



GREEN and GROWING

Gardeners of America - Topeka, KS
Affiliated with Gardeners of America and
the American Horticulture Society

July 2005

Volume 1, Number 3

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Shawnee County
Sunrise

Get out and enjoy
Kansas!

MINUTES OF REGULAR GOA MEETING July 7, 2005

The July meeting started with three excellent Yard Tours, hosted by members Jean Riley, Colette Peel, and Marda Neufeld. A delicious picnic cookout was held in the Neufeld's lower lawn, followed by a brief business meeting. Twenty-eight members and 9 guests were present.

Bill Feleciano presided in President A. Webb's absence. The meeting opened at 8 p.m. The minutes of the June 2 meeting were approved by consensus and the treasurer's report by Paul Nelson was approved, as moved by Richard Payne and seconded by Rudy Neugebauer. Among other items, he reported that the Plant Sale profit in the last report should be increased by \$50.

Bob Smoker passed around the new calendar. They will be available at the next meeting for \$3 each.

Green and Growing Editor Louise Neugebauer asked again for contributions for the club's newsletter.

Lowell Johnson spoke about the Plant Sale research committee's findings and his presentation at the June 30 Board meeting. The proposal chosen by the Board to bring to the membership contains these parts: hold the Sale at the Fairlawn Plaza parking lot 7-11 a.m. on the first Saturday in May; do not offer patio pots and hanging baskets; do offer bedding plants and homegrown plants for sale. Richard moved to accept the proposal and Ruth Sherrer seconded. Motion carried.

Lowell also informed the meeting that the fall bulb order must be in to Joe Breitenstein by August 6 or 7. Lowell will be absent from the August meeting, so members were asked to call him soon with their



Garden Tour First Stop at Jean Riley's



Next it's on to Colette Peel's



Last Stop at Marda Neufeld's for Hot Dogs and a short meeting

order. The bulbs have to be ordered by the case, so multiple members may want to split cases.

Dues have increased to \$32 for individuals and \$49 per couple. The dues increase was approved by national balloting of the members. They are to be paid by November 1 starting this year.

One hundred poinsettias have been purchased from VoTech to donate to Let's Help, as has been done previously.

Next year's National Conference will be in Spartanburg, NC.

The August meeting will be on the 4th, with the annual carry-in picnic at the Lake Shawnee Garden House. Arrive at 5:30 with table service and a covered dish. Dinner will be at 6:00.

On behalf of the Club, Bill thanked Jean, Colette and Marda for sharing their beautiful landscapes; Jean and Colette for much appreciated refreshments; as well as the Neufelds, Ruth Sherrer and Sandy Darnell for the meal. Sandy moved the meeting be adjourned, and Lori Calvin seconded. Motion carried.

Shirley Darby
Secretary

National Meeting Report
By Bob Smoker – Mo-Kan National Director

The National Gardeners of America convention was held in Jupiter, FL at the Jupiter Beach Resort with the help of the TGOA/Palm Beach Garden Club as host club. 90 gardeners and their spouses were in attendance.

The business meeting reported 4,321 members as of May 20, 2005. The Mo-Kan Region has 505 members. There was a photography slide show Thursday evening and photographers were honored by publishing their pictures in the 2006 calendar. Consider buying a 2006 calendar. A memorial service was held for our departed members. There were eight Mo-Kan Region members from a total of 124.

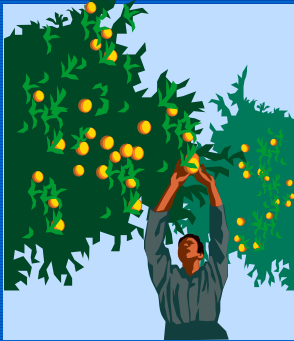
Several awards were presented. They were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Johnny Appleseed Beautification | Robert Mongin, Green Bay, WI |
| Beautification Home Garden | Dixon Area Garden Club, Dixon, IL |
| George Spader | David and Julia Marcyes, Spokane, WA |
| | Findlay Club, Findlay, OH |

Six Seminars were held from which attendees could choose two.

