



**THE GARDENERS OF AMERICA
MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA
NEWSLETTER**



Volume 16

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2005

Number 6



***President's
Message***

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

This will be my final message as your President. I can't say that it has been a successful term. We once again have lost membership and clubs. What the solution is escapes me. TGOA / MGCA has much to offer. We give five scholarships annually of a thousand dollars that is available to any club that takes the time and effort to submit qualified applicants. Membership in The American Horticultural Society provides a very educational magazine six times a year and also a membership card that gains free or discounted admittance to some of the best public and private gardens in the country. This alone is worth thirty-five dollars of your membership dues. Calendars replete with beautiful photos taken by members are available to clubs for fundraising at a minimal cost and are competitive with any on the market. A photo contest is held each year that recognizes the talents of our members with attractive awards and provides the pages for the

calendar. There is a library of many fine volumes that members have at their disposal at any time. Judging schools and manuals are regional activities supported and supplied by the national organization along with the horticultural shows held by many clubs. These alone provide a valuable source of new members. Think of what the MGCA/TGOA has to offer and take advantage of all that is there.

The next national convention will be held in Spartanburg, SC April 21, 22, 23, 2006 and I can assure you that it will be one well worth attending. Southern hospitality will be exhibited at its finest. Having attended a directors' meeting there several years ago I can attest to the fine seminars and great programs that the club provides. Plan to be there if you want to treat yourself to an enjoyable weekend.

The following year (2007) the national convention will be held in Rockford IL and there again Midwest hospitality will be a challenge to that of our southern brothers.

Rockford is the second largest city in Illinois and although it is not as big as Chicago in size, it matches it in heart. There will be much to see and do at both conventions and planning to attend both will be doing yourself a favor.

In closing I would like to wish your incoming officers all of the success possible.

Dale Davies, President; Jim Mack, 1st Vice President; Chuck Burt, 2nd Vice President and Bob Grossman, 3rd Vice President are all very fine people and deserving of your complete support.

Yours in Gardening,
Bill Carney

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**TGOA/MGCA 2005
National Executive Officers**

President: William Carney, 2984 Algonquin Dr., Poland, OH 44514, 330-757-9207, wjcarney@juno.com

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

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

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

Immediate Past President: Honey Barnekoff, 6820 W. 67th St., Overland Park, KS 66202, 913-722-5562, Barnekoff@everestkc.net

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

TGOA/MGCA 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 50131-6245, 515-278-0295, Fax: 515-278-6245, mgcambr@dwx.com

Web Master, Frank Mitch, ffm2065@hotmail.com

Correction to Jim Mack's email address. Add a "d".

It should be:
jandjmack@cox.net



**TGOA/MGCA
HEADQUARTERS
WISHES EVERYONE
A HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

By Jim Tucker, Mountain Shadow Garden Club

In order to grow and prosper over time volunteer organizations constantly need to adapt to changes in the environment and provide maximum flexibility to their various affiliates. MGCA's acceptance of women as members in 1988 greatly expanded the number of potential members and enabled many declining clubs to regain viability. The Mountain Shadow Garden Club avoided closing in 2000 by changing to a co-ed membership. I believe the flexibility to have either a MGCA or TGOA club is a real strength for the organization. jt

**2006 NATIONAL CONVENTION
April 22-25, 2006**

Co-Chairs: Don Crowder and Linda McHam, Spartanburg, South Carolina

By Bill Barnet, Mayor of Spartanburg.

"Spartanburg is a rare blend of great people, wonderful institutions, remarkable philanthropy and a very special quality of life."

www.cityofspartanburg.org

**2007 CONVENTION
Rockford, IL**

The 2007 convention is scheduled for July 12-14 and will be hosted by the Illinois/Wisconsin Region of The Gardeners of America in Rockford, Illinois.

*To be involved
is to have a voice*

THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION and THE NATIONAL HQ

The national organization consists of a president; three vice presidents; treasurer; past national presidents; region directors; regional officers; club officers and members.

The national headquarters office in Johnston, Iowa is supervised by the national treasurer and consists of a members' manager / bookkeeper and an administrative assistant / editor. Both are non-TGOA / MGCA members.

MEMORIALS

E&I fund:

Gifts from The Men's Garden Club of Youngstown, OH were submitted in memory of Anthony C. Harding and George Hoover

Scholarships fund:

Gifts were also received from Connie and Ron Everett, Homestead, FL, Shirley Weaver, Cathy and Dennis Owens, KC, MO, Ernie Preuitt, Independence, MO and The Greater Kansas City Gardeners of America, Kansas, MO in memory of John Watterson, KC, MO.

