



Volume 18

The Gardeners Of America

Men's Garden Clubs Of America

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2007



Number 1

HAPPY NEW YEARS
TO ALL FROM TGOA/MGCA
HEADQUARTERS



*The
President's
Message*

Greetings from Arizona:

I am pleased and honored to serve as your next president of TGOA/MGCA. I have participated, as you have, in developing expertise in gardening that flows into the community through public service. I believe our education, scholarship and public service projects serve as examples of good citizenship that is needed in America today.

We have a core team of officers and committee chairs who are dedicated through their leadership to move our organization forward. Our headquarters managers AJ Freeman and Bob Young are making every effort to provide support for our membership under the able direction of our treasurer, Steve Bush. This is truly a team effort and I am confident our committees, board members and officers can help lead TGOA/MGCA and me to significant accomplishments.

Most of all, I want to tell all members of our organization

that each and every one of you is a member of the "team".

Without each one of you we will not be able to accomplish our mission and grow our organization.

We are here because we like to garden and we like to learn, participate, educate, encourage, improve, and promote the bonds of friendship among fellow gardeners. To do these things we need to communicate with each other.

We are well on the road communicating with each other thanks to Frank Mitch, our webmaster, for the good job he is doing. Our other two new committees, Club Communications and Newsletter Editorial, are striving to keep you and your clubs informed with helpful, useful information.

These three efforts need your support and input. The success of this effort is commensurate with the information that you send to these people. We owe a debt of thanks to all the people working on our committees and their leaders for the hours they spend and the good job they do.

With the concurrence of the Board of Directors, I would like to accomplish the following as president of the TGOA/MGCA: 1) increase the participation of current and new members; 2) address the challenge of growing membership in an aging organization

with time constraints on outside activities; 3) maintain an organization with time constraints on outside activities and 4) make sure every member is enjoying good fellowship and good gardening.

In life the old adage "you only get out of something what
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**TGOA/MGCA 2006
National Executive Officers**

President: James Mack, 1101 Broadmore, Tempe, AZ 85282, 480-966-8387, jandjmack@cox.net

First Vice President: Chuck Burt, P.O. Box 606, Austin, TX 78767, 512-606-0177, txcwdancer@hotmail.com

Second Vice President: Bob Grossman, 6115 Linden, Dallas, TX 75230, 972-701-8300 bobgrossman@prodigy.net

Third Vice President: Jerome Frampton, Jerome Frampton, 202 N. 15th St., Clear Lake, IA 50428, .641-357-5627, Jerome@netconx.net

Immediate Past President: Dale Davies, P.O. Box 524, Van Wert, OH 45891, 419-238-9351, lhenney@bright.net

Treasurer: Steven Bush, 1522 17th St., West Des Moines, IA 50265, 515-225-9638, bushfinancial@mchsi.com

TGOA/MGCA HQ SUPPORT

Administrative Assistant, AJ Freeman, 5560 Merle Hay Rd., Johnston, IA 50131, 515-278-0295, tgoasecy@dwx.com

Membership Manager / Bookkeeper, Bob Young, P.O. Box 241, Johnston, IA 50131-0241, 515-278-0295, Fax: 515-278-6245, mgcambr@dwx.com

*A New Year
A New Energy*

JANUARY
1 - New Years Day
15 - Martin Luther King BD

FEBRUARY
19 - President's Day
21 - Ash Wednesday

**The President's Message,
continuation from page 1**

you put into it" holds true. The future of TGOA/MGCA is "us" and I need your help in assuring "us" success.

Jim Mack



**Gardening Heaven in
2007!**

The national convention of The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America will be three days of business meetings, seminars, garden tours and fellowship with fellow gardeners.

It will be held July 12 - 14, 2007 at Clock Tower Resort, Rockford, IL. The registration form is at www.tgoa-mgca.org

**From the President of the
Ill/Wis region**

By Audrey Friend

I thought as president of the Ill/Wis region I should write a small article about the upcoming convention.

*Are you planning to attend?
Attend What?*

Gardening Heaven in 2007!

As president of the Illinois/Wisconsin region I personally want to invite you to the 2007 national convention.

Our members have been working very hard to make this convention a rewarding one for you.

The field trip to John

Morley's Garden is a chance of a lifetime - you can buzz around with the honeybees - increase your knowledge on roses, herbs, art in the garden, orchids and many more interesting topics.

Our members are waiting to shake your hand - glad you came - and share with you all the exciting things that are happening in our region.

Make your plans NOW to attend the national convention, July 12-14, 2007.

