

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## THE GARDENERS OF AMERICA MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA



# Newsletter

Volume 16

January - February 2005

Number 1

### Fellow Gardeners



The following is a report on the Directors' meeting held in Overland Park, Kansas the first weekend in November 2004.

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order on Thursday and discussion was held on several items. Number one was the financial situation of the organization. We are operating on the proverbial shoestring and expenses, including wages, have been cut to the bone. Additionally, our headquarters is sorely in need of a new roof at an estimated cost of \$4,500. It was decided to bring this to the Board of Directors for action. To jump ahead, the Board, by a narrow vote decided to put the option of a dues increase on the ballot when we have the next election of officers.

The increase would amount to \$10 a year for individual memberships, \$5 for families and \$100 for life memberships. This is not a pleasant option but a matter of need. Remember, if you belonged to the American Horticultural Society on an individual basis you would pay \$35 for your annual dues. From that aspect, membership in both organizations is quite a bargain.

Also, discussed was the acceptance of the chair of the Awards Committee by Susan Matz following the resignation of Donna Shore along with the chairs of all other

committees. These were presented to the board and accepted as presented.

John Hunt of the Dallas club made a fundraising presentation regarding a different calendar to be used along with our regular format. His suggestion was taken under advisement.

At the Directors' meeting several other items were discussed and decided. The next three National Conventions will be as follows:

- 2005, Palm Beach, Florida, June 2,3,4.
- 2006, Spartanburg, South Carolina, mid to late April.
- 2007, Rockford Illinois, July 18,19,20,21.

A great time was had in Overland Park. The hospitality was outstanding and the visits to Kaufman Gardens and the Discovery Center were memorable events. Even the weather cooperated with pleasant temperatures and no rain.

If you've never attended a convention or Director's meeting, you are missing a great experience. Just ask someone who has. Nothing I could say could match the real enthusiasm of one who has been there and done that.

**Bill Carney**

Your President;  
Bill Carney

Installation of our president at the November meeting, 2004.



**Warren Tribune News Paper, 27 Oct 04. Local volunteer to meet with Bush.**

A long time local volunteer and veteran of World War II and the Korean War will have the opportunity to meet President Bush when he visits the area today.

After getting off Air Force One at the Youngstown Air reserve Station, Bush will shake hands with Bill Carney, 77, of Poland, Ohio, and speak with him briefly, thanking him for his many years of volunteer service, Erik Hotmire of the USA Freedom Corps said.

Carney is on the board of the Volunteer

Services Agency of Youngstown/Mahoning Valley and has been a Boy Scout counselor for the past 20 years. He was an assistant Scout Master for 10 years, is a Master Gardener and works with the Men’s Garden Club of Youngstown, Ohio, helping to plan beautification projects.

In November, Carney will be sworn in as the national President of The Gardeners of America/Men’s Garden Clubs of America.

“He’s great”, Hotmire said of Carney. “This is part of the president encouraging Americans to become engaged in volunteer service.”

Meeting a president is not unusual for the veteran, Carney said; he also met Presidents John E. Kennedy, Harry S. Truman, and Lyndon B. Johnson. “I’m glad to be representing the Volunteer Service Agency and Garden Club”, Carney said.

Hotmire said Bush has met with more than 350 volunteers since he created USA Freedom Corps in 2002. The Corps contacted Carney after calling the service agency recently. “We heard about Bill and his outstanding volunteer service,” Hotmire said.

Hotmire said he was surprised when the Corps contacted him and asked him to meet with the president and is looking forward to the experience. “I’m excited,” he added. “It will be a pleasure.”

**Gardeners Gone to Rest**

- John Baughman, Sandusky, OH
- Ralph Darrow, Kent, OH
- Edward Delmoro, Tallmadge, OH
- David A. Eberhard, Austin, TX
- Julius A. Grossi, Grosse Pointe, MI
- Frant J. Huster, Grosse Point, MI
- Virgil L. Jensen, Avondale, AZ
- A. Arnold Johnson, Des Moines, IA
- Murray G. Klages, Boseman, MI
- Richard McNett, Kent, OH
- Mickey Montgomery, St Joseph, MO
- Leroy Satrom, Kent, OH
- Alexander E. Shanoski, Grosse Pointe, MI

U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U

Dirt Men’s Garden club of Albany.  
“With sadness, we announce the death of our long time member, past president and life member, Arthur F. Ahr who died October 3d at the age of 102.”

