

ARCHIVES

SPRIGS N SPROUTS

PUBLICATION OF

THE GARDENERS OF LIMA

FOR THE YEAR

2019

CONTAINING ISSUES FOR THE MONTHS OF:

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

SCROLL DOWN



Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima March 2019 Lima, Ohio

CITY PARKS

Mr. Ric Stolly, Deputy Public Works Director for the City of Lima, will speak at the March meeting of The Gardeners of Lima. His program will center on the Lima City Parks. One of these parks is Faurot Park, where our clubhouse is located.

Kicking off our 2019 year, this meeting will be held at the clubhouse at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 12.

After our winter recess, it'll be good to get back together with our gardening friends.



Officers of The Gardeners of Lima

Rex Maurer, Treasurer; Becky Wendroth, Secretary; Donna Maki, 2nd Vice President; Ray Brown, 1st Vice President; and Steve Maki, President

Installation of Officers



Bill Lanning, a past president of The Gardeners of America, installed officers for 2019 for The Gardeners of Lima during the 2018 Christmas Banquet.

Looking Ahead

March 28 Board Meeting
April 9 Members Meeting
April 27 Spring Regional Meeting at
Kingwood in Mansfield

Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima, Lima, OH
Frank Cooley, Editor
fdcool@twc.com

President's Message

Spring 2019

Do you have your seeds and plants ordered? Are you still looking through your seed and plant catalogues with anticipation of spring planting? After a month of up and down winter weather think positive. It is only about three weeks until March 20th, the Vernal Equinox, the first day of spring. Will Mother Nature cooperate?

Some of you may be seeing some robins appear in your yard, especially if you have fruit-bearing trees or shrubs that still hang on to their fruit, like the holly, juniper, hawthorns and crabapples. For me the first welcome sign of spring is the conk-la-ree musical trill of the red-winged blackbird.

We have several bird feeders in the yard that we feed the birds year-round. We have to keep an eye on their predators. There are two black cats that make their daily rounds through our yard. When the cats try to hide or be perfectly still near our feeders, we try to swoosh them away. It doesn't take much – just the opening sound of one of our patio doors or the sound of our voice will cause them to flee.

Then there are the hawks – two different species are occasionally seen in some of the trees on our property. We are not as successful keeping the hawks from grabbing a meal. We can't continuously be looking in our trees. I know the hawks have to eat too, but it breaks my heart to see them swoop down and grab one of the song birds.

The very high winds we recently experienced has wreaked havoc on our greenhouse. A number of the panels have been blown out. Once the weather gets a little warmer we have repair work to do so we can get an early start on our plants in our greenhouse. It is such a welcome feeling to be in a warm greenhouse playing in the dirt while it is a little cool outside the greenhouse.

Happy dreaming of planting,

Steve Maki



2018 Christmas Banquet



Diane and Clyde Wise, dressed up for the occasion, are all set for the banquet to begin.



Past national president Bill and Anita Lanning at the 2018 TGOL Christmas Banquet



Secretary Becky Wendroth with son Henry and husband Dr. Scott Wendroth await the festivities.



The Saturday before the banquet, several members came to the clubhouse to decorate. Shown here are Donna Maki, Becky Wendroth, Jennie Good and Joe Brown.

We are now on
Facebook



Pictures of club events have been posted on our Facebook page.

WEB-SITE UPDATE

Check out the new look of our Web-site
thegardenersoflima.com

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Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima

April 2019

Lima, Ohio



Easter Egg Plants destined for the Spring Plant Sale

Focus on the Sale

The April meeting of The Gardeners of Lima will be devoted to final plans and arrangements for the Spring Plant Sale.

A major change this year is location, as the Sale will be at the Clubhouse, instead of the previous spot in Shawnee.

Meeting will be at 7 pm on April 9 at the Clubhouse in Faurot Park.

If you have any TGOL yard signs, please bring them to the meeting so that they can be up-dated.

Two billboards are being made. The 4x8 one goes at our old sale site and the 3x6 one goes up at the cemetery stop light.



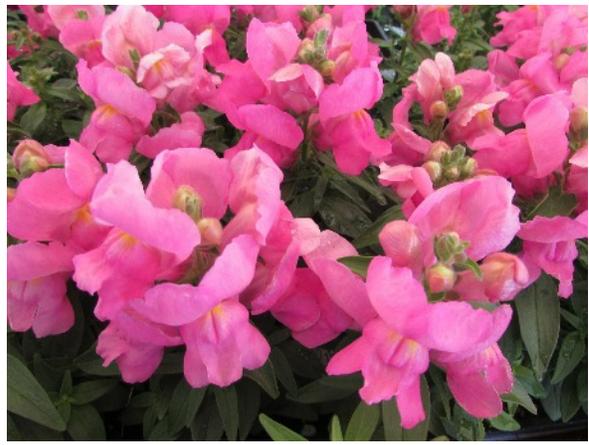
Diane Halpern painting billboard for Spring Plant Sale



New billboard to promote Spring Plant Sale. Maki's daughter Nancy and Diane Halpern helped with project at Maki's.

For Your Calendar

- April 9 TGOL Members Meeting 7 pm
- April 25 TGOL Board Meeting 7 pm
- April 27 CGLG Regional Spring Meeting at Kingwood, Mansfield, OH 10 am
- May 9 Unload Truck for Spring Plant Sale
- May 10 - 11 Spring Plant Sale
- May 18 Plant Downtown Planters
- May 25 Flower Planting & Clean-up at the Clubhouse
- July 15 - 17 National Convention Des Moines & Johnston, Iowa area



Thanks for the Help

Following are excerpts from a message of appreciation sent by Donna Maki.

