



# Sprigs N Sprouts



## Merry Christmas



December 2011

## The Gardeners of Lima



Steven Maki

President's Message  
December 2011

It is Thanksgiving morning. I'm having my second cup of coffee after going down to get the paper. Cloudy, cool and moist outside, but the sun is coming out later this afternoon. We are having family over for our Thanksgiving dinner this afternoon.

We are blessed. We have so many reasons to be thankful. We live in this country with our many, many freedoms. We have an abundance of food. We are not in harm's way, like our armed service personnel in Afghanistan and other parts of the world. Countless blessings.

We gardeners have the joy of working in the soil, planting seeds and flowers that will bloom into an array of colors & produce food, and we have the fellowship that we share amongst us. Yes, we are blessed.

[thegardenersoflima.org/](http://thegardenersoflima.org/)

One of our major fundraisers has started – the annual poinsettia sale. Please participate as you are able.

Donna and I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas banquet in December.

Take care and count your blessings,

Steve



### 2011 Holiday and Awards Banquet

**Thursday December 15**  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of December)

**6:00 p.m.**

**Casa-Lu-Al restaurant**  
2323 North West St Lima OH

**Bring a white elephant gift for white elephant gift exchange. See next page for details.**



We do not need your choice of below when we make reservations, but Rex Maurer

(419 222-4356) needs your headcount no later than Tuesday December 13.

7 oz. Boneless Center Cut Pork Chop – Pork filet Plain, BBQ, Honey Dijon, or Teriyaki Glazed. Choice of Potato or Vegetable of the Day, Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadsticks

Lasagna – Thick layers of macaroni, mozzarella and ricotta cheese, and ground beef. Includes Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadsticks

“Uncle Charlie’s” Chicken & Broccoli – Lightly breaded chicken breast with broccoli and cheese sauce. Choice of Potato or Vegetable of the Day, Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadsticks

10 oz. Sirloin Steak – A flavorful cut of choice beef. Choice of Potato or Vegetable of the Day, Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadsticks

Regal Springs Tilapia – Deliciously moist, flaky, sweet whitefish – baked or golden fried. Choice of Potato or Vegetable of the Day, Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadsticks

Baked Haddock – A flaky North Atlantic fish served with lemon and butter. Choice of Potato or Vegetable of the Day, Garden Fresh Salad, & Garlic Breadstick



**P**eggy Emerson, Allen Soil and Water Conservation District talked to The Gardeners of

Lima in Nov.

She said all soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) have the following mission: to coordinate assistance from all available sources—public and private; local, state, and federal—in an effort to develop locally driven solutions to natural resource concerns.

Natural resource concerns are:

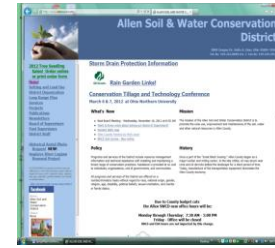
- Information/Education
- Water Quality
- Drainage/Water Management
- Agriculture Conservation
- Urban Conservation
- Manure/Nutrient Management
- Natural Area and Habitat Mgt.

An important project for Allen SWCD has become the watershed watch program. The watershed watch program was developed to mark storm drains to remind the community about protection for storm drains from pollutants. Peggy said that there are 15,000 storm drains in Allen County, and the goal is to have only water go into them. They do not want leaves, soil, or anything (except water) going down the drains

SWCD made Information/Education a priority (with coordination from other organizations) with the establishment of the following outdoor learning centers in Allen County:

- Lima City Schools Outdoor Learning Center--South school established a butterfly garden.
- Lima Central Catholic Outdoor Learning Center—LCC established a wetlands area and a bluebird trail.
- Allen East Local Schools--Outdoor Learning Center
- Spencerville branch library--branch library established a prairie grass area and a semi-permeable concrete area.

<http://www.allenswcd.com/>



**Steve Drotar**

Newest, new member shows door prize he won at the November meeting. Steve, a retired Lima-area realtor, heard about The Gardeners of Lima from Rita Stephens' husband. And, I guess Steve decided to take a chance and just show up for a meeting! Good job—Steve! And, welcome to The Gardeners of Lima!

Peggy said all of the outdoor learning centers are volunteer opportunities with the following specific needs:

1. The butterfly garden at South school needs a source of water installed
2. The bluebird garden at LCC needs an assistant monitor for the bluebird boxes
3. Allen East needs batboxes

Another volunteer opportunity is packaging trees at the Allen County Fairgrounds on a Saturday in April for Allen SWCD annual tree sale. The trees average 8 to 18 inches in heights. Volunteers are invited to call the office at (419) 223-0040 or send an email to: [peggy@allenswcd.com](mailto:peggy@allenswcd.com)



The Gardener's Calendar 2012 is for selling and giving to family & friends as gifts--\$5--Ask Steve Maki.