**TGOA/MGCA** extends their sympathy to all the families.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear TGOA/MGCA Members:

At the recent Directors' meeting we decided to develop a program through which we shall appeal to all members for donations. We are requesting that any donations be unrestricted for use in covering Headquarters' expenses.

For the last several years we have been losing members, though this year was not as bad as most recent ones. This slide in membership has reduced our cash position such that by fall 2005 we will be in dire straits unless significantly more 2006 calendars are sold or we have a net increase of hundreds of members. Even if we can get by one more year with our current roof, we are projecting our deficit next year will be over \$10,000. A new roof would run nearly \$8,000 for cedar shakes as we have now, or at least \$4,500 for quality asphalt shingles.

We will recognize the members who make donations by listing their names in the Newsletter (unless anonymity is requested.) In order to encourage significant donations we shall also extend thanks in the following manner:

Level	Amount	Thank You Gift
Century	\$100	Certificate and silver pin
Sustaining	\$250	Certificate and gold pin
Patron	\$500	Certificate and bronze medallion

The pins and medallions could be worn at local and national club meetings.

As you may be aware there will be a measure on the ballot in 2005 to raise dues beginning in 2006 by \$10 annually for regular memberships, with a similar 50 percent increase in family dues and life member dues. Of course, this measure may not pass.

You should also be aware that our expenses at headquarters have been cut significantly over the past three years. We are not squandering funds. For example, payroll expense has declined over \$10,000 since 2001. Also, it is important to understand that our affiliation with AHS this past year and for 2005 is not the cause of our deficit. Revenues have exceeded expenses each of the last three years and membership has declined by over 1100 since the year 2000.

To sum up, TGOA/MGCA needs your tax-deductible, unrestricted donations. Hopefully, in the future membership will grow considerably, but for 2005 your help is required. If sufficient funds are raised in 2005, we may have some cushion for 2006. On behalf of all TGOA/MGCA Officers, Past Presidents and Directors, thank you.

Steven H. Bush  
Treasurer

## 2005 Calendars

2005 calendars are available. Please order by phone, fax or via email to the National Headquarters Secretary or Membership Manager.

Information required: Club name or status of individual requesting order; name, address and phone number of individual to receive calendar(s); number of calendars needed.

FYI: The Perennial Plant Association has voted the *Helleborus x Hybridus* to be the 2005 perennial plant of the year.

The following clubs or regions have had a 10% or more increase in paid members from 12/31/03-11/30/04

<b>Valley of the Sun Gardeners</b>	<b>23.19%</b>
<b>East Valley Gardeners Club</b>	<b>23.08%</b>
<b>Spartanburg MGC</b>	<b>17.05%</b>
<b>Blue Ridge Region</b>	<b>16.43%</b>
<b>Fort Wayne GOA</b>	<b>19.23%</b>
<b>MGC of Youngstown</b>	<b>17.86%</b>
<b>Fulton County Garden Club</b>	<b>11.11%</b>
<b>Men&amp;Womens Garden Club of Findlay</b>	<b>113.04%</b>
<b>At Large-Central Great Lakes</b>	<b>25.49%</b>
<b>Ritenour Garden Club</b>	<b>15.38%</b>
<b>Marietta Gardeners Club</b>	<b>36.96%</b>
<b>Mountain Shadow Garden Club</b>	<b>18.52%</b>
<b>Indianola MGC</b>	<b>13.51%</b>
<b>MGC of North Iowa</b>	<b>12.96%</b>
<b>The Rankin County GOA</b>	<b>16.67%</b>
<b>Mid-South Region</b>	<b>44.64%</b>
<b>GOA Overland Park, Inc.</b>	<b>40.35%</b>
<b>TGOA-Topeka</b>	<b>15.79%</b>
<b>Excelsior Springs Garden Club</b>	<b>32.50%</b>
<b>Mission Springs GOA</b>	<b>10.00%</b>
<b>Elgin GOA</b>	<b>20.00%</b>
<b>Dixon Area Garden Club</b>	<b>11.76%</b>
<b>Gardeners Club of Green Bay</b>	<b>25.00%</b>
<b>Gallatin Gardeners Club</b>	<b>19.44%</b>
<b>Littleton Garden Club</b>	<b>10.05%</b>
<b>MGC of Austin</b>	<b>13.22%</b>
<b>Tioga County MGC</b>	<b>28.00%</b>
<b>At Large-Upstate NY</b>	<b>23.08%</b>

## **PHOTO CONTEST**

Of interest to any hobby gardening photographers should be the annual TGOA/MGCA photography competition. The rules for submitting horticulture or gardening oriented pictures to this contest are contained in the 2005 Photography Manual, recently posted on the website. The deadline for submitting to the 2005 contest is February 1, 2005.