Diane Halpern helped paint the second side. She is a great asset to our club.

Becky Wendroth is working on the postcards to be sent out. She is a treasure as our secretary,

Persetta Bowsher has been working diligently on the free advertising and is sending in our flower orders to the growers.

Ray Brown has been a terrific leader as committee chairman.

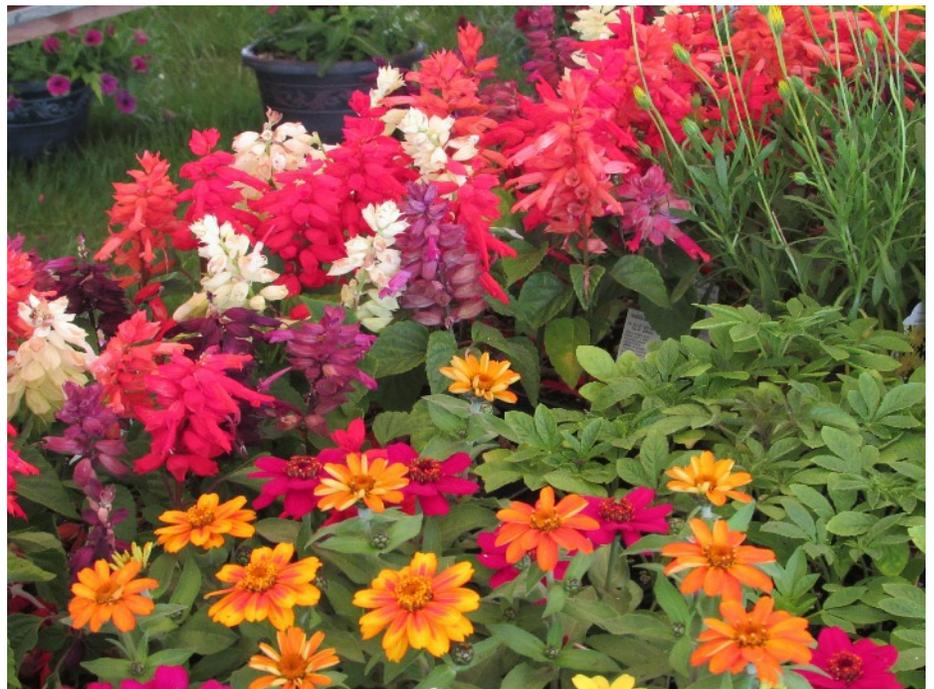
Jo Hanley is and always will be our mother hen that worries about everything and everyone. She is a special lady and great asset to our club.

Editor's Note: Donna Maki and her husband Steve help in many ways, not least by providing their basement for growing seedlings and their garage for sign painting.



Pictures on this page are from last year's TGOL Spring Plant Sale.

Masthead picture on page 1 was taken in Florida in February.

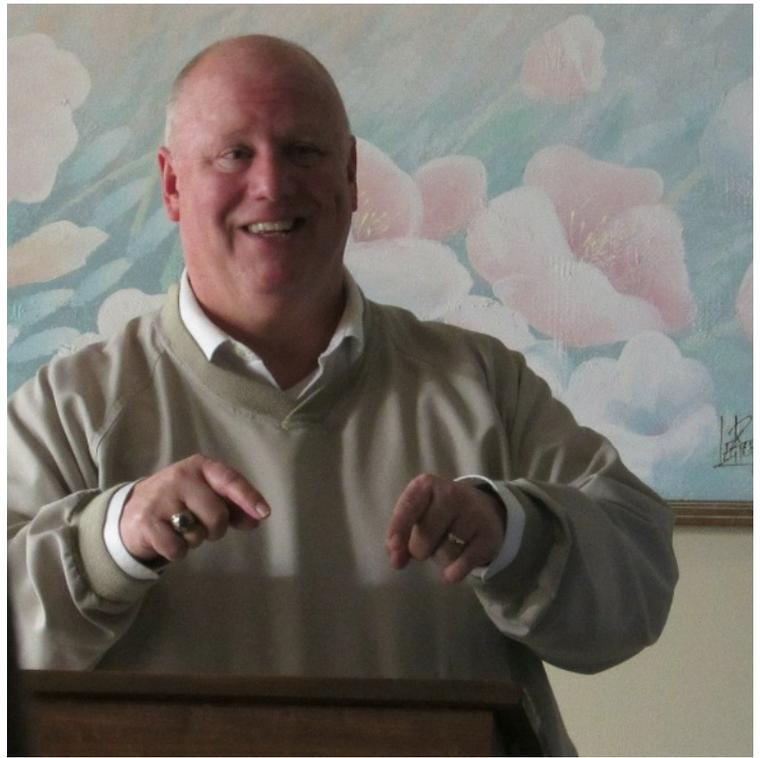


The Parks in Lima

Lima's Deputy Director of Public Works, Mr. Ric Stolly, was the speaker at the March meeting of The Gardeners of Lima. He is in charge of Parks and Recreation for the city.

He gave a history of the parks with special reference to Faurot Park where our Clubhouse is located.

He also expressed appreciation to the members of the club for the annual planting of the flowers in the downtown public square area. His department manages the care and upkeep of that area along with the various parks.