Attention Clubs Regions

Please submit your request to be host for the **2008** convention to Honey Barnekoff or any executive officer **as soon as possible.**

2007 DIRECTORIES

CLUBS / REGIONS / MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, NATIONAL DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES:

The suspense date for getting names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (if applicable) to national headquarters for the 2007 club, region, members-at-large, national directors and committee directories is January 31.

Please submit the information required to Bob Young or AJ Freeman, at National Headquarters via mail or email.

Thank you for your assistance.

The first "Delicious" apple was grown in Madison County, Iowa, thanks to Jesse Hiatt in the early 1860's.

NEW ROOF CONTRIBUTION PLAQUE

Our need for the new roof has been discussed seriously for the last five years and we do not want to wait until the rain pours into our facility.

Those members who contribute \$100 or more will be listed on a permanent plaque displayed on the wall in the home office.

Honey Barnekoff, Overland Park, KS
Rosemary Borowitz, Green Bay, WI
Charles & Grace Brasher, Kansas City, KS
Harold Brenzikoffer, Emporia, KS
William Burnham, Des Moines, IA
Janette Clarkson, Marietta, GA
Dale and Marcia Davies, Van Wert, OH
Jerome Frampton, Clear Lake, IA
Nancy Gordon, IA
Paul Hartman, Green Bay, WI
Georgeanna Howanietz, Rome, NY
Gardeners of Jackson, MS
Bill & Anita Lanning, Findlay, OH
Marvin Lemke, Des Moines, IA
Jim & Juanita Mack, Tempe, AZ
Marsha May, De Pere, WI
R. B. Mericle, West Des Moines, IA
Frank Mitch, Akron, OH
Robert Mongin, Green Bay, WI
Lyle Morse, Des Moines, IA
Mary Naumann, New Franken, WI
Richard Rader, OH
Susan Rohan, Green Bay, WI
Mary Jo Rumancik, Ft. Wayne, IN
Agnes Schussman, De Pere, WI
Tom & Bernice Shanley, Des Moines, IA

NEW ROOF CONTRIBUTION PLAQUE

Continued

Dwight Stone, Golden Valley, MN
Ivan Wikner, Johnston, IA
Shirley Winnes, Green Bay, WI
Findlay Club, OH
Gardeners of Lima, OH
Landscape Design, IA
Mountain Shadow GC, GA
Spartanburg MGC, SC
Stow Community GC, OH
Van Wert MGC, OH

2007 NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

The 2007 national newsletter will no longer accompany the AHS magazine.

Instead it will be mailed to each *paid* member from a publishing company in Iowa.

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Please keep TGOA / MGCA headquarters notified of any changes in your status and/or address or of any administrative problems you may have.

MEMORIALS/HONORS

Gardening From The Heart

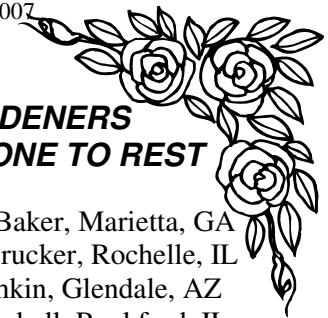
A gift was received from Ron and Ila Mae Heggen in honor of Bill and Anita Lanning's 50th wedding anniversary.

If you wish to submit a monetary gift to the headquarters in memory or honor of any member, please use the form from the website or get a form from your club's secretary.

Members are the organization



GARDENERS GONE TO REST



Colquitt Baker, Marietta, GA
Melvin Brucker, Rochelle, IL
Paul Bushkin, Glendale, AZ
Wm Campbell, Rockford, IL
E.L. Carr, Akron, OH
Eddie Field, Atlanta, GA
Vi Irber, Berkeley Heights, NJ
Al Jarnagin, Millington, NJ
Everett Jones, Van Wert, OH
Elmer King, Mendota, IL
Warren Kirkley, Elbert, CO
Donald Krahn, Mendota, IL
Dean Martin, Stow, OH
Eugene Mundorf, Stow, OH
Howard O'Shea, Groton, NY
Bernard Owen, Austin, TX
Richard Phipps, Des Moines, IA
R. Joe Ridley, Lilburn, GA
Jimmy Snoga, Akron, OH
Lawrence Spyker, Burlingame, CA
Charles Summers, Youngstown, OH
Irving Weatherup, Camillus, NY



CLUB ACTIVITIES

Please share your club's community activities coming up or completed by submitting stories to headquarters to be printed in our national newsletter or website.