Gardening
Education and
Excellence in
Horticulture
since 1932

IN RESPONSE

By Honey Barnekoff

The following comments are in response to a column by Bruce and Joyce Deering in the October Overland Park GOA newsletter, The Kansas Sprout.

In the Deering article, the question is posed: what was the national organization thinking when we proposed an increase in dues? We were thinking that we could no longer operate on existing funds. We have operated at a deficit for several years, and the funds used to cover this shortfall are gone. We must raise the dues for our future viability.

Dues increases are never popular, but it's OUR organization!!! If we don't support it, who will? There seems to be some misconception of a mystical body called "The National". Folks, WE are the national organization. It is and will be whatever WE make of it!

The national organization is dependent upon our dues to operate, augmented by the interest income from the E&I (Endowments & Investments) fund. It was explained at the annual meeting where these funds originated and how they are handled and the governing bylaws that dictate how this is to be done. A little more income is generated by the sale of calendars and merchandise, but they do little more than break even and are furnished for the enjoyment of the members. If you have a brilliant idea to change where we obtain funds to operate the organization, please, by all

means, share those ideas with some of the national officers.

The comment was made that we discontinued publication of The Gardener magazine. It was conveniently omitted that The American Gardener magazine replaced The Gardener magazine, which, while it contains less of our organizational news, is a better publication than we could ever produce with our resources.

The national organization would like nothing better than to be able to roll back dues to that of former years. However, nothing has gotten cheaper for the organization and its national office, so how could we roll dues back for a decreasing membership? As the decrease continues, each of us must shoulder a little more responsibility.

The comment that is has been only a handful of longtime, dedicated members who have been involved in the greenhouse, raising plants and participating in the sale. It's a pity that those dedicated members can't see the value in belonging to a national organization. That is the "glue" that holds the organization together. If we were to be a local - only organization, we would probably be dead within five years; or at least, that has been the history of those clubs who disaffiliate. Hardly any of them still exists.

All of us want to garden, learn more about this vast subject, and enjoy the other members. It is unfathomable that anyone could believe the problems are

due to "power, politics and money." Nothing could be further from the truth. The national officers are volunteers too, and operate on their own nickel. If you haven't participated outside the club, you could not have any knowledge to make such a statement! Remember: you'll get out what you put in. hb

**MEMBERSHIP
REPORT**

The following clubs have a 10% or more increase in paid members from December 2004 through September 2005.

- East Valley Gardeners Club, 53.13%
- MGC of Youngstown, **18.18%**
- St. Marys GOA, **11.11%**
- Richmond Heights Garden Club, **14.55%**
- Dixon Area Garden Club, **15.79%**
- Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club, **10.71%**
- Marietta Gardeners Club, **31.75%**
- Mountain Shadow Garden Club, 46.88%
- At Large-Metro NY/CT/NJ Region, **21.43%**
- TGOA-Topeka, **11.36%**
- Riverbend GOA, **37.50%**
- Foothill MGC, **15%**
- At Large-MO-Kan Region, **188.89%**
- Dixon Area Garden Club, **15.79%**
- Rochelle GOA, **31.25%**
- Denver GOA, **30.30%**

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



**GARDENERS
GONE TO
REST**

July-September 05

- Robert Anderson,
Spokane, WA
- Ralph Benz,
Tucson, AZ
- John Braghirol,
Inman, SC
- Norma Camphouse,
Grayslake, IL
- Howard Hanson,
Des Moines, IA
- Jean Hilderbrand,
Pflugerville, TX
- Judson Johnston,
Ankeny, IA
- Elvin Jones,
Albany, NY
- Rodman Palmer,
Tucson, AZ
- Charles Thompson,
Garland, TX
- John Watterson,
Kansas City, MO

**A Special Thank You for
Thompson & Morgan Seed
Company**

By Honey Barnekoff

During the nearly five years the Mo/Kan Region has been teaching gardening at Lansing Correctional Facility, Thompson and Morgan Seed Company has been our generous companion, furnishing seeds for this program over several years.

This year, August 2005, however, they knocked our socks right off with a huge box of seeds, both ornamental and vegetable. We'd have needed to cough up many of our Gardening From the Heart

grant dollars to have furnished this amount of seeds. We are most grateful to Thompson & Morgan, specifically Claire Watson, Vice President, for the gift of so many seeds. Our plan is to germinate the ornamentals next spring for use around the prison to provide a more placid environment for the inmates. The vegetables will be planted into the vegetable gardens and the resulting produce sent to the kitchens for inmate consumption.