Ric Stolly speaking to The Gardeners of Lima



2nd Vice President Donna Maki, with attendance list, assists Treasurer Rex Maurer in determining door prize winner.



Diane Halpern and Jo Hanley oversee refreshment counter full of delightful goodies.

Sprigs N Sprouts

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Sign at old location of Sale



The Gardeners of Lima May 2019 Lima, Ohio

Lots to do in May

The May 14th meeting of The Gardeners of Lima is sandwiched between two other BIG activities of the club, the Spring Plant Sale and Downtown Planter planting.

Meeting is at the Clubhouse, Tues., May 14, at 7:00 pm.



1st V.P. Ray Brown holds sign which emphasizes the new location of the Spring Plant Sale.

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New Member



Newest member Sonya Carver with 2nd V.P. Donna Maki

Notice

It was recently announced that Amity Abloom, 3064 Amity Rd., Hilliard, OH, is discontinuing its business (featuring daylilies) and would be having a sale. Owners Charles & Cynthia Lucius were our speakers in April 2017. For further info please contact:
<http://www.amityabloom.com/index.html>

For Your Calendar

- May 9 Unload Truck for Spring Plant Sale
- May 10 - 11 Spring Plant Sale
- May 14 May meeting of T.G.O.A. 7:00 pm
- May 18 Plant Downtown Planters
- May 25 Flower Planting & Clean-up at the Clubhouse
- July 15 - 17 National Convention
Des Moines & Johnston, Iowa area

April Meeting

The meeting in April was devoted to plans and arrangements for the Spring Plant Sale.



President Steve Maki conducts business in preparation for holding Plant Sale at the Clubhouse.



Diane Halpern with door prize



Close-up of Diane's door prize

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Tasty Refreshments were provided by Jennie & Gary Good

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The Gardeners of Lima June 2019 Lima, Ohio

Preparing Flowers for Show

The June program for The Gardeners of Lima will be given by one of our own members. 2nd V.P. Donna Maki, who has won many awards for her flower entries in the Allen County Fair Flower Show, will explain how to prepare flowers for exhibit.

You will not want to miss this helpful presentation. The meeting will be at the Clubhouse in Faurot Park on Tuesday, June 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Spring Plant Sale Went Well in New Location



The Annual T.G.O.L. Spring Plant Sale was held at our Clubhouse this year. In previous years the sale had been under a rented tent set up on Shawnee Rd. Reactions to the move have been positive, both from customers and club members. More pictures of Plant Sale on page 2.

Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima, Lima, OH

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Members assisting Shoppers bringing their selections to the check-out counter.

For Your Calendar

June 11 Members Meeting 7 pm

June 27 Board Meeting 7 pm

July 9 Wine & Dine at Maki's home

July 15 - 17 National Convention
Des Moines & Johnston, Iowa area



Sign posted at old location to direct customers to new location of sake.



Shoppers in geranium section.



Filled Baskets and Pots were displayed out in front of the Clubhouse.



Clubhouse provided good lighting as well as warmth for shoppers as they browsed.



Day before the Sale, members unloaded trucks and brought plants inside Clubhouse .

Persetta Bowsher (at right) checks off items on delivery sheet.

More pictures of Set-up Day on page 3.



“George” took a break from the Maki gardens to help bring attention to the sale sign along the approach to the Clubhouse.

More scenes from Unloading & Sale Set-up Day



Secretary Becky Wendroth, with son Henry, and Treasurer Rex Maurer look at all the flowers.



Plants being arranged by members Ray Brown, Joe Brown, Steve Maki and Donna Maki.



Wagons were helpful for bring plants from the truck.



Member Alice Cooley inspecting new arrivals.



President Steve Maki and member Clyde Wise load trailer with plants left over from the Sale. These plants were used to plant the Downtown Planters on the following Saturday.

Downtown Planting Day

At the Public Square in Lima



Genesis Hefner and Jennie Good bring supplies to Diane Halpern.



Volunteers Zayia Clark (left) and Genesis Hefner (center) with members Rex Maurer and Sheila Rowe.



Diane, Sheila, Zayia and Genesis surround wagonload of plants while Gary and Jennie work at planter.



Jennie and Gary Good provide TLC for plants.



Donna and Steve Maki make sure plants have a good start.



Around the Clubhouse

Flower beds in front of the Clubhouse were cleaned, tilled and planted on May 25. Also new stepping stones were placed in the beds.



President Steve Maki secures tiller in pick-up truck after planting at Clubhouse.

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Pictures of club events have been posted on our Facebook page.

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The Gardeners of Lima

July 2019

Lima, Ohio

BIG SUMMER PARTY

Once again, July brings The Gardeners of Lima to their big summer event, a Wine and Dine at the home of President Steve Maki and his wife 2nd V.P. Donna.

Their beautiful home is surrounded by several acres of yard including roses, vegetable garden, green house, and various interesting flower beds. If weather permits, the meeting may be held on the patio.

The host and hostess will provide the entree. Members are invited to bring salad, side dish, or dessert. A favorite beverage may also be brought to share with the group.

The July event combines the usual "members meeting" with the "board meeting."

The Maki home is located at 8230 Sugar Creek Rd.

Time for party is 6:00 p.m. The date: Tues. July 9.

Judging by past years, this will be an evening of great fun. Come and enjoy!