NEW MEMBERS

New members to TGOA/MGCA are mailed their membership card and the book, "Hints for the Vegetable Garden, A to Z" directly from TGOA / MGCA headquarters.

We would like to welcome all new members and invite you to visit National Headquarters in Johnston Iowa at anytime.

TRAVELING THE U.S.**Herb Day 2007 Slated for January 20, 2007**

Source: Chuck Voigt, 217-333-1969, cevoigt@uiuc.edu (University of Illinois.)

Urbana -- University of Illinois Extension has scheduled its popular Herb Day 2007 for Saturday, January 20, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 1001 Killarney St., Urbana, IL (217) 328-7900.

Herbal experts from around the world will present five educational sessions to inspire herb gardening and use in the coming year.

There will be a retail area again this year, selling a broad spectrum of herb, spice, and gardening products. Get a jump-start on the 2007 gardening season by shopping now. Morning coffee, tea, and rolls will be available near the exhibit area, and an herb-themed lunch buffet will be served in the Atrium. The capacity of the lecture room has been slightly expanded to 270, but be sure to send in your reservations early to avoid disappointment, since this expanded space again sold out last year.

Attendees may register and reserve lunch at any time through January 12, as long as space remains available. Registrations will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the available 270 spaces are filled, any additional registrations will be returned. On-site registration will only be available if all 270 seats are not filled by pre-

registration. On-site registration does not include lunch. It has been five years since any on-site registration space has been available.

Cost of registration, including lunch, is only \$49 per person. This includes seating in the lectures, coffee, tea, and rolls during morning registration, an herbal theme lunch buffet, and access to the retail area. A vegan plate is available, but only if specified on the registration form. Reservations must be received by January 12, 2007, to guarantee lunch.

Those interested in attending should mail checks, payable to the University of Illinois, to: Herb Day 2007, Attn: Carol Preston, S-406 Turner Hall, 1102 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, Illinois 61801.

For more information, call (217) 333-7738 and mention Herb Day 2007. Sorry, credit card orders cannot be accepted, and cancellations will not be refunded. Registrations may be transferred to another individual, as long as Carol Preston is notified of the name change by January 12.

No confirmation of registration will be sent. To confirm receipt of registration, please phone (217) 333-7738 or e-mail preston1@uiuc.edu.

Partner with Cornell Lab of Ornithology on free bird-study project!

By Karen Purcell, Cornell Ornithology

Hello Gardeners!

Birds cover thousands of miles during migration. Like

any long-distance traveler, they need a place to rest and refuel. What do birds do when all they see below are downs and cities?

Despite the dramatic increase in urbanization, how can we provide green spaces with adequate food and shelter to help the birds? What impacts do community gardens, rooftop gardens, parks, green balconies, or even a single tree in a sea of concrete have on birds?

Help the Cornell Lab of Ornithology find out in an exciting and free nationwide event called "Celebrate Urban Birds!" May 10-13, 2007. www.urbanbirds.org/celebration

People of all ages and backgrounds can spend from one hour to four days learning about city birds, conducting bird counts for science, and engaging in projects to "green" up their community. Help organize and event in your community through your group, museum, nature center, school, library, business, senior center, community center, club, park, or backyard!

You choose how involved you want to be. For example, you could simply provide a table with celebration kits, host a simple event that fits into your organizations programming needs or go all out with a large community event (with music, art, community improvement activities, or container planting projects).

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology will provide:

* Bilingual Celebration Kit, including a poster, booklet,

Continued on page 5

**Partner with Cornell Lab,
Continued from page 4,**

instructions for counting birds, data forms, and a sunflower starter kit.

* Bilingual Celebration website, including information for partners and participants, contests, educational materials, photos and links to community partners, art connections, online data collection, and much more.

* Bilingual Results Publications featuring summaries of data and findings, photos, contest winners, stories, art, and more.

Join the Lab of Ornithology for "Celebrate Urban Birds!" Sign up as soon as possible by visiting www.urbanbirds.org/celebration and clicking the top-left button on the navigation bar. Invite others in your community to join us as well. The more the better!

Don't hesitate to call or write if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Karen Purcell
Urban Bird Studies and Pigeon Watch
Cornell Lab of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: (607) 254-2455
Email: urbanbirds@cornell.edu

From The Gardener Magazine, March/April 1990 Issue.

The following is just one of the many benefits you receive as a member.