Thank you, Thompson & Morgan, for your continued generosity.

Honey Barnekoff, Chairperson,
Lansing Correctional Facility
Gardening Program,
Arts in Prison

DEADLINES

Please note the following information concerning national awards / contest entries:

Awards Committee Chair:
Suzanne Matz, 520 N. Walnut,
Colorado Springs,
Colorado 80905
719-473-5046
szmatz@juno.com

DEADLINE: December 15

Photography Committee Chair:
Judy Schuck, 7227 Springfield,
Prairie Village, Kansas 66208
913-362-2021
sschuck992@aol.com

DEADLINE: December 21

Newsletters Committee Chair:
Howard Matz, 2306 Bedford
Lane, Colorado Springs,
Colorado 80909
719-636-1435

hoardm13@juno.com

DEADLINE: December 31

TGOA / MGCA Webmaster

By Frank Mitch,
Committee Chair

**Wanted: Gardening Articles
For The Web**

Writers, amateur or professional, are invited to submit gardening or horticulture oriented articles for publication on the newly restored "Publications" page on our web site.

Since the former TGOA / MGCA Gardener magazine has been replaced with the AHS American Gardener magazine, there is now a need for a place for articles from our members or other writers. A number of previous articles removed from the web site have been restored. Please have a look at this "Publications" page to see the type of short article that is needed. Articles may be printed also in our bi-monthly newsletter.

There is no payment for articles, but you will be able to see your ideas and information in print.

Articles should be one page or so in length, about 500 words. Submission in a digital file such as MS Word or Publisher is preferred. A relevant photo is welcome and a digital .jpg format is preferred. Email articles and photos to tgoasecy@dwx.com. Or mail to the TGOA / MGCA mailing address attention AJ Freeman. fm (Please state whether the article is for the website and/or the national newsletter. aj)

**"TOGETHER, EVERYBODY
ACCOMPLISHES MORE"**

Bargains For Every TGOA / MGCA Member.

Check out the bargains by logging on to the national website. Go to the *Members Only* page. Password: *lily*.

Go to *Members Bargains*. 15% discount from Gardener's Supply on orders of at least \$35.

If you don't have internet access, talk to a member who does and find out how to order by phone.

Linda Cobb's English Cottage Garden, featuring 350 David Austin English Roses

By Linda McHam

Step into an English cottage garden that happens to be in South Carolina. The main feature of this garden is the 350 David Austin English roses that are used as feature plants in the garden beds. This thirteen year-old garden has evolved from scratch. The courtyard was the first garden bed to be designed. From there other garden beds were created a few at a time. Soon it was a cottage garden with five different outdoor rooms. The garden wraps around a swimming pool. Visit this charming garden and discover what elements make a garden a cottage garden. From rose arbors, shrubs as living walls, and a garden gate that "clanks" as you shut it, you will be drawn into a world where nature rules.

There is an extensive collection of boxwoods, hydrangeas, and houseplants

that hugs the best back porch in South Carolina. It is a true southern veranda complete with five ceiling fans.

Linda's English rose passion began when she planted four English roses in the courtyard thirteen years ago. They were so successful and appealing that her collection grew and grew. First there were fifty, then one hundred.

When she hit two hundred, she knew she was hooked. She was on line participating in a cottage gardening chat group, when she came across a message that Michael Marriott from David Austin Roses was looking for gardens that grew English roses in America. She called Michael and the rest is history. Michael made a visit to her garden and a fast trans-Atlantic friendship was formed. Linda has an import export license from the Department of Agriculture so she can import the latest releases to show in her garden. Visit her education garden and see the latest English roses.

The last addition to this garden is the piazza and the knot garden. Linda has created a space that is differently soothing. With eight varieties of boxwood you will stroll through a knot garden planted with 250 English boxwoods. Notice the fountain as it spills out its soothing dripping water.

Linda Cobb's English cottage garden has been featured in many national magazines. Better Homes and Gardens, Perennials Magazine, The National Rose Magazine,

Carolina Gardener, Garden Shed Magazine, Roses and other Romantic Garden Flowers, and Veranda Magazine have all featured Cobb's delightful garden. Linda is a garden writer and a national garden lecturer. She has her own book based on her many gardening articles which will be available for purchase at the 2006 convention. She has spoken at The Chicago Botanical Garden, The Philadelphia Flower Show, and The Northwest Flower Show. You won't want to miss this special garden during your visit to the 2006 National Convention. Note: Visit Linda's website at www.mygardenersguide.com

From The Bright Hoe Newsletter, The Boone County Gardeners, IL:

If you think that cold weather kills bugs, you're mistaken. Insects are tough and will take all the cold that Mother Nature can give them. Some species' bloodstreams contain as much as 50% glycerol, natural antifreeze.