Members are taking orders for florist quality poinsettias in small, medium, & large planters that are in colors of white, red, and pink



### White Elephant Gift Exchange

Deposit gifts in a location to hide who brought what. Number slips of paper equal to the number of guests. Each guest draws a number and holds onto that slip of paper.

On the first turn, the guest with paper slip #1 chooses a gift, opens it, and all admire it.

On the second turn, the guest with paper slip #2 gets the choice of "stealing" any unwrapped gift (#1's) or choosing a wrapped one. If #2 steals #1's gift, then #1 must open a wrapped gift.

On the third turn, the guest with paper slip #3 gets the choice of "stealing" any unwrapped gift (#1's or #2's) or choosing a wrapped one.

If a gift is stolen from you, you can steal a gift, or open a wrapped one. But, a gift cannot be immediately stolen back from the guest who just stole it.

Owners of gifts must keep them visible, and must hold them up when requested.

The gift exchange ends when the last wrapped gift is opened.

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A white elephant present is something unusual, somewhat useless, or inconvenient. Trinkets, strange knick knacks, unidentifiable kitchen items, and the like are typical white elephants. Please see the November Sprigs N Sprouts for more info, if you are asking--what is a white elephant gift?

### Christmas Tree Festival

The Gardeners of Lima will have a Christmas tree entitled "*Visions from The Gardeners of Lima at Christmas*" at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Festival.

#### Place of Festival:

Allen County Museum  
620 West Market Street  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
(419) 222-9426

#### Days of Festival:

Wednesday November 30  
through  
Sunday December 4

#### Hours of Festival:

Wednesday - 10 AM - 5 PM  
Thursday - 10 AM - 5 PM  
Friday - 10 AM - 8 PM  
Saturday - 10 AM - 5 PM  
Sunday - 1 PM - 5 PM

Be sure to find the tree called "*Visions from The Gardeners of Lima at Christmas*"

Last year's tree is at left.



Mark your Calendars



November until Christmas –Members sell poinsettias.

Saturday December 10 (date is changed from last newsletter)  
9 AM – Noon at Faurot Park clubhouse  
Customer pickup of poinsettias only if enough customers want to pickup on that day. Otherwise, members should coordinate with their customers. Member delivery preferred.

Thursday December 15 at 6:00 PM –Christmas party. Home Beautification Award winner, Jean Ogle, is invited.

Past national/regional director, Anita Lanning will install new officers. Bill Lanning (extraordinaire!) is invited too.

Thursday February 23, 2012

7:00 PM at Panera on Elida Rd, Lima  
Board meeting. Members invited. Coffee & rolls provided.

Saturday March 10, 2012

in the morning at Faurot Park clubhouse  
clean inside of clubhouse

Tuesday March 13, 2012

7:00 PM at Faurot Park clubhouse  
club meeting when traditionally plans are started for the new club year.

Did you have perfect attendance for the meeting of The Gardeners of Lima during 2011?

The latest list of who the editor thinks had perfect attendance in 2011 are the following:

Jenny & Gary Good  
Dick & Janet Hussey  
Mel Kaehler  
Steve Maki  
Rita Stephens

Contact Teresa Heath, if incorrect.  
[heathter@wcoil.com](mailto:heathter@wcoil.com) (419) 516-8020

## Officers for 2012

President – Steve Maki  
[smmaki1111@embarqmail.com](mailto:smmaki1111@embarqmail.com) (419) 643-8450

1<sup>st</sup> VP & Program chair – Kay Studer  
[kstuder@watchtv.net](mailto:kstuder@watchtv.net) (419) 642-2538

2<sup>nd</sup> VP & Membership chair – Teresa Heath  
newsletter/website editor  
[heathter@wcoil.com](mailto:heathter@wcoil.com) (419) 516-8020

Secretary – Ed Morrison  
[edbevmorrison@earthlink.net](mailto:edbevmorrison@earthlink.net) (419) 221-3334

Treasurer – Rex Maurer  
[rexjeanne@aol.com](mailto:rexjeanne@aol.com) (419) 222-4356

Executive Board (past presidents) -  
Dick Hussey, Gene Buhrmester, Don Hanley

At-Large Board: no one, yet

### **Nutty Pumpkin Éclair**

box honey graham crackers  
2 small boxes (3.4 oz each) instant vanilla pudding (sugar-free pudding may be used)  
15-ounce can pumpkin  
2 cups milk (skim milk may be used)  
1 ¼ teaspoons cinnamon  
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice  
16 ounces whipped topping  
1 ½ cups pecans toasted, then broken into pieces  
cinnamon/sugar mixture, to taste



Alice Cooley brought this wonderful dessert (and other great desserts too) to the November meeting, but this pumpkin dessert really impressed this editor.