The competition is now open for either 35 mm slides or digital entries on floppy or CDR disks. With so many digital cameras in use now, we are encouraging more members to enter. Or, if you have a friend or relative who takes good photos, invite them to enter. One important rule is that the contest is open only to TGOA/MGCA members. So your friends could qualify by becoming members of your local club or become At Large Members by paying only \$20 to join.

The 2005 Photography Manual can be viewed or printed from three different pages on the website: in Members Only in the Awards Manual or in the Red Book and in the Photo Competition page on the public side. The February 1, 2005 deadline will not be far away when you receive this newsletter. So, enter promptly!

The Executive Committee has decided that AHS members can also enter into the contest with a \$20 membership fee per person.

## **100 and Counting**

On 17 November 2004, Tony Pfefferie, of Perkins Township turned 100. Tony is not only the oldest member of the Erie County Men's Gardening Club but is probably the oldest garden club member in the United States.

From dirt roads, horse carriages and outhouses to paved streets, automobiles and indoor plumbing, Tony Pfefferie, has experienced it all during the last century. Tony resides at the Stein Hospice. Hopefully this newsletter will find him well.

The life and times of Tony Pfefferie:

**1904:** The year Pfefferie was born, Benjamin Holt invented the tractor.

**1928:** During the time Pfefferie learns the ins and outs of the meat cutting business, Jacob Schick patents the electric shaver.

**1933:** While Pfefferie is celebrating his honeymoon, stereo records are invented and Richard M. Hollingshed builds a prototype drive-in movie theater.

**1936:** In the same year Pfefferie's first son is born, Bell Labs invents the voice recognition machine.

**1943:** When rubber is invented, Pfefferie welcomes the birth of his last child.

**1956:** A year after Pfefferie buys his own market, Pfefferie Meats, the first computer hard disk is used.

**1970:** Two years into Pfefferie's retirement, Alan Shugart invents the floppy disk.

**1979:** While Pfefferie celebrates his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, cell phones are invented.

**1990:** Fourteen years shy of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, people begin using the internet.

**2004:** The year Pfefferie celebrates his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Toyota's hybrid car is one of the newest designs.

## **ARLINGTON CLUB CONDUCTS DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST...**

The Arlington Men's Garden Club, Arlington, Texas, conducted the first all-digital photograph contest in the Southwest Region during the summer. The results of the contest were presented in a slideshow during the annual ice cream social on September 20, 2004.

Only digital cameras were used in the contest. Each photographer submitted his entries on a compact disk. The disks from the four photographers were submitted to Kathryn LeBlanc of the Austin, Texas club for judging. Ms. LeBlanc judges the pictures on a computer.

The slideshow was produced on a computer and recorded on VHS video cassette along with camcorder clips of the contestants and audio commentary. The show was viewed on a television monitor, using a VCR for playback.

Those participating in the contest were Sam Dews, Gordon Hale, Elbert Seal, and Joe Spradlin. Joe Spradlin produced and presented the slideshow.

We of the Arlington Men's Garden Club believe this event to be a first in horticultural photograph contests in TGOA/MGCA until somebody challenges our claim.

## **The Web Site, by Frank Mitch, Web Master**

<http://www.gardenersofamerica.org>  
<http://www.gardenersofamerica.com>  
<http://www.tgoa-mgca.org>

### **New password as of August 1, 2004: lily**

The TGOA/MGCA website contains a wealth of horticulture and gardening information. There are four Master Gardener experts standing by to answer your questions. It takes a small amount of effort to sign in to the Questions and Answers discussion group.

It is open to the general public as well as to TGOA/ MGCA members. Tell your neighbors and friends to sign in if they have gardening questions or problems. Everyone can contribute to the discussion in addition to submitting their own questions. Anyone can then remain as a permanent member or unsubscribe after receiving answers.

For further information: <http://www.tgoa-mgca.org/Questions.htm>

## **Club Newsletters**

Clubs may put their monthly newsletters on the TGOA/MGCA website. The Valley of the Sun Gardeners has a link so that anyone can access their newsletter, says Olin Miller, website committee. Per Frank Mitch, "it is a neat way for that club's newsletter to be seen by the public", "no other clubs have done such a thing but it is a good idea." The file is formatted to be compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader version 6.0 and later. Reader is free at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).