A Brief History of Potatoes and Cabbage

Permission Given for Use

Article from the September 2005 Iowa Gardening magazine.

Most closely related to tobacco and tomatoes, potatoes have a unique history. They have been cultivated, particularly in altitudes too high for corn, for more than 4,000 years. In France they were shunned until Louis XVI

began wearing potato flowers and encouraging his court to eat them. Before then, the French thought they caused leprosy. The Irish, British, and Russians were more worried about starvation than leprosy, so they embraced potatoes like long lost kin.

Irish immigrants brought potatoes to New England in 1719. Though they grew wild from the southern part of the United States to the tip of Chile, they did not become a commercial crop here until the eighteenth century.

Cabbage comes from a family that includes kale, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, kohlrabi, and broccoli. The original wild cabbages grew on the Mediterranean seaboard, a dry, sunny, salty, rocky clime. Hence the plant developed cactus-like qualities, learning to retain water in its leaves. Its waxy cuticles and thick leaves became Darwinian success stories.

After Romans brought cabbage to Britain, the vegetable proved to be as adaptable to cold climates as to hot, rocky ones. It thrived in Europe's middle ages, when a head could keep a family alive for weeks. In China, two popular species developed: the oblong Chinese cabbage and the non-heading bok choy. When the Mongol hordes taught Europeans how to pickle cabbages, sauerkraut was born and sausage found its soul mate.

GOLDEN
 Congratulations on your 50th wedding anniversary! *Kpi o!boe! Fmfbops! X bnti* - September 18th.

!!!!!!!2006 Calendars

The 2006 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.

2005 Calendars

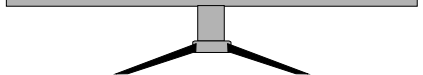
2005 calendars are still available and can be used for crafts or can be framed for hanging.

The cost for shipping is the only charge.

TRIMMING BACK BUSHES AND PLANTS.

What time of the year to cut back foliage depends on your location in the country. If you live in the north, fall may be the best time for you. If you live in the south, January may be the best time. Ask your local garden store or extension office if you have questions before trimming.

AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE CHAIR
 By Bob Novak
 260-497-0461, 1913 Falcon Hill Pl., Ft. Wayne, IN 46825
Thebobnovak@aol.com



VIDEO FOOTAGE
 By Robert Novak,
 Chair, Audio Visual Committee

Attention members:

By Bob Novak

If anyone has any video footage of the Florida convention, please inform me. I am trying to put together a TV program on the convention.
 bn

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

By Dan Blackledge



The Gardeners of Jackson, Mississippi, recognized two scholarship recipients at a recent club dinner. The picture above includes the following (L to R): Dale Thomas, club president, Jonathan McDaniel, recipient of \$1000.00 Gardeners of Jackson scholarship award; Justin Roberts, recipient of a TGOA \$1000.00 scholarship award; Mrs. Martha Hill, Chair of the Landscape Management Department of Hinds Community College and A. Ray Ratliff, local club member and member of the scholarship committee of TGOA.

TOURING THE U.S.

Warsaw Biblical Gardens,

By Sally Hogan
 Permission Given for Use: Carmen Lock

Hello,

I saw your website and thought your group might be interested in taking a field trip to the Warsaw Biblical

Gardens, Warsaw, Indiana. We are located in northern Indiana (intersection of US 30 and State Road 15).

Warsaw Biblical Gardens is a unique garden of biblical plants and is one of the largest in the United States.

We have helped to establish or re-establish biblical gardens in places as distant as Japan, South Africa, Scotland and New Zealand. Our beautiful gardens are certainly one of a kind and sure to be of interest to your group.

We are a non-denominational, not-for-profit group interested in the botanical and historical importance of biblical plants. The gardens are open throughout the year for self-guided (tours).

Tours, offered May 15 though September 15, outline the history, uses, and importance of plants in Bible times as well as related Bible references and Bible stories. Tours are arranged by calling the WCDC, 574-267-6419.

Warsaw also has a beautiful garden in the (Warsaw) Central Park, which is located across the street from the biblical garden that would be of interest to your group.