In large bowl combine pudding, milk pumpkin, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice and 8 ounces of whipped topping

Spray bottom of 9 X 13 inch baking pan with non-stick spray.

Break graham crackers in half.

Put one layer of grahams on bottom of pan.

Place one-third of the pudding mixture on top of crackers, then one-third of the pecans.

Top with another layer of grahams, another one third of pudding mixture and another one-third of pecans.

Repeat.

Finish with layer of grahams on top.

Mix 8 ounces of whipped topping with ¼ teaspoon cinnamon and spread over top layer of crackers.

Finish with the cinnamon/sugar mixture sprinkled evenly over top.  
Refrigerate overnight.

This is the delicious pumpkin dessert served by Alice Cooley at the November meeting.

The recipe, by Julie Bassitt, was in *The Lima News*, October 23, 2011.

National & Regional Conventions to Plan for

June 13 - 16, 2012 The Men's Garden Club of Youngstown will host the NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Buckeye Bash should be a great time because the Youngstown club is f-u-l-l of talent. More info will be available at the website link:



and,

July 27 – 28, 2012 Central Great Lakes Gardeners (regional) will host the REGIONAL SUMMER CONVENTION at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Get details at [www.cglg.org/](http://www.cglg.org/)

# THE GARDENERS OF LIMA

- 1) Reservation Payment for Christmas/Awards Banquet  
AND
- 2) Membership Payment for 2012 Club Dues

Member (s) Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Other Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Christmas/Awards Banquet on Thursday December 15, 2011  
at Casa Lu Al, 2323 North West Street, Lima, Ohio  
6:00 pm - social half-hour and 7:00 PM - Dinner served seated

\$10.00 for each person X \_\_\_\_\_ (number of persons attending)  
Banquet Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) 2012 Membership  
The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Club of America (TGOA/MGOA)  
Single is \$16.00  
Family is \$25.00 + add \$1.00 for each family member joining

-OR- (pay below only if you are a national lifetime member)

2012 regional membership  
TGOA/MGOA Central Great Lakes Region  
per person - \$1.00

Membership Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet and Membership GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Check or Cash payment may be made to: Rex Maurer, Treasurer, TGOL  
868 Algonkin Trail, Lima OH 45805  
(419) 222-4356

# The Gardeners of Lima

A long history, a loyal membership, and many local supporters who year after year buy lots of geraniums in the spring and lots of poinsettias at Christmas to fund community projects, scholarships, and other TGOL projects.



The Gardeners of Lima clubhouse (above) in Faurot Park is historically significant. It was the winter quarters for some of the Faurot Park zoo animals about 1945 to 1954. The Gardeners of Lima are trying to preserve this landmark.

## What are some of the contributions of The Gardeners of Lima to the Lima area?

1. Lima downtown area--planting and maintenance of the planters
2. Faurot Park clubhouse area--planting and maintenance of flower beds
3. Community Gardens project—education, management, labor
4. Scholarships--students entering a field related to horticulture
5. Beautification Contest Award-- outstanding home landscapes/gardens
6. Children's Garden and Master Gardeners—monetary & labor support

## Why become a member of The Gardeners of Lima?

1. Community improvement is accomplished by you when you work on club projects like downtown planters, flower beds in Faurot Park. And, you may have project ideas.
2. Gardening experiences can be shared with others and others can help with your gardening.
3. Plants, bulbs, seeds, and produce are shared at our meetings
4. Interesting speakers give presentations at the monthly meetings
5. Library of gardening books is at the clubhouse for members to borrow
6. Continuous access to club information, monthly newsletter, and links at club's website

## Why come to your first meeting of The Gardeners of Lima?

**Because guests are always welcome!!**

## Who can I contact at The Gardeners of Lima?

membership chair: Teresa Heath at (419) 516-8020  
president: Steve Maki at (419) 643-8450  
Visit website: [thegardenersoflima.org/](http://thegardenersoflima.org/)