For Your Calendar

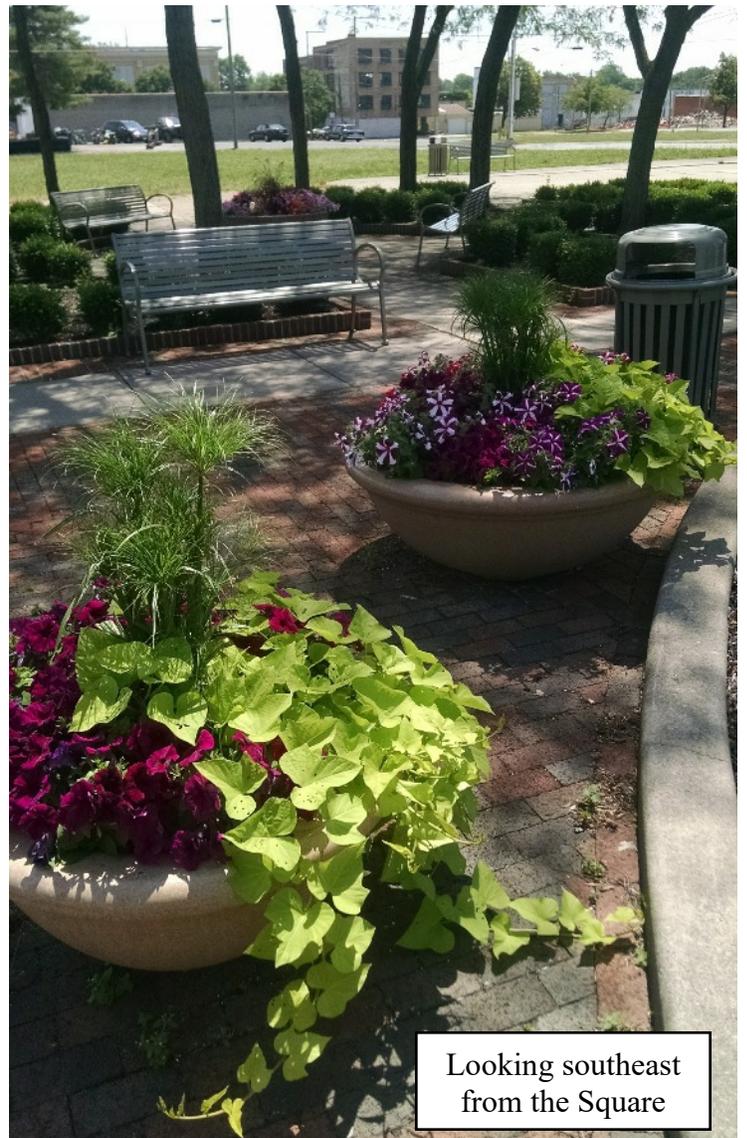
July 9 Wine & Dine at Maki's home at 6 pm

July 15 - 17 National Convention
Des Moines & Johnston, Iowa area

Aug. 1 Deadline for Allen Co. Fair entries

Aug. 13 Members Meeting

Aug. 16 - 24 Allen County Fair



Looking southeast
from the Square

Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima, Lima, OH

Frank Cooley, Editor
fdcool@twc.com

One Week's Growth

Flowers planted by The Gardeners of Lima in Lima's Downtown Planters are an attractive part of the public square area.

These two pictures of a planter were taken a week apart, The scene below was on June 23 and the scene to the right was on June 30.



The picture on the left showing the row of planters in front of the Civic Center was photographed looking north on June 23rd.

On the right the planters are seen looking south with a portion of the Civic Center building shown in the background. This was taken on June 30.





Donna Maki explained the pros and cons of each of these sample “entries.”

How To Show Flowers

2nd V.P. Donna Maki has had a lot of experience showing flowers at the Allen County Fair. At the June meeting she gave tips and suggestions on how to prepare and present winning entries. She encouraged members to enter.



Members were challenged to see how well they could pick a winner from these “entries.”



Alice Cooley and Clyde Wise examine pictures of some of Donna’s past ribbon-winners. Photos included comments to explain how entries are judged.

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Tasty refreshments were served by Diane Halpern and Becky Wendroth.

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The Gardeners of Lima

August 2019

Lima, Ohio

Damsels and Dragons

No, this is not an early Halloween program. It is what our September speaker will be discussing... sort of.

One of our favorite speakers, Mr Dan Hodges, will be back to talk about “Dragonflies and Damselflies.”

We have found Dan to be highly informative and delightfully entertaining in his presentations. Among his previous topics are “Frogs and Toads” and “Butterflies and Caterpillars.”

Come to the Clubhouse in Faurot Park for the meeting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, August 13.

For those who have entered the Big Tomato Contest, we’ll have the first weigh-in.

Here is some of the weighing that was done in 2017.



Bothered By Beetles?

1st V.P. Ray Brown brought to our attention a handbook from the USDA: Managing the Japanese Beetle:

JB handbook.pdf

Ray also suggests the following web sites that also address some of the control methods recommended in the handbook.

<https://www.ecolandscaping.org/10/lawn-care/controlling-white-grubs-without-chemicals/>

<https://www.ecolandscaping.org/05/pest-management/controlling-grubs-milky-spore-disease-or-beneficial-nematodes/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/agricultural-and-biological-sciences/bacillus-thuringiensis>

People are not the only ones who enjoy visiting the flowerbeds in front of our Clubhouse in Faurot Park





Weekly Farmers Market in downtown Lima on Tuesday, July 23, takes place among the many flowers planted by The Gardeners of Lima.