1. Prestige – You belong to a national gardening organization founded in 1932.

Member of The Gardeners Club of Mendota Honored for Community Beautification Projects



Mayor David Boelk and the City of Mendota, IL honored Jim Armstrong, left, in October for his work in beautifying the town. Mayor Boelk also recommended Armstrong for a TGOA / MGCA award.



Jim Armstrong, a member of The Gardeners Club of Mendota, has been designing, planting, weeding and watering two garden plots along Meriden Street in Mendota for nearly three decades. Armstrong's work and creativity have provided residents and visitors to Mendota with this colorful landscape for several decades.

(Reporter photo by Bonnie Morris)
Excerpts edited from The Mendota Reporter newspaper.

AHS WEBSITE & PASSWORD
www.ahs.org
Password: tulip
This is a *change* from 2005.

Rejuvenate

Revitalize

TGOA / MGCA Webmaster
By Frank Mitch, Web Site Committee Chair

Please feel free to submit articles for your national newsletter and/or website at any time.

Submission in a digital file such as MS Word (newsletter or website) or Publisher (web site only) is preferred. Do *not* use MS Works.

Please state whether the article is for the website and / or the national newsletter.

A relevant photo is welcome and a digital .jpg format is preferred.

If mailing hard copy photos, please include a write up explaining the photos.

Email articles and photos to tgoasecy@dwx.com or mail to the TGOA / MGCA mailing address attention AJ Freeman or fax: 515-278-6245.

National Newsletter

Articles should be 200 words or less in font size 12 and the font type should be either Times New Roman or Arial.

Web Page

Articles should be one page or so in length, about 500 words.

| DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER | |
|--|----------------|
| Newsletter | Deadline Dates |
| Mar/Apr '07 | Feb 1-7, '07 |
| May/June '07 | Apr 2-6 '07 |
| Jul/Aug '07 | Jun 1-7, '07 |
| Sep/Oct '07 | Aug 1-7, '07 |
| Nov/Dec '07 | Oct 1-5, '07 |
| Jan/Feb '08 | Dec 3-7, '07 |

RED AND BLUE BOOKS

Every club should have a member or two who has internet capabilities.

Please print both the Red and Blue Books off the TGOA/MGCA web site (www.tgoa-mgca.org), members only password is "lily" and put into a binder which will be passed from one club president to the next.

These two books are so full of information that will help club and region officers, members and committees.

New for 2007: the Red and Blue books will be rewritten in 2007, but keep the copies you have right now for references and guidelines.

You will be notified when the books are done.

For All TGOA / MGCA Members Over Age 70 1/2

For many of you this could be by far the most valuable part of this newsletter or any TGOA/MGCA Newsletter.

The new federal Pension Protection Act, enacted earlier this year, allows funds from an IRA to be directly transferred to charity without first being included into taxable income of the IRA owner. Of course, such a transfer would not then be allowed as a charitable deduction. This law change is available immediately for the 2006 tax year and currently is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2007, though Congress could extend that date.

I will not get into all the tax law intricacies here, but suffice it to say that this change applies for any such

transfer up to \$100,000 per IRA owner, per year. The IRA distribution could be an RMD or a single larger amount. A person does not have to itemize to save money from this change. Also, even if the transfer is only \$5,000, many folks could save as much as \$2,000 in combined federal and state income taxes compared to taking the IRA distribution and then giving same amount to charity.

Obviously, I mention this

tax change because it makes it easier for anyone who is over 70 ½ (a great many of our members) to donate to TGOA/MGCA. If any of you has questions about this new law, you may call or email me. This really is one of the more favorable law changes for seniors in years. Whether you give to TGOA/MGCA or not, I wanted you all to be aware of the change.

Steve Bush CPA and
TGOA/MGCA Treasurer

TGOA/MGCA Website

By Frank Mitch, Web Master and Committee Chair

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

<http://www.gardenersofamerica.org>

<http://www.gardenersofamerica.com>

Password = lily

The precious jewel and best-kept secret of TGOA / MGCA is the Red Book.

At one time it was carefully hoarded by Club Presidents who were supposed to pass it on and very often did not. Now it is easily available to all members as well as club officers. Just go to Members Only on our website and click on the Red Book. There before you're very eyes will be a list of 32 items in the Red Book. Please feel free to click on any or all of these items and print out the forms, handbooks, or lists of your choice. Included are lists of video programs, awards, and much more which can be ordered from the National office. The Club Officers and Committee Chair Guides are worth their weight in gold. All clubs should get these for their new officers each year. Photographers need the Photo Slide Contest Manual in order to enter the competition. The list goes on and on. By all means have a look at it on the website if you have never been exposed to it.

