

ARCHIVES  
SPRIGS N SPROUTS

PUBLICATION OF  
THE GARDENERS OF LIMA  
FOR THE YEAR  
2021

CONTAINING ISSUES FOR THE MONTHS OF:

APRIL

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

(SCROLL DOWN)



## Upcoming Meeting

On May 11, 2021, 7:00 p.m., we will be having a members' meeting at the Clubhouse. There will not be a speaker, but we will be able to see each other again and discuss a number of topics including our slate of officers and the regional meeting. Masks required, please.

With the size of the clubhouse, we should be able to stay socially distanced. Hope to see you there!

## No downtown planting this year

The club will not be planting in downtown Lima this year.

## Regarding the plant sale on May 15th...

Due to Covid-19, we will not be able to hold our normal plant sale at the clubhouse this year. Instead, the plant order will be delivered to the Maki's house on May 15th. Please come to help unload at 9:30 a.m. Signage will be posted for sale to the public, but in appreciation for all of the years of their dedication, members will be able to purchase as many plants as they want at cost! So come and buy lots of plants to beautify your yard this year and perhaps some extras to give as gifts. We all know that plants and flowers make the world a brighter place!

We do plan to have our regular plant sale next year.



# The Gardeners of Lima

President

Steven Maki

1st V.P.

Ray Brown

2nd V.P.

Donna Maki

Secretary

Becky Wendroth

Treasurer

TBD

National Director

Steven Maki

Past Presidents: Don Hanley, Dave Williams

At-Large Members of Board:

Persetta Bowsher, Diane Halpern, Toni Schroeder

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## Upcoming Meeting

On June 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m., we will be having a member's meeting at the Clubhouse.

Members needing rides to the monthly meetings should not hesitate to give other members a call for help, or invite a friend to drive you and join us for the evening. Also please fully utilize the parking spaces in front of the club house for members needing help in and out of their cars. Hope to see you there!

## Big Tomato Contest

If you haven't already, get your tomato plants into the ground with fertilizer so that you'll have an entry for this year's Big Tomato Contest. Participants pay \$5.00 to vie for the prize and bragging rights for growing the heaviest weighing tomato of the summer.

Last year's winners were:

1st Place: Ray Brown | # 7.85 oz

2nd Place: David Rowe | 3.60 oz

3rd Place: Donna Maki | 2.05 oz

## This Year's Plant Sale

We held our plant sale at the Maki's house on May 15th. Members enjoyed purchasing plants at the special "at cost" price! Ray Brown and Toni Schroeder can be seen taking inventory in the picture at right. Thank you to all members who helped that day and to everyone who purchased the beautiful plants!



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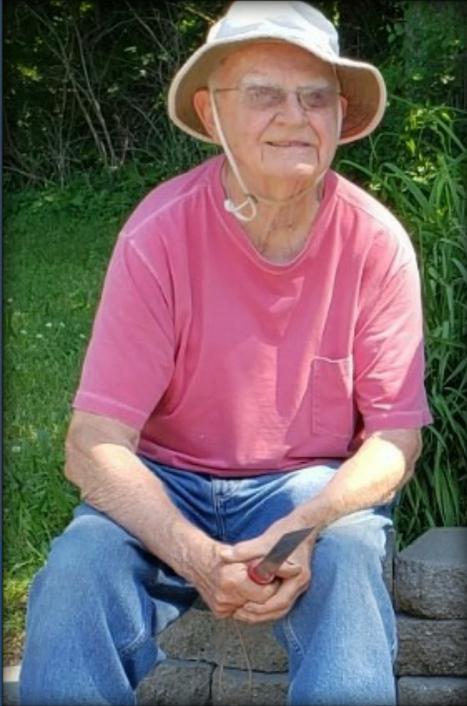
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# THANK YOU

We want to thank all of our officers and board members for the time they put in to making our club a success. This month we especially wish to feature the following two members.



