winners are:

Joyce Wright, 1860 Wendell Ave, Lima, Ohio, and Carol Guthrie, 425 S. Dana, Lima, Ohio

Joyce and Carol (and their guests) will be attending the Christmas/Awards dinner, and they will have pavers installed in their names at the Children's Garden.



### Fall Cleanup

Fall is here! And, that means downtown planters and clubhouse grounds clean-up. A workday is tentatively scheduled for the last Saturday of October (Saturday October 31) at 9:00 AM at the gazebo at Lima's town square. This date is subject to change in case the weather would be bad.

### Poinsettia Fundraiser



Dave Williams will have a great crop of poinsettias that will be ready for delivery to customers after Thanksgiving. They make great Christmas gifts for friends and relatives and will brighten our homes for the Christmas Season.

Traditionally, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday after Thanksgiving, 9 am – noon, is Poinsettia pickup at the clubhouse. That is yet to be finalized. Starting after Thanksgiving, poinsettias can be picked up at his greenhouse at 1874 Bowman Road. Just be sure to call Dave at 419-225-1458 at least 48 hours in advance so he can have your poinsettia orders ready when you arrive for pick-up.

An order form is attached so you can start taking orders right away. There is an instruction sheet also that will be in the November newsletter. The instruction sheet and more order forms are available at the clubhouse or from any officer.



## Primer on Digging and Storing Tender Bulbs

“Tender bulbs” refer to plants which have fleshy storage structures (bulbs, corms, tubers, and roots) which are killed by the cold and must be given special protection. In northwest Ohio it is necessary to over-winter tender bulbs by digging and bringing them into a warmer area.

Digging out of these bulbs must be done carefully because the fleshy root of the dahlia or the corm of the gladiolus can be damaged. Avoid rough handling and crude digging. Diseases enter through cuts and bruises and lead to rotting and losses in storage. Most of these plants are dug out after the foliage dries up or is killed by frost—there are exceptions with specific plants. Generally, loosen the roots gently with a forked spade digging about seven inches back from the base of the plants so roots are not cut off unnecessarily.

Cleaning soil off the tubers of dahlias and cannas helps keep tubers free of rot and disease. The tubers can be washed gently with a hose while the tubers are on a screen put over a garbage can. The rinsed off soil can be put back in the garden or put on the compost pile. Gladiolus corms are best left unwashed. Allowed to dry, the soil can be gently removed.

Short-term curing of one to three days depending on the weather is needed for most bulbs, corms, and tubers. Plant materials have to be completely dry before being stored.

Labeling of plant material that fits into paper bags is best done by labeling the bag. Larger materials like tubers of dahlias and cannas can have the tubers written directly on with a felt marking pen. Write on each section of the tuber because tubers sometimes fall apart in storage.

Above is about generally digging and storing tender bulbs. Below is about a bit more detail about three popular tender bulbs.

Dahlias are extremely sensitive to cold, and the tops will be frozen and blackened by the first hard frost. After this happens, cut the stalk to within six” of the ground and allow the plant to remain for a week or ten days to cure and become dormant. Dig the tuberous roots with a garden fork to ease removal of the soil. Clean, cure, and store dry at between 40F and 45 F. A covering of dry vermiculite or peat moss will prevent the loss of additional moisture and damage to the



roots from excess drying.



Cannas are a tuberous root stock, native to tropical America. After frost blackens the foliage cut it off to within six inches of the ground. Carefully dig up the plants and allow to dry with some soil adhering to the rhizomes. Store upside down in a cool, frost-free location. Next spring divide before replanting.

Calla is a rhizome and can be stored in temperatures of 50-55 F. Dig when foliage turns yellow or when foliage is damaged by frost. Store in sphagnum peat or vermiculite.



# *Poinsettia Fundraiser - The Gardeners of Lima*

funds for downtown planters, clubhouse grounds, yearly scholarship, etc.)



*The Gardeners of Lima Member/Seller:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Telephone: (419)* \_\_\_\_\_

6-1/2 inches

\$ 7

Red, White, Pink, Burgundy

8 inches

\$12

Red, White, or Pink

10 inches-(5 plants)

\$18

Red, White, or Pink

Customer Name	Customer Address	Telephone	Size/Color	Cost	How Each	Subtotal Many	Total	Delivery or Pickup
1.			/					
2.			/					
3.			/					
4.			/					
5.			/					
6.			/					
7.			/					
8.			/					
9.			/					
10.			/					
11.			/					
12.			/					
13.			/					
14.			/					
15.			/					

The Gardeners of Lima provided decorative entries last year for the Christmas Tree Festival. If you want to participate in this, see Donna Maki. Deadline is 10/20/09 for submitting this form.

## Christmas Tree Festival 2009

### Theme – “CHRISTMAS DREAMS”



**WHAT:** A community event for people of all ages to enjoy the spirit of Christmas... YOU (individuals, churches, clubs, scout troops, school groups) are welcome to participate in this holiday celebration by placing a decorated tree, wreath, or other item in the Museum. Please incorporate the theme “Christmas Dreams” into your decorating designs.

**WHEN:** Wednesday December 2, 2009 thru Sunday December 6, 2009  
Daily 10 AM to 5 PM, with special hours on Friday 10 AM to 8 PM and Sunday 1 to 5 PM

**WHERE:** Allen County Museum, 620 W. Market St., Lima, Ohio 45801 • 419-222-9426

**WHO:** The Christmas Tree Festival is cooperatively sponsored by the Allen County Historical Society, Church Women United, and the YWCA.

**SET-UP:** Monday, November 30, 2009 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
**TAKEDOWN:** Monday, December 7, 2009 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To participate, please return this entry form no later than **October 20, 2009** to: **Christmas Tree Festival Committee – Allen County Museum, 620 W. Market St., Lima, Ohio 45801**

\*\*Entries not received by the deadline may not be listed in the program.



#### Entry Form 2009

Name of Person, Group or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person(s):

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Entry: Tree ( ) Wreath ( ) Other ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Electricity required: Yes ( ) No ( )

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ELECTRICAL OUTLETS ARE LIMITED. Only small indoor or LED lights should be used. NO SPRAY SNOW IS ALLOWED.**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please bring an 8 x 10 inch sign with the tree's title and group's name to be placed with tree.**

*The committee reserves the right to accept and place all entries. The theme must be in the spirit of the holidays and in keeping with the purpose of the Museum. NO ADVERTISING PERMITTED!!!*