We are in the process of updating some of the parts of the Redbook. The changes are mostly minor and should all be there early in 2007. You are encouraged to get what you need now and check later to see if there are changes.

Ever hear that old question: "What does National do for us?" "The "Red Book" is one great answer.

GARDEN CLUB IN JOHNSTON FOR ALL

Excerpt from The Des Moines Register, October 10, 2006 (Iowa)

Des Moines Men's Garden Club has a rich history, a variety of members and is seeking new ones. And it's not just for men.

The Des Moines Men's Garden Club, headquartered at 5560 Merle Hay Road in Johnston, isn't just for Des Moines residents – and it isn't exclusively for men.

One thing that can't be mistaken about the club is the passion its members have for digging in the dirt.

Member Jerri Scott of Des Moines said the club was founded in 1930 when a group of men broke away from the Des Moines Garden Club. Jay Ding Darling, Pulitzer prizewinning cartoonist and environmentalist, was a founding member of the Des Moines Men's Garden Club. The club now has more than 100 members.

"There's a lot of old history, and it's respected and renowned. That's why we haven't changed the name," Scott said. "We're actively seeking new members – men, women and children.

"What I would like people to see," Scott said, "is what a great family activity gardening is. I'm 58 and I will be able to garden in one form or another as long as I can move. It's important to get our kids back outside and have some understanding of where their food comes from. Gardening is something the entire family can get together and do, it's inexpensive and the results are wonderful."

Board member Helen Rodish of West Des Moines said numerous volunteer opportunities are available with the club. Rodish and a friend are responsible for taking care of the Purple Heart monument at the state capitol.

"The club also gives out a scholarship to a student studying horticulture, and we have supported the Botanical Center over the years," Rodish said. "We also volunteer a lot of time at the governor's mansion."

Scott, who has been a member of the club for 12 years, said experts as well as novice gardeners are in the club and everyone is encouraged to learn.

"I still consider myself a novice; I like digging in the dirt," Scott said. "We have a couple members who have been instructors in the field at DMACC, and some of us are just sticking seeds in the ground."

The variety of gardens is also varied. Some members grow plants out of containers while others have larger, more

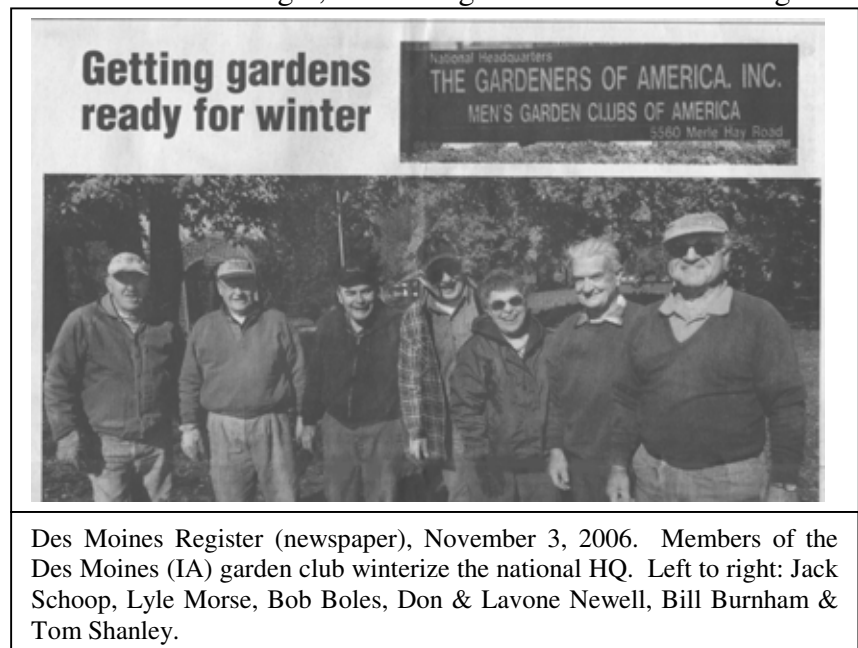
extensive gardens.

"This club is for all gardening interests, whether it's a better lawn or bushes or flowers or vegetables," said member Mark Riggs of Urbandale. "You also learn a lot because there are a lot of experienced people."

Each monthly meeting has a featured speaker. Past presenters have covered topics such as lilacs, worms, natural prairies and alternative energy. The speaker at the October meeting, which was Monday, offered wine samples and discussed grapes.

Scott said the results of gardening are well worth the effort.