## **Rex Maurer has served as the club's Treasurer for 25 years!**

How can we say thank you enough, Rex, for all of the time that you have put in? We are so grateful that you have been willing to serve as Treasurer for so many years. Also, your knowledge as a Master Gardener is another great asset you bring to the club. As Rex hands the Treasurer position over to Persetta Bowsher, we say "thank you" again for a job well done!

## **Frank Cooley's artistic skills have been evident in the club's Newsletter and Website.**

Frank has put in at least 10 years producing our Newsletter and Website. We have enjoyed his creative poems and colorful photographs over the years. Frank has handed these duties over to Sheila Rowe who has big shoes to fill! Frank, we encourage you to continue to inspire us with poems and photos in the years to come. Thank you for your time and your inspiration in words and pictures!



## **Thank you to the following members who worked so hard planting at the clubhouse this year:**

Morgan Vobbe, Ed Morrison and grandson Jacob, Frank Cooley, Steve Maki, Donna Maki, Diane Halpern, Joe Brown and Sheila Rowe

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For more photos, visit our Facebook page under The Gardeners of Lima



# The Gardeners of Lima

Sprigs

July 2021

N Sprouts

## Upcoming Meeting

This month is special because it's the annual "Wine and Dine" at Donna and Steve Maki's house. Join us at 8230 Sugar Creek Road on July 13th at 5:30 p.m. (Note the special time.). Please bring a side dish (and a bottle of wine if you'd like). It's a time of good food, fun and fellowship that we look forward to each year!

## Thank you

Becky Wendroth, Morgan Vobbe and Steve Maki weeded and mulched at the clubhouse on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Frank Cooley stopped by to get photos of these 3 gardeners hard at work (see photo at right). When the upkeep was complete, Becky took a picture which is featured at the top of this newsletter. Later that morning, a passing walker stopped to admire the flowers, exclaiming how beautiful they are! We want to thank these members, as well as any others, who have helped maintain the plantings at the clubhouse.



## Plant of the month

A number of people have remarked on how lush and vibrant everything was this spring - and that includes daylilies. There are so many varieties of daylilies that you might ask the question, "Why is the Stella de Oro daylily so popular?" Well, it can be grown in a wide number of planting zones and conditions, it's easy to grow and has an extra long bloom period. Plus, the blooms are so pretty! The flowers and fragrance attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

Did you know... "Before their arrival in Europe in the 1500s, edible wild daylilies were used in cooking and medicine in Asia." (Source: Whitehousetlandscaping.com)

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Diane Halpern, Toni Schroeder

Secretary Becky Wendroth

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## Christmas In July

Since no newsletters were published early this year in which to feature our annual poinsettia sale, let's do that now!

A big thank you to Persetta Bowsher who has been heading up both our spring plant sale and the poinsettia sale. Persetta is pictured above at the spring 2019 sale; photo courtesy of Frank Cooley.



Thank you to those who took orders, and we appreciate those who unloaded the truck and made deliveries:

Ray Brown, Joe Brown, Persetta & Charles Bowsher, Steve Maki, Ed Morrison, Sheila & David Rowe, Rex Maurer and the Schroeders



The club sells around 225 poinsettias each year. Colors include red, white and the popular "jingle" shown at right. It's not too early to start thinking about businesses, churches and individuals who might be interested in purchasing these beautiful plants this coming holiday season!





# The Gardeners of Lima

## August 2021

Sprigs  
N Sprouts

### Upcoming Meeting

Join us at the Clubhouse on August 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m. for our member’s meeting. Dan Hodges from the Johnny Appleseed Park’s department will be giving a presentation on wildflowers. Dan always gives us fun and interesting information!



### Zucchini Casserole

- 1 large zucchini (or 4 to 5 small ones)
- 1 cup Cheddar cheese cubes
- 1 pound bulk sausage
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- ¼ teaspoon oregano
- ½ cup cracker crumbs
- Dash of garlic salt
- 1 beaten egg
- Dash of pepper

Cut zucchini lengthwise and remove seeds. Peel and dice.