**Q.** Where does chocolate come from?

**A.** Chocolate is derived from the seeds of the cacao tree, which grows in moist tropical climates in Africa and South America. The seeds must be fermented, then dried, cleaned, roasted and ground to a thick paste. Hardened, this paste becomes unsweetened baking chocolate. Heated, it yields cocoa butter. The dry material that's left is ground for unsweetened cocoa. Blending the paste with additional cocoa butter and sweeteners produces chocolate candy. If other fats are used, the final product can not be labeled "chocolate". White chocolate is made of cocoa butter and sweeteners without the dark paste

# From the Garden Shop

## ACCESSORIES

### Sunbody Hats

(made of Guatemalan palm leaves)

#### They're Tough – Rain or Shine:

Sewn-braid palm leaf hats are the toughest hats you will find. The overlapping layers of palm braid form an almost impenetrable sun block. And when they get wet, they stiffen and keep their shape making them great in sun or rain.

#### You Can Wet'm and Shape'm:

They are easily re-shaped with plain water – no stem is required. You can use a spray bottle, hold hat under the faucet, or dip it in a bucket and easily shape by hand.

#### You Can Crush'm and Pop Them Back Out To Shape:

A horse can step on one and if the hoof doesn't cut completely through, you can pop it back out and keep wearing it. Packing them flat in a suitcase is possible, but will require some reshaping.

**Send head circumference (in inches) for a perfect fit.**

A-Z Hints for Vegetable Gardener.....	\$ 6.00
Club President Plaque (walnut).....	\$35.00
Deep Digger Spade 7".....	\$15.00
Life Member Cap.....	\$25.00
Membership, President, Past President Pin.....	\$ 3.50
Mesh, green and white, or white cap.....	\$ 6.00
Plant Markers (set of 8).....	\$ 2.00
Short Sleeve Arrow Dress Shirt (15 to 17-1/2).....	\$28.00
Sport Shirt, white or green, knit..... (size: M, Lg, XLg, *XXLg, *XXXLg)	\$22.00
Terra Cotta "Flower Pot" Mug with both logos.....	\$ 5.50
Umbrella Folding/sunflower or Magnolia.....	\$15.00
Umbrella-Floral Cane Handle.....	\$12.00
The Ultimate Long Cuffed.....	\$ 6.00
The Ultimate Summer Glove.....	\$ 6.00
Vest, Green.....	\$16.00
White Golf Cap.....	\$ 8.00
White or Green Lined windbreaker..... (size: M, Lg, XLg) (*XXLg) * +\$3.00	\$32.00

### ORDER FORM

Ship To  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Style	Size	Quantity	Price	Total

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## Editor's Notes

Kahla Main has received a grant to continue her education. She is attending college and is no longer the Headquarters Secretary. We wish her well.

The new Administrative Secretary and Editor at TGOA/MGCA Headquarters in Johnston, Iowa, is AJ Freeman. She is retired from the Iowa Army National Guard, State Area Command, and Military Personnel Office. Her military career spanned 24 years. Positions held include Military Police Officer, Career Manager, and Supply Clerk. She worked as a Military Personnel Clerk and State Personnel Security Manager for 18 years as a Federal employee for the Iowa National Guard. AJ also spent over 6 years as an Urbandale, Iowa police reservist.

As you see, our newsletter has been increased from 4 pages to 8 pages to accommodate more club information from our members. Please phone, mail, fax or email items you want to enter into the Newsletter to AJ Freeman. Crisp, clear, black and white photos can also be entered. Information and pictures will be edited. The only way to maintain an 8-page newsletter is with your support. Club newsletters can be emailed to me instead of mailing them. Thank you

Please notify the Administrative Secretary or the Membership Manager as soon as possible of any address changes.

## Near and Dear to My Heart

Please say a prayer for and keep in your thoughts, our military men and women who are in harms way. Each and every one of them needs your prayers. If a club has sent or is going to send, a care package to our service members overseas, please notify this editor so it can be put into the next newsletter. Also, if a club member is serving overseas or has a child or grandchild serving overseas, I would like to enter that information also.

### DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

2005

ISSUE	DEADLINE
January/February	December 1, '04
March/April	February 1, '05
May/June	April 1
July/August	June 1
September/October	August 1
November/December	October 1

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