"When you get a fruit or vegetable blooming, it's a grand feeling. For me, it's spiritual," Scott said. "There's a higher power that is able to turn that little seed I planted into something. It's really gratifying and there's just something to be said about sitting out in your own space with fragrances, little breeze making some sounds in the grass – and watching the



Des Moines Register (newspaper), November 3, 2006. Members of the Des Moines (IA) garden club winterize the national HQ. Left to right: Jack Schoop, Lyle Morse, Bob Boles, Don & Lavone Newell, Bill Burnham & Tom Shanley.

GARDEN CLUB IN JOHNSTON FOR ALL, continued from page 6

Jessica Brown, Register correspondent, interviewed members at their club's open house in September 2006.

The national headquarters of The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America has been located in Johnston, Iowa since 1968.

You are welcome to visit our beautiful grounds at National Headquarters in Johnston, Iowa at any time.

Truly a *GOLDEN* couple.



Bill and Anita Lanning, Findlay, OH, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary, November 2006. Congratulations from TGOA/MGCA.

Book Review for Jan/Feb Newsletter

Did you know you could root some types of rose cuttings "by sticking them into a raw potato and planting the, potato and all, where you want the rose to grow"? Did you know that freezing parsley seeds would speed up germination? And have you ever wondered how floral arrangers get bird-of-paradise to look so perfect in their arrangements?

Wouldn't it be nice if you could call on experienced gardeners whenever you had a question about topics like these or many, many others?

Well, if you get your hands on a copy of *Did You Know...? Wise Words & Advice for Gardeners & Floral Designer*, (2007), a new book just published by Members and Friends of National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc., you'll have the answers to most of your gardening and flower arranging questions.

This book is a compilation of years and years of successful gardening experience, straight from the practitioners in the nation's capital. Members from a number of garden clubs have donated their expertise to make this book a useful tool for anyone interested in any aspect of gardening or floral arrangement. Divided into four major sections—"Gardening: The Basics," "Gardening: All about Growing," "Gardening Practices," and "Floral Design," this little book is also beautifully illustrated with drawings of plants, birds, and insects. Each tip is credited to a particular gardener and all are arranged in easy-to-read fashion on the page. The paper back format and the size of the book make it portable enough to carry out into the garden with you. The useful index at the back ensures that you'll be able to track down your gardening question with ease.

A copy of this book is available for check out from the headquarters library, but if you're like me and just love useful books on gardening, you'll probably want to visit the website at www.ncagardenclubs.org or call 202-399-5958 and

purchase your own copy. At \$10 a copy, it's quite a bargain!

Dianne S. Fergusson, Ph.D.
Chair, Book Review
Committee

INTERESTING! WATER

1. 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated.
2. In 37% of Americans, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger.
3. Even MILD dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%.
4. One glass of water will shut down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a University of Washington study.
5. Lack of water is the #1 trigger of daytime fatigue.
6. Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day would significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers.
7. A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen or on a printed page.
8. Drinking 5 glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%; plus, it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%; and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer.

Forests are the "lungs" of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Speech January 29th, 1935

News From Headquarters

(Now or Later?)

By 1st VP, Chuck Burt

Every organization struggles with getting information out to all of its members in a timely manner. This is even more of an obstacle when the members of organizations are spread over a large geographical area. This certainly applies to The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America (TGOA/MGCA) organization.

The TGOA / MGCA newsletter is published bi-monthly and continues to have pertinent information published for all the membership. Occasionally, things happen between publications and the news of such events would better serve the membership if it could be shared in advance of the next newsletter publication.

However, it is cost prohibitive to use the current postal distribution system for advance announcements to be distributed individual members. Historically, such announcements were passed to the club presidents and local club newsletter editors for distribution.

At the November 2006 board of directors meeting the issue of timely announcements, coming from headquarters, not always getting to the individual member was discussed a great length. We believe we have a solution that will complement our current information distribution process with the aid of the internet.

The internet has become a valuable conduit in delivery of timely information.

TGOA / MGCA headquarters will be bringing on-line an e-mail list server to facilitate communicating timely announcements from headquarters to the TGOA / MGCA membership. This is a one-way conduit. **Only e-mails originating from headquarters will be delivered to subscribers.** Any attempt to post a message on this e-mail list server by either a subscriber or non-subscriber will be rejected. Also, attempting to reply to a message sent from the TGOA / MGCA Yahoo list will cause that e-mail address to be unsubscribed.