Cook sausage and onion; drain off fat. Stir in remaining ingredients. Place in a greased 2-quart casserole. Sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese if desired. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes in a 350-degree oven or until zucchini is tender.

### Plant of the month

There are so many fun facts about zucchini on the internet that it’s hard to only list a few! Did you know that one zucchini is a “zuchina”? Zucchini were first brought to the U.S. in the 1920s by the Italians. The largest zucchini on record weighed 65 lbs and was 7 feet 10 inches long! Mama mia!

**Clarification to July Newsletter:** Ray Brown is the chair of the Spring Plant Sale Committee. Thank you, Ray!

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## Great Time at the July "Wine and Dine"

A big thank you to Donna and Steve Maki for hosting our 7<sup>th</sup> annual "Wine and Dine" at their beautiful home. Thank you also to Diane Halpern who gave of her time to help weed, plant and paint in preparation for the event. Approximately 20 people attended, enjoying good food and fellowship!



### Big Tomato Contest

Have you paid your \$5.00 to enter this year's Big Tomato Contest?

Bring in you heaviest home-grown tomato to see if you have a winner!

### Garden of Eden

There's something I'd like to know  
About our Bible's Garden of Eden.  
God produced it down here below,  
But was Adam s'posed to do some weedin'?

If the weeds grew as well as flowers  
Adam and Eve had their work cut out.  
They must have weeded lots of hours  
By hand, since tools had yet to come about.

Or didn't God throw in the weeds  
'Til after some original sinnin'.  
They counted apples among their needs;  
They shoulda quit while they were winnin'!

*Frank Cooley July 2021*



# The Gardeners of Lima September 2021

**Sprigs  
N Sprouts**

## Upcoming Meeting

This month's program will be presented by Dr. Curtis Young from the OSU Extension office in Van Wert. We are so happy to welcome Dr. Young back to speak to us again - this time on the topic of chemical weed control. Please join us at the Clubhouse in Faurot Park at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Plant of the Month

The dahlia is native to Mexico and Central America but seems to grow well here in Ohio. We do have to dig up the tubers in the fall and overwinter them to plant again in the spring though. Some of the dahlia's garden relatives are the zinnia, sunflower, daisy and chrysanthemum. Dahlias were a favorite flower of Queen Victoria. These beautiful flowers can be found in almost every color except for blue, but breeders may change that some day.



Did you know that the dahlia is named after the 18<sup>th</sup> century Swedish botanist Anders Dahl who originally declared the flower a vegetable because the tubers are edible?! I found an article by Mother Earth Gardener that says both the petals and tubers are edible. However, if there are toxic chemicals in the ground, the dahlias will take them up and become unsafe for eating. I think I'll stick with potatoes for my meals and enjoy the gorgeous dahlia blooms with my eyes instead of my stomach! (Some facts taken from rooapron.com) Thank you Ray Brown for sharing your dahlia tubers with other club members!

## Food For Thought

What can I do with the abundance of those delicious homegrown tomatoes?  
How about making a Tomato Pie? There are lots of recipes available. Give it a try!



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Dan Hodges from the Johnny Appleseed Park District gave a very informative presentation to our club members in August. It is obvious that Dan loves what he does and his talk kept everyone's attention. Dan stressed that nature is built on relationships that depend on each other and we humans often throw off the balance. For example, monarch butterflies need milkweed to survive, but most people eradicate milkweed from their yards. He stressed the importance of keeping native plants in order to maintain healthy ecosystems. Dan highly recommended two books by professor Doug Tallamy - *Bringing Nature Home* and *Nature's Best Hope* - which encourage us to stop buying invasive plants and to shrink our lawns by planting native plants - and lots of them. Per an article by Mr. Tallamy, "Our studies have shown that even modest increases in the native plant cover on suburban properties significantly increases the number and species of breeding birds, including birds of conservation concern." "As gardeners and stewards of our land, we have never been so empowered to help save biodiversity from extinction, and the need to do so has never been so great. All we need to do is plant native plants."