Customers find baked goods as well as fresh garden-grown vegetables, while enjoying the colorful displays in the planters.





Flowers Not Only Way to Plant a Garden

Steve and Donna Maki have a number of flower bed areas throughout their yard, each with its own special theme. This one features momma tiger Olivia and cubs Frankie (left) and Freddie (right).

Do you suppose rabbits and other critters might think twice about visiting the area?

For Your Calendar

- Aug. 13 Members Meeting
- Aug. 16 - 24 Allen County Fair
- Aug. 29 Board Meeting
- Sept. 10 Members Meeting
- Sept. 26 Board Meeting
- Oct. 8 Membership Meeting / Halloween Party / Weiner Roast



Some of the flowers at the entrance of the Maki home.

An over-all picture of the front yard and entrance is shown on the next page.



July meeting was held at the Maki home which has taken on a new look with use of large containers for flower plantings.



President Steve Maki was celebrating his birthday as well as conducting the business of the July meeting of The Gardeners of Lima. Birthday cake was served after the delicious dinner.



Meeting was held in the kitchen instead of the patio, thereby giving members the benefit of air conditioning.

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The Gardeners of Lima September 2019 Lima, Ohio

SINGING INSECTS

Dan Hodges will provide the September 10th program. His topic is “Singing Insects.” *Sounds interesting!* Bring your final entry for the Big Tomato Contest. Meet at 7 PM at the Faurot Park Clubhouse.



BIG TOMATO

Diane Halpern brought her tomato (shown here) to the August meeting. Contest continues through September meeting.

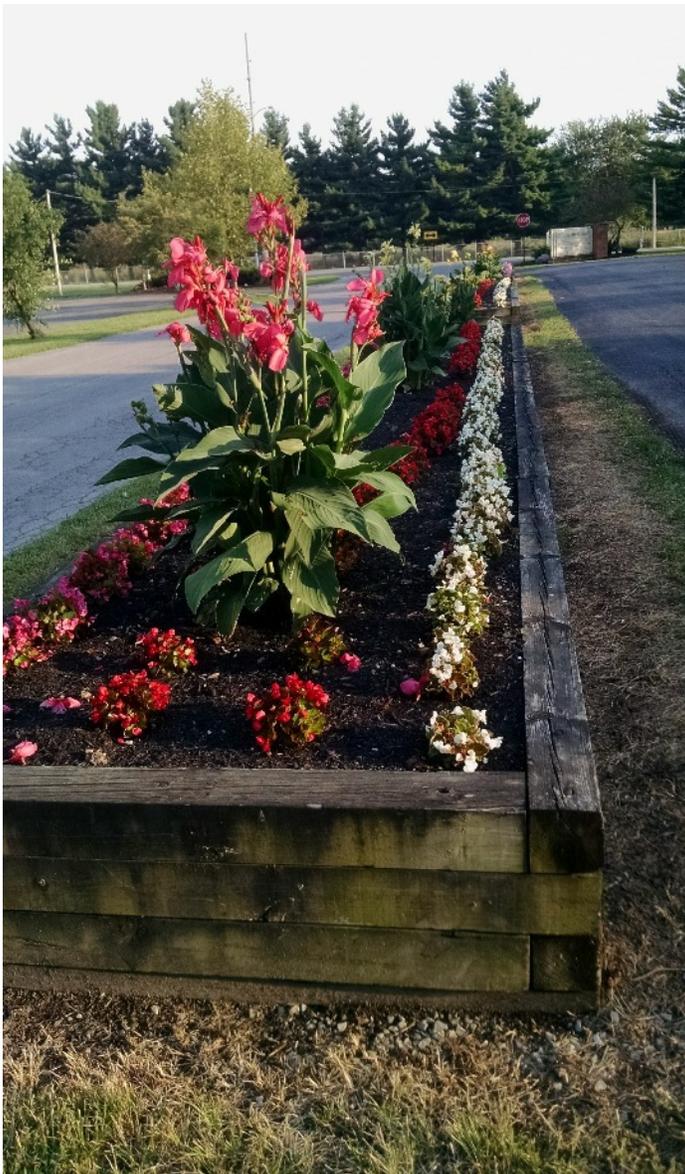


PRIZE-WINNERS

2nd V.P. Dona Maki won many ribbons for her flower entries in the 2019 Allen County Fair. These are just a few of her winners.

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Community Cooperation Pays Off

Faurot Park Enhanced by Flowers

When members and guests of The Gardeners of Lima gather at their clubhouse in Lima's Faurot Park, they may pass the beautiful raised flower beds along S. Cole St. near Northshore Dr.

Mr. Ric Stolly, who was a recent speaker at a TGOL meeting, provided the following helpful information.

The flowers are planted by the city parks crew.

Weeding is done by persons employed by Marimore Industries.

Watering is accomplished through a timed system which was funded as a project of the Lima Sertoma Club.

