

THE GARDENERS OF AMERICA
MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA



Newsletter

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Number 4

Dear Fellow Gardeners:



**President's
Message**

This is the first issue, for us, of *The American Gardener* magazine. We'd like to thank the American Horticultural Society for their help and enthusiasm in establishing our partnership with them. We know our members will thoroughly enjoy this excellent magazine. Enjoy it then pass it along to another gardener who just might want to join us to receive all the benefits of both organizations. We'd sure be pleased to have any new members. Please go to our website, and

you can link to the AHS website to learn more about AHS. Additionally, in the magazine you will find the AHS password to open the members only portion of their website. Speaking of websites and passwords, we have decided, to change our own members password. The new one is "lily".

We have a pair of members, formerly of the Northland Gardeners of America in the Mo/Kan Region, who moved last year to Newport, AR. Dale and Harriett Luthi couldn't seem to get along without a chapter of The Gardeners of America, so they simply set about chartering a new club. Welcome to the Whitewater/Newport Gardeners of America, actually established last December with 17 members. They are off to a flying start with these two behind them. Now let me tell you that these two are not our youngest members, but they are young and long on enthusiasm. They are octogenarians; Harriett has had a stroke and Dale is confined to a wheelchair, but that didn't keep them from forming our newest chapter. Thank you Dale and Harriett for a job well done.

Our Photography Committee has finished for this year and the new calendars are available. Once again, Judy Schuck and committee have done superb work in providing us a gorgeous calendar, and for a negligible price. You can call or email our national office to have your calendars shipped. They make a wonderful fundraiser, gifts for speakers, excellent Christmas presents, and well received hostess gifts. Won't you order some today for sale within your club? The calendars are one of our biggest sources of revenue. Thank you Judy and committee!

In mid April it was my pleasure to be invited to Mendota, IL, host club for the IL/WI Region Convention. Region President Audrey Friend, Mendota President Tom Palmer, and wife Norma, rolled out a red carpet so thick I almost got lost in it. We had a wonderful one day convention with interesting speakers; one on Indian life and lore by Dennis Wright, and one on how to get things started in the garden by local nursery owner, Randy Setchell. Local members, Ann and Don Krahn, graciously provided me a place to lay my head the night before the convention and National Director, Al

[Con't on Page 2]

Labunski and wife, Lillian, did so the evening of the convention. This kind of hospitality has so many pluses: of course, it saves a few dollars for the traveling national officer (who probably paid for the trip from his/her own pocket), but it affords time to get to know club members, see their gardens, and exchange gardening information as well as organization information.

You may be thinking it's odd I haven't mentioned the national convention, but it's only mid-April as I write this, even though the convention will be in the past when you read it. I'll cover it in the next issue.

Lastly, I want to talk about the Gardening From the Heart program and committee. Programs abound all across our nation in which our members help those less fortunate. Through the many newsletters I have been glad to receive, I've learned about so many applications of this important program - from retirement homes, facilities for those less fortunate to gardening behind razor wire in our nation's prisons. I believe that Gardening From the Heart should be the hallmark of our organization as most garden clubs do not have such programs. It takes dollars and a lot of dedication to see these programs succeed. Thank you GFTH committee for making funds available to these programs and for putting on seminars during our national conventions to tell us how WE can apply our love of gardening to aid others. And thank you to all those dedicated cultivators of the earth who give so much of themselves in our Gardening From the Heart programs.

HAPPY GARDENING!!

Honey Barnekoff

Changes Made at National Headquarters



Kahla (pronounced "KAYLA") Main was hired in late April as the new Administrative Secretary at the National Headquarters office in Johnston, Iowa. She will be working part-time, mornings only in the office. She can be reached by telephone or email at the office at 515-278-0295 or tgoasecy@dwx.com.

Kahla is a graduate of Drake University in Des Moines and works another part-time job in the afternoons with the Central Iowa Library Service Area, a regional consulting firm working with libraries in Central Iowa, located in Ankeny, Iowa.