What's so special about milkweed? Milkweed is the sole host plant of the monarch butterfly. Monarchs lay eggs specifically on milkweed, the eggs hatch into caterpillars and the caterpillars eat the foliage. The leaves contain cardiac glycosides, compounds that affect heart function, making them toxic to most species of birds and mammals. (Discover magazine)



Image discovermagazine.com

The poem to the right, "New Grass", was written by club member Frank Cooley in August of 2002 when he and Alice were newly married.

### New Grass

How good it is to see new grass  
 Arise so delicate and green.  
 We've waited for the time to pass  
 Until its freshness could be seen.

My love and I have taken turns  
 At spraying water through the drought.  
 While rainless weeks left lawns with burns.  
 We hoped and prayed the seeds would  
 sprout.

Now, at last, the blades appear  
 Through lacy blankets made of straw.  
 We see God's handiwork right here.  
 Gratefully we stand in awe!

As newlyweds we share so much  
 Of life and love and nights and days,  
 Of sweet caress and gentle touch,  
 The fondness of each other's gaze.

For all of that, we take delight  
 That a shared hope is now so real.  
 It's a beautiful and welcome sight.  
 Words fail to tell how good we feel!

May the two of us in future years  
 Recall the patience that we showed  
 To tend that seed, as we shed tears  
 Because of grass that must be mowed!



# The Gardeners of Lima

Sprigs

October 2021

N Sprouts

## Upcoming Meeting

We will be enjoying a “spooktacular” time at our annual Halloween Weiner Roast on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse in Faurot Park. Note the **special start time of 6:00 p.m.** since we will be eating supper. Hot dogs and buns will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Costumes are optional, but they add to the fun!

## Members Needed in Leadership

We are looking for volunteers for the following two positions:

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Membership

At-Large Board Member.

If you are willing to serve, or are interested in more details, please let Steve Maki know.



## Plant of the Month - the gift of Thyme

This week my generous friend, neighbor and fellow garden club member, Patty Iszory, brought me fresh herbs from her garden! I’m a bit of a novice when it comes to herbs, but have been wanting to learn much more about them. As with many herbs, thyme smells wonderful. It’s no wonder that the ancient Egyptians used thyme for embalming, the ancient Greeks used it in their baths and for temple incense, and the Romans used it to purify their rooms. They added it into their cheese and liqueurs, too. People have believed that this herb provides courage, aids in sleep and wards off nightmares.

Thyme’s essential oil contains Thymol which is an antiseptic. Guess what the main active ingredient in Listerine mouthwash is?! Thyme is also the active ingredient in all-natural hand sanitizers. It can be used in a number of medicinal ways such as treating respiratory infections. You can use thyme to flavor meats, soups, stews, tomatoes and eggs. It does not overpower. When used in cooking, add thyme in early on so that it has time to release its delicious flavor. Wow - who knew this little herb can do so much!

This information can be found in a fascinating article at [justapinch.com](http://justapinch.com).

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If anyone can make weed management interesting and fun, it certainly is Dr. Curtis Young! His presentation to the club during our September meeting left us all wanting to hear more.

What exactly is a weed? It's any plant growing where it is not wanted. Sometimes just covering an area with mulch is enough to prevent weeds if the mulch is left undisturbed. Some mulch is even treated with herbicide. Cedar mulch is good because it has natural inhibitors. Pine bark is also good as long as it isn't in too big of chunks that let light in. Weed barrier cloth works well, especially in a garden that doesn't change from year to year, while plastic is NOT recommended because it blocks water and keeps trees from growing.

Many perennials are broad-leafed plants so it isn't appropriate to use certain herbicides unless you want to kill your lovely plants, too! Products such as Preen are well designed for the consumer but remember that a pre-emergent doesn't care what type of seed it prevents from growing. Whatever you use, be sure to read the instructions on the label. Dr Young suggested laying out a certain square footage of plastic on your driveway and dispensing the amount of product stated on the label so that you can see what the correct amount looks like. In this case, more is not better!