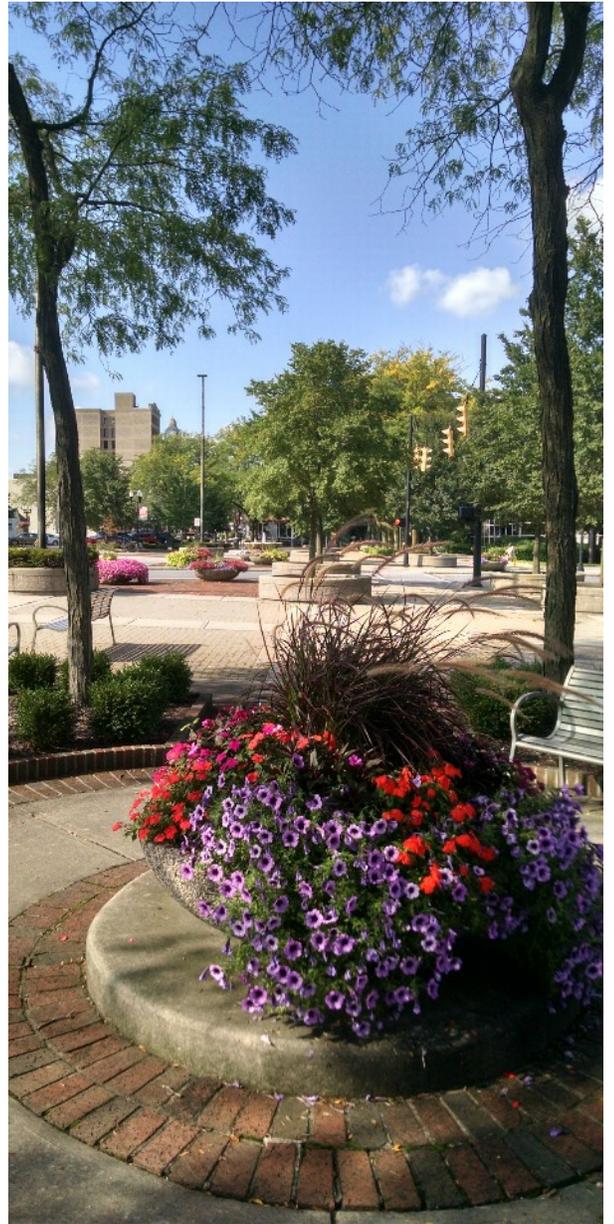
The Cannas have to be taken up and stored through the winter.

Lima is truly blessed to have so many who contribute in their various ways. It is also good that Lima has leaders who have the vision and the will to channel all these efforts into something for all to enjoy

We are now on
Facebook



Pictures of club events have been posted on our Facebook page.
Also check out our Web-site: thegardenersoflima.com



DOWNTOWN LIMA ON LABOR DAY

These planters were filled with young plants in the spring by members of The Gardeners of Lima. They have grown and flourished to provide much beauty to the area of the public square and the Veterans Memorial Civic Center.

These pictures, taken on Labor Day, help to show how much the flowers are contributing to the Downtown Lima Experience.



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Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima October 2019 Lima, Ohio

Halloween Party

Come in costume if you like. Use your imagination. It's always fun to see what other members come up with. But, costume or not, don't miss the October meeting of The Gardeners of Lima at the Clubhouse on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Note that the time has been changed to 6:00 p.m.

It's a wiener roast, so bring your appetite. Also bring a dish to share AND your own favorite beverage.

Ray Brown will be the "Grill Master" and supply the hot dogs. Joe Brown will bring the buns and Ed Morrison will supply the condiments. Decorating by Becky (& Henry), Donna & Steve. Many thanks to each of these members.

HAPPY

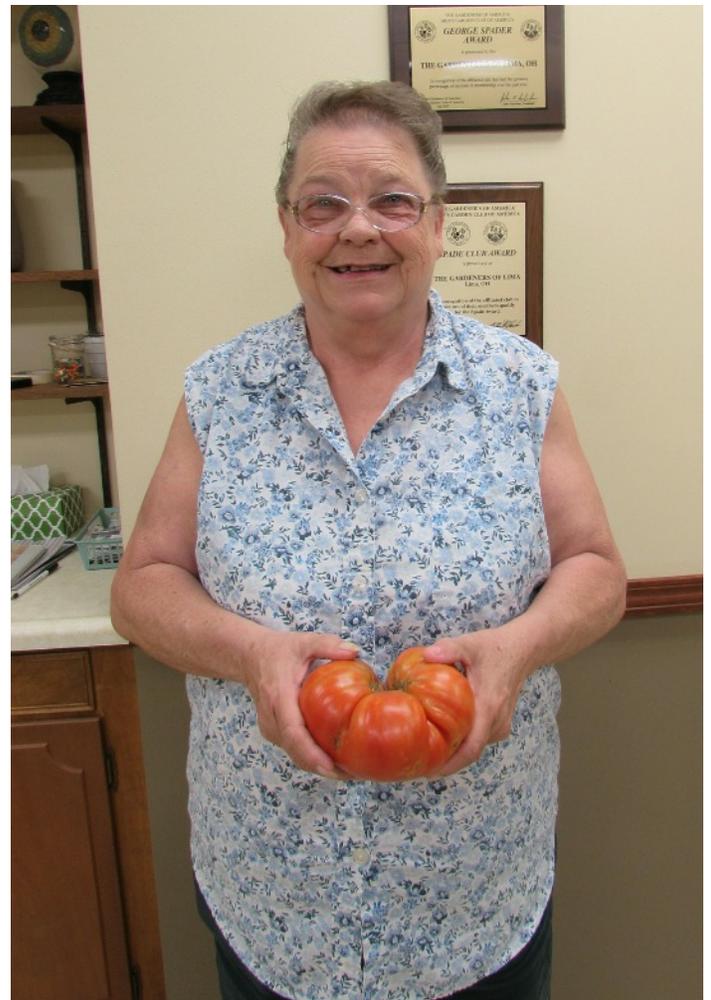


HALLOWEEN

Put it on your Calendar

- Oct.26 CGLG fall regional meeting at Kingswood Mansfield, OH 10:00 am
- Nov. 10 Deadline for turning in Poinsettia orders to Persetta Bowsher. (See blanks on page 4)
- Nov. 12 Members Meeting with Dr. Curtis Young speaking on Chemical Weed Control

BIG TOMATO CONTEST WINNER



Diane Halpern was the winner of the Big Tomato Contest with a tomato weighing 1 pound, 11.15 oz.