The 2006 National Officers elected are:

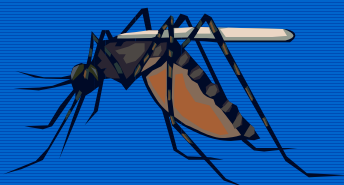
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| President - Dale G. Davies, Van Wert, OH | |
| 1 st VP - James A Mack, Tempe, AZ | |
| 2 nd VP - Chuck Burt, Austin, TX | |
| 3 rd VP - Bob Grossman, Dallas, TX | |
| Immediate Past President - William J. Carney, Poland, OH | |
| National Treasurer - Steve Bush, Des Moines, IA | |
| National Secretary - A. J. Freeman, Des Moines, IA | |



Scenes of Florida



Rudy inspecting some of the plants at the Plant Sale



Attendees toured the American Orchid Society headquarters. The speaker at the Saturday night banquet was Don Campbell, Mgr, Green Cay Nature Center.

The National membership dues are due November 1, 2005 so that headquarters can get them to AHS by December 1st. This is also so that you can have your membership card by January so that you can use it at business providing member discounts. The national dues are \$45. per couple and \$30. per individual, plus any local dues. (ed. See minutes above). Remember, the discounts given by certain businesses are another benefit of membership. (ed. The local list was in the May Newsletter). Thanks to the members in Jupiter for a great time and Gale Langford for organizing a successful convention.

Member Profile Rudy Kramer

Rudy Kramer is one of the original members of the Men's Garden Club of Topeka, chartered November 1, 1984. He studied at Kansas State University and while attending school met his future wife Betty. Rudy and Betty have been married 48 years and have 3 sons and 2 daughters. Their family is blessed with 17 grandchildren.

For 35 years he worked for the Kansas Department of Transportation and Betty worked for Smith Audio in later years. Rudy was an active member with the Boy Scouts of America serving as Scout Master, Camp Master and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award. His three sons each achieved the Eagle Scout Award.

All of the members of Gardeners of America know that Rudy is an avid gardener and is know for the wonderful tomato's he grows in his green house. A wealth of gardening knowledge can be obtained from this gentleman gardener.

During his 20 year membership, Rudy has served the garden club as President and has helped with many community projects.

Mosquitoes (real info)

It's that time folks - so thought I'd send out this reminder!

Use Bounce Fabric Softener Sheets ... Best thing ever used in Louisiana ...just wipe on and go ... Great for Babies.

A fisherman takes one vitamin B-1 tablet a day, April through October He hasn't had a mosquito bite in 33 years. Try it. Every one he has talked into trying it works on them. Vitamin B-1(Thiamine Hydrochloride 100 mg.)

CALLING ALL COOKS!

If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share, please email it to the editor at Ineug314@cox.net

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If you eat bananas, the mosquitoes like you, - something about the banana oil as your body processes it. Stop eating bananas for the summer and the mosquitoes will be much less interested.

This is going to floor you, but one of the best insect repellents someone found (who is in the woods every day), is Vick's Vaporub.

Plant marigolds around the yard, the flowers give off a smell that bugs do not like, so plant some in that garden also to help ward off bugs without using insecticides.

"Tough guy" Marines who spend a great deal of time "camping out" say that the very best mosquito repellent you can use is Avon Skin-So-Soft bath oil mixed about half and half with alcohol.

One of the best natural insect repellents that I've discovered is made from the clear real vanilla. This is the pure Vanilla that is sold in Mexico. It works great for mosquitoes and ticks, don't know about other insects.

When all else fails--get a frog!

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are a celebration of us as individuals. It is your day! We are sharing the upcoming birth dates of our members so you can help make it their day. However, we will not be sharing the year. You are on your own for that.

Rogers Brazier	October 2
Sherre Johnson	October 22
Sharon Lonard	October 20
Sheri Long	October 12
Paul Nelson	September 30
Martha Smoker	October 10

Calendar of Events

July 21 The Shawnee County Fair will be held at the Kansas Expocentre.

August 4 Monthly meeting of the Gardeners of America –Topeka at Lake Shawnee in the Garden House. It will be a covered dish dinner. Arrive after 5:30PM. Dinner at 6:00PM. Dave Bartel will be the guest speaker.

September 1 Monthly meeting of the Gardeners of America – Topeka at Ward-Meade, 7:00PM. Karen Jones will speak on "Growing Iris".

September 24 Regional Convention to be held at the Discovery Center in Kansas City. Cost is \$15.00 which includes lunch.

November 12 Fall Regional Board Meeting will be held at the Colonial Church in Overland Park.

April 20-22, 2006 National Convention in Spartanburg, SC

Next Newsletter publication date is September 15, 2005.