Because cost is of concern, we will be using a free service supported by Yahoo Groups. Yahoo does not send individual or unsolicited e-mails when subscribed with this service. Yahoo supports this free service by inserting an advertising banner into the body of each e-mail. This has been a longtime practice of most free e-mail service providers and it is an accepted practice industry wide.

Participation in this e-mail list by the membership is optional. If you wish to receive these e-mail announcements, you will need to subscribe to the e-mail list server. Your e-mail address will be kept confidential. No one will have access to it except headquarters staff. Other subscribers will not be able to view any subscriber's e-mail address.

You may subscribe or unsubscribe at anytime by e-mailing your request to:

To subscribe send a blank e-mail to: [TGOAMGCA-](mailto:TGOAMGCA-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

subscribe@yahoogroups.com from the e-mail address you wish to be subscribed.

To unsubscribe send a blank e-mail to: TGOAMGCA-unsubscriber@yahoogroups.com from the e-mail address you want removed from the message distribution list.

What else can you expect by subscribing to this e-mail list? For one thing advance notice of the newsletter being available on-line. Frank Mitch, our webmaster, is given a copy of the newsletter when it goes to the printer. He publishes it on the www.tgoa-mgac.org website. By subscribing to this e-mail list server you will receive notice when the next newsletter is available on-line.

Stay up to date with information from headquarters. Consider subscribing so you will get advance notices of happenings with TGOA/MGCA. Remember you can easily take yourself off the distribution list by sending a blank e-mail to: tgoamgca-unsubscribe@yahoo.com.

Now, let's hear the news!

ADVICE FROM A MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Submitted by Bob Swanson, Boone County GoA

While attending a marriage seminar dealing with communication, Jack and his wife, Libby, listened to the instructor who said, "It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes." He turned to Jack and said, "Can you name your wife's favorite flower?" Jack leaned over, touched Libby's arm gently and whispered, "It's Pillsbury, isn't it?"

**Banner Desert Hospital Tour
April 7, 2007**

By Jim Mack

The East Valley Garden Club of Arizona, serving the towns of Tempe, Mesa, Apache Junction, Chandler, Gilbert and Scottsdale, is sponsoring an early April **Home Garden Tour** with Banner Desert hospital. Banner hospital is the largest, most well known hospital in the East Valley located in Mesa, AZ.

The proceeds of the garden tour will be used for public community projects including beds for the new Children's Hospital.

The theme of the community project will be **"Flower Beds For Children's Beds."**

The East Valley Garden Club is happy to be working with the Banner Desert Hospital Auxiliary Volunteer Group. We are currently setting up the gardens, which we will be touring, our raffle, plant sale, the executive administration of the effort and the publicity. The East Valley Garden Club feels it will not only be filling a needed public service, but will have the opportunity to let the public see a horticulture / gardening based group in action.

The East Valley Garden Club mission is not only how to garden in the low desert but to have that expertise flow into the community through public service.

From the Gardener magazine, March/April 1990 issue.

The following is just one of the many benefits you receive as a member.

2. Do It Now – As a member you can join thousands of other gardeners to promote gardening, ecology, environmental protection, horticultural therapy and community beautification.

2007 Calendars

The 2007 TGOA/MGCA calendars are here; ready to hang in your office or home. They also make great presents for family and friends. These calendars are good to give to new members, used as a recruiting tool and are suitable for framing. They also can be given to local stores / businesses for their sale or as an appreciation gift for their support.

Plaques & Certificates. Order through Bob Young, National Headquarters, afternoons, Monday-Friday at 515-278-0295 or email him at mgcamb@dwx.com or via mail.

ENTERPRISE Rent-A-Car

Enterprise Rent-A-Car is pleased to offer discounts to members of the Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America.

Reservations may be made on line at: www.enterprise.com. To make a reservation on line enter your account number in the Corporate Account or Source Code field, the account number is **05K0309**. It will then ask for the first three letters of your organization's name. Enter **THE**, proceed with making your reservation and your discount will be included in the rate that is displayed.

You may also call **1-800-RENT-A-CAR** to make a reservation, be sure to provide your corporate ID number to receive your discount.

*Life member white caps
(with both logos)
are now only \$15*

**2007 Calendar
Order Form**

Ship to:

Name: _____

Club Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

1-249..\$2.85 each

250-749..\$2.60 each

750+..\$2.45 each

Quantity ordered: _____

Total Amount: _____

Order via: mail, phone, fax, stop in at HQ or email order requests to TGOA/MGCA headquarters in Johnston, Iowa.

A bill will be forwarded with your calendars.