2nd place went to Joe Brown with a 1 pound, 1.85 oz. Entry. Ed Morrison took 3rd place with a 1 pound, 1.55 oz. Tomato.

Honorable mention, Ray Brown, 15.55 oz.

There were seven entries.

Downtown Planters Still Helping Lima Look Good, Sept 29



LISTEN TO THE MUSIC

Insects that make music were the subjects covered by Mr. Dan Hodges at the September meeting of The Gardeners of Lima. Though their sounds are not vocal, they may be called singing insects. Wings or legs may be used to produce the music.

Katydids, crickets, grasshoppers and cicadas give us choruses of their music in late summer and fall, when the songs of birds are not so plentiful.

We are always entertained as well as informed by Dan. He works for Johnny Appleseed Metro Park District,



Two of the many photos shown as part of Mr. Hodge's presentation.

Poinsettia Sale forms are printed on next page

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President Steve Maki conducting business during September meeting.

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The Gardeners of Lima November 2019 Lima, Ohio

CONTROLLING WEEDS

Using chemicals to control weeds will be discussed by Dr. Curtis Young at the November meeting of The Gardeners of Lima.

Dr. Young is an extension educator with The Ohio State University whose area is agriculture and natural resources. Other programs he has brought to our club in recent years include Plant Diseases and Fungi.

The meeting will be at the Clubhouse in Faurot Park Tuesday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m.

MISSION OF THE GARDENERS OF AMERICA
To promote gardening education and related environmental issues to the membership and the gardening public, through charitable, education and scientific means.

Put it on your Calendar

- Nov. 10 Deadline for turning in Poinsettia orders to Persetta Bowsher.
- Nov. 12 Members Meeting with Dr. Curtis Young speaking on Chemical Weed Control
- Dec, 2 Pickup Poinsettias at Clubhouse for delivery
- Dec. 10 Christmas Banquet and installation of officers, Clubhouse at 5:30



Secretary Becky Wendroth visits with new member Toni Schroeder at October Halloween Party. Toni is holding her granddaughter and Becky's son Henry is sitting next to her.

Happy Thanksgiving

Halloween Party at October Meeting



Costumed couple: Sheila Rowe as Druid Woman and David Rowe as Frontier Man

With the Clubhouse decked out in spiders, jack-o-lanterns, cobwebs and other assorted symbols of Halloween, the October Weiner Roast Party was a lot of fun.

Skeletons and pictures of monsters did not seem to dampen appetites.

Thanks to all who helped make this event a success.



Monster Welcome provided by President Steve Maki



Ray Brown gets the grill read to cook hot dogs while Joe Brown supervises.

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The Gardeners of Lima

December 2019

Lima, Ohio

Valet Parking

A special feature of this year's Christmas Banquet is valet parking. The Brown Brothers, Ray and Joe, are making this service available to all who attend the Banquet.

Just drive up near the Clubhouse. Ray and/or Joe will help you with anything you have to carry inside. Then they will see that your car is parked. After the party they will bring your car back to the front door.

Members and guests will appreciate this generous service in any case, but especially so if there is bad weather.

Dues & Dinner

Treasurer Rex Maurer has asked that members bring their payment for 2020 dues along with their payment for the Banquet meal.

Cost for the meal is \$10.00 per person.

Dues is \$16.00 for a single membership .

Dues for a couple is \$25.00.

Normally, these matters would have been cared for in November, but the November meeting was canceled due to weather and dangerous roads.

Sprigs N Sprouts

The Gardeners of Lima, Lima, OH
Frank Cooley, Editor
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Christmas Banquet

The Faurot Park Clubhouse will be full of Christmas sparkle for the 2019 Banquet of The Gardeners of Lima on Tuesday, Dec. 10.

Social time begins at 5:30, with dinner at 6:00 p.m.

The meal is being catered by Bev and Ed Morrison. Members are also contributing appetizers, salads and desserts.

Club officers for 2020 will be installed during the meeting.

Decorating for the event will be done by volunteers on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Put it on your Calendar

- Dec. 8 Decorate Clubhouse 1 - 3 p,m,
- Dec. 10 Christmas Banquet and installation of officers, Clubhouse at 5:30



Steve Maki, President
The Gardeners of Lima

From the President

President Steve Maki provided the material on this and the next two pages for the enjoyment and enlightenment of readers of *Sprigs N Sprouts*.



Is the tomato a vegetable or a fruit?

In the 19th century, the U.S. Supreme Court faced this question: Are tomatoes fruits or vegetables?

At the time the Port Authority of New York classified tomatoes as vegetables, which were subject to a 10 percent import tax. A fruit importer argued that tomatoes were fruits, which were not taxed.