Another point of interest to see on your visit is the Village At Winona featuring artisan shops, dining and the historic Billy Sunday home.

For more information check www.villageatwinona.com

I hope you will be able to visit us next tour season. For more information visit our website www.Warsaw_biblicalgardens.org or contact the WCDC: wcdc@kconline.com, or call 574-267-6419. sh

Maymont Flower & Garden Show, "Table for Two,"
Richmond, VA

Permission Given for Use: Carla Murray

An intimate "Table for Two" completes every perfect garden rendezvous at the 17th annual Maymont Flower & Garden Show, February 9-12, 2006 at the greater Richmond Convention Center. Just in time for Valentine's Day, lovebirds and other guests will find unique interpretations of romantically inspired seating arrangements in each full-scale, flower-packed Grand Garden Exhibit. This garden love story will also feature flowering romance in associated floral exhibits and displays, and everyone will fall in love with the spectacular speaker lineup including Rebecca Cole, co-host of Discovery Channel's "Surprise by Design," nurseryman and lecturer Mark Viette, and many others. Plus with almost 200 vendors, the Great Garden Marketplace will offer all the gardening gifts and gadgets to stir you passion to plant.

New this year, "Streetscapes" - compact landscapes to inspire the urban or beginning gardener - will be added to the Grand Garden exhibit area, and all landscape exhibits will feature more live plants and more height than ever. In associated shows, creative table

associated shows, creative table decor will be highlighted in a new display. And for the first time, Answer Alley and the Speaker Series will continue through Sunday, and the "Capture Maymont on Film" photography contest will include two youth categories for ages six to 17.

Maymont Foundation, 1700 Hampton Street, Richmond, VA 23220, 804-358-7166, ext. 314, Fax: 804-359-7165, flowershow@maymont.org



ARTICLES NEEDED FOR EVERY NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

To every club member, please submit articles about gardening and / or activities for your bi-monthly national newsletter.

Articles are subject to editing.

Please send articles via: email, mail or fax to National Headquarters.

Article deadlines are on page 8 of the national newsletters. aj

AHS WEBSITE AND PASSWORD

www.ahs.org
Password: **blooms**



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

**MEMBERS AT LARGE
AND MEMBERS
NOT BELONGING
TO A CLUB**

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



**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 and their families need your prayers.

Also, if you have a soldier who is a loved one or friend who is going over seas or is over seas, please notify this editor so it can be put into the next newsletter.

And, please say a prayer for and donate what you can to the victims of the last two hurricanes.

TGOA/MGCA wish our members well who were in harms way in the south. Please let us know how you are.

A website of interest:
Historic Garden Week in VA.
www.VAGardenweek.org

2006 Calendar Order Form

Ship to:
Name: _____
Club Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
1-249 \$2.75 each 250-999 \$250 each 1000+ \$2.35 each
Quantity ordered: _____ Total Amount: _____
Order via mail, phone, fax, stop in or email order requests to TGOA/MGCA headquarters in Johnston, Iowa. A bill will be forwarded with your calendars.

**DEADLINES FOR
SUBMITTING ARTICLES
FOR THE NATIONAL
NEWSLETTER**

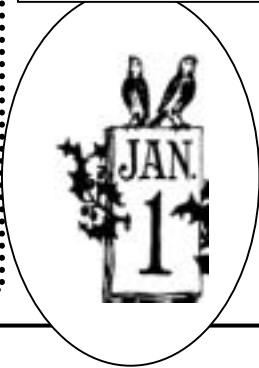
Newsletter	Deadline Date
Jan/Feb 06.....	Dec 1, 05
Mar/Apr 06....	Feb 1, 06
May/Jun 06....	Apr 4, 06
Jul/Aug 06.....	Jun 1, 06
Sep/Oct 06.....	Aug 1, 06
Nov/Dec 06....	Oct 2, 06

WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB SITE
By Frank Mitch, Web Master

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

**GARDENING QUESTIONS
AND ANSWERS**
TGOA/MGCA website
www.tgoa-mgca.org
Master gardeners are standing by.

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



2006

From
TGOA/MGCA
**HAPPY NEW
YEAR TO ALL**

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.

The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs
National Headquarters
5560 Merle Hay Rd / P.O. Box 241, Johnston, IA 50131
Administrative Assistant/Editor (AJ Freeman): tgoasecy@dwx.com
Membership/Bookkeeper (Bob Young): mgcamb@dwx.com
(515) 278-0295 / Fax: (515) 278-6245