If you have a weed in among your flowers, you might try dampening a sponge with Roundup and wiping it on that weed, or you could cut the weed to wound it and paint the product on it. Most grass killing products won't hurt your broad leafed perennials. Dishwashing liquids have harsh chemicals that can damage plants, so don't use them despite what you might see on the internet. :)

Also, frequent weeding is the best thing to do; don't let your weeds go to seed! When you buy a new plant, quarantine it for awhile to make sure it doesn't have insects or weeds mixed in. Water the base of plants and not all the space around it. (Weeds like water, too, you know.)

Dr. Young is from the OSU extension office in Van Wert.



The Big Pumpkin said to a pumpkin of smaller size  
Someday, Son, you'll grow up to resemble a man.  
But here's the diff'rence you've got to realize;  
The character you'll be is not for you to plan.

You'll grow and ripen and be a solid fellow  
Then someone will take you out of this place  
Praise your shape and color, your orange-ish-yellow  
Then he will decide your attitude, in fact, your face.

He may carve you with a happy toothy smile  
Or leave you with a dreadful scowling frown  
But in any case you'll give delight for a-while  
To all dressed-up little goblins gathered 'roun'!

Frank Cooley  
September 2021





# The Gardeners of Lima

Sprigs

November 2021

N Sprouts

## Upcoming Meeting

Join us at the clubhouse in Faurot Park on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for our next meeting. Garden club member Tom Iszory will be talking about winterizing your garden equipment. Hope to see you there!

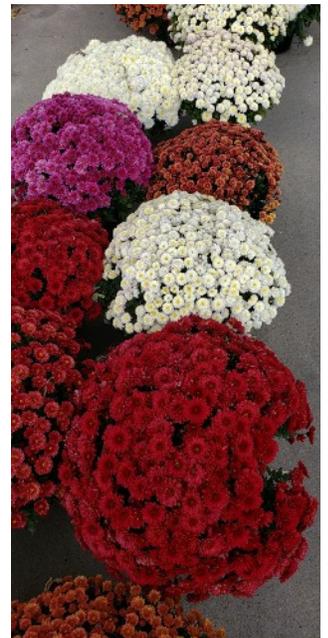
## Members Needed in Leadership

We are looking for volunteers for the following two positions: 2nd Vice President - Membership and At-Large Board Member. If you are willing to serve, or are interested in more details, please let Steve Maki know.

## Plant of the Month

The **chrysanthemum** is the November birth flower. It was first cultivated by the Chinese more than 2500 years ago and is tremendously popular in the fall with modern day gardeners. Even though mums are mostly a fall blooming flower, it is actually best to plant them in the spring in order for them to develop a strong root system and make it through the winter. Hardy mums are perennials while other types are annuals, so you'll want to check the type of plant you are purchasing to match your needs.

Gardeningknowhow.com suggests that once the foliage has died back, you should cut the stems to 3 to 4 inches above the ground. The new stems will grow from these trimmed stems next year. BHG.com gives the following information on care: "Growing mums is an easy task as long as you keep a few things in mind. Plant mums in well-drained, evenly moist soil. These plants will quickly rot if where they are planted stays too wet. If you have a heavy, dry soil, such as hard clay, mums would benefit from added compost and peat moss to loosen the soil. Mums can also be considered heavy feeders; it is a good idea to give them supplemental fertilizer throughout the growing season, especially if you're growing them in pots." It's best to plant your mums in full sun.



Chrysanthemums come in virtually every color and a number of different shapes, so you have a lot of choices!

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# Shady characters, fun, and good eats at October meeting!

The robber (shown at left) tried to hide out at our clubhouse, but Officer Rowe stopped the criminal in her tracks.

However, the officer was sweet-talked into letting the culprit go when he was offered a mouth-watering doughnut.

Other shady characters were a part of the scene. All enjoyed hot dogs and sides for a fun evening of fellowship.



