



# The Gardeners of Lima

## Sprigs

### October 2022

## N Sprouts

### Upcoming Meeting

It's time for our fall party! We hope to see everyone at the clubhouse on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Note the special time!) Hot dogs, drinks and table service will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Costumes are optional but encouraged. Feel free to bring youngsters to add to the fun.

### President's Message

Our October meeting is our cookout and Fall/Halloween celebration. The meeting will start at 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm. Main course will be provided. Please bring finger foods to share. Costumes are optional, but I hope that you will come in costume.

Just one more weigh-in for your tomatoes in the Big Tomato Contest. Results so far are:

- Ray Brown 1# 9.2 oz.
- Joe Brown 0# 11.6 oz.
- Steve Maki 0# 7.8 oz.
- David Rowe Not weighed yet
- Becky Wendroth Not weighed yet



Bring your tomatoes to the members meeting on October 11th for the final weigh-in. Can anyone beat Ray Brown? Some have come close. What is his secret?

I had a great time at The Gardeners of America national convention in Wooster, Ohio. After several years we are finally having national conventions again. National Conventions were a highlight for Donna and me. I caught up with old friends and have made some new ones. I had so much laughter at the Amish dinner with two of my new friends, Marti and Deb. My experiences at the convention will be in next month's newsletter. I am a member of the 2023 National Convention Exploratory Committee. Our initial location to scout is Grand Rapids, Michigan. Our national treasurer has some family issues such that she desires to no longer serve. I will audit her books when a new treasurer is named.

I had some conversations at the national convention with the President of the Fort Wayne club. We are going to explore resuming some possible joint activities.

— Continued on page 2 —

### The Gardeners of Lima

President	Steven Maki	Past Presidents: Don Hanley
1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.	Ray Brown	At-Large Members of Board:
2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P .	TBD	Diane Halpern, Toni Schroeder
Secretary	Becky Wendroth	<b>Visit our Facebook page</b>
Treasurer	Persetta Bowsher	<b><a href="http://www.thegardenersoflima.com">www.thegardenersoflima.com</a></b>
National Director	Steven Maki	affiliated with The Gardeners of America
		Newsletter: Sheila Rowe

## In memory of Dave Williams

Dave was an active member of The Men's Garden Club/The Gardeners of Lima for more than 50 years. He served as President for some of those years and always shared his knowledge of gardening with others. He provided great advice! Dave also played a large part in making the clubhouse what it is today. Before he retired, Dave was a teacher and was instrumental in the construction of more than one school greenhouse in Ohio. Dave owned Williams Greenhouse and was a supplier of poinsettias for churches and the garden club. He also supplied bedding plants such as marigolds, geraniums, and petunias. We will greatly miss this kind and knowledgeable member and friend.



## President's Message continued from page 1

We mourn the passing of our friend and lifetime member of The Gardeners of America and TGOL, Dave Williams. We will be having the City of Lima plant another flowering tree near Donna's in memory of Dave.

Our next fundraiser activities have started – our poinsettia sale. Details will be provided at our October members meeting. Start thinking about calling your potential buyers starting this month.

We will provide forms for the 2023 membership and start collecting dues for 2023. The dues for 2023 have not changed: \$15 for a regular member plus \$8 for each additional family member for national dues. Regional dues will be \$1 for each member. If you are a lifetime member you only owe the regional dues. Please consider joining me as a lifetime member.

Steve

## Plant of the Month - Lettuce

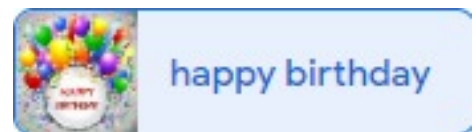


Lettuce makes a good crop to grow in the fall in Ohio. Lettuce “matures in 45-55 days and keeps growing well when it's cool out. In fact, lettuce prefers cool weather, which makes it one of the key healthy veggies that can help a fall garden succeed.” (farmanddairy.com) Varieties that tolerate the cold well in Ohio are Grand Rapids, Great Lakes 118 and Lollo Rosso. (floridayards.org)

These can be planted in the early fall to mature before the first frost hits. It may be too late to actually plant lettuce now where we live, but lettuce that was planted in the spring and was left to go to seed has probably sprung up in your garden now by re-seeding itself. It's a treat to be able to make a salad fresh from the garden even though it's October!

## Should I Prune in the Fall?

This seems to be a controversial question, but according to evergreenlandscapes.ca, you should NOT prune in the fall. Pruning encourages new growth which you do not want at this time of year. Wait until the plant has become dormant. Pruning shouldn't be done when it's damp outside either because you run the risk of spreading disease. There is an exception (because there is an exception to everything!). You CAN prune any dead, diseased or damaged wood. Need more to do? Rake up your leaves, mulch your garden and consider amending the soil so that it's in great shape for spring planting. Pruning at the proper time will produce healthier plants so “avoid the pitfall of pruning in the fall for a more beautiful landscape next spring.”



Happy 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday to Frank Cooley on October 23<sup>rd</sup>!!