From the Garden Shop ACCESSORIES

A-Z Hints for Vegetable Gardener, book \$6

Caps & Hats (choice of logo)

Life member white cap (both logos) \$15

Green/White or White Mesh Cap \$7.50

Green or White Sun Visor \$6

Sun body Hat (no logo)(discription below) \$20

White poplin Golf Cap \$8

Jackets (choice of logo)

Green or White Lined Windbreaker

M-Xlg \$32 XXlg \$35

Green or White Unlined Windbreaker

M-Xlg \$26 XXlg \$29

Shirts (choice of logo)

Green or White Sport Shirt, knit

M-Xlg \$22 XX & XXXlg \$25

Short Sleeve Arrow Dress Shirt

(15 to 17-1/2) \$28.00

Gardening from the Heart T-shirt

(no logo choice) L-Xlg \$5

Vest (choice of logo)

Green Poplin, washable \$16

Jewelry (club members only, logo choice)

Bolo Tie, \$6.75; Key Chain, \$4; Tie Tacks, \$4

Earrings (choice of post or wire), \$7.99

Pin, Membership President, Past President \$3.50

Plaque, Club President (walnut) \$40

Mugs, Insulated, Hot/Cold (both logos) \$5

Porcelain (both logos) \$3.50

Terra Cotta "Flower Pot" (both logos) \$5.50

Gloves, Long Cuffed or Summer Glove \$6

Plant Markers (set of 8) \$2 (unavailable at this time)

Screen Saver: \$1

Umbrella (sunflower or magnolia) \$15

Shipping and handling charges will be added to your order using this chart:

Shipping is by priority mail.

| Total Order | Shipping and Handling Charge |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Up to \$9.99..... | \$4.00 |
| \$10 to \$49.99..... | \$7.50 |
| \$50 to \$99.99..... | \$10.50 |
| \$100 to \$199.99... | \$12.50 |
| \$299 and over..... | \$14.50 |

Only checks or cash please. Headquarters is not set up for credit card actions. Credit cards may be used when ordering from the web site.

Sunbody Hats are made of Guatemalan palm leaves and are tough – rain or shine.

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

ORDER FORM

Name _____ Club Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

| Style/Item | Size | Quantity | Price | Total |
|------------|------|----------|-------|-------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Head size for Sunbody hat (only): _____

Total Enclosed: _____



... FROM THE
...EDITOR'S DESK
By AJ Freeman



**National Membership
Manager**

Contact Mr. Bob Young, for national membership and finance questions or actions at TGOA / MGCA headquarters, Johnston, Iowa, afternoons, M-F, 515-278-0295, or via email: mgcamb@dwx.com

**JUST THE FAX MA'AM
JUST THE FAX**

Please feel free to fax information, articles or questions to headquarters at: 515-278-6245. Please include a cover sheet with your name and phone number and subject line.

The official TGOA / MGCA / AHS Membership Application is found in the **Red Book** on the TGOA/MGCA website or can be requested through National Headquarters.

**To be involved
is to have a voice**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND
REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

If you have not yet turned in your year-end report for 2006, please do so as soon as possible.

Reports are to be submitted to the appropriate executive officer quarterly.

Reports are to include what activities your committee / region was involved in.

Websites of interest:

Explore Duke Farms at www.dukefarms.org
or
www.ddcf.org
or google Duke Farms

A Special Thank You

I wish to thank everyone who has sent a memorial in a member's memory. What a great way to honor someone.

**WHAT'S NEW ON THE
TGOA/MGCA WEBSITE**

By Frank Mitch, Web Master

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

Password = lily

**Check out your new and
improved website.**

For gardening questions and answers go to the TGOA/MGCA website

www.tgoa-mgca.org

Master gardeners
are standing by.

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority."
E.B. White

The Gardeners Of America / Men's Garden Clubs Of America,
Memorial Form is now in the Red Book on the website.

Near and Dear to My Heart

**HEALTH PROBLEMS ACROSS
THE UNITED STATES**

Please keep in your prayers those members and their families who have serious health problems.

* * * * *

Please say a prayer for and keep in your thoughts, our military men and women, law enforcement and fire personnel who are in harm's way and on the front lines everyday. Each and every one of them and their families need your prayers.

**"TOGETHER, EVERYBODY
ACCOMPLISHES MORE"**



Lead by Example

"All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today." Chinese Proverb

The TGOA/MGCA National Newsletter is created at National Headquarters, Johnston, Iowa.

**The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs
National Headquarters**

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