Thanks to Ray for cooking up the delicious hot dogs!

**Poinsettia Orders** - Please have to Persetta by November 10<sup>th</sup>

Colors this year are Red, White and Pink

6 ½ inch pot \$8.00, 8 ½ inch pot \$14.50, 10 inch pot \$18.00

For those helping with the deliveries, please be at the clubhouse on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

## Big Tomato Contest Results for 2021

1<sup>st</sup> place goes to Ray Brown 2 lbs 1.5 oz

2<sup>nd</sup> place David Rowe 1 lb 15.2 oz

3<sup>rd</sup> place Joe Brown 1 lb 5.4 oz

Donna Maki 14.5 oz, Steve Maki 11.6 oz, Diane Halpern 9.6 oz

Congratulations to Ray for his top-weighting tomato and thank you to all who participated

Frank sends greetings to all club members as he continues to recuperate.



# The Gardeners of Lima

# Sprigs N Sprouts

December 2021



## See You in March

We will not be holding a club meeting or party this December. January and February are our regular months off, so we'll see you again in March. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year ahead!

## In Loving Memory of Donna Maki

Donna Maki will be remembered by her gardening friends for her great enthusiasm, welcoming spirit, hard work and generosity. Donna was always ready to pass on her love of gardening. She often invited others to stop by her house to get starts from her large variety of plants. Who among us can't help but think of Donna when we see a gladiola, ornamental Easter Egg plant, or King/Prince Tut? Donna played such a large part in our club and in our hearts. We will miss her dearly!



Above: Donna directing activities at the downtown planters in 2019



Donna overseeing planting at the clubhouse in 2021

Donna started hundreds of plants at home to later sell in the club's annual plant sale. She will also be remembered for her many, many ribbons won at the fair!



Donna was featured in the November/December 2021 edition of The Gardeners of America National Newsletter for providing an education on flower planting at her home to nineteen intellectually disabled individuals and their five supervisors.



Above: Donna surrounded by garden club members/friends at this year's July Wine and Dine annual event held at the Maki's home

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## Prepare Now for Next Spring's Garden Work

During our November meeting, garden club member Tom Iszory shared his wealth of knowledge about winterizing our garden equipment. Thank you, Tom, for sharing so many great tips with us! To start with, don't wait until spring to take in any equipment for servicing as it can take several weeks before your item is ready. Put a note on your equipment now if you've been having any issues so you don't forget to address the problems. Change oil in the fall to avoid corrosion, and sharpen any blades. Keep your mower and tools clean. Deteriorating grass contains an acid that can rust steel; the same occurs with dirt on a shovel. Gasoline has ethanol which attracts moisture so use it up now and buy fresh gas in the spring.

Keep in mind that some plastics contain soy which mice love. Use traps and mothballs to ward off these critters.

You'll get better life out of your batteries if you give them a good charge before putting them away and store them inside your house. Use a trickle charger to keep acid batteries charged. Clean your week whacker and remove the old string. Replace with new string in the spring.

Oil each end of your lawn mower cables in the fall. (Don't do this in the summer because dirt will cling to it.)

Use paste wax on your tools to save yourself labor next spring. Dirt will come off of the shovel easier, and if you keep the shovel sharp, it will be much easier to dig. Don't forget to keep wooden handles smooth and oiled. Use a de-greaser such as Dawn or Purple Power to remove sap. And remember to remove the water from your garden hoses.

Once all of this is done, sit back with a warm beverage and dream of your garden plans for next spring!

## Poinsettia Sale and Delivery



Thank you to all who took orders for our annual Poinsettia Sale and for the following who helped with the deliveries on November 22<sup>nd</sup>: Persetta Bowsher, Joe Brown, Ray Brown, Tom and Patty Iszory, Steve Maki, Rex Mauer, David and Sheila Rowe.



Special thanks to 1<sup>st</sup> VP Ray Brown and to Persetta Bowsher for their work in managing this project.