SCHOLARSHIPS

This year's recipients of the TGO/MGCA Scholarship are:

1. Ty McLellan, Lincoln NE
2. Yi-Ching Chiang, Murphy TX
3. Anna Leis, Columbus OH
4. Danny Moore Jr, Bentonia MS
5. Amy Novotny, Mesa AZ

Congratulations to the winners and Good Luck to you in college and all your future endeavors!

MEMBERSHIP

The following clubs have a 10% or more increase in paid members from January through May 2004.

AZ-NM REGION

Valley of the Sun Gardeners **15.94%**
East Valley Gardeners Club **15.38%**

CENTRAL GREAT LAKES REGION

Men's & Women's GC of Findlay
78.26%
Fulton County Garden Club **16.67%**
MGC of Youngstown **14.29%**

FLA-GA REGION

Marietta Gardeners Club **34.78%**

IL-WI REGION

Elgin GOA **20.00%**

MID-AMERICA REGION

Indianola MGC **13.51%**

MID-SOUTH REGION

Rankin County GOA **16.67%**

MO-KAN REGION

GOA of Overland Park **24.56%**
Excelsior Springs Garden Club
20.00%
Mission Springs GOA **10.00%**

NORTHWEST REGION

Gallatin Gardeners Club **19.44%**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Littleton Garden Club **19.05%**

UPSTATE NEW YORK REGION

Tioga County MGC **28.00%**
At-Large-Upstate NY **15.38%**

Each year at the National Convention the club with the highest percentage of membership increase receives the **GEORGE SPADER AWARD**.

The Web Site Is Growing by Frank Mitch, Web Master

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

The Members Only Password on the website has been changed. We do this periodically to enhance our security. The new password should be typed all in lower case letters. It is:

lily

This password gives access to an ever-changing wealth of resources available only to our members. Please check this section of the website on a regular basis for information regarding policies and procedures, committee and club news, member information, and a link to the website of the American Horticultural Society.

AHS also has a Members Only area on their website. To login you need both a username and a password. They are:

Username: ahs

Password: meadow

Again, remember to type the username and password in lowercase letters to gain access. Here you will find information regarding upcoming events, the AHS Gardeners Information Service area, and a link to back issues of *The American Gardener*.

ENDOWMENT & INVESTMENT

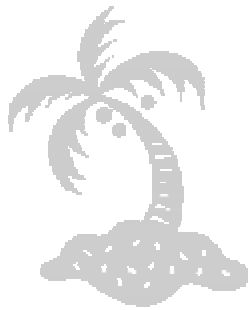
Honorarium received from the Village Gardeners in Leawood, KS for Honey Barnekoff who spoke at their June meeting.

2005 CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Convention attendees will have a special treat in store when they come to southeast Florida next June!!

The Palm Beach Gardens Club will be hosting our next annual convention on June 2-3-4, 2005 at the Jupiter Beach Resort. The hotel is located right on the ocean. Call them at

1-800-228-8810 or
check out their website at:
www.jupiterbeachresort.com.



One great activity to look forward to is the Turtle Watch Walk. June is nesting time for sea turtles who come ashore to lay their eggs at night, right on the hotel's beach.

More information will be given as the date draws nearer. E-mail any questions to National Headquarters at **tgoasecy@dwx.com** or Gale Langford, 2005 Convention Chair, at **langfordgroup@earthlink.com.**

Gardeners Gone to Rest



Walter C Kelley of Shaker Heights, OH
Paul D Clodfelter of Spokane, WA
Dale P Fulon of Doylestown, OH
Roy Wenger of Missoula, MT
Ira Overholt of Stow, OH
Vernon A Dicke of Dublin, OH
John W Mitchell of Centerville, OH

Newsletter Submissions

Members interested in having articles published in the TGOA/MGCA Newsletter should send articles via email or fax to Kahla. Not all articles submitted will be used. All submissions used will be given proper credit and prior notification. Articles can be on any topic related to gardening. Articles should be no more than 1000 words. Please include First and Last name, Club name, City, & State.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Just a reminder that as of July 1, there are no more half year dues.

The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs

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