The high court issued this 1893 tomato ruling in a case brought by members of the Nix family against Edward Hedden, collector at the Port of New York, to recover the fees they spent transporting tomatoes. The Nixes sued under the Tariff of 1883, which required import taxes on vegetables — but not fruit.

Botanically, any seed-bearing structure formed from an angiosperm's (a flowering plant's) ovary is a fruit. Since a tomato protects and contains the seeds of its host plant, the juicy sphere is technically a fruit. Some might be shocked to learn a zucchini is a fruit, too.

In the case, witnesses read from dictionaries, and definitions for "fruit", "vegetable", "tomato," "pea," "eggplant," "cucumber," "squash" and "pepper."

In the Supreme Court decision, the justices distinguished between science and everyday life. The justices admitted that botanically speaking, tomatoes were technically fruits. But in everyday life, vegetables were things "usually served at dinner in, with, or after the soup, fish, or meats ... and not, like fruits generally, as dessert." General or culinary classifications, however, tend to differ from the botanical one. Most people would consider a tomato a vegetable. And the court essentially gave that reasoning in *Nix v. Hedden*: A tomato is a vegetable because people think it is— and the importer had to keep paying the tariff.

Jokes, and Stories

A Riddle:

There was a green house.
Inside the green house there was a white house.
Inside the white house there was a red house.
Inside the red house there were lots of babies.
What am I?

Answer: A Watermelon

What do you call a stolen yam?

A hot potato

What do you call it when worms take over the world?

Global Worming

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi



The Potato Story

Girl Potato and Boy Potato had eyes for each other, and finally they got married and had a little sweet potato, which they called 'Yam.' Of course, they wanted the best for Yam.

When it was time, they told her about the facts of life. They warned her about going out and getting half-baked, so she wouldn't get accidentally mashed, and get a bad name for herself like 'Hot Potato,' and end up with a bunch of Tater Tots. Yam said not to worry, no Spud would get her into the sack and make a rotten potato out of her! But on the other hand she wouldn't stay home and become a Couch Potato either. She would get plenty of exercise so as not to be skinny like her Shoestring cousins.

When she went off to Europe, Mr. and Mrs. Potato told Yam to watch out for the hard-boiled guys from Ireland, and the greasy guys from France called the French Fries. Yam said she would stay on the straight and narrow and wouldn't associate with those high class Yukon Golds, or the ones from the other side of the tracks who advertise their trade on all the trucks that say, 'Frito Lay.'

Mr. and Mrs. Potato sent Yam to Idaho P.U. (that's Potato University) so that when she graduated she'd really be in the Chips. Yet, in spite of all they did for her, one-day Yam came home and announced she was going to marry Tom Brokaw. Tom Brokaw! Mr. and Mrs. Potato were very upset. They told Yam she couldn't possibly marry Tom Brokaw because he's just a commentator.

Winter Activities in the Garden

It's important to pay attention to the weather as well as to how the season in general is progressing and the conditions of your specific site. Timing can be tricky. Weather can make it difficult to do things at the ideal time. We may get a lot of rain or none. Killing frosts can occur in late September one year but not until November in the next. The following is a general guide to various tasks in the winter garden.

General Activities

- Clean, repair, oil, and store tools and garden hoses.
- Store fertilizers and pesticides securely. Keep liquids from freezing and protect powders from moisture.
- Periodically check on stored produce for decay. Maintain adequate moisture in stored potted bulbs being forced.
- Feed the birds. Keep feeders full, hang suet blocks
- Check what's on sale. Make a list of what you need for the new season and pickup gardening supplies at a discount. It's off season so many of last season's tools and equipment can be found for a great price.
- Decide what you will be planting next season.
- Plan next year's garden out completely. Keep in mind crop rotation, plant spacing, succession planting and companion planting. Make a map and play with your placement.
- Order catalogs and seeds

Flowers

- Whether or not to cut back perennials in fall or wait until spring is often a personal choice. In general, there is no harm in leaving them until spring. You might want to cut back extremely tall plants somewhat to prevent wind damage. There are many advantages to leaving the plants – they provide winter interest and food for birds, help hold mulch in place, and some perennials such as mums and salvia over-winter better if not cut back.

Trees and Shrubs

- Prune Japanese maple trees, weeping cherry trees and fruit trees (except stone fruits)

Vegetables and Fruits

- Prune grapevines, but no later than January or the cut end will bleed sap.

Miscellaneous

One of the easier and essential tasks in winter for your garden is to start seeds in a greenhouse or indoors. You can do this with indoor grow lights.

If you just started growing your own food and you're not stopping, then it's important you start a garden journal as well. You'll find this very helpful in the long run.

Protect the root crown of perennial bushes like roses and hydrangea by applying a thick layer of mulch or covering the plant with a burlap sack or row covers.

I like this quote by Teresa Watkins: "Every garden is unique with a multitude of choices in soils, plants and themes. Finding your garden theme is as easy as seeing what brings a smile to your face."



Poinsettia Pick-up Day

Some of the plants ready to be delivered



Ray Brown assembling orders

Persetta Bowsher who organized the annual Poinsettia Sale writes: "A big Thank You to the poinsettia Elves who made the day a big success. Steve, Ray, Joe, Ed, Rita, and Toni unloading and delivering some 213 plants. A great day. Thanks to all who submitted orders. Takes a village."

And our thanks to Persetta, as well.

We are now on
Facebook



Pictures of club events have been posted on our Facebook page.



Persetta Bowsher keeping everyone on schedule

THE GARDENERS OF LIMA

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